Every spring semester there is a lot of searching going on at the GTU. This year is no exception. Schools have been searching for presidents, deans, faculty members, and administrative staff. Graduating students are candidates in searches for positions in religious institutions, schools, non-profits, and businesses. Sometimes these searches are successful—meaning that a decision is made and someone gets hired for a new job. Some searches don’t come to fruition the first time and have to be restarted, reconceived, or put on indefinite hold. In just about every case there are multiple applicants, which means that even a “successful” search is bound to disappoint a lot of people who wish the outcome had been different.

Why do we go to all this trouble? The reason, of course, is that the health and vitality of any institution depends on the creativity and competence of the people who do the work. That is why the standards of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (one of the GTU’s accrediting agencies) include the following requirement: “The institution employs faculty and staff with substantial and continuing commitment to the institution. The faculty and staff are sufficient in number, professional qualification, and diversity to achieve the institution’s educational objectives, establish and oversee academic policies, and ensure the integrity and continuity of its academic and co-curricular programs wherever and however delivered.”

For me, the key phrase in that section of the WASC standards is “substantial and continuing commitment to the institution.” When the GTU or a member school is searching for a new employee, it is not enough just to find someone who can perform the tasks in the job description. If institutions like ours are going to thrive, they need to have people who believe in the mission enough to put heart and soul into the work they do.

When I look around the GTU, that is exactly what I see—people who believe deeply in the mission of our schools. Whenever a search committee is talking to candidates for a position here, it is not uncommon to hear a candidate say that working at the GTU would be their “dream job.” They usually don’t mean that it pays more than other places, or has better benefits, or shorter working hours. People want to work at our schools because they share our consortial vision of a better world, and they want to help make it happen. For many of us who have been blessed with the opportunity to work here, the GTU is a dream come true.
GTU GRADUATE FAIR
Explore your interests in understanding topics and issues related to religion and theology. Find your opportunity to address the urgent needs of our time.
Saturday, April 5, 2014
9:30am – 1:30pm
Denniston Commons
Church Divinity School of the Pacific
2451 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA
The event includes faculty and student panels, lunch, and a treasure of helpful information.
To find out more, or to reserve a place, please contact:
gtuadm@gtu.edu,
510/649-2460
or 800/826-4488
A special event designed for prospective master’s level students to learn about the range of study options at the Graduate Theological Union, an ecumenical, interreligious, graduate study community in Berkeley.

FRANCISCAN VISION SERIES LECTURE
“Francis and the Sultan: an Old Story Making its Journey through Time”
Presented by Br. Michael Minton, OFM
Thursday, April 10
Franciscan School of Theology
Classroom 1
5:10-6:10pm
Soup supper to follow
1712 Euclid Avenue
Berkeley, CA
510.848.5232
“Francis and the Sultan: an Old Story Making its Journey through Time”
Presented by Br. Michael Minton, OFM
Thursday, April 10
Franciscan School of Theology
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5:10-6:10pm
Soup supper to follow
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510.848.5232

AN EVENING WITH MISS MAJOR GRIFFIN-GRACY
Come and hear the other story of the Stonewall riots.
An evening with Miss Major Griffin-Gracy
A pioneering transgender activist and elder, Miss Major, as she’s formally known to circles in the Bay Area and across the country, participated in the Stonewall Rebellion of 1969 and now works as the Executive Director of the Transgender Gender Variant Intersex Justice Project (TGIJP). She’s formerly incarcerated, a former sex worker, and an icon in the world of Bay Area queer politics.
Wednesday, April 2, 2014 @ 6:30pm
Pacific School of Religion
Bade Museum
1798 Scenic Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94709
Suggested donation: $5.00
No one turned away for lack of funds.
GTU summer language study opportunities are an excellent summer activity. These courses focus on developing researching and writing facilities in the language, and provide good preparation for the GTU Modern Foreign Language Exams. The course ends with an opportunity to take a language proficiency exam with the possibility of certifying for the GTU common MA and doctoral degree program requirements. The French course will be offered July 21 through August 15 from 9am to noon, and the German and Spanish courses are scheduled for July 14 through August 8 from 10am to 1pm. Tuition is $670. GTU students can register via WebAdvisor starting on April 7. For registration questions, contact John Seal, GTU Consortial Registrar, jseal@gtu.edu.

Queer Clergy: A History of Gay and Lesbian Ministry in American Protestantism

Join RW Holmen, author of "Queer Clergy: A History of Gay and Lesbian Ministry in American Protestantism" for a special discussion and book signing at the PSR Badè Museum on April 1 at 6:30pm.

