

Hispanic Theological Initiative

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FEBRUARY 2011

From the Director

Through each issue of HTI's Journeys newsletter, we strive to keep our beloved community up to date on the many accomplishments and activities our fellows, graduates, mentors, and many partners are involved in. Through their work, they are making valuable contributions, not only at the academic level, but also in the churches they serve and in the communities they call home, presenting vivid examples of HTI's hallmark synergistic nature. In this issue, we proudly announce the launching of a new feature on our website that makes profiles for each member institution readily available for potential Ph.D. students. We also announce a new and creative partnering with the Wabash Center, the HTI/Wabash Pedagogy Weekend Workshop for dissertation fellows and most recent graduates. Concurrently and most unfortunately, we must also announce that the HTI staff will lose a valuable and beloved colleague, **Maria Kennedy**, HTI's office coordinator. Maria joined the program in the summer of 2001, two weeks before the HTI Summer Workshop. That event gave Maria her first taste of the HTI experience, laying the foundation for her loyalty to not only the staff, but to the HTI community as well. For years now, I have joked about being married to both Maria and Angela Schoepf, our Assistant Director, but the truth is that we make a great team and we have worked incredibly well as, in the words of **Dr. Luis Rivera-Pagán** (Professor of Ecumenics and Mission Emeritus at Princeton Theological Seminary and HTI Mentor), "*La Trinidad de Princeton*" (The Trinity of Princeton). While the workload for Angela and me will increase, what is most difficult is losing a sister who leaves an indelible mark not only in the work of the HTI and the HTIC, but also in our hearts. Between the three of us, we have shared the joys and pains of motherhood, the loss of a spouse and siblings, and the challenges of keeping the HTI running smoothly while addressing transition after transition, by no means a minor feat. Maria, I thank you "*de todo corazón*" for your dedication to our mission, and trust God will continue to greatly bless you in your new part-time position in the department of Seminary Relations at Princeton Theological Seminary.



From left to right: Joanne Rodriguez (HTI Director), Mercedes Tuya (former HTI Office Assistant), Angela Schoepf (HTI Assistant Director), Maria Kennedy (HTI Office Coordinator) - Spring 2003

New Website Feature Highlights Valuable Tools for Potential Latina/o PhD Students at HTIC Member Schools

HTIC's nineteen member schools have a diverse variety of resources targeted especially for Latina/o students, but many times students are unaware of these benefits. This information is of great value for potential Ph.D. students who are discerning which institutions best suit their needs and interests, leading the HTI staff to develop a new feature now available on the HTI website where students are only a click away from learning important information to aid them in their search for the ideal school. HTI student aide, **Lisa López-Marcial**, was commissioned to obtain the information from each member institution. After completing the project, Lisa shared that, "While working on this project I came to realize that much of the information crucial for evaluating if a school will be a good fit for a particular Ph.D. student – including their resources to advance studies in areas of academic interest, resources to support a student financially and professionally, and resources that inform the school's non-academic environment – is often difficult to access. A potential Ph.D. student could spend hours if not days simply attempting to gather accurate information to be able to obtain further necessary data! By providing a profile of expected resources of interest for each of the Consortium Schools in such a user-friendly format, particularly by identifying key contacts for each of them within the profile, HTIC is helping Latina/o students and scholars connect more efficiently with the opportunities they seek."



By clicking on the name of each member school, the user is taken to that school's resources, including information on:

- Financial Aid - Fellowships
- Hispanic/Latino Faculty
- Hispanic Centers and Programs
- Library Resources - Special Collections
- Other Resources (Hispanic Student Organizations)
- Former HTI Fellows/HTIC Scholars

HTI Receives First Donation from New York Episcopal Church



We are deeply grateful to **Rev. Carla E. Roland** (2003-2004 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow), Priest-in-Charge at the New York Episcopal Church of St. Matthew & St. Timothy, who expressed her church's belief in the "importance of advanced theological education of Latinas/os," as shared in a letter that accompanied a generous donation to HTI. From the 1950s to the present, services in Spanish and English have defined worship at St. Matthew & St. Timothy. Currently, there are people from more than twenty countries in their congregation. In this diversity, they are united by their desire to contribute to the community and their need to explore the Christian faith and live out the baptismal covenant. Every year, the church designates a sole recipient for a contribution to theological education. This is the first time the HTI receives a gift from a church, and we are not only delighted, but very grateful for St. Matthew & St. Timothy church members for allowing us to journey with them in seeking to reflect God's love through word, sacraments, education and service." *¡Mil Gracias!*

