

VITA (2003)

Name:

James V. Downton, Jr.

Birth:

Glendale, California, December 11, 1938

Academic Degrees:

B.A., California State University (Sacramento), 1961.

M.A., California State University (Sacramento), 1963.

Ph.D., University of California (Berkeley), 1968.

Additional Training:

"Communication: Access to Power," Workshop on how to be a more effective communicator, 1996.

"Improvisational Methods for Teaching," Workshop on Teaching Innovations, 1992.

Mediation and Facilitation Workshop, The Center for Dispute Resolution, Boulder, 1987.

Trainee in the Inter-Regional Society of Jungian Analysts, 1980.

Jungian Dream Interpretation, two seminars with Jungian Analyst, Donald Williams of the Denver Jungian Center, 1977-78.

Gestalt Therapy Training, University of Colorado Counseling Center, Spring, 1975.

Research and Teaching Interests:

Change has been the overriding research and teaching interest throughout my university career. Initially, the focus was on political change, this culminating in my published work on revolution and revolutionary leadership. Then I became interested in the area of religious movements and conversion processes, wanting to understand how people come to embrace a new commitment and new

religious outlook. In that study, I did discover much of what led people to convert to a new religion, but what continued to fascinate me was what I didn't find--truly radical transformations of character. This discovery turned me to the study of personal transformation, drawing heavily on Carl's Jung's notion of individuation, but branching out widely into the fields of religion (especially the works of Eliade and Otto), American Indian rituals and folktales, mythology, alchemy, and shamanism.

I returned to the issue of commitment to social movements in my research with Paul Wehr on the issue of persistent activism in the peace movement. This last work has given me an opportunity to explore the social and personal dynamics of change.

My teaching interests range over a large area, although I am primarily interested in social conflict, social movements, ideology, human development, creativity, and creative teaching.

Teaching:

Teaching awards:

Boulder Faculty Assembly Teaching Excellence Award, 1992.

Student/Alumni Teaching Excellence Award (SOAR), 1991.

Teaching orientation:

In my teaching, I rely on learning processes which get students directly involved in the subject matter. I also tend to apply lateral thinking techniques (creative thinking) both in the way I approach material and in the way I encourage students to think analytically about the issues at hand. I like to present ideas in the context of what the students themselves create from the learning processes. Thus, student involvement is critical for the kind of learning situation I attempt to develop.

University of Colorado: Tenured Professor. Began teaching at CU in 1969.

Have taught the following courses:

- Analyzing Society
- Self and Consciousness (human development)
- The Creative Self
- Religion in American Society
- Human and Social Development (team taught)

Revolutionary Social Change
Social Movements
Nonviolent Persons and movements
Collective Behavior
Sociology of Leadership
Qualitative Sociology (field experience)
Search for the Sacred (team taught)
Conflict and Social Movements
The Social Psychology of Social Conflict
Teaching Sociology (grad. seminar)

San Francisco State University: Assistant Professor, 1965-69.

Publications:

"Persistent Pacifism: How Activist Commitment is Developed and Sustained," (with Paul Wehr), Journal of Peace Research, Vol. 35 (September, 1998), pp. 531-550.

The Persistent Activist: How Peace Commitment Develops and Survives. (Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 1997). This research with Paul Wehr deals with the issues of commitment persistence among a group of Colorado peace activists. It examines the differences between members whose commitments continue over "the long haul" against individuals who have left the peace movement. A theory of sustained commitment is developed, which is applicable to social movements in general.

"Peace Movements: The Role of Commitment and Community in Sustaining Member Participation," (with Paul Wehr) in M. Spencer (ed.), Research in Social Movements, Conflict and Change, Vol. 5, JAI Press, 1991, pp. 113-134. This chapter presents a comprehensive model of collective action, then explores in depth the process by which individuals come to be bonded to peace organizations.

"Individuation and Shamanism." Journal of Analytical Psychology, Vol. 34 (Jan., 1989), pp. 73-88. This article examines the relationship between shamanism and personal transformation, using the "world tree" as a guiding metaphor.

