

Robert B. Tapp

Curriculum vitae

May 9, 2015

101 Central Park West, 1A
New York, NY 10023
(212) 874-7437
tappx001@umn.edu
rbtapp.com

Professorial Appointments

Professor of Humanities and Religious Studies, University of Minnesota, 1972-94

Chairperson, Religious Studies Program, 1989-93

Chairperson, Humanities Program, 1977-80

Chairperson, Religious Studies Program, 1975-76

Acting Chairperson, Humanities Program, 1975-76

Department Member, Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education, 1972-94

Department Member, South Asian Studies, 1972-94

Professor of Philosophy of Religion, Meadville/Lombard Theological School (affiliated with the University of Chicago), 1964-72

Associate Professor of Religion, Scripps College and Claremont Graduate School, 1960-64

Dockstader Professor of Theology, Theological School of St. Lawrence University, 1952-60

Adjunct Appointments

Faculty Chair, The Humanist Institute, 2005-2007

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, University of Minnesota, 1996-present

Dean, The Humanist Institute, New York City, 1993-2005

Visiting Professor of Humanities, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, 1987-1990

Visiting Professor of Religious Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, Winter 1978

Visiting Professor of Sociology, University of California, San Diego, Summer 1977

Visiting Professor of Religious Studies, San Diego State University, Fall 1976

Professorial Lecturer in Social Sciences, University of Chicago, 1968-72

Lecturer, University of California at Los Angeles Extension, 1962-63

Visiting Lecturer, Southern California School of Theology, 1961

Summer Lecturer, Starr King School for the Ministry, 1959

American Professor, Albert Schweitzer College, Switzerland, 1957-58

Lecturer in Philosophy, St. Lawrence University, 1955-57, 1958-60

Teaching Assistant, Lecturer in World History, University of Southern California, 1946-52

Faculty Adviser to Religious Activities, University of Southern California, 1946-47

Education

B.S. *cum laude* University of Southern California, 1945

Ph.D. University of Southern California, 1952

Research Awards

Horace Mann Humanist Educator, American Humanist Association, 2005

International Travel Grant, National Science Foundation, 1973

Visiting Scholar, The Divinity School, Harvard University, 1972

Faculty Research Grant, Social Science Research Council, 1968-69

Fellow, American Institute of Indian Studies, Poona, 1963

Academic Memberships

American Academy of Religion, American Philosophical Association, American Society for the Study of Religion, American Sociological Association, American Theological Society, Association for Asian Studies, Committee for the Scientific Examination of Religion (Board), International Institute for American Religious and Philosophical Thought, International Conference for the Sociology of Religion, International Society for the Comparative Study of Civilizations, Institute for Science and Human Values (Board), Religious Research Association, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (Fellow).

Research Areas

Empirical study of religion and values.

Comparative religion, with emphasis on Hinduism.

Philosophy of religion, especially interactions of sciences and theologies.

Humanistic religions, histories and philosophies.

Post-Retirement Teaching Areas

Global Fundamentalisms: the Whats and the Whys

World Religions in the US

Science and Religion

Science and Values

Religions and Violence

Made in USA Religions
Founders of Religions
Unbelievers Unbound
Secularism, Humanism, and Ethics

Publications

Articles and reviews in *American Journal of Theology & Philosophy*, *Bulletin of the Ramakrishna Institute* (Calcutta), *Christian Century*, *Church History*, *Crane Review*, *Faith and Freedom* (Oxford), *Free Inquiry*, *Hibbert Journal*, *The Human Quest*, *Humanism Today*, *The Humanist*, *Humanistiek: Journal for Humanistics*, *Journal of Liberal Ministry*, *Journal of National Education Association*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Religious Humanism*, *Review of Religious Research*, *Unitarian Register*, *ZYGON: Journal of Religion & Science*.

Managing Editor for Vol. I., *ZYGON: Journal of Religion and Science*, University of Chicago Press.

Editor for *Humanism Today* volumes 10-16.

