

News from the Chair

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September 2010

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Theology Convocation 2010

Ecumenism, Ecclesial Identity, and the Academy: A Conversation

In Memoriam

Rev. Robert W. Lambeck, S.J. died Friday, 9 July 2010, at the age of 92. Fr. Lambeck served as a faculty member of the Department of Theology between 1966 and 2004.

Jean M. Higgins Quesnell, 81, passed away Sunday, Sept. 12, 2010, at her home. She was the wife of former Marquette professor and chair of the Dept. of Theology, Quentin Quesnell.

Department of Theology Convocation 2010

The annual departmental convocation featured the theme "Ecumenism, Ecclesial Identity, and the Academy: A Conversation," September 2, 2010.

From the time Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses to 9/11/2001 when the planes hit the World Trade Center, religion has been all too often a force for division rather than for unity. Yet the Church remains unshakably committed to ecumenism as it seeks to be "a sign and instrument of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race" (L.G. 1).

The ecumenical character of the department reflects the diverse religious identities of its faculty and students, their professional activities, and the department's commitment to Marquette's Catholic mission and identity, to our diverse student body, and to the wider cause of unity and peace in church and world.

Who are the faculty and who are their students?

While most of the regular faculty members are Catholic, approximately 22.5% represent other traditions: Methodist, Anglican, Orthodox, Jewish, and Muslim. The undergraduate population at Marquette self-identifies as approximately 60% Catholic; most of the M.A. students in theology are Catholic, while most of the Ph.D. students are Protestant.

How do the activities of the faculty serve our ecumenical identity?

Many faculty members are officially engaged in ecumenical or interreligious conversation as official representatives of their churches. Others are involved in ecumenical collaboration in other professional venues.

How do we live out our commitment to ecumenism?

The ecumenical ethos of the department does not encourage people to mute their confessional differences, but instead seeks to foster a dialogue where differences and similarities can be freely aired and tested.

Convocation 2010 explored this ecumenical identity by posing questions to four panelists:

1. Christopher Ganski, Ph.D. Candidate: "How does the Catholic identity of the Marquette theology department contribute to the formation and development of a Protestant theologian?"
2. Dr. Ralph Del Colle: "How does the ecumenical theologian responsibly represent one's communion in ecumenical dialogue?"
3. Dr. Mickey Mattox: "Individual Conversion: Can a Former Lutheran Any Longer 'Get' Martin Luther?"
4. Dr. Susan Wood, SCL: "How does ecumenical work further theology as an academic discipline?"

Faculty Ecumenical Activities

Many faculty members of the Department of Theology are officially engaged in ecumenical or interreligious conversation as official representatives of their churches. Others are involved in ecumenical collaboration in other professional venues. When asked to list their ecumenical or interreligious activities, these were the responses:

Dr. Ralph Del Colle: has been active as an appointed member of dialogues, delegations, and consultations since 1996; 2003-2008/and continuing (dialogue has unofficial status but is still meeting), member, U.S. Catholic/Evangelical Dialogue; 2003-present, member, U.S. Catholic/Reformed Dialogue

Rev. Thomas Hughson, S.J.: Respondent to "The Bonds and Limits of Communion: Fidelity, Diversity and Conscience in Contemporary Anglicanism" at the meeting of the Society for the Study of Anglicanism in conjunction with the Ecclesiological Investigations Seminar at the 2010 meeting of the American Academy of Religion; with Rev'd Canon Dr. Martyn Percy was co-initiator in 2002 and co-convenor of this session from 2002-2006. The SSA began with the formal approval and blessing of the Archbishop of Canterbury and ordinarily involves the local bishop.

Dr. Therese Lysaught: U.S. Anglican-Roman Catholic Theological Consultation

Dr. Daniel Maguire: Reproductive Health and Ethics, with international Buddhist, Jewish, Hindu, Muslim, Taoist, Confucianist, Protestant, Catholic, and with scholars from American and African indigenous religions. This group has produced books published at Oxford University Press, State University of New York Press, Rutgers University Press, The Pilgrim Press, and Fortress Press; appointed a Commissioner on the Truth Commission on Conscience in War. This is an ecumenical group, whose inaugural meeting was March 2010 at Riverside Church in New York, focuses on the right of military personnel to selective conscientious objection.

Rev. Joseph Mueller, S.J.: Member of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops team on the Faith and Order Commission of the National Council of Churches of Christ. In that capacity he is the sole author of the first draft of the Commission's response to the world Faith and Order Commission study paper, "The Nature and Mission of the Church."

Rev. Robert Doran, S.J.: His writing in the area of systematics is being done explicitly against the backdrop of interfaith dialogue. He presented a paper in Boston this past summer, 'Functional Specialties for a World Theology,' which affirms that the data on religious traditions other than our own must now be processed by Catholic theologians as relevant to our theological affirmations and systematic understanding. It is something of a programmatic statement of what the interreligious context means for Catholic theology itself.

Dr. Irfan Omar: Jewish-Muslim dialogue (local, Milwaukee); Catholic-Muslim dialogue (regional, Midwest); Evangelical Christian - Muslim dialogue.

