

Leon W. Couch III

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EDUCATION

College-Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati

- *Doctor of Musical Arts in Organ Performance*, 2002
Thesis: "The Organ Works of Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707) and Musical-Rhetorical Analysis"
- *Doctor of Philosophy in Music Theory*, 2003
Dissertation: "Musical-Rhetorical Analysis and the North-German Toccata"
- *Master of Music in Organ Performance*, 1995

University of Florida

- *Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance* with High Honors, 1992
- *Bachelor of Science in Physics*, 1992
- *Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics*, 1992
- *Performer's Certificate in Organ Performance*, 1992
- *Associate of Arts* with High Honors, 1990

HONORS

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| 2005–06 | Montague Center for Teaching Excellence Scholar, College of Liberal Arts, Texas A&M Univ. |
| 2003–04 | Featured Performer of the Academy for Visual and Performing Arts, TAMU
http://academyarts.tamu.edu/ |
| 1995 | Elected to Music Honor Society of Pi Kappa Lambda |
| 1992–97 | Graduate Scholarship at College-Conservatory of Music |
| 1992 | Elected to Honor Society of Phi Beta Kappa |
| 1988–92 | Florida Academic Scholar and Scholarship |
| 1988–92 | Friends of Music Scholar and Scholarship |
| 1989–90 | University of Florida Turlington Scholar and Scholarship |
| 1989 | Elected to Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi |

MEMBERSHIPS

The American Guild of Organists, Spartanburg chapter & Charlotte chapter
First United Methodist Church, Gainesville, Florida

Employment History – Church Music

2010–11 *Music Director, Choir Director, and Organist.*
First Presbyterian Union Church
Owego, New York

2008–2010 *Organist.*
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
Spartanburg, South Carolina

2006–2008 *Substitute Organist.*
Various denominations.

2004–06 *Music Coordinator and Organist.*
2002–04 *Music Director, Choir Director, and Organist.*
Our Saviour’s Lutheran Church
College Station, Texas

2001 *Interim Accompanist.*
Centennial United Methodist
Roseville, Minnesota (a suburb of St. Paul).

1995–98 *Music Director, Choir Director, and Organist.*
Concordia Lutheran Church and School
Cincinnati, Ohio.

1993–95 *Organist.*
Disciples Christian Church
Hamilton, Ohio.

1992–93 *Organist.*
Ascension Lutheran Church
Cincinnati, Ohio.

1990–92 *Organist.*
Trinity Episcopal Church
Melrose, Florida.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY – Academic Positions

2011–present *Assistant Professor of Music.* Carroll University.
2010–11 *Assistant Professor of Music.* Ithaca College.
2006–10 *Assistant Professor of Organ and Music Theory.* Converse College.
2002–06 *Assistant Professor of Music.* Texas A&M University.
1998–01 *Visiting Instructor in Music.* Luther College
1997–98 *Adjunct Assistant Professor of Mathematics.* University of Cincinnati.
1995–97 *Graduate Teaching Assistant in Organ Performance.* University of Cincinnati.

RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

Recordings

Leon W. Couch III, “*Hamburger Rhetorik*” (CD7166) on label *Pro Organo* (released 2007). Recording was also accepted by *Naxos* label.

Leon W. Couch III, “Playing Dieterich Buxtehude’s Works Rhetorically” (3-CD set). Supported by three external grants totaling \$12,424.07, the \$14,634.07 project requested and published by the Committee for Educational Resources (CER) of the *American Guild of Organists* (AGO). Released December 2007.

Review Articles

“New Recordings: Thomas Heywood’s *Krazy ‘Bout Kotschmar!*” *The Diapason* (December 2010).

Leon W. Couch III, “New Recordings: Mary Mozelle and Chuck Seipp’s *The Wedding Book: Ceremonial Music for Trumpet and Organ*,” *The Diapason* (April 2008).

Leon W. Couch III, “New Recordings: Delbert Disselhort’s *In Bach’s Neighborhood: Organ Music of Georg Friedrich Kauffmann, The Harmonische Seelenlust of 1733–1740*,” *The Diapason* (March 2008).

Leon W. Couch III, “New Recordings: Hans Davidsson - *Gelobet seist Du*,” *The Diapason* (January 2007).

