

HISPANIC THEOLOGICAL INITIATIVE



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HTI at Center of Theological Inquiry

Thirty-five theologians, journalists, publishers, and graduate students from Great Britain, Canada, and the United States gathered at The Center of Theological Inquiry (CTI) in Princeton on April 19-21, 2007 to discuss "The Future of Theological Inquiry in the Academy, Church, and Media." The event was hosted by Dr. William Storrar, Director of CTI. Dr. William Placher of Wabash College served as the moderator. The participants included HTI Selection Committee Member, **Dr. Peter Casarella**, and HTI Fellowship



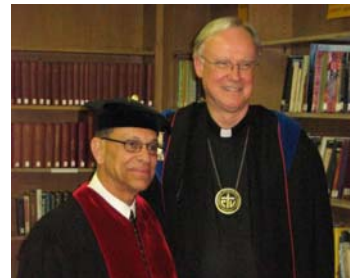
Dr. Peter Casarella at CTI (photo courtesy of Jon Roemer Photography)

recipients **Jacqueline Hidalgo** and **Néstor Medina**. Some of the highlights of the discussion included a consideration of the twelve theses on the future of theology prepared by Dr. David Ford, discussions of interdisciplinary approaches in theology and ethics, a presentation on Scriptural reasoning and inter-religious theology led by Rabbinic scholar and theologian Dr. Peter Ochs, a scintillating presentation by Pulitzer prize winning author Marilynne Robinson, and a series of "Colbert-style" reports on the day's events by Dallas Morning News columnist William McKenzie.

On Friday evening the participants were treated to an introduction to Latino/a theology with presentations by Jackie and Néstor. The participants were first introduced to Joanne Rodríguez, and Peter Casarella offered a few words about the importance of new consortium of HTI in the current academy. Jackie talked about her work in the Institute for Signifying Scriptures at Claremont Graduate School and gave an overview of her dissertation project. She was able to show how Latino/a scholars integrate Biblical studies on the Book of Revelation, the study of apocalyptic themes in the founding of colonial California, and an ethnographic and historical study of *El Plan Espiritual de Aztlán* into a unified and cogent whole. Néstor explained (on the basis of his own dissertation research) the value and limits of the category of *mestizaje* as it developed from the late nineteenth century Latin America into the works of Virgilio Elizondo. A lively discussion followed. All the participants in the conference were extremely grateful for these two very substantive, provocative, and illuminating presentations. All in all, the conference confirmed that HTI is making and will continue to make a critical difference in the theological discussions of the future. There are already plans to keep up the collaboration between the two neighbors, HTI and CTI.

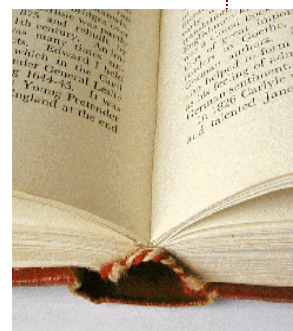
LOGROS

The Catholic Theological Union, Chicago IL, conferred the doctorate in theology, *honoris causa* on ACHTUS President Elect Orlando O. Espin at its thirty-ninth annual commencement ceremonies on May 17, 2007. Dr. Espin has served the HTI as a past member of the Selection Committee, as well as a mentor for several fellows. We congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition.



CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Dr. Miguel De La Torre was appointed as an Advisory Board Member to a book series titled, "Religious Perspectives on Contemporary Ethical Issues" to be published by Rowman & Littlefield Publishers. Each book will cover different religious viewpoints on the ethical issues most discussed in classrooms and the public form. Each book would need to include a brief discussion of how each religion defines ethics and moral behavior. Dr. De La Torre is willing to refer interested individuals to the proper editor at Rowman & Littlefield for submissions addressing the issues of Religion in Contemporary America, Religion and Popular Culture, Critical Issues in Contemporary Religion, Religion and the Modern World, Modern Jewish Life, and Studies in Contemporary Islam. If interested, please contact Dr. De La Torre at mdelatorre@iliff.edu.



UNIVERSITY OF SAN DIEGO announces a tenure-track position at the rank of assistant professor in Christian ethics, with primary expertise in the Catholic moral tradition. Candidates should be willing and able to teach Foundations of Christian Ethics (upper division) and Introduction to Catholic Theology (lower division) on a regular basis. Individuals with secondary competence in biomedical ethics, environmental ethics, sexual ethics, the ethics of war and peace, or comparative ethics are encouraged to apply. Applicants should hold a doctorate or anticipate its completion by the time of the appointment, September 2008. Applications should include a letter of intent, graduate school transcripts, a graduate school dossier with letters of reference, samples of scholarly work, and copies of teaching materials (e.g., syllabi, typical handouts, student evaluations). Please send all materials (hard copies only) to: Dr. Lance Nelson, Chair, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of San Diego, 5998 Alcalá Park, San Diego CA 92110-2492. Prearranged interviews will be conducted at the AAR/SBL meeting in San Diego this November.

Ulrike Guthrie Editing Services

Professional ~ Timely ~ Encouraging

Ulrike Guthrie provides top-quality editing at a reasonable hourly rate. She has over 20 years' experience working with eight major U.S. and British publishers and hundreds of successful authors from around the world. She has worked with the HTI since its inception.

Whether you are a first-time author or a seasoned writer, Ulrike Guthrie can provide professional, timely, and encouraging editorial assistance with an assortment of writing tasks such as book proposals, non-fiction book manuscripts, dissertations, conference presentations, and term papers. She is also available to teach writing workshops.

For more information, visit www.ulrikeguthrie.com



Jeremy Cruz, one of this year's new doctoral fellows, shares an opportunity to participate in a theology translation project which has been initiated by numerous Latin American liberation theologians. The vision of this project is to make the works of Latin American theologians free and more readily accessible via digital files, enabling them to circumvent the various time and volume obstacles posed by corporate controlled publishing. The idea would be to have articles and books available in various languages in a format similar to the one found at www.servicioskoinonia.org

Fluency in Spanish/Portuguese is not required, as the idea is to do editing in progressive stages and in collaboration. If interested in helping with this project, the person to contact is: Katharine Gordon tembrina@yahoo.com.

Please keep them in your prayers

Elaine Padilla (2007-2008 Comp Exams Year fellow) recently suffered the passing of her brother.

Having undergone a recent operation, **Suzanne Hoferkamp, PhD** (2001-2002 Dissertation Year fellow) is now at home recovering and is expected to return to a very busy summer schedule.

María Teresa Dávila, PhD (2004-2005 Dissertation Year fellow) is anxiously awaiting the arrival of her third child, and **Michelle González, PhD** (1998-1999 Doctoral fellow) is expecting her second child.



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. Remember to include pertinent information, such as website or email addresses, as well as any photographs (preferably in .jpeg format). The deadline for receiving submission is the **25th** of each month.

Keep in mind that each submission should be no more than two paragraphs long, and remember to help us maintain our newsletter mailing list up to date, by advising us of email address changes. ¡Gracias!