

CURRICULUM VITAE

Thomas D. Parham, III

Dept of Cinematic Arts, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA 91702
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Education

- 1992-1995 **Regent University**, Ph.D. in Communication
Major: Media Effects and Theatre Studies
Dissertation Title: "Communication Contexts on *Star Trek*"
Advisor: Dr. Douglas Tarpley
- 1990-1992 **Regent University**, M.A. in Performing Arts
Major: Dramatic Communication
Thesis title: "Hymnology for the Masses"
Advisor: Dr. Gillette Elvgren
- 1985 **University of Maryland**, graduate studies in English
- 1981-1985 **U.S. Naval Academy**, B.S. in English
- 1981 **I.C. Norcom High School**, High School diploma

Academic Honors

- Who's Who in America, 2007-...
- Azusa Pacific University Undergraduate Faculty Scholarly Achievement award, 2013
- Azusa Pacific University College of Liberal Arts & Sciences' nominee for Inspirational Faculty Award, 2011
- Who's Who in the World, 2008-2010
- Faculty of the Year Award, presented by Act One, Inc., 2007
- Who's Who among America's Teachers, 2002, 2004, 2005
- Academic Merit Scholarship, Regent University, 1992-1995
- Dean's List, U.S. Naval Academy, Spring 1985
- National Achievement Scholarship
- High School Salutatorian

Presentations / Conferences

- Panel discussion on "Why the World Needs Superman: A 75th Anniversary Commemoration," Gospel According to Superheroes regional conference, Pasadena, CA, November 2013.
- "Welcome to the Grid: *TRON* at 30," co-presented with Tyler Welch at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, Washington, DC, March 2013.
- "Hollywood Science: The Process and the Results," panel discussion presented at Dragon*Con 2012, Atlanta, GA, September 2012.
- Hosted four panel discussions with *Battlestar Galactica* actors and three panels with *Eureka* actors for the American Sci Fi Media track, Dragon*Con 2012, Atlanta, GA, September 2012.

- ““Make It So’: *The Next Generation* Turns Twenty-Five,” presented at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, Boston, MA, April 2012.
- Hosted “The Science of *Battlestar Galactica*” panel at WonderCon 2012, Anaheim, CA, March 2012.
- “Screenwriting for Actors,” presented at the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival Region VIII conference, Ogden, UT, February 2012.
- Hosted four panel discussions with *Battlestar Galactica* actors, three panels with *Eureka* actors, one with *Smallville* actors and participated on one panel for the American Sci Fi Media track, Dragon*Con 2011, Atlanta, GA, September 2011.
- “*Lost*’s Final Season: Heavenly, Hellish, or Just Plain Purgatory?” a round table moderated with Sean Capener at the Popular Cultural Association national - Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association regional joint conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2011.
- “Finding the New *Lost*: Contemporary Television’s Holy Grail,” presented at the Popular Cultural Association national - Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association regional joint conference, San Antonio, TX, April 2011.
- Hosted four panel discussions with *Battlestar Galactica* actors, moderated a discussion on “The Science of *Battlestar Galactica*,” and participated on two panels for the American Sci Fi Media track, Dragon*Con 2010, Atlanta, GA, September 2010.
- “Joss Whedon’s *Dollhouse* and the Death of Identity,” presented at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, St. Louis, MO, April 2010.
- Hosted four panel discussions with *Battlestar Galactica* actors, a panel discussion with *Smallville* actors, and the “Science of *Eureka*” panel, Dragon*Con 2009, Atlanta, GA, September 2009.
- Participated in the Liberty Fund’s conference on “Film, Culture, and Liberty,” Big Sky, MT, June 2009.
- “Journey’s End: *Auteur* Theory and Progressive Television Series,” presented at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, New Orleans, LA, April 2009.
- Panel discussion on “Taking the *Twilight* Saga to Task,” Popular Cultural Association national conference, New Orleans, LA, April 2009.
- Hosted four panel discussions with *Battlestar Galactica* actors, Dragon*Con 2008, Atlanta, GA, August/September 2008.

