Dr. Arthur Holder
Academic Dean and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Transitions

The end of spring semester and the beginning of fall semester are always times of transition in an academic community. Students graduate or move ahead to new stages of their programs. Beloved faculty retire or leave for adventures elsewhere. New courses are being planned, and new initiatives are getting underway. Staff change jobs or take on new duties that require them to develop new skills. Change is in the air. That is certainly the case at the GTU right now, where all of those changes are taking place, and more besides.

At the institutional level, we have new MA opportunities in Hindu Studies and Interreligious Studies. The Core Doctoral Faculty has adopted a bold new plan for the doctoral program that will enhance interreligious and interdisciplinary engagement while providing even more flexibility for students who enter in 2016 and beyond. What has been the Swedenborgian House of Studies at the Pacific School of Religion will soon become a Center for Swedenborgian Studies affiliated with the GTU. By the end of the calendar year, the Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences will move from affiliate status to become an integral program unit of the GTU.

Next year will be a time of transition for me personally because it will be my last year as Dean of the GTU. By this next year I will complete thirty years of teaching and administrative service here, including fourteen years in this office. It has been a delight to work with so many wonderful students, faculty, staff, board members, and alums throughout the consortium. I am proud of what we have been able to accomplish and hopeful that even greater things are yet to come.

Due to some chronic (but not life threatening) health problems with my inner ear, I will be moving to part-time status in my final year as Dean. After that, God willing, I will be a part-time faculty member at the GTU for three years until retirement in 2019. I look forward to sharing in many more transitions for the people and programs of the GTU. For all that this institution and its diverse communities have given me over the years, I am forever grateful.

GTU Commencement

The GTU Commencement is May 7 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, kkok@gtu.edu, 510-649-2464 for information.
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 from July 1, 2015 through 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 précis). It is available through the GTU Dean’s Office and the GTU webpage.

For more information, please consult the 2014 Doctoral Program Handbook (p. 77), call the GTU Dean’s Office (649.2440), or email amunoz@gtu.edu.

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May 1, 12-1PM: “Aesthetics and Politics of Exhibitions: Museums, Muslims, Memory.” Lecture by Center for Islamic Studies Director and Associate Professor, Dr. Munir Jiwa, recipient of the Center for the Arts, Religion, and Education’s Fall 2014 Grant. Dr. Jiwa will present on the research he conducted on the representation and use of Islamic art/history in institutions from New York to Doha, the mobilization of aesthetic capital, and the cultivation of new museum subjects and publics. These institutions include: Museum of Islamic Art, Doha, Qatar; Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates; Metropolitan Museum of Islamic Art, New York; Aga Khan Museum, Toronto, Canada. Location: Doug Adams Gallery, Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Avenue, Berkeley, CA, 94709.

The Center for Islamic Studies would like to congratulate CIS students, faculty and visiting scholar for their participation and papers at the Sixth Annual International Conference on the Study of Islamophobia at UC Berkeley, April 23-25. CIS MA student May Kosba presented, “Politics of Terror: Islamophobia in Post-revolution Egyptian Media,” CIS MA student Paula Thompson presented, “Grassroots or AstroTurf: Muslims, Countering Violent Extremism and ‘Safe Spaces’ Initiative,” CIS visiting scholar Dr. Nargis Virani presented, “Islamicate or Islamophobic? Portrayal of Muslims in Bollywood,” and CIS Director, Munir Jiwa presented two papers, “Frames and Scripts of Islamophobia” and “Registers of Humanity: Liberal Indexing, Interfaithwashing, and Islamophilia as Islamophobia.”

Ph.D. student Waqas Sajjad will be presenting at the 5th Annual UC Santa Barbara Islamic Studies Graduate Student Conference this month. The title of his paper will be “Traditionalist and Secularist Perspectives of Islam in Pakistan: The Case of Ahmed Raza Khan Barelvi.”