Military

United States Naval Reserve, Midshipman, 1943-45
United States Navy, Ensign, 1945-48
Resigned commission, 1948
Registered for draft as conscientious objector, 1948
Certified as disabled atomic veteran (from 1946 Bikini nuclear tests), 1993

Consultative Activities with Religious Organizations

Faculty Chair, The Humanist Institute, 2005-07
Mentor, Humanist Institute Class XI, 2000-03
Editor, *Humanism Today*, 1996-07
Mentor, Humanist Institute Class VIII, 1996-99
Dean, The Humanist Institute, 1995-2005
Associate Dean, The Humanist Institute, 1992-95
Mentor, Humanist Institute Class V, 1992-95
Adjunct Faculty Member, The Humanist Institute, New York, 1985
Consultant, Identity Curriculum Team, Unitarian Universalist Association, 1973-79
Chairman, Commission on the Dialogue of World Religions, International Association for Liberal Christianity and Religious Freedom, 1967-73
Chairman, Committee on Goals, Unitarian Universalist Association, 1965-67

Member Commission on Appraisal, Unitarian Universalist Association, 1961-65

Chairman, Study Commission on Theology and the Frontiers of Learning, Unitarian Universalist Association, 1960-63

Chairman, Commission on Social Concerns, Universalist Church of America, 1957-59

Chairman, Resolutions Committee, Universalist Church of America, 1957

Community Service Activities

Contributing Editor, Federation Reports, Federation of State Programs in Humanities, 1981-85

Minnesota Humanities Commission (the state organization of the National Endowment for the Humanities), 1979-83. Vice-Chair, 1981-82

Member of a Work Group of private citizens (chaired by William C. Norris CEO, Control Data Corporation) whose "Recommendations for Creating Jobs through the Successes of Small, Innovative Businesses" was given to the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Science and Technology in December 1978

Minnesota Commission on Religion and Public Education, 1973-82. Chair, 1981

Concentus Musicus (Renaissance research and performance), Advisory Board, 1979-81

Bibliography

"Honoring Paul Kurtz (1925-2012)" *International Humanist News* (Nov 2012) 35.

Review, Frank Donoghue, "The Last Professors: The Corporate University and the Fate of the Humanities", *On the Horizon*, (2010) 18:2, 147-153.

"Why Study Religions--and How?" in *The Olli Scholar: a journal of essays*. Osher Lifelong Learning Institute: University of Minnesota, 2010: 73-81.

Review, Michelle Goldberg, *The Means of Reproduction: Sex, Power, and the Future of the World* in *The Humanist* 69:6. (Nov-Dec 2009): 42-43.

"A Response to Religion and Science: Toward a Postmodern Truce" *Religion Dispatches*, September 14, 2009.

Editorial, "The Universal Declaration of Human Rights: Still Ahead of Its Time?" *The Humanist* 68.6 (Nov-Dec 2009).

"Is God the Supreme Abortionist?" *Religion Dispatches*, December 11, 2008.

Review of Creighton Peden. *A good life in a world made good: Albert Eustace Haydon, 1880-1975*. (2006) New York: Peter Lang in online *Journal of Liberal Religion*, 8.1 (Winter 2008).

The New Encyclopedia of Unbelief, Editor Tom Flynn. Amherst NY: Prometheus Books, 2007 "Ethical Culture," 281-82 "Julian Huxley," 409-10 "Hinduism and Unbelief," 390-92 "Religious Humanism," 653-55 "Unitarian Universalism," 778.

“Critics of Just War Theories: Charles E. Raven and A. J. Muste” in *The Just War and Jihad: Violence in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam*, Editor R. Joseph Hoffmann, Amherst NY: Prometheus Books, 2006: 139-67.

“Poverty, Health, and Bioethics” in *Biomedical Ethics: Humanist Perspectives*, Editor Howard Radest, Amherst NY: Prometheus Books, 2006: 207-18.

“India and Child Adoption” in *The Praeger Handbook of Adoption*, Editors Kathy S. Stolley, K. S. and Vern L. Bullough, Westport, Conn.: Praeger Publishers, 2006: I, 306-10.

The Fate of Democracy (Editor), Amherst NY: Prometheus Books, 2006 “Preface,” 7-14
“Democracy’s Destroyers,” 117-131.

