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NOTRE DAME

College of Arts and Letters

HISTORY

November 29, 2014

Michael W. Grebe, President
The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation
The Lion House
1241 North Franklin Place
Milwaukee, WI 53202-2901

Dear Mr. Grebe:

I am pleased with the attached to nominate John Witte, Esq. for a Bradley Prize.
Thank you for requesting this nomination. And every good wish to the
Foundation in promoting the causes for which the prizes stand.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Mark A. Noll".

Mark A. Noll
Francis A. McAnaney Professor
574-631-7574; mnoll@nd.edu

Encl. Nomination form
Emory press release on Witte's appointment as a Woodruff Professor

2014 Bradley Prizes--Nomination

Submitted by:

Mark A. Noll

Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History
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Nominee Information:

John Witte, Jr.

Jonas Robitscher Professor of Law, Alonzo L. McDonald
Distinguished Service Professor, and Director of the Center for
the Study of Law and Religion

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Areas of expertise: Law, Civic Renewal & Responsibility, Civil Rights &
Society, Family Values, Human Rights, Law, Religion & Society

Statement of Nomination:

John Witte Jr. is the Jonas Robitscher Professor of Law, the Alonzo L. McDonald Distinguished Service Professor, and the Director of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion at Emory University. From this position he has generated an incredible outpouring of legal scholarship. His amazing range of well-received publications include books (and many articles) on the American Constitution, the legal history of the Protestant Reformation, human rights in several places around the world, church and state, the development of illegitimacy law, Christianity and the law, and more. Among many superlative aspects about this publishing record, one of the most important is that Witte's books and articles are as useful for the intelligent general public as they are well-grounded in impeccable academic research. Besides this breath-taking publishing career, Witte has also been an extraordinarily active promoter of scholarship in major research programs coordinated from Emory. These projects have included path-breaking contributions on human rights, marriage and family, religious liberty, children, and more. For these ventures, he has been a master in recruiting others and promoting their scholarship. Despite his many tasks in the broader academic world, he has also been effective teacher at Emory and much-used commentator on current events at home and abroad. For leadership in studying and also defending the West's strongest and most important legal, moral, and religious traditions, it is hard to imagine a more effective contemporary voice than John Witte, Jr. [c.v. attached]

Submitted by Mark A. Noll, Francis A. McAnaney Professor of History,
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References

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John Witte Jr. named Woodruff Professor

By Emory University School of Law | Emory Law | November 21, 2014



John Witte Jr.:
Newly named Robert
W. Woodruff
Professor of Law as
well as Jonas
Robitscher Professor
of Law, Alonzo L.
McDonald
Distinguished
Professor, and
Director of the Center
for the Study of Law
and Religion.

John Witte Jr.—acclaimed teacher, prolific scholar and director of the Center for the Study of Law and Religion—has been named Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory University School of Law.

Witte, an internationally recognized legal historian and expert on Christian jurisprudence, marriage and family law, religious liberty and human rights, came to Emory in 1985. He has spent the past 29 years breaking ground in the field of law and religion, while remaining committed to his first calling as a teacher.

"The Woodruff professors are more than teachers and scholars of distinction; they serve a broad constituency that transcends individual departments and programs," says Provost Claire Sterk. "As a leading authority on law and religion with an impressive body of scholarship, Professor Witte has earned a place among Emory's most distinguished faculty."

Witte has taught more than 5,500 students in courses such as criminal law, constitutional law, legal history, marriage and family law, religious liberty, human rights, and law and religion. Emory Law students have elected him Most Outstanding Professor 12 times. The Black Law Students Association has also elected him Most Outstanding Professor. More than 100 students have published books and articles under his supervision.

Emory University has recognized his teaching with two Crystal Apple Awards, the Emory Williams Distinguished Teaching Award, the Distinguished Faculty Lecture Award and the University Scholar Teacher Award, which was matched by a national award from the United Methodist Church Board of Higher Education.

Witte has delivered more than 350 public lectures around the world and is a regular keynote speaker at academic conferences. He has published 220 articles, 15 journal symposia and 27 monographs and anthologies, with five monographs under contract.

"Professor Witte's writings and lectures have put him at the forefront of law and religion scholars around the world," says Dean Robert A. Schapiro. "His work is known and praised by scholars of law, theology, philosophy, ethics, politics and history alike."

He writes on diverse and complex topics in an authoritative, readable style. His writings have been translated into 15 languages and have drawn praise from scholars around the world. Notable titles include "Law and Protestantism: The Legal Teachings of the Lutheran Reformation" (Cambridge University Press, 2002); "The Reformation of Rights: Law, Religion, and Human Rights in Early Modern Calvinism" (Cambridge University Press, 2007); "The Sins of the Fathers: The Law and Theology of Illegitimacy Reconsidered" (Cambridge University Press, 2009); "Religion and the American Constitutional Experiment" (3d ed., Westview Press, 2011);

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- Clinics
- Faculty and Scholarship
- Honors and Awards
- Public Interest
- Students
- Symposia, Colloquia, and Special Events
- All Tags and Feeds

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Thursday / December 4

Georgia Child Welfare Legal Academy
([../../events.html?trumbaEmbed=eventid%3D112186944%26view%3Dchildview%3D](#))

Friday / December 5

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The Resources of Vulnerability
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([../../tags/topics/honors-awards.html](#))

"From Sacrament to Contract: Marriage, Religion and Law in the Western Tradition" (2d ed., Westminster John Knox Press, 2012); and "Religion and Human Rights: An Introduction" (Oxford University Press, 2012).

Cambridge University Press will publish "The Western Case for Monogamy over Polygamy," early next year. Cambridge is also publishing a new book series on law and Christianity, with Witte as series editor. Witte has edited the Emory University Studies in Law and Religion series, an imprint of William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company since 1994.

Under Witte's direction since 1987, the Center for the Study of Law and Religion has served as a model of strong multidisciplinary scholarship as well as a model for law and religion initiatives at universities around the world.

With major funding from the McDonald, Pew, Lilly, Luce, Templeton and Ford foundations, Witte has directed a dozen multi-year international research projects on issues of democracy, religious freedom and human rights; marriage, family, sexuality, and children; and Christian theories of law, politics and society. These projects have yielded more than 100 public forums and more than 150 volumes. Speakers at international conferences hosted by the Center for the Study of Law and Religion have included Archbishop Desmond Tutu, President Jimmy Carter, His Holiness the XIVth Dalai Lama and Chief Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks.

"It has been my great fortune to spend my entire career at a university that provided the freedom, encouragement, colleagues and resources to blaze trails in the field of law and religion," Witte said. "We are really just getting started in this field. There are so many deep questions and hard issues to explore. I am immensely honored and blessed to do this work here with my wonderful colleagues and students – and with the support of a university professorship."

Witte becomes the law school's fourth Woodruff professor, which is the highest honor Emory can bestow on a faculty member. The first, Harold J. Berman, came to Emory from Harvard in 1985, bringing Witte with him. In 2003, Emory brought Michael J. Perry and Martha Albertson Fineman to the law school as Woodruff professors.

Witte will continue to serve as Alonzo L. McDonald Distinguished Professor. He will give up the Jonas Robitscher Professorship in Law and Ethics he has held since 1994.

Witte received his bachelor of arts from Calvin College and his juris doctor from Harvard University in 1985.

(<http://www.emory.edu/home/index.html>)

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