



__LFP Update__10.3

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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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The 2015 Twenty-Fifth LFP National Conference

The Lilly Fellows Program National Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities holds its annual [National Conference](#) each fall on one of the Network campuses. Official representatives from the [Network colleges and universities](#) meet to consider a significant issue of faith and learning, exchange ideas and practices regarding their mission, and foster the whole range of Network programs and activities. The Twenty-fifth Annual National Conference will take place at Belmont University, October 9 through 11 in Nashville, TN. Participants will have the chance to hear how Belmont's signature programs in music, songwriting, religion and the arts, and music business embody its commitment to embedding strong Christian character in all that the university does. Attendees will be invited during the breakout sessions to talk with colleagues about ways the Christian intellectual and artistic traditions inform signature programs at their own institutions. Belmont hopes to encourage conversations in which conferees can learn from one another about ways to engage with discipline-specific Christian content in courses and programming.

Registration is now closed, but please visit the [National Conference Website](#) for Conference information.

The Sixteenth Annual LFP Workshop for Senior Administrators

Immediately preceding the National Conference will be the [Sixteenth Annual Workshop for Senior Administrators](#) on the topic, **Mentoring for Leadership in Mission**. The Workshop will be held at Belmont University October 8 to 9, 2015, and will examine how church-related schools develop faculty leaders who shape, articulate, animate, and promote institutional mission. Special attention will be given to mentoring mid-career faculty to advance institutional mission. Addressing the workshop will be J. Bradley Creed, President of Campbell University in Buies Creek, NC, and Denise Doyle, Provost Emerita of the [University of the Incarnate Word](#) in San Antonio, TX.

The Deadline for Registration has now passed. Please visit the [Workshop Website](#) for further information.

Introducing the Eighth Cohort of the Lilly Graduate Fellows

We are excited to report the successful selection of ten Graduate Students for the [Eighth Cohort of Lilly Graduate Fellows](#). We especially want to thank you, the representatives, faculty, and administrators in our network of church-related schools, not only for your hard work in nominating fifty-two students from twenty-seven network schools from whom the selection committee had the difficult task of selecting only ten, but for providing the intellectual and personal formation evident in this impressive group of graduate students.

An eight-member selection committee selected the ten Fellows from the nineteen finalists who interviewed on April 10-11, 2015. The new Fellows met together for three days at an Inaugural Conference on August 3-6, at the Omni Severin Hotel in Indianapolis, IN, with their mentors, Dr. Patrick Byrne, Professor of Philosophy at [Boston College](#), and Susan VanZanten, Professor of English at [Seattle Pacific University](#), and the LFP staff. Throughout the three-and-half-day conference, the Fellows participated in discussions on Dante's *Inferno*, The Book of Ruth, *Babette's Feast*, and Paul Griffith's "Reading as a Spiritual Exercise."

As have the first seven cohorts of Fellows, the Eighth Cohort will embark on a long-distance colloquium drawing on classical theological and other texts. The Fellows will also engage in one-on-one mentoring relationships and participate in the second of four conferences next summer, 2016.

[Eighth Cohort of Lilly Graduate Fellows:](#)

Chelsea Chamberlain received her BA in history from Whitworth University in 2012, an MA in history from the University of Montana in 2015, and is currently pursuing a PhD in US history at the University of Pennsylvania. She is interested in questions of state power, bureaucratic democracy, and categories of impairment/disability. Her research focuses on changing medico-cultural strategies for identifying and segregating individuals with perceived moral and mental defects in the long Progressive Era (about 1870-1930).

Cara Christenberry received her BA in history with a minor in classical studies from Grove City College in 2015. In fall, 2015, she will enter the University of Chicago's Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations department to pursue a PhD in ancient Near Eastern history. Her primary research interest is the history of Sasanian Iran. She plans to study the development of political culture in this last pre-Islamic Persian Empire and hopes to help reincorporate its history into the larger context of the late antique world.

Sidney Christman received her BA in classics with a history minor in 2013 from Loyola University Maryland. She received her MA in Greek in 2015 from the University of Colorado at Boulder, and she will continue her doctoral studies in Classical Philology in fall, 2015, at the University of Virginia. Her primary research interests are Greek epic and archaic poetry, particularly Homer, the Homeric Hymns, and Sappho. Working within this time period and genre of literature, she focuses on motifs of mirth and humor, as well as themes of gender, sexuality, and power.

Nathan Cornelius received his BMus in guitar performance from Bethel University in 2012 and his MM, with a dual concentration in composition and guitar performance, from the University of Denver in 2015. He is currently pursuing a DMA degree in guitar performance, concurrently with an MM in music theory pedagogy, at the Peabody Institute of the Johns Hopkins University. His performances and research focus on classical guitar music since the mid-twentieth century and how it reflects modern and postmodern cultural conceptions of time and memory. He also seeks new ways to express such ideas and beliefs in music through his work as a composer and a music theorist.

