

# HISPANIC THEOLOGICAL INITIATIVE



JUNE 2011

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## From the Director

In 2001, when we first launched *Journeys*, it was not only a printed and mailed newsletter, it was also an internal newsletter for masters and Ph.D. students in theology and religious studies. The newsletter was produced once a year and mailed to current HTI fellows, and Latina/o faculty, and it was HTI's venue to keep the scholarly community informed and connected. Ten years later *Journeys* has evolved into a quarterly online newsletter that currently reaches over **300 faculty** across the country, **nineteen** consortium member schools, and more than a **thousand** readers in the academy and the church. It is a newsletter that promotes the scholarship and community involvement of HTI masters and Ph.D. graduates, current HTI/HTIC scholars, lectures and new initiatives at the nineteen consortium member schools, recently published books by HTI/HTIC scholars, and so much more. *Journeys* not only keeps scholars connected, it showcases the vibrant ecumenical, multi-ethnic, interdisciplinary, academic and church leadership that has been prepared in more than fourteen years to serve in the academy and the church. The **74 Ph.D. graduates and 43 masters graduates** that have been supported by HTI/HTIC are making vitally important contributions in the academy and the church. Because these scholars are well-rooted not only in academics, but also in their service to the community, HTI/HTIC scholars are sought after by the government, and by academic and business organizations, to serve on boards, create new initiatives, and do research. This solid base of scholars allows HTI to enter its fifteenth year, "*Quinceañera/o*," celebrating many accomplishments, as well as being ready and equipped to begin a new and exciting stage of life. As you read this newsletter, you will be excited about our five new graduates, current students passing comprehensive exams, and the many emerging lectures and initiatives across denominations and in academia. It is truly amazing to experience them in action!

## Drew University Welcomes our Community



The Graduate Division of Religion at Drew Theological School offers a program that is "adventurous within disciplines, flexible across disciplines, and engaged beyond disciplines." The community of scholars that make up the faculty is "distinctively marked by a robust geographic and ethnic diversity as well as an uncommon gender balance." In this diversity the voice of Latinas/os has played a distinctive and important role. Faculty members **Dr. Otto Maduro** (HTI Mentor) and **Dr. Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee Member) have worked with many HTI and HTIC fellows and Drew has graduated several Latina/o scholars who are teaching around the United States. Jeffrey Kuan (Drew's representative at HTIC Member Council), the new dean of Drew Theological School, celebrates the connection with HTIC and has already successfully hired **Dr. Elias Ortega-Aponte** (2009-2010 Dissertation Fellow) as Assistant Professor of Afro-Latina/o Religions and Cultural Studies. Dr. Ortega-Aponte, an HTI fellow who completed his doctorate at Princeton Theological Seminary, will teach in both the College of Liberal Arts and the Theological School at Drew. As Dean Kuan noted, "It is a good feeling to make this hire. It strengthens our commitment to the Latina/o

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community. Dr. Ortega-Aponte will not only add to the teaching of Afro-Latina/o religions and cultures at Drew, but will also be an important mentor to Latina/o students in the Theological School, the college, and the Graduate Division of Religion."



Dr. Isasi-Diaz retired in December 2009 after 18 years on the faculty at Drew. Known throughout the world for her work on Latina theologies, Dr. Isasi-Diaz brought a strong advocacy for the marginalized to all of her work. She continues to preach regularly on the sidewalk to a congregation that was displaced from its church building in New York City, and to write and publish.

Dr. Otto Maduro, Professor of World Christianities and the Sociology of Religion at Drew, is currently serving as President-elect of the American Academy of Religion. Drew is immensely proud to have Otto leading the largest gathering of religious scholars in the country. Dr. Maduro is also the director of the Hispanic Summer Program, which works closely with HTI to develop potential Hispanic scholars of religion.



This spring, Drew also celebrates with **Elaine Padilla** (2009-2010 Dissertation Fellow), as she completed her Ph.D. Dr. Padilla defended her dissertation with distinction this month and is serving on the faculty of New York Theological School where she is Assistant Professor of Constructive Theology and Director of Assessment. According to Dr. Catherine Keller, advisor to Padilla, "Elaine Padilla's *A Passionate God: Constructing a Theology of Divine Enjoyment*, is a joy to read. Developing the classical, especially Thomist, understanding of divine love in dialogue with process thought, Theresa of Avila, Ivone Gebara and Marcella Althaus-Reid. She proposes the model of a God who both suffers with and enjoys the cosmos, a God at once moving and moved."



As Drew looks to the future of global theological education, it is proud to be a member of the Hispanic Theological Initiative Consortium and to contribute to a broader and more diverse community of scholars of religion.

