

# GTU currents

Where religion meets the world

NEWS OF THE GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION

FALL 2011

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## Journey and Transformation

*An artist  
walks the Camino*



“

*Whatever is  
ahead, I feel it's  
going to be  
a creative and  
transforming  
journey.*

”

Amanda Schaffer,  
M.A. Student

In 1993 on a trip to the Santa Maria de Montserrat monastery in Montserrat, Spain, Amanda Schaffer wandered into a roomful of body parts.

Not real body parts, but *ex-votos* — votive offerings to saints or deities. They have been found in ancient Egypt and Rome and also in the 21st century, given as fulfillment of a vow or in gratitude for a miracle or healing, and placed in churches, chapels, and destinations of pilgrimages. They can take a wide variety of forms, but often are symbols such as a modeled reproduction of a miraculously healed body part.

“The memory of that roomful of ex-votos stayed with me,” says Schaffer, an artist who is pursuing her M.A. in Art and Religion and who now casts her own ex-votos in beeswax. “There was energy in that room, where so many ex-votos were being stored: Each one was an object of great importance to someone, and each had a story to tell. When I returned from that trip to Spain, I made a photo album and titled the picture of the ex-voto room ‘A Room of Hope.’”

Since that time, Schaffer nurtured her own hope to walk the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, or The Way of Saint James — a

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*Currents presents the news, people, and progress of the Graduate Theological Union. Published two times a year, Currents is distributed to alumni, faculty, students, staff, and friends of the GTU.*

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## Bridging Religions and Cultures through Art

A recent Sunday New York Times article hailed the Metropolitan Museum of Art's November 1 opening of one of the most important collections of Islamic art outside the Middle East. More than half of the collection comes from Iran, and "promises to stand as a watershed moment in America's awareness of the visual culture of the Islamic world, at a time when that world looms as large as ever on the international stage and in the American psyche," says Randy Kennedy, the article's author.

Kennedy also writes, "The new (collection) will ... emphasize more strongly how the visual trademarks of Islamic art — geometric abstraction and calligraphy, as both language and decoration — have coexisted over the centuries with lively figuration.... It also holds the possibility at least of reshaping many Americans' views about the deep affinities between Western and Islamic art."

Additionally, the New York City imam Abdallah Adhami says he hopes the new Met galleries will help bridge cultural differences between Americans and the Muslim world, and serve as a nucleus for American Muslims, whom he sees as unaware of the riches of their cultural past.

The galleries' opening is auspicious timing for Fateme Montazeri, who is beginning her Ph.D. studies in Art and Religion with a focus on Islamic Art. Montazeri, who has an M.A. degree from University of Tehran and took classes last year in the GTU's M.A. program in Islamic Studies, is fascinated by the beauty and the "hidden meanings" in Islamic art.

She points to Islamic miniatures — tiny paintings placed in books to illustrate the work of great poets, such as the Iranian poet Hafiz. "The idealistic method of painting, the abstraction, as well as the repetition of varied patterns are all hints to the Divine realm and the Unity of the One, the *Tawhid* in Islamic doctrines," she says.

Montazeri, interested in art from a young age, and herself a calligrapher, came to the U.S. with her husband just over a year ago from Tehran, Iran. Both wanted to study art. When reviewing UC Berkeley's catalog in art history, she came upon a link to the GTU. "Most interesting to me was the

*“...I had no idea  
how different,  
and at the same time  
how similar,  
we all are.”*

**Fateme Montazeri**  
Ph.D. Student

great range in class offerings, from opportunities to study different faith traditions, to religion and art. I thought the GTU was meant for me!

“There are so many things for me to learn, and at the same time I see misrepresentations of Islam and Islamic art within Western scholarship. I hope my studies here will be of mutual benefit; to be influenced and to influence.”

Montazeri describes being “shocked” by the difference between her expectations of others’ attitudes toward Muslims here, and the reality. “People in Berkeley are relatively aware of the Islamic and Iranian culture, and are willing to learn about it. Many are attempting to learn about Islam and languages like Arabic and Persian.” She is also amazed that there are so many Muslims here, and so much diversity among them.

