

HISPANIC
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INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:

HTI Summer
Workshop 1

Logros 2

Call for papers 2

Busy summer for
HTI 3

New family
members 4

For your prayers 4

HTI Hosts Annual Summer Workshop



Technology workshop leader, Victor Baeza, helps Doctoral fellow Matilde Moros install Endnote software on her flag-laden laptop.

Not delayed flights, or their subsequent cancellation, were able to dampen the spirits at this year's annual Summer Workshop, held on June 29- July 3. Once again, the event proved to be a wonderful meeting where the new cohort of fellows participated in a variety of workshops carefully designed to enhance their studies. The sixteen fellows were engaged in seminars dealing with writing skills, teaching methodologies, career orientation, up-to-date technology for writers, and others. Several of the leaders challenged the students with assignments that were to be submitted before their trip to Princeton.

This year's lecture, dealing with the controversial topic of the war in Iraq, brought together three speakers from three distinctly different areas of expertise. **Carlos Conde**, Pulitzer Prize nominee and free-lance journalist, **Dr. Hjamil Martínez-Vázquez**, Assistant Professor of Religion at Texas Christian University, and **Rev. Luis Pérez**, who has served as a chaplain in

the armed forces, all gave thought-provoking presentations, sharing their unique experiences. The lectures were followed by comments by **Dr. Luis Rivera-Pagán**, who recently retired from his position as Henry Luce Winters Professor of Ecumenics and Mission at Princeton Theological Seminary. Dr. Rivera-Pagán was honored on Saturday evening with heartfelt tributes given by a host of workshop attendees, from former colleagues to former students. Although no longer at Princeton, Dr. Rivera-Pagán will remain very active, continuing to make important contributions through his writing and guest lecturing as well as his mentoring of HTI doctoral fellows and other PhD candidates at Princeton.

Before leaving Princeton, the attendees were asked to fill out the event's evaluation, leaving written testimony of the workshop's success.



Rev. Luis Pérez, Dr. Hjamil Martínez-Vázquez, and Carlos Conde.



Dr. Rivera-Pagán listens to one of the tributes given in his honor.

LOGROS

Saint Xavier University, the oldest university in Chicago, IL, conferred the doctorate in theology, honoris causa on **Dr. Ana María Pineda** on May 19, 2007. Dr. Pineda was one of the members of the founding committee of HTI, has served the HTI as a past member of the Selection and Advisory committees, as well as mentor to a few fellows. She was also recently honored at the Mexican Heritage Plaza by the Mexican American Community Services Agency (MACSA) as one of the 100 Most Influential Latinos of Silicon Valley.

Dr. Heidi Hadsell, President of Hartford Seminary, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Dr. Efraín Agosto**, Professor of New Testament, as interim dean of the Seminary, effective August 1. He has collaborated with the HTI as a past member of the Selection Committee, and as a mentor as well.

The Louisville Institute recently named **Dr. Nancy Pineda Madrid** as one of the three recipients of their 2007-2008 Book Brant Program for Minority Scholars for her work, *Suffering and Redemption Reconsidered: A Latina Feminist Theological Reading*.

Instituto Fé y Vida announces the upcoming publication of *Pathways of Hope and Faith Among Hispanic Teens*, edited by Kenneth Johnson-Mondragón. A multidisciplinary team, including **Dr. Arturo Chavez**, **Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier**, and **Dr. Edwin Hernández**, reflects on data from the National Study of Youth and Religion, providing pastoral and theological insights for pastors, parents, teachers, and youth ministers of Latino/a adolescents. The book will be available in August 2007.

The Institute for Latino Studies and Esperanza are pleased to announce the publication of "Answering the Call: How Latino Churches Can Respond to the HIV/AIDS Epidemic," a report by **Dr. Edwin Hernández**, Rebecca Burwell, and Jeffrey Smith of the Institute's Center for the Study of Latino Religion that was made possible by support from Esperanza and Hope Through Healing Hands Foundation. For a printed copy of this or any of the Institute's publications, please contact Idalia Maldonado at (574) 631-440.

The University of Texas Press announces the publication of *Cultural Memory, Resistance, Faith, and Identity* by **Dr. Jeanette Rodríguez** and Ted Fortier. The result is a landmark work in cultural studies, a conversation between a liberation theologian and a cultural anthropologist.

Call for Books



... for a new series on *Latino/a Religious Thought for the New Millennium*

This series subverts the boundaries of Latino/a religions by moving beyond the liberationist framework and focusing on Christian Hispanic popular religiosity. The works in the series are not averse to using postmodern or postcolonial methodologies; they include theological analyses but also historical, sociological, anthropological, political, cultural, feminist, Chicano/a, Latin American literary, gay/lesbian, and pop culture analyses. In many respects, this series represents a re-birth and coming-of-age of a new generation of Latino/a scholars that are fully aware of where they have come from and yet are still in the process of charting new courses for the future. The main purpose of the series will be to map out the future of the Latina/o discourse, and as such will undoubtedly make it the definitive series on the subject. So far, the following HTI receipts are contracted to write books for the series:

Hispanic Perspectives on Spirituality by **Dr. Alberto Hernández**.

Hispanic Perspectives on Social and Religious Thought by **Dr. Manuel Mejido**.

Hispanic Perspectives on Economic Mobility by **Dr. María Teresa Dávila**.

