

# Assoc. Prof. Michal Valčo, PhD.

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## PROFESSIONAL RESUME

### Basic personal information

Born on the **9<sup>th</sup> of June, 1976** in Liptovský Mikuláš, Slovakia

Married since July, 1996; two children

Address of workplace: Faculty of Humanities, University of Žilina in Žilina,

Univerzitná 8215/1, 010 26 Žilina, Slovakia (<http://fhv.uniza.sk/en/>)

### Education

**1995 – 2001** Lutheran Theological Seminary/Faculty (LTS) Bratislava, SK

- Winner of a 1998 Templeton prize for essay: “Can Science Enhance Theology?”

**1999** Fall semester at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, PA - USA

- Master of Divinity (Theology Master) – July 2001

**2004** (August – September) Lutheran Theological Seminary in St. Paul, MN – USA

- Doctoral studies consultations and research

**2001 – 2005** Lutheran Theological Seminary/Faculty Bratislava, SK

- PhD in Historical theology – June 2005

- Dissertation title: The Sources and Meaning of Chemnitz' Christology in his Doctrine of the Lord's Supper

**March 2013** Greek-Catholic Theological Faculty of the Prešov University in Prešov, SK

- Post-doctoral Thesis defended with Habilitation in Religion Studies (Associate Professor of Religion Studies);
- Habilitation Thesis title: The Ecumenical and Apologetic Potential of Luther's Religious Emphases.

### Professional skills

Language:

- English: Fluent in speaking and writing
- German: Able to read and understand; intermediate level of speaking ability
- Russian: Able to read and understand; low level of speaking ability
- Hebrew, Greek, Latin: Able to read and translate texts

Computer:

- Intermediate user skills with Microsoft Office programs (Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Outlook) and Internet Explorer

Other:

- Active listening skills, conflict resolution and mediation, leadership skills (team building, decision making, etc.)
- Fundraising and promotion; project writing and administration (EU funds and local projects, supported by the municipality or county)

### Experience

**1993/4** High-school exchange program Vancouver, WA – USA

- An ecumenical and intercultural experience in an environment of an Evangelical congregation and an American high-school.

**Summer 1996** Church internship program Baltimore, MD – USA

- A three-month-long internship in a Lutheran congregation.

- Fall 1999** Lutheran Theological Seminary Gettysburg, PA – USA
- A one-semester study program focused on systematic and practical theology.
- Summer 2001, 2002** Summer Theological Institute LTS Bratislava, SK
- A summer theological course for PhD students focused on Systematic theology and Church history (four weeks).
- Sept. 2001 – June 2005** Assistant professor teaching position at LTS Bratislava, SK
- Department of Church History (Prof. David Daniel, PhD.) in combination with the Department of Systematic Theology (Prof. Igor Kiss, ThDr.).
  - Coordinator for educational activities at the Bible School in Martin, SK.
  - Assistant professor of Systematic Theology courses – dogmatics, apologetics, Christian ethics, as well as general church history and missiology at the University of Žilina, Faculty of Natural Sciences (currently Faculty of Humanities).
- June 2004** Ordained as Lutheran pastor with the ministry focus on university students
- Aug. 2005 – Aug. 2011** Director of the Bible School in Martin, Slovakia ([www.bibleschool.eu](http://www.bibleschool.eu); [www.cce.sk](http://www.cce.sk))
- Aug. 2010 – Dec. 2010** A Copenhagen Scholar in Residence and Visiting professor at Roanoke College, Salem, VA, USA ([www.roanoke.edu](http://www.roanoke.edu))
- Oct. 2002 – present** Assistant professor of theology at the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Žilina, SK (<http://www.fpv.uniza.sk/fhv/>)
- August 2012 – May 2013** Visiting professor of Religion and Theology at Roanoke College, Salem, VA, USA ([www.roanoke.edu](http://www.roanoke.edu))
- May 2013 – present** Research Associate in the Department of Religion and Philosophy, Roanoke College, Salem, VA, USA ([www.roanoke.edu](http://www.roanoke.edu))
- June 2013 – present** Associate professor of Religion at the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Žilina, SK (<http://www.fpv.uniza.sk/fhv/>)
- September 2013 – present** Chair of the Department of Religious Studies, Faculty of Humanities of the University of Žilina, SK (<http://www.cce.sk/kns/kns/valco.html>)

