

**Paul Scherz, Ph.D.**  
School of Theology and Religious Studies  
The Catholic University of America  
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Email: [scherz@cua.edu](mailto:scherz@cua.edu)

## EDUCATION

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- 2010 – 2014     **University of Notre Dame**  
Ph.D. Moral Theology  
Doctoral Advisor: Gerald McKenny
- 2008 - 2010     **University of Notre Dame**  
M.T.S. Moral Theology
- 2001 – 2005     **Harvard University**  
Ph.D. Genetics  
Doctoral Advisor: Clifford Tabin
- 1997 – 2001     **University of California at Berkeley**  
B.A. Molecular and Cellular Biology

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

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- 2018 – Present     **The Catholic University of America, School of Theology and Religious Studies**  
Associate Professor of Moral Theology and Ethics
- 2014 – 2018     **The Catholic University of America, School of Theology and Religious Studies**  
Assistant Professor of Moral Theology and Ethics
- 2017 – Present     **Georgetown University, Department of Medicine**  
Adjunct Assistant Professor
- 2009                 **Indiana University, South Bend, Department of Philosophy**  
Adjunct Professor

## HONORS AND AWARDS

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- 2016 – Present     **Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia**  
Visiting Faculty Fellow
- 2016 – Present     **Institute for Human Ecology, The Catholic University of America**  
Faculty Fellow

- 2015 – 2016      **Grant for “Science as a Christian Practice” Book Project**  
\$38,060 grant secured with the assistance of the Issachar Fund to complete manuscript.
- 2010 – 2014      **Richard and Peggy Notebaert Fellowship, University of Notre Dame**  
Highly competitive university-wide fellowship awarded to top doctoral prospects accepted to the university providing tuition and a stipend of \$30,000.
- 2010                **Flatley Fellow of Theological Ethics, Boston College (Declined)**  
Competitive fellowship providing tuition and a stipend.
- 2008-2010        **Theology Department Scholarship, University of Notre Dame**  
Tuition and stipend for MTS.
- 2005-2007        **Helen Hay Whitney Postdoctoral Fellowship**  
Advisor: Didier Stainier at University of California, San Francisco  
Highly competitive national postdoctoral fellowship providing stipend and research expenses with fewer than 5% of applicants selected.
- 2004                **Damon Runyon Postdoctoral Fellowship (Declined)**  
Highly competitive national postdoctoral fellowship providing stipend and research expenses.
- 2001 - 2005        **Biological and Biomedical Sciences Scholarship, Harvard Medical School**  
Tuition and stipend.
- 2001                **Departmental Citation in Molecular and Cell Biology at UC Berkeley**  
Awarded for the highest achievement each year by a graduating senior in the MCB Department in terms of grade point average, quality of research, and indication of promise of success in the student's career.
- 2001 - Present    **Phi Beta Kappa Honors Society**
- 1997 - 2001        **Chancellor’s Scholar, University of California at Berkeley**  
Highest honor awarded by UC Berkeley to entering undergraduates.
- 1997                **National Merit Scholar**

## PUBLICATIONS

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### BOOKS

**Scherz, P.** (2019) *Science and Christian Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Davis, J.E., and **P. Scherz** (eds.). *The Evening of Life: Responding to the Challenges of Aging and Dying Well*. Notre Dame: University of Notre Dame Press. In Press.

### EDITED JOURNAL ISSUES

“Persons without Qualities: Algorithms, AI, and the Reshaping of Ourselves,” special topic issue, (2019) *Social Research* 86 (4), with J.E. Davis.

## ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

**Scherz, P.** How the Body Became Integrated: Cybernetics in the History of the Brain Death Debate. *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy*. Accepted.

**Scherz, P.** Risk, Health, and Physical Enhancement: The Dangers of Health Care as Risk Reduction for Christian Bioethics. *Christian Bioethics*. Accepted.

**Scherz, P.** Beyond Autonomy and Avoidance. In *The Evening of Life: Responding to the Challenges of Aging and Dying Well*. Eds. J.E. Davis and P. Scherz. (Notre Dame: Notre Dame Press), In Press.

**Scherz, P.** Conclusion. In *The Evening of Life: Responding to the Challenges of Aging and Dying Well*. Eds. J.E. Davis and P. Scherz. (Notre Dame: Notre Dame Press), In Press.

**Scherz, P.** (2020) A Peaceful Death or a Perfect End: Visions of a Good Death in Contemporary and Traditional Arts of Dying. *Nova et Vetera* 18 (2): 613–637.

