

ROBERT O. WYATT

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ECCLESIASTICAL EMPLOYMENT:

- 2006 to present St. Helena's Episcopal Church, Burr Ridge, IL: Rector.
- 2004 to 2006 Church of the Transfiguration (Episcopal), Palos Park, IL (Ordained Episcopal priest, 2004): Lilly Endowment Curate.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:

- 2006 to present Middle Tennessee State University, Office of Communication Research, Senior Research Scholar.
- 1979 to present (on indefinite leave) Middle Tennessee State University: Professor of Journalism and Mass Communication (1984-present) and Director, Office of Communication Research (1988-2006). Associate Professor (1979-84). Tenured (1982).
- 1973 to 1979 University of Tennessee at Nashville: Associate Professor of Journalism and English (1978-1979). Assistant Professor (1973-78). Tenured (1978).

OTHER ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE:

- 2005 Adjunct Professor of Church History, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL.
- 2004 to present Chair, Board of Trustees, Episcopal Campus Ministry, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.
- 1996 to 2001 Member, Board of Trustees, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary (Episcopal), Evanston, IL.
- 1992 to 1998 Survey Research Adviser, the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University.
- 1994 Visiting Professor of International Communication at the Franco-American Center for International Management, University of Caen, France.

HONORS AND RECOGNITION:

- 2004 Founder's Medal for First Honors, Divinity, Vanderbilt University's highest academic honor, awarded for master's in theological studies.
- 2003 Roster of Scholars, Fulbright Senior Specialist Program
- 1998 to 1999 Chair, Pulitzer Prize Jury, General Nonfiction (with Jack Miles, *The Getty Museum*; Patricia Limerick, University of Colorado). Selection: John McPhee, *Annals of the former world*

- 1997 Recipient, the Worcester Prize for Best Article of 1996, presented at the meeting of World Association for Public Opinion Research for a study of the reasons Israeli Arabs and Jews and Americans fail to speak up and say what is on their minds:
- Wyatt, Robert O., Katz, Elihu, Levinsohn, Hanna, & Al-Haj, Majid. (1996). The dimensions of expression inhibition: Perceptions of obstacles to free speech in three cultures. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 8, 229-247.
- 1993 to 1994 Chair, Pulitzer Prize Jury, General Nonfiction (with Roger Rosenblatt, *The New Republic*; Jeffery Paine, *The Wilson Quarterly*). Selection: David Remnick, *Lenin's tomb: The last days of the Soviet Empire*.
- 1994 Listed in *Who's who in America*.
- 1992 Recipient, Sigma Delta Chi Distinguished Service Award for Research About Journalism for 1991, presented by the Society of Professional Journalists for a study of public support for media and individual free speech rights in the United States:
- Wyatt, Robert O. (1991). *Free expression and the American public: A survey commemorating the 200th anniversary of the First Amendment*. (Washington, DC: American Society of Newspaper Editors).
- 1990 to 1991 Chair, Pulitzer Prize Jury, General Nonfiction (with Annie Dillard, writer; Richard Rhodes, writer). Selection: Bert Hölldobler and Edward O. Wilson, *The ants*.
- 1984 to 1985 Chair, Pulitzer Prize Jury, General Nonfiction (with Richard Lingeman, Executive Editor, *The Nation*; Diane Johnson, Professor of English, University of California, Davis). Selection: Studs Terkel, *The "good war."*
- 1979 to 1980 Member, Pulitzer Prize Jury, General Nonfiction (with Norman Cousins, Chair, *The Saturday Review*; Herbert Mitgang, *The New York Times*). Selection: Douglas R. Hofstadter, *Gödel, Escher, Bach: An eternal golden braid*.

TEACHING:

Graduate: English Reformation, communication theory, experimental research methods, survey research methods, public opinion and mass media, international communication; supervise master's theses in related areas.

Undergraduate: news writing, feature writing, editing, mass communication and society, arts reporting and reviewing, research methods.

Thesis supervision: Directed a variety of academic and applied projects, including studies of perceptions of campus opinion and support for speech codes, predictors of campus intranet diffusion, listener attitudes toward Nashville's public radio station, and content development for a commercial website targeting Brazilian senior citizens.

