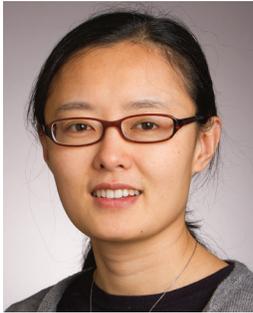


XUEYING WANG

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FELLOW 2015-2017

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The Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts seeks to strengthen the quality and shape the character of church-related institutions of higher learning. Three closely related initiatives have been designed to accomplish this mission: a National Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities that sponsors a wide variety of activities and publications that explore the Christian character of the academic vocation; a Graduate Fellowship Program that supports graduate students who are exploring vocations in church-related higher education, and the two-year, residential Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship. As of 2016-2017 the Program has awarded seventy-four two-year postdoctoral fellowships to teacher-scholars who seek to renew and enrich their intellectual and spiritual lives while preparing for teaching and leadership roles at institutions of church-related higher education. Fellows teach in the honors college (Christ College) and departments of the College of Arts and Sciences at Valparaiso University. In addition, Fellows conduct scholarship or creative work, participate in a two-year colloquium, and interact with representatives from a national network of ninety-eight church-related colleges and universities.



Xueying Wang earned a BA in German from Beijing Foreign Studies University, and an MA in literature from Beijing University. While writing her Master's thesis, "*Humilitas* as Oratorical Principle: A Study of Augustine's *De doctrina christiana*," she became interested in theology. In 2014, she received her PhD in theology from the University of Notre Dame.

Wang's research is focused on the intersection of historical theology with Christian anthropology, ethics, and eschatology. She also has a special interest in comparative religions, especially in comparing East Asian religions with Christianity. Each of her academic projects stems from a deep curiosity about how religious beliefs generate particular conceptions of human nature and how these conceptions further inform moral values and spirituality.

Wang's current book project, based on her dissertation, is titled *Gregory of Nyssa on the Corporate Nature of the Human Body*. This book explores Gregory of Nyssa's account of how the human body constitutes an indispensable medium of interpersonal relationships, including the human person's relationship with the incarnate Word—Jesus Christ. In a broad sense, Gregory maintains that our vocal organs (speech), bodily manners and actions are effective indicators of our inner virtues and vices. Without the body, Gregory maintains, the motions of the human mind would have been incommunicable and isolated. Wang argues that this aspect of Gregory's anthropology has a deep impact upon other areas of his teaching, including soteriology, asceticism, and ecclesiology.

Another area of Wang's research interests lies in comparing Christian anthropological and ethical concepts with those embodied in the Confucian tradition of ancient China. In "Mengzi, Xunzi, and John Chrysostom on Childhood Moral Cultivation," she explores how different understandings of human nature shape different visions of childhood moral education. Currently, she is also writing an article on death and mortality in Christian and Confucian tradition. By extracting insights from classical Christian and Confucian texts, this article aims to show that death is a basic, universal phenomenon that can only be fully understood in light of a broader, theologically enriched context.

Wang also has broad teaching interests in theology and comparative religions. She has taught "Introduction to Christianity" for four consecutive semesters. In Fall 2016, she teaches "Women and Christianity." She is currently devising a course tentatively entitled "Introduction to Buddhism," which, upon the approval of the Honors College, will be taught in Spring 2017. Wang also worked as a teaching assistant at Notre Dame for classes on Buddhism, including "The Buddhist Meditation Tradition," and "Religion and Visual Arts: Christianity and Buddhism."

Wang also sees translating Christian classics into Chinese as another important scholarly pursuit. In the past few years, she has translated the writings of some modern Christian writers, such as John Henry Newman and G. K. Chesterton. One of her future projects is to translate some major works of patristic and medieval authors into Chinese, thereby making more accessible the rich resources of the early and medieval Christian traditions.