

THE DEAN'S NEWSLETTER



FROM THE DEAN

If, like me, you listen to NPR, you have heard repeatedly that one of the main contributors to the serious polarization in our society is that we do not interact or talk with people (or websites) that hold views different from ours. We remain too much in our silos of the like-minded, and thus have lost the capacity to communicate across difference.

The GTU exists to overcome the chasms of religious difference. We bring together strikingly different religious communities. The gathering of this diverse group is in itself an achievement, but we will not have achieved our mission and vision unless we actively engage with one another.

I am acutely aware of the pressures that lead us to focus on what is essential to our responsibilities and goals. Students must focus in order to complete their degrees in good time, and faculty and staff are busy with the activities of their own institutions. But we lose a precious opportunity if we do not engage with the diversity of our community. Engagement will nurture the skills and virtues to live in our increasingly diverse world, to enhance the capacities for mutual understanding and create a less fractious world.

Consider attending a lecture or taking a course about a tradition that you do not know well. Not only will this increase your knowledge base, but -- as importantly -- will draw you into new relationships and increase your future capacity for those new relationships and broader understandings in whatever roles you find yourself. There are lectures, events, and courses on Muslim, Jewish, Buddhist, Chinese, Hindu, Jain and Sikh traditions -- all taught by excellent scholar-practitioners. Embrace the promise of the GTU.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- NEWHALL AWARD DEADLINE
- LIBRARY DONATION



LIBRARY NEWS

Featured Library Database: GTU ProQuest Dissertations and Theses

What is it? Over 600 dissertations and theses written by GTU graduates! Search by topic, author, or committee member. If we don't have the full-text available, we might have it in print. Full-text is not available for some of the older dissertations, and may not yet be ready for the recently submitted ones.

How to find it: From the electronic resources page (gtu.edu/library/electronic-resources), scroll down to the dissertations and theses section (near the bottom of the list). If off-campus or on wi-fi, login with your barcode number or student ID number AND your last name. No login needed for desktop on-campus computers.

Need help? Ask a librarian- chat via our webpage, call 510-649-2501, email library@gtu.edu or visit!

LIGHT THROUGH THE DARKNESS: THE RESILIENT SIKH TRADITION

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

November 9th | 10am |
Student Lounge

Excellence in Academic Writing—How to Get Articles Published in Peer-reviewed Journals,

Devin Zuber, Assistant Professor of American Studies, Religion, and Literature, GTU/CSS; Lisa Fullam, Associate Professor of Moral Theology, JST; Colette Walker, Ph.D. Student, GTU.



Wednesday, November 2, 2016

6:30pm reception

7:00pm lecture

Richard S. Dinner Board Room

Dr. Rahuldeep Singh Gillis Associate Professor of Religion and Campus Interfaith

Strategist at California Lutheran University. Dr. Gill's academic work explores interactions among Sikhs, Hindus, and Muslims in South Asia, and specializes in contemporary global religion. Dr. Gill publishes frequently online at Patheos.com and the Washing-

ton Post's One Faith Blog.

During the Spring 2017 semester, Dr. Gill will serve as visiting faculty at the GTU, where he will teach two courses: "Sikhism" and "A Seminar on Religious Pluralisms in the Punjab."

This event is cosponsored by the GTU's Sikh Studies Initiative and the Sikh Foundation.

GTU @ AAR/SBL 2016

The American Academy of Religion brings thousands of professors and students, authors and publishers, religious leaders and interested laypersons to its Annual Meeting each year. Co-hosted with the Society of Biblical Literature, the Annual Meetings are the largest events of the year in the fields of religious studies and theology.

Saturday, November 19, 7pm

Science and Religion Hospitality Event

Please join CTNS, along with the Institute for the Bio-Cultural Study of Religion (IBCSR - www.ibcsr.org), Zygon Center for Religion and Science (ZCRS, www.zygoncenter.org) and the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science (IRAS - www.iras.org) for refreshments and a brief presentation.

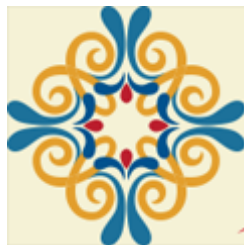
Live Oak Room, Hill Country Level, Hyatt Regency San Antonio, 123 Losoya Street, San Antonio, TX

Saturday, November 19, 8pm

GTU Reception

Our reception is a time to connect with GTU friends old and new. You'll also have opportunity to greet our 2016 alumnus of the year, Dr. Jeffrey Richey, as well as Dr. Uriah Kim, who will become the GTU's new Academic Dean in January 2017.

