

Hispanic Theological Initiative



OCTOBER 2009

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Consortium Member Reaches Out to Latina/o Students around the Globe



President Dr. David Trickett and Rev. Dr. Janet Forbes applaud Illiff's new dean, Dr. Albert Hernández, at his installation.

Hispanic Theological Initiative Consortium (HTIC) member, **The Illiff School of Theology**, has been working diligently at making positive changes in reaching out to Latinas/os in the academy. "At Illiff, we've been developing partnerships with institutions and organizations worldwide to identify Latinas/os interested in studying at Illiff," said Dr. David Trickett, president and Henry White Warren Professor of Ethics and Leadership. "While we traditionally identify prospective students through referral sources and make college campus visits like everyone else, we're finding that more and more students actually seek Illiff out."

Some of the reasons that students are seeking Illiff is the school's emphasis on multi-faith and multi-cultural understanding in ways that challenge, as well as excite. "Students realize that they exist in a world that was defined for them in a way that does not authenticate their life's experiences. Illiff tends to challenge existing paradigms and our students relate to that."

Another reason is Illiff's high concentration of ethnic minority faculty. Illiff's dean, **Dr. Albert Hernández** (2000-2001 Dissertation Year fellow), leads a faculty of 17, with one-third faculty of color. Like many other schools, Illiff is currently experiencing a hiring freeze, but expectations are that when the freeze is lifted, more faculty of color – especially Latina/o – will be actively recruited.

"While faculty recruitment remains frozen, it doesn't mean that our programs are. **Dr. Miguel De La Torre** (2000-2001 Post Doctoral fellow), Associate Professor of Social Ethics, is leading a dynamic series of programs – from immersion courses in Cuba and Venezuela to a Latina/o Ministerial Studies Program for local pastors. In addition, we hope to undertake a curriculum audit to gauge true effectiveness in honoring and understanding the many diversities that exist at Illiff."

Illiff's partnership in the HTIC is critical to the school's initiatives and to our Joint Doctoral Program with the University of Denver (DU). The commitment of HTI to equip scholars and teachers who remain involved in the Latino community while contributing to learning and social transformation parallels Illiff's mission.

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Dr. Miguel De La Torre speaking at Dr. Albert Hernandez' installation.

Partnering with their DU colleagues, **Dr. Luis León** (2000-2001 Post Doctoral fellow) and Dr. Debora Ortega, Iliff's Dean Hernández and Miguel De La Torre sought and obtained approval from both institutions to initiate a Latino/a Studies Certificate available to students this year as an added concentration in the Joint Doctoral Program. The presence of Hernández, De La Torre, and León also distinguishes Iliff's doctoral program as the only one in the entire nation with three HTI Fellows on its faculty.

"The HTIC offers us a partnership that doesn't come along that often. HTIC connects us with superior scholars and students who can help create true transformation. That's something the world truly needs. Our partnership with the HTIC is one that can actually make this happen."

Consortium Member Hosts the Catholic Latina/o Doctoral Students Graduate Group (CLDS)



CLDS attendees share a dinner during their recent gathering at the University of Notre Dame.

This past September several HTI Fellows had the wonderful opportunity to attend the Catholic Latino Doctoral Students (CLDS) gathering at the **University of Notre Dame**, a member institution of the Hispanic Theological Initiative Consortium (HTIC). **Rev. Dr. Virgilio Elizondo** (HTI Advisory Committee member), through the Center for Latino Spirituality and Culture of the Institute for Latino Studies, initiated the CLDS gathering with a generous grant from an anonymous donor.

Rev. Dr. Elizondo felt that there was a need for Catholic doctoral students from around the country to have a space to gather where building friendships is central, and the CLDS allows not only for that, but it also provides a space for the exchange of ideas and resources. The students had the opportunity to speak with Rev. Dr. Gustavo Gutiérrez about Liberation Theology, and also met Dr. Daniel Groody, Dr. Tim Matovina, Dr. Catherine Hilbert, Dr. Gabriel Reynolds, Dr. Matt Ashley, Dean Greg Sterling, and Allert Brown-Gort. **Dr. Peter Casarella** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee member), Professor of Catholic Studies at DePaul University and Director of the DePaul Center for World Catholicism and Intercultural Theology, and **Ana Bedard** (2006-2007 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow) facilitated a discussion about the importance and benefits of taking part in the various professional associations. Also addressing the students was **Dr. Chris**

