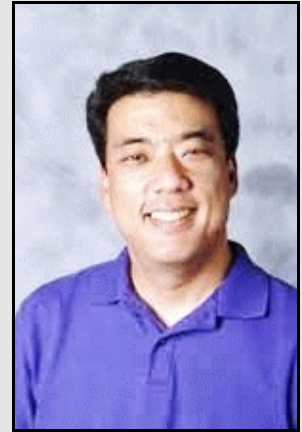


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odger Y. Nishioka is the Benton Family Associate Professor of Christian Education at Columbia Theological Seminary (Decatur, GA), since 2000. He focuses on equipping pastors to be teachers and leaders in the church's educational ministry, and is particularly interested in building a congregation's youth and young adult ministries.



Educational Background:

B.A., Seattle Pacific University

Litt.D., Austin College

M.A.T.S., McCormick Theological Seminary

Ph.D., Georgia State University

From a press release of September, 2007: Nishioka recently completed a research project involving young adults in their 20s and 30s. He says signs are all around us that a post-denominational age has arrived. "Pay attention to trends," he advised the Presbyterian Communications Network, meeting in Louisville in early August (2007). "Fads are what toss us to and fro," often as a way of marketing new products. "But trends are worthy of your attention." In many ways, the religious distance among Protestant denominations is collapsing, he observed.

Publications:

"Forgiveness" in *Way to Live: Christian Practices for Teens* (2001)

Sowing the Seeds (1998)

Rooted in Love (1997)

The Roots of Who We Are (1997)

He has written numerous articles and contributed chapters to books, as well as reviewing books.

Professional Memberships:

American Academy of Religion

Association of Professors and Researchers in Religious Education

Association of Presbyterian Church Educators

International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry

Association of Youth Ministry Educators