

# Bryn Geffert

## Work

Howe Library  
538 Main Street  
Burlington, VT 05405  
USA  
bryn.geffert@uvm.edu

## Home

37A Birch Street  
South Burlington, VT 05403  
USA  
413-340-1774  
bgeffert@gmail.com

---

## Education

### **Ph.D., History, University of Minnesota, 1998-2003.**

Modern European History.  
Major Area: Modern Russia.  
Minor Area: Early Modern England.  
Outside Area: Russian Literature.

### **M.A., History, University of Minnesota, 1994-1997.**

Modern Russian History.

### **M.S., Library and Information Science, University of Illinois, 1991-1992.**

Focus on research and reference, with courses in archives, cataloging, and systems.

### **B.A., *summa cum laude*, St. Olaf College, 1986-1990.**

Double Major: History and Russian.  
Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Alpha Theta (History), Departmental Distinction.

## Other

- Harvard-ACRL Leadership Institute, 2007.
- Center for Language Studies, Beloit College, Summer 1994. Intensive Russian Language Study.
- Aberdeen University, Aberdeen, Scotland, 1989. Coursework in Russian language and history.
- Intensive Russian Language Study, Krasnodar, USSR, 1988.

## Languages

- Russian.
- German (reading).
- Modern Greek (reading).

## Academic Employment

### **Dean of Libraries, University of Vermont, 2019-2026. Professor, Department of History, 2020-present.**

Highlights include establishing the University of Vermont Press, the first U.S. flagship university press operating under a diamond open-access model; leading a grass-roots strategic-planning and staffing process that yielded twenty new positions, with a focus on direct instructional and research support; substantially increasing private and public philanthropic support; significantly increasing professional development opportunities; and partnering with research providers across campus to coordinate research support.

### **Librarian of the College (Library Director), Amherst College, 2010-2019. Lecturer, Department of History, 2014-2019.**

Highlights include winning the Association of College & Research Libraries' Excellence in Academic Libraries Award (library of the year award); establishing the Amherst College Press, the first open-access press in the U.S. devoted to scholarly monographs; chairing the task force that launched the Lever Press; establishing the library's first Department of Digital Programs; developing a new Department of Research and Instruction; re-focusing the Department of Archives and Special Collections to emphasize archival research and teaching; significantly increasing opportunities for student research; renewing efforts on fundraising and consortial ventures; and crafting new opportunities for staff development.

### **Librarian (Library Director), United States Military Academy, West Point, 2008-2010. Associate Professor, History, 2008-2010.**

Recruited in the spring of 2008 to oversee a new library, to revitalize reference services and collection development, to develop a program of research instruction, and to teach in the history department.

### **College Librarian (Library Director), St. Olaf College, 2002-2008. Associate Professor of Russian Area Studies, 2006-2008.**

**Reference Librarian, St. Olaf College. 1993-2002.**  
Responsible for the program, vision, and administration of the three St. Olaf libraries. Taught for the History Department and Russian Department.

### **Assistant Director for Library Services, Lewis and Clark Community College. 1992-1993.**

Supervision of all staff; instructor in the library certification program—a two-year degree; research instruction.

**Reference Librarian, Illinois Valley Library System. 1992.** (Position eliminated with cuts to the State Librarian's budget.)

## Teaching

### Amherst College

- Revolutionary Thinking (Russian Revolutionary Thought), Fall 2017 and Fall 2016.
- The Great Schism through Eastern Eyes, Fall 2015 and Fall 2014.

### Smith College

- Renaissance and Revolution: Modern Russian Religious Thought (with Vera Shevzov), Fall 2013.

### West Point

- Senior tutorial on Eastern Orthodox Christianity, 2009.

### St. Olaf College

- The Great Conversation, 2005-2007, a five-semester course on the history of Western thought.
  - The Tradition Beginning: Greeks and Hebrews, Fall 2005.
  - The Tradition Continuing: Romans and Christians, January 2006.
  - The Tradition Redefined: The Medieval Synthesis, Spring 2006.
  - The Tradition Renewed: New Forces of Secularization, Fall 2006.
  - The Tradition in Crisis: Dissenters and Defenders, Spring 2007.
- The Russian World, 2004.
- Imperial Russia (1690-1917), 2000.

