

# THE DEAN'S NEWSLETTER

## EXCITING TIMES AT THE GTU

The beginning of a new academic year is always exciting, but this year is especially so. In addition to the joy of welcoming new students, faculty, and staff, we have some new adventures to anticipate.

The GTU will encompass more of the world's religious traditions. An emerging Center for Dharma Studies will support teaching, research, and community engagement with the Hindu and Jain traditions. New courses are offered in Sikh Studies. More students have come into the Interreligious Studies area of the MA program.

This year the GTU welcomes a new affiliate in the Center for Swedenborgian Studies (formerly the Swedenborgian House of Studies at the Pacific School of Religion). Soon the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences will become a program unit of the GTU, with founder and director Robert Russell as the first occupant of a new rostered faculty endowed chair named in honor of the late Ian G. Barbour who was a pioneer in the field. The School of Applied Theology (another GTU affiliate) has a new executive director, Carrie Rehak (GTU PhD '06).

The Core Doctoral Faculty prepares for a new doctoral curriculum in fall 2016 that will expand opportunities for interreligious and interdisciplinary scholarship. A team from the WASC Senior College and University Commission will be here for an accreditation visit October 20-22. The search for a new GTU dean is underway so that someone will be ready to succeed me when I move into a faculty position next year. All of this, and more, promises to make 2015-16 a year to remember!

## GTU WELCOME RECEPTION – ALL ARE INVITED

The GTU Dean's Office invites all members of the GTU Consortial Community to a **Welcome Reception on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 4:30pm** in the GTU Dinner Boardroom (GTU Library, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor). At 5:15pm, there will be a brief program to introduce new faculty and visiting scholars. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. If you have questions or need additional information, contact Angela Muñoz, GTU Dean's Office at [amunoz@gtu.edu](mailto:amunoz@gtu.edu) or 510/649-2440.



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## GTU STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT CYCLE #1 DEADLINE: SEPT 15, 2015

Mark your calendar! The first cycle deadline to compete for a GTU Student Travel Grant is **Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 5pm** in the GTU Dean's Office. GTU doctoral students who are presenting papers at the AAR and SBL Annual Meetings along with other comparable national conferences and meetings before January 31, 2016 are eligible to apply for the first cycle. Additionally, the **GTU Student Travel Grant Application form must accompany supporting materials** (proof of acceptance to conferences and paper abstract). It is available through the GTU Dean's Office and the GTU webpage. For more information, please consult the 2015

Doctoral Program Handbook (p. 91), call the GTU Dean's Office (649.2440), or email [amunoz@gtu.edu](mailto:amunoz@gtu.edu).



*THE FLORA LAMSON HEWLETT LIBRARY INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL  
**GARGANTUAN BOOK SALE!***

*WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 10:00AM—3:00PM  
HENRY MAYO NEWHALL PLAZA AT THE LIBRARY ENTRANCE  
IN CASE OF RAIN, THE SALE WILL BE RESCHEDULED.*



### DEFENSE DEADLINE

Students who are planning to file by October 1, 2015 (4pm) in order to graduate this Fall, must defend their thesis or dissertation, or take their oral examination by the end of late registration, which is **Friday, September 18**. If this deadline is not met, students are required to register and pay tuition for the Fall 2015 semester.

## CARE NEWS AND EVENTS

### EXHIBITION

*The Erosion of Memory: Works by Anne Tait*

September 10 - December 11, 2015

Tait's work is influenced by vernacular 19th-century memorials and the influence of industrialized printmaking on images of memory and domesticity. Prints, paintings, glass etchings, and embroidery pieces combine cemetery grave imagery with monograms. They are an extension of her work in stone carving.

