

Praxis

News from Hartford Seminary

December 2014 • Vol. XXVI • No.1



Master's in Transformative Leadership and Spirituality Enriches Offerings

Hartford Seminary added a pioneering Master of Arts degree in Transformative Leadership and Spirituality in Fall 2014, and students are already enrolled.

The 36-credit program has been created for those students who seek an academic grounding to guide them on their leadership and spiritual paths. The M.A. in Transformative Leadership and Spirituality is designed to train students for leadership roles in corporate, government, and non-profit organizations. It also serves as continuing education for clergy, religious-education professionals, chaplains and counselors, as well as for those seeking to expand their personal knowledge and experience.

“I continue to encounter religiously unaffiliated women and men within various faith traditions who are seeking a deeper understanding of the Divine and want to contribute more effectively to

peace and cross-cultural harmony in our tumultuous times,” said Prof. Miriam Therese Winter, Professor of Liturgy, Worship, Spirituality and Feminist Studies, who heads the program. “To see the full flowering of initiatives that integrate leadership and spirituality in ways that aim to be transformative is good news indeed!”

Students completing this degree will have grown in an understanding of spirituality and spiritual practices. Together, those inform a way of life that intentionally integrates behavior and belief while honoring the personal search for meaning.

Core to the program is exposure to a rapidly changing world and its multifaceted implications, diversity in understanding and relating to the Divine, a

Continued on Page 4

New Peacemaking Scholarship Opportunities

Based on its expertise in Islamic Studies and Christian Muslim relations, and continuing the success of its breakthrough International Peacemaking Program, Hartford Seminary has launched two new scholarship opportunities: Hartford Seminary Peacemaking Fellows and Plowshares Peacemaking Fellows.

Hartford Seminary Peacemaking Fellows is one year, all-expenses-paid residential program of interfaith study for young American Christian leaders seeking to work for peace among the religiously diverse communities of the United States.



Funded by the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, these Fellowships

grew from recognition that the types of leaders nurtured in the existing IPP are also needed for bringing together American communities.

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**Hartford
SEMINARY**

Exploring Differences, Deepening Faith

A Q&A WITH OUR INTERNATIONAL PEACEMAKING STUDENTS

Hartford Seminary began the International Peacemaking Program (IPP) in 2004, recognizing the need for skilled peacemakers in many countries with which the Seminary has connections, as well as the unique leadership training that could be provided here.

The IPP is for Christians, Muslims or Jews who live in overseas areas where there is interreligious conflict. Students in the International Peacemaking Program spend an academic year studying interfaith dialogue and leadership skills that also includes an emphasis on public engagement and public speaking skills. In addition to their formal studies, students are embedded in a local faith community where they experience American religious culture firsthand.

Recently, we had a chance to talk to the 2014-15 group of IPP students (with the exception of Hasan Doagoo, who was visiting his home in Iran at the time of our interviews). Here's how they answered our questions:

Cingh Lun Niang (Lun) of Myanmar (Burma)

Describe your educational background.

I completed my Bachelor of Theology and Master of Divinity at Myanmar Institute of Theology. Additionally, I have earned my Bachelor of Science Degree in Zoology from Mandalay University.



Describe the religious conflicts in your home country.

In Myanmar, Buddhism has historically

been the major favored religion. Various types of political restrictions and discriminations have been imposed on minority religions and ethnic groups for over 50 years. Recently, we Myanmar people have been shocked by the terrible religious violence appearing across the country. Since 2012, my hometown of Lashio has been no exception.

The past two decades have presented many difficulties for those wishing to engage in interfaith dialogue, human rights, peace building. Presently, there has been more government support for dialogue between interfaith groups and peace-building activities. I was a volunteer President of the YWCA Lashio, and in this position I took part in interfaith peace building seminars and projects with non-government women's organizations. Our mission is to engage and advocate for peace, justice, and equality for women and men through working with key stakeholders at all levels toward positive social change in Myanmar.