Baylor University Press Sponsors HTI/HTIC Reception at AAR-Launches New Book Series



The HTI/HTIC receptions at AAR and SBL serve as a pivotal venue for current fellows, graduates, mentors, member school presidents, deans, and faculty, editors, and potential new students to network and enjoy fellowship, a place where past relationships continue to be enriched and new ones are developed. This year we had the distinct pleasure of having Baylor University Press sponsor the reception meal at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Religion on the evening of October 30th in the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta and announce and celebrate the release of their newly published Latina/o book series. The first book in the series is *Latino/a Social Ethics: Moving Beyond Eurocentric Moral Theology* by Associate Professor of Social Ethics and Director of the Justice and Peace Institute at Iliff School of Theology, **Dr. Miguel De La Torre** (2000-2001 Post-Doctoral fellow). Carey Newman, Senior Editor at Baylor University Press, sees this project as solid cornerstone for many more in the near future.

HTI/HTIC also hosted a well-attended reception during the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) on the evening of November 20th at the Marriot Marquis hotel in Atlanta, another event that is eagerly anticipated each year. At this event several students considering Ph.D. studies had the opportunity to interact with presidents, deans, professors, HTI fellows and HTIC scholars.



New Programming: Partnering with the Wabash Center to Introduce New Pedagogy Weekend Workshop



On January 21, 2011 HTI, together with the Wabash Center, introduced the first HTI/Wabash Center Teaching and Learning Workshop in Chicago at the Catholic Theological Union. This new venue brought together five HTIC Dissertation Scholars who were already in Chicago, hard at work on their dissertation writing, and five HTI graduates who have less than four years of teaching experience. The group represented over 13 institutions from as close as DePaul University in Chicago to as far as Queen's Theological College in Canada. The facilitators, **Dr. Milagros Peña** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee Member), Associate Dean for Social and Behavioral Sciences Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences University of Florida, and **Dr. David Sánchez** (2005-2006 Dissertation Year fellow and 2007 HTI Book Prize Winner), Assistant Professor of Theological Studies at Loyola Marymount University, taught on the following topics: Metaphors of Teaching, Embodied Teaching, Teaching Portfolios and Syllabi, Tenure Policies and Harassment Issues, and Navigating & Reading Institutional Culture as Faculty of Color. The weekend curriculum was full, and so was the rich interaction among the diverse group of participants, which led to both challenging and enriching conversations. The weekend left our participants hungry and yearning for more, exactly what Paul Myhre, Associate Director at the Wabash Center, had hoped for. In our continued planning with Wabash, our hope is that we can have this workshop on a biennial basis. The HTI is blessed to have Paul and Dena Pence, director at the Wabash Center, as partners who will continue working with us in serving the teaching and learning needs of HTI and HTIC scholars and graduates.

HTI/HTIC Director Tapped to Serve on “Taste of Seminary” Planning Board



HTI/HTIC Director, **Joanne Rodríguez**, was invited by Rev. Emily McGinley, Project Director of The Common Ground Project at McCormick Theological Seminary, to serve on the planning board for the Taste of Seminary. Taste of Seminary is an ecumenical (multi-denominational) event for young adults of color who are interested in exploring their sense of call to ministry among peers and church leaders. This creative program allows potential students of color who would like to study in a seminary, to attend classes in bible, theology, church, and pastoral theology.

Additionally, these students are taken on field trips to local churches and non-profit organizations, whose leaders spend time sharing with the students the excitement and challenges of their distinct ministries. During the evening facilitators have group discussions with the participants and students have an opportunity to reflect, debrief, and share their impressions. Furthermore, because the program is intentional about bringing together a diverse group of ethnic participants, the students have an opportunity to share their experiences in a space where many different ethnic groups are represented throughout the faculty, student body, and church leaders. The enriching week-long experience is worthwhile, requiring potential participants to fill out an application and pay a fee of \$45 before April 1st. Applications can be filled out on-line at <http://www.mccormick.edu/taste>

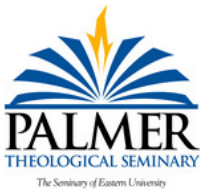
EN ACCIÓN: HTI'S MASTERS, PhD'S AND MENTORS SERVING IN THE UNITED STATES AND ABROAD