## ***EN ACCIÓN: HTI' Masters, PhD's Transforming the World***

### ***Making Scholarly Connections that Give Voice and Life to a Destitute Peruvian Community***



*Julia Liñán Retuerto, Rebecca Berru Davis, Father Gustavo Gutierrez, and Verónica Príncipe Liñán*

Since the fall of 2005, **Rebecca Berrú Davis** (2010-2011 Dissertation Fellow) has been working on a project with women artists from two art cooperatives in the shantytowns on the outskirts of Lima, Peru. Her research explores ways to link art, faith, and justice while bringing attention to the lives and creativity of these Peruvian women artists. Her fieldwork evolved into an exhibit called *Picturing Paradise: Cuadros from the Peruvian Women of Pamplona Alta*. The exhibit features hand-stitched narratives of the women's realities, their insights, their hopes and dreams. The women call these embroidered and appliquéd fabric pictures *arpilleras* or *cuadros*. Over the past five years the women's art has been shown in a dozen venues throughout the United States. In June 2008, the

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art was exhibited in a gallery in Miraflores, Lima, Peru and the women artists were honored with a special reception. A second smaller exhibit called *Stitching Stories of Miracles and Memories* was assembled this past summer and shown at the Denno Museum in Traverse City, MI, and most recently at Santa Clara University, CA. Both exhibits feature the women's art, raise awareness of the context of their lives, provide a means for the women's "voices" to be heard, and in the process, through sales of additional *cuadros*, help to support over 30 women and their families.

This past fall (2010), two of the women artists and Rebecca were invited by Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame to be part of the conference: *Women as Intercultural Leaders: Imagination, Innovation, Integrity* (September 29-October 1). Julia Liñán Retuerto and her daughter Verónica Principe Liñán were elected by their cooperative, *Manos Ancashinas* to represent the group. During the two-week visit, Rebecca and the artists attended the opening reception presentation for the *Picturing Paradise* exhibit and provided numerous presentations to various classes at St. Mary's and at three other universities. One highlight of the visit to South Bend was preparing a Peruvian dinner for fellow Peruvian, Rev. Dr. Gustavo Gutiérrez at the home of Dr. Timothy Matovina. A dozen other guests from Notre Dame were also invited. That evening the women presented Father Gutiérrez with a special gift – a hand sewn stole depicting scenes from the life of Christ.

For more information about the exhibit or this project please contact Rebecca Berrú Davis, doctoral candidate in Art and Religion at the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley, CA. ([berrumt@yahoo.com](mailto:berrumt@yahoo.com)).

## Church Planting Success by HTI Fellow

From the beginning of his Ph.D. studies in 2003, **Dr. Sammy Alfaro** (2007-08 Dissertation Fellow), a graduate of Fuller Theological Seminary and now Assistant Professor in Christian Studies at Grand Canyon University, shared that he would always find ways to connect his scholarship to the church. Dr. Alfaro has stayed true to this commitment. In 2008, he and his wife Miriam planted *Iglesia Nuevo Día/New Day Church* in their hometown of Phoenix, AZ. They began the church with eight adults and ten kids meeting every Sunday in their living room. In 2009, the congregation began renting a public school cafeteria where the church has grown steadily, and now has a current average attendance of 100 individuals.

*Iglesia Nuevo Día/New Day Church* is a bi-lingual, multicultural Hispanic Pentecostal church affiliated with the Church of God (Cleveland, TN). In the past three years, the church has served the surrounding community by preaching the good news of the gospel in word and deed. Dr. Alfaro speaks about New Day Church with lots of enthusiasm and is confident the congregation will continue to grow and to have a greater impact on the immediate community and the greater metropolitan area. Although it is often challenging to teach full-time at Grand Canyon University while pastoring a church, he shared that his praxis as a minister feeds his intellectual endeavors and teaching. Thus, as a pastor and theologian, Sammy seeks to connect his teaching and writing with his Pentecostal roots.





## Seminar on Debates Over Religion and Sexuality



**Robyn Henderson-Espinoza** (2010-2011 HTIC Doctoral Scholar), who is pursuing doctoral studies at Illif School of Theology, is one of the 12 scholars chosen to participate in the Seminar on Debates on Religion & Sexuality at Harvard Divinity School. The selected scholars are advanced doctoral students, recent recipients of doctorates, and writers working outside the academy who are hoping to change the terms of current debates about religion and sexuality. The purpose of the seminar, which took place June 5-11, was to help participants write their first large project, such as a dissertation or a book, while encouraging them to collaborate with others in the field. To this end, the Debates embraced a broad understanding of "religion" and "sexuality", welcomed a variety of methods in religious studies and theology, and supported the participation of local and international writers. Mark D. Jordan, Richard Reinhold Niebuhr Professor of Divinity at Harvard Divinity School, directed the seminar. More information can be found at <http://www.hds.harvard.edu/rsseminar/>.

## HTI Fellow, Guest Panelist at Trinity Institute's 41<sup>st</sup> National Theological Conference

From January 19-21<sup>st</sup>, **Dr. Eric Barreto** (2008-2009 Dissertation Year Fellow), Assistant Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary, participated in a discussion of the theory and practice of an authentic and transformative study of Scripture. The lectures and panels addressed topics such as scholarly concerns for Scripture reading and interpretation, the influence of contemporary culture upon scriptural interpretation, the practice of communal reading of Scripture, and the particular concerns and lens of the laity in biblical study. Speakers included seasoned scholars Walter Brueggemann, Mary Gordon, Teresa Okure, Gerald O. West, and Steed V. Davidson. Other guest panelists included Amy E. Meverden and Mary Chilton Callaway. Many of the sessions were videotaped and can be accessed at <http://www.trinitywallstreet.org/webcasts/videos/conferences-classes/trinity-institute-lectures/sister-teresa-okure-shcj>



*From left to right:  
Dr. Eric Barreto, Dr. Teresa Okure, Dr. Walter  
Brueggemann*

## HTI Student Aide Engages High School Students to Think about College and Theological Education



**David Coello** (2009-2010 HTI Student Aide and Princeton Theological Seminary M.Div. graduate) began an interim assistant pastorate at Laurel Presbyterian Church in Maryland. Soon after, David initiated a book club at Laurel High School for sharing of cultural experiences from book reading. After reading Dr. David T. Abalos' book, *Latinos in the United States: The Sacred and the Political*, Pastor Coello decided to contact the author and organized a visit to

Princeton University, as an opportunity for these young fellows to explore higher education.