### University of Minnesota (as a Teaching Assistant)

- Modern Britain (1688-1970), 2000.
- World History (1450-1920s), 1999.

## Publications in History

### Books

- *Catholics without Rome: Old Catholics, Eastern Orthodox, Anglicans, and the Reunion Negotiations of the 1870s*, with co-author LeRoy Boerneke. Notre Dame University Press, 2022, xxiii, 535 pp.
  - Reviewed in *Journal of Theological Studies* (June 12, 2025); *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 75 no. 2 (2024): 412-14; *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* 58 no. 2 (2023): 291-93; *Newman Studies Journal* 22, no. 2 (2023):102-4; *Church History* 92, no. 4 (2023):1017-19.
- *Eastern Orthodox Christianity: The Essential Texts*, with co-author Theofanis Stavrou. Yale University Press, 2016, xxvi, 447 pp.
  - *Eastern Orthodox Christianity: Supplemental Texts*, xvi, 1350 pp., yalebooks.com/eoc.
    - Reviewed in *Russian Review* 76 no. 2 (2017): 369-70; *Church History* 86, no. 3 (2017): 841-42; *CHOICE* 54, no. 4 (2016): 550; *Reading Religion* (September 17, 2016).
- *Eastern Orthodox and Anglicans: Diplomacy, Theology, and the Politics of Interwar Ecumenism*. Notre Dame University Press, 2010, ix, 501 pp.
  - Translated as *Восточные православные и англикане: дипломатия, теология и политика межвоенного экуменизма*. Academic Scholars Press, forthcoming.
    - Reviewed in *Journal of Modern History* 83, no. 4 (2011): 872-73; *Slavic Review* 70, no. 2 (2011): 433-34; *Russian Review* 69, no. 4 (2010): 724-25; *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 62, no. 2 (2011): 428-29; *Church History* 80, no. 2 (2011): 433-35; *Irish Theological Review* 75, no. 4 (2010): 420; *Journal of Ecumenical Studies* 46, no. 1 (2011): 127-28; *Contemporary Church History Quarterly* 18, no. 2, (2012).

### Articles & Essays

- "Rethinking *The Kreutzer Sonata* and Dostoevsky's *Notes from the Underground*," in *Thresholds into the Orthodox Commonwealth*, ed. Lucien Frary, 473-88. Bloomington, IN: Slavica Publishers, 2017.
- "Anglican Orders and Orthodox Politics," *Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 57, no. 2 (2006): 270-300.
- "The Charges of Heresy against Sergii Bulgakov: The Majority and Minority Reports of Evlogii's Commission and the Final Report of the Bishops' Conference," *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* 49, no. 1-2 (2005): 47-66.
- "Sergii Bulgakov, The Fellowship of St. Alban and St. Sergius, Intercommunion, and Sofiology," *Revolutionary Russia* 17, no. 1 (June 2004): 105-41.
- "The Era of the *Bogoslovskii Vestnik*," *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* 41, no. 4 (1997): 273-336.
- "Existentialism and War in *Red Cavalry*," *Rusistika* no. 13 (July, 1996): 62-63; no. 14 (December, 1996): 10-14.
- "Lisovskii's List: 18th and 19th Century Russian Orthodox Religious and Theological Journals," *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* 40, no. 3 (1996): 181-206.

## Consortial Leadership

- President-elect, president, and past president of the Boston Library Consortium, which includes most major, public, university libraries in New England (2023-2025).

## Research Affiliations

- Northwestern University Research Initiative in Russian Philosophy, Literature, and Religious Thought

## Review Teams & Consulting

- Occidental College Library, 2018.
- Williams College Library, 2015.
- Colgate University Library, 2015.
- Grinnell College, 2015.
- Lafayette College Library, 2014.
- St. Mary's College Library, 2013.
- Franklin and Marshall College Library, 2011.

## Work as a Referee

### Cambridge University Press

- *Journal of Ecclesiastical History*.
- *Church History*.

### Johns Hopkins University Press

- *Journal of Orthodox Christian Studies*.

### National Endowment for the Humanities

- Review Panelist.

## Publications in History (continued)

### Commentary

- "Orthodox Disunity in Ukraine," *Yale Books Unbound* (November 5, 2015).
- "Western Reaction to Solzhenitsyn," *Bulletin of Bibliography* 49 (December, 1992): 289-298.