Does history matter? Way back in 1972, the United Church of Christ ordained an openly gay man who had earlier come out to his seminary community during a symposium in the dining hall of PSR. In 2003, the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire elected a gay man, Rev. Gene Robinson, to be their bishop; in July 2009, the Episcopal General Convention shrugged off Anglican criticism from abroad and adopted revisions to their canons that allowed partnered gays and lesbians to be called to all levels of ordained ministry. Just a month later, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) revised ministry policies to allow partnered gays and lesbians to serve openly on the ELCA clergy roster. In 2011, the Presbyterian Church (USA) also accomplished a complete reversal of ordination standards when all references to gays and lesbians were removed from governing documents. Meanwhile, the United Methodist Church (UMC) is currently embroiled in a seemingly unending stream of ecclesiastical trials seeking to punish Methodist clergy for officiating at same-gender weddings.

Seventh Annual John E. Boswell Lecture with Dr. Jay Michaelson

"Queer Theology and Social Transformation: Points of Contact, Points of Conflict" April 24, 2014 5:30pm Reception, 6:30pm Lecture, Pacific School of Religion Badè Museum

Queer theology holds forth the promise of reinventing theological discourse in the light of LGBTQ experience, queer theory, and a hermeneutic informed by marginalized voices and outsider discourse. But how does the queer theological enterprise intersect with queer activism? What are the possibilities, and perils, of translating between theology and activist practice? What forms of political discourse are informed by queer theology, and what are undermined?

Dr. Jay Michaelson is an author, activist, and academic. He is currently a Visiting Scholar at Brown University, Director of the LGBT Global Rights Initiative at the Democracy Council, a Fellow at Political Research Associates, and a weekly columnist for the Forward newspaper. Jay is the author of five books and two hundred articles on religion, sexuality, law, and contemplative practice. His new book, Evolving Dharma: Meditation, Buddhism, and the Next Generation of Enlightenment, was published in 2013 by North Atlantic Books. Other books include God vs. Gay? The Religious Case for Equality, an Amazon bestseller and Lambda Literary Award finalist; Everything is God: The Radical Path of Non-dual Judaism; and Another Word for Sky: Poems.

Jay holds a Ph.D. in Jewish Thought from Hebrew University, a J.D. from Yale Law School, and nondenominational rabbinic ordination.
2014-2015 FINANCIAL AID APPLICATION DEADLINES

Financial Aid Applications for the 2014-2015 academic year are available online at: www.gtu.edu/admissions/financial-aid.

Applicants: please find your deadline date below and visit the GTU Financial Aid website to complete and submit the 2014-15 application and FAFSA. To reach the Financial Aid Office with a question, email financial-aid@gtu.edu or call the Office at 510-649-2469.

Common MA Students affiliated with:

ABSW: April 15  
CIS: April 1  
CJS: April 1  
IBS: April 1  
PAOI: April 1  
SFTS: April 15  
SKSM: April 1

PREPARING FOR SUCCESSFUL FEDERAL STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT

All graduating students who have borrowed Federal Stafford and Graduate PLUS loans are required to complete Loan Exit Counseling prior to graduation. The Financial Aid Office will host three Federal Student Loan Exit Counseling sessions that will be held on Tuesday, April 1 from PLTS, Giesy 2: 9:00am - 10:15am; PSR Chapel 6: 11:15am - 12:30pm; and on the SFTS campus on Wednesday, April 2 from 2:00pm to 3:15pm in Scott Hall, Room 202-203. These exit sessions will be presented by Sun Ow of Great Lakes Higher Education Corp., and will provide the following: a comprehensive and personal approach to help you understand your responsibilities as a borrower; strategies to help you manage your federal student loans, such as how to determine which repayment option fits your budget and goals and options for deferment or postponement; an overview of loan forgiveness; how and when to contact your loan servicer; the opportunity to ask questions and to benefit from the questions of other student borrowers.

STANDING ON SACRED GROUND: FIRE AND ICE FILM SCREENING

Church Divinity School of the Pacific Refectory  
2450 LeConte Ave.  
Berkeley, CA  
April 8, 2014

6:00 p.m. Reception—All welcome  
7:00 p.m. Introduction and short film by the Borneo Project followed by Fire and Ice

8:00 p.m. Discussion with Rev. Sally Bingham, Professor José Fragoso, Borneo Project founder Joe Lamb, Toby McLeod  
Admission: Free

4TH ANNUAL SFTS/PSR PRODUCTION OF THE VAGINA MONOLOGUES

Friday, April 11, 7:00 pm at San Francisco Theological Seminary, Scott Hall, 101 Seminary Rd., San Anselmo.  
Saturday, April 12, 7:00 pm at Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley.