New Church Development in Alabama

In 2000, the HTI welcomed **Maricarmen Castro** as an M.Div. fellow from San Francisco Theological Seminary. At the time, Maricarmen showed a fierce determination to serve God's people at the local church level. Recently we reconnected with our master's graduates and were delighted to learn that Rev. Castro is working with the North Alabama Presbytery New Church Development. In August 2009, Rev. Castro began what she calls the Harvest Community. Such a name evokes images of growing vegetables, perhaps with the goal of supplying local food banks with much-needed supplies, but Rev. Castro's Harvest Community's goal is that of harvesting the souls and spirits of people so that they can support and encourage each other in their struggles, seeking the possibilities God has put in their hearts and minds. She calls this being missional-incarnational, and shared that every time a faith community incarnates Jesus' teachings through a communal experience of love and care, the community is missional and incarnational. Maricarmen believes this can happen through many different venues (parks, restaurants, bars, coffee shops, sports activities, etc) and, most important, in small communities. With God's guidance and wisdom guiding trained elders and deacons in disciple making, Rev. Castro hopes to grow and strengthen small church communities in Alabama. For more information on this important ministry, visit www.theharvestcommunity.org.



Orlando E. Costas Lecture at Palmer Seminary



Palmer Theological Seminary of Eastern University was honored to welcome to its campus **Dr. Daisy Machado** (HTI mentor and former Director), Dean of Academic Affairs at Union Theological Seminary in New York City, on October 5 to deliver the Seminary's annual Orlando E. Costas Lecture. Dr. Machado, who is the first Latina Protestant to earn a Ph.D. in theology, titled her lecture "Christ Outside the Gate." This provided the opportunity—both during her talk and in the question-and-answer session that followed—to discuss various ethical, moral, political, and social issues relating to the topics of immigration and undocumented persons.

At the luncheon following the lecture program, awards honoring the late Dr. Costas were given to two individuals. The Costas Community Service Award was presented to Elizabeth Hernández, executive director of The Place of Refuge, a Philadelphia-based ministry that provides underserved urban communities with professional, faith-based trauma counseling services. The Orlando Costas Student Award, given to a Palmer Seminary student who exemplifies the values of Dr. Costas, was given to Angel Marrero, who has been a part-time M.Div. student at Palmer since 2001 and who pastors a multi-cultural church of English and Spanish speakers, both first and second generation.

The Costas Lectureship was established thanks to the efforts of **Dr. Loida Martell-Otero** (1999-2000 Dissertation Year fellow), Associate Professor at Palmer Theological Seminary to honor missiologist and theologian Orlando E. Costas, and to build relationships with Latino/a churches. Dr. Costas died of cancer in 1987 at the age of 45.

HTIC NEWS AND HAPPENINGS



THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY OF AMERICA

At The Catholic University of America, **Professor John Ford** recently published an article entitled: "Hispanic Ecumenical Dialogue: Progress and Potential: A Review of Building Bridges, Doing Justice," in the journal *Ecumenical Trends* 39/11 (December 2010): 4-8, 15.

ILIFF SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Dr. Albert Hernández (2000-2001 Dissertation Year fellow), Academic Vice President & Dean of the Faculty, and Associate Professor of the History of Christianity at the Iliff School of Theology will lead a class in the St. Andrew Scholar Series on the topic of "The Untold Story of Pentecost" on four consecutive Tuesday evenings from March 22 until April 12, 2011. The class will cover questions surrounding what Christians have believed and written about the Holy Spirit through the centuries. The class will also explore the imaginative ways that Pentecost has been celebrated and remembered. Dr. Hernandez will use his book, "Subversive Fire: The Untold Story of Pentecost," as the main text. The class will be held from 7-9 p.m. at St. Andrew United Methodist Church in Highlands Ranch, CO. For more information please contact Leslie Inman, 303-765-3183, linman@z@iliff.edu. St. Andrew UMC: 303-794-2683, <http://www.st-andrew-umc.com>



PERKINS SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY, SOUTHERN METHODIST UNIVERSITY



Bishop **Minerva G. Carcaño** has been named recipient of the 2011 Distinguished Alumna Award by the Alumni/ae Council of Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University. The singular award annually recognizes one graduate of Perkins who has demonstrated effectiveness and integrity in service to the church, continuing support and involvement in the goals of Perkins School of Theology and SMU, distinguished service in the wider community, and exemplary character.