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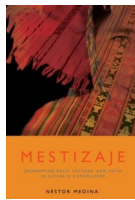
2004 Dissertation Year fellow), Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at DePaul University, who spoke about the balancing of academia and family. HTI fellows attending the event were:

- **Víctor Carmona** (2008-2009 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow), from the **University of Notre Dame**
- **Socorro Castañeda-Liles** (2004-2005 Dissertation Year fellow), from the University of Santa Barbara.
- **Daniel Castillo** (2009-2010 Doctoral fellow) from the **University of Notre Dame**.
- **Miguel Romero** (2009-2010 Doctoral Renewal fellow), from **Duke University**.
- **Horacio Vela** (2009-2010 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow), from the **University of Notre Dame**.
- **Theresa Yugar** (2009-2010 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow), from **Claremont Graduate University**.



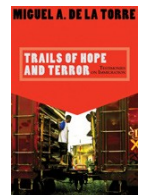
Pictured from left to right: Rev. Dr. Gustavo Gutiérrez, Rev. Dr. Virgilio Elizondo, Terry Garza, and Socorro Castañeda-Liles.

New in Print



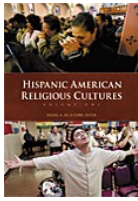
Orbis Books announces the publication of *Mestizaje: (Re)Mapping Race, Culture, and Faith in Latina/o Catholicism*, by **Dr. Néstor Medina** (2006-2007 Dissertation Year fellow). The book addresses the concept of *mestizaje*, a reference to the distinctive biological and cultural intermixture that occurred in the "New World," that has become a foundational category in U.S. Latina/o theology. This book traces the subversive and innovative ways in which Catholic theologians, such as **Rev. Dr. Virgilio Elizondo** (HTI Advisory Committee member), Professor of Pastoral and Hispanic Theology and a Fellow at the Institute for Latino Studies and Kellogg Institute, University of Notre Dame, **Dr. Orlando Espín** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee member), Professor of Systematic Theology and Director of the Center for the Study of Latino/a Catholicism at the University of San Diego, **Dr. Ada María Isasi-Díaz** (HTI mentor and Selection Committee member), Professor of Christian Ethics & Theology at Drew University, and Dr. Pilar Aquino, Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at the University of San Diego, have turned this concept into a powerful framework for articulating the experiences of faith of Latina/o communities. The author currently teaches at Queen's Theological College, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada.

In his newest book, *Trails of Hope and Terror: Testimonies on Immigration*, **Dr. Miguel De La Torre** (2000-2001 Post Doctoral fellow), Associate Professor of Social Ethics at The Iliff School of Theology, presents a conversation on the challenges of immigration that includes the voices of recent immigrants, the documented and the undocumented. In his book, published by Orbis Books, the author offers his goal of initiating a civil conversation that can replace the politics of fear that now dominates discussions of immigration.



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Additionally, **Dr. De La Torre** recently edited the encyclopedia, *Hispanic American Religious Cultures*, published by ABC-CLIO Press. Spanning two volumes, the compilation encompasses the full diversity of faiths and spiritual beliefs practiced among Hispanic Americans, and it contains almost 300 entries from 86 contributors, half of which are affiliated with the HTI as fellows or mentors. Dr. De La Torre is Associate Professor of Social Ethics at The Iliff School of Theology

Coming Events



DEPAUL

DePaul University will host “Why the Future is Still Mestizo: Reflections on the Current Journey of Latino/a Catholics” on October 27, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be **Rev. Dr. Virgilio Elizondo** (HTI Advisory Committee member). The event is being co-sponsored by the University’s program in Catholic Studies and *Nuestra América*. For more information, contact Francis Salinel at fsalinel@depaul.edu.

AAR

SBL

During this year’s annual meetings of the American Academy of Religion (AAR) and the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL), the HTI staff will be looking forward to welcoming friends to our receptions at each gathering. The event times and locations are as follows:

AAR	November 7	9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel	Péribonka room
SBL	November 21	9:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.	JR Marriott Hotel	Frontenac room

Please refer to pages 9-11 to see listings of meetings and presentations where members of our community will be participating.