Dr. Philip Rossi, S.J.: Board member of the Global Ethics and Religion Forum, which sponsors a variety of interreligious exchanges, including participation in the Parliament of the Worlds' Religions; Participant in the Comparative Theology Topic Session of the CTSA; Organizer of the Consultation for Marquette University faculty on Human Rights and the Abrahamic Traditions, April 2006; Guest Lectures, Faculty of Evangelical Theology, Goethe University, Frankfurt, May and June 2010, January 2006.

Dr. Markus Wriedt: local parishes and committees on local or regional meetings (in German: Dekanatsebene), national conferences as an expert on the historical dimension of ecumenism, a couple of ecumenical and inter-religious talks within the university, and some ecumenical talks in Milwaukee; publications: Johannes Brosseder/Markus Wriedt: "Kein Anlaß zur Verwerfung" Studien zur Hermeneutik des ökumenischen Gesprächs, Frankfurt 2006.

Dr. John Schmitt: Muslim-Catholic dialogue in Milwaukee

Rev. David Schultenover, S.J.: As editor of TS, whose mission statement emphasizes ecumenicity, he is always indirectly involved at the level of professional theology.

Dr. Susan Wood, SCL: involved as appointed member of dialogues and consultations since 1994; presently serving on the International Lutheran-Catholic Dialogue, U.S. Lutheran Catholic Dialogue, North American Orthodox Theological Conversation, and International Baptist-Catholic Conversation

Graduate Student Publications

Jennings, Mark. "The Veil and the High Priestly Robes of the Incarnation: Understanding the Context of Heb 10:20." *Perspectives in Religious Studies* 31 (2010): 85-97.

Jeremy Blackwood. "Lonergan and Rahner on the Natural Desire to See God," *Method: Journal of Lonergan Studies*, n.s. 1, no. 2 (2010) 85-103.

Gretchen M. Baumgardt. "Reframing the Issues: An Ecofeminist Political Theology" (In *God, Grace, and Creation*, College Theology Society Annual Volume 55, edited by Philip J. Rossi, Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 2010.)

Concannon, Ellen. "The Eschatological Implications of Karl Rahner's Eucharistic Doctrine," *Heythrop Journal* 51.5 (2010): 881-892; "The Assumption of all Humanity in the Tractatus super Psalmos of Saint Hilary of Poitiers." Paper presented at the North American Patristics Society, May 21, 2009.

Graduate Student Presentations

Jason Scully. "Jewish and Christian Ascetical Backgrounds in the Cave of Treasures," North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2010; "Angelic Pneumatology in the Egyptian Desert: The Role of the Angels and the Holy Spirit in Evagrius' Asceticism," North American Patristics Society, Chicago, May 2009.

Recent Appointment

Dragos Giulea (Ph.D., Marquette, 2010) has accepted a one-year renewable position as lecturer at the University of Dayton.

Alumna Publication

Mari Rapela Heidt (Ph.D., Marquette, 2004) Dayton University, Dayton, OH. *Moral Traditions: An Introduction to World Religious Ethics*. Minnesota: Saint Mary's Press, 2010.

Muslim-Christian Symposium

Friday, October 22, 2010, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Details about the event can be found on the [website](#). Two faculty in the program, Drs. Marinus Iwuchukwu and Cyril Orji, did their PhD's in Theology at Marquette in the recent past.

Thomas D. Stegman, S.J. holds Wade Chair for Fall 2010

Reverend Thomas D. Stegman, S.J., a member of the Wisconsin Province of the Society of Jesus, Associate Professor of New Testament and Professor Ordinarius in the ecclesiastical faculty of the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, will hold the [Francis C. Wade, S.J. Chair](#) at Marquette for the fall semester, 2010.

Fr. Stegman will deliver the Wade Public Lecture **September 21, 2010 at 4:00 PM** in the Beaumier Suites, Raynor Library. The title of his lecture is "The Language of Righteousness in the Letters of St. Paul: A Case for 'Both- And.'" During the fall 2010 semester at Marquette Father Stegman will teach a course on New Testament Selected Books: Paul's Great Letters.

Faculty Activities

Rev. Robert Doran, S.J. presented "Functional Specialties for a World Theology" at the 37th annual Lonergan Workshop, June 20 at Boston College.

Dr. Jame Schaefer published "Environmental Degradation, Social Sin, and the Common Good," in *God, Creation, and the Environmental Crisis*, ed. Richard W. Miller, 69-94 (Maryknoll: Orbis 2010), presented "Integrating Environmental and Social Justice Studies: Compelling Issues," Colloquium on Teaching Toward Eco-Justice, July 26-28, Seattle University, July 27, participated in Faculty and Experts Workshop on Local, Regional and National Approaches to Sustainability, June 25-July 5, Studienforum Berlin and German Environment Ministry, Berlin, Potsdam and Dessau, and commented on "Ethical Imperatives for Adopting Efficient and Renewable Energy Strategies," July 2, and convened Catholic Theology and Global Warming Interest Group on "Prophets of Ecological Responsibility Inspired by Teilhard, Lonergan, and Berry," Catholic Theological Society of America, Cleveland, June 11; also collected data for an audit of the convention's "carbon footprint," Published review of *The Tao of Liberation: Exploring the Ecology of Transformation* by Mark Hathaway and Leonardo Boff (Orbis 2009) in *Theological Studies* 71.3 (September 2010): 744-45.