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HTI ANNOUNCES PEER REVIEW FOR *PERSPECTIVAS*



In 1998, the Hispanic Theological Initiative published its first Issue of *Perspectivas* to feature the scholarship of Latina/o PhD students and HTI graduates in religion and theology. With its widespread circulation, Latina/o scholarship found a vehicle to reach an appreciative audience among faculty and students at schools of theology, seminaries, and departments of religion at universities across the United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada. To date, eleven volumes have been published, covering a broad range of compelling and important topics addressed by Latina/o historians, theologians, sociologists of religion, biblical scholars and many others. *Perspectivas* enjoys an enviable reputation thanks to the high quality material our contributors present. It is distributed to over 400 institutions and has gained great momentum over the past 10 years, reaching a growing audience in the classroom, and beyond.

Responding to the pressing need for a publication such as this, we concluded not only that continuing to publish *Perspectivas* was imperative, but also that our discerning audience would welcome any efforts to enhance it. As a result, we are proud to announce that this publication will now be a *peer review journal*. As of January 2008, we have enlisted over 20 Latina/o scholars, both tenured and non-tenured, to be peer-reviewers. Concurrently, **Dr. Suzanne Hoferkamp-Segovia** (2001-02 Dissertation Year fellow) will be the journal's new managing editor. We have also expanded the submission guidelines that now include a new section on shorter features (please see Page 5). These features can be submitted on the following topics: *Arte y Teología*, *El Mundo y La Iglesia*, *Cruzando Fronteras*, and *Teología en Nuestros Pueblos*. In its new form, *Perspectivas* will be both a journal that critically engages religious education, and also connects with the Latino communities across the nation. We are thrilled to provide a new forum where more members of our dynamic Latino communities can address issues affecting the day-to-day living of *nuestra gente*.

Agosto Named Academic Dean at Hartford Seminary

Currently serving Hartford Seminary as interim dean, **Dr. Efraín Agosto** (1998-1999 Post Doctoral fellow, HTI mentor and Selection Committee member) was named on March 17 as the academic dean of the Seminary by President Heidi Hansell and the Board of Trustees.



Dr. Agosto comes to this position with extensive administrative, pastoral, and academic skills. Prior to arriving at Hartford in July 1995, Dr. Agosto served on the staff of the Center for Urban Ministerial Education in Boston for 12 years, the last five years as director of this inner-city urban theological education program, a campus of Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary. Additionally, Dr. Agosto has extensive experience working with pastoral staffs of Hispanic Pentecostal, Baptist and Congregational churches in New York, Boston, and East Hartford. He was interim pastor at Boston's Hispanic Community Church (United Church of Christ) in 1994, and part of an interim pastoral team at the Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Esperanza (UCC) in East Hartford in 1999, where he continues to worship as an active lay member.

In his scholarly research and his book, *Servant Leadership: Jesus and Paul* (Chalice Press), published in November 2005, Dr. Agosto studies issues of social status, leadership practice and theology in the Jesus movement and Pauline Christianity, with implications for the practice of religious leadership today.

SELECTION COMMITTEE INTERVIEWS HELD IN PRINCETON

HTI's Selection Committee members recently met in Princeton to conduct interviews with this year's group of finalists, and determined that three women and seven men met the strict criteria to qualify for a grant. During the event, the young scholars participated in a worship workshop and a writing workshop, both of which introduced them to concepts that will enrich their spiritual and academic careers. Agreeing that the interview process is one that causes much anxiety, the students also concurred in finding that the interviews also provide an invaluable experience in hearing feedback from seasoned scholars whose only goal is that of supporting them in achieving their success as academics and also as leaders in their communities. We congratulate the new grant recipients and look forward to witnessing their progress in the new academic year.



Attendees at this year's Selection Committee interviews.

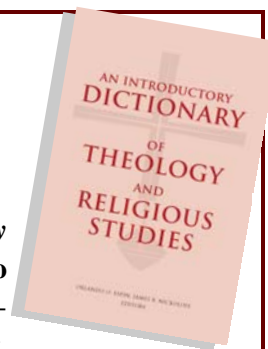
HTI FELLOWS PRESENT AT REGIONAL AAR MEETING



On March 31st, **Rebecca Berru Davis** (2007-2008 Doctoral fellow) and **Sammy Alfaro** (2007-2008 Dissertation Year fellow) participated on a panel addressing U.S. Latina/o and Latin America Theology at the AAR West Regional Meeting at Fuller Theological Seminary, in Pasadena, CA. Berru-Davis's presentation, "Picturing Paradise: *Cuadros* from the Peruvian Women of the Pamplona Alta as Visions of Hope" and Alfaro's presentation, "Rethinking Theological Method from the Periphery: A Latina/o Pentecostal Perspective" were part of a four person panel addressing the theme: *Liberation Thought and Work from the Latina/o and Latin American Periphery*. The moderator of the panel was **Dr. Daniel Ramírez** (HTI 2002-2003 Dissertation Year Fellow), Assistant Professor in Religions of the Southwest Borderlands at Arizona State University.