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE:

- 1988 to present (on indefinite leave) Founding Director, Office of Communication Research, Middle Tennessee State University. Founder and budgetary head for unit that administers the Middle Tennessee Poll and includes three quarter-time faculty research associates and a graduate assistant. The polling lab has 26 networked computer-assisted telephone interviewing stations.
- 1998 to present Founding Director, Middle Tennessee Poll, a twice-yearly faculty-supervised, student-administered tracking survey of approximately 1,200 area residents, regarding quality of life; confidence in government, business, community organizations, and media; support for free expression; and other issues. Results can be viewed at: <http://www.mtsu.edu/mtpoll>.
- 1977 to 1979 Coordinator of Public Service, College of Arts and Sciences, University of Tennessee at Nashville. Coordinated public relations, developed conferences, administered continuing education program.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

- 1978 to 1993 Nashville *Tennessean*: Book Editor, columnist, and critic. Wrote news, features, and weekly column; edited Sunday book section.
- 1979 to 1981 Weekly commentator, WPLN-FM, Nashville's public radio station.

EDUCATION:

- 1973, 1970 Ph.D., M.A., Northwestern University, Evanston, IL (English)
- 2003 M.T.S., Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN (Pastoral Studies)
- 2002 Certificate of Study, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL (Anglican Studies)
- 1977 M.S., University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN (Communication)
- 1968 B.A., University of the South, Sewanee TN (English)

BOOKS:

- Andsager, Julie L., Wyatt, Robert O., & Martin, Ernest F. (2004). *Free expression and five democratic publics: Support for individual and media rights in the United States, Israel, Russia, and Hong Kong*. (Cresskill, NJ: Hampton Press).
- Wyatt, Robert O. (1991). *Free expression and the American public: A survey commemorating the 200th anniversary of the First Amendment*. (Washington, DC: American Society of Newspaper Editors).
- Recipient, Society of Professional Journalists' Sigma Delta Chi Distinguished Service Award for Research About Journalism.

REFEREED ARTICLES:

- Fan, David P., Keltner, Kathy, & Wyatt, Robert O. (2002). Toward the demise of the death penalty: Media coverage of innocence and guilt. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 14, 389-402.
- Blake, Kenneth R., & Wyatt, Robert O. (2001). Has media credibility mattered? A perspective on the newspaper credibility debate. *Newspaper Research Journal*, 23, 73-77.

- Fan, David P., Wyatt, Robert O., & Keltner, Kathy. (2001). The suicidal messenger: How press reporting affects public confidence in the press, the military, and organized religion. *Communication Research*, 28, 826-852.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Kim, Joochan, & Katz, Elihu. (2000). How feeling free to talk affects ordinary political conversation, purposeful argumentation, and civic participation. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 77, 99-114.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Katz, Elihu, & Kim, Joochan. (2000). Bridging the spheres: Political and personal conversation in public and private spaces. *Journal of Communication*, 50, 71-92.
- Kim, Joochan, Wyatt, Robert O., & Katz, Elihu. (1999). News, talk, opinion, participation: The part played by conversation in deliberative democracy. *Political Communication*, 14, 361-385.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Andsager, Julie L., Al-Haj, Majid, & Levinsohn, Hanna. (1998). Nothing absolute: Support for free expression rights among Israeli Arabs and Jews and U.S. citizens. *Journal of International Communication*, 5, 191-210.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Katz, Elihu, Levinsohn, Hanna, & Al-Haj, Majid. (1996). The dimensions of expression inhibition: Perceptions of obstacles to free speech in three cultures. *International Journal of Public Opinion Research*, 8, 229-247. Winner, 1997 Worcester Prize, presented by the World Association for Public Opinion Research.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Smith, Sharon S., & Andsager, Julie L. (1996). Spanning the boundaries: Support for media rights among public relations practitioners, journalists, and the public. *Journal of Public Relations Research*, 8, 123-135.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Andsager, Julie L., & Bodle, John V. (1994). Support for media rights: Cracks in the media monolith myth? *Mass Comm Review*, 21, 156-172.
- Wyatt, Robert O., & Badger, David P. (1993). A new typology for journalism and mass communication writing. *Journalism Educator*, 48, 3-11.
- Wyatt, Robert O., & Badger, David P. (1990). The effects of information and evaluation in film criticism. *Journalism Quarterly*, 67, 359-368.
- Wyatt, Robert O., & Hull, Geoffrey P. (1990). The music critic in the American press: A nationwide survey of newspapers and magazines. *Mass Comm Review*, 17, 38-42.
- Wyatt, Robert O., & Badger, David P. (1988). What the nation's film critics value in film and film criticism: A survey. *Current Research in Film*, 4, 54-71.
- Wyatt, Robert O., & Badger, David P. (1987). To praise, pan or waffle: How film reviews affect reader interest and credibility perception. *Newspaper Research Journal*, 8, 19-30.
- Wyatt, Robert O., & Haskins, Jack B. (1985). Book reviewing priorities in the American press: A survey. *Newspaper Research Journal*, 6, 8-18.
- Wyatt, Robert O., & Badger, David P. (1984). How reviews affect interest in and evaluation of film. *Journalism Quarterly*, 61, 874-878.
- Lynn, Jerry R., Wyatt, Robert O., Gaines, Janet, Pearce, Robert, & Vanden Berg, Bruce. (1978). How source affects response to public service advertising. *Journalism Quarterly*, 55, 716-20.