John-Paul M. Heil received his BA in history, Italian studies, and philosophy from Mount St. Mary's University in 2015. In the fall, 2015, he will attend the University of Chicago to pursue a PhD in history. He studies late Italian Renaissance history with a focus on the political and intellectual spheres in Florence during the sixteenth century.

Sarah Horton received her BA in philosophy from Grove City College in 2015. In the fall of 2015, she will enter Boston College's PhD program in philosophy. She will focus on 20th-century French thought, especially phenomenology, which interests her because of its emphasis on concrete human existence in the world. She is particularly interested in the implications of 20th-century French philosophy for ethics.

Camille Kennedy received her BA in philosophy and French in 2013 from the University of Dallas. She is currently pursuing an MA in philosophy from the University of Dallas and will be starting the MA/PhD in French at Rutgers University in the fall of 2015. Her interests include philosophy of language, particularly in the continental tradition, and theories of translation.

Xavier M. Montecel received his BA in theology and philosophy, with a minor in medieval studies, from Fordham University in 2012. He completed a MA in Ethics and Society at Fordham during the following year. In 2015, he graduated from Harvard Divinity School with a MTS, concentrating in Religion, Ethics, and Politics. Xavier is pursuing his doctoral education and professional formation as a Flatley Fellow in Theological Ethics and Presidential Scholar at Boston College. His primary research interests concern the intersection of sacramental theology and Christian ethics, and in particular how sacramental and liturgical practices condition moral subjectivity and shape Christian identity. He wishes also to consider how a renewed theology of the sacraments as ethical actions can support and sustain a Christian commitment to ecumenism, ecological responsibility, and liturgical reform.

Chase Padusniak received a BA in English with a minor in medieval studies from the College of the Holy Cross in 2015. Currently, he is pursuing his PhD in English at Princeton University, where he specializes in medieval literature with an emphasis on the intersections among modern and postmodern philosophy and late-medieval English poetry, prose, and mystical theology. Chase has a particular interest in exploring and criticizing the idea of "modernity" through the lens of pre- and post-modern thought. Through his work, he hopes to develop a more robust understanding of what it means to be "medieval" or "modern," especially as regards the ontological value of technology.

Nathan Smolin received a BA in classical studies from Samford University in 2015. He is continuing his education at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill by pursuing a PhD in classical studies beginning in the fall of 2015. There he aims to study early Christian engagement with Greco-Roman philosophy and religion within the periods of the Roman Empire and Late Antiquity. More generally, he considers himself a student of the Catholic intellectual tradition in all periods, with a special emphasis on areas of cultural and intellectual contact.

The 2015 Lilly Graduate Fellows Program Summer Conferences

A key component of the [Lilly Graduate Fellows Program](#) is its summer conferences. Following an inaugural conference at the start of the three-year program, the Fellows meet with their mentors and other scholars on three occasions; the mentors host the first two conferences at their home institutions. These conferences continue the conversations and friendships that develop over the course of the on-line colloquium and provide a setting for a more focused conversation about a particular issue or text. These are also times of intellectual and spiritual renewal and refreshment.

This year, the summer conference season began in June with the [Fifth Cohort](#) which met for its final conference at [Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse](#) in Collegeville, MN. Mentors Lisa DeBoer of [Westmont College](#) and Michael Patella, OSB, of [Saint John's University](#) hosted the sixteen Fellows and representatives from the LFP staff from June 20-24, 2015. The majority of the conference was spent discussing papers presented by each of the Fellows as they explored best practices of Christian scholars and teachers. The Fifth Cohort will meet one more time in the fall of 2016 at a Reunion Conference prior to the Twenty-sixth annual [National Conference](#) at [Augsburg College](#).

[The Sixth Cohort](#) met on August 1-4, 2015 at [Pepperdine University](#) in Malibu, California, the home of its mentor, Jane Kelley Rodeheffer. Dr. Rodeheffer welcomed the sixteen Fellows, her co-mentor, Arlin Migliazzo of [Whitworth University](#) in Spokane, WA, and members of the LFP Staff. The theme of the conference was "Current Trends in Christian Scholarship and the Future of the Christian University." Fellows read and discussed selections from Mark Noll's *Jesus Christ and the Life of the Mind*, Louis Menand's *The Marketplace of Ideas*, and Flannery O'Connor's "Good Country People." The Fellows also heard from members of the Pepperdine faculty: Dr. Claire Mullins, Professor of English and Editor of *Christianity and Literature*, discussed "The Landscape of Christian Scholarship," Dr. David Holmes (Rhetoric and Literature), Dr. Tuan Hoang (History), Dr. Jennifer Tran Smith (Literature and Medieval Studies), and Dr. Mason Marshall (Philosophy) discussed "Current Trends in Christian Scholarship," and Dr. Gary Selby, Professor of Communications and Director of the Pepperdine Center for Faith and Learning, addressed "The Future of the Christian University."

