

# **Matt Hoven, PhD**

Professor

Peter and Doris Kule Chair in Catholic Religious Education

St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta

Edmonton, Canada T6G 2J5

hoven@ualberta.ca

## **EDUCATION**

### **PhD, Theology and Religious Studies, 2011**

The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

- Specialization in Religious Education and Catechetics

### **MTh (with distinction), 2005**

Newman Theological College, Edmonton, Alberta

### **MDiv (with distinction), 2002**

Newman Theological College

### **BEd (with distinction), 1998**

University of Alberta

## **PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS**

### **Peter and Doris Kule Chair in Catholic Religious Education, 2020-present**

St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta

### **Peter and Doris Kule Lecturer, 2018-2020**

St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta

### **Associate Professor, 2018-present**

St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta

### **Assistant Professor, 2011-2018**

St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta

### **Lecturer, 2009-11**

St. Joseph's College, University of Alberta

## PUBLICATIONS

### BOOKS

*Hockey Priest: Father David Bauer and the Spirit of the Canadian Game*. CUA Press. 2024.

Hoven, M., Carney, J.J., and Engel, M. *On the Eighth Day: A Catholic Theology of Sport*. Cascade/Wipf & Stock. 2022.

Hoven, M., Parker, A., and Watson, N., eds. *Christianity and Sport: Practices for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*. T&T Clark/Bloomsbury. 2019.

### REFEREED JOURNAL ARTICLES

Hoven, M., Sarnecki, D., & Pagnotta-Kowalczyk, E. "'Existential Crisis' in Catholic Schools: Western Canadian Superintendents' Perspectives on the Future of Teacher Faith Formation," *Journal of Catholic Education* (2024), 27(2), pp. 39-58.

Hoven, M., Pagnotta-Kowalczyk, E., and Sarnecki, D. "Synodality and Its Implications for Catholic Schools: An Exploratory Study of System Leaders in Western Canadian Catholic Schools." *Religions* (2024), 15(4), 491, pp. 1-15.

"Practices for Sport-Coach Mentorship: A Historical Case Study for Coaches in Catholic Schools Today," *eJournal of Catholic Education in Australasia*, Vol 4 (1), Article 5, 2024.

"Nonviolence and Catholic School Sport: Recommendations for Supporting Mission as Drawn from a Historical Case Study," *International Studies in Catholic Education*, published online February 2023.

"A Powerful Sporting Tradition among Canadian Basilians': Early Twentieth-Century Catholic Priest-Coaches at St Michael's College," *The International Journal of the History of Sport* (2022), Vol 39 (4), 1-19.

Hoven, M and Egli, T, "The Influence of School Catholicity on Sport Educator-Coaches," *Journal of Catholic Education* (2019), Vol 22 (2), pp. 26-46.

"Toward the Integral Development of Students in Canadian Catholic High School Athletics," *Journal of Religion and Society*, (2019), Special issue on Catholics and Sport in a Global Context, Supplement 20, pp. 106-22, <http://moses.creighton.edu/JRS/toc/SS20.html>.

"Re-Characterizing Confidence Because of Religious and Personal Rituals in Sport: Findings from a Qualitative Study of 15 Year Olds," *Sport in Society* (2017), 1-15. Published on-line on August 4, 2017. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/17430437.2017.1360582> 7900 words.

“Sport as a Celebrative and Worshipful Act’: Taking Back Sport Through Theological Reflection.” *Practical Theology*, vol. 9, no. 3 (2016), 213-25. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1756073X.2016.1221641>.

Hoven, M., & Kuchera, S. “Beyond Tebowing and Superstitions: Religious Practices of 15-year-old Competitive Athletes.” *International Journal of Children’s Spirituality*, vol. 21, no. 1 (2016), 52-65. doi:10.1080/1364436X.2016.1150814

“Faith Informing Competitive Youth Athletes in Christian Schooling.” *Journal of Research on Christian Education*, vol. 25, no. 3 (2016).