**Scherz, P.** (2019) The Displacement of Human Judgment in Science: The Problems of Biomedical Research in an Age of Big Data. *Social Research* 86 (4): 957–976.

Davis, J. E., **Scherz, P.** (2019) Persons without Qualities: Algorithms, AI, and the Reshaping of Ourselves. *Social Research* 86 (4): xxxiii–xxxix.

**Scherz, P.** (2018) ‘Laudato Si’ and the Use of Scientific Research in Theology and Public Policy. *Heythrop Journal* 59 (6): 1049–1059.

**Scherz, P.** (2018) Risk, Prudence, and Moral Formation in the Laboratory. *Journal of Moral Education* 47 (3): 304–15.

**Scherz, P.** (2018) Living Indefinitely and Living Fully: Laudato Si’ and the Value of the Present in Christian, Stoic, and Transhumanist Temporalities. *Theological Studies*. 79 (2): 356–375.

**Scherz, P.** (2017) Prudence, Precaution, and Uncertainty: Assessing the Health Benefits and Ecological Risks of Gene Drive Technology Using the Quasi-Integral Parts of Prudence. *The Thomist*. 81 (4): 507–538.

**Scherz, P.** (2017) Fragments of the Body in Christian, Bioethical, and Social Imaginaries. *Studies in Christian Ethics*. 30(4): 449–63.

**Scherz, P.** (2017) The Mechanism and Applications of CRISPR/Cas9 Gene Editing Technology. *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*. 17(1): 29-36.

**Scherz, P.** (2017) Grief, Death, and Longing in Stoic and Christian Ethics. *Journal of Religious Ethics*. 47(1): 7-28.

**Scherz, P.** (2015) Legal Suppression of Scientific Data and the Christian Virtue of *Parrhesia*. *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*. 35(2): 175-92.

**Scherz, P.** (2015) Knowledge and the Scientist-Entrepreneur. *Pro Ecclesia*. 24: 308-25.

Alvers, A., Ryan, S., **Scherz, P.J.**, Huisken, J., Bagnat, M. (2014) Single continuous lumen formation in the zebrafish gut is mediated by smoothened-dependent tissue remodeling. *Development*. 141(5): 1110-9.

Aanstad, P., Santos, N., Corbit, K.C., **Scherz, P.J.**, Trinh, L.A., Salvenmoser W., Huisken, J., Reiter, J.F., Stainier, D.Y.R. (2009) The extracellular domain of Smoothed regulates ciliary localization and is required for high-level Hh signaling. *Current Biology*. 19(12):1034-9.

Morton, S.U.\*, **Scherz, P.J.\***, Cordes, K.R., Ivey, K.N., Stainier, D.Y.S., Srivistava, D. (2008) microRNA-138 modulates cardiac patterning during embryonic development. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. 105(46): 17830-5.

Tran, P.V., Haycraft, C.J., Stottmann, R.W., Herron, B.J., Turbe-Doan, A., Chesebor, A.L., Qiu, H., **Scherz, P.J.**, Yoder, B.K., Beier, D.R. (2008) THM1 negatively modulates mouse Sonic hedgehog signal transduction and affects retrograde intraflagellar transport. *Nature Genetics*. 40(4): 403-410.

**Scherz, P.J.**, Huisken, J., Sahai-Hernandez, P., Stainier, D.Y.R. (2008) High speed imaging of developing heart valves reveals interplay of morphogenesis and function. *Development*. 135(6): 1179-87.

Pearse II, R.V.\*, **Scherz, P.J.\***, Campbell, J.K.\*, Tabin, C.J. (2007) A cellular lineage analysis of the chick limb bud. *Developmental Biology*. 310(2): 388-400.

**Scherz, P.J.\***, McGlenn, E.\*, Nissim, S.\*, Tabin, C.J. (2007) Extended exposure to Sonic hedgehog is required for patterning the posterior digits of the vertebrate limb. *Developmental Biology*. 308(2): 343-54.

**Scherz, P.J.**, Harfe B.H. McMahon, A.P., Tabin C.J. (2004) The limb bud Shh-Fgf feedback loop is terminated by expansion of former ZPA cells. *Science*. 395(5682): 396-399.