"An Evolutionary Theory of Conversion and Commitment: The Case of Divine Light Mission." Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, Vol. 19 (December, 1980), pp. 381-396. Reprinted in Patrick Mc Namara, Religion: North American Style. Belmont: Wadsworth, 1984, pp. 296-309. Summarizing my Divine Light Mission research, this study presents the various stages of the conversion process,

showing how change follows an evolutionary rather than revolutionary course. It is a theoretical attempt to expand upon the ground-breaking work of Lofland and Stark.

Sacred Journeys: The Conversion of Young Americans to Divine Light Mission. New York: Columbia University Press, 1979. A qualitative research study, this book was based on in-depth interviews with the followers of Guru Maharaj Ji. Taking the life-histories of "premies," it explores how a movement's social context and organizational mechanisms affect the development of the follower's conversion and commitment.

Rebel Leadership: Commitment and Charisma in the Revolutionary Process. New York: The Free Press, 1973. A comparative work, this book examines the process by which people become involved in social movements and how leader-follower relations (especially charisma) operate to solidify commitments. It offers a theoretical addition to Max Weber's long-standing typology of authority.

"Determinants of Commitment," Humanitas, Vol. 8 (February, 1972), pp. 55-78. This article focuses on the social determinants which influence the formation of commitments. It develops what Smelser calls a "value-added" theory to show how commitment forms in definite stages.

Perspectives on Political Philosophy: Thucydides to Machiavelli. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972. (Edited with David K. Hart, University of Washington) This was the first of a three volume anthology devoted to classical political philosophy.

Perspectives on Political Philosophy: Machiavelli to Marx. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1972. (With David K. Hart)

Perspectives on Political Philosophy: Marx to Marcuse. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1973. (With David K. Hart)

"Reflections on Political Philosophy," in Volume I, Perspectives on Political Philosophy. This introductory chapter deals with the nature of political philosophy in the creation of new political forms, emphasizing especially how utopian theory is a creative attempt to build new political societies from a hypothetical view of human nature.

"Revolution and Political Action in an Age of Technology," with David K. Hart in Volume III, Perspectives on Political Philosophy. This introductory chapter

examines the ways that technology has begun to influence social action, especially in the choice of political strategies for change.

Books in Press:

The Woo Way: A New Way of Living and Being (Humanics Publishing Group, March, 2003).

Playful Mind: Bringing Creativity to Life (Humanics Publishing Group, March, 2003).

Awakening Minds: The Power of Creativity in Teaching (Humanics Publishing Group, March, 2003).

Unpublished manuscripts:

Night Sea Journey: The Ordeal and Healing Power of Individuation. This is a study of the process of personal transformation, drawing on Carl Jung's ideas about individuation as an alchemical change.

"Individuation and Religious Ritual: The Papago Salt Pilgrimage." This work takes an American Indian ritual and examines it from the perspective of Jungian analysis, drawing out themes about the structure of the collective unconscious and the process of individuation. Of crucial importance is the discussion of the attainment of a new kind of personal power as a result of individuation, what the Papagos call becoming a "ripe man."

"Individuation and American Indian Folktales: The Chippewa Tale of 'The Red Swan.'" "The Red Swan" is a mysterious and fascinating folktale which provides insight into the nature of the individuation process. Closely paralleling the "grail myth," the tale offers an answer to the question: "Whom does the Grail serve?"

"Individuation in Hermann Hesse's Demian." An in-depth exploration of fiction as a way of generating ideas about the individuation process.

Professional Activities:

Reviewer, American Sociological Review, 1997.

Panel member, Institute of Behavioral Science, Theda Skocpol's States and Social Revolutions, 1982.

Panel member, Institute of Behavioral Science, "Psychological Explanations in the Social Sciences," 1981.

Paper: "The Conservative Nature of Change: An Evolutionary Theory of Conversion and Commitment." International Society of Political Psychology meetings, Washington, D.C., 1979.

Panel Chairperson: "Attraction, Conversion, and Commitment to Social Movements." International Society of Political Psychology meetings, Washington, D.C., 1979.

Panel Chairperson: "Confrontation on the Campus: Students Against the University." Western Political Science Association meetings, Sacramento, California, 1970.

Paper: "Charisma as a Psychological Exchange." Presented at Banff, Canada (1971) in an interdisciplinary seminar dealing with charismatic authority.

Paper: "Revisiting the Concept of Charisma." Western Political Science meetings, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1969.

