



## Cohort Members (as of 9/23/2020)



**Nicole Bibbins Sedaca** // [nb44@georgetown.edu](mailto:nb44@georgetown.edu)

*Professor of the Practice of International Affairs  
Georgetown University*

Prof. Bibbins Sedaca serves as the Deputy Director of Georgetown University's Master of Science in Foreign Service (MSFS) program. She also serves as the Co-Chair for the Global Politics and Security Concentration and is a Professor in the Practice of International Affairs in MSFS.

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**Melissa Borja** // [mborja@umich.edu](mailto:mborja@umich.edu)

*Assistant Professor, American Culture  
University of Michigan*

Dr. Borja is Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan, where she teaches and researches about Asian American life, especially in relation to religious pluralism and church-state relations in the United States.

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**Wendy Cadge** // [wcadge@brandeis.edu](mailto:wcadge@brandeis.edu)

*Professor of Sociology, Director  
Brandeis University Chaplaincy Innovation Lab*

The Chaplaincy Innovation Lab supports research, teaching, and the provision of spiritual care in a range of settings. The Lab fosters research and its practical application to improve the provision of spiritual care for all. They host a wealth of data on the profession, provide practical tools, and offer educational resources to advance the important work of spiritual care providers.

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**Meghan Campbell** // [mcampbell@fetzer.org](mailto:mcampbell@fetzer.org)

*Program Associate  
Fetzer Institute*

Meghan Campbell is a Program Associate for the Fetzer Institute's Spiritual Transformation team. Her work includes projects collaborating with those who are bridging differences within American democracy, religious communities, innovative forms of spiritual community and practice, among others.



**W.Y. Alice Chan // [ac@cclrc-clrc.ca](mailto:ac@cclrc-clrc.ca)**  
*Executive Director, Co-Founder*  
 The Centre for Civic Religious Literacy

W. Y. Alice Chan, PhD, is the Executive Director and Co-Founder of the Centre for Civic Religious Literacy. To learn more about her and her work, visit <https://cclrc-clrc.ca/alice-chan>.



**John Churchill // [jchurchill@avdf.org](mailto:jchurchill@avdf.org)**  
*Director of Programs*  
 Arthur Vining Davis Foundations

Dr. John Churchill leads the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations' grantmaking activity spanning the five Program Areas of Private Higher Education, Public Media, Interfaith Leadership and Religious Literacy, Palliative Care, and Environmental Engagement, Stewardship, and Solutions.



**Joyce Dubensky // [JDubensky@tanenbaum.org](mailto:JDubensky@tanenbaum.org)**  
*CEO Emerita, Senior Strategic Advisor*  
 Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding

Tanenbaum's CEO Emerita, Joyce Dubensky, Esq., has directed its dramatic expansion, adding new initiatives to each of Tanenbaum's core programs. As CEO for 18 years, her dynamic leadership transformed Tanenbaum from a well-regarded U.S. institution to an internationally recognized thought leader.



**Mark Fowler // [mfowler@tanenbaum.org](mailto:mfowler@tanenbaum.org)**  
*CEO*  
 Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding

Rev. Mark Fowler is responsible for the fulfillment of Tanenbaum's mission to combat religious prejudice, promote justice, and build respect for religious difference. Rev. Fowler is a sought-after keynote speaker and facilitator in all of Tanenbaum's core areas, and has addressed organizations globally on issues of equity in religion, race, gender, and sexual orientation.



**Tim Gaydos // [timothy.gaydos@gmail.com](mailto:timothy.gaydos@gmail.com)**  
*President*  
 Together Washington

A native of the Pacific Northwest, Tim is passionate about serving the City of Seattle and building meaningful relationships with people in this great city. Tim is the co-founder of Together Washington, a Seattle-based nonprofit organization.