On April 26th, 50 students, along with four chaperones, made their inspirational visit to Princeton University and Princeton Theological Seminary where they heard an empowering speech from Dr. David T. Abalos, and **Joanne Rodríguez** (HTI Director). After the visit Rodríguez stated, "Statistics across this nation indicate that Latino and African-American youth have the highest dropout rates; however, on Tuesday morning I had the great fortune of meeting 50 students from Laurel High School, who are bright, energetic and intelligent, proving that media is doing a disservice to our youth. Media continuously portrays Hispanic and African-American youth in a very negative manner instead of highlighting the many exceptional students that we have across the United States."

The visit included a tour of the campus, the opportunity to sit in classes of their choice, and take part in a panel discussion composed of seven students from Princeton University who shared their experiences before and after they became students of the University.

## LOGROS

We are delighted to announce **FIVE** new HTI graduates, bringing our total number of **HTI/HTIC graduates to 74!**



Last fall **Socorro Castañeda-Liles** (2003-2004 Dissertation Fellow) received her Ph.D. in Sociology from University of California, Santa Barbara. Her research, writing, and teaching interests include sociology of religion, lived religion, critical ethnography, community studies, Chicano/a and Latino/a studies, qualitative methods, and the interlocking of race, class, gender, religion, and sexuality. Her current research focuses on lived religion, particularly Catholic devotion among Latinas and the intersections of race, class, gender, sexuality, and generation. Socorro returned to her alma mater in 2010 as Assistant Professor in the Religious Studies Department.

**Ana Bedard** (2010-2011 Dissertation Fellow) long term immigration advocate and currently the Senior Outreach and Project Manager for the Institute for Workforce Education (IWE) based out of St. Augustine College in Chicago did an exceptional job defending her dissertation on March 31<sup>st</sup> at Loyola University, Chicago. At IWE, Dr. Bedard helps businesses, organizations, and individuals in the Chicago area develop results-driven career and professional development.



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On March 25, 2011, **Neomi DeAnda** (2009-2010 Dissertation Fellow) defended her dissertation at Loyola University, Chicago. Neomi is in the field of constructive theology, focusing on postcolonial thought, U.S. Latina/o theology, and Latin America. After doing extensive research in Mexico, Neomi did groundbreaking research to retrieve the writings of María Anna Águeda de San Ignacio. Her dissertation focuses on God Images in a Theology of Breast Milk through the work of María Anna Águeda de San Ignacio. Additionally, while writing her dissertation, Neomi has taught at Catholic Theological Union and DePaul University, McCormick Theological Seminary, and Lutheran School of Theology. She is an exceptional professor and we are delighted to have her as an HTI graduate!

**Elias Ortega-Aponte** (2009-2010 Dissertation Fellow) received accolades from his entire dissertation committee and graduated Magna Cum Laude for his exploration on how Afro-Latino identity together with the practices and projects of the Young Lords Party in New York can serve as a basis for modeling a religious humanism that can guide U.S. Latina/o theology and ethics beyond the politics of cultural identity to a radical politics of dissent. Additionally in mid-May Dr. Ortega-Aponte accepted the position of Assistant Professor in Afro-Latina/o Religions and Cultural Studies at Drew University. Dr. Ortega will begin teaching in September 2011.



**Elaine Padilla** (2009-2010 Dissertation Fellow) already Assistant Professor of Constructive Theology and Director of Assessment at New York Theological Seminary defended her dissertation on April 6, 2011 at Drew University. Her research, teaching and writing engage the areas of Process Thought, Latina/o Theologies, Constructive Theologies, Postmodern Philosophies, Ecotheology, Gender Studies, and Women Religious Studies. Her dissertation, "A Passionate God: Constructing a Theology of Divine Enjoyment," develops a relational model of the Lover God from feminist, postmodern and process perspectives on enjoyment. Dr. Padilla is already hard at work on an up upcoming three volume series being co-edited with Dr. Peter Phan of Georgetown University on Theology



**Victor Carmona** (2010-2011 Dissertation Fellow) was selected as a 2011 Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowship Grantee. In his dissertation, Victor will develop a theological concept of neighbor love that combines Aquinas's order of charity and Gutierrez's preferential option for the poor to produce a practical moral framework for thinking through U.S. – Mexican immigration issues.

