

# News from the Chair

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## Bible Section: "Judaism and Christianity in Antiquity"

At the August planning meeting, the faculty voted to identify the biblical section as "Judaism and Christianity in Antiquity" and developed this description of the section:

Within the Marquette University Department of Theology graduate curriculum, the specialization *Judaism and Christianity in Antiquity* (JCA) is grounded in the study of the Sacred Scriptures, the Old Testament and New Testament. It has the following characteristics:

### Languages

Advanced level instruction in both biblical and non-biblical languages. In addition to Hebrew and Greek, students have the opportunity to acquire competency in Latin and Aramaic (including Syriac). Coptic, Ethiopic, Slavonic, and Classical Arabic are offered occasionally, as courses and as directed study.

### Methods

All students writing dissertations in JCA will have a solid grounding in the standard historical-critical approaches to the Bible, such as textual, source, form, and redaction criticism. Newer methods, especially narrative criticism and the intertextual reading of canonical and non-canonical texts, are also reflected in our faculty's research and in the advanced work of some of our doctoral students.

### Traditions of Interpretation

Because of the significance of the continuing life of texts, the JCA faculty is attentive to the variety of interpretive traditions of the Bible in Jewish and Christian antiquity. This interest is exemplified in the continuing seminar "Maqom: The Jewish Roots of Christian Mysticism."

### Theology

Especially distinctive of Marquette's JCA specialization is an appreciation of the theological and religious dimensions of ancient texts and artifacts. The recently established Marquette Scripture Project seeks to bring together the study of ancient texts and modern theological concerns. Likewise, dissertation topics regularly reflect not only the quest for the meaning of texts in their contexts of origin and transmission but also an interest in making a contribution to the life of communities of faith today.

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*Theology hiring in  
Hebrew Bible and  
Rabinnics*

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## Position in Hebrew Bible and Rabinnics

Marquette University is hiring for a position in *Hebrew Bible and Rabinnics* to begin August 16, 2010. The search committee is chaired by Dr. Deirdre Dempsey and includes Dr. Sharon Pace, Dr. Andrei Orlov, Dr. Julian Hills, and Dr. Michel Barnes. The committee is currently reviewing applications. At their November 19 meeting, faculty will identify the candidates who will be invited for an interview.

The department seeks a specialist in Hebrew Bible with a concentration in rabbinics, with particular emphasis on midrashic and targumic interpretation of the Bible in addition to expertise in historical-critical interpretation of the Hebrew Bible. The successful applicant will be able to teach both Mishnaic Hebrew and Targumic Aramaic.

## Faculty Activities

**Dr. Jame Schaefer** presented "Thinking About and Acting Companionably Toward Other Species: A More Realistic and Responsible Post-Darwinian Theological Anthropology," at the Conference on Darwin in the Twenty-First Century: Nature, Humanity, and God, University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame IN, November 2; "Theology's Role in Environmental Studies from an Interdisciplinary Perspective," Annual Meeting of the Association of Environmental Studies and Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison WI, October 9; "Respecting Lake Michigan's Praise for God: A Biblical-Theological Approach to an Endangered Ecosystem," Annual Historical and Doctrinal Studies Lecture, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago IL, September 29; "Environmental Degradation, Social Sin, and the Common Good," Conference on God, Creation, and the Environmental Crisis, Lecture Series on the Church in the 21st Century, Thomas More Center for the Study of Catholic Thought and Culture, University of St. Mary and Rockhurst University, Kansas City MO, September 26.

**Dr. Susan Wood, SCL** presented "Baptism: Call to Common Service," Keynote address to the Canon Law Society of America, Louisville, KY, October 12.

**Dr. Wanda Zemler-Cizewski** will present "[Treasures of the Salzman Library's Rare Book Collection](#)" November 4, at 4:30 p.m. in the Raynor Library Prucha Reading Room. Zemler-Cizewski specializes in the history and theology of the Middle Ages. A small selection of pre-1520 books from the collection will be on display.

**Dr. Therese Lysaught** will present "Corporations, CROs and Globalized Biomedical Research: Is Belmont Obsolete?" American Academy of Religion, Montreal, CA, November 8. Recent talks include: "On the Suffering of Children with Disabilities and the Impossible Claim of Theodicy," at the Bellarmine Forum on Vulnerability: Windows to the Human Condition, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, CA, October 26; "'And the Prayer of Faith will Raise Them Up': Anointing and Prayer in the Clinical Setting," Eighth Annual Catholic Healthcare Ethics Conference, Loyola University Medical Center, October 9; "The Last Shall Be First: Human Potential in Genetic and Theological Perspectives," Genetics and Religion in the Crosshairs: Prospects for Dialogue, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, September 26.



## Faculty Engage Globally

**Fr. Thomas Hughson, S.J., Dr. Robert Masson, and Fr. Philip Rossi, S.J.**, along with former Marquette Theology students, attended [Leuven Encounters in Systematic Theology VII](#), sponsored by the University at Leuven, Belgium, which was held October 28-31. The conference topic was "To Discern Creation in a Scattering World."



Pictured above: L-R, Dr. Robert Masson, Fr. Philip Rossi, S.J., Dr. Radu Bordeianu (Grad. '06), Fr. Thomas Hughson, S.J., and Dr. Marinus Iwuchukwu (Grad. '08). Drs. Bordeianu and Iwuchukwu are currently teaching at Duquesne University. Also present at the conference, but not pictured here, Dr. Cyril Orji (Grad '05) who is currently teaching at Dayton University.



## Recent Faculty Publications

**Dr. Therese Lysaught.** "Docile Bodies: Transnational Research Ethics as Biopolitics," *Journal of Medicine and Philosophy* 34, 2009, pp. 384-408.

**Dr. Daniel C. Maguire:** *ETHICS: A Complete Method for Moral Choice.* Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2010.

## Upcoming Events

- Nov 4 **Dr. Wanda Zemler-Cizewski** will present "[Treasures of the Salzman Library's Rare Book Collection](#)" November 4, at 4:30 p.m. in the Raynor Library Prucha Reading Room.
- Nov 15 **2009 Theotokos Lecture** – The Rev. Maxwell E. Johnson, Ph.D., University of Notre Dame, will present "The Virgin of Guadalupe in Ecumenical Context: One Lutheran's Perspective," 2 PM, Emory Clark Hall, 111.
- Nov 19 **Faculty Meeting**, 3:30-5:00, Raynor Libraries Conference Center, Rooms B & C.