Career Development



Seattle University is looking for individuals to fill three positions, as follows:

1. The Department of Theology & Religious Studies invites applicants for an anticipated Assistant Professor, tenure-track position in Hebrew Bible. Primary teaching responsibilities will be undergraduate courses, such as The Hebrew Bible, Women and the Hebrew Bible, and Torah, as well as occasional "special topics" offerings. Opportunities for graduate level teaching.

Qualifications: Ph.D. required. Evidence of excellence in teaching and scholarship is required, applicants with expertise in liberation, feminist, African-American, Latina/o, Asian, or ecological hermeneutics are particularly sought.

Hire Date: September 2010

Please send letter of application, curriculum vitae, transcripts, and three letters of recommendation to: Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda, Search Committee Chair, Department of Theology & Religious Studies, Seattle University, 901 12th Avenue, P. O. Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122-1090. Email: moelobc@seattleu.edu. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Preliminary interviews will be held at the 2009 SBL Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

2. The Department of Theology & Religious Studies invites applicants for an anticipated Assistant Professor, tenure-track position in New Testament & Christian Origins. Primary teaching responsibilities will be undergraduate courses, such as the Gospel of Jesus Christ, John, Paul, Synoptic Gospels, Women and the New Testament, and Apocalyptic Literature, as well as occasional "special topics" offerings. Opportunities for graduate level teaching.

Qualifications: Ph.D. required. A grounding in Catholic biblical scholarship and evidence of teaching and scholarly excellence are required, and applicants with expertise in liberation, feminist, African-American, Latina/o, Asian, or ecological hermeneutics are particularly sought.

Hire Date: September 2010

Please send letter of application, curriculum vitae, transcripts, and three letters of recommendation to: **Dr. Jeanette Rodriguez** (HTI Mentor), Search Committee Chair, Department of Theology & Religious Studies, Seattle University, 901 12th Avenue, P. O. Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122-1090. Email: jrodrigu@seattleu.edu. Applications will be accepted until position is filled. Preliminary interviews will be held at the 2009 SBL Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

3. The School of Theology and Ministry invites applicants for an anticipated tenure-track assistant professor position in Hebrew Bible. Primary teaching responsibilities will include the foundational course "Hebrew Scriptures," advanced courses in Pentateuch, Prophets, and Writings, as well as special topic offerings.

Qualifications: Competitive candidates will possess a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies and demonstrate scholarly interest and expertise in ecumenism, interreligious dialogue, social justice or sustainability, as well as have evidence of teaching

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Hire Date: September 2010

Please send curriculum vitae, and three names of references with email addresses from whom we may request a letter of recommendation to: Dr. Mary Rose Bumpus, Search Committee Chair, through the university's on-line application process at <https://jobs.seattleu.edu>. Have transcripts mailed to Dr. Mary Rose Bumpus, Search Committee Chair, 901 12th Avenue, P.O. Box 222000, Seattle, WA 98122-1090. Preliminary interviews will be held at the 2009 SBL Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, November 21-24, 2009.

For more information on any of these positions, go to: <http://www.seattleu.edu/artsci/theology/>.



Sacred Heart School of Theology invites applications for a full-time position in Old Testament. Ph.D., S.S.D. or S.T.D. in Scripture and successful teaching experience preferred. Ability to teach some New Testament as well as Hebrew/Greek preferred. Fluency in diverse contemporary hermeneutics and concern for Hispanic presence in U.S. Church will weigh heavily. Applicants must support the seminary's mission. Send cover letter, CV, three letters of reference and evidence of successful teaching by **December 1, 2009** to: **Rev. Dr. Raúl Gómez-Ruiz**, SDS, Ph.D. (HTI Mentor and 1999-2000 Dissertation Year fellow), Vice President for Academic Affairs, Sacred Heart School of Theology, PO Box 429, Hales Corners WI 53130-0429.

Applications are also being accepted for a full-time position in Church History. Ph.D., S.T.D., or equivalent in Church History and successful teaching experience preferred. Ability to teach American Church History and/or Canadian Church History preferred. Concern for Hispanic presence in U.S. Church will weigh heavily. Sacred Heart, in metropolitan Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is the largest Roman Catholic seminary specializing in priestly formation of men over 30 years of age. Applicants must support the seminary's mission. Send cover letter, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference, and evidence of successful teaching by December 1, 2009 to: Rev. Dr. Raúl Gómez-Ruiz, SDS, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs, Sacred Heart School of Theology, PO Box 429, Hales Corners WI 53130-0429.