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Bishop Carcaño received her Masters of Theology from Perkins in 1979 and was ordained elder in the Rio Grande Annual Conference in 1979. She became both the first Hispanic woman to be appointed a United Methodist district superintendent in 1986 and the first Hispanic woman to be elected to the episcopacy of The United Methodist Church in 2004. She currently serves as Bishop of the Phoenix Episcopal Area, Desert Southwest Conference of The United Methodist Church, and is the official spokesperson for the Council of Bishops on the issue of immigration. The award will be presented on Monday, February 7, 2011 as part of Perkins' Ministers' Week.

Also at Perkins School of Theology, the School was recently awarded a grant for the purpose of expanding its theological training for Latin American pastors in the Methodist tradition. The grant will allow Perkins to invite six pastors each year for the next four years to study theology within the context of the school's regional Course of Study program. Currently the regional Course of Study School at Perkins, held during the summer, has an offering of 20 basic courses; 10 of these are taught in Spanish as well as English. Students of the program gather daily for bilingual chapel services and share an array of other cross-cultural learning experiences as well. Through its Mexican-American Program Perkins has long been a leader in the denomination in the area of Hispanic studies within a theological context, as well as in Spanish-language ministerial training. For more information, contact Rev. Jeannie Trevino-Teddle, Director of the Mexican-American Program and the Regional Course of Study School at 214-768-2768 or jtrevted@smu.edu.

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

On October 14, 2010 The *Herencia* Lecture was held at Princeton Theological Seminary. This year's theme, "The Table: Poverty, Hunger, and Justice" featured the participation of **Dr. Miguel De La Torre** (2000-2001 Post Doctoral fellow), Professor of Social Ethics at the Iliff School of Theology. The lecture examined the theological, ethical, and practical realities related to justice, public health, food distribution, and food programs in the Hispanic community and beyond. Rev. Joseph Anthony Andino who leads the vibrant *Nuevos Comienzos* Worship Center in Passaic, NJ, warmly endorsed the event, sharing that, "Dr. De La Torre was not only informative but challenged the way I view the Christian lifestyle. The invasion of unbalanced health and wealth doctrine in this country has in many ways sidelined the spiritual focus of many well meaning believers for the past 20 years. Dr. De La Torre's sobering comparison on the way our prosperous lifestyle in this country enslaves our fellow countrymen abroad left me reflecting on my own ministry perspective." The annual event is sponsored by the Latin@ Collegium at the seminary.

LOGROS

Congratulations are in order for **Norman Ruano** (2007-2008 Dissertation Year fellow) who successfully completed the requirements for his Ph.D. this past December, receiving the degree from Loyola University in Chicago. His graduation also marks a high achievement for HTI, which has now reached its **69th** Latina/o Ph.D. graduate! Dr. Ruano is currently the Vice-President for Workforce Development at St. Augustine College in Chicago, IL.



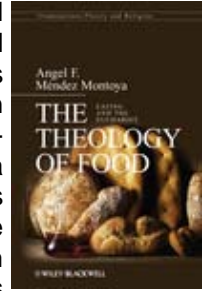
Dr. Miguel A. De La Torre (2000-2001 Post Doctoral fellow), Professor of Social Ethics at the Iliff School of Theology was appointed as vice president of the Society of Christian Ethics. De La Torre will serve as president of the 950-member Society in 2012 and is the first Hispanic to be elected to this post. The Society of Christian Ethics promotes scholarly work in Christian ethics and in the relation of Christian ethics to other traditions of ethics; encourages and improves the teaching of these fields in colleges, universities and theological schools; and provides a community of discourse and debate for those engaged professionally within these general fields.

A non-denominational scholarly association, the Society draws its members from the faculties of universities, colleges, and theological schools primarily from the United States, Canada, and Europe.

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We celebrate that **Dr. Angel F. Méndez** (2002-2003 Doctoral Renewal fellow), Professor of Theology at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico, is one of the five theologians nominated to receive the Michael Ramsey Prize for 2011, on account of his book, *The Theology of Food* published by Wiley-Blackwell. The Michael Ramsey Prize recognizes the author of a theological work that is judged to contribute most towards



advancing theology and making a lasting contribution to the faith and life of the Church. The Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, commented "I am delighted with both the quality and strikingly diverse subject matter of this year's shortlist for the Michael Ramsey Prize. The extremely distinguished panel who will join me to judge and award the Prize at the Hay Festival next May have an exciting, but also a very challenging, job to do. What this shortlist shows is that the best of contemporary theological writing is shining a critical and creative light into some of the most challenging areas of our experience. This kind of theology is making a very strong claim to be included in the mainstream of critical thinking and reflection - exactly as Michael Ramsey would have wished." The winner will be announced on May