Harfe, B.H.\*, **Scherz, P.J.\***, Nissim, S., Tian, H., McMahon, A.P. Tabin C.J. (2004) Evidence for an expansion-based temporal Shh gradient in specifying mammalian digit identities. *Cell*. 118(4):517-28.

Mitchell, K.J., Pinson K.I., Kelly, O.G., Brennan, J., Zupicich, J., **Scherz, P.**, Leighton, P.A., Goodrich, L.V., Lu, X., Avery, B.J., Tate, P., Dill, K., Pangilinan, E., Wakenight, P., Tessier-Lavigne, M., Skarnes, W.C. (2001) Functional analysis of secreted and transmembrane proteins critical to mouse development. *Nature Genetics*. 28(3): 241-249.

Mitchell, K.J., Goodrich, L.V., Leighton, P.A., Lu, X., Pinson, K., **Scherz, P.**, Kelly, O.G., Zupicich, J., Wakenight, P., Tate, P., Mak, J., Pangilinan, E., Rayburn, H., Rottkamp, D., Zhong, J., Skarnes, W.C., and Tessier-Lavigne, M. (2001) Studying brain development and wiring using a modified gene trap approach. In *Methods in Genomic Neuroscience*, Ed. H.R. Chin and S. O. Moldin. (New York: CRC Press, 2001) , pp. 91-111.

Leighton, P.A., Mitchell, K.J., Goodrich, L.V., Lu, X., Pinson, K., **Scherz, P.**, Skarnes, W.C., Tessier-Lavigne, M. (2001) Defining brain wiring patterns and mechanisms through gene trapping in mice. *Nature* 410(6825): 174-179.

\*These authors contributed equally

#### ARTICLES FOR POPULAR PRESS

**Scherz, P.** (2019) The Rapidly Evolving Debate over CRISPR. *Health Care Ethics USA*. 27(2): 24–29.

**Scherz, P.** (2018) Here Come the Robots. *Sojourners* April.

**Scherz, P.** (2017) Christianity Is Engaging Artificial Intelligence, but in the Right Way. *Crux Website*. February 27, 2017.

**Scherz, P.** (2016) Trivial Pursuits: The Decline of Scientific Research. *The Hedgehog Review*. 18(3): 80–89.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

**Scherz, P.** (2010) *A Problem of Presence: Beyond Scripture in an African Church*. by Matthew Engelke *Mission Studies* 27(2): 279-280.

#### PUBLISHED COURSES

Scherz, P. (2018) *A Catholic's Guide to Science and Religion: Understanding Evolution and Genetics*. Now You Know Media

#### PRESENTATIONS

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##### INVITED

- 2019 "Being Human as Being at Risk: The Shift from Genetic Determinism to Precision Medicine"  
Lumen Christi Institute, University of Chicago. November.
- 2019 "Entrepreneurial Science and the Image of God"  
The Catholic University of America, Historical and Systematic Theology Symposium. September.
- 2019 "The CRISPR-Cas9 System and the Ethics of Genetic Engineering"  
Kennedy Institute of Ethics Intensive Bioethics Course, Georgetown University. June.
- 2019 "Risk, Virtue, and Precision Medicine"  
Conference on Medicine and Religion's Young Scholars Workshop. March
- 2019 "Ethical Issues in Emerging Genetic Technologies"  
Catholic Health Association Theology and Ethics Colloquium. March.
- 2019 "Well Directed? The Technocratic Paradigm, Entrepreneurial Science, and the Reproducibility Crisis"  
Loyola University Maryland. February
- 2019 "Selection and Surveillance: Two Paradigms for Relating to DTC Genetic Testing"  
Society of Christian Ethics Technology and Ethics Group. January.
- 2018 "From Selection to Surveillance: The Evolving Relationship between Genetics, Ethics, and Human Identity"  
Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Trinity International University, June
- 2018 "Risk, Genetics, and Christian Ethics"  
Conference on Medicine and Religion's Young Scholars Workshop, April
- 2018 "Living Indefinitely and Living Fully: Life Extension and the Value of the Present in Christian, Stoic, and Transhumanist Temporalities"  
University of Virginia Bioethics Program, April
- 2018 "Science, Moral Practices, and Christian Ethics"