### Professional interests

- History of Christian doctrine and Christian dogmatics;
- Ecumenical relationships; interreligious dialogue;
- Dialogue between Faith and Science
- Mission studies and apologetics
- Translation of texts: English – Slovak; Slovak – English

### Most important recent publications

- „Chemnitz Biblia- és tradícióértelmezése” (Chemnitz’s Understanding of Bible and Tradition), in: *Koinonia*, Komárno 2006, p. 271-290.
- „Lutheránska reformácia a charizmatické hnutia“ (Lutheran Reformation and the Charismatic Movements), in: *Acta humanica – Kapitoly z kresťanskej teologickej reflexie*, FPV ŽU, č. I, 2006, p. 5 – 20.
- „Žena v spisoch apoštolských otcov“ (The Role of Women in the Works of the Apostolic Fathers), in: *Žena v cirkvi: Zborník z medzinárodného sympózia, EBF UK Bratislava, October 26, 2006, p. 74-87.*
- „Scripture as a source of Chemnitz’ Christology“, *Communications – Scientific Letters of the University of Žilina*, 2/2007, p. 5-8.
- *From Creation to Redemption: Selected Themes in Lutheran Dogmatics for Religion Instructors in Public Schools in Slovakia*. Žilina: EDIS, 2008. (A textbook used for the in-class instruction of students at the Faculty of Natural Sciences, Žilina University).
- Alternative Viewpoint: “Edwards and the World Religions: An Alternative Viewpoint”. In: MCDERMOTT, Gerald, ed.: *Understanding Jonathan Edwards: An Introduction to America’s Theologian*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2008. S. 195-200. ISBN 978-0-19-537344-8
- “Význam Božieho zjavenia pre kresťanskú teológiu” (*The Importance of God’s Revelation for Christian Theology*). In: *Acta humanica*. - ISSN 1336-5126. - Č. 2 (2009), s. 291-303
- “Slová ustanovenia eucharistie v podaní apoštola Pavla a ich interpretácia u Martina Chemnitza” (*The Words of the Institution of Eucharist according to Paul and their*

*Interpretation by Martin Chemnitz*). In: Univerzalizmus Apoštola Pavla. Ed. Anton Tyrol. Svit: Katolícke biblické dielo, 2009, s. 74-85. - ISBN 978-80-89120-22-2. –