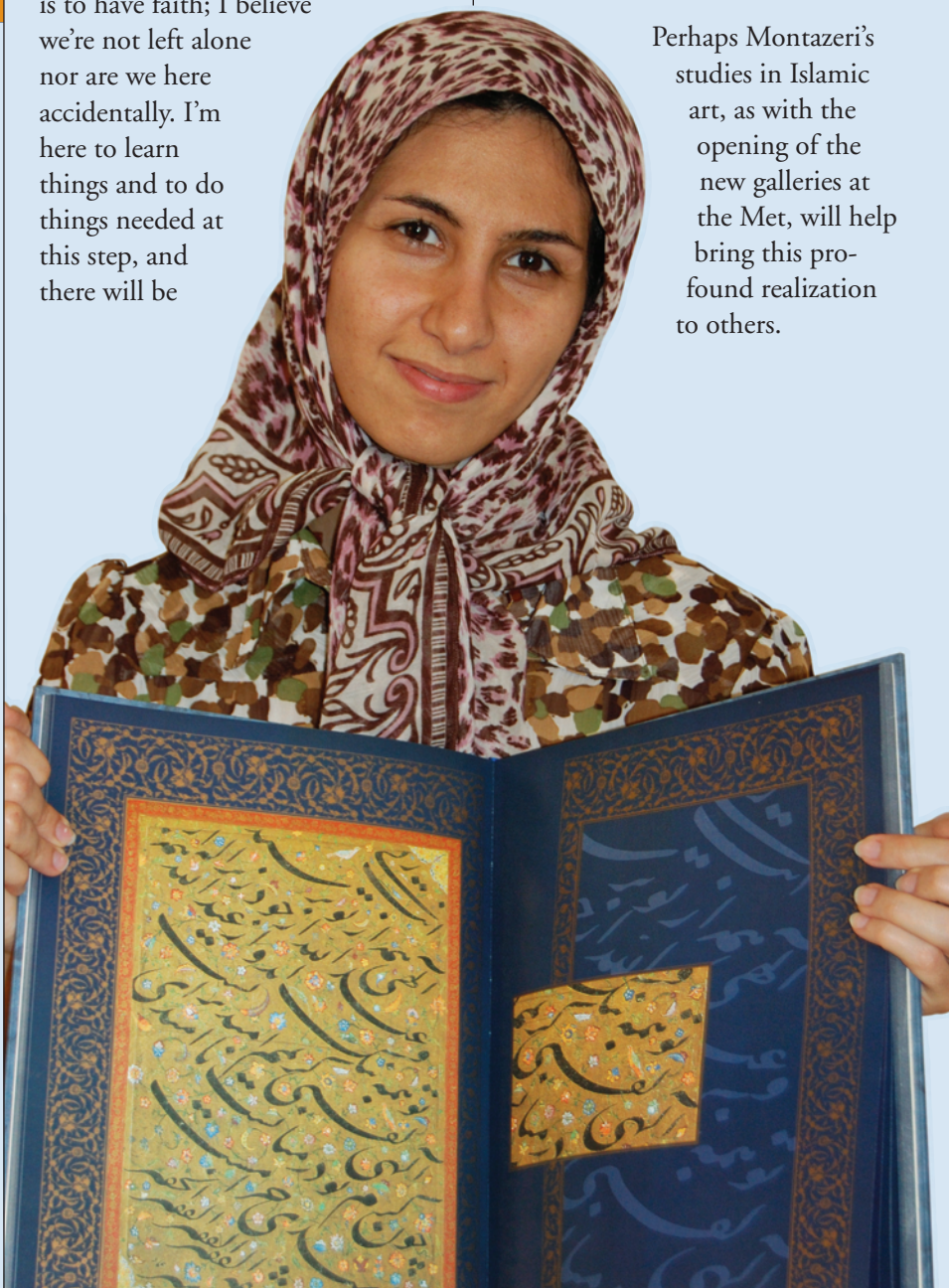
When not immersed in the art world, Montazeri teaches Persian language and Islamic studies at

the Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California in Oakland, a center that (among other activities) hosts Muslim and interfaith art exhibitions. Her vision for her future? “I am open to see what will happen. Maybe I will be a researcher, maybe a teacher. The key is to have faith; I believe we’re not left alone nor are we here accidentally. I’m here to learn things and to do things needed at this step, and there will be

guidance to my next steps.