Support the empowerment of women and girls around the world, and join the global effort to stop violence against women.

Co-sponsored by SFTS & the GTU’s Women’s Studies in Religion Program. Proceeds from this year’s performances will go to the Center for Domestic Peace, and Freedom House.

Get your tickets at http://tinyurl.com/VagMon2014
Please join us for a one-day symposium, supported by the Numata Foundation, hosted at the Jodo Shinshu Center in Berkeley.

Narrative in Buddhist Texts, Practice and Transmission
April 18, 2014 (Friday)
9:00 am - 5:30 pm

Speakers include:
Dr. Charles Hallisey, Harvard Divinity School
Dr. Michael D. Nichols, Saint Joseph's College (Indiana)
Dr. Richard K. Payne, Institute of Buddhist Studies

For more information, visit our website at http://www.shin-ibs.edu/narrative
CARE: News & Events

Trivia Night @ the Museum
Art, Archaeology, Religion, and Museums
Thursday, April 3
6:00-8:30pm
If you enjoy trivia night at your local pub, you are sure to love it at the Badè Museum! Test your knowledge on religion, art, archaeology, and museums!

Pizza, Beer, Prizes!
Badè Museum | Doug Adams Gallery
1798 Scenic Avenue Berkeley

Contact bade@psr.edu for more information

Student Voices
Thursday, April 10th
6:00-7:30pm
Doug Adams Gallery
Refreshments provided.

Moderated by
Elizabeth Peña, Ph.D
CARE Interim Director

Please join us for a discussion between Graduate Theological Union students who have contributed commentary for the exhibition, “Icon & Artifact”, currently on view in the Doug Adams Gallery. Their panels are a combination of art historical, theological, and spiritual interpretations.

Friday, April 4th: Brown Bag Lunch Series
Speaker: Colette Walker, GTU Art & Religion Doctoral Student
12-1pm, Doug Adams Gallery

This presentation is part of a series of informal brown bag lunch conversations the first Friday of each month through May. Each month features guest speakers from the GTU Art & Religion Area.

CARE: News & Events

San Jose Catholic Worker Summer Internship 2014

Come live, pray, and serve at Casa de Clara, our house of hospitality for women and children in downtown San Jose. During the four-week internship you will share in the work and life of the Catholic Worker community, while learning about Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker movement.

Session I: June 1—June 28
Session II: July 2—July 29
For more information, contact Fumi: sanjosecatholic-worker@gmail.com 408.297.8330

Download an application at www.casadeclara.org
Application deadline: May 15
SFTS: News & Events

Reason, Revelation, Experience & the Body
Alexander Hall
40 Kensington Rd.
Sat. March 29, 2014
9:00am - 6:30pm
The epistemological problem of explicating how reason has access to either experience or Revelation persists beyond the moment of invoking either of them in one’s argument. Complicating this is the intrusion of the “body” in theological discourse. When bodies that are raced, classed and gendered enter into our discussion we must inquire as to: Whose experience? Whose revelation? Each participant will present a paper reflecting their current research interest as it pertains to the above theme and questions upon which theology’s future hinges.

Presenters
1) Convener: James A. Noel, Professor of American Religion, San Francisco Theological Seminary
2) Johanne Stubbe Teglborg, Associate Professor of Theology, University of Copenhagen
   "Between Principle and Problem: Revelation in Post-dialectical Continental Theology."
3) Matthew V. Johnson, Associate Professor of Theology and Proclamation, United Theological Seminary
   "The Dialectic of Disclosure: Communal Mediation of the Presence of God."
4) Andrea C. White, Assistant Professor of Theology and Culture, Emory University
   "A Womanist Hermeneutic of Revelation."
5) Raymond Carr, Assistant Professor of Theology & Ethics, Pepperdine University
   "Eschatological Politics: The Pneumatological Impulse in the Theologies of Karl Barth and James Cone."
6) Christopher Ocker, Professor of Church History, San Francisco Theological Seminary
   "The Language of God and Oaths to the Devil: An Historical Case for the Inspiration of Hearers."

T.V. Moore Lectures
Destroyers of the Earth
Prophetic Critiques of Imperial Economics
Scott Hall Rm 101
Friday, April 4, 2014
10:30am
Explore how prophetic challenges to imperial economies of the ancient world apply in today’s global context.