- Institute for Human Ecology Fellows Meeting, The Catholic University of America, March
- 2017 “Grief, Death, and Longing in Stoic and Christian Ethics: Toward a Contemporary Art of Dying”  
Dartmouth College, June
- 2016 “Risk, Prudence, and Moral Formation in the Laboratory”  
Virtue in Science Symposium, University of Notre Dame, September
- 2016 “Science as a Vocation in an Entrepreneurial Age”  
University of Virginia, Department of Engineering and Society, April
- 2016 “Science as a Vocation in an Entrepreneurial Age”  
Bioethics Forum, St. Vincent’s College, April
- 2016 “Theological Anthropology in *Laudato Si*”  
Panel on *Laudato Si*, St. Anselm Institute, University of Virginia, February
- 2015 “Using Spiritual Practices to Address Reductionism in Medicine”  
Duke Divinity School, November
- 2015 “Science and Technology in *Laudato Si*”  
The Catholic University of America, *Laudato Si* Conference, October
- 2015 Respondent for Bare Life and Moral Life Symposium  
St. Louis University Madrid Campus, July
- 2014 “‘Practices’ in Lab Science”  
University of Virginia, Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture Seminar Series, November
- 2014 "Science as a Christian Vocation: Practices of the Self and Biomedical Research"  
Catholic University of America, School of Theology and Religious Studies. March
- 2014 "Science as a Christian Vocation: Techniques of the Self and the Practice of Biotechnology"  
University of Notre Dame, Theology Department. February
- 2014 “Science as a Christian Vocation: Practices of the Self in an Entrepreneurial Age”  
Yale University, Yale Divinity School. January
- 2013 “Science as a Christian Vocation”  
University of Cambridge Faculty of Divinity. November
- 2008 “The Interplay of Morphogenesis and Function in Zebrafish Heart Valve Development”  
Universitat Innsbruck, Institut für Molekularbiologie. April
- 2004 “The Role of *Shh* Descendants in Limb Patterning”  
University of California, San Francisco. May

#### CONFERENCES

- 2020 “Life as an Intelligence Test: Intelligence, Education, and the New Genetics”  
Being Human in the Age of the Brain: Models of Mind and their Social Effects Symposium  
Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, February

- 2019 “The Problems of Genetic Research in the Age of Big Data”  
Persons Without Qualities: Metrics, Algorithms, and the Reshaping of Ourselves Symposium  
Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, April
- 2019 “A Peaceful Death or a Perfect End: Visions of a Good Death in Contemporary and Traditional  
Arts of Dying”  
Society for Christian Ethics Annual Meeting. January
- 2018 “Cybernetics, Integration, and Brain Death”  
International Academy for Bioethical Inquiry, July
- 2018 "The Distinct Visions of Death in Secular and Christian Arts of Dying,"  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion. April
- 2018 “Beyond Avoidance and Autonomy”  
Evening of Life: Cultural Challenges for Aging and Dying Well Symposium  
Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture, University of Virginia, March
- 2017 “Prudence and Radical Uncertainty: Health Benefits and Ecological Risks of Gene Drive  
Technologies”  
Catholic Theological Society of America Convention. June
- 2016 Respondent to Lydia Dugdale at the Bioethics and Christian Theology Interest Group  
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Annual Meeting. October
- 2016 “Foucault’s Specific Intellectual as a Model for Maintaining an Independent Voice within the  
Institutional Structure of Medicine”  
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities Annual Meeting. October
- 2016 “Time, Virtue, and Extending Life”  
International Academy for Bioethical Inquiry Conference. August
- 2016 “Risk in Christianity and Personalized Medicine”  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion. March
- 2015 “Practices of the Self in Medicine”  
4<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Medicine and Religion. March
- 2015 “Legal Suppression of Scientific Data and the Christian Virtue of *Parrhesia*”  
Society for Christian Ethics Annual Meeting. January
- 2014 “Stem Cells, the Body, and Theological Anthropology”  
American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting. November
- 2013 “Alasdair MacIntyre, Michel Foucault, and Science as a Christian Vocation”  
Ways of Knowing: Graduate Conference on Religion at Harvard Divinity School. October
- 2013 “Conflicting Models of Technology in Catholic Social Teaching”  
New Wine, New Wineskins Catholic Moral Theology Conference. July

## POPULAR AUDIENCES

- 2019 “The Ethics of New Genetic Technologies”  
Diocese of Charlotte Respect Life Conference, October
- 2019 “Bioethics: Emerging Technologies and the Catholic Faith”  
Charlotte Catholic Health Professionals Group, October
- 2017 Discussant on Artificial Intelligence  
AAAS DoSER Program Holiday Lecture, December
- 2017 Respondent for Robotics and Artificial Intelligence Panel  
Religion News Association Conference, September
- 2017 “End of Life Ethics”  
Holy Redeemer Parish, April.

