Graduate Theological Union

The Dean’s Newsletter

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ACADEMIC LECTURES

Maybe you have heard the humorous definition of an academic lecture as “something you would travel across an ocean to give but wouldn’t walk across the street to attend.” I thought of that old joke last month when I was in Dublin, Ireland to give the William Johnston, S.J., Memorial Lecture in Spirituality at All Hallows College. Lucky for me, there were a couple of hundred people willing to drive across town to hear a slightly revised version of the talk on “Religious Experience as Sacred Text” that I gave here last spring for the GTU Library’s annual Reading of the Sacred Texts (http://gtu.edu/video/2013-sacred-texts-religious-experience-
sacred-texts).

Even though the content of the two talks was mostly the same, the questions and comments afterwards (always the best part!) were quite different. Once again I was reminded of the importance of context, so that any form of communication is always a two-way street. Whatever may be said by the speaker is only part of the event, and not the most important part at that. What is heard by the audience is what really matters.

As the announcements in this month’s Dean’s Newsletter show, here at the GTU we have many opportunities for this kind of intellectual interchange. On November 5, Brother Bill Short’s Distinguished Faculty Lecture will invite us to reflect on parallels between Franciscan contributions to the development of the medieval university and current movements in theological education, including FST’s relocation to Southern California. On November 11, John Endres will present in the Women’s Studies in Religion Café Series on “Rebecca’s Prayer in the Book of Jubilees.” On November 12, local author Veronica Rolf will talk about the process of writing her new best-selling book that combines research and imagination to reconstruct the life and thought of Julian of Norwich in the 14th century. And then on November 14, David Holeton from Charles University in Prague will speak at CDSP about future possibilities for revising the Episcopal Book of Common Prayer.

These are just a few of the academic lectures that are coming up in November. Check the events calendars on the websites of the GTU and the member schools and affiliates for many more such opportunities. Here at the GTU we have plenty of reasons to walk across the street to hear academic lectures that stretch our minds and deepen our faith.

GTU Reception at AAR/SBL, Baltimore

Each year the GTU hosts a reception at the annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature, two professional organizations with which many of our students, graduates, and faculty participate. The GTU welcomes current students, faculty, alumni, and prospective students to join us for an evening of good food and company. If you are a prospective student, please join us so we can connect you with faculty, students, and graduates with whom you might explore your interests. You may confirm your attendance with us at gtuadm@gtu.edu, or call 800-826-4488.

We look forward to seeing you there!
Sat. Nov. 23rd, 7:00pm-11:00pm
Maryland Ballroom, Salon F
The Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel
202 E Pratt Street, Baltimore, MD 21202

Inside this issue:

Newhall Applications, Distinguished Faculty Lecture, Graduate Fair

Student Travel Grant Awards Recipients, Science & Religion Event at AAR/SBL

GTU Library Events, Julian of Norwich Book Talk, Doug Adams Gallery Events

Women’s Studies in Religion Events, CDSP’s APLM Colloquium

Honorable Mention, CIS Events
The 2013-2014 Newhall Awards (competitive awards for GTU doctoral students engaged in collaborative teaching or research with GTU Faculty mentors) proposals are due in the GTU Dean’s Office by 5pm, Friday, November 8. Complete proposals include the Newhall Award Application form available on the GTU webpage and must come from the student, and the professor and student for a project involving both. The form contains all guidelines and criteria the Dean and Core Doctoral Faculty Awards Committee use to select award recipients. If you have questions, please contact the GTU Dean’s Office (amunoz@gtu.edu or 649-2440).

### NEWHALL APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2013

**Dr. William Short, Dean and Professor of Christian Spirituality at the Franciscan School of Theology (FST) will deliver the 2013 Distinguished Faculty Lecture on Thursday, November 5, 2013, 7:00pm at the PSR Chapel. The Distinguished Faculty Lecture is entitled “From Paris to Alcalá: The Franciscan School and the University, 1219-1533.”** Franciscans arrived in medieval Paris (1219) and, despite dramatic conflicts, made significant contributions at the University there, moving from philosophy to theology. Cisneros, the Franciscan founder of Alcalá (1499), reimagined the University through the study of languages to theology, a preparation that helped Franciscans in founding the College of Santa Cruz de Tlatelolco in Mexico (1533). These changes can serve as a metaphor for the changing face of theological education today, in California and around the world. The 2014 move of the Franciscan School of Theology from the GTU in Berkeley to affiliation with the University of San Diego serves as the occasion for exploring this topic in the GTU Distinguished Faculty Lecture this year. The response will be given by Dr. Christopher Ocker, Professor of Church History at San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS). Immediately following the lecture, there will be a reception in the Doug Adams Gallery across the courtyard from the PSR Chapel.

**Distinguished Faculty Lecture: November 5, 2013, 7PM**

**Graduate Fair at the GTU: November 10, 2013, 2PM**

Interested in Master’s programs at the GTU? Know someone who is? Come and be a part of a special event designed for prospective master’s level students to learn about the range of study options the GTU offers. Join us to meet member school representatives, students, and faculty. Light refreshments provided.

