

# SUZANNE HOLLAND, PHD

## BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT 2011

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Suzanne Holland, Professor of Ethics and Religion, has been a member of the University of Puget Sound Department of Religion since 1997, having served as its chairperson from 2002-2009. In 2008, she was appointed Philip M. Phibbs Research Professor. That same year, Holland was honored as the recipient of the University of Puget Sound *President's Excellence in Teaching Award*, the college's highest teaching honor. She has twice been The National Endowment for the Humanities Endowed Chair in the Humanities & Religion at Colgate University (2006, 2009) and has also been invited as a visiting professor at Dartmouth College, and Wellesley College. In 2010, the Associated Students of Puget Sound (ASUPS) presented Holland with the *Outstanding Faculty Award*.

Holland has established a national and international reputation as a bioethicist, and is regularly invited for lectureships – over 80 lectures at colleges and universities across the U. S. and internationally, including Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She was elected three times to the Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington (2001-present), the Board of Directors of the American Society of Bioethics & Humanities (2006-09), holds an affiliate faculty appointment at University of Washington School of Medicine as Professor of Bioethics and Humanities, and serves on the Advisory Board of the Institute for Stem Cell and Regenerative Medicine at UW. Not surprisingly, her scholarship has focused on stem cell research and ethics, though she also works on the ethics and justice of new genetic technologies; biotechnologies including assisted reproduction; science and technology; and more broadly, issues in religion, gender, and culture.

Professor Holland has been collaborating with colleagues at University of Washington (UW) – funded by grants from the Greenwall Foundation and the National Institutes of Health – on the topic of justice, genetic medicine, and the medically underserved (particularly Native Americans). She is a co-investigator at the UW Center for Genomics and Health Care Equality, one of the NIH Centers of Excellence. With UW colleagues she has published a new book on translational genomics and ethics, *Achieving Justice in Genomic Translation: Re-thinking the Pathway to Benefit* (Oxford University Press, 2011). Holland is also co-editor of the first book published on stem cell ethics, *The Human Embryonic Stem Cell Debate: Science, Ethics, and Policy* (The MIT Press, 2001), later translated into Portuguese and published in Brazil. She is the author or co-author of more than 25 scholarly articles and is presently at work on a monograph, *Technologies of Desire*.

Holland was selected by her peers at University of Puget Sound to deliver the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual John D. Regester Lecture in November 2009; it is the college's premier annual faculty lecture. Holland's Regester Lecture, "Technologies of Desire: Give Me Children or I Shall Die," represents one chapter in the larger book project for which she was

awarded a John Lantz Senior Sabbatical Award by University of Puget Sound (2010-11). In the book, *Technologies of Desire*, Holland examines the ways in which Americans seek to satiate fundamental human desires (for sex, children, self-esteem, immortality) by way of technologies of the body, and she asks whether or not this pursuit makes us better persons, and whether it is a responsible use of our human freedom.

Suzanne Holland hails from Louisville, Kentucky, where all of her very large and extended Irish Catholic family still lives (and where she returns each May for the Kentucky Derby). Her family in Tacoma consists of her partner, Deborah Rosen, and their two dogs, Dolce and Justice Harry Blackmun. In her spare time, she is a perennial student of the maddening game of golf.