Why are you interested in learning about interfaith dialogue and peacemaking?

My knowledge in interfaith dialogue has been very limited. Therefore, when I was looking for the means to equip my education in interfaith dialogue and peacemaking, God showed me the right place to study by directing me to Hartford Seminary on the internet.

I am confident that living, learning, and worshiping together with the interfaith community at Hartford Seminary will enable me to contribute more fully to my civic community and to extend the necessary support to my home country in more constructive and empowering ways.

Farah Zahra of Lebanon

Describe your educational background.

I am a student of knowledge and I will always be one. My choices of major (International Business) and minor (Political Sciences) were not random; it was the way to plug myself into multidisciplinary fields.



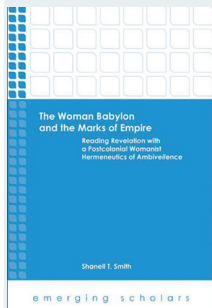
Apart from attending the American University in my home country, I also attended Institut des Etudes Politiques in Paris and University of Oxford Summer School with special focus in Middle Eastern politics and society. My religious education was mostly gained from ADYAN foundation, a Lebanese foundation for interreligious studies and spiritual solidarity that works on anchoring religious diversity and developing its understanding. There, I attended courses about world religions and religion and public affairs.

Describe the religious conflicts in your home country.

Lebanon was at one time known as a state whose people rose above sectarian divides and whose capital, Beirut, was the Geneva of the Middle East. In 1975, all of that was blown apart due to an intersectarian war. Lebanon was caught in a cycle of threats. Then, Lebanon became "full of sects but empty of religion." The war lasted for 15 years after which the Lebanese lived in a "cold" war. The intensification of the regional conflict put increased stress on Lebanon's system and security infrastructure. Lebanon absorbs most of the regional conflicts' tensions. Lebanon's complex religious and ethnic make-up

NEW FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Hartford Seminary celebrated the debut of Prof. Shanell T. Smith's first academic book on Oct. 23, 2014, with a talk and signing. *The Woman Babylon and the Marks of Empire: Reading Revelation with a Postcolonial Womanist Hermeneutics of Ambivalence*, is part of the Emerging Scholars series published by Fortress Press.



Prof. Smith talked about the two scholarly conversations in which her book engages: One is feminist interpretation of Babylon in Revelation 17-18 and the other is African-American interpretations of Revelation in general. She pointed out that at the time of the publication of her book only four African-American scholars had published work on Revelation.

“My work adds a new perspective,” she said. “My aim is not to discount, disregard, or decrease the impact that [their work] has in Revelation scholarship, but rather to further the conversation, inspiring others in the process.”

has led to ideological and political polarization and fragmented alliances amongst its eighteen recognized sects. The strategic and critical importance of this small country lies in the fact that it is known for being the political, economic and social “barometer” of the region.

Why are you interested in learning about interfaith dialogue and peacemaking?

For me, interfaith dialogue is a language of worship and commitment. Interfaith dialogue seeks to explore and investigate; it does not seek to win a debate but to build respectful understanding in relationships with others. It also seems to me that interfaith dialogue is, at its best, most fruitful and most effective when non-expert lay people engage with one another. All

this must lead to cooperation in the community, friendship through association, and obedience to spiritual commands. As we encounter one another, we engage in a high level of sociability and of consciousness. Dialogue itself is promoted as the world's hope for peaceful reconciliation in the face of all kinds of entrenched conflicts, including conflicts arising from faith differences.

Erich von Marthin Elraphoma (Martin) of Indonesia

Describe your educational background.