## New Appointments



**Dr. Efrain Agosto** (1998-99 Post-Doctoral Fellow, HTI Selection Committee & Mentor), current Academic Dean at Hartford Seminary, will assume the position of Professor of New Testament and Coordinator of Spanish Language Doctor of Ministry Program Track at New York Theological Seminary (NYTS). Dr. Agosto looks forward to joining the faculty and students at New York Theological in their journey of biblical inquiry. Dr. Agosto will join NYT on July 1<sup>st</sup>!

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As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011, **Dr. Luis Pedraja** (Post-Doctoral Fellow and Mentor) will be the new Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Antioch University Los Angeles. Since 2004, Dr. Pedraja has served as Vice President of the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.



**On January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012, Dr. Gregory Cuellar** (2005-2006 Dissertation Fellow) will leave his current adjunct position in Old Testament at Austin Seminary, to assume the Assistant Professor of Old Testament faculty position at the same institution.

## HTI Fellows Complete Comprehensive Exams

Taking one more step on their doctoral journey, following HTI fellows successfully completed their institutions' required exams:

**Cristian De La Rosa** (2009-2010 Comprehensive Exams Year Fellow) Chicago Theological Seminary

**Matilde Kathleen Moros** (2009-2010 Comprehensive Exams Year Fellow) Drew University

**Miguel Romero** (2010-2011 Comprehensive Exams Year Fellow) Duke Divinity School

**Jonathan Warren** (2010-2011 Comprehensive Exams Year Fellow) Vanderbilt University



## Dr. Sammy Alfaro 2011 HTI Book Prize Winner

Although the work of the HTI Book Prize Selection Committee was quite formidable this year, because of the exceptional books nominated, **Dr. Sammy Alfaro** (2007-2008 Dissertation fellow), Assistant professor in Christian Studies at Grand Canyon University was selected as the 2011 HTI Book Prize recipient for his book *Divino Compañero: Toward a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology*, an original exploration of Jesus as the Divine Companion in a Latina/o Pentecostal context that examines the necessary foundations for constructing a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology. Dr. Alfaro proposes that Spirit-Christology is a more suitable paradigm for a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology and discusses the components needed to construct such a model. Dr. Alfaro will give a lecture on his winning entry on June 25<sup>th</sup> during the HTI Summer Workshop at Princeton Theological Seminary, in Princeton, New Jersey. Responding to his lecture will be Dr. Gastón Espinosa (1999-00 HTI Post-doctoral Fellow & HTI Mentor), Arthur V. Stoughton Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Claremont McKenna College, and Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim, Associate Professor of Doctrinal Theology at Moravian Theological Seminary. Lecture will be at 7:00 pm and is free and open to the public. *Divino Compañero* was published by Pickwick Publications.



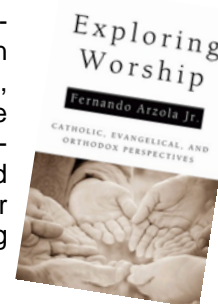


## New in Print & Online



Judson Press recently published *Listen to the Children: Conversations with Immigrant Families/Escuchemos a los Niños: Conversaciones con Familias Inmigrantes*. Making a timely and important contribution, author **Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier** (1997-1998 Dissertation Year fellow, HTI mentor, and Selection Committee and Advisory Committee member) addresses the challenging topic of immigration from the perspective of the roughly 16.5 million children in the United States with at least one immigrant parent, by providing a vitally important and practical resource for pastors, social workers, educators, community groups, legislators, caregivers and others. Dr. Conde-Frazier is dean of Esperanza College at Eastern University, and a prolific preacher and lecturer.

*Exploring Worship: Catholic, Evangelical, and Orthodox Perspectives* written by Fernando Arzola, Jr., Director of Interdisciplinary Studies and Assistant Professor of Youth Ministry at Nyack College, is a comparative study of the teachings on corporate worship of three major branches of the Christian tradition. Arzola's examination contributes to the important and continuing conversation among Catholics, Evangelicals, and Orthodox adherents of the faith, highlighting the integrative potential between these three groups, contrary to its history of distrust and outright animosity. *Exploring Worship* invites us to more critically, intentionally, and sympathetically reflect on the ways we worship and the place of worship in our churches. It also suggests practices that may help deepen the understanding and experience of worship.



## HTIC News and Happenings

### Brite Divinity School

Brite's, *Center for Latino/a Church Studies* had its yearly program for Latina/o laity leadership from June 5-10, 2011. This program's goal is to prepare laity for service in the Disciples of Christ Church, but it is also open to other denomination laity. Teaching this summer were:

- **Dr. Gregory Cuellar** (2005-2006 HTI Dissertation Fellow) Introduction to New Testament
- **Dr. Zaida Maldonado Pérez** (2007-08 Dissertation Fellow and HTI former director) Introduction to Theology
- Dr. Luis C. Bernard (Director LCS) Care and Personal Counseling
- **Dr. Carlos F. Cardoza-Orlandi** (HTI Mentor) The Church Mission
- **Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier** (1997-98 Dissertation Year fellow, HTI mentor, and Selection Committee and Advisory Committee member) Spiritual Formation
- Dr. Carmelo Alvarez (Professor at Christian Theological Seminary) Heritage of the Disciples of Christ

### Candler School of Theology - Emory University

**Dr. Jan Love** (Emory's representative at the HTIC Member Council), dean of Emory University's Candler School of Theology has been inducted into the Morehouse College Martin Luther King Jr. Collegium of Scholars. She was inducted at the 144th annual Ministers and Laity Induction Crown

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Forum on the Morehouse campus on April 7. The Collegium of Scholars is designed to recognize those who act as “ethically and spiritually oriented role models and moral examples,” according to the charge to the inductees. The charge further directs inductees to be “affirmative and appreciative, coherently critical examples for this generation of students, always remembering that our vision is the creation of a global society in which the full development of each individual’s potential is the central goal.” We congratulate Dr. Love and are elated to have her as an HTIC partner.