The San José Mercury News recently interviewed **Socorro Castañeda-Liles** (2004-2005 Dissertation Year fellow), Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Santa Clara University to learn of her study on how the Virgin of Guadalupe is revered by women, finding specific differences between younger and older generations. For the entire article please visit http://www.mercurynews.com/joe-rodriguez/ci_16828682?nclick_check=1



Dr. Juan Hernández (2004-2005 Dissertation Year fellow) Associate Professor of Biblical Studies at Bethel University in St. Paul was invited to the Kirchliche Hochschule in Wuppertal, Germany to share his research on the textual history of John's Apocalypse. He presented the results of one of his studies in a paper titled, "The Reception of the Septuagint in the Apocalypse in Codex Sinaiticus and Other Manuscripts" before scholars at the Institut für Septuaginta und biblische Forschung. Professor Hernández also delivered a lecture before university students of the Theologisches Zentrum at the Kirchliche Hochschule, titled: "The

Apocalypse in Codex Sinaiticus: The Earliest Christian Commentary on the Apocalypse?" Ulrich Schmid, Researcher at the Münster Institute in Germany, describes the outcome of the lecture in the following way: "His presentation in Wuppertal resulted in lively and stimulating discussions providing new insights and further lines of inquiry."

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES



The **Department of Theology and Religious Studies at John Carroll University** seeks a scholar-teacher for its new Jack and Mary Jane Breen Endowed Chair in Catholic Systematic Theology. The successful

candidate will have demonstrated excellence in scholarly publication and teaching and be able to support the Catholic and Jesuit traditions of the University. The chair holder will teach courses in Catholic systematic theology to undergraduates and to graduate students in the master's program. She or he is expected to sustain regional and worldwide connections with theological communities. Rank, teaching load, research support, and salary are to be determined. Applicants will submit a letter of application detailing interest and qualifications for the position and a current résumé, including a teaching portfolio and names of at least three references who will not be contacted until the search is in its advanced stages.

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Review of applications will begin on December 6, 2010 and will continue until the position is filled. The appointment will begin in August 2011. Applications and nominations should be directed, in confidence, to Dr. Thomas L. Schubeck, S.J., Chair, Breen Chair Search Committee, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, John Carroll University, University Heights, OH 44118. E-mail: religion@jcu.edu Website: www.jcu.edu/religion.



The **School of Theology and Ministry of St. Thomas University**, Miami Gardens, FL, seeks energetic scholar-teacher for the Fall of 2011 in the area of biblical studies at the rank of Assistant Professor. Successful candidate will teach undergraduate, master and doctoral level courses in programs focused on practical theology, including a newly launched M.Div. program and will possess an earned doctorate. St. Thomas is a Hispanic-serving institution that also

draws 20% of its students from communities of African-descent and enjoys a rich ecumenical diversity. The search committee especially welcomes applicants who demonstrate an excellent foundation in historical-critical methodologies, as well as engaged in forms of analysis that address race, gender, and social location. Familiarity with distance teaching and learning is a plus. Applicants should submit a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, contact information for three references, a sample of recent scholarly work, evidence of teaching excellence, and official transcripts to Human Resources, St. Thomas University, 16401 NW 37th Avenue, Miami Gardens, FL 33054 or submit electronically in MS Word or PDF format to facsearch@stu.edu.

St. Thomas University also seeks a visionary and energetic leader to serve as Dean of its highly successful and newly configured School of Theology and Ministry. The Dean reports to the Provost of the University, and is responsible for the administrative oversight of all academic programs within the School, as well as administrative responsibility for all centers and institutes in the School. The candidate we seek: holds an earned doctorate in theology/ministry or related field; is a Catholic with administrative experience in higher education, including the capacity for successful fundraising; has a record of quality teaching, research, and service (position has faculty rank); is enthusiastic about the possibilities of working with vibrant faculty, staff and programs. Applicants should submit a letter of application, including a brief statement of your vision for Catholic higher education, a detailed curriculum vitae, copies of post-secondary transcripts; and three letters of reference by **March 1, 2011** to: Lenore Prado, Associate Director, Office of Human Resources either in hard-copy at St. Thomas University, 16401 NW 37 Avenue, Miami Gardens, FL 33054 or electronically at theologydeansearch@stu.edu, (MS Word or Adobe PDF attachments preferred) Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