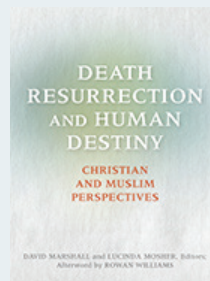


I completed my undergraduate theological degree from 2000 to 2005 at Jakarta

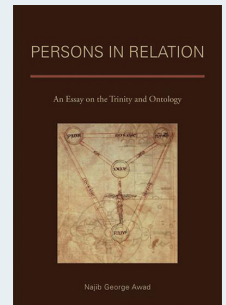
Theological Seminary (JTS). After I graduated, I worked as an editor of

Prof. Najib Awad also has a new book out: *Persons in Relation: An Essay on the Trinity and Ontology*. Prof. Awad's book is unique in that it is not simply a work on the doctrine of the Trinity, but rather “an exploration by means of the Trinity.” Prof. Awad examines the concepts of personhood and rationality, two themes that are prominent within

the doctrine of the trinity.



Prof. Lucinda Mosher's *Death, Resurrection, and Human Destiny: Christian and Muslim Perspectives* was published by Georgetown University Press. She co-edited the book with David Marshall of Duke Divinity School. The book is the proceedings of the 2012 Building Bridges Seminar — an annual international colloquium of scholars. Dr. Mosher is the Assistant Academic Director of the seminar.



theological books at a Christian publisher in Jakarta for one year. Then, I decided to continue my studies and received my Master's Degree in Christian Education at JTS in 2010. After that, I was asked to teach as an adjunct faculty member at JTS. I teach Theory of Christian Education, Teaching Methods, and Christian Education in Pluralistic Church and Society.

Describe the religious conflicts in your home country.

The religious landscape in Indonesia, and all over Southeast Asia, is largely characterized by religious diversity. For hundreds of years we had lived in peace and harmony. However, an event in

Continued on Page 4

PEACEMAKING FELLOWS, continued from Page 1

Seminary students, denominational leaders, and NGO employees with a commitment to peaceful religious coexistence in the American context will be invited to apply for one of two annual scholarships available for each of the next three years. The Hartford Seminary Peacemaking Fellows will have the same program of study and leadership training as their International Peacemaking Program peers, and all will benefit from the expanded cohort of activist peacemakers.

The second new opportunity, Plowshares Peacemaking Fellows, is a legacy of the Plowshares Institute, which for more than 30 years has cultivated global peace through mediation, conflict resolution training and travel seminars. Plowshares Institute has also granted the Seminary six International Peacemaking Program scholarships over three years, expanding the IPP program even further. Candidates for Plowshares Peacemaking Fellowship scholarships will likely hail from those countries where Plowshares was so effective in conflict transformation: China, northeast India and South Africa—though any promising leader with deep commitment to directly apply their new skills and insights to their home country upon return will be encouraged to apply. Additionally, Plowshares Institute founders Bob and Alice Evans will bring their extensive practical skill training and leadership mentoring to all those in these peacemaking programs.

The groundbreaking International Peacemaking Program was initiated in 2004, and has since brought more than 30 young leaders from countries where there is interreligious conflict for a year of study and peacemaking practice at Hartford Seminary.

For more information on the International Peacemaking Program, Hartford Seminary Peacemaking Fellows, and Plowshares Peacemaking Fellows, please contact Jonathan Lee at jlee@hartsem.edu or (860) 509-9556.

MASTER'S, Continued from Page 1

deepening of the awareness of God's presence in everyday life, and an application of theoretical learning to reflective prayer and practice. Students will work with a faculty advisor in the field of spirituality to design a program tailored to meet their personal and educational goals.

The M.A. in Transformative Leadership and Spirituality has been approved by the Association of Theological Schools, which recently extended Hartford Seminary's accreditation by 10 years. The degree has also been licensed by the State of Connecticut's Office of Higher Education.

I believe that we all must overcome prejudices that prevent us from having harmonious relationships and working together with people of other faiths. We are human beings and we can live together.