- “Behind the Scenes: Short Film Production,” presented at the National Fine Arts Festival, Charlotte, NC, August 2008.
- “True ‘Bromance’: Television and the Heterosexual Man Crush,” presented at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, San Francisco, CA, March 2008.
- “Worlds Apart: Chaos v. Cosmos in the Fantasy Realms of Philip Pullman and C.S. Lewis,” presented at C.S. Lewis Conference, Azusa, CA, February 2008.
- “Finding Our Passion as Filmmakers,” cre:ate conference, Nashville, TN, February 2008.
- Panel discussion on *Norma Rae*, City of Angels Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA, October 2007.
- Hosted panel discussions on comedy and science fiction for *Just TV? Reel Spirituality* conference, Los Angeles, CA, October 2007.
- “Mistrust in Government as Portrayed on American Television,” presented at the Oxford Round Table, Oxford, England, August 2007.
- Moderated panel discussion for the Christian Comic Arts Society, Comic-Con International, San Diego, CA, July 2007.
- Participated in the Lincoln Center’s Directors Lab West, Pasadena Playhouse, Pasadena, CA, May 2007.
- Moderated panel discussion on “The Gospel According to Comic Books,” sponsored by Inter-Mission, Hollywood Presbyterian Church, Hollywood, CA, May 2007.
- “Cinematic Television: Maturation of a Medium,” presented at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, Boston, MA, April 2007.
- “Word: Where It All Begins,” presented at Reel Spirituality 101: Unpacking Movies and Their Meaning, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, October 2006.
- Hosted panel discussion on *Capote*, Reel Spirituality conference, Los Angeles, CA, October 2006.
- Panel discussion on “The Call of the Artist: Finding God in Your Creativity,” Biola Media Conference, La Mirada, CA, April 2006.
- “Science Fiction for Grown-Ups: Sex, Politics, and Religion on *Battlestar Galactica*,” presented at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, Atlanta, GA, April 2006.

- Panel discussion on “Writing Stories Hollywood Will Produce,” The Screenwriter: Creator and Cultural Leader, Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, April 2006.
- Panel discussion for “Stories that Matter: A Forum on Screenwriting and Vocation,” Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA, March 2006.
- Moderated panel discussion on “Narnia and Pop Culture” for Narnia: Then and Now / C. S. Lewis Symposium, Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA, December 2005.
- “On Academic Rigor at the Christian University,” presented at the National Communication Association conference, Boston, MA, November 2005.
- Panel discussion on *The Big Lebowski*, City of Angels Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA, October 2005.
- Hosted panel discussion on “Reality v. Verity,” Reel Spirituality conference, Los Angeles, CA, October 2005.
- Facilitated panel discussion for “Lights! Camera! Comics!” conference, Palm Beach Atlantic University, West Palm Beach, FL, February 2005.
- Panel discussion on *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*, City of Angels Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA, October 2004.
- “Writing with Passion,” presented at Voice LA Film Forum for young filmmakers, University of Southern California, June 2004.
- “Behind Good and Evil: Free Will and the One Ring in Middle-earth,” presented at the National Communication Association conference, Miami Beach, FL, November 2003.
- Panel discussion on George Lucas’ *Star Wars*, City of Angels Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA, October 2003.
- Panel discussion on “Teaching Pop Culture,” Mere Entertainment: Theory Meets Practice conference, Hollywood, CA, October 2003.
- Lecture on screenwriting structure, Los Angeles Church of God retreat, Forest Home, CA, September 2002.
- Lecture on screenwriting principles for cinematic adaptations, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA, March 2002.
- Panel discussion on the Coen Brothers’ *Fargo*, City of Angels Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA, October 2001.

- Panel discussion on Terence Malick's *Badlands*, City of Angels Film Festival, Los Angeles, CA, November 2000.
- Lecture on screenwriting structure, Los Angeles Church of God retreat, Forest Home, CA, September 2000.
- "Christian Reflections on Selecting Entertainment," presented at Biola University Faculty Forum, La Mirada, CA, February 2000.
- "Intrapersonal Communication on *Star Trek: The Next Generation*," presented at the Popular Cultural Association national conference, Las Vegas, NV, March 1996.
- "Futures Imperfect: Anti-Technicism in Science-Fiction Films," presented at a doctoral colloquium, Regent University, Virginia Beach, VA, September 1994.
- "Marketed Mentorship: The Cultural Phenomenon of *Star Trek*," written and presented with Alex Wainer at Virginia Conference for the Humanities, William and Mary College, Williamsburg, VA, April 1993.