- “Reflexia Pavlovho chápania Starého zákona v spisoch apoštolských otcov” (*The Reflection of Paul’s Understanding of the Old Testament in the Writings of the Apostolic Fathers*). In: Pavlova rétorika na pozadí Starého Zákona : Zborník prednášok z medzinárodnej vedeckej konferencie konanej v rámci projektu „Biblické dni“, ktoré sa uskutočnili 5.-6. Mája 2009. Eds. Kardis, M., Slivka, D. Prešov: Prešovská univerzita v Prešove, 2009, s. 170-183. – ISBN 978-80-555-0034-8. –
- “Čo s komunizmom? Rozporuplné reakcie na zlyhávajúcu ideológiu...” (*What About Communism: Ambiguous Reactions to a Failing Ideology*) In: Evanjelický východ. – ISSN 1335-1656. – č. 2 (2010), s. 22-23
- *O informácii, komunikácii a médiách* (On Informations, Communication, and Media). Žilina: Žilinská Univerzita, Vydavateľstvo PORADCA, 2010.
- “Martin Chemnitz – druhý „Martin“ reformácie: Formácia osobnosti (I)” (Martin Chemnitz – the Second Martin of the Reformation: Character Formation). In: *Cirkevné listy* : mesačník slovenských evanjelikov augsburského vyznania. - ISSN 0139-9217. - Roč. 134, č. 5 (2010), s. 19-22.
- “Martin Chemnitz – duchovný pastier cirkvi (II)” (Martin Chemnitz – Shepherd of the Church). In: *Cirkevné listy* : mesačník slovenských evanjelikov augsburského vyznania. - ISSN 0139-9217. - Roč. 134, č. 6 (2010), s.15-18.
- “Martin Chemnitz – superintendent cirkvi (III)” (Martin Chemnitz – Church’s Superintendent). In: *Cirkevné listy* : mesačník slovenských evanjelikov augsburského vyznania. - ISSN 0139-9217. - Roč. 134, č. 7-8 (2010), s. 30-32.
- “Súčasný výzvy pri vyučovaní náboženstva a pri kresťanskom vzdelávaní na Slovensku” (Current Challenges of Christian Education and Religious Instruction in Slovakia). In: *Náboženská otázka ve výchově a vzdělávání v Československu (ČR a SR) v letech 1918-2008. Sborník materiálů z mezinárodní vědecké konference uspořádané ve dnech 30.-31. Října 2008 ve Smilovicích Katedrou společenských věd, oddělením křesťanské výchovy Pedagogické fakulty Ostravské univerzity v Ostravě*. Ostrava: Ostravská univerzita, Pedagogická fakulta, 2010. s. 143-153. – ISBN 978-80-7368-642-0
- Druhý Martin Reformácie: Úloha Martina Chemnitza vo vývoji evanjelickej cirkvi a.v. a jej učenia po Lutherovej smrti. (The Second Martin of the Reformation: The Role of Martin Chemnitz in the development of the Lutheran Church of Augsburg Confession and it’s Teaching after Luther’s Death) In: *Lutheranus 2010 : Sborník Lutherovy společnosti*. Praha: Lutherova společnost, 2010. s. 122-157. - ISBN 80-903632-1-0
- Cultural Challenges and Future Hopes of Christian Churches in Slovakia. In: *V službe obnovy: Vedecký zborník vydaný pri príležitosti šesťdesiatych narodenín Dr. h.c. Prof. Júliusa Fila*. Bratislava: EBF UK, 2010. s. 212. – ISBN 978-80-88827-37-5
- *Teologické aspekty memorandových udalostí a ich odkaz pre dnešok*. In: *Slovenské Národné Zhromaždenie v Turčianskom Sv. Martine 1861: Teologické aspekty memorandových udalostí a ich odkaz pre dnešok* [The Slovak National Assembly in St. Martin 1861: Theological Aspects of the Events surrounding the Memorandum on Slovak Nationality and their Message for Today]. 1st edition. Edited and co-authored by Michal Valčo (Žilina: University Press, 2011). - 694 p.
- *Christian Churches in Post-Communist Slovakia: Current Challenges and Opportunities*. Michal Valco and Daniel Slivka, eds. – 1st ed. - Salem, Virginia : Center for religion and society, Roanoke college, 2012. - 548 p.
- *Teologické posolstvo Lutherovej reformácie a výzvy súčasnej doby*. Michal Valčo, Katarína Valčová. – 1st ed. - Žilina : Žilinská univerzita, 2012. - 415 p.
- *Teologické aspekty memorandových udalostí a ich odkaz pre dnešok*. In: *Slovenské Národné Zhromaždenie v Turčianskom Sv. Martine 1861: Teologické aspekty memorandových udalostí a ich odkaz pre dnešok* [The Slovak National Assembly in St. Martin 1861: Theological Aspects of the Events surrounding the Memorandum on Slovak Nationality and their Message for Today]. 2nd, expanded edition. Edited and co-authored by Michal Valčo. (Žilina: University Press, 2012). - 754 p.
- “Jonathan Edwards and World Religions – An Alternate View”, a response to Dr. Gerald McDermotta lecture: „Jonathan Edwards and World Religions“, for the JONATHAN EDWARDS CONFERENCE: „JONATHAN EDWARDS IN EUROPE“ – Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary, and Yale University in Budapest, May 8-9 2007.