CIS MA. student Reem Kosba and Ph.D. student Waqas Sajjad will be attending the 2015 Summer Students Program at the International Institute of Islamic Thought.

The Center for Islamic Studies would also like to congratulate CIS MA. students Sundiata Al Rashid and David Miller on their successful theses and graduation. Sundiata’s thesis is titled, “From Bean Pie to Baklava: Islam in the San Francisco Bay Area,” and David’s is “Breathe in Union: A Brief Look at Islamic Pluralism.”
GTU Obituary: Georgiana Lund Moe

Georgiana Moe, former Head of Circulation at Pacific School of Religion and first Head of Circulation at the Graduate Theological Union Library, passed away in Oakland, CA on April 7, 2015. She received her degree in Music Education at Central Washington College of Education in Ellensburg, where she met and married her husband of 67 years, Dr. Lawrence Henry Moe. In 1957 they came to Berkeley where Larry became a Professor of Musicology, University Organist and department chair at the University of California. After raising their 2 children, Georgie began her library career at PSR, then working at the GTU until her retirement. She is remembered fondly as an efficient supervisor, a talented singer and cook, and her generous hospitality welcomed countless students, faculty, musicians and authors to her home over the decades. She was preceded in death by her husband and is survived by her son, Eric, daughter, Charis (Alex) Burke, and grandchildren, Dillon and Brigitte Moreno.

GTU Summer Modern Language Study

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 20 through August 14, and the German and Spanish courses are scheduled for July 13 through August 7. Tuition is $650. GTU students can register via the Continuing Education link on WebAdvisor starting May 1. For registration questions, contact John Seal, GTU Consortial Registrar, jseal@gtu.edu.

PSR: Screening of Remembering Violence: Risky Pedagogies and Contested Aesthetics by Andrea Bieler and Ralf Bieler

You are invited to a screening of: Remembering Violence: Risky Pedagogies and Contested Aesthetics by Andrea Bieler and Ralf Bieler

Wednesday, 6 May 7:15pm to 8:45pm MuDD 103, Pacific School of Religion

Discussion To Follow With Andrea Bieler

This video documentary engages the question of how communities and artists in different parts of the world engage the remembrance of a violent past that is haunting the present.

The film (38 minutes) was produced as an experimental lecture that was presented last November at the Religious Education Association in Chicago.

The conference dealt with the theme of Religious Education and the Unmaking of Violence.

It was created by former PSR Professor Andrea Bieler in dialogue with the choreographer and theologian Angel Mendez-Montoya and the film maker Ralf Bieler.

CJS Graduate Reception

Thursday, May 7th, 12:30pm 2465 LeConte Avenue, Hedco Room, 2nd Floor Berkeley, CA, 94709

Following the reception, the commencement will take place at 4:00pm at Pacific Theological Seminary Chapel, 2770 Marin Avenue Berkeley, CA 94708

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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 2014 Doctoral Program Handbook (p. 77) — there is no application form.

CARE: News & Events

Center for the Arts, Religion, and Education (CARE)  an affiliate of the Graduate Theological Union

Brown Bag Lunch Series  Friday, May 1  |  12-1pm  
Guest Speaker:  Munir Jiwa
	Director and Associate Professor, Center for Islamic Studies, Core Doctoral Faculty Member, Graduate Theological Union
	Aesthetics and Politics of Exhibitions: Museums, Muslims, Memory

Dr. Munir Jiwa, CARE Fall 2014 Grant Recipient, presents on the research he conducted on the presentation of Islamic Art in institutions from New York to Doha. These institutions included: Museum of Islamic Art, Doha Qatar, Sharjah Museum of Islamic Civilization, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, and the Metropolitan Museum of Islamic Art, New York.