Susan Felch, co-mentor of the [Seventh Cohort](#) welcomed the ten Fellows, co-mentor, Paul Contino of [Pepperdine University](#), and members of the LFP Staff to [Calvin College](#) in Grand Rapids, MI, for the cohort's first summer conference. Meeting from August 8-11, 2015, the Seventh Cohort investigated the themes for the coming year's colloquium: "Being Virtuous Learners and Teachers." The Fellows discussed Flannery O'Connor's "The Enduring Chill" and "Parker's Back," along with the Gospel of John and "A Mature Student" by Tobias Wolff. The Fellows heard from Calvin Faculty members David Smith (German) on "Christian Pedagogy" and Becca McBride (political science) and Sam Smartt (film) on the challenges of being a pre-tenure faculty member.

Selection Information for the Ninth Cohort of Lilly Graduate Fellows

It is time to begin the process of selecting the Ninth Cohort of [Lilly Graduate Fellows](#) who will be entering graduate school in the fall, 2016. Each network school can nominate up to three students for the Lilly Graduate Fellowships. Students are eligible for the Lilly Graduate Fellowship who plan to enter PhD or comparable programs in fall, 2016, and received a bachelor's degree from your institution after April, 2011. For additional eligibility requirements, click here. **The deadline for nominations is November 17, 2015.**

LFP Representatives are responsible for nominating applicants, and we are in the process of mailing promotional materials to you. The time is now to begin preparation for nominating students from your school. For more information, please [click here](#) or [contact us here](#).

Call for Applications: Summer Seminar for College Teachers, Gordon College

[Gordon College](#) in Wenham, Massachusetts, will host a [Summer Seminar for College Teachers](#) in Summer, 2016, titled "Restoring Art to a Place in the Community: New Lessons," in Orvieto, Italy. The dates are June 12-July 2, 2016.

This Seminar addresses the disconnect often found between art departments and Christian studies departments at undergraduate Christian liberal arts institutions. The Summer Seminar examines a period in pre-modern Italian culture that knew no such split; considers the conditions in the modern period that have fostered division; and brainstorms new initiatives to reconnect the training of young artists and of future church leaders.

The Seminar is hosted by [Gordon College](#)'s Studio for Art, Faith & History, and will be housed in the renovated thirteenth-century monastery leased by the College. The Seminar benefits from Orvieto's location in Umbria, with Rome, Florence, Siena, Assisi, and Arezzo within easy reach. Excursions to these and other locations will take us to ten of the major fresco cycles of the Italian Renaissance that provide touchstones for our discussion.

Funding from the Lilly Fellows Program for this Summer Seminar covers all costs of the twelve participants selected from the applicants, including room and board, all excursions, and a stipend of \$1,600 to cover the costs of airfare to Italy.

Applications for this Seminar are due November 10, 2015. For more information, visit the [seminar site here](#).

Call for Papers: Georgetown College (KY) Regional Conference

[Georgetown College](#) in Georgetown, KY, will host a [Regional Conference](#) with the theme, "Discerning Academic Vocation in a Contested Religious Tradition," January 28-29, 2016. Plenary Speakers include Nadia Bolz-Weber, David Gushee, Caroline Simon, and Patricia O'Connell Killen. Conference costs are discounted for Lilly Fellows Network members and Fellows.

This conference addresses the challenges and highlights opportunities related to the complex and fluctuating relationships between institutions of higher learning and their sponsoring institutions, key constituencies, or historical institutional connections. Some questions include:

- How will academic vocation, grounded in the tradition of the academy and religious frameworks, continue creative and responsive teaching and research?
- What does it mean that American higher education continues to represent itself in terms of religious tradition, or denominational loyalty, as traditions continue to be challenged from within and without?
- How do we invite and challenge students to follow paths into various vocations related to the future and well-being of religious traditions?
- Should we engage students, educators, and communities in discovering religious fidelity as a path to principled pluralism, and if so, how?

Proposals of 500 to 750 words for presentations and panels are due September 15, 2015. For more information and submission instructions, please see the [Conference Website here](#).