**Mary Ellen Giess** // [maryellen@ifyc.org](mailto:maryellen@ifyc.org)

*Vice President of Strategic Initiatives*  
Interfaith Youth Core

Mary Ellen Giess is Vice President of Strategic Initiatives at Interfaith Youth Core. Over the course of her twelve-year tenure, Mary Ellen's work has included partnering with the Obama administration on the President's Interfaith and Community Service Campus Challenge, managing a historic research collaboration exploring religious diversity on college campuses, and co-editing a book on religious diversity in student affairs.



**Susan Hayward** // [haywardsus@gmail.com](mailto:haywardsus@gmail.com) / [shayward@hds.harvard.edu](mailto:shayward@hds.harvard.edu)

*Senior Advisor*  
United States Institute of Peace

The US Institute of Peace is an independent federal institution that produces research, tools, and supports direct action to prevent and resolve violent conflict. For over 30 years, USIP's Religion program has sought to understand the religious dimensions of conflict and peace and provide tools and resources to better enable effective and inclusive religious engagement in peacebuilding efforts.



**Shirah Hecht** // [shirahhecht@brandeis.edu](mailto:shirahhecht@brandeis.edu)

*Research Manager*  
Chaplaincy Innovation Lab

Shirah Hecht, Research Manager at CIL, is a sociologist of religion, applied researcher, and teacher in the topic areas of Jewish life, non-profit work, research methods, and program evaluation. At one time she created a multi-faith conference on women in American religion (May 2000) and she has explored many sides of conventional and new developments in religious organizational life.



**Shirley Hoogstra** // [shoogstra@cccu.org](mailto:shoogstra@cccu.org)

*President*  
Council for Christian Colleges & Universities

The Council for Christian Colleges & Universities is the leading national voice in advancing the work of Christian higher education. They seek to advance the common good through the influence and witness of faith and academic study.

**Dennis Hoover** // [dhoover@globalengage.org](mailto:dhoover@globalengage.org)

*Editor*  
The Review of Faith & International Affairs



**Timothy Knepper** // [tim.knepper@drake.edu](mailto:tim.knepper@drake.edu)

*Professor of Philosophy, Director*  
Drake University Comparison Project

The Comparison Project is a set of initiatives at Drake University (Des Moines, IA) in the practice of comparative philosophy of religion, the understanding of local lived religion, and the cultivation of interfaith literacy and leadership.

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**Farhan Latif** // [flatif@elhibrifoundation.org](mailto:flatif@elhibrifoundation.org)

*President*  
El-Hibri Foundation

Farhan Latif is the President of the El-Hibri Foundation, focused on cross sector approaches to foster inclusion across religious and political divides. His work focuses on investing in Muslim leaders in partnership with allies to build capacity and resilience.

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**Brie Loskota** // [brieloskota@gmail.com](mailto:brieloskota@gmail.com)

*Executive Director, IAP Fellow*  
USC Center for Religion and Civic Culture

Brie Loskota directs the University of Southern California's Center for Religion and Civic Culture. Her research focuses on how religions change and make change in the world. She is also the co-founder and senior advisor to the American Muslim Civic Leadership Institute and serves as the implementation partner for the United States Institute of Peace's Generation Change program.

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**Benjamin Marcus** // [benjaminpmarcus@gmail.com](mailto:benjaminpmarcus@gmail.com)

*Fellow*  
Freedom Forum

Benjamin P. Marcus is a Freedom Forum fellow. From 2017-2020 he served as the religious literacy specialist with the Religious Freedom Center of the Freedom Forum, where he developed religious literacy programs for public schools, universities, businesses, and government organizations.



**Bruce McEver** // [bmcever@berkshireglobal.com](mailto:bmcever@berkshireglobal.com)

*President*

The Foundation for Religious Literacy

H. Bruce McEver is President and Co-founder of The Foundation for Religious Literacy and Chairman and Founder of Berkshire Global Advisors. Bruce funded Harvard University's Business Across Religious Traditions program (BART), and he has worked on Religious Literacy initiatives with Harvard Divinity School and between Georgia Tech and Emory University.