Meet at Stanford University’s Cantor Center for a special tour of “Promised Land: Jacob Lawrence at the Cantor” Monday, May 4 | 11am
Free Admission | Transportation not provided
RSVP to info@care-gtu.org

IBS: INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SHIN BUDDHIST STUDIES CONFERENCE

Subjectivity in Pure Land Buddhism
The 17th Biennial Conference of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies August 7 – 9, 2015 Jodo Shinshu Center Berkeley, California

The conference is made possible in part by the generous support from the Institute of Buddhist Studies and the Numata Foundation.

IBS is pleased to host this year’s Conference of the International Association of Shin Buddhist Studies (IASBS).

Now is the time to register for the conference, as rooms at the Jodo Shinshu Center and the Berkeley City Club are filling up.

Please visit the registration site at brownpapertickets.com/event/1342471 or learn more by visiting the Conference website at IASBS2015.wordpress.com

For more information about these and other future events, please visit our website at shin-ibs.edu/events
**Doctor of Philosophy**

Ashley L. Bacchi  
Uncovering Jewish Creativity: Gender and Intertextuality in Book III of the Sibylline Oracles  
History  
Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski (Coordinator)

José E. Balcells  
Household and Family Religion in Persian Period Judah: An Archeological Approach  
Biblical Studies  
Aaron Brody (Coordinator)

Kyle Gareld Butler  
Communities of Difference: Constructing an Ecclesiology of Multiplicity  
Systematic and Philosophical Theology  
Marion Grau (Coordinator)

Maureen Kelley Day  
“I Am My Brother’s Keeper:” American Catholic Civic Engagement through JustFaith Ministries  
Ethics and Social Theory  
Jerome P. Baggett (Coordinator)

Peter Lawrence Doebler  
Seeing the Things You Cannot See: (Dis)solving the Sublime through the Paintings of Hiroshi Senju  
Art and Religion  
Ronald Y. Nakasone (Coordinator)

Matthew J. Gaudet  
Moral Cassiury and the Ethics of Military Combat  
Ethics and Social Theory  
William R. O’Neill, S.J. (Coordinator)

Elizabeth Tauba  
Ingentron  
In Jewish Pursuit of Justice: Using Critical Pedagogy and Critical Whiteness Studies to Teach Israel/Palestine in the United States  
Interdisciplinary Studies  
Judith A. Berling (Coordinator)

Jun Kim  
Death and the Afterlife in the Book of Job  
Biblical Studies  
Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan (Coordinator)

Sang Yoon Kim  
Humanistic Commentary on Scripture in the Reformation: Heinrich Bullinger’s Commentary on 1 Corinthians (1534)  
History  
Christopher Ocker (Coordinator)

Izak Yohan Matriks Lattu  
Orality and Interreligious Relationships: The Role of Collective Memory in Christian-Muslim Engagements in Maluku, Indonesia  
Interdisciplinary Studies  
Judith A. Berling (Coordinator)

Patricia J. McKee  
Scorning the Image of Virtue: Church and Theatre in Post-Settlement England  
Art and Religion  
Rossitza Schroeder (Coordinator)

Jenny Patten La Monica  
Poetic Beauty: The Theological Aesthetics of Anna Jameson  
Art and Religion  
Michael Morris, O.P. (Coordinator)

Daniel Sheldon Robinson  
Deliberation, Faith and Freedom in Alexander of Aphrodisias and Clement of Alexandria  
History  
Eugene M. Ludwig, O.F.M. (Coordinator)

Kyle Kenneth Schiefelbein  
Sin and Brokenness, Passage and Purpose: Reforms in Recent American Lutheran Rites for the Pastoral Care of the Sick  
Liturgical Studies  
Michael B. Aune (Coordinator)

Katy E. Valentine  
“For You Were Bought with a Price”: Slaves, Sex, and Self-Control in a Pauline Community  
Biblical Studies  
David Balch (Coordinator)
Lisa Ann Webster
Two for One: Reading Mystical Friendship in Early Modern French Catholicism
Interdisciplinary Studies
Judith A. Berling (Coordinator)

