



WALTER H. CAPPS CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF
ETHICS, RELIGION, AND PUBLIC LIFE

Walter H. Capps 10-Year Commemorative Event

“Exploring the Contributions of Walter
Capps to the Study of Religion”

May 9-10, 2008

McCune Conference Room

6020 Humanities and Social Sciences Building

University of California, Santa Barbara

Conference Program

Friday, May 9

9:00 a.m. Welcome – Wade Clark Roof, Director, Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life and J.F. Rowny Professor of Religion and Society, Department of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara

9:05 a.m. Introduction – Richard Hecht, Professor of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara

9:10 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

“Mobile Theory: Walter Capps’ Kinetic Model for Religious Studies”

David Chidester, Head of the Department of Comparative Religion, University of Cape Town, South Africa

“From Variety to Plurality: a Historical Reflection on the Making of the Pluralist Regime”

Tomoko Masuzawa, Professor of History and the Program in Comparative Literature, University of Michigan

“The Politics of Humility in Scholarly Theorizing and Practice: The Implications of Walter Capps’ Work for the Academic Study of Religion”

Sarah Taylor, Associate Professor, Department of Religion, Northwestern University

12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch

Friday, May 9 Continued

1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

“Public Works: Professor Capps Goes to Congress”

Edward T. Linenthal, Professor of History, Indiana University and editor of the *Journal of American History*

“The Telling: Narrating Trauma in Walter Capps’ ‘The Impact of the Vietnam War’”

Richard Hecht, Professor of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara

“The Legacy of Walter Holden Capps”

Wendy Wright, Professor of Theology and John C. Kenefick Faculty Chair in the Humanities, Creighton University

4:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m.

Coffee Break

4:15 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

“An Exagmination Round Walter Capps’s Work in Progress: A Discipline-Establishing Project Towards a Second-Order Tradition For Religious Studies”

Jonathan Z. Smith, Robert O. Anderson Distinguished Service Professor of the Humanities, The University of Chicago Divinity School (with responses by Roger Friedland, Professor of Sociology and Religious Studies and Christine Thomas, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, UC Santa Barbara)

Note: The term “exagmination” is not a misprint

Saturday, May 10

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

“The Democratic Impulse: Walter Capps’ Contribution to the Ethos and Ethics of Religious Studies”

Robert Orsi, Grace Craddock Nagle Chair in Catholic Studies, Northwestern University

“The Place of Culture in the Play of International Politics: What Would Walter Think?”

Giles Gunn, Professor of English and of Global and International Studies, UC Santa Barbara

Presented by the Walter H. Capps Center for the Study of Ethics, Religion, and Public Life at UC Santa Barbara and cosponsored by the UCSB College of Letters and Science, Department of Religious Studies, Division of Humanities and Fine Arts, Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, and Office of the Chancellor

