Driskill (Ph.D. 1995 and Professor Emeritus at the Pacific School of Religion) gave the presidential address for the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality. Congratulations to Laurie and Joe!

I have been attending AAR/SBL meetings for twenty-five years or so now, and every time I go I am reminded forcefully of the communal dimensions of research and scholarship. There is a conventional image of the scholar as someone reading a book at a library carrel or sitting alone before a computer monitor, and scholarship certainly has its solitary aspects. But as scholars we are always part of a community (in AAR/SBL parlance, a “section,” “group,” or “consultation”) upon whom we depend and to whom we are accountable for the knowledge we seek to discover, publish, and teach. It is both a privilege and a responsibility to come together with our colleagues in these annual meetings and in all the places where scholars of religion gather.
NEWS & EVENTS: CENTER FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES

As a cosponsor of the Islamophobia Research and Documentation Project at the Center for Race and Gender at UC Berkeley, the CIS will be co-sponsoring the upcoming conference in Paris, France, Dec 13-14: The Epistemic, Racial, Cultural and Structural Exclusionary Measures in France and Europe, sponsored and hosted locally in Paris by CADIS (Centre d’Analyse et d’Intervention Sociologiques) at the l’Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales.

DOUG ADAMS GALLERY EVENT

A curated collection of pieces from Paul Roorda’s The End of the Book and Slate Requiem series will be displayed in the Doug Adams Gallery, February 3- May 23, 2014. Both series use repurposed religious material, aged and damaged sacred texts and slate tiles from an aged leaking church, to explore the connections between age-old rituals and the re-evaluation of dearly held convictions.

Opening Reception will be held on Thursday, February 6th in the Doug Adams Gallery from 5-7pm.

Visit www.paulroorda.com to see more of Roorda’s Silent Word, 2013, Ashes, egg yolk, clove oil, beeswax and gold leaf. 7x7x2.5”

FASPE FELLOWSHIP

FASPE (Fellowships at Auschwitz for the Study of Professional Ethics), in collaboration with the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, is now accepting applications for a fellowship that uses the conduct of the clergy in Nazi Germany as a launching point for a two-week intensive study of ethical issues facing religious leaders today. Fellowships include an all-expense paid trip from New York to Berlin, Krakow, and Oświęcim (Auschwitz) where students will work with leading faculty to explore both history and the ethical issues facing their profession today. All program costs, including international and European travel, lodging, and food, are covered.

The 2014 FASPE Seminary program will run from June 15 to June 26, 2014.

Completed applications must be received by December 20, 2014. Candidates of all religious, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

To apply or to learn more about FASPE, please visit: www.FASPE.info

If you have any questions, please contact Thorin R. Tritter, Managing Director of FASPE, at tritter@FASPE.info.

JANUARY BIBLICAL HEBREW AND GREEK EXAMS
The deadline to register for the January exams is December 13.
Submit your form to Gloria Motley, Academic Secretary.

BIBLICAL HEBREW EXAM, January 15, 9AM-12PM, 2465 LeConte.

BIBLICAL GREEK EXAM, January 16, 9AM-12PM, 2465 LeConte.
WSR hopes you had a fruitful Fall semester and hopes you save the date for the following Spring events!

**Voices from the soul**

Poetry jam/open mike night

Tues. February 11th 6:30-8 pm

psr mudd 100

Come, bring a piece of poetry or a song and let your voice be heard. WSR certificate students get priority & recieve 1 unit for performing a piece. Bring acoustic instruments (no amplifiers please).

Kick off Women's History Month with the **Women's Studies in Religion 3rd Annual Student Conference** on Women and Religion on **Friday, March 7th of 2014**.

Women's Studies in Religion Hosts

**The Good, The True, and The Beautiful: Latina Theology and its Evocative Glimpses**

**Monday April 7th 2014**

Brown Bag Lunch 12:30-2

Dinner Boardroom

2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley

Evening Panel 6:30-8

Pacific School of Religion Chapel 1798 Scenic Avenue

Join WSR for an informal brown bag lunch conversation. This is a time for students to engage with these scholars and their individual work directly, so bring questions! Later that evening join us for the panel conversation on Latina Theology followed by a reception.

Three Latina theologians share their theological method, the communities they love and serve, and the insights into timeless and universal questions we may glimpse through their respectful engagement. From Our Lady of Guadalupe, to the violence of the streets of Juarez, to the search and activation of prophetic beauty, join GTU alumnae Jeanette Rodriguez, Nancy Pineda-Madrid and Cecilia González-Andrieu.

Events worth 2 units each. These events are co-sponsored by CLGS.

**SPRING 2014 WSR COURSE SUGGESTIONS**

| NTRS 3515 | Gender, Sexuality, and the NT |
| HS 8357 | Homosexuality & Christian Tradition |
| HSSP 2580 | Women in Religious Leadership |
| STRS 8329 | Feminist Readings of LGBT Theologies |
| RA 2217 | Love and Sex in Modern Jewish Literature |
| HRBS 4824 | Quran, Shariah & Society |
| BSHS 3735 | Hellenism, Judaism, & Empire |

*Note: This is not an exhaustive list; it is just a few suggestions.*

Requirement Reminder: (In addition to the Women’s Studies Seminar that is taught once an academic year.) Successfully complete three additional 3.0 unit courses (total of 9.0 units) at the GTU or UC Berkeley in which the experiences of women, women-centered theologies, or feminist theories form a significant component. Two of these courses must also emphasize religious studies or theology. Special reading courses that cover these topics may also be counted toward the certificate. Course requirements should be tailored to the student's degree level. A course may also be acceptable if the student’s final paper/project is on a gender topic. If a student decides to take advantage of this option, she/he has to submit the paper with their requirements checklist.

Intent to Graduate forms for Spring, 2014 graduates are due on January 15th. MA students submit to the GTU Academic Deans Office. PhD/ThD students submit to the GTU Dean of Students Office.
HONORABLE MENTION

PHD STUDENTS
Comprehensives Proposal Approved
Ali Ataie, CHSR

Oral Comprehensives Passed
Jose Balcells, BIBL
Lahnunzira Bungsut, BIBL
Laurie Garrett-Cobbina, IDS*
Sungho Lee, THEO
Sheri Prud’homme, IDS
*passed with distinction

Advanced to Candidacy
Peter Doebler, ART
Corinna Guerrero, BIBL

THE FIRST SEMESTER OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS IS ALMOST OVER. WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF THE NEW PROGRAM DESIGN – PLEASE SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AT HTTPS://WWW.SURVEYMONKEY.COM/S/ZQMN69W – IT WON’T TAKE MORE THAN A MINUTE TO COMPLETE!

MID-YEAR ORIENTATION FOR FIRST YEAR DOCTORAL STUDENTS
TIME TO CHECK IN AND FIND OUT ABOUT SOME MORE IMPORTANT COMPONENTS TO YOUR PROGRAM, AND, HAVE LUNCH! WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29, 12:30-2:00PM, DINNER BOARD ROOM, GTU LIBRARY. WE EXPECT TO SEE YOU THERE, AND APPRECIATE AN RSVP TO GTUADM@GTU.EDU.

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THE DEAN’S NEWSLETTER
The Dean’s Newsletter is for official notices from the GTU Dean’s Office regarding academic affairs and for announcements of educational events (lectures, conferences) focusing on academic research and thus of particular interest to faculty and MA and PhD students. Send submissions to Angela Muñoz, amunoz@gtu.edu.