

THE DEAN'S NEWSLETTER

FROM DEAN KIM

In the movie *There's Something about Mary* (20th Century Fox, 1998) every male character falls in love with Mary and vies for her affection. They don't quite understand what is about her that draws them to her and compels them to do anything to win her heart. I also think that there's *something* about GTU that attracts more women to its doctoral program than any of its peer schools. And it's not even close! (For the data supporting this claim, please see my article in the next issue of *Currents*.)

What is it about GTU that attracts more women to study here than its peer schools? At first I thought it was mainly because GTU has a critical number of women faculty and its peer schools didn't. But, according to my Office Assistant Jennifer Fernandez's research, GTU's peer schools have comparable percentage of women on their faculty. Perhaps having had two female deans, Judith Berling (1987-1996) and Margaret Miles (1996-2001), for two consecutive terms may have helped solidified GTU's reputation as a place where women go to become scholars. Another factor could be that GTU has areas of research and study, like arts and religion, that have a strong appeal to women. I'm speculating now, and it's probably a combination of fixed conditions and variable factors that has established GTU as an indisputable leader in recruiting and educating women scholars in theological education.

But I'd like to do more than speculate; I think it's worth analyzing and identifying variables that make up *something* so that we can use our findings to make GTU even more appealing to women students, even more effective academic community to train women scholars, and even more resourceful for women researchers. Moreover, GTU can play a significant role in the theological education, where women comprised just over 20 percent of the total of all ATS faculty for over twenty years and counting, by serving as a role model for others to follow in their efforts to increase the enrollment of women in doctoral programs and hiring of women faculty in the next four years as an act of resistance to the current political climate that devalues women and a way forward to greater equality between women and men in our world.

ATS VISIT TO THE GTU: LUNCH WITH PHD & GTU MA STUDENTS

The Graduate Theological Union will host an evaluation committee from the Association of Theological Schools during the period March 12-15. During that time, members of the committee will meet with administrators, students, faculty, staff, and board members. At the end of the visit, they will make a recommendation to the ATS Commission on Accrediting about reaccrediting the GTU for up to a maximum of ten years.

The members of the evaluation committee are faculty and administrators at other ATS schools who volunteer their time for this peer review process, the purpose of which is to help the GTU fulfill its mission, demonstrate accountability to its various constituencies, and continue to improve the quality of its educational programs.

All members of the GTU community are encouraged to participate in meetings with the evaluation committee as they are invited to do so. The meetings with GTU students will be on **Monday, March 13, 12:15 - 1:30 pm with lunch provided. MA students will meet in the Student Lounge (2465 Le Conte Ave.) and doctoral students in the Dinner Boardroom (GTU Library).**

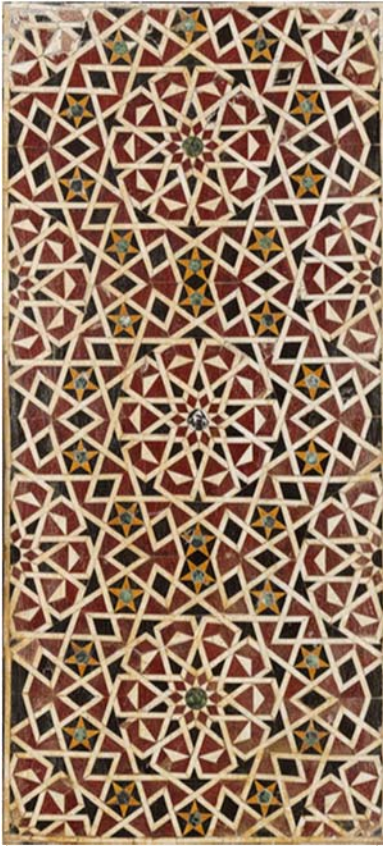
Comments concerning the GTU's qualifications for accreditation may be directed either to GTU Accreditation Liaison Officer Arthur Holder (aholder@gtu.edu) or to the ATS staff liaison:

Dr. Lester Ruiz
Commission on Accrediting
Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada
10 Summit Park Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15275
email: ruiz@ats.edu



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CENTER FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES	2
ASIA PROJECT	2
CARE NEWS & EVENTS	3
CDS & CBS	4
LIBRARY NEWS	5
CTNS	5



CENTER FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES

Carol Bier, Islamic Art Historian and CIS Visiting Scholar, will be in conversation with Dr. Munir Jiwa on the current exhibition she has curated, *Reverberating Echoes: Contemporary Art Inspired by Traditional Islamic Art*, at the Doug Adams Gallery, Center for the Arts & Religion, GTU, **Sunday, March 5th**, 2-4pm. For more info, please see: <http://www.care-gtu.org/doug-adams-gallery>

CIS is pleased to present a panel on countering Islamophobia at the PSR conference, Borders & Identi-

ty, **March 17-18**. For more info and registration, please see: <http://www.psr.edu/earl-17>

The CIS-CJS Madrasa-Midrasha program is planning an event on **March 20** on Joseph in the Qur'an and the Bible, with Dr. Todd Lawson and Dr. Robert Alter. <http://www.gtu.edu/cis>

On **March 23rd** CIS visiting scholar, Dr. Kei Takahashi, will present on Islam in Japan. Details TBA: <http://www.gtu.edu/cis>

DOCTORAL STUDENT ELECTIONS

Make sure to vote for Doctoral Student representatives between March 6-17. Be on the lookout for your eballot and cast your important vote.