“The most impressive opportunity for me now is to know others. This is necessary for all people to experience. I had no idea how different, and at the same time how similar, we all are.”

Perhaps Montazeri’s studies in Islamic art, as with the opening of the new galleries at the Met, will help bring this profound realization to others.



**Fateme Montazeri**

## Resolving Conflict, Creating Dialog through Song

Izak Lattu has been practicing interfaith relations his whole life — literally. In the Indonesian Moluccan Islands (also known as Moluccas, the Maluku Islands, or the Spice Islands), where he grew up, there is a tradition called *Gandong*, which means there is *one womb and one family*, even among villages of different religions. For example, although both of his parents' villages are Christian, they have a *gandong relationship* of mutual support with other nearby Muslim villages. Lattu's elementary school was a Christian school, but 80% of the children attending were Muslims; many became his close friends. As an ordained pastor in the Protestant Church of the Moluccas, Lattu brought young Muslims and Christians together to study, dialog, work, and play at a Pesantren or Islamic boarding school.

So it is with great sadness that Lattu recounts the Christian-Muslim conflict that occurred in the Moluccas from 1999–2003. It was sparked by a fight between two young men — one Christian and one Muslim — that may not even have had anything to do with religion. As people took sides and spun stories about what had taken place, and political interests entered into the fray, what began as a tussle became a full-fledged conflagration between Christians and Muslims. Before it was over, more than 13,000 people were killed, 100,000 were wounded, and a million became refugees.

It is no accident, then, that Lattu, who is also Vice Dean and faculty member at Satya Wacana Christian University in Central Java, a Fulbright Scholar, and a recent (and first) recipient of the Virginia Hadsheel Global Church Leader Scholarship, is now studying Christian-Muslim dialogue.

As a 2nd-year Ph.D. student in Interdisciplinary Studies, Lattu sees himself one day returning to



Izak Lattu

Indonesia to teach Christian, Muslim, Hindu, and Buddhist students to be open-minded about the others' religions. "I want people to experience each other in real life," he emphasizes. "My hope is that all sides will be open to one another, so that in real life they can make room in their hearts for one another."

Meanwhile, in Berkeley, Lattu focuses his studies on a "local narrative" for Christian-Muslim dialogue. In the Moluccas, he explains, there is a strong oral tradition — a culture combining music, dance, and storytelling. He uses culture — which resonates with those in multiple religious traditions — as the entry point for Christian-Muslim dialogue.

To illustrate the use of music in conflict resolution in Indonesia, Lattu sings a popular song called "Gandong." The song has the lilt of a lullaby and its lyrics convey the message that although people may have different beliefs, they have the same basic human spirit:

*My brother/sister come on, I will tell you that we come from "one womb" ..... to live together as younger sister!*

*continued on page 11*

## Center for Islamic Studies MA Program Celebrates First Year Anniversary

“**L**aunching a new program is always challenging. But we engaged many exceptional partners and were blessed with outstanding students. Everyone brought something to the table; everyone wanted it to work. It was a winning proposition all around and none of this would have been possible without the generosity of the Henry Luce Foundation and the Social Science Research Council.”

That’s what Center for Islamic Studies (CIS) Director Munir Jiwa says about the first year of the center’s M.A. program in Islamic Studies, which last year had five students, seven affiliated and adjunct faculty, and three visiting scholars. Jiwa says the students are not only studying hard, but they are applying what they’re learning by engaging various Muslim and other reli-

gious and interfaith communities, media, the arts, business, politics, education and pedagogy.