### Chicago Theological Seminary

In the fall of 2011, CTS will be launching a Masters in Religious Leadership degree program. This exciting new program is designed to prepare women and men for service in a range of religious, faith-based, community and advocacy settings. The two-year degree provides a foundation in theological education, including theological field education for those pursuing lay ministry, and to professionals from fields other than religion who wish to develop or strengthen the theological dimensions of their work. This program will meet the needs of those current and prospective students who are not seeking ordination but understand their vocation in terms of ministry, and who feel the need for an alternative to the traditional three-year M.Div. The degree may be particularly appropriate for those involved in faith-based non-profit organizations, or who are already serving their churches in staff positions other than pastor. For more information about Chicago Theological Seminary, please visit [www.ctschicago.edu](http://www.ctschicago.edu) and contact Elena Jimenez at 773.322.0221.

### Drew University

On April 7, 2011, **Dr. Kah-Jin Jeffrey Kuan** (Drew’s representative at HTIC Member Council) was inaugurated as the new dean at Drew’s Theological School. In his welcoming remarks President Weisbuch shared, “Jeffrey brings with him a wealth of experience and high ambition for Drew. His commitment to theological education that addresses the challenges of the wider world will broaden our students’ experience and better prepare them for leadership.” Dr. Kuan is an active member of the United Methodist Church (UMC), has served on the board of directors of the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry since 2004. He holds a Ph.D. in Old Testament from Emory University, a Master of Theological Studies from Southern Methodist University, and a Bachelor of Theology from Trinity Theological College in Singapore. He looks forward to serve the church as dean of one of its leading theological schools. Dr. Kuan shared, “Drew is now poised to be a pioneer in reimagining and transforming theological education, and in the preparation of religious leaders and scholars for ethnically diverse and global societies.” We are elated for, and congratulate Dr. Kuan, and look forward to working with him as he leads Drew as the first Asian American to serve in this capacity.



### Duke Divinity School

Dean **Richard B. Hays** (Duke’s representative at the HTIC Member Council) has announced the appointment of Edgardo Colón-Emeric, board member of the Hispanic Summer Program, as Assistant Professor of Christian Theology, effective July 1, 2011. Colón-Emeric has served since 2007 as director of the Hispanic House of Studies and as Assistant Research Professor

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of Theology and Hispanic Studies at Duke Divinity School. An ordained minister, Colón-Emeric was chosen after an international search process and will be one of a small number of United Methodist Latino theologians holding a tenure-track faculty position in a United Methodist theological school. In this new position, Colón-Emeric will teach and perform research full-time. Pastor Ismael Ruiz-Millán will replace Dr. Colón-Emeric as director of the Hispanic House of Studies.

### **Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago**

**Dr. José David Rodríguez** (HTI Selection Committee member), past director of the Hispanic/Latino Ministry Program and Professor of Theology at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, will become the new Rector at the Instituto Superior Evangélico de Estudios Teológicos (ISEDET) in Argentina. ISEDET's aim is the theological education and the formation of those people devoted to the work of the Church, both in practical training as well as in the field of research. In 2001, the Ministry of Education of Argentine granted full academic standing to for the ISEDET's M.Div., M.A., and PhD degrees. Additionally, ISEDET's library, the most extensive Protestant library of Latin America, adds some 1000 new volumes every year and receives 850 journals from all over the world. It also has Historical Archives in microfilm, which contains sources of Protestantism in the River Plate, a collection of works of the Spanish Reformation (López Library), and several collections given by researchers. Its complete catalog may be consulted on ISEDET's Web page, <http://www.isedet.edu.ar/pergamo/opac/cgi-bin/pgopac.cgi?form=Default>. We congratulate Dr. Rodríguez, and look forward to finding ways to partner with ISEDET.

### **Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University**

We congratulate **Dr. Charles M. Wood** (Perkins's representative at the HTIC Member Council), Lehman Professor of Christian Doctrine at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, for his election as vice-president and president-elect of the American Theological Society (ATS). The ATS will be celebrating its centenary in 2012 and is the oldest theological society in the United States. Dr. Wood will serve as vice-president in 2011-2012 and president in 2012-2013.

### **Princeton Theological Seminary**

On June 24-28<sup>th</sup>, PTS will host the HTI Summer Workshop bringing 20 plus Ph.D. students from the Hispanic Theological Initiative Consortium schools. This event is held yearly to continue to mentor, train, and promote networking among Ph.D. students in theology and religion. On the evening of June 25<sup>th</sup>, the HTI Book Prize Winner, **Dr. Sammy Alfaro** (2007-2008 Dissertation Fellow), will present a lecture on his winning entry, *Divino Compañero: Toward a Hispanic Pentecostal Christology*.