Leon W. Couch III, “Book Review: John Bertalot’s *How to Be a Successful Choir Director*,” *The Diapason* (April 2005): 18.

Leon W. Couch III, “Review Feature: *Sämtliche Orgelwerke. Vol. 1 & 2. Ed. Klaus Beckmann*,” *The Diapason* (December 2004): 23–25.

(*The Diapason* is the Official Journal of the International Society for Organ History and Preservation: <http://www.thediapason.com/dp/>.)

Leon W. Couch III, “Review Feature: New Buxtehude Edition,” *The Diapason* (October 2000): 8–12. A review of the Broude Brother’s (Belotti) edition.

Program Notes & Liner Notes

Leon W. Couch III, “Program Notes to *St. John’s Passion*” in Luther College Choir Concert Programs (April 2000). Also used on Converse College Program (April 2007).

RELATED PRESENTATIONS

Invited Lectures

07/17/08, Leon W. Couch III. “Buxtehude and the Baroque: Finding Out and Communicating the Passions.” Lecture at Pipe Organ Encounter, Charlotte, NC, 2008.

Nelson Scholar, Spring 2007. Northwestern College, IA. Involved a public lecture, seminar with advanced rhetoric class, presentation to music majors, and lectures in music-theory classes. (March 11–16, 2007).

Other Nelson scholars include Leanne Van Dyke (famous theologian), Neil Plantinga (famous author from Calvin College), Brannon Manning (famous preacher), and Kathleen Norris.

RELEVANT GRANTS

Humanities Council of South Carolina, National Endowment for the Humanities, and other grants (\$10,000) for hymn festival/conference entitled “The Legacy of Singin’ Billy Walker: Hymn in the South”, 2008–2009, with several nationally regarded scholars and performers.

Instructional Enhancement Grant (\$5000), Academy for Visual and Performing Arts, Texas A&M University, 2004: “A Hymn Festival Concert: Words and Music by Student Artists.” Also supported by *Arts Council of Brazos Valley Grant* (\$500) and Department of Performance Studies (\$2000). Conducted the Houston Bach Society in concert of the new hymns by hymnody students, Bach’s Cantata 93, and motets by Schein and Hassler.

RELATED PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Summer 2009 Judge. RCYO Competition. Regional AGO Competition in St. Petersburg, FL.

2009–present Member. National Committee for Educational Resources. AGO.

2007–2009 Chair. Pedals, Pipes, Pizza for Youth. Spartanburg AGO Chapter.

Jun. 16, 2007 Judge. RCYO Competition. Regional AGO Convention in Atlanta, GA.

Mar. 17, 2007 Judge. RCYO Competition. AGO Chapter in Greenville, SC.