Publication / Writing Credits

- Co-wrote "The Character of Science on Television" a chapter in *Hollywood Chemistry: When Science Met Entertainment*, American Chemical Society, February 2014.
- Wrote and edited copy for PropWorx, Inc.'s *Star Trek* Auction Catalog, August 2010.
- Wrote and edited copy for PropWorx, Inc.'s *Iron Man: Prop & Costume Auction* Catalog, April 2010.
- Wrote questions for *Star Trek: scene it?* trivia game, Mattel, Inc. / Screenlife, LLC., Spring 2009.
- Wrote and edited copy for PropWorx, Inc.'s *Battlestar Galactica* Auction Catalog, April 2009.
- Wrote "Why Do Heathens Make the Best Christian Films? (The Remix)" a chapter in *Doing Good, Departing from Evil: Research Findings in the Twenty-First Century*, Peter Lang Publishing, November 2008.
- Wrote "Heroes in Crisis: Postmodern Deconstruction and Reconstruction," a chapter in *The Gospel According to Super-Heroes*, Peter Lang Publishing, June 2005.
- Wrote "Why Do Heathens Make the Best Christian Films?" cited by *Publishers Weekly* as a "standout essay," published in *Behind the Screen: Hollywood Insiders on Faith, Film, and Culture*, Baker Books, January 2005.

- Co-wrote and assistant directed *Steeple Chasers*, an original play performed by the Azusa Pacific University Drama Ministry Team, Fall 2004 – Winter 2005.
- Wrote “Losers, Weepers,” an essay on *The Bicycle Thief* for City of Angels Film Festival program, October 2003.
- Co-wrote Maundy Thursday dramatic service for Lake Avenue Church, April 2003.
- Wrote sample questions for Mattel, Inc.'s proposed *Batman* Trivia Game, March 2003.
- Co-wrote the book for *Inside Out*, an original musical performed by the Azusa Pacific University Drama Ministry Team, Fall 2002 – Winter 2003.
- Wrote Maundy Thursday dramatic service for Lake Avenue Church, April 2002.
- Wrote *Christmas @ Lake: A Family Album*, a program performed at Lake Avenue Church, December 2001.
- Wrote “Prime Evil,” an essay on *The Manchurian Candidate* for City of Angels Film Festival program, October 2001.
- Wrote book review on *Reel Spirituality: Theology and Film in Dialogue*, published in Christian Scholar’s Review, Fall 2001.
- Wrote “Beating Around—and Through—the Bush,” an essay on *The Gods Must Be Crazy* for City of Angels Film Festival program, November 2000.
- Wrote and edited questions for Mattel, Inc.’s *Star Trek* Trivia Game, Fall 2000.
- Co-wrote Maundy Thursday dramatic service for Lake Avenue Church, April 2000.
- Wrote and/or oversaw the writing of various sketches used as sermon illustrations for Lake Avenue Church from 1998 to 2004.
- Wrote an episode of *JAG* (“Tiger, Tiger”), which aired on CBS, March 1998.
- Wrote “The End of the Beginning,” an Easter program performed at NewSong Salt Lake in March 1997 and April 1998.
- Wrote “Homeless for Christmas,” a program performed at NewSong, Salt Lake in December 1996.
- Co-wrote “Sweet Sorrow,” a Regent student film produced in Spring 1995.
- Wrote an episode of *Big Brother Jake* (“The Perfect Match”), which aired on the Family Channel, Spring 1995.

- Wrote *Come Home for Christmas*, a pageant performed at First Baptist Church of Norfolk, December 1994.
- Wrote *Prodigals, Parables, and Peach Melba*, a one-man show performed at Regent University, April 1994.
- Wrote “Breaking Through: Black Entertainers as Role Models,” published in *Focus* magazine, Fall/Winter 1992.
- Wrote “Redemption Time,” a one-act play performed at Regent University, February 1992.
- Editor of *Fathom* magazine; articles: “Blasted: A Nightmare on My Ship” (on bombing of USS *Reeves*), “Simulated Shiphandling the MSI Way” (on MarineSafety International), “Built to Survive: USS *Arleigh Burke* (on DDG 51),” “Preserving Our Heritage” (on USS *Constitution*).