### EVENT

Friday, September 11, 2015

#### **Brown Bag Lunch Series**

CARE's Doug Adams Gallery | 12:00pm

Guest Speaker: Peter Doebler (Ph.D in Art & Religion, GTU, CARE Spring 2015 Grant Recipient) presents on the process of publishing, image reproduction, and the content of his recently published ARTS article,

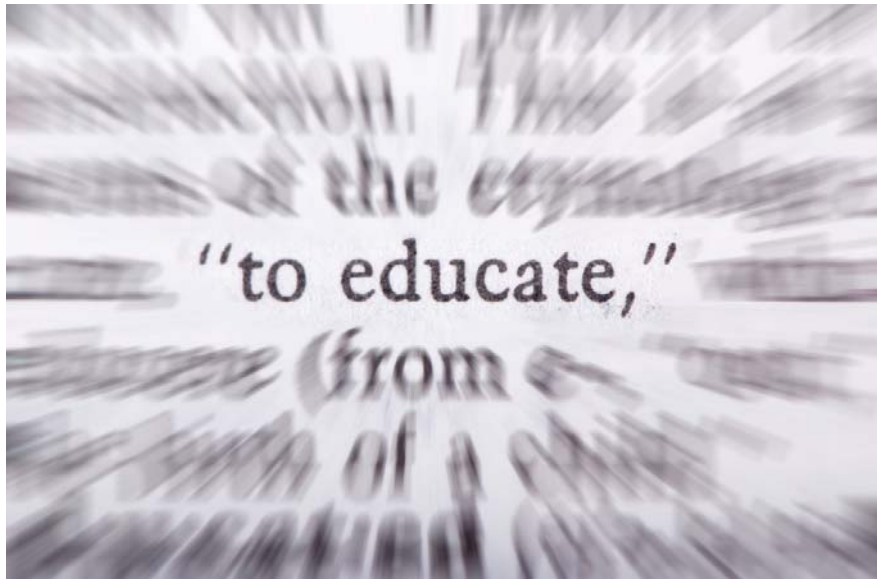
*The Art of Patience: Reading Late Life with Rembrandt.* CARE's Brown Bag Lunch Series is held the first Friday of every month through December in the Doug Adams Gallery.

### GRANT DEADLINE

Grant and Writing Prize submissions due by Monday, September 28, 2015

Eligibility and requirements available online  
[www.care-gtu.org/grants-prizes](http://www.care-gtu.org/grants-prizes)





## NEWHALL APPLICATIONS DUE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2015

Newhall Awards are competitive awards for GTU doctoral students engaged in collaborative teaching or research with GTU Core Doctoral Faculty mentors in the belief that such collaborative work would contribute to the professional development of the students and the mission of the GTU. Awards are given for fall, spring, or both semesters, but the application process takes place only in the fall (in order to give faculty and students time to submit courses for next year's Course Schedule). The 2016-2017 Newhall Award Application form is available on the GTU webpage. (Near the top of the GTU homepage click on "Current Students." Once on the Students module, scroll down to the "Professional Development" section to find the link.) The form contains all guidelines and criteria the Dean and Core Doctoral Faculty Awards Committee use to select award recipients. (You can also find it in the Doctoral Program Handbook on p. 92.) Complete applications are due in the GTU Dean's Office by **5pm Friday, November 13**; these must come from the student and the professor for a project involving both. Award amounts depend on the number of appointments made, but are generally at least \$3000 per semester.

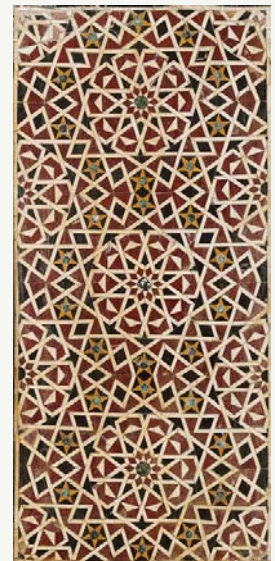
## CIS News and Events

CIS is pleased to announce that visiting scholar, Carol Bier, and Islamic Art Historian, will be presenting a paper in Sicily, titled, "Geometry: Drawing from the Islamic Tradition," on Sunday, 20 September 2015. The conference is called "Mathematics Education for the Future - 13th International Conference: Mathematics Education in a Connected World". Congratulations Carol!