In addition to hosting HTI, the School of Christian Vocation and Mission at PTS has a number of programs to support and nurture pastors and the laity of the church. In May, the Latino Leadership Institute hosted a Preaching and Proclamation Conference with Dr. Pablo Jiménez as the main speaker. Dr. Jiménez received an M.Div. from the Evangelical Seminary in Puerto Rico, an S.T.M., from the Christian Theological Seminary in Indianapolis, and a D.Min. from Columbia Theological Seminary. He has written and co-authored several books. To purchase copies of his books and hear his sermons please visit [www.dr.pablojimenez.com/english.htm](http://www.dr.pablojimenez.com/english.htm).

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## The Catholic University of America

In late February, The Catholic University of America (CUA) launched the Hispanic Civic and Global Engagement Talk Series. The program aims at strengthening collaboration between CUA and the Washington, D.C., area Hispanic immigrant community. The lecture series, held from late February through the end of March, focused on how vulnerable (immigrant) families are, the complexities of the political immigrant debate, and how these complexities require both critical analyses as well as compassionate understandings. Mario Ortiz, coordinator of the program, Assistant Professor of Spanish is thrilled with the CUA community's response to the talks. "The success of the presentations so far has been beyond our initial expectations. Seeing large numbers of students enthusiastically engaged in the discussions, while relating the presentations to what they are learning in the classroom, is any educator's ultimate wish come true," said Ortiz.

## Educational Events and Opportunities

### ACHTUS Colloquium 2011



This year's ACHTUS Colloquium provided Catholic Hispanic Theologians a space to consider how popular culture and religion have influenced Latino/a theology. The conference is always scheduled the first week of June and this year ACHTUS met in San José, California, from June 5-8, 2011. Under the central theme *Pan de Vida: Eucharistic Liturgy, Piety and Justice*, the event explored the Eucharistic presence and challenge in the official liturgy of the Church, Catholic people's devotion, and the Church's social doctrine.

**ACHTUS Colloquium** Plenary sessions included:

#### **Liturgia Hispana in light of the new Ordo Missae**

Moderator: **Jacqueline Hidalgo** (2007-08 Dissertation Fellow)

Conjunto Partners:

**Raúl Gómez Ruiz** (1999-00 Dissertation Fellow)

*The Question of Language and the Eucharist: An Example from the Texto Único of the Ordo Missae*

Richard McCarron - Catholic Theological Union

*The Ordo Missae and La Liturgia Hispana: From Textual Orthodoxy to Liturgical Polydoxy*

#### **La Iglesia: Body of Christ in Today's World**

Moderator: Ramon Luzárraga

Conjunto Partners:

Natalia Imperatori-Lee

*Hombres, Hembras, Hambres: Narration, Correction, and the Work of Ecclesiology*

**Theresa Yugar** (2011-12 Dissertation Fellow)

*Ivone Gebara: "Multiple Bodies," "Multiple Crosses," and "Multiple Resurrections" Feminist Paradigm for a U.S. Hispanic Latina/o Ecclesiology*

#### **Eucaristía and popular religion, then and now**

Moderator Nichole M. Flores

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Conjunto Partners:

**Gary Macy** (HTI mentor)

*Not by Bread (for Wine) Alone: Popular Practices in the Middle Ages and Colonial Mexico*

**Orlando Espín** (HTI mentor and Selection Committee member)

*Eucharistic Popular Devotions from and among Latin@s*

**Justicia: Fruit of the Earth and Work of Human Hands**

Moderator **Miguel Romero** (2011-12 Dissertation Fellow)

Conjunto Partners:

**María Teresa Dávila** (2004-05 Dissertation Fellow)

*Evolution and Incarnation: Musings on "Sacramental Science" and Its Implications for Justice*

**Rebecca Berrú Davis** (2010-11 Dissertation Fellow)

*La Virgen Peregrina: A New Paradigm for "Just" Liturgies in a Latino/a Context*

For more information regarding ACHTUS, mission, yearly events, and membership please visit:

<http://www.achtus.org>



During ACHTUS Colloquium, **Dr. Eduardo Fernández** (1997-1998 Post-Doctoral Fellow) Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and Ministry at the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, was elected as the recipient of the 2011 *Virgilio Elizondo Award*. The *Virgilio Elizondo Award* is given by ACHTUS to an individual "for distinguished achievement in theology, in keeping with the mission of the Academy." Congratulations, Eduardo!

*Rev. Dr. Eduardo Fernández receives the award from Dr. Gilberto Cabazos*



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## Hispanic Summer Program



The Hispanic Summer Program is an ecumenical initiative in Theology and Religion seeks to supplement and enrich the theological and ministerial education offered in seminaries and universities. Yearly, Latina/o graduate students enrolled at the member schools have the privilege of participating in this amazing program for two weeks for a nominal fee. All Courses are taught by Hispanic faculty.