“Donald Crosby’s Religion of Nature.” *American Journal of Theology & Philosophy* 26 (3) (Sept 2005): 184-198.

“The Humanist Institute” *Religious Humanism* XXXVII (2) (Summer/Fall 2004): 44-48.

“Is intellectual religion endangered?” *The Human Quest* CCXVII (2) (March-April 2003): 11-12.

“Humanism in the United States.” *Tijdschrift voor Humanistiek* 10 (3) (juni 2002): 47-54.

Ecohumanism (Editor), Amherst NY: Prometheus Books, 2002. “Preface,” 11-21.
“Ecohumanism: Some Expansions,” 305-27.

Multiculturalism: Humanist Perspectives (Editor), Amherst NY: Prometheus Books, 2000.
“Preface,” 9-16. “Multiculturalism: Yes, No, Maybe,” 153-72.

“Unitarian Universalists,” in *Contemporary American Religion*, Wade Clark Roof (ed.) NY: Macmillan Reference, 2000.

“Beyond All Reason: Religious Experiences, Ecstasies, Mysticism, and Spirituality,” *Free Inquiry* 20 (1) (Winter 1999/00): 51-53. A different version appeared in *Humanism Today* 13 (1999): 73-85.

“Globalization Theory and Humanism,” *Humanism Today* 12 (1998): 51-64.

“The Once and Future Humanist Institute,” *The Humanist* 58 (1) (January-February 1998): 46-7.

“Humanists and the UUA: Secede or Stay?” *Occasional Newsletter of the Friends of Religious Humanism* 3 (1977): 2-4).

“The Demise of the Humanities Department at the University of Minnesota.” *Humanism Today* 11 (1997): 85-104.

“Adopting Our Forebears.” Paper presented to the Humanist Colloquium, January 1995, New York. Printed in *Humanism Today* 10 (1996): 95-109.

“God and Morality.” Paper presented to the Humanist Colloquium, January 1993, New York. Printed in *Humanism Today* 9 (1994): 97-116.

“Soledad Penalta,” in *Alén-Mar: Ano Creatividade Novo Galega Mundo*. Santiago de Compostela: Mosteiro de San Martiño Pinario, 1992.

“The Cannons against the Canon: What are the real targets?” Paper presented to the Humanist Colloquium, January 1991, New York. Printed in *Humanism Today*, 6 (1991): 43-61.

“Comparative Christian-Buddhist Religiosity and Values.” Paper presented to International Sociological Association (Sociology of Religion), July, 1990, Madrid.

“Immortality Beliefs in Hinduism and Their Consequences.” Paper presented to the Annual Meeting of the Committee for the Scientific Examination of Religions, July 1989, San Francisco. To appear in. book symposium of that conference [publication delayed].

“Selfing in Social Context.” Paper presented to the Humanist Colloquium, January 1989, New York. Printed in *Humanism Today* 5 (1989): 120-33.

“Values and Ideology of Thai.” Paper presented to the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, November 1988, Chicago.

“Values and Ideology of Religious Humanists” Paper presented to the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, October 1988, Chicago.

“Humanists and Their Values.” Paper presented to the Humanist Colloquium, January 1986, New York. Printed in *Humanism Today* 4 (1988): 127-39.

“Humanism and Artificial Intelligence.” Paper presented to Annual Meeting of the North American Committee for Humanism, August 86, New York. Printed in *Humanism Today*, 3 (1987): 55-60.

1985 Membership Survey. First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis. Monograph published (offset) by First Unitarian Society.

“Religious Humanism as of 1986.” Paper presented to the Humanist Colloquium, January 1986, New York.

“Pluralism in the Study of Religions: the American Case.” Paper presented to the American Society for the Study of Religion, April, 1981, Stony Brook, N.Y.

Review, AM. Olsen and L.S. Rouner, (eds.), *Transcendence and the Sacred*, Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press, 1981, in *Sociological Analysis* 43 (Fall 1982): 179-90.

“The Religious Left Gathers in Chicago,” *Christian Century* (Oct 6, 1982): 971. This was a commissioned, paid reportage.