### Book Reviews

- Review essays (9) in *Russian Review, Slavonic and East European Review, Journal of Ecclesiastical History, Church History, and Modern Greek Studies Yearbook*.

## Publications in Librarianship

### Book

- *Degrees of Academic Librarians: The Case for Capacious Credentialing*. Cambridge University Press, 2026.

### Commentary

- "The Perennial Question of Library Credentialing," with Anna Staton, *The Scholarly Kitchen* (December 12, 2024).
- "How Librarians are Advancing Open Book Publishing at Lever Press," with Anne Huston, *Katina* (November 12, 2024).
- "In Pursuit of My Book," *College and Research Libraries* 82, no. 6 (September, 2021), 786-91.
- "Information Access and the 800-Pound Gorilla," *Inside Higher Ed* (February 20, 2017).
- "Piracy Fills a Publishing Need," *Chronicle of Higher Education* (September 4, 2016): B4.
- "A Librarian's Defense of Despair," *Chronicle of Higher Education* (March 6, 2015).
- "On Securing Rights," *The Scholarly Kitchen* (March 5, 2015).
- "Libraries, Publishers, and a Plea for Shotgun Weddings," *Chronicle of Higher Education* (March 20, 2011): B13-14.

### Articles

- Co-author, "Things They Carry: Attitudes toward, Opinions about, and Knowledge of Libraries and Research among Incoming College Students," *Reference & User Services Quarterly* 37, no. 3 (1998): 279-289.
- Co-author, "Whither BI?: Assessing Perceptions of Research Skills over an Undergraduate Career," *RQ* 36, no. 3 (1997): 409-421.
- Co-author, "Local Holdings Searching in ISI® CD-ROM Databases," *Information Technology and Libraries* 15, no. 4 (1996): 251-252.
- "Beginning with MARC: Providing a Foundation for Electronic

Searching,” *Research Strategies* 13, no. 1 (1995): 26-33.

- “Community Online Networks: A Case Study of the Freenet P.A.T.H.,” *Public Libraries* 32, no. 2 (March/April, 1993): 91-99.

## Invited Lectures

Auburn University, Bowdoin College, Colgate University, Drew University, Grinnell College, Lewis and Clark College, Middlebury College, Smith College, St. Mary’s College, Temple University, Vassar College.

TEDx: “Books for Some, All, or None” (November 10, 2013), <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IK2TmNmAM7M>.

## Community Service

### Varsity Basketball Official

- Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association, 2010-2012.
- Minnesota State High School League, 1996-2008.

### Certified Red Cross Lifeguard Trainer and Swimming

Instructor, 1984-1994; WSI 2000-2002.

Youth Soccer Coach, Northfield MN and West Point NY, 2006-2009.

## Other Interests

Piano study, 16 years.

Triathlons (4).

Marathons (22) including Boston (6).

American Birkebeiner (3).

## College Service

### Amherst College

- Chair of Manager’s Council, 2012-2014.
- Disciplinary Hearing Advisor, 2011-present. Represented and advised students in allegations of sexual harassment and assault.

### West Point

- Continued Intellectual Development Committee, 2008-2010.

### St. Olaf College

- Faculty mentor in St. Olaf’s Summer Undergraduate Research Program, Summers 2007-2008.
- Great Conversation Steering Committee, 2005-2006.
- Review and Planning Committee, 2001-2004 (chair 2002-2003, secretary 2001-2002).
- Faculty-Regents Conference Committee, 1998-1999.
- Chair, Nominating Committee, 1997-1999.
- Faculty Advisor to University of East Anglia program, 1996-2004.
- Faculty Advisor to University of Aberdeen program, 1995-1996, 2000-2004.
- Special Studies Subcommittee of Curriculum and Education Policy Committee, 1994-1997.
- Secretary, Phi Beta Kappa, 1995-1997.

## Other Employment

### Minnesota Public Radio Newsroom, 1989.

Internship. Helped write and edit *The Week in Review*, a weekly, three-hour summary of local, national, and international news.

### Resource Counselor, QSS Inc. and Mt. Olivet Rolling Acres, 1990-1991.

Programming with moderately to severely mentally disabled adults and children.

### Head Swimming Instructor, Chaska Community Education, Summers 1986-1990 (1989-90 as head).

Supervised a staff of seven instructors, designed curriculum material, and taught.