Hilton Palacio del Rio, La Vista, Rooms ABC, San Antonio, Texas



CALL FOR PAPERS

The Berkeley Journal of Religion and Theology invites GTU students and faculty to submit papers and book reviews for inclusion and publication in Vol. 3 of the journal. The deadline is February 1, 2017. Instructions and style guide are available on our website at <http://gtu-bjrt.wixsite.com/bjrt>

We encourage students to submit excellent writing projects and papers (final papers, RRR papers, etc.) to the journal, as well as revised conference presentations (e.g. SSSR, AAR, SBL, etc.). Questions on the suitability of articles should be directed to chief editor Dan Mocerri (bjrt@ses.gtu.edu) and questions on book reviews should be directed to the book review editor, Justin Staller.

The Journal is also looking for peer-reviewers and other editors to fill important staff positions! The Journal needs students and faculty to serve as peer reviewers in order that we publish the most cutting-edge scholarship in religious and theological studies. Anyone interested in being on the regular roster of peer-reviewers, and any student interested in serving on the Journal staff, should e-mail the chief editor (bjrt@ses.gtu.edu).

DISTINGUISHED FACULTY LECTURE:
NOVEMBER 10, 2016, 7PM

Dr. Elizabeth Liebert, Professor of Spiritual Life at San Francisco Theological Seminary (SFTS) will deliver the 2016 Distinguished Faculty Lecture on Thursday, November 10, 2016, 7:00pm at the PSR Chapel. Each year the faculty of the Member Schools nominate distinguished faculty from outside their school who they feel embody the scholarly standards, teaching excellence, and commitment to ecumenism that define the GTU. The nominations are considered by the Council of Deans who elects the Distinguished Faculty Lecturer. The Distinguished Faculty Lecture is entitled "Academic Life and Scholarship as Spiritual Practice." The responses will be given by Dr. Robert Russell, Ian G. Barbour Professor of Theology and Science at the Center of Theological and Natural Sciences, a program unit of the Graduate

Theological Union (CTNS/GTU), and Dr. Kathryn Barush, Thomas A. Bertelsen Assistant Professor of Art History and Religion of the Jesuit School of Theology and Graduate Theological Union (JST/GTU). Immediately following the lecture, there will be a reception in the Badé Museum across the courtyard from the PSR Chapel.



CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES



Tuesday, November 1st, 2016

"The Past Is a Foreign Country: Poland Confronted with Holocaust History"

with Dr. Jolanta Ambrosewicz-Jacobs and Dr. Sven Erik-Rose.

5:00pm: Graduate Theological Union | Dinner Board Room, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley CA 94709

FALL FORUM

November 9, 12:30-2pm,
Student Lounge, 2465 Le-
Conte.

The Student Advisory Committee is sponsoring this forum for doctoral students *called Live Smart at the GTU: Sharing Resources and Strategies for Survival*. We will think creatively about how to make use of the resources available through GTU's member schools and UCB, and brainstorm on ways to save money, how to participate in writing groups, and much more.

Join us for a helpful, collaborative conversation!

Pizza and refreshments will be served.

CENTER FOR ISLAMIC STUDIES

Congratulations to GTU PhD candidate Waqas Sajjad who will be presenting a paper titled, "The Ulama in Pakistan: Manufacturing History and Identity in British India" at a conference on "Inhabiting the Past: Memory and Politics in Twentieth-Century South Asia," to be held on **Nov 4**, at the University of Chicago.

CIS will be joining the UC Berkeley Islamophobia Research and Documentation Project (IRDPP) on **Tues, Nov 1 from 7-10 pm**, to hold a "**Teach-In on America's Racial Imaginary and Election Cycles**," to be held at Sibley Auditorium, UC Berkeley.

Islamic Art Historian and CIS Visiting Scholar, Carol Bier, and Magnes Curator and UCB Visiting Professor, Dr. Francesco Spagnolo, will present perspectives on **Jewish Art and Islamic Art**. This event is part of the joint CJS/CIS Madrasa-Midrasha Program and will be held on **Thurs, Nov 22, 12:45-2:30 pm** at the Magnes Museum Auditorium, 2121 Allston Way in Berkeley.