Public lecture: "Political Violence: The End or Beginning of Politics?" One of four lectures in a series entitled Perspectives on Violence," presented under the auspices of the University of California, Santa Cruz, 1968.

Public lecture: "A Structural-Functional Perspective of revolution." California State University (Turlock), 1968.

In addition to the above, I have reviewed book manuscripts for The Free Press, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, and Columbia University Press and article manuscripts for the The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion.

University and Departmental Service:

Faculty Advisor, INVST, 2002-present.

Committee Member, Lori Hunter's three-year review, 2002.

Member of Undergraduate Committee, 2002.

Director, INVST, 2001-2002.

Member of Undergraduate Committee , 2001-2002.

Committee Member, Dan Cress' Tenure and Promotion Review, 2000-2001.

Chair, Instructor Review Committee for Adele Platter and Eleanor Hubbard, 2000.

Co-Director, INVST, 1999-2000

Director, INVST, 1998-1999

Search Committee, Arts and Sciences, for Director of Service Learning, 1998.

Co-Director, INVST, 1997.

Department Academic Advisor, 1996-97.

Associate Chair, Spring, 1996

Executive Committee, Spring, 1996

Tenure Review Committee, Chair, 1994

Acting INVST Director, Fall, 1993.

Consultant, Faculty Teaching Excellence Program, 1993-94.

Tenure Review Committee Chair, 1993-94.

Executive Committee, 1991-92.

Undergraduate Committee, 1991-92.

INVST Committee, 1990.

Department Chair, 1988-1991.

Executive Committee, 1987-88.

Undergraduate Committee, Chair, 1987-88.

Departmental Self-Study Committee, 1986.

Undergraduate Committee, 1986.

Sewell Hall Residential Program, Spring, 1985.

Executive Committee, 1984-85.

Honors Program, 1984.

Kayden Book Award Committee Reviewer (Graduate School), 1984.

Preliminary Examination Committee (Chair), 1984.

Theory Committee (Chair), 1983.

Preliminary Examination Committee, 1983.

Undergraduate Committee, 1981.

Preliminary Examination Committee, 1981.

Sociology Self-Study Committee, 1980.

Executive Committee, 1980.

Research Advisor for Single Parents on Campus, 1979.

Teaching Advisory Committee to the Chair, 1979.

Undergraduate Committee (Chair), 1979.

Sociology Colloquium (Co-Chair), 1977-78.

Preliminary Examination Committee (Chair), 1976.

Minorities Committee, 1975.

Undergraduate Committee, 1975.

Rules Committee (Chair), 1974.

Curriculum Review Committee, Arts and Sciences, 1971.

Recruitment Committee (Chair), 1970.

Faculty Representative, University Strike Committee, 1969.

Presentations, Lectures, Workshops:

Workshop for Faculty Teaching Excellence Program, "Teaching Large Classes Creatively," March, 2002.

Workshop for Graduate Teacher Program, "Creative Teaching," Aug., 2002

Workshop for Sociology Department, "Being Creative in Teaching and Research," February, 2002.

Workshop for Graduate Teacher Program, "Creative Teaching," August, 2001.

Workshops for Faculty Teaching Excellence Program, "Expanding Creativity in Teaching," February, March, 2001.

Workshop for students of the President's Leadership Class (PLC), "Becoming Creative Leaders," February, 2001.

Panel Member for Faculty Teaching Excellence Program for School of Business Faculty, presenting ideas about creativity for teachers, January, 2001.

Workshop for the Colorado Business Committee for the Arts' Leadership Training Program, "Bringing More Creativity to Leadership," Boulder, November, 2000.

Workshop with Jim Palmer (Film Studies), "The Shadow in Hitchcock's 'Strangers' on A Train'" for teachers in the Boulder Valley Public Schools, November, 2000.

Workshop: "Motivating Students To Learn," Graduate Teacher Program, September, 2000.

Workshop: "Becoming More Creative Teachers," FTEP, September, 2000.

Workshop: "Creative Teaching," Fall Teaching Intensive, Graduate Teacher Program, August, 2000.

Workshop for the Denver Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Program, "Leading Wisely," June, 2000.

Workshops (June, July, August, September), "The Woo Way," for the Denver community of The Little River Association, 2000.