**Sunday, Nov. 10, 2013 2:00-4:30 PM**

Richard S. Dinner Boardroom at GTU
2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA

To RSVP or for more info, contact the Admissions Office at gtuadm@gtu.edu, or 510/649-2460
2013-2014 CYCLE #1 STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS

The following GTU doctoral students will be presenting at the 2013 AAR/SBL Conferences in Baltimore, MD, and other comparable national conferences (listed in that order). Each has received a Student Travel Grant Award from the GTU Dean’s Office.

Sungho Lee “A Constructive Comparison between Paul Ricoeur’s Critical Hermeneutics and Ian Barbour’s Critical Realism in the field of Science and Religion”;

Sheri Prud’homme, respondent to Rick Benjamin’s ”Neither Neo nor Post: A Liberal Theological View of Man”;

Justin Tanis “Expanding the Classroom: Online Tools to Enhance Learning”;

Ashley Bacchi “The Cries of Children in the Afterlife”;

Katy Valentine “Strategies for Teaching Students from non-Religious Backgrounds”; “The Significance of Paul’s Kinship Language on Slaves”;

Kamal Abu-Shamsieh “Spiritual Care Needs of Muslim Patients”;

Peter Doebler “Touched and Teased: Somatic, Dramatic, and Constructive Viewer Participation in the Experience of Byzantine Icons”;

Matthew Gaudet “Moral Norm Dynamics and the 20th Century Recovery of the Just War Tradition”;

George Hudgins “Eschatological Aesthetics and the Challenges of Localized Liturgical Acoustemologies”;

Elizabeth Ingenthron “Jewish Racial Identity and Politics in the United States and Israel/Palestine”;


Amanda Kaminski “The Spirituality of Bede Griffiths as Mystical Aesthetic”;

Daniel London “Fearless Prayer: Learning from the Jewish Tradition of Protest Against God”;

Meredith Massar ”In the Beginning Was the Word”: A Re-reading of Blake’s Image-text in The Book of Urizen”;

Michelle Mueller “Authenticity + Change: Developments + Issues in Contemp. Western Paganism Over the Last 20 Years”;

Kyle Schiefelbein “Sin and Brokenness, Passage and Purpose: Reforms in Recent American Lutheran Rites for the Pastoral Care of the Sick”;

Rachel Wheeler “Invitation to Convers(at)ion: Judges 13 on What It Means to Be in Relationship with God and Others”;

SCIENCE AND RELIGION
HOSPITALITY EVENT
AT THE AAR MEETING IN BALTIMORE
SPONSORED BY CTNS AND OTHER SCIENCE AND RELIGION CENTERS
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2013, 7PM-10PM
IN THE WESTMINSTER ROOM, ROYAL SONESTA HARBOUR COURT, 550 LIGHT ST, BALTIMORE, MD 21202

ALL ATTENDEES OF THE AAR ANNUAL MEETING ARE WELCOME!

CTNS IS THE CENTER FOR THEOLOGY AND THE NATURAL SCIENCES, AN AFFILIATE OF THE GTU.
GTU Library: Upcoming Events

JIM MORPHESIS  
ROSES AND WOUNDS  
OCTOBER 24 – NOVEMBER 24, 2013
The Graduate Theological Union invites you to the opening reception for the exhibition of recent paintings by Jim Morphesis.

Prominent art historian Peter Selz and the artist will be present to discuss these beautiful and evocative paintings.
Opening Reception: October 24, 6-7:30pm.
Conversation between Peter Selz and Jim Morphesis will take place at 6:30pm.

For more information contact Caryl Woulfe at cwoulfe@gtu.edu or 510-649-2541.
This exhibition is made possible by the Jane Dillenberger Fine Arts Endowment fund. Free and open to the public.

Julian’s Gospel: Illuminating the Life & Revelations of Julian of Norwich
A Reading and Conversation with the Author, Veronica Mary Rolf

Veronica Mary Rolf will discuss the process of writing her book, read selections, answer questions, and sign copies available for purchase.

Tuesday, November 12th  
5:30pm-7:00pm
Dinner Board Room (GTU Library, 3rd floor)

Veronica Mary Rolf is an independent scholar of medieval studies as well as a teacher of meditation, affiliated with the World Community for Christian Meditation. She has spent her life in the professional theatre as a performer, playwright, artistic director, and Master Teacher of Dramatic Arts in New York, London, and Berkeley.

Doug Adams Gallery: Upcoming Events

A Common Thread: Spiritual Narrative and the Textile Medium  
Thursday, November 7th  
6:00-7:30pm
Please join us for an evening of interfaith discussion and reflection centered on our current exhibition, Birds of Longing: Exile and Memory. We have invited three panelists who will bring their expertise on Islamic studies and Anthropology to the discussion. This program is free and open to the public.