CIS Director Dr. Munir Jiwa will be holding a series of discussions on the BAMPFA exhibit, Fernando Botero: Art for Human Rights, focusing on the Abu Ghraib series. The exhibit will be held **Nov 2-13 at BAMPFA**. For more info, contact: rkosba@gtu.edu



CENTER FOR THEOLOGY AND THE NATURAL SCIENCES

Wednesday, November 9, 7pm

CTNS Faculty Showcase

A sampling of theology and science research by faculty from around the GTU.
Confirmed Speakers:

Ted Peters: "Astrotheology: Making New Neighbors in Outer Space"

Rita Sherma: "Mindfulness, Contemplative Practice, and Neurobiology"

Lisa Fullam: "AAAS at JST-SCU: Transforming the Theological Curriculum"

Free and open to the public

GTU Dinner Board Room, 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley, CA

CENTER FOR THE ARTS & RELIGION



Left Coast Chamber Ensemble Performance

November 3, 2016 | 5-7pm

"High Places" by John Luther Adams and other music for cello, percussion, and violin. Left Coast Performers: Anna Presler, Leighton Fong, and Loren Mach. In collaboration with our exhibition, *The Heritage of Landscape: Works by Nicholas Coley*, on view now through December 9, 2016.

Brown Bag Lunch Series

November 4, 2016 | 12-1pm

Discussion of Aesthetic Iconography as it Relates to Death

Presenter: Jim Sienkiewicz, CARE Writing Prize Recipient, Fall 2015, second year Art & Religion PhD Student in West African Art & Religion, GTU

In this talk Jim Sienkiewicz discusses the artistic use of iconography related to mortality. Beginning with an analysis of printmaker Anne Tait's 2015 exhibition at the Doug Adams gallery, a further engagement of photographic and contemporary artistic investigations of death as an aesthetic and conceptual theme will be explored.

Yoga in the Gallery

November 9, 2016 | 12-1pm

free | all levels welcome | no experience necessary

Join us for an hour-long session by registered yoga teacher Lily Manderville (CARE Programs Manager). Open to all GTU member school students, faculty, and staff. Comfortable work clothes recommended. Please bring a hand towel and water bottle. 2nd Wednesday of each month, 12-1pm. Questions? Email info@care-gtu.org

Third Thursdays at BAMPFA

November 17, 2016 | 4:30pm

After gathering in the Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive lobby at 4:30pm, we'll hear a short talk about an artwork on display. Then, we can amble around the museum and /or go have a drink in the café! BAMPFA is located at 2155 Center Street, between Oxford Street and Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, California.

GTU LIBRARY ARCHIVES: NEW DONATIONS

New Donations to the Archives

Albert G. Cohen Campus Ministry, Social Justice and Environment Collection. Southern California campus minister donated an additional 250 social justice and political buttons, 75 posters, a box of materials on the Delano Grape Strike, 1965-1970 and two boxes of anti-Vietnam materials. The donation adds to the considerable materials donated by the UCC minister on significant social justice movements and campus activities from the 1960s through 2003. Finding aid: <http://www.oac.cdlib.org/findaid/ark:/13030/kt109nd6gg/>

Rev. Paul L. Kittlaus Archives: Ministry in the 1960's. An additional 9 boxes of materials were recently donated by the Southern California UCC minister. These materials expand the documentation of Kittlaus involvement in social justice issues that range from civil rights to work to improve the lives of Maya Indians in Chiapas, Mexico, in the late 1990's.

Essenes of Kosmon Collection, 1947-1957. A collection of newsletters (*The Kosmon Pioneer Bulletin*, 1947-1953) and related pamphlets and materials from the Faithists organization, donated by an archivist from Avila University, Kansas City. The Essenes of Kosmon was founded in 1884 by John Ballou Newbrough. He was an American dentist who through automatic writing wrote the OAHSP Bible. The collection includes post graduate lectures on the organization (The Essene School of Abundant Life). This supplements our substantial New Religious Movements collections.

Catechism, Sisters of the Holy Family, 20th Century. Two boxes of influential catechism texts from the Sisters of the Holy Family, a community of Women Religious located in Fremont. The books and pamphlets are from the first half of the 20th century. This adds to our ongoing collection of catechism materials.

Mary Tran Collection, 1975-1983. Mary Tran served as a translator for documentary filmmaker Rick Beeman in Nicaragua in 1983. She donated a collection of photographs from the experience and a dissertation by Bishop John F. Wilson, *Obra Mora Va En Nicaragua: Trasfono Y Breve Hisotria* (Moravian work in Nicaragua: Background and Brief History), which he personally handed to her.