“Introduction: Considering Religions Without Conversions,” *Federation Reports* IV (3) (May/June 1981). This is the lead article in a special issue devoted to religious studies.

“Altered/Alternate States of Consciousness: some methodological implications for history of religions.” Paper presented to the International Association for the History of Religions, August 18, 1980, Winnipeg.

“Religious Systems as Sources of Control and Support: 1978 update,” (Co-author: June Louin Tapp) in S. E. Golann and C. Eisdorfer (eds.) *Handbook of Community Psychology and Mental Health* Revised edition, N.Y.: Irvington Publications.

“The Unitarian Universalists: a church of converts,” *Where the Spirit Leads: American Denominations Today*. Martin E. Marty (ed.). Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1981, 97-109.

“The Unitarian Universalists: Style and Substance,” *The Christian Century*, March 14, 1979.

Values and Ways of Life. Boston: Unitarian Universalist Association, 1979.

“Social Values of Unitarian Universalists, 1966/1976.” Paper and research report, April 1, 1977, San Francisco.

“Religiosity and the Integration of Ideology and Value; an empirical multivariate strategy for assessing primary group (‘parish’) effect” Paper presented to the American Academy of Religion, Western Region, November 13, 1976, San Diego.

“On Not Leaving Religions to the Religious.” Paper presented to the University of Minnesota Forum, February 18, 1976.

“Ideology-Value Patternings: An Exploratory U.S. Mapping and a Cross-Cultural Proposal to Assess Structuralist Theses as Related to Comparative Religion.” Paper presented to annual meeting of Society for Scientific Study of Religion, Milwaukee, October 26, 1975.

“Humanist Manifesto II.” Symposium arranged and chaired at annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 10, 1973, Chicago.

“The Organized Unorthodox: An Empirical Mapping of One Secular Context” Paper presented to the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, November 9, 1973, Chicago.

“Ecological Effects on Ideological-Valuational Patternings in Religiosity.” Paper presented to the International Conference for the Sociology of Religion, August 28; 1973, The Hague.

“A Naturalistic Garland for Heinz Schlötermann,” in E. Pilick (ed.), *Freiheit und Bindung: Festschrift für Heinz Schlötermann zum 60. Geburtstag*. Meisenheim: Verlag Anton Hain, 1973, pp. 110-18.

Religion Among the Unitarian Universalists: Converts in the Stepmother's House. New York: Academic Press, 1973.

“Measuring Secularization—Variables of Change Within Hinduism.” Paper presented to the Asian Section of the New England branch, American Academy of Religion, April 17, 1972, Boston.

“A Model for Studying Secularization/Modernization in India.” Paper presented to the International Congress of Learned Societies in the Field of Religion, September 4, 1972, Los Angeles.

“Religion and Community Mental Health,” (Co-author: June Louin Tapp) in S.E. Golann and C. Eisdorfer (eds.), *Handbook of Community Psychology and Mental Health*. New York: Appleton-Century-Crofts, 1972, pp. 107-26.

“Dimensions of Religiosity in a Post-traditional Group. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion* 10 (1971): 41-47.

“On the Rise of Demotheology,” *Christian Century* LXXXVIII (February 3, 1971): 153-56.

“Religious Trends and the Aging.” Paper presented to the Gerontological Society, August 24, 1969, Washington.

“Religiosity in the United States and Canada: Some Exceptions to its Multidimensionality.” (Co-author: June Louin Tapp). Paper presented to the XIXth International Congress of Psychology, July 31, 1969, London.

“Religiosity as Affected by Local Church Milieu.” Paper presented to the 2nd International Congress of Social Psychiatry, August 7, 1969, London.

“The Theological Correlates of Social Liberalism.” Paper presented to Study Conference on the Religious Imperatives of Unitarian Universalist Social Action, May 8, 1969, Punderson, Ohio.

“Post-Traditional Religiosity: an Empirically Tested Model.” Paper presented to Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Oct 25, 1968, Montreal.

“Housing Discrimination: A New Vista,” *Anti-Defamation League Bulletin* (1970).

“Empirical Study of the Post-Traditionally Religious.” Paper presented to the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, Oct 20, 1967, Chicago.