“Rare Beauty’ and Renewal: The Consortium Project for Alberta Catholic High School Religious Education,” *Historical Studies*, vol. 81 (2015): 53-72.

“Teaching Creation: Ancient Belief Meets Modern Science”, *Journal of Religious Education*, vol. 63, no. 1 (2015):1-12.

“Teaching about Science in RE: Some Strategies,” *Religious Education Journal of Australia*, vol. 31, no. 1 (2015): 41-42.

“Science, Faith and Young People,” *Fidelitas: Journal of the Fellowship of Catholic Scholars*, Summer/Fall 2014, vol. 7, No. 2: 56-78.

“Recovering Spiritual Centres of Gravity Through Sport,” *McMaster Journal of Theology and Ministry*, vol. 15 (2013-2014): 51-78.

“Critical Guide to Resources in Religion and Science,” *Religious Education: The Journal of the Religious Education Association* 108, no. 5 (May 2013).

“How Catholic Schools Can Better Support an Ethic for Creation,” *Champagnat: An International Marist Journal of Charism in Education* 14, no. 1 (2012): 33-43.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

Hoven, M., Pagnotta-Kowalczyk, E., and Sarnecki, D. (forthcoming in 2025). “Challenges and Opportunities Facing Catholic Schools in Western Canada: System Leader Perspectives,” edited by Sean Whittle, Proceedings from Annual Network for Research in Catholic Education, Springer.

Engel, M and Hoven, M, “Headwinds, crosswinds, and a roadmap: Challenges and opportunities for Catholic school research in Canada and the United States,” *A Practical Handbook for Researching Catholic Schools*, Springer, forthcoming in 2025.

Hoven, M, and Egli, T, "How Do Sport Educator-Coaches Contribute to RE in Catholic Schools," book chapter in *Global Perspectives on Catholic Religious Education in Schools, Volume II*, edited by M Buchanan and A-M Gellel, (2019), Springer, pp. 481-493.

Egli, T, and Hoven, M "Integrating Faith: Sport Psychology for Christian Athletes and Coaches," in *Sport and Christianity: Practices for the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Hoven, Parker, and Watson, (2019), Bloomsbury/T&T Clark, pp. 109-119.

"Lived Religion in Sport," in *Sport and Christianity: Practices for the Twenty-First Century*, edited by Hoven, Parker, and Watson, (2019), Bloomsbury/T&T Clark.

## BOOK REVIEWS

Review of *Passion Plays: How Religion Shaped Sports in North America* by Balmer, Randall. University of North Carolina Press, 2022. Review in *Sport in Society*. Published online 28 Sep 2023.

Review of *Play, Sport, and Spirit* by Kelly, Patrick. Paulist Press, 2023. Reviewed in *Spiritus: A Journal of Christian Spirituality*. Accepted December 2023.

Review of *Sport, Religion and Disability*, edited by Nick Watson and Andrew Parker (2015), New York: Routledge. Review in *McMaster Journal of Theology and Ministry*, Vol. 17, 2015-16, R1-R3.

Review of *The Games People Play: Theology, Religion and Sport*, by Robert Ellis, (2014), Eugene, OR, USA: Wipf & Stock. Review in *Practical Theology*, Vol. 8, no. 1, March 2015, 63-74.

Review of *Urban Catholic Education: The Best of Times, the Worst of Times*, by Thomas C. Hunt, David J. O'Brien and Timothy Walch. Peter Lang, 2013. Review in *Religious Studies and Theology*, Vol. 34, no. 1, June 2015, 133-135. 492 words.

Review of *Aretism: An Ancient Sports Philosophy for a Modern Sports World* by M. Andrew Holowchak and Heather L. Reid in *Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice* (United States) 16, no. 2 (2013): 444-446.

Review of *Teaching Religion and Science: Effective Pedagogy and Practical Approaches for RE Teachers*. By Tonie Stolberg and Geoff Teece. Abingdon, UK: Routledge, 2011. Published in the *Religious Education Journal of Australia (REJA)* 59, no. 4 (2011): 65-66.