*- Erich von Marthin
Elraphoma*

IPP, continued from Page 3

1998 sparked a religious war. It began from a trivial quarrel between a public transportation driver and a local resident in Maluku, eastern Indonesia. Because the issue was politicized, it resulted in a war between the Christian and Muslim religions. The resulting conflict ended in 2002 with thousands dead. Occasionally, there are still some conflicts in a few areas of Indonesia since hard lines groups have raised and spread their teachings.

Why are you interested in learning about interfaith dialogue and peacemaking?

Learning from the international community today is a basic need to build a better understanding of interfaith relations with others. I believe that we all must overcome prejudices that prevent us from having harmonious relationships and working together with people of other faiths. We are human beings and we can live together.

Without any distinction of race, religion, ideology, all people in the world today need peace. The problem is that there are differences that humanity has trouble ignoring, and those differences are often used as to trigger conflict. The conflicts cause many disadvantages, both material and non-material, such as psychological problems, damaged relationships with others, oppressive acts, injuries to others, poor economic, social and political development, unhealthy political situations, poor education, and a lack of vision. These happen because many people are not able to process differences and celebrate plurality.

For me to live and learn in an international community, learning interfaith dialogue and peacemaking, I will be given a great chance to share stories and experiences about our problems and our world's needs for peace.

Hartford Seminary Annual Report 2014

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, and welcome to our 2014 Annual Report.

In my travels both here and abroad, I continue to be reminded that Hartford Seminary stands as a model for graduate interfaith education the world over. Our unique programs set us apart and that hasn't gone unnoticed. Applications are on the rise and we have seen an uptick in enrollment as well.

I'm happy to report that both the Association of Theological Schools and the New England Association of Schools & Colleges have extended the Seminary's accreditation for 10 years. Throughout the accreditation process, the evaluators noted how the faculty, staff, students, and board all embrace the institution's mission to prepare our students to live faithfully in and to understand today's multi-faith and pluralistic world.

In the last year, we've demonstrated and built upon that mission with a number of new programs and activities.

Our new Master's in Transformative Leadership and Spirituality, launched in the fall, is a pioneering degree that has already attracted a number of highly qualified students. This program teaches the spiritual underpinnings of leadership. It's designed for those who want to integrate the theory and practice of leadership and spirituality in ways meaningful to everyday life.

Once again, we have the pleasure of hosting four students in the International Peacemaking Program, this year from Lebanon, Myanmar, Indonesia, and Iran, and they join a great class of students – Muslim, Christian and Jewish – who are studying here and looking for or reaffirming meaning and God's presence in a

complex world.

Next year, we are thrilled to report, the IPP program will be expanding. A gift from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations will allow us to bring in two American Christian students for each of the next three years to join our international students in learning peacemaking skills, in this case for application in the increasingly diverse communities across America. In addition, a gift from Plowshares Institute will provide funding for another two IPP students for each of the next three years.



Financial support has come this year from many loyal friends for a variety of purposes, and I will mention just a few: the El-Hibri Foundation of Washington, DC, provided an International Peacemaking Program scholarship for this year's participant from Lebanon; the Shinnyo-en Foundation of San Francisco renewed its generous support of the successful Religious Diversity Leadership Workshop; the Ruth Sanger Conant Trust and the Congregational Church of South Glastonbury were again significant supporters of scholarships for our Black Ministries Program; and the Francis Asbury Palmer Fund continued its long-standing, substantial support

for the Seminary's operating expenses, truly a blessing to all who call Hartford Seminary home.

I'm also delighted to share the news that a lead gift of \$700,000 toward the Chair for Transformative Leadership and Spirituality was received this fall. Though the donor wishes to remain anonymous, that gift is a most significant step in the campaign to make permanent a faculty member to carry on the visionary work of M.T. Winter. Since then, we also were blessed with a significant gift for that endowed chair from Webster Bank, a new friend and partner in this important work.