Ragan Kearns Distinguished Professor of Bible and Practical Theology, and Ambassador to South Sudan for Duke Divinity School.
Suggested Donation: $10.00
Register at http://tinyurl.com/ellendavis
Scott Hall Rm 101
Faith & the Common Good Lecture
Made possible by a generous Gift from Virginia and John Hadsell
Human Trafficking, Poverty, Hunger, Climate Change.
How do we solve The world’s problems?
Alexander Hall
Thursday, April 3, 2014
Dinner 6:00pm $30.00
Lecture 7:30pm optional donation
Register at https://tinyurl.com/fcgbatstone

Dr. Ellen Davis is the Amos Ragan Kearns Distinguished Professor of Bible and Practical Theology, and Ambassador to South Sudan for Duke Divinity School.

Dr. David Batstone is Professor of Ethics at the University of San Francisco School of Management and President & Co-founder of the non-profit organization Not for Sale.

www.sfts.edu
@sanfranseminary
(415) 451-2835

GTU Commencement
The GTU Commencement is May 8 at 4pm in the PLTS Chapel. A reception follows the ceremony outside the chapel. Common MA and Doctoral students planning on participating in the GTU Commencement ceremony should report to Giesy Hall for robing and procession instructions by 3:15pm. Faculty are asked to report to Giesy Hall by 3:30pm. Contact Kathleen Kook, GTU Dean of Students, kkook@gtu.edu, 510-649-2464 for information.
CTNS News & Events

Thursday, April 3
CTNS Public Forum with Brian Green (recent Graduate Theological Union Ph.D. and Assistant Director of Campus Ethics at Santa Clara University), "What Science Can and Cannot Say about Ethics."
Free and open to the public
Dinner Board Room, Graduate Theological Union, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley
7:00pm

Saturday, April 26
J.K. Russell Conference with Alex Filipenko, "Life in the Universe, Scientific and Religious Perspectives."
Registration required. Please see www.ctns.org after April 1 for registration details.
Dinner Board Room, Graduate Theological Union, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley
1:00pm

Thursday, May 1
CTNS Public Forum with Oliver Putz, Lecturer in Science and Religion, Santa Clara University, Title TBA.
Dinner Board Room, Graduate Theological Union, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley
7:00pm

PSR/CDSP Graduate Research Day

Come join us as our MA students present their research!

Friday, April 11
PSR Mudd 100

Schedule:
I. Biblical Themes 9:00-10:45
Jenna Kemp (PSR M.A.)
"Nationalism in the Divine Promises to Jacob in Genesis."
Justin Staller (PSR M.A.)
"Malachi and the Form and Function of the Synoptic Transfiguration"
Elizabeth Newsom (PSR M.A.)
"Cosmopolitan Design Elements in the Lindisfarne Gospels."

II. Congregational Life and Ethics 11:00-12:15
Anne Clark (CDSP MA)
Confronting Privilege in Congregational Service and Outreach
Caroline McCall (CDSP MTS)
Virtue Ethics and Vital Congregations

LUNCH 12:15-1:00

III. Religious Pluralism 1:15-3:00
Rhian Jeong (CDSP MA)
A Postcolonial Feminist Critique and Affirmation of Religious Pluralism"
Leigh Erickson (PSR M.A.)
With Whom am I Speaking?
Layers of Identity in Muslim-Christian Dialogue
Maura Schmitz (CDSP MA)
Spiritual Interpretations of Sacred Texts as an Ethical Devotional Reading: A Comparative Theology of the Song of Songs and the Japji"

IV. Literary Echoes 3:15-4:00
Noah Lyons

February 8, 2014
12:00PM-3:00PM
JOIN US FOR A WORKSHOP TO EXPLORE THE SPIRITUAL, PSYCHOLOGICAL, AND MORAL ISSUES INVOLVED IN DECIDING TO TURN TOWARDS DEATH.

FEATURING:
Pastoral Theologian and Noted Author Dr. Herbert Anderson, who has taught at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Princeton Seminary, Fuller, and Yale Divinity Schools.
Register at https://tinyurl.com/divineart

THE DIVINE ART OF DYING
TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014
12:00PM-3:00PM

SFTS & HOSPICE BY THE BAY PRESENT

THE DIVINE ART OF DYING
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WOMEN’S STUDIES IN RELIGION: NEWS & EVENTS

The Good, the True, and The Beautiful: Latina Theology and Its Evocative Glimpses
Monday, April 7, 12:30 -2:00 pm
Dinner Boardroom, Flora Lamson Hewlett Library