**ANSARI INSTITUTE**  
FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT WITH RELIGION

**Mahan Mirza** // [mmirza@nd.edu](mailto:mmirza@nd.edu)

*Executive Director, Teaching Professor*

University of Notre Dame Ansari Institute for Global Engagement with Religion

Established in 2017 and inaugurated in 2018, the Rafat and Zoreen Ansari Institute for Global Engagement with Religion is dedicated to studying, learning from, and collaborating with religious communities worldwide. A vital part of the University of Notre Dame's Keough School of Global Affairs, the Ansari Institute's wide-ranging work includes research, teaching, outreach, and interaction with religious communities, faith and civic leaders, academics and journalists, and the general public.



**Mohammed Mohammed** // [mmohammed@fetzer.org](mailto:mmohammed@fetzer.org)

*Senior Program Officer*

Fetzer Institute

Mohammed works to advance reconnaissance and probe the unknown in the course of the Fetzer Institute's programs and partnerships, which can span various topics from civic virtues and American democracy to social teachings of the faith traditions and social transformation.



**Scot Montrey** // [smontrey@usaid.gov](mailto:smontrey@usaid.gov)

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*Director, Religious Literacy Project*

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Diane L. Moore is the founding director of the Religious Literacy Project, a senior fellow at the Center for the Study of World Religions, and a Faculty Affiliate of the Middle East Initiative. She focuses her research on enhancing the public understanding of religion through education from the lens of critical theory.



**Steve Moore // [stevem@murdocktrust.org](mailto:stevem@murdocktrust.org)**

*Executive Director*

M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust

Steve is the chief executive officer of the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. He is responsible for all programs and activities of the Trust. Steve joined the Trust in 2006 after serving in senior leadership positions at Asbury Theological Seminary, Baylor University, Seattle Pacific University, Texas Tech University, and Texas Tech Wesley Foundation. He received a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and is a widely published author and frequent speaker at colleges, universities and conferences.



**Ilyse Morgenstein Fuerst // [imorgens@uvm.edu](mailto:imorgens@uvm.edu)**

*Associate Professor of Religion, Associate Director, UVM Humanities Center*  
University of Vermont

Ilyse Morgenstein Fuerst, Ph.D., is an associate professor of religion at the University of Vermont, where she teaches and researches about Islam, race/racialization, and the history of religion. She has authored or edited numerous books, articles, and essays and hosts the *Keeping It 101: A Killjoy's Introduction to Religion* Podcast.



**Michael Murray // [mmurray@avdf.org](mailto:mmurray@avdf.org)**

*President*

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Michael is the President and CEO of the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations and Senior Visiting Scholar in Philosophy at Franklin and Marshall College.



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*Senior Fellow for Comparative Religion, Principal Advisor*

University of Washington, Templeton Religion Trust

Dr. Seiple is the Senior Fellow for Comparative Religion at the Jackson School of International Studies. He is widely known and sought after for his decades of experience and expertise regarding issues at the intersection of geopolitics, US foreign policy, Asia, conflict resolution, human rights and religion. He has pioneered innovative solutions in the U.S. Marine Corps, at the U.S. State Department, the Templeton Religion Trust, and as the president of the Institute for Global Engagement (IGE).



**Neelima Shukla-Bhatt** // [nshuklab@wellesley.edu](mailto:nshuklab@wellesley.edu)

*Professor, South Asia Studies*  
Wellesley College

Neelima Shukla-Bhatt is a Professor of South Asia Studies at Wellesley College, Wellesley, MA, who teaches courses on religions and cultures of South Asia. She has worked extensively with institutions and organizations focusing on religious pluralism, religious literacy, and interfaith dialogue in USA, in Jerusalem, and in India.

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*Visiting Professor, Columnist*  
Union Seminary, Religion News Service

Simran Jeet Singh is a Visiting Professor at Union Seminary, Senior Fellow for the Sikh Coalition, and a columnist for Religion News Service. He is a 2020 Soros Equality Fellow and author of the new children's book, "Fauja Singh Keeps Going."

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*Director of Programs*  
Chaplaincy Innovation Lab

The Chaplaincy Innovation Lab brings chaplaincy leaders, theological educators, clinical educators, and social scientists into a research-based conversation about the state of chaplaincy and spiritual care.