AETH (Asociación para la Educación Teológica Hispana) invites applicants from among the association's members for the position of Executive Director. This Individual works under the direction and supervision of the AETH Executive Council (EC), serves as an ex-officio member of the Assembly and the EC, with full voice and no vote. She/he coordinates and facilitates EC meetings, provides recommendations for expanding or modifying the association, and oversees the daily operation of the AETH offices, among other responsibilities. Applicants must submit a letter of interest, two letters of recommendation and an updated resumé. Application deadline: **November 30, 2009**. To apply, or obtain more information, please contact **Dr. Awilda González Tejera** (2000-2001 Dissertation Year fellow), at agtejera@hotmail.com.

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UNITED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF THE TWIN CITIES invites applications for a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of the Life and Leadership of the Congregation. This position is supported by the Schilling endowment in Church and Economic Life. For complete job requirements and expectations, please visit <http://www.unitedseminary.edu/Aboutus/employment.asp#2>. United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, an ecumenical seminary of the United Church of Christ, aims to be an open and affirming institution, and is committed to building a multi-racial, multi-cultural and inclusive community. Send letter of application and CV, official graduate transcript(s) and three letters of recommendation by December 15 to Richard D. Weis, Dean of the Seminary, United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, 3000 5th St, NW, New Brighton, MN 55112.

Gender and Christianity: A Lilly Fellows Program Summer Seminar

Seattle Pacific University, June 21- July 16, 2010

Faculty at member institutions of the Lilly Fellows Program is encouraged to apply for participation in this summer seminar on Gender and Christianity. Those who are selected to participate will form a cadre of well-informed faculty who catalyze discussion and action on their campuses directed toward a rapprochement among students, staff, and faculty who often hold seemingly incompatible views of gender and Christianity.

The seminar will be co-directed by two Seattle Pacific University faculty members: Priscilla Pope-Levison, Professor of Theology, and Jack Levison, Professor of New Testament. Participants will receive a stipend to cover travel, lodging, and food. For more details and an application form, visit www.spu.edu/genderandchristianity2010.

HTP's Newest Family Member



Miguel Romero (2009-2010 Doctoral Renewal fellow) and wife Heather, recently welcomed the joyful arrival of their second daughter, Maria Iliana. Also celebrating her arrival is big sister, Analucia.



For Our Prayers...

Dr. Alex García-Rivera, Professor of Systematic Theology at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, underwent surgery for colon cancer and will soon start chemotherapy treatment.

Dr. Leticia Guardiola-Saenz (1998-1999 Dissertation Year fellow), Assistant Professor of Christian Scriptures at Seattle University, is grieving the recent passing of her father.

Erick Baez, son of **Enrique Baez** (2008-2009 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow), is also recovering from successful surgery.



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!

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AAR Annual Meeting
November 7-10, 2009 – Montréal, Quebec, Canada
Lecture/Workshop Curriculum

Time	#	Location	Event	Participant
Saturday, November 7, 2009				
9:00 am-11:30 am	A7-113	PDC-513B	Women's Bodies and Popular Culture	Wendy Arce
9:00 am-11:30 am	AT-128	PDC-520BE	Liberation Theologies in the Twenty-first Century	Néstor Medina
9:00 am-11:30 am	M7-108	LCS-Lamartine	La Comunidad of Hispanic Scholars of Religion	
9:00 am-12:30 pm	M7-119	FQE-Hochelaga 4	Society for the Arts in Religious and Theological Studies and the Theological Aesthetics Group Theological Aesthetics: Panel Discussion	Alejandro García-Rivera Cecilia González-Andrieu
1:00 pm-3:30 pm	A7-205	PDC-511B	Neoliberal Economics: Illustrations and Consequences	Miguel A. De La Torre
1:00 pm-3:30 pm	A7-219	PDC-516E	Taking " <i>La Lucha</i> " to Heart	Rodolfo Hernández-Díaz Ada Maria Isasi-Díaz Lara Medina Benjamin Valentin
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	A7-310	PDC-515C	They Were All Together in One Place? Toward Minority Biblical Criticism	Rudy V. Busto Michelle González Maldonado Francisco Lozada
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	A7-328	PDC-513F	Global and Local Perspectives and Patterns in World Christianity	Elaine Padilla
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	A7-335	PDC-520AD	Evangelicals, Barack Obama, and the 2008 Election	Gastón Espinosa
9:00 pm-11:00 pm	M7-417	FQE-Péribonka	Hispanic Theological Initiative/Hispanic Summer Program Reception	
Sunday, November 8, 2009				
7:00 am-8:30 am	A8-1	FQE-Chambly 1&2	Committee Meeting - Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee Meeting	Miguel A. De La Torre
9:00 am-11:30 am	A8-108	PDC-515C	Minority Biblical Interpretation in Canada	Néstor Medina Fernando F. Segovia

