



__LFP Update__ 6.1

February, 2011

Welcome to the **LFP Update**, an e-publication from the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts to keep LFP representatives and others informed about the activities of 1) LFP National Network institutions, 2) present and former Lilly Fellows and, 3) the LFP office at Valparaiso University.

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_____ Nominations and Applications received for the LFP Post-Doctoral Fellowships and for the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program _____

We are happy to announce that the LFP received 144 completed applications for three LFP Post-Doctoral Fellowships at Valparaiso University. Look for announcements in the May issue of the _LFP Update_ for profiles of the new fellows, who will be selected in February.

We are also happy to announce that the LFP received seventy nominations from thirty-seven network schools for sixteen 2011 Lilly Graduate Fellowships. Thank you for all your work in making the nomination process of this fourth year of the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program a success. Twenty-four finalists will be selected in March, and the sixteen Fellows will be selected during an Interview Conference at the Omni Severin Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana, on April 7-10, 2011.

New Small Grant Opportunity

The Lilly Fellows Program is pleased to announce a new grant opportunity for member institutions of the Lilly Fellows Program National Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities.

At its fall, 2010 meeting, the LFP National Network Board agreed to fund a pilot program that would make available to Network Schools a limited number (four to eight) of small grants of \$1500 and \$3000. The purpose of these small grants is to stimulate conversation about church-related higher education and church-related mission on National Network campuses or among National Network schools in close proximity to each another. The Board hopes these grants will extend and strengthen the LFP's national conversation about church-related higher learning and mission within and among our network campuses. **The deadline for applications is March 15, 2011.** For more information, please click here.

Online Directory of Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship Applicants

Each year, the Program receives scores more applications from highly qualified post-doctoral students than can possibly move to the on-campus interview stage. When the committee composes a cohort of Fellows it applies a complicated calculus of factors that includes discipline, Christian denomination, and gender. It is inevitable that highly qualified candidates who have indicated their desire to teach in church-related institutions will not be interviewed. In order to provide Lilly Fellows National Network representatives with access to this rich pool of post-doctoral scholar-teachers we have created an on-line directory of applicants categorized by discipline. To see the directory of the current Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship Applicants, please click here.

March 1, 2011 Deadline Book Award

The Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts invites nominations for the Lilly Fellows Program Book Award. The biennial Lilly Fellows Program Book Award honors an original and imaginative work from any academic discipline that best exemplifies the central ideas and principles animating the Lilly Fellows Program. These include faith and learning in the Christian intellectual tradition, the vocation of teaching and scholarship, and the history, theory or practice of the university as the site of religious inquiry and culture.

Works under consideration should address the historical or contemporary relation of Christian intellectual life and scholarship to the practice of teaching as a Christian vocation or to the past, present, and future of higher education. Single authored books or edited collections in any discipline, published in 2007 to 2010, are eligible.

A Prize of \$3000 will be awarded at the Lilly Fellows Program National Conference at Samford University, October 21-23, 2011. The committee will receive nominations of academic faculty, clergy, and others. Authors or editors cannot nominate their own works. **Nomination deadline is March 1, 2011.** For more information, please [click here](#).

Report on 2010 Regional Conference: *Imago Dei: Human Dignity in Ecumenical Perspective*

We are happy to report on a successful LFP-supported Regional Conference at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts, which was directed by Thomas Albert (Tal) Howard on *Imago Dei: Human Dignity in Ecumenical Perspective*, April 16, 2010. Eighty individuals from thirteen colleges and universities attended the one-day conference. Conference organizers invited three speakers from the three major Christian traditions—Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox—to address scholars from nearby institutions, Gordon College, and the general public. The speakers were Fr. John Behr, Dean and Professor of Patristics, St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary, Russell Hittinger, William K. Warren Professor of Catholic Studies and Research Professor of Law at the University of Tulsa, and C. Ben Mitchell, Graves Professor of Moral Philosophy at Union University (TN). All three talks will be collected into a publication, and we will announce in a future LFP Update when that is available.