## TEACHING

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- 2014 – Present **The Catholic University of America**  
Catholic Clinical Ethics 510 – Philosophy of Medicine  
Catholic Clinical Ethics 520 – Applied Clinical Ethics  
Catholic Clinical Ethics 570 – Catholic Social Teaching and Health Care  
Theology and Religious Studies 333 – Biomedical and Health Care Ethics for Nursing  
Theology and Religious Studies 339 – Technology and Theology  
Theology and Religious Studies 632D – Biomedical Ethics  
Theology and Religious Studies 732C – End of Life Ethics  
Theology and Religious Studies 733E – Human Nature and Biotechnology  
Theology and Religious Studies 737D – Twentieth-Century Theological Ethics  
Theology and Religious Studies 737E – Freedom, Law, and Rights  
Theology and Religious Studies 837 – Social and Spiritual Practices in Moral Formation  
National Catholic School of Social Service Continuing Education – Biomedical Ethics
- 2009 – 2012 **University of Notre Dame**  
Teaching Assistant  
THEO 20619 - Rich, Poor, War with Prof. Todd Whitmore  
THEO 20637 – Biomedical Ethics with Prof. Gerald McKenny  
THEO 20807 – Catholicism with Prof. Richard McBrien
- 2009 **Indiana University, South Bend**  
Adjunct Professor  
Philosophy P393 – Philosophy of Biomedical Ethics

## GRADUATE ADVISING

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### DIRECTOR

- 2018 – 2020 Paul Chaloux, Ph.D. Dissertation  
2018 – Present Fr. Rodrigue Constantin, Ph.D. Dissertation  
2017 – Present Fr. Glenn Breed, S.T.L. Thesis  
2015 – 2017 Fr. John Ndidi Nwaocha, S.T.L. Thesis



## READER

2018 – Present Beth Lofgren, Ph.D. Dissertation  
2017 – 2018 Laura Wilson, M.A. Thesis  
2016 – 2017 Fr. Pawel Tomczyk, Ph.D. Dissertation  
2016 – Present Fr. John Howard, S.T.D. Dissertation

## EXAM BOARDS

2018 Paul Chaloux, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exams  
2018 Beth Lofgren, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exams  
2017 Fr. John Ndidi Nwaocha, S.T.L. Comprehensive Exams  
2017 Fr. Rodrigue Constantin, Ph.D. Comprehensive Exams

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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### **The Catholic University of America**

2018 – Present Policies and Procedures Committee  
2017 – Present Co-Chair Catholic Clinical Bioethics Program  
2017 Ad Hoc Postdocs Committee  
2016 – 2019 Ph.D. Proposal Committee  
2015 – 2016 Online Learning Committee  
2015 – Present Teaching Mentor  
2015 – Present Masters Advisor  
2014 - Present Committee for Joint Masters Program in Catholic Clinical Bioethics with Georgetown  
2014 - 2015 Secretary for Faculty Meeting

### **University of Notre Dame**

2012 Facilitator of Graduate Ethics Workshop  
2011 – 2012 Adult Stem Cell Initiative Working Group  
2009 – 2010 Reilly Center Ethics Education in Science and Engineering Committee

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

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2020 Co-Organized “Being Human in the Age of the Brain” Symposium  
2019 Co-Organized Working Group on Risk in Medicine and Duke Divinity School  
2019 Co-Organized “Persons without Qualities” Symposium  
2018 – Present Theology and Ethics Committee of the Catholic Health Association  
2018 – Present Ethics Advisor to Medstar Pharmacogenetics Working Group  
2018 – 2019 Advisory Committee for “Aesthetic Dimension of Science” Grant  
2018 Co-Organized “Evening of Life” Symposium

## REVIEWER

Annual Conference of the American Society for Bioethics and Humanities  
Conference on Medicine and Religion  
John Templeton Foundation  
*Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*  
*LOGOS: A Journal of Eastern Christian Studies*  
Maryland Stem Cell Research Fund  
*Philosophy, Ethics, and Humanities in Medicine*  
*Religions*

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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Academy of Catholic Theologians  
American Academy of Religion  
American Society for Bioethics and Humanities  
Society of Catholic Scientists  
Society of Christian Ethics

## LANGUAGES

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French (Reading)  
Latin (Reading)  
German (Reading)