“Toward a New Liberal Theology,” *Journal of the Liberal Ministry* 7 (Spring 1967): 47-53.

“A Look at Unitarian Universalist Goals,” *Christian Century*, LXXXIV (April 1967): 47-53.

“Some Roots of Zygon,” *Zygon* I (Winter 1966): 117-19.

“Theological Resources from the Sciences,” *Zygon* I (Winter 1966): 11-13.

“Editorial,” (with R.W. Burhoe), *Zygon* I (Winter 1966) 1-10.

“The Bar-Brothel-Slum Bit,” *Journal of the Liberal Ministry* 6 (Winter, 1966): 515-18.

“Theologians Evaluating Science (I),” *Zygon* I (June 1966): 205-14.

“Commentary on Theological Resources from the Biological Sciences,” *Zygon* I (March 1966): 51-54.

“Science and the History of Religion: some applications of evolutionary theory.” Invited paper at the annual meeting of the American Society for the Study of Religion, 1966.

“Guilt and Purification in Intellectualistic and Voluntaristic Religions—non-bhaktic Hinduism and Classical Christianity.” Paper read at the International Congress for the History of Religion, Claremont, California, September, 1965. Shortened version of this paper appears in the *Proceedings of the XIth International Congress of the International Association for the History of Religions*. Leiden II (1968): 124-6.

“New Occasions and Conventional Wisdom,” *Journal of the Liberal Ministry* 5 (Winter 1965): 12-20.

“Natural Theology Again”?, *Bulletin of the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture* XV (June 1964): 181-90.

“C.E. Raven”; “H.N. Wieman” in F.N. Magill (ed.), *Masterpieces of Christian Literature*. New York: Salem Press, 1963.

“The ‘Self’ as ‘Reason’: a re-view of the religious traditions,” *The Crane Review* (Winter-Spring 1963): 41-55.

“A Doctrine for our Times,” in B.E. Gale (ed.), *Contemporary Accents in Liberal Religion* 1960. Boston: Beacon Press, 1960: 115-120. “Theological Pedagogy or Pedagogical Theology?” *Journal of the Liberal Ministry* 2 (Spring, 1962): 70– 77.

“A Theology for Universalists,” *Teamwork* (December 1959).

“Universalist-Unitarian Merger,” *Christian Century* LXVI (November 18, 1959): 1357-58. Reprinted “Universalist-Unitarian Merger,” *The Inquirer* No. 6124 (November 21, 1959): 342-43. Reprinted *News Digest of the I.A.R.F.* No. 41 (February 1960): 10-12.

“Released Time for Religious Education?” *NEA Journal* 47 (November 1958): 573-74.

“Protestants Face American Abundance,” *Universalist Leader* CXXXVIII (Oct 1956), pp. 205f.

“Historian or Legend Maker,” *Universalist Leader* CXXXVI (September 1955): 203.

“A Discussion of Theological School Problems,” *Empire State Universalist* (Symposium) LXI no. 11 (October 1955): 3-5.

“Liberal Churches Choose Merger,” *Christian Century* LXII (Sept 14, 1955): 1063-64.

“Jesus Christ as God and Savior,” (jointly written with Homer A. Jack), *Christian Register* (November 1954): 21-22. Also published in *Empire State Universalist* LXI no. 1 (November 1954): 3-6 as “Toward a Definition of ‘Christian’.”

“Iron Curtain Christians at Evanston,” *Universalist Leader* CXXXVI (November 1954): 251-54.

“The World Council of Churches,” *Universalist Leader* CXXXVI (Oct 1954): 219-23; (November 1954): 260-63.

“Religious Liberals and the World Council of Churches,” *Empire State Universalist* LX no. 9 (July-August 1954): 139-40.

“Church World Council Opens,” *Universalist Leader* CXXXVI (September 1954): 203.

“Freedom and Truth in Universalism,” *Universalist Leader* CXXXVI (February 1954): 27-29; (March 1954): 72-75.

“Quaker Lessons in Social Action,” *Empire State Universalist* LX (2) (December 1953): 37-38.