RESEARCH-RELATED REVIEWS AND TRADE PUBLICATIONS:

- Blake, Kenneth R., Wyatt, Robert O., & Warf, Holly. (2005, May). Sharing the faith: How to spot an evangelical, and why they vote as the do. *Public Opinion Pros: An Online Magazine for the Polling Professional*. Retrieved July 15, 2005 from <http://www.publicopinionpros.com>.
- Wyatt, Robert O. (2005). Review of the book *God willing? Political fundamentalism in the White House: the "War on Terror," and the echoing press*, by David Domke. *Mass Communication and Society*, 8, 177-178.
- Wyatt, Robert O. (2000). Review of the book *The poll with a human face: The National Issues Convention experiment in political communication*, edited by Maxwell McCombs and Amy Reynolds. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 77, 435-436.
- Wyatt, Robert O. (2000). Review of the book *Televised presidential debates and public policy* by Sidney Kraus (2nd ed.). *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 77, 207-208.
- Wyatt, Robert O. (1998). After 50 years, political communication scholars still argue with Lazarsfeld. [Review essay of *Do campaigns matter?* by Thomas M. Holbrook; *Information & elections* by R. Michael Alvarez; *Political persuasion and attitude change* edited by Diana C. Mutz, Paul M. Sniderman, and Richard A. Brody; and *The psychology of political communication* edited by Ann N. Crigler.] *Journal of Communication*, 48, 146-156.
- Wyatt, Robert. (1991, December). What we have here is a failure to communicate: America's editors and the American public are far apart when it comes to First Amendment issues. *The Bulletin of the American Society of Newspaper Editors*, pp. 18-22. Based on nationwide surveys of editors and the public.
- Wyatt, Robert, & Badger, David. (1987, August 15). Are newspaper film critics elitists or popularists? *Editor & Publisher*, pp. 47, 38. Based on nationwide survey of film critics.
- Wyatt, Robert. (1984, September 21). Book page editor blues. *Publishers Weekly*, pp. 28-30. Based on nationwide survey of book editors.

RECENT REFEREED AND INVITED PAPERS:

- Blake, Kenneth R., Hinton, Marcie, Pernel, David, and Wyatt, Robert O. (2005, November). Consecrating the Bully Pulpit: Using presumed influence to model Evangelical voting behavior. Paper presented at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.
- Blake, Kenneth R., Wyatt, Robert O., and Pahl, Katie (2004, November). *Polarization in the pews: Evangelicals and the 2004 election*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Blake, Kenneth R., and Fan, David P. (2004, May). *Gay civil rights vs. religious privileges: Bible Belt religion and politics before and after important legal and religious decisions*. Paper presented at the Meeting of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, Phoenix, AZ.
- Wyatt, Robert O., Blake, Kenneth R., & Watson, Ranjan Paul. (2003, November). *Are the Columbia astronauts in heaven? A Report from the Buckle of the Bible Belt*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.

Mastin, Teresa, Blake, Ken, Wyatt, Robert O., & Fan, David P. (2003, May). *Annus mirabilis, Annus horribilis: How news of the events of 2001 affected confidence in the press, the military, organized religion, major companies, and financial institutions*. Paper presented at the Meeting of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, Nashville, TN.

Bodle, John V., Burriss, Larry L., Mastin, Teresa, Blake, Ken, & Wyatt, Robert O. (2003, May). *Public perceptions of the phrase "God bless America."* Paper presented at the Meeting of the American Association for Public Opinion Research, Nashville, TN.

Wyatt, Robert O. (2003, January). *Revisioning the public sphere for common people in ordinary spaces: A program for cross-cultural research*. International Seminar on Communication and Sustainable Development, Varanasi, INDIA.

Blake, Ken, Wyatt, Robert O., Mastin, Teresa, & Edy, Jill. (2000, November). *Religiosity as a predictor of media credibility*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.