Special Collections and Archives at the GTU records the American religious experience in the West, religious dialogue, the Christian and wider religious intellectual heritage, and the ministries of the GTU's member schools and centers. For more information follow the links at <http://www.gtuarchives.org/cdm/>

David Stiver

Special Collections Librarian



Caption: Political and campaign buttons from the Rev. Albert G. Cohen collection.

NEWHALL APPLICATIONS
DUE FRIDAY,
NOVEMBER 11, 2016

Newhall Awards are competitive awards for GTU doctoral students engaged in collaborative teaching or research with faculty mentors in the belief that such collaborative work would contribute to the professional development of the students and the mission of the GTU. Awards are given for fall, spring, or both semesters, but the application process takes place only in the fall. The Newhall Award Application form available on the GTU webpage. The form contains all guidelines and criteria the Dean and Core Doctoral Faculty Awards Committee use to select award recipients.

Complete applications are due in the GTU Dean's Office by **5pm Friday, November 11**; these must come from the student and the professor for a project involving both. Award amounts depend on the number of appointments made, but are generally at least \$3000 per semester. **Late materials will not be accepted.**

2016-2017 CYCLE #1 STUDENT TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENTS

The following GTU doctoral students will be presenting at the 2016 AAR/SBL Conferences in San Antonio, TX, and other comparable national conferences (listed in that order). Each has received a Student Travel Grant Award from the GTU Dean's Office.

Michaela Eskew "Dalit Christianity: A Depiction of Jesus in Kalamkar Art";

Leigh Ann Hildebrand "Jews (and Jewitches) Touching Trees: Hybrid Jewish/Pagan Identity, Ritual Practice, and Belief";

Henry Kuo "Reformed Confessions and Cosmic Catholicity";

Daniel Mocerri "Beyond PTSD: Treating the Mysterious Wounds of War";

Robert Peach "'We Against the World': White Engagement of 'Thug Life' as 'Thug Luv'";

I Sil Yoon "Toward Reconciliation: The Need for North Korea Refugees and South Korean Church to Understand Systemic Distortions that Shape Prejudice Against Each Other"; "The Value of Habermas' Discourse Ethics for an Inclusive Perspective Toward Belonging and Protection of The Stateless' Human Rights";

Diandra Chretien "This Land Has Been Given as a Possession: The Book of Ezekiel and the Politics of Disempowerment";

Su-Chi Lin "Soul Portraits: Time and Memory in Fung Chun-Lan's 'The Virgin in Preparing'";

Yohana Junker "The Rothko Chapel: A Vessel for Performing Interreligious Pilgrimage";

Kate LeFranc "Kinky Hermeneutics: Resisting Homonormativity in Queer Theology";

Hyun Ho Park "David's Ten Concubines and the Case for Comfort Women" and "Stereotyping and Colonial Mimicry in John 4:1-42 and the Korean War";

Rondall Reynoso "Emmanuel Garabay: Ethnicity and Gender in the Contemporary Image of Christ";

Eleanor Shapiro "Performing 'Jewishness' in Polish Small Towns";

Eun Hye Grace So "A New Perspective on Luke 8:16-18";

Gary Weiner "Pilgrimage in the Modernist Novel: The Secular Search for Transcendence in Joseph Conrad's Lord Jim";

Seung Hyun Yoo "Relationality, Multiplicity, and Temporality in the Philosophy of Religion."

THE DEAN'S NEWSLETTER

The Dean's Newsletter is for official notices from the GTU Dean's Office regarding academic affairs and for announcements of educational events (lectures, conferences) focusing on academic research and thus of particular interest to faculty and MA and PhD students.

Send submissions to
Angela Muñoz,
amunoz@gtu.edu.

HONORABLE MENTION

PHD Students

Dissertation Successfully Defended

Dae Kyung Jung, THEO

2016 CHAN PRIZE RECIPIENT

Congratulations to second year Ph.D. student in the Interdisciplinary Studies area, **Olga Yunak** whose paper entitled, "**In Love Making: Bringing to Birth**" was selected for the 2016 Chan Prize.

Since 1989, the Chan competition's purpose is to reward the thoughtful, creative work of students who are seeking authentically to bring together theological (including ethical, Biblical, constructive) reflection on the year's topic. Though usually alternating, students were able to submit papers on either of the two topics: **Identity and Practice Across Boundaries**: exploring a particular concept, theme, or practice in two or more religions, e.g. Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, etc., or **Religion and Economics**. (Next year the topic will be strictly **Identity and Practice Across Boundaries**: exploring a particular concept, theme, or practice in two or more religions.)

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION

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