This year the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Session will be from Saturday, June 25 to Friday, July 8, 2011 at the University of Saint Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, IL. This accredited program for 2011 includes eight choices of 3-credit courses geared toward master-level Latina/o seminarians & graduate students. Here is a listing of their courses:

### *En Español/In Spanish*

- *Estudios Paulinos* by **Awilda González-Tejera** (2000-01 Dissertation Fellow)
- “*Vivir es Creer*”: *Curso Introductorio a la Ética Cristiana* by **Maria Teresa Dávila** (2004-05 Dissertation Fellow)
- *La Voz Profética en el Mundo Actual: El Caso de Amós* by **M. Daniel Carroll-Rodas** (HTI Selection Committee)
- *La Predicación en la Comunidad Latina de los EE.UU.* by Dr. Pablo Jiménez

### *Courses in English*

- Re-claiming the Voices of Latin American Theologians for the Church in North America by Elsie Miranda
- Contemporary Latina/o Religious, Literary, and Visual Marian Representations by Laura E. Pérez
- Race and Religion in the History of the Americas by **Jorge Aquino** (2005-06 Dissertation Fellow)
- Early Church Trinitarian and Christological Controversies by **Zaida M. Pérez** (1997-98 Dissertation Fellow and former HTI Director)

For more information please visit <http://hispanicsummerprogram.org/2011.htm> or contact HSP at [hsprogram@gmail.com](mailto:hsprogram@gmail.com).

## Through Hispanic Eyes at the Hispanic Summer Program

Also at the University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, IL, the Hispanic Summer Program will be holding its 8<sup>th</sup> session of their Cross Cultural Seminar geared towards Non-Hispanic Faculty and Administrators of Sponsoring Institutions. From Sunday, July 3, through Wednesday, July 6, 2011. This sub-program attracts 5-10 non-Hispanic faculty from sponsoring institutions interested in the contributions of, and dialogue with, Latinas/os. These scholars attend a separate seminar as well as engage and interact with our HSP faculty and students. The cost for this enriching opportunity is set at \$400 per attendee, to be paid by the participant or the supporting institution. This premium includes registration, airfare, lodging, and meals. For more information please visit <http://hispanicsummerprogram.org/2011.htm> or contact HSP at [hsprogram@gmail.com](mailto:hsprogram@gmail.com).

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### **Additional Meeting at AAR/SBL**

#### ***Overcoming Barriers to Underrepresented Scholarship: A Strategy and Action Workshop***

Despite more than four decades of feminist, anti-racist, queer and other insurgent scholarship, the literature focused on these topics, as well as the scholars who produce it, still face many barriers in the academy. This year, the Status of Women in the Profession Committee, the Status of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the Profession Committee, and the Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, and Queer Persons in the Profession Task Force of the American Academy of Religion have come together to sponsor a pre-annual meeting workshop focused on developing a plan of action for overcoming these barriers. This workshop will be held on Friday, November 18, from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. The precise location is yet to be assigned, but will most likely take place near the Moscone Center and several surrounding Hotels in San Francisco. The morning session will feature a panel that will discuss barriers to and strategies for promoting and disseminating paradigm-shifting intellectual projects within the scholarly community. In the afternoon session, participants will work on developing concrete proposals for collective action that can be implemented within the AAR and its home institutions. The cost for the workshop is \$50, which includes the entire day of sessions and a continental breakfast. If you need a subsidy, please contact [judith.plaskow@manhattan.edu](mailto:judith.plaskow@manhattan.edu). Registration is limited to the first 80 participants.

## **Employment Opportunities**

### **Hispanic Summer Program seeks new Director**

The Governing Board of the Hispanic Summer Program (HSP) invites applications and nominations for the position of Director. The person selected will supervise the academic dimensions of the Hispanic Summer Program. HSP is seeking candidates with strong administrative skills, involved in theological education, with knowledge and experience in fundraising and grant writing, strong networking and communication skills, and capable of nurturing relations with current sponsoring institutions and their presidents and deans, and capable of recruiting and establishing connections with new ones. Candidates who have been deans or have worked closely with the office of an academic dean, with experience in the administration of higher education programs, programs that are multicultural, and who are familiar with the accreditation processes and standards of the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) and the Council of Higher Education of America (CHEA) are encouraged to apply. Preference will be given to ecumenically minded candidates with strong ties to Hispanic churches and the academic community, who have a Ph.D., are former students and faculty of HSP, and are past and/or current HSP Governing Board members. The candidate is expected to dedicate one fifth each week to the work of the HSP, plus several full days throughout the year. Salary is comparable to 1/5 of an average faculty salary in ATS-accredited institutions. To apply please contact Dr. Elaine Padilla, HSP Vice Chair at [Elaine.padilla@nyts.edu](mailto:Elaine.padilla@nyts.edu).

### **Lexington Theological Seminary seeks adjunct faculty for online teaching**

A search for adjunct faculty has been announced. The selected candidate will teach courses in the seminary's new online program, which integrates intellectual, spiritual and practical elements of congregational life and leadership. A Ph.D. or ABD status is preferred, but for some courses significant experience in congregational ministry and advanced knowledge of the relevant literature will be considered.