PERFORMANCES

Recent Solo Recitals

- TBA The Parish Church of St. Helens, Beaufort, South Carolina.
- TBA Elliot Chapel, Presbyterian Homes, Chicago, Illinois.
Series of renown international artists, including David Schrader, Volodymyr Koshuba (Kiev, Ukraine), Istavan Ruppert (Liszt Academy, Hungary), Margaret Kemper (Northwestern U.), and many others
<http://www.presbyterianhomes.org/about/recitals>
- TBA The Cathedral of the Rockies, Boise, Idaho.
Series invites international artists including Peter Dubois (Eastman), Robert Boozman (U. Louisville), and others.
- 09/28/14 The Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, New York, New York.
This famous series invites international artists, including Eric Pluz (Princeton), Maxine Thevenot (Cathedral of St. John in Albuquerque), Nigel Potts (Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artist), and others.
- 02/05/12 St. Philip's Cathedral, Atlanta, Georgia.
Organists on this series include Cathy Rodland (St. Olaf), Daniel Stipe (U. of the South), Gail Archer (Barnard).
- 10/30/11 St. James's Church, Richmond, Virginia.
- 05/29/11 Union Sunday School Recital Series, Clermont, Iowa. (Tubular-pneumatic Kilgen)
- 04/17/11 "Always on Sunday" series in Owego, New York.
- 04/10/11 Heidelberg Keyboared Festival, Heidelberg University, Tiffin, Ohio.
- 01/24/11 Center NJ AGO Chapter.
- 11/14/10 Hudson-Catskill AGO Chapter & Trinity United Methodist Church, Albany, New York.
- 10/02/10 Susquehanna Valley Chapter of AGO
- 02/28/10 Converse College, Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- 02/07/10 St. Philip's Cathedral, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 01/24/10 Missouri State University, Springfield, Missouri.
- 10/15/09 First & Central Church, Wilmington, Delaware.
- 10/13/09 Central Synagogue, New York City.
- 09/21/09 Westobou Festival & Augusta Chapter AGO, Augusta, GA.
- 06/28/09 Summer Recital Series, AGO Charlotte Chapter, Charlotte, North Carolina.
- 04/19/09 First Presbyterian Church, San Anselmo, California.
- 03/15/09 Goshen College, Goshen, Indiana.
- 03/08/09 Converse College, Spartanburg, South Carolina.
- 02/15/09 First United Methodist, Gainesville, Florida.
- 02/04/09 "Winter Classics Concert Series" at Christ Church, Greenville, South Carolina.
- 01/26/09 Shorter College.
- 12/31/08 Old Salem Museums & Gardens, Winston-Salem, North Carolina.
- 11/17/08 University of Carolina School of the Arts (UNSCA). Lecture-recital.
- 10/24/08 The Parish Church of St. Helens, Beaufort, South Carolina.
- 08/24/08 Summer Recital Series, AGO Charlotte Chapter, Charlotte, North Carolina.
- 7/23/08 "Wednesdays with Bach" Summer Recital Series. Trinity Lutheran Church, Greenville, South Carolina.
- 06/29/08 Union Sunday School Recital Series, Clermont, Iowa.
- 04/20/08 Limestone College, Gaffney, South Carolina.
- 03/30/08 Appalachian State University, Boone, North Carolina.
- 03/08/08 University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.
- 02/10/08 St. Philip's Cathedral, Atlanta, Georgia.
- 01/13/08 University of Calgary. Ahrend Organ Festival. Calgary, Ontario.
- 09/23/07 St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Madison, Wisconsin.
- 08/26/07 Easley Presbyterian Church, Easley, South Carolina.

06/01/07 Spoleto Festival, Charleston, South Carolina.
 05/25/07 AGO, St. Petersburg's Chapter, St. Petersburg, Florida.
 05/13/07 St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Berkeley, California.
 03/30/07 Church of the Advent, Spartanburg, South Carolina.
 03/13–15/07 Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa. (Nelson scholar)
 03/09/07 University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, Iowa.
 02/13/07 Greenville AGO, Greenville, South Carolina.
 01/28/07 Christ Church, New Brunswick, New Jersey.
 01/25/07 Eastern Nazarene College, Quincy, Massachusetts.
 01/24/07 St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, Boston, Massachusetts.
 01/21/07 Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church, Washington, D.C.
 01/17/07 Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, Indiana.
 (Recitalist at Confessions Symposium.)
 01/07/07 First Presbyterian Church, Gainesville, Florida.

Conducting

08/24/04 Women Composers' Concert. *Bush Presidential Library*. College Station, Texas.
http://bushlibrary.tamu.edu/pressreleases/press_release.php?ID=6
 05/08/04 *Houston Bach Society* (Orchestra and Choir). Conducted Hymn Festival in College
 Station, Texas. Broadcast on KAMU, College Station, Texas.
<http://www.theeagle.com/faithvalues/050804religiousnotes.php>
<http://ProfCouch.us/Courses/Spring2004/HoustonBachSociety050804.pdf>
 02/08/04 *Houston Bach Society* (Orchestra and Choir). Invited conductor for spring performance
 at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Houston, Texas. Broadcast on KUHF, Houston, Texas.
<http://www.bachsocietyhouston.org/bachpast.htm#BachSociety2004> Conductors on this concert
 series includes names such as Peter Kopp, Matthew Dirst, Robert Brewer, Albert LeDoux, and
 Robert Lynn.
 05/06/01 *Collegium Musicum* Concert at Luther College. Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa.
 (Theme: Early Music from Italy)
http://ProfCouch.us/Courses/Collegium/Spring2001_CollegiumProgram.PDF
 11/19/00 *Collegium Musicum* Concert at Luther College. Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa.
 (Theme: Early Music from England)
http://ProfCouch.us/Courses/Collegium/Fall2000_CollegiumProgram.PDF
 11/18/00 Women Composers' Festival 2000. Organizer, conductor, and performer.
 Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa.
http://ProfCouch.us/WomenFest2000/WomenFest2000_Index.html
 10/08/00 *Collegium Musicum* Concert at Hauge Lutheran Concert, Winneshiek County,
 Iowa.
 Local fund-raiser concert for this historic church.
 05/06/00 *Collegium Musicum* Concert at Luther College. Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa.
 (Theme: Early Music from Spain)
http://ProfCouch.us/Courses/Collegium/Spring2000_CollegiumProgram.PDF
 11/21/99 *Collegium Musicum* at Luther College. Organized and conducted two-hour performance
 of early instrumental and vocal works. Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa. (Theme: Early
 Music by Women Composers)
http://ProfCouch.us/Courses/Collegium/Fall1999_Collegium_Program.PDF
 11/20/99 Women Composers' Festival 1999. Organizer, conductor, and performer.
 Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa.
http://ProfCouch.us/WomenFest1999/WomenFest1999_Index.html
 04/11/99 *Collegium Musicum* Concert at Luther College. Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa.
 (Theme: Early Music from France)
http://ProfCouch.us/Courses/Collegium/Spring1999_Collegium_Program.PDF