Review of *Defending Religious Diversity in Public Schools: A Practical Guide for Building Democracy and Deepening our Education*, by Nathan R. Kollar in *Religious Education* 105, no. 3 (2010): 353-4.

Review of *Overcoming Religious Illiteracy: A Cultural Studies Approach to the Study of Religion in Secondary Education*, by Diane L. Moore. New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007. Published in *Religious Education* 103, no. 5 (2008): 590-1

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

“Accompaniment in Religious Education,” *Fully Alive: The News-journal of the Religious and Moral Education Council of the Alberta Teachers’ Association*, Fall 2023. Vol 8 (1), two pages.

“The Long and Short of It: Student Questions and Teacher Responses in Religious Education,” *Fully Alive: The News-journal of the Religious and Moral Education Council of the Alberta Teachers’ Association*, Fall 2022. Vol 7 (1), 19-20.

“Faith Permeation of the Curriculum: Don’t Assume It’s Happening,” *Fully Alive: The News-journal of the Religious and Moral Education Council of the Alberta Teachers’ Association*, Fall 2021. Vol 6 (1), 21-24.

“Religious Education and the Black Lives Matter Movement,” *Fully Alive: The News-journal of the Religious and Moral Education Council of the Alberta Teachers’ Association*, vol. 5, no. 1 (2020), 23-25. Reprinted in *Catholic Dimension: Published by the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees Association*, (2020), Winter.

“To Shape Hearts,” *Catholic Dimension*: Published by the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees Association, Summer 2020, p.8, 500 words.

“Do Catholic Schools Make Churchgoers?” *Fully Alive: The News-journal of the Religious and Moral Education Council of the Alberta Teachers’ Association*, vol. 4, no. 1 (2019), 5-6.

““That Catholic Thing”: That Extra Responsibility of Catholic Educators,” *Catholic Dimension: Published by the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees Association*, (2019), Winter.

“We All Have a Part to Play” *Catholic Dimension: Published by the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees Association*, (2019), Summer, p. 14.

“Religion in Canada: Implications for Catholic Education,” *Fully Alive: The Newsjournal of the Religious and Moral Education Council of the Alberta Teachers Association*, vol. 3, no. 1, (2018).

“The Future of High School RE?” *Fully Alive: The News-journal of the Religious and Moral Education Council of the Alberta Teachers’ Association*, vol. 1, no. 2 (2017), 8-12.

“Who Made the World?” *The Furrow: A Journal for the Contemporary Church* 63, no. 5 (May 2012): 310-15.

## REFEREE OF JOURNAL ARTICLES

I have reviewed articles for *Journal of Catholic Education*, *Journal of Research on Christian Education*, *Journal of Religious Education*, *Historical Studies*, *Practical Theology*, *Sport in Society*, *International Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology*, *International Journal of the History of Sport*, *Sport Marketing Quarterly*, *Religious Studies and Theology*, *Journal of the Christian Society for Kinesiology, Leisure, and Sport*, *Journal of Religious Education and Theology*, *Religions*, *Review of Religious Education and Theology*, *Canadian Journal for Scholarship and the Christian Faith*, *Past Imperfect Journal* (UofA Grad Student journal).

## GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

### **STIR Grant, St. Joseph's College, 2015, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2022, 2023**

- \$1500 for assistance with book index, *Hockey Priest*.
- \$12,000 for travel and research expenses for interviews of chief superintendents in Alberta, Saskatchewan, and NWT
- \$5500 for archival and interview research in Calgary, Regina, and Southern Ontario
- \$3600 for archival research in Toronto and Vancouver
- \$1300 for travel to conference in York, U.K.

### **Contract-Grant, Edmonton Catholic School District, 2013-2017**

- \$7500/year to compose a sport and spirituality module for high schools

### **Gerard S. Sloyan Scholarship and University Scholarship, full tuition, 2005-8**

- The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

**"Teacher Faith Formation in Local Catholic Schools: Current State and Future Direction,"** a keynote address at ACSTA Symposium on Teacher Faith Formation, Edmonton, February 2024. Invited.

