

NARRATIVE ACADEMIC BIO

Dr. Lea F. Schweitz is the Associate Professor of Systematic Theology/Religion and Science at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. She is also the Director of the Zygon Center for Religion and Science (www.zygoncenter.org). Since 1988, the Zygon Center has been engaging questions, encouraging creativity and exploring connections in religion and science. Schweitz collaborates across disciplinary and institutional boundaries to organize conferences, co-chair the Science, Technology and Religion group of the American Academy of Religion, mentor emerging student scholars, co-edit special sections of academic and denominational journals, and serve on an advisory board with the American Association for the Advancement of Science. As an emerging thought leader in the field, she is frequently invited to speak on the future of religion and science. As a theological educator, she was awarded a pre-tenure fellowship for teaching from Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning, served as the principle investigator on a curriculum grant from Templeton Foundation that was featured in a special issue on theological education in *The Christian Century*, and was a keynote speaker at the *Pedagogical Possibilities: New Paradigms for Teaching in Ministry* conference at Vanderbilt University. As an interdisciplinary scholar, recent articles have appeared with the University of Chicago Press, *Zygon: Journal for Religion and Science*, and Oxford University Press on topics ranging from encounter with an opossum to G.W. Leibniz's view of human life. Currently, she is working on a monograph that claims and reimagines urban nature as a locus for theological reflection and spiritual formation.