The **Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life** seeks a researcher for its Hispanics and Religion Department. The researcher supports all aspects of the Pew Forum's research agenda in the area of religion in the growing Latino community in the U.S. In close collaboration with the director, the researcher will assist in developing a research plan for this field. The researcher will identify and analyze data on Hispanics and religion from existing Pew Research sources and other external data sources. The researcher performs analysis of data from surveys and other sources, consults researchers and drafts reports. The researcher will also assist in fielding requests for information from the press, government officials and other Pew Forum target audiences. This position works closely with other researchers on staff and reports to the director and associate director for research of the Pew Forum. Title and level of responsibilities will be commensurate with education and experience.



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Applicant should send a complete resume and cover letter (indicating where you learned of the opening) to: Ms. April McWilliams, Human Resources Director, Pew Research Center, 1615 L Street, NW Suite 700 , Washington, DC 20036. Responses can also be faxed to 202-419-4339 or e-mailed to careers@pewresearch.org.



Chapelwood Hispanic Ministries is a faith-based ministry of Chapelwood United Methodist Church designed to address the multi-dimensional challenges of poverty in the lives of youth and their families. Forming a platform of complementary youth programs, family worship in cell congregations, and connections to community resources, the ministry strives to offer these youth and their families the spiritual, social, and practical resources they need to succeed in life. A search is currently underway to identify an Executive Director. The Executive Director reports to the Board of Directors, and is responsible for the organization's consistent achievement of its mission, strategy, and financial objectives to ensure excellence, integrity and a strong presence in the Spring Branch community. The position entails specific responsibilities in the areas of Leadership, Vision and Strategic Planning, Quality Program Development, Staff Management, Board Facilitation, Financial Oversight, and Community Organizing/Collaboration. The successful candidate will be ideally bilingual; will have a track record of leading organizations either in business or not-for-profit management; will have a demonstrated record of effective leadership and a professional level experience in development, budgeting, fundraising, administration, team building and supervision of others; will have an ability to think broadly and strategically as well as work with program and facilities staff as well as board members; and will also have a strong commitment to the spiritual values and holistic approach of developing youth in extreme poverty that defines the unique mission of Chapelwood Hispanic Ministries. The leader should have earned a bachelor's degree from a university or college and preferably some experience in building a ministry or fundraising that involves youth. Other qualifications include: exemplary interpersonal and communication skills, a reputation for openness and transparency; high ethical standards and ability to set that tone for the entire organization; familiarity with the needs of a Hispanic community; the ability to build trust within this community both with community leaders and individuals at the grassroots level. For more information on the organization, specific responsibilities and application process, please contact: Laura Sorrell, laura@meridianandassociates.com, 713-854-5351.

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES



Concordia Seminary is currently in the process of enrolling their first cohort of Hispanic students in the M.A. Program entirely conducted in Spanish. This is a 60-quarter-hour ATS accredited course of study leading to an M.A. with a concentration in either systematic or practical theology. The program was developed in the hopes that Lutheran as well as other evangelical Christians who wish to study theology in their native language would take advantage of this opportunity.

For more information, please contact: Deaconess Ruth McDonnell, Assistant Director of Master of Arts Programs. Advanced Studies Department, 314-505-7102 (office), e-mail: mcdonnellr@csl.edu.

New in Print & Online



Wipf and Stock Publishers recently released *Divino Compañero: Toward a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology*. In this book, author **Dr. Sammy Alfaro** (2007-2008 Dissertation Year fellow), Assistant Professor of Christian Studies at Grand Canyon University, explores the necessary foundations for constructing a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology. Alfaro proposes that Spirit-Christology is a more suitable paradigm for a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology, provided it is grounded in the experience, faith, and worship of its community and oriented toward liberative praxis.

Dr. Eric D. Barreto (2008-2009 Dissertation Year fellow), Assistant Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary, recently saw the publication of *Ethnic Negotiations: The Function of Race and Ethnicity in Acts 16* by German publisher, Mohr Siebeck. In his book, focusing on Acts 16, Dr. Barreto inquires as to the function of ethnic identities in Luke's composition. The current study of Acts curtails a full appreciation of Luke's expansive theological vision by either neglecting racial and ethnic categories or construing them as relatively static designations. Instead, race and ethnicity were theologically vital yet flexible notions in Acts. Luke does not imagine the creation of a new ethnicity of Christians; instead, he projects an interstitial ethnic space between the competing and overlapping ethnic claims of Jews, Romans, Greeks, and the other peoples that populate the pages of Acts. Luke does not erase ethnic difference but employs the flexible bounds of ethnicity in order to illustrate the wide reach of the early church movement.