Workshop for Colorado Business Committee for the Arts, "Brain Change," for leaders of profit and nonprofit corporations, March, 2000.

Workshop on mentoring: Environmental Protection Agency, January 25, February 2, 2000.

Workshop leader (with Ellis Jones): "Creative Teaching," Fall Teaching Intensive, Graduate Teacher Program, August 1998.

Workshop leader for Lead TAs: "Bringing Creative Techniques to Teaching," for the Graduate Teacher Program, May 1998.

Guest lecturer: Class on Persistent Activism (with Paul Wehr), Nonviolence, April, 1998.

Facilitator: Rocky Mountain Peace Center Reunion of Rocky Flats Activists, April, 1998.

Presenter: "Creativity in Teaching," Graduate Student Teaching Program, August, 1997.

Presenter at Chautauqua Forum Series: "The Militia Movement: Government as Enemy." My talk was "Beliefs and Extremist Groups: A Recipe for the Creation of the Enemy." July, 1997.

Workshop leader for Partners in Leadership (leaders committed to advancing opportunities for people with disabilities), "Social Activism: Seeking Balance in Commitment," Denver, June, 1997.

Presenter: "Going to the Well: Recovery of Ourselves and our Capacity for Flexibility," Graduate Student Teaching Conference, CU, Jan., 1997.

Presenter: "Becoming a Creative Teacher," Graduate Student Teaching Program Fall intensive, CU, Aug., 1996.

Keynote Presenter: "How to Motivate and Be Motivated," Graduate Student Teaching Conference, CU, Jan., 1996.

Presenter: "Getting Students Involved," Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, CU, Fall, 1995.

Presenter: "Creative Teaching," Fall Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, CU, Fall, 1994.

Presenter: "Innovating in the Large Classroom," Faculty Teaching Excellence Program Workshop, CU, Fall, 1993.

Presenter: "Being a Creative Teacher," Fall Graduate Student Teaching Intensive, CU, Fall, 1993.

Presenter: "Engaging Students in Active Learning in Large Courses," Faculty Teaching Excellence Program Workshop, CU, Fall, 1992.

Presenter: "Mentoring Women Graduate Students," Graduate School, CU, Spring, 1992.

Lecture: "Individuation: Confronting the Shadow," University of Colorado President's Club, Estes Park, Spring, 1992.

Presenter: Graduate Teacher Program Fall Intensive, CU, Fall, 1991. Subject: "Handling Problems in the Classroom."

Workshop leader: "Bringing the Creative Spirit to Teaching," Teaching Excellence Program, CU, Fall, 1991.

Lecture: "Becoming Whole: A Jungian View of Personal Transformation," Farrand Hall's Last Lecture Series, CU, Fall, 1991.

Colloquium Presenter: "Teaching on the Edge: Innovations in Teaching," Department of Sociology, Fall, 1991.

Colloquium Presenter: "Paradigms," Department of Sociology, Fall, 1991.

Lecture: "The Inner Courtyard: The Dynamics of Personal Transformation," Unitarian Church, Spring, 1991.

Lecture: "Leadership and Social Harmony," Sociology Department, Spring, 1990.

Lecture: "Human Development," Fraternity/Sorority Council, Fall, 1990.

Lecture: "Becoming Whole: A Jungian View of Personal and Spiritual Development," Unitarian Church (Golden), Fall, 1990.

Lecture: "Social Responsibility," Golden Key Honor Society, Fall, 1990.

Lecture: "The Four Gates of Individuation," First Congregational Church, Boulder, 1986.

Lecture: "Siddhartha and Individuation," Boulder High, 1986.

Lecture: "Demian and Individuation," Boulder High, 1985.

Workshop: "Creativity and Self-Awareness," Boulder Valley Schools, Calwood Ranch, 1985.

Workshop: "Creativity," Casey Junior High, 1981.

Lecture: "Jung and Individuation," Congregational Church, Boulder, 1981.

Lecture: "The New Religions," Thornton High School, 1979.

Lecture: "Experiential Education," Unitarian Church, 1978.

Presenter: Public colloquium on the New Religions, University of Denver, 1977.

Lecture: "Commitment Formation in Divine Light Mission, Unitarian Church, 1976.