Keltner, Kathy, Wyatt, Robert O., & Fan, David P. (2000, November). *A suicidal messenger? Media self-criticism and press credibility*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.

Keltner, Kathy, Wyatt, Robert O., & Fan, David P. (2000, November). *Toward the demise of the death penalty: Media coverage of innocence and guilt*. Paper presented at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL.

Wyatt, Robert O., Edy, Jill, Blake, Ken, & Mastin, Teresa. (2000, May). *How general confidence in institutions predicts media credibility: A case against journalistic exceptionalism*. Paper presented at the meeting of the World Association for Public Opinion Research, Portland, OR.

RECENT INVITED PRESENTATIONS AND PANELS:

Wyatt, Robert O. (2002, November). *Revisioning public opinion research*. Member of panel at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. Other panel members included Scott Althus, George Bishop, Richard Perloff, and K. Viswanath.

Wyatt, Robert O. (2000, October). *Participation as a measure of opinion quality*. Conference speaker at the 1st Public Opinion and Democracy in the Digital Age conference, Yonsei University, Seoul, KOREA. Other presenters included Joseph Cappella, Joochan Kim, Youngchul Yoon, Sung Gwan Park, and Vincent Price.

Wyatt, Robert O. (1998, July). *All things considered: When quantity is not enough*. Organizer of panel at the meeting of the International Communication Association, Jerusalem, ISRAEL. Other panelists included Ken Blake, Elihu Katz, Joochan Kim, and Tamar Liebes.

Wyatt, Robert O. (1997, December). *What's wrong with the Freedom Forum First Amendment poll?* A panel at the State of the First Amendment Conference, Freedom Forum World Center, Washington, DC. Other panelists were Ken Dautrich and Larry McGill.

Wyatt, Robert O. (1997, November). *All things considered: The problem with measuring opinion quality*. Organizer of panel at the meeting of the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research, Chicago, IL. Other panelists were Ken Blake, Susan Herbst, Elihu Katz, Paul Lavrakas, and Vincent Price.

APPLIED RESEARCH AND CONSULTING:

- 2002-2003 Seabury-Western Theological Seminary: Nationwide image and reputation study surveying alumni in preparation for capital campaign.
- 1999-2000 Seabury-Western Theological Seminary: Nationwide image and reputation study surveying Episcopal bishops and key clergy on priorities in seminary education.
- 1998 to present Director, Middle Tennessee Poll, a twice-yearly tracking survey.
- 1996 Seabury-Western Theological Seminary: Nationwide image and reputation study surveying Episcopal bishops on priorities in seminary education.
- 1995 Seabury-Western Theological Seminary: Feasibility study for a major continuing-education effort.
- 1994 *Dallas Morning News/Freedom Forum First Amendment Center*: Technical consultant for religion-news readership project.
- 1992 to 1998 Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University: Survey research consultant for reports authored by the Center's resident scholars.
- Questionnaire design, analysis and report writing for the following Center publications:
- World's apart: How the distance between science and journalism threatens America's future* by Jim Hartz and Rick Chappell (1998).
- America's team: The odd couple – A report on the relationship between the media and the military* by Frank Aukofer and William P. Lawrence (1995).
- Nothing sacred: Journalism, politics and public trust in a tell-all age* by Beverly Kees and Bill Phillips (1994).
- The headline vs. the bottom line: Mutual distrust between business and the news media* by Mike Haggerty and Wallace Rasmussen (1993).
- Under the microscope: The relationship between physicians and the news media* by Rita Rubin and Harrison L. Rogers Jr. (1993).
- Bridging the gap: Religion and the news media* by John Dart and Jimmy Allen (1992).
- Freedom Forum Reports are available from the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, 1208 18th Ave. S., Nashville, TN 37212. All studies received wide media exposure; the religion survey received two-page spread in *U.S. News and World Report* (Sept. 20, 1993, 20-21).

DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY:

- 1995 to present Served on development and capital campaign committees for successful efforts at Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL, and St. Ann's Episcopal Church, Nashville.
- 1985 to 1986 John Seigenthaler Chair of Excellence in First Amendment Studies, Middle Tennessee State University. Helped develop idea and served on fundraising

committee for this \$2.4 million chair honoring the former Publisher of The Tennessean, the former Editorial Director of USA TODAY, and the founding Chair of the Freedom Forum First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University.