The center’s affiliated and adjunct faculty and visiting scholars are teaching and researching in areas as diverse as theology and philosophy, anthropology, interreligious studies, and Islamic art. “They not only enhance our program through their scholarship and teaching,” Jiwa says, “but they actively participate in the life of CIS, attending public events and conferences at the GTU, UC Berkeley, and beyond.”

With a generous grant from the Social Science Research Council, CIS was able to create a vibrant network of Bay Area Muslims and Media in the Bay Area. This network brought CIS together with a range of partners to host numerous events last year. “We and each of our partners brings a different dimension to increase the understanding of Islam and Muslims,” says Jiwa. “For example UC Berkeley offers academic expertise in anthropology, ethnic studies, education, journalism, business, and law. Zaytuna College brings the classical tradition to bear on contemporary issues and offers a wide range of academic programs and events. These are unique partnerships hard to find anywhere else in the nation.”

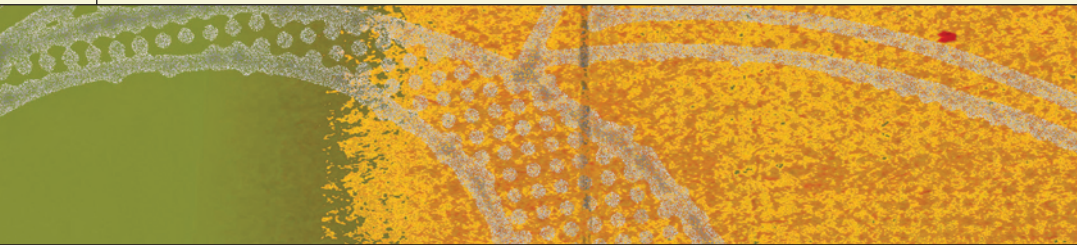
**Among the many events hosted last year by CIS and its partners were:**

**ISLAM AND AUTHORS:** CIS, Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California (ICCN), Islamic Networking Group and others sponsored *Islam and Authors: Conversations Onstage*, a series in 2010-2011 in which leading scholars, journalists, poets, and others discussed their latest works that relate to Islamic culture, politics, theology, and history.

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Munir Jiwa



## Joy and Transformation

*continued from page 1*

*“There is a  
spiritual plane  
and an  
other-worldly presence  
of those who have  
walked before  
on the path”*

Amanda Schaffer

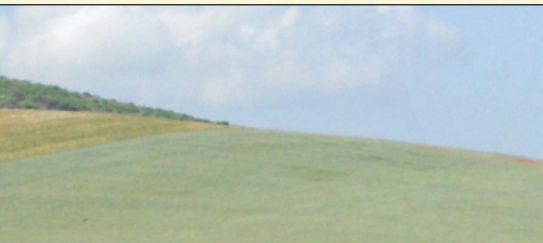
pilgrimage route in Spain that has existed for more than a thousand years. Legend holds that St. James' remains were carried by boat from Jerusalem to northern Spain where they were buried on the site of what is now the city of Santiago. The walk became one of the most important Christian pilgrimages during medieval times, and today tens of thousands of pilgrims make their way to Santiago.

This past summer, Schaffer walked the Camino with her father in honor of her mother and her mother's two sisters, all of whom died in 2010. “The Camino had called me for years, and it was like a dream come true, only bittersweet, now that my mom has passed,” she says. “Fifteen years ago she gave me a CD called *Santiago*, a musical tribute to the pilgrimage route by the *Chieftains*; it was the first time we had heard of the Camino.”

Schaffer experienced the Camino on various levels. “There is a spiritual plane and an other-worldly presence of those who have walked before on the path. On the Camino you become part of a pilgrim community where everyone helps each other and has a similar goal — to reach the Cathedral in Santiago. There is also the beauty of the Spanish countryside and the graciousness of the Spanish people.”



At the Cruz del Ferro



On a personal as well as an artistic level, Schaffer has an abiding interest in the theme of journey and transformation. During her first semester at the GTU, she cast beeswax anatomical ex-votos to understand the process used by medieval wax craftsmen or wax chandlers.