CIS is also pleased to announce that Carol Bier will be giving a series of tours of the exhibition, "Woven Luxuries: Indian, Persian, and Turkish Velvets from the Indictor Collection," at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco. Tour dates and times TBA. Please check the CIS website for further details.

### CHAN PRIZE COMPETITION DEADLINE: SEPT. 15, 2015

Students interested in submitting papers for the Fall 2015 Chan Prize in Religion and Economics Essay contest must do so by **Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 5pm** in the GTU Dean's Office. The Chan competition's purpose is to reward the thoughtful, creative work of students who are seeking authentically to bring together theological (including ethical, Biblical, constructive) reflection on the topic of "Identity and Practice across Religious Boundaries: exploring a particular concept, theme, or practice in two or more religions (e.g., Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, etc.)." For more detail on the criteria of the essay competition, please see the 2015 Doctoral Program Handbook (p. 91) —there is no application form.



## Thesis/Dissertation Filing Deadline for Fall Graduation

October 1, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. is the deadline to file completed and approved copies of theses and dissertations or certification of oral examinations forms for MABL candidates for GTU approval of degree on October 16, 2015. This is also the deadline for certificate requests for CJS and CIS certificate students.



### Coffee with the President

The Student Advisory Committee invites you to come enjoy coffee and conversation with GTU President, Riess Potterveld, **Thursday, September 24 from 9am - 10am**. Stop by and share your story, ask questions, get to know people. Riess Potterveld's office is on the top floor (3rd) of the GTU Library.

## FACULTY COMMITTEES FOR 2015-2016

Please see below the Committees of the Core Doctoral Faculty for 2015-2016. These can also be found through the "Faculty" module under the subheading "Other Information."



### Awards Committee

Gary Macy (JST)  
Sam Park (ABSW)

### Appointments and Review Committee

Ted Peters (PLTS)  
Randi Walker (PSR)

### Grievance Committee

Michael Dodds (DSPT)  
Boyung Lee (PSR)  
Annette Weissenrieder (SFTS)  
Scott Mitchell (IBS) – alternate

### Doctoral Council

Mary McGann (JST)  
Richard Payne (IBS)

## SFTS EVENT: LABYRINTH MOON WALK

Gaze at the stars and enjoy beautiful views of Mt. Tamalpais while walking the labyrinth, a contemplative exercise that focuses the mind and renews the spirit. Enjoy quiet string music by Daniel Berkman on kora. Refreshments provided.

The walk will take place Thursday, August 27, from 8:30–10 p.m., at the San Francisco Theological Seminary, 105 Seminary Road, San Anselmo, CA.

## CIS/CJS EVENT: SACRED SEASONS: PILGRIMAGE, PIETY, AND PERSONAL TRANSFORMATION IN JUDAISM AND ISLAM

Sunday, September 20th, 1:00pm. 2401 Ridge Road, Berkeley CA 94709

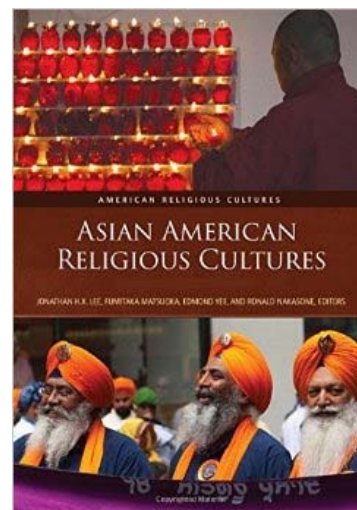
In 2015, the period between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur almost precisely overlaps with the period of the Hajj, which culminates in Eid al-Adha on the day after Yom Kippur. This public program will explore many of the shared themes of this season, including repentance, pilgrimage, and sacrifice.



## LIBRARY NEWS AND EVENTS

The Flora Lamson Hewelett Library celebrates the publication of *Asian American Religious Cultures* (ABC-CLIO) 1 October 2015 (Thursday) 6:30-8:30, Dinner Boardroom, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley, California 94539

Six years in the making, the project was spearheaded by GTU faculty, Professors Fumitaka Matsuoka (retired), Edmond Yee (retired), and Ronald Y Nakasone, and graduate Jonathan Lee. Together with other contributors to the two-volume 1000+page encyclopedia, they will share their insights on the Asian American experience. Please join in celebrating an effort that highlights GTU scholarship in advancing the spiritual traditions of Asian American and other peripheral communities and their spiritual cultures.