We are looking for seven additional books. If interested, contact **Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre** at mdelatorre@iliff.edu

BUSY SUMMER FOR THE HTI COMMUNITY



Several HTI graduates and current HTI fellows kept their calendars busy this summer, beginning with the **Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the United States (ACHTUS)** at its 19th annual colloquium program at Mount Saint Mary's College, Doheny Campus, in Los Angeles, CA. This year's theme of "Building a Latina/o Ecumenical Theology: Protestant and Catholic Theological Perspectives on Some Significant Issues" brought sixty professors and students together. HTI's presence was noteworthy, with nineteen individuals who are current, or past, HTI fellows and seventeen professors who have been members of the HTI Selection Committee, HTI Advisory Committee and/or HTI Mentors.

Dr. Mayra Rivera, HTI graduate and Professor of Religion at Pacific School of Religion, and **Dr. Carmen Nanko**, a past HTI Mentor and Selection Committee Member, began the first session. They presented papers on "Power Relations and Social Issues: Do/Should These Shape and Critique Latina/o Understanding of God?" In the second session, **Leticia Guardiola**, PhD candidate and HTI Dissertation Year fellow, together with **Dr. Jean Pierre Ruiz**, Professor of Hebrew

Bible at St. John's University and former HTI Mentor Trainer, expounded on "Relating Bible and Tradition: Can Latinas/os Do it Differently?" Continuing in session three, **Dr. José David Rodríguez**, an HTI Selection Committee Member, and **Dr. Miguel H. Diaz**, HTI Mentor, presented on "Grace and Justification: How Can We Shape Soteriology and Theological Anthropology a la Latina (Vis-à-vis intra-Latino/a Ecumenical Dialogue?" In the fourth session, **Dr. Juan Martínez**, former HTI Selection Committee Member and Mentor, together with **Dr. Nancy Pineda**, presenting on behalf of Dr. Roberto Goizueta, discussed "Ecclesiology a lo Mestizo/a y Mulato/a: What Happens to Church When We Move Latinamente Beyond "Inherited" Ecclesiologies?" The final presentation was made by **Néstor Medina**, PhD candidate and HTI Dissertation Year fellow, with **Neomi DeAnda**, PhD candidate and HTI Comprehensive Exams fellow, who asked "What Have We Learned? Towards a Latina/o Ecumenical Theology."

On June 14-16, 2007, **Dr. Jesús Rodríguez Sánchez**, HTI graduate and Professor of Pastoral Care in the Inter American University of Puerto Rico hosted **The Society for Pastoral Theology** in San Juan, Puerto Rico. This event gathered over 70 professors and social workers from across the United States and Puerto Rico. The theme for this distinctive conference was "Doing Pastoral Theology in a Post-Colonial Context: Intercultural Models of Pastoral Care and Theology." Dr. Rodríguez also shared his research on "The Emerging Field of Pastoral Theology in Puerto Rico" and the workshops during the conference included the following themes: Towards a Hispanic Caribbean Post-colonial and Macro-ecumenical Pastoral Theology, a Puerto Rican Pentecostal Women's Pastoral Theology, and A Caribbean Postcolonial Hermeneutics. The plenary speaker for this very important conversation was **Dr. Luis N. Rivera-Pagán**, Princeton Theological Seminary's Henry Winters Luce Professor of Ecumenics and Mission Emeritus.

On June 19-27, **Dr. Hjamil Martínez-Vázquez**, HTI graduate and Associate Professor of History at Texas Christian University facilitated the **2007 HTI/HSP Latina/o Pre-doctoral Conference** at Duke University in North Carolina. This conference provides Latina/o masters students who want to pursue PhD studies with guidance on how to apply to graduate studies in religion and theology, learn the intricacies of the application process, and also have ample opportunity to network and ask questions of Latina/o professors. This year Dr. Martínez lead the workshop on Latina/o & Latin American Sources, and **Dr. Efraín Agosto**, Professor of New Testament at Hartford Seminary, with **Dr. Jeanette Rodríguez**, Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Seattle University, led the meeting by disciplines and shared insights in the field of New Testament and Theology and History. In the third session, **Dr. Otto Maduro**, Director of HSP and Professor of Religion and Society at Drew University, joined efforts with Dr. Agosto to help students identify the differences between applying to a seminary and a university, to discern whether one is ready for PhD studies, and how to select a program. In the Money Issues, Mentorship and Doctoral Work session, **Dr. Theresa Torres**, HTI graduate and Assistant Professor of Sociology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, **Dr. Daniel Ramirez**, HTI graduate and Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Arizona State University, and **Dr. Gregory Cuéllar**, HTI graduate and Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts at Texas A&M University, spoke about financial resources, budgeting, mentoring relationships, and time management. In the final session, **Ulrike Guthrie**, a freelance editor who has worked for HTI for the last ten years, shared the how to's of academic writing in the Writer's Workshop. Eight students from across the nation and Puerto Rico participated in the conference and were very grateful for these important and valuable conversations and resources.



HTI's newest family members

2007-2008 Dissertation Year fellow, **Sammy Alfaro** and his wife Marissa, recently welcomed the joyful arrival of their second child, Marissa Elizabeth.

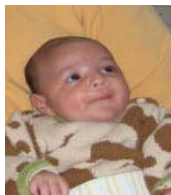
Fellow 2007-2008 Dissertation Year colleague, **Norman Ruano**, also became a father for the second time. His wife, Maritza, gave birth to their son, Sebastián Eli, born on May 14th.

Dr. María Teresa Dávila, PhD and her husband Rob announced the birth of their third child, Juana Inés (Nina).

Becoming a mother for the second time, **Dr. Michelle González Maldonado**, gave birth to her son, Michael Gregorio. Due to her imminent delivery, Michelle was unable to attend the recent ACHTUS meeting, where she was the recipient of the Virgilio Elizondo award.



Marissa



Sebastián



Juana Inés



Michael Gregorio

Please keep them in your prayers

Dr. Luis Pedraja has asked that the community offer prayers for his wife, **Amber**, who is seriously ill.



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!