Mee-Yin Mary Yuen
Toward an Ethic of Solidarity and Reciprocity with the Marginalized: Catholic and Confucian Social Ethics in Dialogue
Interdisciplinary Studies
Judith A. Berling (Coordinator)

Master of Arts

Sundiata Al Rashid
From Bean Pie to Baklava: Islam in the San Francisco Bay Area
Center for Islamic Studies
Munir Jiwa (Coordinator)

Miriam Y. Attia
Ethical Concerns in Jewish and Christian Theologies of Suffering
Center for Jewish Studies
Naomi Sheindel Seidman (Coordinator)

Haruka Beppu
The Issue of Buddha-nature in Shin Buddhism in the West
Institute of Buddhist Studies
David Matsumoto (Coordinator)

Keith Russell Berry
The Perfection of Beauty: The Mother of God in the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church
Patriarch Athenagoras

Orthodox Institute
John Klentos (Coordinator)

Cogen Bohanec
A Comparison between Selfhood in the Upaniṣad-s and the Pali Canon
Institute of Buddhist Studies
Richard K. Payne (Coordinator)

Anne Elizabeth Sutherland Clarke
Wading into the River: Episcopal Congregational Service and Inequality
Church Divinity School of the Pacific
WITH HONORS
Susanna J. Singer (Coordinator)

Iveth Cuellar
Fiesta: A Source for Sustaining Mental Health among Latinos
Jesuit School of Theology at Santa Clara University
WITH HONORS
Eduardo C. Fernández, S.J. (Coordinator)

Jeffrey Alan Dodge
Anointed: A Re-Examination of a Term with Multiple Meanings in Judaism and Christianity
Church Divinity School of the Pacific
WITH HONORS
Marion Grau (Coordinator)

Nancy Snowden Gutgsell
Robert Boyle and Henry Stubbe: Two Seventeenth Century Defenses of Christianity and Natural Philosophy
San Francisco Theological Seminary
Christopher Ocker (Coordinator)

David Hiller
Breathe in Union: A Brief Look at Islamic Pluralism
Center for Islamic Studies
Munir Jiwa (Coordinator)

Yong Kook Ko
The Portrait of Balaam in Judaism, Qumran and Early Christianity
Pacific School of Religion
Aaron Brody (Coordinator)

Kelly Allison Kraus-Lee
A New Light: The Virtues of Same-Sex Relationships
Pacific School of Religion
Randall Miller (Coordinator)

Junwon Lee
Comparing the Understanding of the Concept of Heart between St. Francis of Assisi and Dasan Jeong Yak-Yong
Pacific School of Religion
James Lawrence (Coordinator)

Hillary Kristen Martinez
Evangelical Christian Gender Theory and Feminist Theology
Pacific School of Religion
Inese Radzins (Coordinator)

Maura McKenney
The Unique Spiritual Needs of Lesbian Women at End-of-Life
Church Divinity School of the Pacific
Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski (Coordinator)
Claire Anne McNamara  
*A Final Act of Stewardship*  
Church Divinity School of the Pacific  
Marion Grau (Coordinator)

Stuart James Moore  
*Magic Ritual, Ritual Magic: Fantasy Literature, Magic, and Ritual and the Possibility of Immortality*  
Graduate Theological Union  
Ronald Y. Nakasone (Coordinator)

Fr. Hovel (Artak) Ohanyan  
*Water as a Symbol of Spiritual Rebirth in the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Holy Church*  
Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute  
WITH HONORS  
John Klentos (Coordinator)

Ramona Rachita  
*Byzantine Philoptochia in the Sermons of the Cappadocian Fathers and Saint John Chrysostom and Institutional Social Care in Romania*  
Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute  
John Klentos (Coordinator)

Enver T. Rahmanov  
*Engaging Suffering, Embodied Compassion: The Bodhisattva Ideal, Contextual Theology and the Dalai Lama’s Dialogue beyond Religion*  
Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University  
Thomas Cattoi (Coordinator)