Carol Bier- Visiting Scholar, Center for Islamic Studies, Graduate Theological Union
Lynn Meisch- Chair of Anthropology Department, Saint Mary’s College of California
Mari Lyn Salvador- Director, Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology

Recuperations of Andalusi Music  
Thursday, November 14th  
6:00-7:30pm
Our current exhibition, Birds of Longing: Exile and Memory, integrates tactile elements within fiber arts pieces, written in Arabic, Hebrew, Greek and English calligraphy, which also echoes the architecture of medieval Andalusi. Prof. Charles Hirschkind (Associate Professor, Department of Anthropology Director, Program in Religious Studies, University of California, Berkeley) will explore the parallel themes between Laurie Wohl’s work and the recuperations of Andalusi Music. This program is free and open to the public.
Women’s Studies in Religion: Upcoming Events

Monday, November 11th at 10 am
WSR Cafe Series

Dr. John Endres of JST discusses “Rebecca’s Prayer in the Book of Jubilees” in the Student Lounge 1st floor GTU Building 2465 LeConte Avenue.

This presentation focuses attention on the characterization of women in Jubilees. It demonstrates the critical significance of Rebecca for this author and the prayer encapsulates significant theological motifs in this prayer attributed to a woman. (2 Units)

NEW GTU COMMON M.A. APPLICATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 1, 2014

Please take note that there is a new M.A. application deadline for the GTU! February 1st will be the final day to submit common M.A. applications for the following Fall semester.

CDSP Hosts APLM Colloquium: An Agenda for Prayer Book Revision

This year, Professor David Holeton, professor of liturgics on the Hussite Theological Faculty at Charles University in Prague, will speak on “An Agenda for Prayer Book Revision.” Bishop Mary Gray Reeves of the Diocese of El Camino Real will give a response to the lecture and members of the audience will have the opportunity to ask questions. Holeton will also preach at Holy Eucharist before the colloquium.

When: Thursday, November 14, Colloquium in the Tucson Common Room at 7:30 pm, Eucharist in All Saints Chapel at 5:45 pm
Where: Church Divinity School of the Pacific, 2451 Ridge Road, Berkeley
Cost: Free
Contact: Professor Lizette Larson-Miller, llarson-miller@cdsp.edu, 510-204-0725

Bishop Mary Gray Reeves
HONORABLE MENTION

PHD STUDENTS
General Comprehensive Exams Passed
Luke Devin, SPRT
Amanda Kaminski, SPRT
Amy Erickson, ETHC
Leslie Bowling-Dyer, ETHC
Levi Checketts, ETHC
Sarah Gregory, ETHC
Se Hoon Park, SPRT
Sukyong Hong, SPRT

Comprehensive Proposal Approved
Veronica Goines, IDS
Beth Anderson, SPRT

Oral Comprehensive Exams Passed
Ki Jung Nam, SPRT
Pui Fong Wong, SPRT
Sean Gross, ETHC
Jeanyoun Kim, HIST
Ashley Bacchi, HIST

Oral Dissertation Successfully Defended
Joel Brown, BIBL

CENTER FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES: NEWS & UPCOMING EVENTS

CIS Visiting Scholar, Carol Bier, an Islamic Art Historian, will participate in a panel discussion on November 7th at the Doug Adams Gallery at PSR, called, A Common Thread: Spiritual Narrative and the Textile Medium. care-gtu.org for more information.

Munir Jiwa has been selected to participate in KAICIID Dialogue Center’s forthcoming Global Forum on The Image of the Other: Intercultural and Intercultural Education, in Vienna, Austria, Nov, 18-19. Eminent religious leaders, education experts and policy makers from around the world will discuss methods and models of intercultural and interreligious education in the context of our increasingly diverse global society. Best practices at all education levels will be highlighted, together with innovations in formal and non-formal education, as well as notable contributions by religious leaders and institutions. The hope is to foster global, multi-level networks of experts and educators in interreligious education.

Munir Jiwa had been invited to present a paper at a workshop on Nov. 27-28, being hosted by Simon Fraser University in Vancouver, Canada, Interfaith Dialogue in a Plural Society: The View from the Academy. Dr. Jiwa will present best practices from establishing the Center for Islamic Studies at the GTU.

Please join the American Baptist Seminary of the West community for our second Baptist-Muslim Dialogue on Friday, November 8 at 7:00 PM

Featuring leaders from the Center for Islamic Studies (GTU) and Zaytuna College.

Learn about the joys and challenges of Islamic Studies in interreligious and pluralistic contexts both in Berkeley and in the United States

Continue in dialogue about how Baptists and Muslims can find common ground in today’s society

This event is free and open to the public.

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION

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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 Munoz, amunoz@gtu.edu.

COFFEE HOUR & OPEN OFFICE WITH PRESIDENT RIESS POTTERVELD

The Student Advisory Committee invites you to coffee and drop in conversation with GTU President Riess Potterveld, on November 8 from 10-11:30am. Drop in and get to know Riess, tell him about yourself, your studies and your program, ask questions, engage in conversation. The President’s office is on the top floor of the GTU library, in the southwest corner, facing Oakland and the bay.