**"Sports and Religious Education: A Framework for Engagement Today,"** online poster presentation, *Religious Education Association*, July 2024.

**"Challenges and Opportunities Facing Catholic Schools in Western Canada: System Leader Perspectives,"** Network for Research in Catholic Education, Limerick, Ireland, October 2023.

**"Coaching Inside and Out: A Practical Theological Framework,"** a keynote address at Play Like A Champion Coaching Conference, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, June 2023. Invited.

**"Sport-Coach Mentorship and Father David Bauer,"** session to veteran coaches, Play Like A Champion Coaching Conference, University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, June 2023. Invited.

**"Sport for All: International Summit,"** Moderator, Hosted by the Dicastery for Laity, Family, and Life, Vatican, September 2022. Invited.

**“Author Meets the Critics: Dialogue Session about *On the Eighth Day: A Catholic Theology of Sport*,”** Third Global Congress on Sport and Christianity, Ridley Hall, Cambridge, UK, lead author, August 2022.

**“Toward the Practice of Non-Violence in Sports Programming: A Historical Case Study of a Canadian Ice Hockey Priest-Coach,”** Third Global Congress on Sport and Christianity, Ridley Hall, Cambridge, UK, August 2022.

***On the Eighth Day: A Catholic Theology of Sport*, Book Launch,** St Joseph’s College Speakers’ Series, 2022.

**“Principles for Sport-Coach Mentorship: The Case of an Ice Hockey Coach,”** Christian Society for Kinesiology, Leisure, & Sport Annual Conference, 2022, Baylor University.

**“Early Basilian Sporting Tradition at St Michael’s College,”** 2021 Pacific North West American Academy of Religion & Society of Biblical Literature, (this was to be hosted at SJC in 2020) (May 2021)

**“The Shelving of the 1980 Canadian Men’s Ice Hockey National Team (and the Dumping of Father David Bauer),”** North American Society for Sport History, online meeting (May 2021).

**“The New Technocrats’ and ‘Computerized Domination’ of professional ice hockey: Father David Bauer’s response to selling out the spirit of Canadian hockey,”** Christian Society for Kinesiology, Leisure, and Sport, online meeting (June 2021)

**“Spiritual Inspiration for Sport in Catholic Schools: Insight from Philosopher and Ice Hockey Priest-Coach Father David Bauer,”** International Conference on Catholic Religious Education, Melbourne, Australia, 2020.

**“Ice Hockey’s Collared Coach: Father David Bauer and His Dream for Canadian Hockey,”** and **“A Philosopher and a Priest Enter a Hockey Rink: Catholics in Dialogue with Sport,”** Second Global Congress on Sport and Christianity, Grand Rapids, Michigan, October 2019.

**“Philosophical Vision of Hockey by Father David Bauer,”** Hockey Conference, University of Alberta, 2018.

**“How do Sport Educator-Coaches Contribute to RE in Catholic Schools?”** International Conference on Catholic Religious Education, Rabat, Malta, 2018.

**“Encountering Sport: How Does Religious Affiliation of Schools Influence Educator-Coaches?”** Matt Hoven and Trevor Egli, Religious Education Association Conference, St. Louis, MO, 2017.

**“Youth Sport and Catholic Spiritual Practices,”** Inaugural Global Congress on Sport and Christianity, York, UK, 2016, invited and co-strand leader.

**“Four-Point Model for Spirituality in Sport,”** Inaugural Global Congress on Sport and Christianity, York, UK, 2016.

**“Inspiring Confidence: Religious Rituals in Youth Sport,”** Perspectives on Sport and Inspiration, Philadelphia, 2016.

**“The Spirituality of Athletic Coaches: A Phenomenological Study,”** Religious Education Association Conference, Atlanta, 2015.

**“Sport, Theology and Praxis,”** Canadian Theological Society, Ottawa, ON, 2015.

**“Papal Teaching about Sport? What Can It Say to All Christians?”** Christian Society in Kinesiology and Leisure Studies (CSKLS), Grand Rapids, MI, 2015.