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**Hugo Slim** // [hugo.slim@bsg.ox.ac.uk](mailto:hugo.slim@bsg.ox.ac.uk)

*Senior Research Fellow, Institute of Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict*  
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The Institute of Ethics, Law and Armed Conflict (ELAC) is part of the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford. They explore if and how we can research the relevance of beliefs of all kinds in the conduct of war and humanitarian action.

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**Kate Soules** // [ksoules@religionanded.com](mailto:ksoules@religionanded.com)

*Director*  
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Dr. Kate E. Soules is an education researcher and curriculum developer specializing in religious literacy and teacher education.



**Roy Speckhardt** // [rspeckhardt@americanhumanist.org](mailto:rspeckhardt@americanhumanist.org)

*Executive Director*

American Humanist Association

Roy leads and is author of the primer for the largest humanist organization in the nation, representing those who strive to be good without a god by emphasizing empathy and reason and the compassion and egalitarianism that flow from them. While educating its members on many aspects of humanism, his organization advocates for humanists in the courts, legislature, government agencies and the general public.

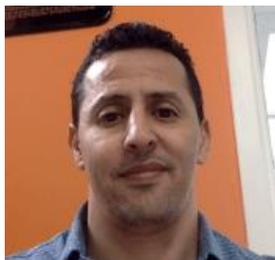


**Laura Tavares** // [laura\\_tavares@facinghistory.org](mailto:laura_tavares@facinghistory.org)

*Program Director, Organizational Learning and Thought Leadership*

Facing History and Ourselves

Facing History and Ourselves is a global education non-profit. We use lessons of history to challenge teachers and students to stand up to bigotry and hate. Our approach to humanities education helps young people become more equitable, engaged and responsible decision-makers who will build more just and inclusive societies.



**Hicham Tiflati** // [ht@ccrl-clrc.ca](mailto:ht@ccrl-clrc.ca)

*Regional Director (Quebec)*

The Centre for Civic Religious Literacy

Hicham is a researcher and a practitioner who has been working with the Muslim community for over a decade. He is a humanities professor at John Abbott College and a chargé de cours at Bishops University. He has taught Arabic and Islamic studies for many years, and has been working closely with families and close friends of Canadians who joined ISIS.



**Asma Uddin** // [asmauddin@gmail.com](mailto:asmauddin@gmail.com)

*Fellow*

Inclusive America Project

Asma T. Uddin is a religious liberty lawyer and scholar working for the protection of religious expression for people of all faiths in the U.S. and abroad. Uddin has worked on religious liberty cases at the U.S. Supreme Court, federal appellate courts, and federal trial courts.



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Rev. Dr. Nathan C. Walker is the executive director of 1791 Delegates, managing director of The Foundation for Religious Literacy, and founder of ReligionAndPublicLife.org. He has published five books, including *The Oxford Handbook of Religion and American Education*, and he teaches First Amendment and human rights law at Rutgers Honors College.

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**James Walters** // [j.walters2@lse.ac.uk](mailto:j.walters2@lse.ac.uk)

Senior Lecturer in Practice, Department of International Relations  
London School of Economics

James Walters is founding director of the LSE Faith Centre and LSE Religion and Global Society. Since opening in 2014, the center has developed programs to promote religious literacy, interfaith leadership and a better understanding of religion-related conflict among the LSE's diverse student body, in government and among wider global publics.

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*Professor and Chair, Comparative Religion Program*  
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James Wellman is Professor and Chair of the Comparative Religion Program in the Jackson School of International Studies at the University of Washington. In 2017, he received a Five-Year Term Professorship in Global Christianity; this professorship supports his recent initiative to create a Center of Global Christian Studies in the Jackson School. He is also the director the new Carnegie grant on Cross Cultural Religious Literacy. His areas of expertise are in American religious culture, history, and politics. He also works on and teaches in religion and global issues, particularly related to religious violence, human security and US foreign policy.