ASIA PROJECT

2017 Spring Colloquium
New Voices of Asia
and Oceania

When: Mar. 16th (Thursday) 2017
@ 12:30-2:00 pm
Where: Dinner Board Room (GTU Library)
*Lunch (delicious Asian cuisine!) will be served.

*Please RSVP to Heeyoung Chung at asia-project@ses.gtu.edu by Monday, MAR. 13.

*Presenters

Sungrae Kim, "Harmonious Peace and Just Peace: The Prospects of a Confucian-Christian Dialogue Toward Interreligious Peacebuilding in East Asia"

Eunjoo Kim, "Saving Subject from the Null curriculum: A Reinterpretation of North Korean Refugees' Spaces in a Perspective of Postcolonial Feminist Theology"

*Respondent: Henry S. Kuo



CARE NEWS & EVENTS

Reverberating Echoes: Contemporary Art Inspired by Traditional Islamic Art

Carol Bier, Curator

On view through May 26, 2017

Doug Adams Gallery, 2465 Le Conte Avenue, Berkeley

Free & open to the public



This exhibition highlights the work of seven American artists of diverse interests, backgrounds, and training. Inspired by traditional Islamic art, their works echo historic aesthetic concerns, often advancing human knowledge and understanding by experimentation with new technologies. Traditional concerns focused on the spatial dimension and the effects of light on form, the association of Arabic language and script with revelation, and patterns in the plane, exploring the nature of two-dimensional space.

Brown Bag Lunch Series

Friday, March 3, 12-1pm

Doug Adams Gallery

Presented by: Suchi Lin (PhD candidate, GTU, with a concentration on art and mission)

Title: *Who do you Say that I Am?: Jesus Christ in Visual Art*

Through centuries, artistic portraits of Christ have been produced in different cultural and missiological contexts. This BBL talk introduces the cultural representation of Jesus Christ made by contemporary artists, with an attempt to address a Christology of the images from an intercultural approach.

Azaria Mbatha, *Beating of Jesus*, Woodcut, 19.5 x 26cm, South Africa

Brown Bag Lunch Series: informal presentations by Graduate Theological Union students, faculty, and staff. Located in CARE's Doug Adams Gallery. Bring your sack lunch! Hosted the first Friday of each month from 12-1pm.



ONGOING CARE EVENTS

Yoga in the Gallery

Wednesday, March 15, 12-1pm

Join us for an hour-long session by registered yoga teacher Lily Manderville (CARE Programs Manager). Open to all GTU member school students, faculty, and staff. Comfortable work clothes recommended. Please bring a hand towel and water bottle. 3rd Wednesday of each month, 12-1pm.



Third Thursdays at BAMPFA

Thursday, March 16, 4:30pm

After gathering in the Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive lobby at 4:30pm, we'll hear a short talk about an artwork on display. Then, we can amble around the museum and /or go have a drink in the café! Check in with a Center for the Arts & Religion (CARE) staff member for a complimentary ticket. Graduate Theological Union students, staff, faculty, and friends are all welcome. BAMPFA is located at 2155 Center Street, between Oxford Street and Shattuck Avenue, in downtown Berkeley | bampfa.berkeley.edu



GTU COMMENCEMENT
May 11, 4pm, PLTS
Chapel of the Cross



THESIS FILING
DEADLINE
Thesis/Dissertation Filing
Deadline for Spring Grad-
uation is April 3.

GTU PROSPECTIVE
AND ADMITTED
STUDENTS' WEEK
APRIL 3-7, 2017

If you are considering
studying at the GTU, our
Prospective and Admitted
Students Week is for you!
At the GTU, our commu-
nities often converge in
the classroom. Here's
your chance to participate
in that community, sit in
on a few GTU classes, and
experience academic life
at the Graduate Theologi-
cal Union in Berkeley.

Sign-up on the GTU web-
site at [www.gtu.edu/
admissions/
prospectivestu-
dentsweek](http://www.gtu.edu/admissions/prospectivestudentsweek) or contact
admissions@gtu.edu

CENTER FOR DHARMA STUDIES

SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES:

INTERRELIGIOUS, INTERDISCIPLINARY RESPONSES

April 28th & 29th



Join the Center for Dharma
Studies for panel discussions
featuring GTU faculty and
students, addresses from
President Riess Potterveld
and Dean Uriah Kim, plenary
discussions on religion
and the natural sciences and

dharma and right relationships.