CONFERENCE COORDINATION:

- 1996 *Journalism education, the First Amendment imperative and the changing media marketplace*, sponsored by the John Seigenthaler Chair of First Amendment Studies. Co-chaired with David Eason, Director of Graduate Studies. Guest speakers included James Carey, Leo Bogart, Jay Rosen, Ellen Wartella, Linda Steiner, Clifford Christians, Joseph Turow, Lee Becker, Ed Lambeth, Robert Blanchard, Karen Brown, Reese Cleghorn, Lana Rakow and Trevor Brown.
- 1995 *Designing a general-interest course in First Amendment studies*, sponsored by the John Seigenthaler Chair of First Amendment Studies. Co-chaired with David Eason, Director of Graduate Studies. Guest speakers included Larry Gross, John Durham Peters, M. Mark Miller, Patricia Auferheide, Carolyn Dyer, and Linda Steiner.
- 1994 *The enigma of the public: First Amendment legacies, contemporary questions*, sponsored by the John Seigenthaler Chair of First Amendment Studies. Co-chaired with David Eason, Director of Graduate Studies. Primary speakers were Benjamin I. Page, Northwestern University; Todd Gitlin, University of California, Berkeley; and John Durham Peters, University of Iowa. Attended by more than 80 communication scholars.
- 1993 *The old news, the new news, and the First Amendment*, sponsored by the John Seigenthaler Chair of First Amendment Studies. Co-chaired with David Eason, Director of Graduate Studies. Primary speakers were Daniel Hallin, University of California, San Diego; Richard Campbell, University of Michigan; and James Squires, media consultant and former editor, Chicago Tribune. Attended by more than 60 communication scholars.
- 1992 *The new New Journalism and the old First Amendment*, sponsored by the Seigenthaler Chair of First Amendment Studies. Co-chaired with David Eason, Director of Graduate Studies. Principal speaker was James Carey, Columbia University, followed by a series of panel discussions. Attended by more than 60 news professionals and scholars.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

- 1996-2000 Academic Master Plan Steering Committee
- 1998-99 Chair, University E-Mail Policy and Procedure Committee
- 1995-1999 Advisory Council, Albert Gore Sr. Research Center
- 1994-97 University Graduate Council
- 1994-present College Planning Committee

INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- 1991 Moscow State University, Russia: Initiated student exchange program.
- 1992 University of Caen, France: Initiated contact between the Franco-American Center of

International Commerce at Caen and the College of Business at Middle Tennessee, leading to exchange of five students each year. Served as first visiting professor of international communication at Caen.

1976 to present Traveled repeatedly to India, Russia, France, Great Britain, and Israel, often to work on joint research projects or lecture; visits to other European countries, Hong Kong, and China. Visiting Professor of International Communication, University of Caen, France, spring 1994. Maintain close personal and academic contacts in France, India, and Israel.

Have some speaking and reading knowledge of French; limited speaking and reading knowledge of Russian; some reading knowledge of Latin and Greek.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

American Association for Public Opinion Research
Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication
International Communication Association
Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research
World Association for Public Opinion Research

ACADEMIC REFERENCES:

Anantha Babbili, Dean, College of Mass Communication, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37132, phone 615/898-2195, e-mail ababbili@mtsu.edu

Paula S. D. Barker, Associate Professor of Historical Theology, Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, Evanston, IL 60201, 847/328-9300, pbarker@seabury.edu.

Rob Daves, News Research Director, *Minneapolis Star Tribune*, 425 Portland Ave. Minneapolis, MN 55488, phone 612/822-0085, e-mail daves@startribune.com.

Barbara Haskew, Former Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN 37123, phone 615/898-2953, e-mail bhaskew@mtsu.edu.

Dale A. Johnson, Buffington Professor of Church History, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, TN 37235, 615-343-3982, dale.a.johnson@vanderbilt.edu

Elihu Katz, Trustee Professor of Communication, Annenberg School for Communication, (Aug. –Jan.) University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6220, phone 215/898-4775, e-mail ekatz@pobox.asc.upenn.edu; (Feb.-Jul.) Hagdud Haivri 15, 92344 Jerusalem, ISRAEL, phone 972/2/563-1 873, e-mail EKatz@asc.upenn.edu or mskatz@pluto.msc.huji.ac.il.

Bonnie Miller-McLemore, Professor of Pastoral Theology, Vanderbilt Divinity School, Nashville, TN 37235, 615-343-3970, Bonnie.Miller-McLemore@vanderbilt.edu.

John Seigenthaler, Chairman Emeritus and Founder, Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, 1207 18th Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37212, phone 615/329-4873; fax 615/321-9599.

PERSONAL:

Born Feb. 7, 1946; spouse, Terri Lackey, is managing editor of *Lutheran Woman Today*.