Join WSR for an informal brown bag lunch and conversation with Latina theologians Cecilia González-Andrieu, Nancy Pineda-Madrid, and Jeanette Rodriguez. This is a time for students to engage with these scholars and their work directly, so bring questions! That evening, from 6:30-8:00, join us for the panel conversation on Latina Theology at the Pacific School of Religion Chapel, 1798 Scenic Avenue, Berkeley, CA. (2 units)

Faithful to the Beautiful Feast of Life: A New Reading of Betrayal and Scandal in Women’s Resistance to Redemptive Violence
A Talk by Rev. Rebecca Parker
Thursday, April 17, 10:30 am
Dinner Boardroom, Flora Lamson Hewlett Library

Join us as Dr. Parker offers an alternative interpretation of the ritual of the Last Supper, illuminated by the earliest Christian mosaic depictions of the Passion narrative and rooted in a theology centered on love, nonviolence, and justice. (2 units)

The Gendered Pulpit: Sex, Body, and Desire in Preaching and Worship
Friday, April 25th 10-11:30 in the GTU Student Lounge 2465 LeConte
Please join us for a talk and book signing with GTU Alum, Rev. Dr. Angela Yarber. Her work calls for “gendering the pulpit in the direction of justice” by dismantling the patriarchal status quo in favor of inclusion and radical hospitality.

Rev. Dr. Angela Yarber is author of three books addressing the intersections among religion, gender/sexuality, and the arts. She holds a Ph.D. in Art and Religion from GTU and is adjunct professor of Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Wake Forest University. For more, visit www.angelayarber.com. The Gendered Pulpit will be available for purchase for $20 at the event. (2 WSR Units)

Please note that the deadline for applications for the Women’s Studies in Religion Program Coordinator Position has been extended to April 15, 2014. Please contact wsr@ses.gtu.edu for more information.

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES: NEWS & EVENTS

Talmudic Transgressions: Symposium on the Work of Daniel Boyarin
This three day event celebrating the work of Daniel Boyarin will be held at both University of California Berkeley and at the Graduate Theological Union.

On April 8th: UCB Law School 4:00PM-8:30PM
On April 9th: 2401 Ridge Road, Easton Hall 9:00AM-5:30PM
On April 10th: UCB Law School Goldberg Room 297 9:00AM-1:00PM

"Romans and Jews: Was Ethnicity an Issue?" with Dr. Erich Gruen, Professor of History & Classics, Emeritus, University of California, Berkeley
Monday, May 5, 2014 5:00pm
2400 Ridge Rd.
Dinner Board Room
For more information: cjs@gtu.edu

THOMAS E. BERTELSEN CHAIR IN ART HISTORY AND RELIGION: PUBLIC LECTURES

The Graduate Theological Union and the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University invite you to attend the public lectures to be presented by the two finalists for the Thomas E. Bertelsen Chair in Art History and Religion, which is a joint faculty position at our two schools.

Richard S. Dinner Boardroom (3rd Floor, GTU Library Building)

Monday, March 31, 12:30-1:30 pm
Dr. Damian Dombrowski
Associate Professor of Art History, University of Würzburg
“A Theatre of Salvation: Crossing the Vatican Basilica”

Friday, April 11, 12:30-1:30 pm
Dr. Kathryn Barush
Postdoctoral Research Associate, Center for Advanced Study in the Visual Arts, National Gallery of Art
“Sacred Sight, Sacred Site: Art and Ritual at Notre Dame de Lourdes”

Doctoral Student Committee Election Results
SBL Liaison: Diandra Chretain
Doctoral Council: Sean Gross
Student Advisory Committee: Matt Boswell, Henry Kuo, Mauricio Najarro, Grievance Committee: Tripp (George) Hudgins, Sean Albrecht
HONORABLE MENTION

MA STUDENTS

Thesis Successfully Defended
Chenxing Han, IBS*
Christopher Ramsey, CJS
Jennifer Kemp, PSR
Su-Chi Lin, PSR
Maura Schmitz, CDSP
Rhian Jeong, CDSP
Paul Kacywnski, PLTS
Michael Langley, PSR

*approved with honors

Oral Exam Passed
Justin Staller, PSR

PHD STUDENTS

Comprehensive Proposal Approved:
Reem Javed, IDS
Meredith Massar, ART

Oral Comprehensives Passed:
Kyung-Hee Lee, SPRT
Abdul Hamid Robinson-Royal, CHSR

Oral Dissertation Successfully Defended:
Peter Ajer, BIBL
Carolyn Roeber, ETHC
Alicia Dean, LITG