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...AAR/SBL Annual Meetings—Lecture/Workshop Curriculum

Time	#	Location	Event	Participant
Sunday, November 8, 2009				
9:00 am-11:30 am	A8-116	PDC-510C	Religious Persecution and Martyrdom in Contemporary and Historical Perspective	Ruben Rosario Rodríguez
1:00 pm-2:30 pm	A8-226	PDC-511B	Recent Research on Immigrant Christianity in North America	Otto A. Maduro
4:45 pm-6:15 pm	M8-308	PDC-514B	Theology of Food	Angel Méndez Montoya Mayra Rivera
5:00 pm-6:30 pm	A8-301	PDC-516B	Queering Communities of Color	Rudy V. Busto Luis León
Monday, November 9, 2009				
9:00 am-11:30 am	A9-127	PDC-513D	Assessing the Study of Cuban Religions Fifty Years after the Revolution	Jorge A. Aquino Michelle González Maldonado Anthony M. Stevens-Arroyo
1:00 pm-3:30 pm	A9-224	PDC-511F	Science Fictional Asia: Utopias, Alternate Futures, Illusory Time, Monks, and Dreaming Realities	Rudy V. Busto
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	A9-318	PDC-514A	Religion and Transnationalism: Migrating Identities	Rebecca Davis Jean-Pierre Ruiz

SBL Annual Meeting November 21-22, 2009 – New Orleans, Louisiana Lecture/Workshop Curriculum

Time	#	Location	Event	Participant
Saturday, November 21, 2009				
9:00 am-11:30 am	21-122	La Galerie 1 & 2 - MR	John's Apocalypse and Cultural Contexts Ancient and Modern	Jean-Pierre Ruiz Jacqueline Hidalgo Horacio Vela David Sánchez
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	21-326	Southdown Room – SH	Latino/a and Latin American Biblical Interpretation	Francisco Lozada, Jr. Gregory Cuéllar Fernando F. Segovia Sharon H. Ringe
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	21-333	Edgewood AB – SH	Rhetoric and the New Testament	David Sánchez Jean-Pierre Ruiz
9:00 pm-11:00 pm	M21-408	Frontenac – JW M	Hispanic Theological Initiative/Hispanic Summer Program Reception	

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...SBL Annual Meeting—Lecture/Workshop Curriculum

Time	#	Location	Event	Participant
Sunday, November 22, 2009				
11:00 pm-3:15 pm	22-204	Studio 2 - MR	Contextual Reading – Looking Back and Forward	Fernando Segovia
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	22-328	Jackson - MR	John's Apocalypse and Cultural Contexts Ancient and Modern	Juan Hernández, Jr.
4:00 pm-6:30 pm	22-345	Bayside A – SH	Resistance Literature in the Bible and Comparative Cultures	M. Daniel Carroll R.
Monday, November 23, 2009				
9:00 am-11:30 am	23-130	Poydras - SH	New Directions in Latino/a Biblical Interpretation	Efraín Agosto Eric D. Barreto Cristina García-Alfonso Juan Hernández, Jr. Jacqueline Hidalgo Rubén Muñoz-Larrondo
Tuesday, November 24, 2009				
9:00 am-11:30 am	24-102	Balcony L - MR	Displacing the Emperor: Pauls Journey to Rome in Acts	Rubén René Dupertuis
9:00 am-11:30 am	24-106	Studio 4 - MR	Luke Remaps Holy Space	Eric D. Barreto