- 10/22/98 *Collegium Musicum* Concert at Luther College. Broadcast on KWLC, Decorah, Iowa.
(Theme: Early Music from Germany)
http://ProfCouch.us/Courses/Collegium/Fall1998_Collegium_Program.PDF
- 06/27/98 Bonnie Miksch's *Into the Circle of the Sacred* for String Quartet, Amplified
Voice, Flute, and tape. Conducted premier at *Music '98* (Composition Festival),
University of Cincinnati. Broadcast on WGUC, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Miscellaneous Performance (Joint Programs, Accompanying, etc.) Selections only

- 01/28/08 Selection aired on NPR's *Pipedreams*. See
<http://pipedreams.publicradio.org/listings/2008/0803/>.
- 04/23/07 Continuo, J. S. Bach's *St. John's Passion*. Converse College.
- 03/25/06 AMS-SW Spring 2006 Concert.
See http://ProfCouch.us/Professional/AMS-SW2006/AMS-SW2006_Index.html.
- 12/03-04 Graduation Ceremonies (14) at Texas A&M with over 1,000 graduates each.
- 08/05/90 J.S. Bach's *Coffee Cantata*, continuo, Thomas Center, Gainesville, Florida.

REFERENCES

Primary References

Parrish Bridges (pastor) and Jo Ann Gray (W&M chair)
JoAnnGray@stny.rr.com revparry@yahoo.com
First Presbyterian Union Church
P.O. Box 355
Owego, NY 13827
(607) 687-1682 church & (607) 687-5076 Jo Ann Gray

Professor Willis Bodine*
wrbodine@ufl.edu
Professor Emeritus of Organ
School of Music
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611
(352) 376-2636
(Former organ teacher at Univ. of Florida)

Dr. Keith Jones
keith.jones@converse.edu
Director of Music
St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church
161 N Dean St.
Spartanburg SC 29302
(864) 921-3991
(Current supervisor at St. Paul's)

Dr. Roberta Gary
Rgary41@aol.com
Professor of Organ, Head of Keyboard Div.
College-Conservatory of Music
University of Cincinnati
Cincinnati, OH 45221-0003
(513) 961-7249
(Former organ teacher at Univ. Cincinnati)

Dr. Doug Weeks*
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Professor of Piano, Chair of Performance
Petrie School of Music
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(Peer at Converse College)

Supplementary References

Dr. Kelly Vaneman
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580 East Main Street
Converse College
Spartanburg, SC 29302
(864) 596-9005
(Supervisor at Converse College)

Rev. Michael Korte
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Senior Pastor
Bethlehem Lutheran Church & School
808 Weiss Street
Saginaw, MI 48602
(989) 755-1144
(Former supervisor at Concordia Lutheran)

Lee Hagglund*
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Music Director
St. John's Lutheran Church
415 S Pine Street
Spartanburg SC 29302
(864) 574-0895
(Colleague with whom I worked a lot)

Rev. Sue Beall
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Associate Pastor
Our Saviour's Lutheran Church
1001 Woodcreek Dr.
College Station, TX 77845
(979) 764-9095
(Peer at Our Saviour's)

Further references available upon request.