



## LFP Update 13.1

March 2018

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 for the LFP Postdoctoral Fellowships and for the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program

We are happy to announce that the LFP received 118 completed applications for three [LFP Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) at [Valparaiso University](#). Look for the announcement of the new Fellows, including profiles, in the May issue of the LFP Update.

We are also happy to announce that the LFP received 45 nominations from 21 [National Network schools](#) for ten 2019 [Lilly Graduate Fellowships](#). Thank you for all your work in making the nomination process of this eleventh year of the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program a success. We will invite finalists to the Interview Conference at the Omni Severin Hotel in Indianapolis, Indiana in spring, 2019.

### Save the Date: the 2018 LFP National Conference

The [28<sup>th</sup> National Conference, \*Robust and Receptive Ecumenism\*](#), will take place on the campus of [Hope College](#) in Holland, Michigan, October 12-14, 2018.

The faculty, staff, and students at institutions in church-related higher education are increasingly more ecumenically diverse than the historical or present-day denominational affiliations of colleges and universities might suggest. The intent of robust and receptive ecumenism is to encourage people to speak willingly and openly from their particular Christian perspectives, ask for clarification when others' ways of speaking need translation, and work at genuine understanding, which might include informed disagreement. Indeed, robust and receptive ecumenism does not assume that everyone must adopt a lowest common denominator stance with respect to differences. Rather, it proposes that, in order for authentic conversation to take place, people must honestly express deeply held views they hold as true.

Speakers include

- Lisa DeBoer, Professor of Art, Westmont College, Santa Barbara, California
- Steven Harmon, Associate Professor of Historical Theology, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, North Carolina
- Daniel Keating, Professor of Theology, Sacred Heart Major Seminary, Detroit, Michigan

Download a Conference Flyer [here](#).

Registration will open in May, 2018.

## Save the Date: Lilly Network Exchange at Azusa Pacific University

**Save the Date: LFP [Network Exchange](#), March 27-30, 2019**

The [High Sierra Humanities Program](#) of [Azusa Pacific University](#) will host a Lilly Network Exchange in Spring 2019 for ten faculty members and administrators at Lilly Network Schools interested in learning about the program's "para-university" model for humanities education.

Located approximately fifty miles south of California's famed Yosemite Valley, the program offers a rigorous core-texts curriculum coupled with experiential leadership training to a cohort of 30-50 undergraduates per semester. Since 2001, the High Sierra Humanities Program has nurtured innovative, experimental learning communities which are "off-campus" and yet still closely aligned with its parent institution's mission.

At a time when the value of general education in the humanities is being questioned nationally, and when it sometimes seems that undergraduates are trained in multi-tasking rather than critical engagement, this Network Exchange offers participants the opportunity to explore an educational model that promises both immersive depth and fiscal viability.

This LFP Network Exchange opportunity provides participants with all meals, hotel accommodations, ground transportation (including a 1-day excursion to Yosemite Valley), and up to \$600 in airfare reimbursement to Fresno Yosemite International Airport. During the course of their visit, participants will be invited to attend humanities seminars and plenary sessions, participate in outdoor leadership exercises, interact with all program faculty, staff, and students, and contribute to breakout conversations on critical topics related to experiential humanities education. Participants will also be encouraged to share perspectives from their home institutions and then to disseminate what they learn once they return.

Look for a Call for Applications in April 2018.

### **About Network Exchange Programs:**

Network Exchange Programs allow Network institutions to showcase distinctive, signature projects, institutes, or curricula that highlight the Christian or church-related characteristics of their schools. They provide for an extended visitation by faculty and leaders from other Network colleges, allowing close

observation and study of the pertinent program, so that other institutions might learn from the host institution's experience and perspectives.

Any established and distinctive institution, program, or curricular emphasis that especially promotes the college or university's mission and Christian character may be an appropriate focus for a Network Exchange. These may be programmatic initiatives like core programs, honors programs, interdisciplinary programs, or capstone courses. Or they might take the form of research or study institutes, international experiences, co-curricular programs, off-campus study centers, or service learning programs.

A Network Exchange program may be funded for \$25,000. The next deadline for applying for a Network Exchange is September 15, 2018. [Click here for more information about submitting a proposal.](#)

## Lilly Network Mentoring Program Grants

[Mentoring Programs](#) have been among the most popular and successful of all LFP initiatives. Mentoring Programs provide funds to nurture new and junior faculty at Network institutions and strengthen the commitment of all faculty to institutional mission. Well-constructed mentoring programs encourage new faculty as well as veteran faculty to understand and share the ethos of the school, to grow to love the questions that the institution holds dear, and to consider the importance of fundamental matters concerning the relationship between higher learning and the Christian faith. Such programs also seek to renew and deepen the commitment of the whole institution and its leaders to those central intellectual and spiritual matters. To learn more about mentoring programs, see the LFP website [here](#). The current deadline for the submission of applications is September 15, 2018.

## Report on 2016-2017 LFP Small Grant Programs

The Lilly Fellows Program National Network invites Network institutions to apply for [small grants](#) of \$1500 and \$3000 to stimulate conversation about church-related higher education and church-related mission on their campuses or among church-related institutions in close proximity to each another. The LFP 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 Small Grant program is designed to fund new programs on network campuses rather than supplement ongoing ones. The current deadline for the submission of applications is September 15, 2018.

