

Hispanic Theological Initiative



APRIL 2007

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HTI Selection Committee 2007

The HTI Selection Committee interviews were held in mid-March, concluding with the selection of five new doctoral fellows, and six dissertation year fellows. This is the first time that the females outnumber the males, with six of the eleven fellows being women. As always, the community's diversity is well-represented, with 5 Roman Catholics, 3 Baptists, 2 Pentecostals, and 1 Presbyterian. We congratulate the new fellows, and look forward to supporting them in their studies and in their work beyond the classroom as well.



Above: Writing Workshop with Uli Guthrie
Below: Dissertation Proposal Presentation by Norman Ruano:
The Holy Ghost Beyond the Church Walls

Below: HTI Chaplain, Maribel Piña with Dissertation Fellow Cristina García-Alfonso.



Below: Dissertation fellows Cristina García-Alfonso, Salvador Alcántara, Ernesto Valiente, Sammy Alfaro, and Jacqueline Hidalgo.



Below: First year Doctoral fellows Rebecca Berru-Davis and Klem-Marí Cajigas,



- **Dr. Milagros Peña**, associate professor of Sociology and Women's Studies at the University of Florida and former HTI Selection Committee member, announces the publication of her new book, "*Latina Activists across Borders: Women's Grassroots Organizing in Mexico and Texas.*" Dr. Peña is also the author of *Theologies and Liberation in Peru: The Role of Ideas in Social Movements* and co-author of *Punk Rockers' Revolution: A Pedagogy of Race, Class, and Gender* and of *Emerging Voices, Urgent Choices: Essays on Latino/a Religious Leadership*.
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- Latina Activists across Borders*
Women's Grassroots Organizing in Mexico and Texas
MILAGROS PEÑA
- Join us in congratulating **Cecilia González Andrieu**, PhD (2006-2007 Dissertation Year Fellow) for her successful dissertation defense. Cecilia will begin teaching this fall at Loyola Marymount University.
 - We congratulate HTI 2005-2006 Comprehensive Exam Year fellow **Neomi DeAnda** for passing her exams!
 - **Victor Carmona** (2007-2008 Doctoral Renewal fellow), who is studying moral theology at the University of Notre Dame, has been selected as one of the participants of the Espacio USA: Vanguardia Latina 2007. Vanguardia Latina provides dialogue on the links between the future leaders of the United States and Latin America.
 - On March 15, 2007 HTI Director, Joanne Rodríguez, attended the inauguration of **Dr. Edwin David Aponte** as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean at Lancaster Theological Seminary. Dr. Aponte was one of HTI's first dissertation year fellows (1997-1998). Since then he has been Associate Professor of Christianity and Culture and Director of Advanced Studies at Perkins School of Theology. Dr. Aponte was also a 1997-1998 Dissertation year fellow. During the inauguration, Dr. Aponte gave the McCauley Lecture on "Spanglish: Spirituality, Faith Formation across Generations," with Dr. Lee C. Barrett, Professor of Theology at Lancaster Theological Seminary, Dr. Loida Martell-Otero, Associate Professor of Constructive Theology at Palmer Theological Seminary and 1999-2000 Dissertation year fellow, and Dr. Evelyn Parker, Associate Professor of Christian Education at Perkins School of Theology participating as respondents.
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- From left to right: Dr. Evelyn Parker, Dr. Edwin Aponte, Joanne Rodriguez, and Dr. Loida Martell-Otero.

Upcoming Event: The New Sanctuary Movement

Interfaith Worker Justice 2007 National Conference

“Come Walk With Us: Welcoming, Struggling, and Organizing for Worker Justice — Saturday, June 16th through Tuesday, June 19th

Sunday: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.—*Building a New Sanctuary Movement*

Focus on how congregations can both support and join the emerging network of sanctuary congregations and how they can help lift up a religious voice in the public arena. Both congregational leaders and sanctuary families will present ways they have educated their own congregations and the broader public about the need for a kind and humane immigration policy.

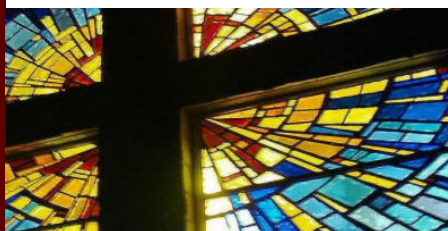
The IWJ conference will be held at North Park University (NPU) at 3225 W. Foster Ave in Chicago. NPU is easily accessible from Midway or O’Hare Airports via public transit and parking is available.

Come Walk With Us Conference Information:

<http://www.iwj.org/conference-2007/2007-conference-pre.html#sanctuary>

For information on the New Sanctuary Movement:

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-sanctuary23mar23,1,677510,full.story?coll=la-headlines-california>



Do join us in keeping Theresa Torres, PhD (2001-2002 Dissertation year Fellow) in prayer as she grieves the recent passing of her mother, Louella Torres.

As always, we ask all of our community members to keep us posted of any news items you would like to have considered for inclusion in our newsletter by emailing us at hti@ptsem.edu. Also, please help us to maintain our newsletter mailing list up to date, by advising us of email address changes.