Report on 2010: Regional Conference: Baylor University

The LFP sponsored the *Seminar on Academic Leadership in Baptist Universities*, May 16-20, 2010, at Baylor University. Donald D. Schmeltekof, Provost Emeritus and Director of the Center for Ministry Effectiveness at Baylor University lead the conference, which consisted of thirty-five participants from eighteen schools from across the U.S. and from Indonesia. The aim of the seminar was to provide a leadership development opportunity for academic administrators in colleges and universities throughout the United States that have a significant historical connection to the Baptist tradition. The principal audience for the seminar was department chairs, deans, associate deans, provosts, program heads, prospective administrators, and others in key administrative positions. The seminar dealt with a wide range of issues from leadership principles (including self-analysis), to institutional culture and religious identity, to faculty hiring and development, to strategic planning and budgeting, and to legal issues. A major part of the seminar program focused on the distinctive mission of Christian/Baptist colleges and universities and the importance of strong administrative leadership in support of that mission.

_____ Report on 2010: Regional Conference: Wittenberg _____

The LFP also sponsored a regional conference at Wittenberg University, *Wanting Something More: A Midwest Regional Workshop Reflecting on the Professional Lives of Mid-Career Faculty*. Organized by Tammy Proctor of Wittenberg and Jeffrey Kurtz of Denison University, this regional conference was held on September 24 to 26, 2010. Eighteen participants and two observers from a total of eight different schools met to examine the working lives of faculty in mid-career (those who have taught for at least nine years, but fewer than twenty years). The conference organizers designed the program to facilitate directed discussions about passion for teaching, intellectual development, fostering collegiality, and sustaining intellectual engagement after tenure. Participants attended five sessions, each with its own reading tailored to a specific theme. Both formal and informal time was provided for discussion and organizers found that conversations continued over coffee breaks, and shared meals, and consequently laying a foundation to sustain collegial relationships. Participants took back to their respective institutions ideas to implement in the future and organizers followed up with them in November and plan a second, half-day conference at Denison University in March 2011 to report on participants' progress.

_____ Upcoming Regional Conferences in 2011 _____

Be sure to watch for information on the Regional Conference in 2011: Faith, Science, and Stewardship: Christian Pedagogy on the Environment, at Benedictine University in Illinois, **April 16, 2011**. This one-day conference will offer a multi-faith dialogue on environmental issues and Christian understanding of creation and stewardship in the classroom. The conference will feature papers by scholars from institutions including Calvin College, Calvin Theological Seminary, Trinity Christian College, Wheaton College, Abilene Christian University, as well as Benedictine University. The conference will be highlighted by two keynote address given by Dr. Caryl Fish, Associate Professor of Chemistry, St Vincent's College, Latrobe, PA., and Susan Emmerich, Consultant, The Center for Law and Culture, Trinity Christian College. The deadline for registration is April 1, 2011. The next application deadline for a Regional Conference Grant is **September 15, 2011**. For more information, [click here](#).

_____ Report on 2010: Summer Seminar: Seattle Pacific University _____

The LFP sponsored a Summer Seminar at Seattle Pacific University, June 21 to July 16 in 2010 entitled *Gender and Christianity*. Directors, Priscilla Pope-Levison and Jack Levison brought together eleven participants representing ten schools from the National Network. Pope-Levison and Levison intended to “create a cadre of well-informed faculty charged with returning to their own campuses to catalyze discussion and action toward a rapprochement among students, staff, and faculty who hold seemingly incompatible views of gender and Christianity.” Over the course of the four weeks, the participants attended panel-led seminars around set themes with

readings, which included Donna Freitas, *Sex and the Soul*, Elizabeth A. Johnson, *She Who Is*, Andreas Klöstenberger, *God, Marriage, and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundation*, and Barbara MacHaffie, *HerStory: Women in Christian Tradition*. Participants considered differing views of feminism, gender construction, and Christianity and how these ideas related to their classroom and research life.

Report on 2010: Mentoring Programs

Mentoring Programs continued to be the most popular programs sponsored by the Lilly Fellows Program at Network schools. In academic year 2009-2010, there were three Mentoring Programs on Network campuses including Belmont University, Lewis University, and Xavier University.

At Belmont University, nine second-year faculty mentees participated in a program on Mentoring for Mission, which served as a pilot program for a second-year faculty mentoring program that builds on a first-year program already in place. The program, developed by Dr. Kim Boggs (Teaching Center, Chemistry and Physics) and Dr. Mike Pinter (Mathematics and Computer Science), combined one-on-one mentoring with two group activities and an orientation. The participants also read books by Parker Palmer and Ken Bains together as a cohort.