And finally, as last year's Annual Report message to you was going to press, we were all saddened to learn of the death of Dr. Willem Bijlefeld, who retired from Hartford Seminary in 1990 after 25 years as a Professor of Islamic Studies, Academic Dean, Editor of *The Muslim World*, and founder and director of the Macdonald Center. Wim was 88 years old, and his passing continues to occasion appreciative remembrances from students and colleagues around the globe. We give thanks for his presence among us.

As always, your suggestions and feedback are greatly appreciated, as is your continuing support of and advocacy for Hartford Seminary in the coming year.

Thank you,

Heidi Hadsell
President

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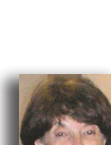
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Hartford Seminary Corporators are the school's ambassadors to communities far and wide: friends and alumni/ae who know and believe in the mission of the Seminary and share that enthusiasm with others, raising awareness and inviting participation. Corporators also play another essential role, as they are responsible for electing new Seminary Trustees at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation each spring.

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Statement of Activities

Hartford Seminary Statement of Activities for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2013 and 2014

	2014	2013
OPERATING REVENUE		
Programs, scholarships, courses	\$ 1,417,531	\$ 1,305,543
Student housing	111,064	95,960
Less: Student Aid	(387,541)	(310,905)
Student tuition and fees, net	1,141,054	1,090,598
Investment income, net	2,377,588	1,879,000
Private gifts and grants	208,824	234,320
Research and grants	378,277	386,909
Auxiliary activities	127,719	136,088
Other revenue	87,523	93,748
Total operating revenue	4,320,985	3,820,663
OPERATING EXPENSES		
Instructional support	1,672,995	1,401,447
Institutional support	1,225,269	1,409,482
Academic support	771,419	797,477
Plant expense	658,551	623,255
Student services	167,128	183,714
Total operating expenses	4,495,362	4,415,375
Change in net assets, operations	(174,377)	(594,712)
OTHER CHANGES		
Private gifts and pledges	114,474	146,114
Investment return, net of amount utilized	5,097,537	3,038,547
Change in value of beneficial interests	360,142	248,137
Loss on sale or disposal of assets		(20,725)
Total other changes	5,572,153	3,412,073
Change in net assets	5,397,776	2,817,361
Net assets, beginning of year	44,279,932	41,462,571
Net assets, end of year	\$ 49,677,708	\$ 44,279,932

Honor Roll of Donors

Generous-hearted individuals— alumni/ae, friends, communities and organizations—from a broad range of faith traditions help Hartford Seminary to maintain and advance its mission of preparing students to be effective leaders in a religiously diverse world.

This Honor Roll of Donors recognizes those whose gifts have supported the Seminary in the past fiscal year. Individual donors to the Annual Fund, which supports current operations and programs,

appear first. Following that listing are organizations and individuals who have given to special funds, including scholarships, the endowed funds, capital projects, specially designated gifts and the McKenzie Heritage Society—those who have included the Seminary in their estate plans.

All the gifts listed in this report represent donations made between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. The giving levels listed represent total giving by the individual or

organization during that time frame, excluding gifts in kind.

Please note: we do our best to list donors' names accurately, but if a correction is needed, please call the Institutional Advancement Office at (860) 509-9520, or email swright@hartsem.edu. Also, unless otherwise directed, we list the names of our donors without titles, but if it is your preference that a title be included in future reporting, please be in touch.

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FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS

Partnerships Making a Difference

The El-Hibri Foundation in Washington, DC, was founded in 2001, when the late Ibrahim El-Hibri gave a substantial gift to continue his family's long



commitment to helping the less fortunate and promoting interfaith

understanding. Today the Foundation “envisions a world in which respect for human dignity, equality and appreciation of diversity are cultural norms, and the non-violent resolution of conflict is widely practiced.”