Also, in honor of her Swedish mother and aunts who were together for seven decades, Schaffer made and carried on the Camino seven small ceramic horses in the likeness of traditional Swedish carved and painted wooden Dala horse statuettes. She left six as devotions at various special places along the way. And by what she describes as a kind of a miracle, the authorities in the Cathedral at Santiago allowed Schaffer and her father to leave the seventh Dala right next to the reliquary of Saint James — the final resting place of his bones, and the destination of hundreds of thousands of pilgrims.

Schaffer will return to her GTU studies next spring. In her future she sees herself combining art history and studio practice. And she definitely wants to make more ex-votos. She says, “Whatever is ahead, I feel it’s going to be a creative and transforming journey.”

## Center for Islamic Studies

*continued from page 5*

**Tariq Ramadan on ISLAMIC REFORMS AND THE ARAB REVOLUTION:** Approximately 200 people attended this lecture, held on the UC Berkeley campus in April and sponsored by CIS, the Center for Race and Gender-UC Berkeley, Zaytuna College, and others. Dr. Ramadan, one of the foremost scholars of Islam today, discussed what the Arab Spring means for Islam, democracy, and future changes across the Middle East and North Africa.

**ISLAMOPHOBIA CONFERENCE:** In April, UC Berkeley’s Center for Race and Gender, CIS, and others sponsored *Islamophobia Production and Re-Defining the Global “Security” Agenda for the 21st Century*. The conference was part of a larger ongoing project called the Islamophobia Research and Documentation Project, directed by Dr. Hatem Bazian. Distinguished speakers included playwright Wajahat Ali, Islamic Human Rights Commission of the UK’s Arzu Merali, Zaytuna College co-founder Shaykh Hamza Yusuf, and Professor Suad Joseph of UC Davis.

**RELIGIOUS NORMS AND THE PUBLIC SPHERE:** UC Berkeley’s Institutions and Governance Program-Institute for International Studies, with CIS and others, hosted a two day conference in May entitled *Religious Norms and*

*the Public Sphere: The Challenge*. Outstanding international and interdisciplinary scholars explored recent issues that have sparked debate over the compatibility of Islam with so-called “western norms.” They also considered issues pertaining to Christianity, Judaism, the connection and/or disconnection of culture and religion, and the rights of majority religions vs. minority religions in various countries.

CIS-sponsored events are off to a great start again this year. On the 10th anniversary of 9/11, CIS sponsored with Zaytuna College and the Oakland Diocese a Catholic-Muslim interfaith dialogue entitled: **CONVERSATIONS WE NEVER HAD AFTER 9/11.**

Also in September, with the Muslim Association of the Bay Area, Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, Zaytuna College, and others, CIS co-sponsored **NO GOD BUT GOD, TEN YEARS AFTER 9/11: A CONVERSATION WITH REZA ASLAN**. The renowned author, scholar, and public intellectual spoke about the wave of revolutions spread throughout the Middle East as a revolution for the spiritual direction of Islam.

Visit [www.gtu.edu/cis](http://www.gtu.edu/cis) to learn more about CIS events in 2011-2012.

## E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation Supports Two Outstanding Students

**S**ean Gross and Sheri Prud'homme are grateful recipients of the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation scholarship — a two-year full-tuition scholarship supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered persons of faith, or those endeavoring to insure faith communities' understanding, affirmation, and inclusion of LGBT individuals. Both are 2nd-year Ph.D. students.



Sean Gross

**SEAN GROSS** is studying Ethics and Social Theory and his idea for his dissertation is to assess the state of pastoral care for sexual minorities in Catholic parishes. At the end of his studies, he hopes to teach moral

theology on the undergraduate level, and “help people discern their way through the world.”

Judging from his own discernment experience, he will be the right person for the job. As an undergraduate at Saint Xavier University in Chicago, Gross argued for the sacramentality of gay marriage in the Catholic Church as he prepared to be a Maryknoll priest. But priesthood, he learned, was not his calling.