Employment

• Academic

*** Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA 2002-...**

- ◇ Chair and Professor, Department of Cinematic Arts, 2013-...
- ◇ Co-Chair, Department of Theater, Film, and Television, 2010-2013
- ◇ Spring 2014 Courses: Introduction to Film, Television Writing: Episodic Drama, Capstone Project in Theater, Film and Television
- ◇ Other Courses Taught: Advanced Television Production, Broadcast Journalism, Christianity and the Creative Process, Communication Theory, Dramatic Theory and Criticism, Film and Literature, Film History, Freshman Writing Seminar, Intermediate Screenwriting, Internship, Introduction to Mass Communication, Media Criticism and Theory, Playwriting, Producing & Production Management, Senior Seminar: Ethics in Human Communication, Senior Seminar: Ethics in Theater, Film, and Television, Special Topics: Fantasy in Film and Television Special Topics: Science Fiction in Film & Television, Screenwriting, Story and Character, Student Broadcast Workshop: Sitcom, Theater Performance and Production, Writing for Television, Radio & Film
- ◇ Directed mainstage productions of *Parade* (Fall 2010), *A Raisin in the Sun* (Spring 2010), *A Few Good Men* (Fall 2008), *Return to the Forbidden Planet* (Spring 2008), *Dracula* (Fall 2006), *Dinner with Friends* (Fall 2005), *The Skin of Our Teeth* (Fall 2004)

- ◇ Produced mainstage production of *The Pirates of Penzance* (Spring 2007)
 - ◇ Creative Director for APU Theater Arts program 2005-08, duties included supervising student-produced shows such as *Once on This Island* (Spring 2007), *Nunsense* (Spring 2006), *The Crucible* (Fall 2005), and *Traveler in the Dark* (Fall 2005)
 - ◇ Faculty Director for Common Day of Learning 2004-2007
 - ◇ Executive produced 2008 Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts winner *American U* interdisciplinary sitcom project
 - ◇ Executive produced numerous student film projects, including 2006 Angelus Awards semi-finalist, 2006 Reel Spirituality/Los Angeles Film Studies Center Film Award winner, and 2007 Imago winner “Jaded”; and 2006 Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts winners “Giving Her Away” and “Stoopid Heroes”
- * **Biola University**, La Mirada, CA 1999-2002
- ◇ Assistant Professor of Radio-TV-Film
 - ◇ Faculty Advisor for Biola Television, which produced:
 - * *EagleVision*, a weekly, student-run news show
 - * *subSTREAM*, a monthly, student-run variety show
 - ◇ Faculty Advisor for the Guerilla Film Society, the film majors’ club
 - ◇ Guest Speaker at Torrey Honors Institute
 - * Three tutorials on *Paradise Lost*, March 2002
 - * Two tutorials on *Hamlet*, February 2002
 - * Context lectures on “Media Ethics: Setting Boundaries” and “Screenplay Structure,” October 2001
 - ◇ Courses Taught: Advanced Public Relations, Advanced Screenwriting, Broadcast Announcing and Performance, Broadcast Journalism, Broadcast Programming and Promotion, Communication Theory, Convergent Journalism: Radio and TV, First Year Seminar, Introduction to Mass Media, Introduction to Writing for Media, Literature and Film, Media Management, Motion Picture Production, Screenwriting, Senior Media Project, Understanding the Film Business
- * **Milligan College**, Johnson City, TN 1998
- Visiting Professor in Communication; “Introduction to Screenwriting Seminar,” Summer
- * **U.S. Naval Academy**, Annapolis, MD 1985
- ◇ Instructor in English; 2 sections of “Rhetoric and Introduction to Literature,” Fall
 - ◇ Instructor in Speech and Asst. Instructor in “Classical and Christian Ideas,” Summer
 - ◇ Served on remedial placement committee for incoming freshmen.