Gordon College Regional Conference, "Islam in the Classroom: Challenges and Opportunities of Teaching about Islam in a Post 9/11 World"

[Gordon College](#) in Wenham, MA, will host a one-day [Regional Conference](#) on September 15, 2015 that brings several leading scholars together to deliberate well and wisely about how accurate and insightful knowledge of Islam can be taught in the college classroom. Particular emphasis will be placed on the teaching of Islam in church-affiliated colleges and universities, whether Protestant or Catholic, in the North American context. Topics may include the place of Islam in the Core Curriculum; Christian-Muslim dialogue; the state of Islamic studies in North America; teaching the historical origins of Islam; teaching Islam and contemporary affairs; teaching turning points in the history of Islam; understanding Islam in theological perspective, and teaching Western perceptions of Islam/Muslim perceptions of Western societies. For more information, visit the [conference site here](#).

Opportunities for Mentoring Programs, Small Grants, Regional Conferences, Network Exchanges, and Summer Seminars

As a member of the [LFP National Network](#), you are part of an ecumenical program that sustains an ongoing conversation and set of initiatives that enrich and sustain church-related higher education. In addition, you enjoy a number of privileges including support for attending the [LFP National Conference](#) and [Workshop for Senior Administrators](#) and the chance to nominate up to three of your students for the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program. **The Lilly Fellow Program also sponsors five grant programs which you are eligible to apply.** They are (1) programs for [Mentoring](#) faculty on your campus, (2) [Network Exchanges](#) that showcase programs or projects that have been especially successful on your campuses, (3) smaller [Regional Conferences](#) that enable you to engage in close collaboration with schools in your area or with scholars who want to focus on a particular questions or subject, (4) [Summer Seminars for College Teachers](#) that bring together scholars from network schools for several weeks to address teaching concerns, and (5) [Small Grants](#) 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.

Currently, the LFP is accepting applications for four of these grant programs: the mentoring programs, regional conferences, network exchanges, and small grants. The deadline for Mentoring Programs, Network Exchanges, Small Grants, and Regional Conferences is **September 15, 2015**. The next deadline for Summer Seminars is **March 15, 2017**. At its upcoming meeting in October, 2015, the LFP National Network Board will award grants for Mentoring Programs, Network Exchanges, Regional Conferences, and Small Grants. Please visit the [LFP website](#) for more information on these programs. Please also note that there will be a workshop on applying for LFP grants during registration at the [LFP National Conference](#) at Belmont University, from 2:00 to 3:00 pm on Friday, October 9, 2015.

Deadlines for Grants and Other Opportunities

Grants:

The next series of programs that will receive funding are: [Mentoring Programs](#), [Network Exchanges](#), [Small Grants](#), and [Regional Conferences](#). Proposals for the programs are due **September 15, 2015**.

Network Programs:

The deadline for paper or panel proposals for the [Regional Conference at Georgetown College](#) is **September 15, 2015**

The deadline for applications for the [Gordon College Summer Seminar for College Teachers in Orvieto, Italy](#), is **October 15, 2015**.

Fellowship Programs:

The deadline for submitting up to three nominees for the [Lilly Graduate Fellows Program](#) is **November 17, 2015**.

The deadline for applications for the **2016-2018 Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowships in Humanities and the Arts** is **Wednesday, January 6, 2016**.

For more information, visit the [LFP website](#).

LFP Staff Changes

In August, 2015, we said farewell to our Assistant Director, Mary Beth Fraser Connolly. Those of you who know Mary Beth know the terrific work she has done for the past five years as Assistant Director—especially her work with all of our communications (including the updates to our new website) and her work with the Lilly Graduate Fellows. We all wish Mary Beth only the best as she teaches at Purdue University North Central.

In addition, we welcome Dorothy Bass to the [LFP staff](#) as a Senior Fellow. Dorothy received a Ph.D. in American Civilization from Brown University and has taught at Wellesley College, University of Chicago, and Chicago Theological Seminary. In 1992 she became Director of the Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith, a Lilly Endowment project that has developed resources on Christian faith and life. Among the books she has written or edited are *Practicing Our Faith* (Wiley, 2d ed. 2010), *Receiving the Day: Christian Practices for Opening the Gift of Time* (Jossey-Bass, 2000), *Practicing Theology: Beliefs and Practices in Christian Life* (Eerdmans, 2003) and, with Mark Schwehn, *Leading Lives That Matter*. Dorothy will primarily work with the Lilly Postdoctoral Fellows and will be writing for the LFP.

From the Colloquium at Our Blog, Exiles from Eden

To learn about the readings of the Graduate Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows, please see Joe Creech's "[From the Colloquium](#)" post on the LFP-sponsored blog, [Exiles from Eden](#).

Facebook and Twitter

As always, the LFP can be followed on Facebook and Twitter at [@LFProgram](#) and [@Exilesfromeden](#).