He went on to work for Teach For America, teaching Spanish at a rural high school in the Mississippi Delta, and later earned a Master's degree in Moral Theology from Boston College. Along the way he took classes at Harvard in *Queer Theology* and *Homosexuality and American Churches*, and he is a resident minister at Santa Clara University. Among his many interests are body theology and early church history.

“I want to thank my cohort in Ethics and Social Theory, my parents, friends, and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation for their help along the way,” says Gross.

**SHERI PRUD'HOMME**, an ordained Unitarian Universalist (UU) minister, seeks through her Ph.D. work in Interdisciplinary Studies, to fill a gap she identified in UU religious education. “I saw a hunger among Unitarian Universalists for more knowledge about our theological heritage,” she says. “Particularly, I feel called by youth and young adults to help provide more depth in our faith tradition.”

Additionally, Prud'homme is concerned about the world's burgeoning environmental and ecological crises. “We live such a consumptive lifestyle, and we're wreaking havoc on large parts of the world's ecosystems,” she says.

She is studying Unitarian and Universalist theologies of nature in the period 1850-1910, particularly on the Pacific Coast, to discover relevant theological insights

*continued on page 11*



## GTU Welcomes Eric Alexander as New Vice President for Advancement

Eric Alexander is GTU's new Vice President for Advancement. Alexander came to the GTU from a post as

senior director of Development for Washington State University. Previously he was associate director, Major Gifts, for Mills College and he worked in Advancement at San Francisco's Grace Cathedral. Alexander earned his B.A. from Clark University and his M.A. from Holy Names University. "I am delighted to join this exciting and dynamic institution, he says. "My primary passions have always been higher education and interreligious understanding, so I feel as if I've found a new home."

GTU President James Donahue says, "I am delighted to welcome Eric to the GTU. His range of experience in Advancement, understanding of our mission and context, and his energy will be an enormous addition to the leadership of the GTU."

## Taube and Koret Foundations Support Center for Jewish Studies

The Koret Foundation and the Taube Foundation for Jewish Life and Culture have together awarded \$600,000 to be used over three years to support the Richard S. Dinner Center for Jewish Studies (CJS) at the Graduate Theological Union. The Koret Foundation awarded \$450,000 for general operations and student scholarships. The Taube Foundation for Jewish Life and Culture awarded \$150,000 for the Center's programs and specific research in Polish Jewish Studies. Both foundations have partnered with GTU for several years, supporting through generous gifts the GTU's operations, student fellowships, visiting scholars, and community conferences. CJS's recent Jewish Peoplehood conversation on September 20 is the most recent example at the GTU of the joint Taube-Koret Jewish Peoplehood initiative.



## Mormon Studies Classes a "Significant Step" Toward Expanded Program

Last year the GTU offered two classes for credit in Mormon studies. The classes — Introduction to Mormon Studies and Latter Day Saint (LDS) Scriptures — attracted Lutherans, Presbyterians, United Church of Christ and Disciples of Christ members, adherents from

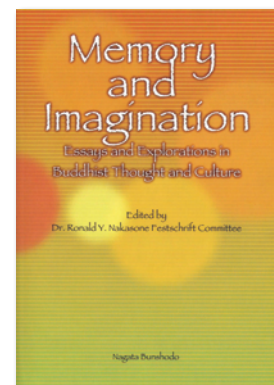
three Catholic traditions (Jesuit, Franciscan and Dominican), and LDS students from the University of California at Berkeley. Robert Rees, a Latter-Day Saint and a scholar of Mormon Studies who taught both classes, says, "My students gave me articles and books to read that

helped me understand the broader dimensions of their faith. It was one of the most hopeful experiences of my academic and spiritual life."

Financial support for the first year of the program came from more than a dozen individual donors from the Bay Area community of Latter Day Saints. GTU's Dean and Vice President for Academic Affairs Arthur Holder says the classes are "a significant step toward what we hope will eventually be an expanded program in Mormon Studies."

