

# News from the Chair

DR. SUSAN K. WOOD, SCL  
DEPARTMENT OF THEOLOGY

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*2009 Wade Chair  
Lecture to take place  
September 25, 2009.*

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## Congratulations to May Graduates

Eleven students received graduate degrees at the May 2009 graduation. Jack D. Kilcrease, III and Louis W. Oliverio received the Ph.D. in Religious Studies. Graduates receiving the Master of Arts were Janine L. Adkins, Timothy J. Cavanaugh, Raymond J. Foyer, David J. Larsen, Gregory W. Merow, Paul G. Monson, Eric M. Vanden Eykel, and Juliana V. Vazquez. Jennifer L. Shedd received the Theology Master of Arts in Christian Doctrine.

## Welcome to New Graduate Students

The Department welcomes the new graduate students; Andy Alexis-Baker (Ethics), Philip Anderas (His), Justin Atkins (Biblical), Dennis Callies (MACD), Darin Fawley (TAS), Talialin Fehrenbach (MACD), Raymond Foyer (Biblical), Wayne Huebner (MA), Paul Monson (His), Kellen Plaxco (His), Keturah Paul (MACD), Stephanie Rumpza (MA), James Sadkovich (MA), Robert Schram (MACD), Emily Schumacher (MA), Nathaniel Thiel (MA), Eric Vanden Eykel (Biblical), Juliana Vazquez (Sys), Sarah Wagner-Wassen (His), Nathan Willowby (Sys), Ruth Zimmerman (MA).

## Rev. Kurz, S.J. to Hold Wade Chair Fall 2009

Rev. William Kurz, S.J., (Ph.D., Yale, 1976) will hold the [Francis C. Wade, S.J., Chair](#) for the 2009 fall semester. He specializes in the exegesis and interpretation of the New Testament, particularly Luke-Acts, and also in the exegetical movement promoting the theological interpretation of scripture. His 2004-2005 academic sabbatical focused on literal and spiritual senses of Scripture. He is currently writing a theological commentary on Acts for the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture for Baker Academic Press.

Rev. Kurz will deliver the Wade Chair Public Lecture, "Jesus and His Spirit-filled Disciples as the Isaian Servant of the Lord in Acts" at the Theology Department's Scripture Project interdisciplinary symposium on theological interpretation **September 25** in the Raynor Library Conference Center.

## Departmental Convocation: "Does Theology Advance Knowledge?"

The departmental convocation will be held **September 1**, 3:30-4:30 in the Raynor Conference Center.

A panel of theologians will respond to an article by K. L. Noll, "The Ethics of Being a Theologian," which appeared in *The Chronicle of High Education* July 27, 2009. Noll makes the claim that religious study attempts to advance knowledge by advancing our understanding about why and how humans are religious, what religion actually does, and how religion has evolved historically, while theology does not attempt to advance knowledge. Theologians, according to Noll, practice and defend religion.

Dr. Susan Wood will introduce the discussion and Drs. Michel Barnes, D. Stephen Long, Robert Masson, and Rev. William Kurz, S.J. will respond, addressing the question "Does theology advance knowledge? If so, what kind of knowledge and through what method?"

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*Marquette Lonergan Project will sponsor the first in a new series of annual colloquia.*

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#### SPOTLIGHT ON FACULTY

**Fr. Bryan Massingale** was installed as President of the Catholic Theological Society of America at its June meeting in Halifax. Fr. Massingale also received Marquette's highest teaching honor, the Robert and Mary Gettel Faculty Award for Teaching Excellence in 2009.

**Dr. Ulrich Lehner** was elected a member of the Academy of Catholic Theology.

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*Theology had the largest contingent of "privates" at Dissertation Boot Camp.*

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## Lonergan Project Colloquia Series

The Marquette Lonergan Project will sponsor the first in a series of annual colloquia addressing the subject 'Doing Systematic Theology in a Multireligious World'

**October 29-30** in the Raynor Library Conference Center. This is free and open to the public.

Schedule:

**Thursday, 4 PM:** Robert M. Doran, S.J., 'What Is the Gift of the Holy Spirit?' (This will also be the Doerr Chair Lecture for 2009.) Discussion follows.

**Friday, 10 AM:** John Dadosky, 'Methodological Presuppositions for Engaging the Other in the Post-Vatican II Church: Contributions from Ignatius and Lonergan.' Marquette theology professors Danielle Nussberger, D. Stephen Long, and Irfan Omar will address Professors Doran's and Dadosky's lectures. Immediately following the lecture John D. Dadosky, from Regis College of the University of Toronto, will present Fr. Doran with a Festschrift in his honor. This is being published by the Marquette University Press and is edited by Dadosky.

**Friday 2 PM:** Darren Dias, O.P., St. Michael's College, Toronto, 'Trinitarian Theology and Religious Diversity: Finding a Systematic Framework.' Marquette theology graduate students Jeremy Blackwood, Juliana Vazquez, and John Volk will address Professor Dias's paper.

