

Susan A. Ross Papers 1972-2019

Creator: Susan A. Ross, PhD

Extent: 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

Language: English

Repository: Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago. Please contact wlarchives@luc.edu regarding use.

Administration Information

Access Restrictions: None

Usage Restrictions: Copyright for materials created by Susan Ross was transferred to the Women and Leadership Archives.

Preferred Citation: Identification of item, date, box #, folder #, Susan A. Ross Papers, Women and Leadership Archives, Loyola University Chicago.

Provenance: Donated by Susan A. Ross to the Women and Leadership Archives in 2007 (WLA2007.38). Additional materials were donated June 24, 2016 (WLA2016.25) and June 27, 2019 (WLA2019.36).

Processor: Ashley Eckhardt, February 28, 2008

Processing Information: Accruals WLA2016.25 and WLA2019.36 are unprocessed. See archivist. Finding aid updated December 2025.

Separations: Duplicates were removed. Two posters advertising the Gannon Center and Women's Studies program featuring Dr. Shirin Ebadi were placed in the Women's Studies Program Records.

See Also: Women's Studies Program Records in the Women and Leadership Archives.

Biographical History

Susan A. Ross received her bachelor's degree in 1972 from Manhattanville College in New York and earned her master's degree in 1976 and her PhD in Christian Theology in 1982 from the University of Chicago Divinity School. Ross taught theology at St. Norbert College from 1980 until 1983 and at Duquesne University from 1983 until 1985. She also taught briefly at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (1984) and Boston College Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry (Summer 2001 and 2007). Ross obtained a position at Loyola University Chicago in 1985, where she taught for 34 years until her retirement in 2019.

Ross became a full professor at Loyola in the Theology Department in 2002. In addition to teaching classes in the graduate and undergraduate Theology programs, Ross also taught in the Women's Studies Program, the Institute of Pastoral Studies, and the Catholic Studies Program. She was

Director of the Women's Studies Program 1992-1995 and served as the Director of the Ann Ida Gannon, BVM, Center for Women and Leadership 2006-2008. In 2008, she was appointed Chair of the Department of Theology, a position she held until 2016.

Ross authored three books as well as numerous articles, chapters, and book reviews. Her research interests included feminist theology, theological anthropology, women and the Eucharist, embodiment, systematic theology, and feminist ethics. She published *Extravagant Affections: A Feminist Sacramental Theology* in 1998, *For the Beauty of the Earth: Women, Sacramentality, and Justice* in 2006, and *Anthropology: Seeking Light and Beauty* in 2012. She co-edited *Broken and Whole: Essays on Religion and the Body* with Maureen A. Tilley in 1995.

Ross' expertise in feminist theology has been recognized throughout the theology profession, and she has been invited to present lectures and presentations at numerous institutions, conferences, and workshops. She received the College Theology Society Book of the Year Award in 1999, the Ann O'Hara Graff Award from the Women's Seminar of the Catholic Theological Society of America in 2001, and an Honorable Mention for Best Gender Issues Book from the Catholic Press Association in 2007. She served as President of the Catholic Theological Society of America and was Vice-President and an active member of the Board of Editors of *Concilium*, the international theological journal. Other memberships and activities included the American Academy of Religion, Society of Christian Ethics, Planned Parenthood/Chicago Area Consultation on Faith and Sexuality (1995), and Archdiocese of Chicago Ad-Hoc Organizing Committee for the Commission on Women (1991-1992).

Scope and Content

The Susan A. Ross Papers consist of 0.5 linear feet (1 box) and span the years 1972-2019 and include materials related to Ross' professional work as a feminist theologian. The records consist of Ross' various lectures, presentations, workshops, and papers regarding feminist theology. The materials are arranged chronologically and located in one box.

Series 1: Professional, 1976-2006, undated, Box 1

Contains materials relating to the various lectures and workshops at which Ross presented on her feminist theological studies. This series also includes a few papers written by Ross, again regarding feminist theology.

Series 2: Unprocessed Materials, 1972-2019

Unprocessed materials from accruals WLA2016.25 and WLA2019.36 consist of 8 linear feet (14 boxes) and span the years 1972-2019. Materials include academic journals, magazines, articles, programs and lectures from academic conferences, drafts of book chapters, teaching materials, certificates and awards, notes, brochures, interview transcriptions, correspondence and photographs. These items are not listed in the container list. See archivist.

Subjects:

Aquinas, Thomas (1225-1274)
Catholic theology
Feminist ethics
Feminist theology

Rahner, Karl (1904-1984)
 Ross, Susan A.
 Sacramental theology
 Schillebeeckx, Edward (1914-2009)
 Women and religion

Box	Folder	Title	Dates
		<i>Susan A. Ross Papers</i> <i>1972-2019</i>	
		Series 1: Professional, 1976-2006, undated	
1	1	Undated speeches	undated
1	2	“The Construction of Rahner’s Sacramental Theology,” paper	1976
1	3	St. Norbert College lecture, “Dissent in the Church: An Historical View”	1987
1	4	St. Paul Altar Society lecture, “A Woman’s Theological Perspective on Mary”	1987
1	5	Notre Dame College of Ohio lecture, “Thomas Aquinas, Theology, and Feminism: Can There be Dialogue?”	1988-1989
1	6	Duquesne University lecture, “The Vocation of the Theologian”	1989-1992
1	7	NOCERCC Convention, “The Embodied Priest and the Sacraments: A Feminist Critique”	1991-1992, undated
1	8	“Just Call Me a Theologian: Reflections of a Feminist Professor,” lecture	1992
1	9	Women and sacraments talks	1992-1993, undated
1	10	Women’s Experience: Creating Connections in the 90s Conference	1993
1	11	Sisters of the Living Word lecture, “Sacramental Tradition: Experience and Expression”	1993-1994, undated
1	12	Catholic Health Association lecture, “Persistence and Pain: Women and Healing in the Gospel”	1994
1	13	Illinois Benedictine College lecture, “Gender Differences in Religion”	1994
1	14	St. Louis University presentation, “Feminist Theology”	1994
1	15	“Where are we Now?” presentation	1994
1	16	“Catholic Theology and Academic Freedom,” lecture	1995
1	17	Noah’s Wife Had a Name Symposium, “In the Image of God? Women and the Scriptures”	1995
1	18	Sister Mary Walburga Dieter Symposium, “Personal Spirituality and Moral Decision-Making: Feminist Perspectives”	1995
1	19	<i>What’s Left?: Liberal American Catholics</i> chapter, “Catholic Women Theologians of the Left”	1996-1998
1	20	“RCIA/Sacraments of Initiation,” talk	1998

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1	21	Diocesan Women in the Church Committee workshop	1998-1999
1	22	Lecture correspondence	1998-2006
1	23	“Believing and Teaching,” talk	1999, undated
1	24	Catholic Scholars Video Project	1999
1	25	Loyola University Chicago Summer Stipend application	1999-2000
1	26	Review of <i>The Book of Miracles. The Meaning of the Miracle Stories in Christianity, Judaism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam</i>	2000
1	27	<i>The Praxis of the Reign of God: An Introduction to the Theology of Edward Schillebeeckx</i> chapter	2001
1	28	Bishop Imesch Lecture on Women and the Church, “The Bishops and Women: Lessons from the Past and Present”	2005
1	29	Madeleva Lecture and book, “For the Beauty of the Earth: Women, Sacramentality, and Justice”	2005-2006, undated
		Series 2: Unprocessed Materials, 1972-2019	
		<i>See archivist for additional unprocessed materials</i>	