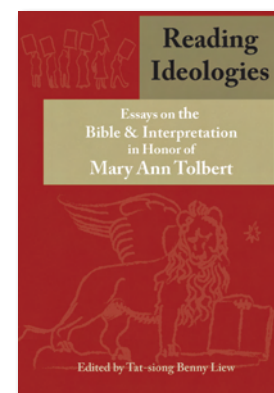
# New Books

*Memory and Imagination: Essays and Explorations in Buddhist Thought and Culture, Festschrift\* Celebrating the Sixtieth Birthday of Ronald Y. Nakasone* (GTU faculty), edited by Dr. Ronald Y. Nakasone Festschrift Committee (Nagata Bunshodo, 2010).



Contributors: Rev. Janet Bregar (GTU Ph.D. '04), Collett Cox, Donald C. Drummond (GTU Ph.D. '07), Geoff E. Foy (GTU Ph.D. '03), Rev. Heng Sure (GTU Ph.D. '03), Ikuo Higashibaba (GTU Ph.D. '97), Shisei Honda, Richard S. Hunt (former GTU Ph.D. student), Douglas Kerr (GTU M.A. '97), Kuroki Masako (PSR M.A. '94), Naoki Nabeshima, Eisho Nasu (GTU Ph.D. '96), Nubuo Nomura, Rev. Sam-muk (Yun-Sup Kim) (GTU M.A. '94), Stephen M. Myers (PSR M.A. '01), Hiromichi Takeda, John M. Thompson (GTU Ph.D. '02), Sharon Waller (SKSM M.Div. '04), Takao Watanabe, Rev. Chao-Ti Wu.

*Reading Ideologies: Essays in Honor of Mary Ann Tolbert* (former PSR dean), a festschrift\* edited by Tat-siong Benny Liew (PSR dean) (Sheffield Phoenix Press, Sept 2011).



Contributors: Yong-Sung Ahn (GTU Ph.D. '05), Janice Capel Anderson, Ellen T. Armour, Andrea Bieler (PSR faculty), Sean D. Burke (GTU Ph.D. '09), Michelle A. Connolly (GTU Ph.D. '08), L. William Countryman (former CDSP faculty), John A. Darr, Musa W. Dube, J. Cheryl Exum, Shawn Kelley David Landry, Tat-siong Benny Liew (PSR dean), Margaret R. Miles (GTU faculty emerita, GTU Ph.D. '77), Luise Schottroff (former PSR faculty), Fernando F. Segovia, Abraham Smith, Ken Stone, Dan O. Via

“Mary Ann Tolbert has been a pioneering voice in what we have now come to call ‘interdisciplinary reading’ of the Bible. ... This collection of essays engages the very issues that have driven and defined Tolbert’s scholarship: reading between the historical and the literary; reading between biblical authority and social location; and reading between gender and sexuality.” – publisher

\*A Festschrift is a book composed of essays by academic colleagues or former doctoral students honoring the contribution of a teacher.

*"I saw a hunger among Unitarian Universalists for more knowledge about our theological heritage."*

Sheri Prud'homme

## OTHER RECENT PUBLICATIONS BY FACULTY AND ALUMNI

### MARION GRAU

(CDSP faculty)

*Rethinking Mission in the Postcolony: Salvation, Society, and Subversion* (T&T Clark, Sept 2011)

### MARGARET R. MILES

(GTU faculty emerita)

*Augustine and the Fundamentalist's Daughter* (Cascade, Aug 2011)

### WHITNEY BAUMAN

(GTU Ph.D. '07)

Richard R. Bohannon II, and Kevin J. O'Brien, eds.,  
*Inherited Land: The Changing Grounds of Religion and Ecology* (Pickwick Publications, Aug 2011)

### JOSEPH CHEAH

(GTU Ph.D. '04)

*Race and Religion in American Buddhism: White Supremacy and Immigrant Adaptation* (Oxford University Press, Sept 2011)

### LYNNE GERBER

(GTU Ph.D. '09)

*Seeking the Straight and Narrow: Weight Loss and Sexual Reorientation in Evangelical America* (University of Chicago, Nov 2011)

### NANCY PINEDA-MADRID

(GTU Ph.D. '05)

*Suffering and Salvation in Ciudad Juarez* (Fortress, May 2011)

See more at  
[www.gtu.edu/news-events/publications](http://www.gtu.edu/news-events/publications).