Originally from Lebanon, the El-Hibri family continues to maintain strong programmatic and charitable ties there, as well as across the Middle East and here in the United States. In 2014, Hartford Seminary approached the Foundation to

request support for an International Peacemaking Program student from Lebanon, and through El-Hibri's generosity, Farah Zahra from Tripoli, Lebanon,



arrived on campus in late August to begin her one-year program here. She reflects, “More than any time before, the Middle East and Lebanon are in urgent need for extravagant efforts at all levels in order to rebuild what was destroyed and heal what was wounded. Our homeland is in unprecedented need for its very committed citizens to be peace missionaries working from within and from abroad.”

The new partnership between the El-Hibri Foundation and Hartford Seminary enables peacemakers like Farah to advance that essential work.

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Expressing Thanks Makes a Difference

Dr. Willem A. Bijlefeld retired from Hartford Seminary in 1990 after 25 years as a Professor of Islamic Studies, Academic Dean, Editor of *The Muslim World*, and founder and director of the Macdonald Center. When Dr. Bijlefeld died in December of 2013 (see obituary on Page 16), the Seminary community as a whole mourned the loss of this scholar, innovator and long-standing friend. His death had particular impact on the Rev. Canon Richard Thomas Nolan, who received his Master of Divinity from the Seminary in 1963. Dr. Nolan, who went on to a career in teaching and parish ministry, was, while a student here, an assistant to Dr. Bijlefeld. “During the transformative and sometimes tumultuous Seminary years of the 1960s and 70s, Wim (pronounced Vim) provided wise academic leadership—indeed, pastoring—to faculty members and students.” In addition to his own scholarship, and his diligence poring over many doctoral dissertations, Dr. Nolan recalls Wim laboring on academic policies and their implementation, wanting to serve both institutional and individual needs patiently and fairly.



Dr. Bijlefeld’s care and concern extended beyond campus. “One Sunday I was startled to see him in the congregation of a small, rural Episcopal church I was serving part-time an hour’s drive from Hartford. He knew that I was struggling to shepherd this small, faithful group, and Wim-like, he was on hand to be supportive. His presence was a cherished gift.”

Dr. Nolan and his partner, Robert Pingpank, have generously supported the Annual Fund each year for more than a quarter of a century. This year, his Annual Fund gift was given specifically in memory of Dr. Bijlefeld, ensuring not only that the Seminary would benefit as it does from every contribution, but that the published notation associated with their gift would be one more celebration of Dr. Bijlefeld’s life. “Whenever I would err in my work,” wrote Dr. Nolan, “Wim, mentor-like, counseled me firmly but gently with options to remedy the problem. He was one of those rare persons that touched both one’s heart and one’s mind.”

All contributions to Hartford Seminary may be given in memory or honor of family, friends, and colleagues, and are specially noted in all public giving reports. Is there someone you might recognize or celebrate with a gift to Hartford Seminary?

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Many companies will match their employees' contributions to Hartford Seminary. Do you work for one of them? Or are you retired from one of them? To find out, please check with your Human Resources office. It sometimes takes just a quick phone call or the completion of a short form and your gift to Hartford Seminary could be doubled, or even tripled.

GIFTS OF A LIFETIME

The Mackenzie Heritage Society recognizes current and past individuals who have made a bequest pledge to Hartford Seminary. To become a member, you have only to include Hartford Seminary in your estate plans. You could:

- Establish an estate plan, and include Hartford Seminary among the beneficiaries
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- Let us know if you have already included Hartford Seminary in your estate plan, or even if you intend to do so.

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There are a variety of giving options to consider which can benefit you during your lifetime, or benefit both Hartford Seminary and your loved ones. These include Charitable Gift Annuities, Charitable Remainder Trusts, Pooled Income Funds, Life Insurance, and Charitable Lead Trusts. Basic information on these options is in the "Giving" section of www.hartsem.edu

WHY I GIVE

By Jay Ebersole, '53

Our gratitude, loyalty and commitment to Hartford Seminary has spanned 65 years, since I was admitted as a theological student until now, as an 86-year-old alum. I arrived at Hartford's campus and community with my parochial Lancaster County Pennsylvania Dutch culture and education as a grandson of Mennonites, the child of Evangelical and Reformed Church Sunday School, and as a student in the public schools there. I was destined to attend Lancaster's Evangelical and Reformed Seminary, but I needed to explore the world beyond. Aware of a possible merger into the United Church of Christ, I came to Hartford to learn about the Congregational churches and New England culture.