Dr. Michelle González Maldonado (1999-2000 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow), Associate Professor of Religious Studies at University of Miami, is the author of the newest installment in the Compass series published by Fortress Press. In her book, *Shopping: Christian Explorations of Daily Living*, Dr. González Maldonado highlights how shopping asks us to choose our values and brings us into connection with the labor of people all over the world. The book explores the rich material on economic activity and relationships in the Christian tradition as well as the larger pertinence of our actions in an era of globalized economic interconnection.

Robyn Henderson-Espinoza (2010-2011 Doctoral fellow at the University of Denver – Iliff School of Theology) has been invited to be a contributing Scholar for *State of Formation*, a new initiative of the Journal of Inter-Religious Dialogue and the Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions. She will be a part of a group of young scholars who will be considering issues related to religious pluralism and ethical discourse and sharing their insights with the larger academic community through blog entries.



In Our Own Voices: Latino/a Renditions of Theology brings together an ecumenical team of men and women, both Catholic and Protestant, who explore some of the core symbols and doctrines of Christianity from a distinctively Latino/a perspective. Beginning with the doctrine of God, creation, and human being, the authors present diverse perspectives on Christology, the church, and the "kin-dom of God" (*la familia de Dios*). This volume was edited by **Benjamín Valentín** (1999-2000 Dissertation Year fellow), Profesor of Theology and Culture at Andover Newton Theological School and includes numerous contributions from:

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- **Luis N. Rivera-Pagán** (HTI Mentor), Professor of Mission and Ecumenics at Princeton Theological Seminary
- **Jeanette Rodríguez** (HTI Mentor), Professor of Theology and Religious Studies at Seattle University
- **Carmen Nanko-Fernández** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee Member), Assistant Professor of Pastoral Ministry at Catholic Theological Union
- **Michelle A. González** (1998-1999 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow), Associate Professor of Religious Studies at University of Miami
- **Michael Lee** (2003-2004 Dissertation Year fellow and 2010 Book Prize Winner), Associate Professor of Theology at Fordham University
- **Roberto S. Goizueta** (HTI Mentor), Professor of Catholic Theology at Boston College)
- **Harold J. Recinos** (HTI Mentor), Professor of Church and Society at Perkins School of Theology
- **Ada María Isasi-Díaz** (HTI Mentor), Profesor Emerita of Christian Ethics and Theology at Drew University.

HTI's Newest Family Member...

Rev. Dr. Carmelo Santos (2005-2006 Dissertation Year fellow), wife Jennifer, and son Pablo, happily announce the arrival of Pablo's new sister, Laura Mariela. Rev. Dr. Santos is Associate Pastor at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Springfield, VA and is a Consultant for Hispanic Ministries, ELCA Metro D.C. Synod.



Please Keep Them in Your Prayers...



Dr. Alejandro García-Rivera (HTI Selection Committee member) of the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University, a member of the Graduate Theological Union family, passed away on December 13, 2010. He leaves behind a wife, Kathryn, and two daughters, Sophia and Elizabeth. Dr. García-Rivera had taught Systematic Theology at the Jesuit School of Theology since 1993. He was the GTU Distinguished Faculty Lecturer for 2002 and recipient of the Sarlo Excellence in Teaching Award for 2010. A prolific author, he will be remembered especially for his many contributions to the field of theological aesthetics and his work at the interface of theology and science as in his recent book, *The Garden of God: A Theological Cosmology*.

Sympathies also go out to our dear sister, **Dr. Sharon Ringe** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee Member) for the passing of her mother, Hilda Ringe, on December 15, 2010. Hilda Ringe lived a good long life until 101. Daughter Sharon described her as being "of sound-mind until her heart gave out, having done a lot of loving with that heart all through her life. Now she is at rest with God.

Our hearts are heavy for our brother at Denver Seminary, **Dr. M. Danny Carroll** (HTI Selection Committee member), who is mourning the loss of his mother as well. May the peace that surpasses all understanding embrace Danny and his family in this difficult time.



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!