## Supporting the GTU

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applied to the ecological crisis, "I hope I can play a role in UU religious education, while also finding a way to help faith traditions move forward in shaping a more sustainable world."

Prud'homme thanks Judith Berling and Boyung Lee for their seminar on interdisciplinarity, her advisor Ibrahim Farajajé, Rebecca Parker, and Joanne Doi, because her work on California Immigrant theologies adds new considerations for UU history, mostly written from an east coast perspective. She is grateful for the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation for its generous support.



Sheri Prud'homme, Ph.D. Student

## Resolving Conflict...

*continued from page 4*

*brother and older sister/brother is as sweet as sugar ..... I feel what you feel and you feel what I feel ..... We are brother and sister ..... we come from the same womb ..... we have the same heart and the same feeling.*

"I see this song as a narrative of peace; one that can help create solidarity between the Christian and Muslim communities in Moluccas," Lattu says. "After all, all Christians and Muslims are still Moluccan!"

Lattu presented two papers this year on the theme, "Religion, Culture and Conflict Resolution in Indonesia" — one at the International Conference on Conflict Resolution at Lancaster University, UK, in September and one at the International Conference on South East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto in October. He is grateful for his studies at the GTU and all those on his dissertation committee: Judith Berling (Interfaith Studies), Clare Fisher (Postcolonial and Sociology of Religion), Sylvia Tiwon (Narrative and Oral History in Indonesia), and Bill O'Neill (Ethics and Conflict Resolution).



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## Fall 2011 *Currents* Newsletter

# GTU calendar

### Science and Spirit Book Launch Conference

Sponsored by Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences

Speakers: **CRAIG BOYD, JOSHUA MORITZ, THOMAS OORD, LERON SHULTS, and AMOS YONG**

**November 17, 6 pm** Dinner Board Room\*

### Religion and Science in Modern America

Public Forum with **TED DAVIS**

*Professor of the History of Science, Messiah College*

Sponsored by Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences

**November 18, 4 pm** Tucson Room, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, 2451 Ridge Road, Berkeley

### Alumni Reception at AAR/SBL

**November 19, 8-11 pm**

Imperial Room B, Hilton Union Square, 333 O'Farrell Street, San Francisco. RSVP by Nov. 16, [alumni@gtu.edu](mailto:alumni@gtu.edu), 510/649-2460. Not open to the public.

### Annual Dillenberger Lecture

*Fire, Cross, and Globe:*

*Visual Violence in the Age of Encounter*

**DR. MIA M. MOCHIZUKI**

*Thomas E. Bertelsen, Jr. Chair of Art History and Religion, Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University*

**December 1, 5-7 pm** Dinner Board Room\*

### Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences Anniversary Conference

*God and Creation: Jewish, Christian and Muslim Perspectives on Scientific Cosmology*

Celebrating the Center for Theology and the Natural Science's 30th Anniversary

**December 11, 1-6 pm** Dinner Board Room\*

### Women's Studies in Religion Student Conference

**March 2** Dinner Board Room\*

For more information, visit [www.gtu.edu/wsr](http://www.gtu.edu/wsr)

### Reading of the Sacred Texts

**JONATHAN REED**

*Professor of Religion, University of La Verne*

A noted archeologist, Reed will talk about the land as text and how archaeology relates to the gospels.

**March 14, 7 pm; reception, 6:30 pm**

Dinner Board Room\*

\*Dinner Board Room, GTU Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley

**All events are free and open to the public, unless noted. Visit [www.gtu.edu](http://www.gtu.edu) for more information.**