Contact Fr. Robert Doran, S.J. for more information at Ext. 8-3164 or [Robert.doran@mu.edu](mailto:Robert.doran@mu.edu).

## 'Lonergan on the Edge'

Out of a desire to continue a good idea and to support graduate student studies in Lonergan, the **Lonergan Society at Marquette University** will be hosting a renewed incarnation of 'Lonergan on the Edge,' a graduate student conference that was first held at Regis College, Toronto, in the summer of 2006. There is no specific theme, but as before the general tenor of the event will consist of an emphasis on the genus 'Lonergan and ...' The organizers are particularly interested in proposals that focus on areas not or rarely explored by Lonergan scholarship, although more typical applications of or investigations into Lonergan's work will be welcomed as well.

The event will be held **September 18-20, 2009**, on the campus of Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Contact [Jeremy.blackwood@mu.edu](mailto:Jeremy.blackwood@mu.edu) for more information.

## PhD Students Attend Dissertation Boot Camp

During the week of June 1, eight of our graduate students participated in the second annual "Dissertation Boot Camp," an annual event sponsored by the Graduate School. This grant-funded, weeklong event allows students to intensely focus on their dissertations. Theology had the largest contingent of "privates" at the camp, pictured below.

Back row L-R: Travis Stolz, Pamela Shellberg, Mark Chapman, Charles Cortwright, and Abraham Fisher.  
Front row L-R: Paul Caldwell, Michael Matossian, and Anthony Bonta.



## Faculty Engage Globally



### Dr. D. Stephen Long

Dr. D. Stephen Long taught in the Master's in Christian Studies program at the University of Peking in Beijing China during the summer. He taught "history and culture" of Western Christianity from the 6th through the 20th century. Students were composed of persons from the official "three self church" -- self-propagating, self-funding and self-administered, as well as from the house churches and those not associated with the church at all. This is a new program that allows students to attend three weeks of courses in the summer and in January along with a ten-week course in September-October in order to pursue their Master's degree. Students are not required to pursue the Masters; many attend simply to learn more about the Christian tradition. The program is supported by the Department of Philosophy and Department of Religious Studies of Peking University.

### Dr. Robert Masson Fr. Philip Rossi, S.J. Fr. Thomas Hughson, S.J.

Dr. Robert Masson, Fr. Philip Rossi, S.J., and Fr. Thomas Hughson, S.J. will be attending Leuven Encounters in Systematic Theology VII, sponsored by the University at Leuven, Belgium. The conference topic is "To Discern Creation in a Scattering World" and it will be held October 28-31. Dr. Masson's talk is entitled "Discerning Causality in an Embodied World." Fr. Rossi's talk is entitled "Contingency and the Giftedness of Creation: Enacting Grace in a Fractured World." Fr. Hughson's talk is entitled "Christ Creating: Some Postmodern Implications." Fr. Hughson will also present a paper in Montreal, Quebec at the November AAR in the Ecclesiological Investigations Unit on "Is Prophecy Enough? Deprivatized Churches in a Secular Society."

### Dr. Mickey L. Mattox

Dr. Mickey L. Mattox spent three weeks in residence at the Herzog August Bibliothek in Wolfenbuettel, Germany, as Gastwissenschaftler, working on his Genesis commentary for the [Reformation Commentary on Scripture \(InterVarsity Press\)](#).

### Dr. Rodrigo Morales

Dr. Rodrigo Morales participated in the 2009 International Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, held in Rome from June 30 to July 4 at the Pontifical Gregorian University to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Pontifical Biblical Institute. Dr. Morales presented a paper in one of the Paul and Pauline Literature sessions entitled "Who was 'enslaved under the elements of the cosmos?' Rethinking Galatians 4:3."

### Dr. Jame Schaefer

Dr. Jame Schaefer presented a paper at the 2009 Congress of the European Society for Catholic Theology held August 20-23 in Limerick, Ireland. The theme of this annual congress is "The Eager Longing of Creation: Interdisciplinary Theological Perspectives on Ecology and Economy." Dr. Schaefer specializes in the constructive relationship between theology and the natural sciences with concentration on religious foundations for environmental ethics. For more information on the congress, visit the event's [website](#).

### Dr. Susan K. Wood, SCL

Dr. Susan K. Wood was the McCarthy Visiting Professor at the Gregorian University in Rome May 1-June 13. She taught a course, "Post-Vatican II Developments in Ecclesiology" and presented a public lecture May 11, "*Gaudium et Spes*: The Church in the Modern World in Dialogue with a Post-modern World."

Dr. Wood also participated in the the first meeting of the current round of the International Lutheran-Catholic Commission on Unity in Breklum, Germany July 19-14, 2009. This round of dialogue is preparing a document for 2017, the 500th anniversary of Luther's theses and also will be studying the doctrine of baptism.

## Upcoming Events

Departmental Convocation	Sept 1
Luther Studies Lecture	Sept 10
'Lonergan on the Edge' Conf.	Sept 18-20
Wade Chair Lecture	Sept 25
Lonergan Project Colloquia	Oct 29-30
Doerr Chair Lecture	Oct 29