**“The History of Catholic High School Religious Education in Alberta,”** St. Joseph’s College Speaker Series, Edmonton, 2015.

**“Spiritual Practices of Adolescent Athletes,”** Faculty Lecture Series, St. Joseph’s College, Edmonton, 2014.

**“Muscular Popes? Critical Analysis of Papal Teaching about Sport,”** Religious Education Association, Boston, 2013.

**“The Spiritual Side of Sport: A Means for Recovering Spiritual Centers of Gravity,”** Canadian Theological Society, Victoria, B.C., 2013.

## **GUEST LECTURES**

**“Father David Bauer: Shaping the Postwar Nation and Citizen,”** Canadian History of Leisure, Sport, and Health, Faculty of Kinesiology, Recreation and Leisure Studies, 2018 and 2019.

## **COURSES TAUGHT**

### **Assistant/Associate Professor**

St. Joseph’s College, University of Alberta

- Teaching Religion: Secondary
- Teaching Religion: Elementary
- Integrated Learning in Catholic Education
- Sport and Religion
- Sport and Lived Faith
- Leadership in Catholic Education
- Introduction to Educational Improvement
- Leadership in Educational Settings
- Directed Readings in Catholic Theology
- Topics in Christian Tradition: Catholic Religious Education
- The Theological Education of the Catholic School Teacher

**Adjunct Academic Colleague, 2017-present**

- Faculty of Education, University of Alberta

**Lecturer, 2015-2017**

- Master of Educational Studies, Faculty of Education, University of Alberta

**GRADUATE SUPERVISION**

- Dr. Dean Sarnecki, 2021, PhD, Sec. Ed/ Fac of Ed, co-supervisor with Dr. Jim Parsons. Topic: Catholic Education in a Secular Age.
- Mr. Gabriel Pérez Schulz, ongoing, EdD candidate, Sec. Ed/ Fac of Ed, co-chair with Dr. Jim Parsons. Topic: Seventh-Day Adventist Schooling
- Mr. Tim Eaton, 2018, EdD, Sec. Ed/ Fac of Ed, Committee member. Topic: Homeschooling in Alberta
- Ms. Jean Stiles, 2016, M.Ed., Sec. Ed./Fac. of Ed, examiner. Topic: Educational Leadership

**PARTNERS IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION**

**Peter and Doris Kule Chair in Catholic Religious Education**

- Revision of College's Certificate in Catholic Education
- Engaging educators and promoting College's role in Alberta Catholic education
- Led committee writing objectives for Certificate courses
- Liased with educational leaders
- Speaking at events in various school districts

**Curricular Consultant, 2013-2017**

St. Joseph's College and Edmonton Catholic Schools, Edmonton, Alberta

- Designing curricular modules about sport and spirituality for high schools
- Researching athletes and coaches in Catholic schools via contract-grant

**OTHER TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

**Teaching Assistant, 2005-7**

The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C.

**High School Religious Studies Teacher and Chaplain, 2002-4**

John Paul II High School, Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta

**Elementary School Teacher (Grade 6), 1998-9**

St. Augustine School, Ponoka, Alberta

**Holder of Permanent Teacher's Certificate, Province of Alberta**

**PRESENTATIONS**

Presented to the **Sport and Physical Education leads at Christ the Redeemer School District** based out of Okotoks, AB. Online. April 2023.

**"Sport and Faith: Digging Deeper in Sport,"** Co-presented, with Jordan Robinson North Central Alberta Teachers' Convention, February 2023, Edmonton.

**"Sport and Catholic Education,"** Presentation to the Council of Catholic School Superintendents of Alberta, Edmonton, 2022.

**"Faith Integration and Sport,"** Greater St Albert Catholic Regional School District, Opening Day presentation for district staff, Morinville, 2021.