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### **Lexington Theological Seminary seeks adjunct faculty for online teaching**

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### **U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops seeks Education Coordinator**

The Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has announced a new job opening: the Catholic Social Teaching (CST) Education Coordinator. This person advances the USCCB priorities and plans by promoting the bishops' social mission education and outreach priorities in relationship with other national Catholic social ministries' education and outreach initiatives. This involves three key functions: (1) the lead responsibility for planning and oversight of the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering (CSMG); (2) the lead responsibility for education, resource development and outreach on general Catholic Social Teaching (e.g., Compendium, CST seven themes, etc.) and its application to Justice, Peace and Human Development (JPHD) programs and communication efforts; and (3) assisting Associate Director with the department's collaborative relationships with national Catholic social ministry groups and staff.

The CST Education Coordinator is under the supervision of the Associate Director for Education and Outreach. The position requires a Bachelor's Degree (theology or public policy major preferred) as well as knowledge of and commitment to the Catholic Church and its social and moral teachings, excellent written and verbal communication skills, relational abilities, facility with use of personal computer and other communications tools, and facility with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel. The ideal candidate will have 5 years of professional experience involving meeting, planning and budgeting, preferably working as a collaborative team leader in diocesan or parish social ministry. Fluency in Spanish is preferred. For more information, please go to [http://www.usccb.org/hr/JPH.D.CTS\\_Education\\_Coordinator.pdf](http://www.usccb.org/hr/JPH.D.CTS_Education_Coordinator.pdf).

### **University of Wisconsin-Madison seeking Associate Director for Chicana and Latina Studies Program**

Has announced a job search for an Associate Director for Chicano and Latina Studies Program (CLS). The position requires at least one year of experience teaching college level course with Chicano/a & Latino/a content (experience must be as an Associate Lecturer or higher). Must possess an understanding of the heritage and culture of Latinos in the United States and have an appreciation of the problems faced by Chicano/Latino students at a large university. Administrative experience and experience working with undergraduate students and student organizations preferred. The Candidate must have excellent verbal and written skills and must be well organized.

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The Associate Director of the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies program will:

- Teach at least three courses per year for Chican@ & Latin@ Studies (preferably core CLS courses such as cultural studies, history, literature, and art).
- Together with the faculty, develop program policies and procedures. Advise faculty on the development of administrative policies and procedures. Implement and evaluate all policies and procedures and provide annual assessment reports to CLS faculty committees. Hold regular program meetings and attend executive committee meetings as an Ex-Officio Member.
- Oversee the daily operations of CLSP, including maintenance of the website, newsletter and journal; providing oversight of the courses and timetable, advising instructors, and approving course changes and certificate declarations. Supervise Program Administrator and Project Assistant. Provide guidance through daily communications, weekly staff meetings, and annual performance reviews.
- Take the lead in writing proposals /grants and creating fundraising activities for internal and external funding to support CLS projects and events. Identify scholars and other presenters. Oversee/assist staff working on designing and implementing these events.
- Develop strategies to grow the program and build a community of students, alumni and Latino/community members.
- Attend L&S and University Chair/director meetings and work and interact with Provost, Vice Provosts, Deans and other Directors and Chairs. Serve on college and university committees including academic staff committees.

## HTI's Newest Family Member...

**2009-2010 Comprehensive Exams Year fellow, Miguel Romero,** and wife Heather, recently announced the birth of their beautiful baby boy named Oscar Ernesto-José Romero. Also celebrating Oscar's arrival are big sisters Analucia and Iliana. Oscar was born on Tuesday, April 26.





## For Your Prayers...

**Dr. Francisco Garcia-Treto** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee member) is recovering at home after surgery to repair a torn ligament in the rotator cuff on his left shoulder. Let's keep him in our prayers.

**Dr. Elaine Padilla** (2009-2010 Dissertation Year Fellow) recently suffered the sudden passing of her father.

**Dr. Efrain Agosto** (HTI Mentor and Selection Committee member) and his family **THANK** the HTI community for its prayers, and many e-mails messages for their mother Emerita Agosto. Emerita is now at a rehab center in West Hartford, Connecticut. She has made a remarkable recovery after a subdural **hemorrhage** of the brain. Although she has a long recovery ahead of her, the family is hopeful and delighted to have Mama back.

Please pray for Ramona Olmedo, **Joanne Rodríguez's** mother that she may recover her physical and emotional strength after health issues that have proven to be trying.

We ask for prayers for **Dr. Zaida Maldonado Perez** (1997-1998 Dissertation Fellow & Past HTI Director) who recently suffered a fall and hurt her back. Her recovery will take at least 6 to 8 weeks please pray for a full recovery.



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](mailto: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!



**HISPANIC THEOLOGICAL INITIATIVE**

**GIFT**

Name:	
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Yes! Please accept my gift to continue to support Latina and Latino doctoral students, and send me a receipt for my tax-deductible donation to the address listed below. I would also like to be added to the HTI distribution lists for *Perspectivas*, the HTI journal, and for *Journeys*, the HTI electronic newsletter.

Mailing address:	
Email address:	

I would like to suggest that HTI contact the following individual or private family foundation that may be able to support the program.

Name:	
Mailing address:	
Email address:	

Please send this form along with your gift, made out to **HTI Restricted Funds**, to:

HTI  
12 Library Place  
Princeton, NJ 08540

Thank you for your support that helps us to continue with the mission of the HTI!