At Lewis University, seventeen new and recently-hired faculty members participated in the Mentoring for Mission Program, which was co-sponsored by the Office of Mission and the University's faculty development program. The aim of the program developed by Kurt Schackmuth, Associate Vice President for Mission, was for new and junior faculty to grow in their understanding of the LaSallian value of Association. Four mentors from Lewis' four colleges worked with the mentees in a series of gatherings and one-on-one meetings highlighted by fall and spring gatherings with the president and provost. The mentoring emphasized four main themes: Christian vocation; LaSallian pedagogy and spirituality, the Catholic intellectual tradition, and the idea of "teaching for mission." Lewis University will continue this program.

At Xavier University, the mentoring program, *Taking Time to Think*, provided midcareer-faculty, a third of whom had not participated in the junior faculty mentoring for mission program, an opportunity for peer mentoring that connected the need for mid-career discernment with the Ignatian/Catholic academic vision. Twenty-four mid-career or recently-tenured faculty participated (twice the anticipated number) in the program which involved peer-mentoring individual meetings in the fall, a January retreat, and small group discussions in the spring semester. The aim, again, was to address developments in these faculty members' scholarship, teaching, and service within the context of Ignatian education and spirituality. These questions were linked to how the participants' career discernment tied into their service to the mission of Xavier University and to the larger Ignatian project. The program was recognized for its excellence and contribution to the university by Xavier's president, and several of the participants now comprise a Discernment Group that will continue the reflective conversations and advise the newly-formed Conway Institute for Jesuit Education.

Upcoming award and grant opportunity deadlines: Summer Seminars and Small Grants

The deadline for both the Summer Seminar and the new Small Grant program is **March 15, 2011**. The Summer Seminar will take place in Summer 2012 and the Small Grants are for the **2011-2012 academic year**.

For more information on the Summer Seminar application, [click here](#). For information on the Small Grant application process, [click here](#).

From the Colloquium

As is the annual practice, the spring semester of the weekly colloquium for the Postdoctoral Fellows turns its attention to teaching. In alternate years it focuses on the more practical aspects of classroom work or the curriculum more broadly in a church-related institution of higher learning. This spring focuses on the latter, and our overarching question is: "How do Christian faith and tradition inform my teaching and my understanding of teaching's various and changing institutional contexts?" Within the general question the colloquium is focusing first on the role of place in higher education and second on more general questions of connecting the curriculum to church-related mission. This first theme should come as no surprise, as it was the focus of our 2010 LFP National Conference; the second them--curriculum and mission--will be the focus of the upcoming LFP Workshop for Senior Administrators, October 20-21, 2011, at Samford University in Birmingham, AL (registration for this conference will open in May, 2011).

The colloquium opened with an article by David Ford, "An Interdisciplinary Wisdom: Knowledge, Formation and Collegiality in the Negotiable University," which appears in his Christian Wisdom. Desiring God and Learning in Love. In it, Ford draws on Cambridge University's adaptations to changing historical circumstances--and especially the persistence and centrality of its residential colleges--to address contemporary challenges facing universities in America and abroad. Continuing to address this theme of place, the colloquium revisited the plenary talks at the 2010 LFP National Conference at Valparaiso University by Gretchen Buggeln ("Campus Places and Placemaking: Tradition and Innovation in the Architecture of American Higher Education"), Gerardo Marti ("Hacker Ethics and Higher Learning: The Moral Clash Determining the Future of Education"), and Vincent Miller ("Where is the University Now? Education and Place in Global Space"), all three of which will appear in the Easter LFP edition of The Cresset. In engaging Miller's piece, in particular, the colloquium also drew on the plenary talk at the 2009 LFP National Conference by Suresh Canagarajah, "The Possibility of a Community of Difference."

Moving to the connections between curriculum and church related mission, the colloquium addresses Mark Schwehn's "Lutheranism and the Future of the University," sections of Louis Menand's The Marketplace of Ideas, and sections of The Future of Christian Learning: An

Evangelical and Catholic Dialogue, Mark Noll and James Turner, edited by Thomas A. Howard, which is becoming a staple of the colloquium. The colloquium will then pull these themes together with Flannery O'Connor's essay, "The Nature and Aim of Fiction," which appears in *Mystery and Manners*, and O'Connor's short story, "The Enduring Chill." We also discuss parts of Ken Bain's excellent *What the Best College Teachers Do*.

May God indeed bless you in your work this spring.

Joe Creech