- ◇ Tutored in Naval Academy's writing center
- ◇ Developed instructions that allowed novice computer users—students and faculty—to learn word processing

- **Entertainment Industry**

- * **Propworx, Inc.** 2009-10
 - ◇ Freelance copy writer and editor
 - ◇ Production consultant for *Battlestar Galactica* auctions
- * **Paramount Pictures** 1997-2002
 - ◇ Technical consultant for *JAG*, seasons five through eight
 - ◇ Freelance writer for *JAG*
 - ◇ Writers' assistant/researcher for third and fourth seasons of *JAG*
- * **CBS Productions** 1996-97
 - ◇ On-location writers' assistant for third season of *Touched by an Angel*
 - ◇ Assisted executive producer with publicity and licensing projects
- * **Viacom Consumer Products** 1995-96
 - ◇ Supervisor of Publishing for Paramount Pictures' licensing division
 - ◇ Previously served as a Product Development Consultant
- * **Family Productions, Inc.** 1993-94
 - ◇ Freelance writer for *Big Brother Jake*
 - ◇ Writers' assistant for third and fourth seasons of *Big Brother Jake*
- * **International Family Entertainment** 1993
 - ◇ Researcher for start-up phase of Cable Health Club (Fit TV)

- **U.S. Navy**

- * **Naval Safety Center**, Norfolk, VA: editor of *Fathom* magazine (the Navy's bimonthly afloat safety review) and *Ships Safety Bulletin* (a monthly publication) 1990-92
- * **USS Reeves** (CG 24) 1986-90
 - ◇ Qualified as a Surface Warfare Officer
 - ◇ Primary billets: Anti-Submarine Warfare Officer, Ship's Secretary, and Data Systems Officer

Professional Memberships

- Writers Guild of America, 1994-...
- Popular Culture Association, 1996, 2006-...

Activities and Service

- **Faculty Activities**

- * Azusa Pacific University Student Selectivity Task Force, 2012-13
- * Azusa Pacific University Theology of the Workplace and Economics Steering Committee, 2011-12
- * Azusa Pacific University Tenure Task Force Co-Chair, 2007-08
- * Azusa Pacific University Workload and Compensation Council, 2006
- * Azusa Pacific University Faculty Senate, 2003-08

- * Biola University Faculty Appointment Advisory Committee, 2001-02
- * Biola University Studio Task Force: featured speaker and panelist at numerous nationwide Christians and Media conferences, 1999-2002

• **Community Activities**

- * We Can Pediatric Brain Tumor Network, Granada Hills, CA: member, board of directors, 2014-...
- * Ecclesia, Hollywood, CA: Deacon, 2012-2014; Worship Team, 2011-...
- * Act One, Inc., Hollywood, CA: faculty member for Act One Writing Program, 2000-09, 2012-...; member of advisory board for Act One Writing Program, 2000-09; instructor for 17 nationwide Act One Weekends, 2003-09, 2013-...; faculty member for Act One Executive Program, 2005-09.
- * Griot Theatre of the West Valley, Winnetka, CA: member, board of directors 2012-...
- * Taproot Theatre Company, Seattle, WA: member, board of directors, 2008-12
- * Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA: member of planning committee for Reel Spirituality conferences and seminars, 2002-07.
- * Lake Avenue Church, Pasadena, CA: Warehouse Worship Team, 2005-10; leader of Lake Avenue Scriptwriters Group, 1998-2004; Saturday Night Worship Team, 1997-2005
- * NewSong Salt Lake, Salt Lake City, UT: Drama Team, 1996-97; Worship Team, 1996-97
- * First Baptist Church of Norfolk, Norfolk, VA: Sanctuary Choir, 1990-95; youth choir sponsor, 1990-95; youth Sunday school teacher, 1990-92
- * Tidewater Forensic League: volunteer judge, 1990-91

• **Graduate Student Activities**

- * On-air film/TV reviewer, reporter, and in-dialogue producer for *NewSight*, student news program, The Family Channel cable network
- * Regent University films “M.C. Prezz”: actor, and “By the Sword”: location manager
- * Staff writer for *The Paper*, community newspaper produced by Regent University journalism department

• **U.S. Navy**

- * Served as recreation committee chairman and interim public affairs officer at the Naval Safety Center
- * Served as familygram editor, legal officer, and public affairs officer on USS *Reeves*
- * Edited the *Reeves*’ 1988 cruisebook, which received honorable mention in the Navy’s Chief of Information Merit Awards contest

References

- RADM Barry C. Black, CHC, USN (Ret.), Office of the Senate Chaplain,
United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510
202-224-2510 (office)
- Dr. Gillette Elvgren, Professor, School of Communication & the Arts
Regent University, Virginia Beach, VA 23464
757-560-0591 (home)
- David McFadzean, Writer/Producer, Wind Dancer Production Group
745 S. Marengo Ave. Suite 204, Pasadena, CA 91106
626-356-4618 (office)