**"Sport and Faith,"** Keynote address at Edmonton Ukrainian Eparchy's Annual Men's Conference. 2020.

**"Course Levels at the Undergraduate Level,"** Annual SJC Faculty Retreat, Edmonton. 2020.

**"Catholic Education: A Look Forward,"** Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Sherwood Park. 2019.

**"Connecting Faith and Sport,"** Leadership in Sport, Health, and Chaplaincy, Elk Island Catholic Schools, Sherwood Park. 2019.

**"Hockey and Faith,"** invited presentation at Rogers' Place by Oilers Entertainment Group. 2019.

**"Sport and Disability,"** co-presented at Rogers' Place practice arena (Edmonton) with Kieran Block, for a Faith Day with Edmonton Catholic Schools in May 2019.

**"Catholic Education in Canada: Current Status,"** Pre-recorded video session, National Catholic Education Association Conference, Cincinnati, 2018.

**"Renewal of Catholic Identity,"** Staff of the School of Alternative Education, Edmonton Catholic Schools, Edmonton, 2017.

**"The Molson Cup Three Stars of Hockey and Religion: Notre Dame, Connor McJesus, and the Lucky Loonie,"** (A) Pub Theology Teacher Night, St. Albert Catholic School District, St. Albert, 2017, (B) District Staff Faith Day, ECSD, Edmonton, 2017, (C) Theology on Tap Teacher Night, Evergreen Catholic School District 2018.

**"Conversation in Catholic Education,"** Large Group Conversation Leader, hosted by Edmonton Catholic School District, 2017.

**"Sport and Faith,"** Hockey and Soccer Academy students at St. Thomas More Jr. High School, ECSD, 2017.

**"Faith Day,"** all grades, St. Stanislaus Elementary School, ECSD, 2017.

**"Sport and Ignatian Spirituality,"** Elk Island Catholic School District, Sherwood Park, 2016.

**"Get Your God Game On,"** SJC's Dinner and a Course program, Edmonton, 2016.

**"Sport and the Catholic Church,"** for Sport and Religion (HP 4396), Baylor University, Waco, TX, Fall and Winter terms, 2015-16.

**"Sport and Spirituality in Catholic Schools,"** Edmonton Catholic School District, Edmonton, 2015 and 2016; Evergreen Catholic School District, Spruce Grove, 2015.

**"Sport and Religion,"** Archbishop Jordan High School, Sherwood Park, 2014.

**"Infusing Curriculum with Faith: God's Creation,"** Edmonton Catholic School Teacher's Web Conference Professional Development Afternoon (all district teachers), 2013.

**"Standing up to Scientific Atheism,"** and **"Quarterbacks and Quantum Mechanics: Making RE Relevant to Teens,"** National Catholic Education Association Conference, Houston, 2013.

**"The Year of Faith,"** full day presentation, Board of Governors of the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees Association (ACSTA), Leduc, 2013.

**"God, Play, and Cycling in the River Valley,"** Edmonton Catholic Schools' Faith Enrichment Afternoon, Edmonton, 2013 and 2014.

**"It's Déjà Vu All Over Again: Reflections for Advent,"** St. Matthew's Parish, Rocky Mountain House, Alberta, 2011.

**"Teachers at the Crossroads/Crosshairs of Religion and Science,"** North Central Alberta Teachers' Convention, Edmonton, Alberta, 2011.

**"Uncovering Meaning: Spiritual Wisdom for the Catholic School Teacher,"** Greater Edmonton Teacher's Convention, Edmonton, Alberta, 2005.

**"Seeing Christ in Everyone: Together Through the Storms,"** Elk Island Catholic Schools' Administrators Retreat, Victoria, British Columbia, November 4-7, 2003.

## EDUCATIONAL MODULES

*Confidence.* (2017). A Sport and Spirituality Module produced for Edmonton Catholic School District (ECSD).

*On Christian Mindfulness: Sport Psychology and Ignatian Spirituality.* (2015). Module produced for ECSD.

*The Habit of Winning.* (2014). Module produced for ECSD.

*Play in Sport.* (2013). Module produced for ECSD.