At its Fall 2015 meeting the LFP National Network Board awarded Small Grants to [Gustavus Adolphus College](#) and the [University of the Incarnate Word](#).

### **Gustavus Adolphus College, "Orientation Booklet on the Lutheran Heritage of Gustavus Adolphus College"**

This project aimed to produce background material for newcomers and visitors to the school about the college's mission, identity, and Lutheran Heritage. Thirty-three short essays by staff and faculty, along with an introduction and appendix, were collected and edited into the volume [Rooted in Heritage, Open to the World: Reflections on the Distinctive Character of Gustavus Adolphus College](#) (Lutheran University Press, 2017). The book provides information specific to Gustavus, but also serves as a model for those at other institutions who are looking to do something similar at their own schools. Especially noteworthy is the fact that this book articulates the school's mission and religious heritage in language drawn from the whole campus community.

### **University of the Incarnate Word, "Conversations on Service Learning and Engaged Scholarship Considering the Mission of the Incarnate Word Founders to the Vulnerable"**

At the University of the Incarnate Word, sixteen faculty members participated in a series of conversations on service learning and scholarship of engagement in regard to the Incarnate Word Sisters' most recent corporate stance, a commitment to research, education, advocacy, and action against human trafficking. The Sisters, the founders of the university "were motivated by the love of God and their recognition of

God's presence in each person." The faculty conversations led them to information, methods, and then engagement of their students through research writing, advocacy, and/or service projects related to human slavery.

The conversations provided an atmosphere in which faculty became comfortable enough to share deep feelings of compassion for those caught in trafficking, strong desires to motivate students to ethical action, and statements of how faith can give strength and courage beyond ourselves to confront these challenges. Faculty beautifully expressed that our community MUST research, learn, and act because we are "of the Incarnate Word." God's compassion has come to earth, has taken flesh. Faculty held the university mission statement "to educate men and women who will become concerned and enlightened citizens" as a serious responsibility.

Faculty also learned through on-line resources and helped develop a blog "[Speaking for Human Dignity, Standing Against Human Slavery.](#)" The strong commitment of the faculty from Business, Communication Arts, Education, Fashion Management, Interior Design, Nursing, Physical Therapy, Psychology, Religious Studies, and Spanish led students to develop education and advocacy programs in many fields. A Media Ethics teacher noted the value of this focus on human slavery "opening our eyes to issues which need much light shone upon them---be it Christ light, or the light that the media produces by way of knowledge."

## **Report on 2017 LFP Regional Conference at Central College in Pella, Iowa**

### **Reason and Faith on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation Central College, Pella Iowa, October 13-14, 2017**

On the occasion of the Reformation's 500th anniversary, [Central College](#) welcomed approximately 30 attendees and presenters to their campus in Pella, IA, on October 13-14, 2017, for a [Lilly Fellows Program Regional Conference: Reason and Faith on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation](#). Seven Network schools were represented at the conference. In addition to speaking to the conference attendees, the keynote speakers visited English, philosophy, and religion courses and presented to students. The invited speakers were John Baxter, from Dalhousie University; Christina Bieber Lake, from Wheaton College; Jennifer Hockenberry Dragseth, from Mount Mary University; Douglas Kries, from Gonzaga University; and Albert Wolters, from Redeemer University College. Three plenary sessions and a panel discussion accompanied the keynote addresses.

With a focus on various perspectives of the relation between faith and reason and how this impacts scientific practices, the speakers addressed a wide range of thinkers, including Luther, Calvin, Bacon, More, Bonhoeffer, Shakespeare, Kuyper, and Maimonides. One speaker (Wolters) importantly related these different perspectives to different understandings of the "nature-grace relationship." The conference also achieved a second aim, of enabling reflection on the relation between Christian faith, the disciplines, and teaching, with the disciplines of literary studies, education, and the sciences receiving special attention. The final panel discussion considered the practical implementation of the insights gained from the conference presentations.

### **Description and Guidelines for Hosting a Regional Conference or Collaboration.**

[Regional Collaboration and Conferences Grants](#) represent a flexible category of programs that encourage examination of topics of special significance to faculty, administrators, and students at a particular institution or group of institutions, or matters of special intellectual concern to faculty and others in Christian higher education. The focus, character, and constituency of the conference, collaboration, or workshop may vary to suit the needs of the applicant, within the general guidelines listed above. Previous successful conferences, collaborations, and workshops have focused on issues facing schools in a particular region, topics of current debate among faculty at a particular school, student life issues,

graduate student matters, various theological or denominational traditions in higher education, an array of topics in liberal and professional education, and issues of civic and public concern to the Christian intellectual community.

The Deadline for applications to host a Regional Collaboration or Conference is September 15, 2018. For more information, [click here](#).

## Deadlines for Grants and Other Opportunities

### Grants:

The next series of programs that will receive funding are: [Mentoring Programs](#), [Small Grants](#), [Network Exchanges](#), and [Regional Collaboration and Conferences](#). Proposals for the programs are due **September 15, 2018**.

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

## From the Colloquium at Our Blog, Exiles from Eden

To learn about the readings of the Graduate Fellows and Postdoctoral Fellows, please see [Joe Goss'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 [@LFPProgram](#) and [@Exilesfromeden](#).