**Active participation in Recent scientific Conferences**

- “A Culture Sensitive Christian Education – Reflections on the Cultural Challenges in a Post-communist Country”, a solicited lecture for the INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTIAN YOUTH WORK, October 10-12, 2007, Diak South, Kauniainen, Finland.
- “The Second Martin: The Role of Martin Chemnitz for the Development of Lutheran Evangelical Identity and its Doctrines after Luther’s Death”; A solicited lecture for the convention of Luther’s Society in Czech Republic, May 26<sup>th</sup> 2009.
- „A Decade of Miracles: The Role of Education in Renewing a Post-Communist Society.“ A solicited lecture by Concordia College, Moorhead, MN, USA, Feb 7, 2009.
- „Current Challenges and Perspectives of Education in Slovak Universities“ – A solicited lecture for the lecture series titled: *Explore Globe Education Network Communities*, Globe University - Minnesota School of Business, Nov 13, 2009.
- Active participation in a panel discussion titled: *Building Global Communities Through Education*, Globe University - Minnesota School of Business, Nov 16, 2009.
- “Genetically Modified Organisms and Christian Faith: A Theological Perspective”; a solicited lecture for the international scientific Conference on Genetically Modified Organisms, Brno, Czech Republic, April 8-9<sup>th</sup> 2010.
- “Christian Ethics and Teaching” – A solicited lecture by the Campus Crusade for Christ in Singapore, Jan 22, 2011.
- “Christian Ethics and Education (Christian Ethics in the Workplace)” – A solicited lecture by the National Institute of Education and by the Campus Crusade for Christ Singapore, Jan 28, 2011.
- „GMO and Christian Faith: Theological and Ethical Aspects.“ International Scientific Conference titled: *Bible and Ethics – Ethical Dimensions of Behavior*. Banska Bystrica, Pedagogical Faculty of the University of Matej Bell, March 1, 2011.
- „The ‘New Perspective’ on Paul and the ‘Introspective Conscience’ of the West.” International Scientific Conference titled: *Paul’s Doctrine of Justification by Faith in the Context of a Jewish-Christian Dialogue*. Bratislava, Lutheran Theological Faculty of Comenius University, Bratislava, May 5-6, 2011.
- „Communism as a Christian Heresy: A False (and Failing) Prophecy of an Ideology.” 26<sup>th</sup> World Congress of the Czechoslovak Society for Science and Arts titled: „SVU and Its Role in the Era of Globalisation“. Zilina University in Žilina, July 1-6, 2012.

**Guest lecturing at foreign universities**

- **November 9, 2006:** Concordia University, Wisconsin, USA – „Renewal of the Church in Post-Communist Countries“ ([www.cuw.edu](http://www.cuw.edu));
- **February 2009:** Globe University, MN, USA - “A Decade of Miracles and the Role of Education in Renewing a post-Communist Society” ([www.globeuniversity.edu](http://www.globeuniversity.edu))
- **November 2009:** Globe University, MN, USA – “Current Challenges and Perspectives of Education in Slovak Universities” ([www.globeuniversity.edu](http://www.globeuniversity.edu))
- **August – December 2010:** A Copenhaver Scholar in Residence and Visiting professor at Roanoke College, VA, USA; ([www.roanoke.edu](http://www.roanoke.edu));
- **January 22, 2011:** Singapore Campus Crusade for Christ, Singapore – “Christian Ethics and Teaching” (<http://www.cru.org.sg/>);
- **January 28, 2011:** National Institute of Education, Singapore – “Christian Ethics and Education (Christian Ethics in the Workplace)” (solicited lecture) (<http://www.nie.edu.sg/>);
- **August 2012 – May 2013** Visiting professor of Religion and Christian Studies at Roanoke College, VA, USA ([www.roanoke.edu](http://www.roanoke.edu))

Martin, Slovakia, October 2013

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 Assoc. Prof. Michal Valčo, PhD.