NEW IN PRINT & ON-LINE

Liturgical Press, in October of 2007, published *An Introductory Dictionary of Theology and Religious Studies*, edited by **Dr. Orlando O. Espín** (HTI Selection Committee member and HTI mentor), Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of San Diego, and Dr. James B. Nickoloff, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at the College of the Holy Cross. Spanning the gamut from "Aaron" to "Zwingli," the dictionary includes nearly 3,000 entries written by nearly sixty authors, all specialists in their various theological and religious disciplines. The editors have designed the dictionary especially to aid the introductory-level students with instant access to definitions of terms likely to be encountered in-but not to substitute for classroom presentations or reading assignments.



Dr. Espín also announced that the *Latino/a Bibliography of Theology and Religious Studies* is online at <http://latinobibliography.org>. The online bibliography is a project and service of the Academy of Catholic Hispanic Theologians of the U.S. (ACHTUS), designed for its members and for scholars, students and pastoral agents anywhere who need accurate, complete and frequently updated bibliographical information on and by U.S. Latino/a Catholics and Episcopalians.

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CAREER DEVELOPMENT

Episcopal Divinity School is seeking applicants for a position as Assistant Professor of Early Christian Historical Studies. Teaching in other historical periods and/or interdisciplinary teaching in other fields, such as New Testament or Theology, is expected. The candidate should hold a completed PhD degree or its equivalent at the time of appointment. Applicants should demonstrate capacity for teaching and formation at the graduate theological level, and have potential for (or actual) scholarly research and publication.



The Divinity School also seeks to fill the position of Assistant Professor of Religion and Society. Applicants should possess a doctorate in theology and/or ethics combined with expertise in studies, and have the abilities to teach materials with critical sensitivity to multicultural, theological, ethical, ecumenical, and interfaith perspectives.

Both positions have an appointment date of July 2008. Inquiries, nominations and letters of application (along with a curriculum vitae and the identification of three references) should be addressed in writing to the Academic Dean, Dr. Sheryl A. Kujawa-Holbrook, 99 Brattle Street, Cambridge, MA 02138. Please send inquiries to skujawa@eds.edu.

Please keep them in your prayers...

Dr. Luis Pedraja (1997-1998 Post Doctoral fellow and HTI mentor), Vice President at the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, recently shared that his wife Amber is undergoing experimental treatment for the widespread cancer she has been battling for some time. It is still too early to know if the treatment will be successful, and Dr. Pedraja has requested our support by keeping both of them in our prayers.



Some HTI community members are awaiting the joyful arrival of their babies. HTI student aide, **Rafael Gómez** and wife Gillian, **Víctor Carmona** (2007-2008 Doctoral Renewal fellow) and wife Astrid, would all appreciate your prayers so that their anxious wait is blessed with the safe arrival of their little ones.



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!

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR *PERSPECTIVAS*

Article Submission Guidelines:

1. Manuscripts must be submitted as a single document email attachment (in Microsoft Word format only) to the managing editor, Suzanne Hoferkamp Segovia (sehse@sbcglobal.net) and to the HTI (hti@ptsem.edu).
2. Together with your manuscript please include:
 - the author's name and a brief one to two sentence bio
 - a title for the article
 - an abstract (100 words or less) at the beginning of the document
 - the body of the article with
 - a clear statement of the problem being addressed
 - headings (and subheadings, if desired)
 - footnotes
 - a clear statement of the conclusions reached concerning the original problem.
3. The maximum length of articles typically published by *Perspectivas* is 5000 words (20 double-spaced 8 1/2" x 11" pages with Times New Roman 12-point font). The managing editor reserves the right to return manuscripts unread that greatly exceed this length.
4. In your email, include your name, postal address, and contact telephone.
5. We will notify you when the editors have made a decision about your submission. The length of the review process will be at least a month and a half to two months.

Shorter Features

Perspectivas also will consider unsolicited shorter features (1800-2100 words, 7 to 10 double-spaced 8 1/2" x 11" pages with Times New Roman 12-point font) worthy of publication including those dealing with:

Arte y Teología

- typically an essay-length review of one or more recent publications, film, or other media relating to Latino/Hispanic theological and religious issues.

El Mundo y La Iglesia

- shorter essays on ecumenical church and the contemporary world.

Cruzando Fronteras

- essays dealing with interdisciplinary work. Essays by specialists in one theological field, religious tradition or subfield.

Teología en Nuestros Pueblos

- essays by experienced pastors, teachers, lawyers, social workers, bringing theological reflection to bear in relation to church practices and emerging forms of church life and mission.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: February 28 of each year. Contributors will be notified whether or not their submission has been accepted for publication by May 1 of each year.