*CJS FALL WELCOME LUNCH ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 12:45PM IN THE HEDCO ROOM*

## DEAN OF STUDENTS NEWS AND EVENTS

### **Welcome Reception for Students, Faculty, and Staff of Color**

The student services offices of the GTU consortium are hosting this reception to celebrate the beginning of the academic year and a new journey. September 16, 4:30-6pm, Easton Hall, CDSP, 2401 Ridge Road.

### **Orientation to Doctoral Council and the Dissertation Proposal**

If you are planning to propose your dissertation in 2015-2016 you are strongly to encouraged to attend this event, led by Dean Arthur Holder and Dean of Students Kathleen Kook, with student members Susan Aguilar and Christina Fetherolf. September 9, 10am – noon, Dinner Board Room, GTU Library. We will hold an additional session in early spring. Contact Kathleen Kook, [kkook@gtu.edu](mailto:kkook@gtu.edu) with questions.

### **Modern Language Exam**

The GTU Modern Foreign Language Exam will be offered Wednesday, September 30,

from 1:00 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. in the Dinner Board Room in the GTU Library. The exam will be offered in French, German, and Spanish, and in Italian and Modern Hebrew if there is interest. Students should contact Fredonia Thompson, GTU Academic Secretary, well in advance if they wish to be examined in an alternative language; in these cases, we will need to student's help to secure the examiner. Please register with Wendy Arce, GTU Office Manager (649-2400) ([warce@gtu.edu](mailto:warce@gtu.edu)) no later than September 16.

### **Professional Development Program**

The PDP is excited to announce its new schedule for the 2015-2016 year. September's workshops are: Doc Council Orientation (September 9, 10am, Dinner Board Room) and Student Teaching Lunch (September 16, 12pm, GTU Student Lounge) and a Writing Workshop (September 30, 10am, GTU Student Lounge.) For more information, visit [www.gtu.edu/students/prodev](http://www.gtu.edu/students/prodev) where you can also find links to helpful resources.



**Outstanding  
Dissertation Award  
2014-2015**

**Congratulations to:**

Hollis Mitchem, Art  
and Religion, writing  
the dissertation  
“Triptychs for Victory:  
Altar Paintings for the  
American Armed  
Forces in World War  
II”

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**HONORABLE MENTION**

**MA STUDENTS**

Austin Rauhuff, SFTS

**PHD STUDENTS**

**General Comprehensives Passed**

Albert Chung, ART  
Austin Eikenberry, THEO  
Loretta Johnson, THEO

**Comprehensive Proposal Approved**

Jennifer Owens, IDS

**Oral Comprehensive Exams Passed**

Horacio Da Valle, THEO  
Seumaninoa Puaina, BIBL  
Yong Yeon Hwang, IDS  
Christina Fetherolf, BIBL  
Matthew Boswell, SPRT\*  
Amanda Kaminski, SPRT\*  
Sungrae Kim, IDS\*  
Rachel Wheeler, SPRT\*  
Stephen Shaver, LITG\*  
Justin Tanis, IDS\*  
Mohammad Waqas Sajjad, CHSR\*

\*Passed With Distinction

**Advanced to Candidacy**

Wendy Biale, THEO  
Philip Erwin, BIBL  
Seung Ku Jung, SPRT  
Christopher Moreland, HIST  
Michelle Mueller, CHSR  
Marla Porter, BIBL  
j. Harley Siskin, HIST

**Oral Dissertation Successfully Defended**

Wandahilin Kharlukhi, THEO  
Milutin Janjic, IDS  
Jong-Tae Lee, SPRT  
Wai-Yin Christina Wong, IDS  
Beringia Zen, SPRT  
Carl Bear, LITG