GTU Dinner Board Room

2400 RIDGE ROAD, BERKELEY, CA

CENTER FOR BUDDHIST STUDIES

Interdependence/Intersectionality

Friday, April 14, 2017, 3:00 - 5:30

Institute of Buddhist Studies

2140 Durant Ave

This symposium brings together Buddhist scholars, teachers, and activists to discuss issue of marginalization and oppression related to race, gender, and sexuality both inside and outside American Buddhist communities both historically and at the present. Speakers will discuss such topics as: how did the racialization of Japanese American Buddhists relate to World War II internment? How are Asian and white Buddhist communities in conversation or at odds? How have new Buddhist communities developed or responded to historical or contemporary exclusion related to gender or sexual orientation? How might Buddhists respond to the current US political climate?

Speakers include:

Ann Gleig, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, University of Central Florida
Funie Hsu, Assistant Professor of American Studies, San Jose State University
Natalie Quli, Research Fellow, Institute of Buddhist Studies
Harry Bridge, Resident Minister, Buddhist Church of Oakland

For more information contact info@shin-ibs.edu

CENTER FOR THEOLOGY & THE NATURAL SCIENCES

Tuesday, March 7, 5pm

Center for Jewish Studies (CJS) Event with Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, "Jewish Environmentalism: Faith, Scholarship, and Activism" in the Dinner Board Room. Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, March 8, 7pm

CTNS Public Forum with Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, "Judaism and the Science-and-Religion Dialogue: A Personal Journey" in the Dinner Board Room. Free and open to the public.

Thursday, March 9

Russell Family Research Fellowship Conference with Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, "In Pursuit of Perfection: The Misguided Transhumanist Vision " Dinner Board Room, 1-5pm

Registration required. Please see http://www.ctns.org/jkr_fellow.html for details and http://www.ctns.org/jkr_fellow_pay.html to register.

Write to mmoritz@gtu.edu for more information.



CTNS Public Forum with Celia Deane-Drummond, Wednesday, April 26, 7pm, Dinner Board Room, Free and open to the Public

Empathy and the Evolution of Compassion: From Deep History to Infused Virtue

This lecture contributes a theological perspective to recent heated public debates in psychology on the rejection of empathy as of key significance in the moral life. In dialogue with philosopher Martha Nussbaum, I explore recent analysis of the deep history of the evolution of compassion in early hominins. I also argue for the importance of charity, understood in the classic, Thomistic, sense, as holding a central place for mercy and its relationship with superabundant compassion.



LIBRARY NEWS

Mark your calendars for the 25th Annual **Reading of the Sacred Texts**, which will take place in the GTU Board Room on Thursday, **March 9, at 7pm**. A reception precedes the lecture at 6:30. This year's speaker is Stephen A. Crist. Stephen is Associate Professor of Music History at Emory University. His publications on J. S. Bach and his contemporaries, early Lutheran hymnody, and jazz in the 1950s and 1960s have appeared in many books and journals. He is past president of both the American Bach Society and the Society for Christian Scholarship in Music. His book on Dave Brubeck's iconic 1959 album *Time Out* is forthcoming from Oxford University Press. The title of Dr. Crist's lecture is *The Life and Times of a Lutheran Hymn: "Ah, Holy Jesus," Then and Now.*



Bible. German. Luther. 1535. Second complete edition of Luther's translation of the Bible. New woodcuts for complete German Bible by Lucas Cranach, the younger, and one or two others. Moses and the burning bush.

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.

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION
Office of the Dean
2400 Ridge Road
Berkeley, CA
94709
<http://www.gtu.edu>

Phone: 510-649-2440
Fax: 510-649-1417
E-mail: amunoz@gtu.edu



HONORABLE MENTION

MA STUDENTS

Thesis Successfully Defended

Meg Gawler, IBS
Nicole MacArgel, IBS
Joseph Merlino, CDSP
Dawn Neal, IBS
Rachel Rosenberg, CJS*
Kevin Zelig Golden, CJS
*with honors

PHD STUDENTS

Comprehensive Proposal Approved

Jinseok Kim, IDS
Leslie Bowling-Dyer, CHSR
Heeyoung Chung, SPRT
Eunjoo Kim, IDS

Oral Comprehensive Exams Passed

Paul Blankenship, SPRT

Advanced to Candidacy

George V. Hudgins, LITG
Yoon Kyung Kim, BIBL
Tae Woong Lee, BIBL
Raphael Okitafumba, ETHC

Dissertation Successfully Defended

Beth Anderson, SPRT
Mary Cheng, SPRT
Moatemsu Imchen, BIBL
Amanda Kaminski, SPRT
Marty Miller Maddox, THEO
Se Hoon Park, SPRT