

LEONARD J. BIALLAS

Leonard J. Biallas, is retired Distinguished Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Quincy University, Quincy, IL (from 1973). He was chairman of the Division of Theology and Philosophy at QU for twelve years (1979-1991). He has continued to teach part-time every year since his retirement in June 2004.

From 2004-2008 he was a Road Scholar for the Illinois Humanities Council, lecturing on "Beyond The DaVinci Code: The Holy Grail" in 31 different cities.

While teaching at Quincy University he wrote three books: Pilgrim: A Spirituality of Travel, (2002), published by Franciscan Press; Myths: Gods, Heroes, and Saviors (1986), and World Religions: A Story Approach (1991), both published by XXIII Publications (Mystic, CT). His eighteen published articles and 120 book reviews have appeared in several scholarly journals and encyclopedias. For nine years (1977-1985) he was editor of The Bulletin of the Council on the Study of Religion.

He is the only person on the Quincy University faculty to have received all three of the University's Faculty Awards: Excellence in Teaching Award (1994), Trustees' Award for Scholarly Achievement (1998), and Distinguished Professor Award (2002). Three times he was the Quincy University nominee for the Council Award For Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) (1978, 1985, 1986).

He received the bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame; the master's degree from Holy Cross College, in Washington, DC; and the doctorate from the Catholic Institute, in Paris, France.

In addition to his teaching career at Quincy University, he has taught at the University of Notre Dame (Undergraduate) (3 years); Rome Center (Loyola University), Rome, Italy (1 year); Auburn University (1 year); St. Norbert College, Green Bay, WI (1 year, 3 summers); Loyola Marymount Univ., Los Angeles, CA (Grad. And Undergrad) (14 summers); LaSalle University, Philadelphia, PA (Graduate teaching) (4 summers); University of Portland, OR (Graduate and Undergraduate teaching, 1 summer); College of St. Catherine, St. Paul, MN (Undergraduate, 1 summer); University of Great Falls, MT (Undergraduate, 1 summer); Colgate Divinity School, Rochester, NY (Graduate, two weeks); Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, India (Graduate, 2 weeks);

During the 1999-2000 academic year, he held the Chair as "Goodwin-Philpott Eminent Scholar in Religion" at Auburn University, Alabama. While there he received the Auburn University Panhellenic Council award as outstanding professor.

He won National Endowment for the Humanities fellowships at the University of California at Santa Barbara (with Walter H. Capps) (1976) and at Yale University (with Jaroslav Pelikan) (1979).

He also taught English as a Second Language for two months each in Masaka, Uganda; Kaunas, Lithuania; and Thanh Hoa, Vietnam.

For over thirty years he was a member of the American Academy of Religion; the College Theology Society (where he was vice-president, 1980-1982; and the Catholic Theology Society of America.