Candice Tei Shibata  
*The Transformation of Attachment, Loss, and Love through Religious Experience*  
Institute of Buddhist Studies  
David Matsumoto (Coordinator)

Liusamoa Simolea  
*Reclaiming Fafine in Isaiah 7:14*  
Pacific School of Religion  
Mary Donovan Turner (Coordinator)

Jeremy Makato Sorgen  
*A Critique of Nonviolence: On the Powers and Limits of Encounter in the Thought of Martin Luther King Jr. and Emmanuel Levinas*  
Pacific School of Religion  
Randall Miller (Coordinator)

Kevin E.P. White  
*Constructing Fundamentalism*  
Graduate Theological Union  
Christopher Ocker (Coordinator)

Biblical Languages

Shawn Dwight Benjamin  
American Baptist Seminary of the West  
LeAnn Snow Flesher (Coordinator)  
Barbara Green, O.P.

Biblical Hebrew (Primary)  
Biblical Greek (Secondary)  
Arabic (Modern Language)

Joshua Alma Nelson  
Pacific School of Religion  
Aaron Brody (Coordinator)  
Annette Schellenberg

Biblical Hebrew (Primary)  
Biblical Greek (Secondary)  
German (Modern Language)

Emily Rebecca Olsen  
Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary  
Steed V. Davidson (Coordinator)  
Barbara Green, O.P.

Biblical Hebrew (Primary)  
Biblical Greek (Secondary)
**CJS Lecture: Dr. Sebastian Rejak**

"Jews in Contemporary Poland: Their Attitudes Towards Assimilation, Religion, and the Holocaust" by Dr. Sebastian Rejak

Tuesday, May 5, 2015  
12:00pm  
Location:  
180 Doe Library,  
U.C. Berkeley Campus

Join us to hear Dr. Rejak, the author of *Jewish Identities in Poland and America: The Impact of the Shoah on Religion and Ethnicity*, speak on Jewish issues in contemporary Poland.

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**Chinese Tea Tasting**

HEDCO Room | May 4 2015 | 8:45am

All GTU members are welcome to attend a short demonstration of the Chinese Tea Ceremony and sampling of teas by Center for Jewish Studies student Genevieve Greinetz, who has been studying the art of the “guangfu style” tea.

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**Where to Celebrate Our Graduates:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member School</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>GTU</td>
<td>Thursday, May 7, 2015</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>PLTS Chapel of the Cross</td>
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<td>SKSM</td>
<td>Thursday, May 14, 2015</td>
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<td>ABSW</td>
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<td>Saturday, May 23, 2015</td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>PSR Chapel</td>
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<td>PSR</td>
<td>Sunday, May 24, 2015</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
<td>First Congregational Church of Berkeley</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HONORABLE MENTION

MA STUDENTS

Thesis Successfully Defended
Jeremy Sorgen, PSR
Nancy Gutgsell, SFTS
Candice Shibata, IBS
Andrew K. Lee, SFTS*
*approved with honors

Oral Exams Passed
Shawn Benjamin, ABSW
Emily Olsen, PLTS

PHD STUDENTS

Comprehensive Exams Proposal Approved
Christopher Hansen, THEO
KyungRae Kim, THEO
Colette Walker, ART
Justin Lipscomb, IDS
Ivan Vuksanovic, THEO

Oral Comprehensive Exams Passed
Mary Ashley, ETHC
Vanessa Hawkins, IDS
Daekyung Jung, THEO*
Sandra Chavez, HIST
Dustyn Ragasa, ETHC
*with distinction

Advanced to Candidacy
Nathan Bjorge, THEO
Luke Devine, SPRT
Jin Sook Kim, THEO
Ann R. Woods, ETHC
Hun Cho Yu, THEO

Oral Dissertation Defended
Maureen Day, ETHC
Ikani Fakasiieiki, BIBL
Austin Leininger, ETHC