I quickly found a welcoming and inclusive ecumenical family of seminary classmates from across the country, religious education students, Kennedy School of Missions families from around the world, an expanding Muslim studies program with Dr. Kenneth Cragg arriving at the same time, and the beginning of an Institute of Church Social Work. In the hospitality of Hosmer Hall's Dining Room, I first met Eleanor Seaton, a Religious Education student in her second year and soon to become a seminarian, too. We were engaged, were married, and graduated together in 1953. We were ordained together and with Hartford's motivation we set out together to explore our ministries with calls to the staff of the American Church in Paris, pastorates in a town and county charge in rural western New York, and an inner city parish in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. We eventually moved on to pastoral care-related careers in higher education.

Our stewardship support of Hartford's contemporary community and campus, ecumenical leadership in world-wide ministries and service, and its imprint upon each student's life and career has been a joyful investment from our family in return for the investment Hartford has made in the development and maturity of our ministries, service and lifestyle long-term over these 65 years. "Thanks be to God! Alleluia!"

Hartford Seminary welcomes your inquiries about all forms of Gifts of a Lifetime, which are all held in strict confidence, and stands ready to assist you. We also strongly advise and encourage donors to always consult with their own attorney or trusted advisor as well. For more information, please feel free to contact the Director of Institutional Advancement at (860) 509-9556 or send an email to jlee@hartsem.edu



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Hartford Seminary has a number of funds that have been established for special purposes and programs to serve the current and future needs of the institution, for example: scholarships, special capital projects and endowed chairs.

ONLINE GIVING

Available at www.hartsem.edu

THE LABYRINTH AT HARTFORD SEMINARY



The new labyrinth behind 76 Sherman Street was the brainchild of Prof. Miriam Therese Winter, who thought it would be well-used by classes and the public and would make a fitting tribute to her Medical Mission Sister companion of 47 years, Sister Mary Elizabeth Johnson. ME, as she was known, died in May at the age of 90 in the house that overlooks the labyrinth grove. Graduate student Jeanne Pedane (above, right, with Prof. Winter) designed and built most of the labyrinth.

1,000 CRANES FOR WORLD PEACE DAY



At Convocation in September, President Heidi Hadsell declared 2014-15 a year of peace at Hartford Seminary. In keeping with that theme, the Seminary launched an effort to make 1,000 origami cranes in the Japanese tradition by Nov. 17, World Peace Day. When the cranes started taking over desks and windowsills, the Seminary called upon Hartford artist Anne Cubberly (above) to help them with a design to display the cranes in the three-story lobby. The result has brought in visitors from around the region.

In Memoriam

Willem A. Bijlefeld, 88, who retired from Hartford Seminary in 1990 after 25 years as a Professor of Islamic Studies, Academic Dean, Editor of *The Muslim World*, and founder and director of the Macdonald Center, passed away on Sunday, December 15, 2013 after a long illness. "Wim loved Hartford Seminary, and



he was a highly valued and much appreciated presence at the Seminary for the decades he taught here," President Heidi Hadsell said. "He spent most of his working life here at HartSem, providing leadership in the study of Islam and Christian-Muslim relations, and he kept up with the comings and goings and work of the Macdonald Center since he retired 20 years ago. I continue to meet many people here and around the world who remember Wim and ask about him, always remarking on his scholarship and on his capacity for human compassion and warmth. Getting to know Wim and [his wife] Ineke has been a constant source of joy for me ever since I came to Hartford."

Born in Indonesia, Prof. Bijlefeld made important contributions to the field of Christian-Muslim relations, starting in 1959 with the publication of his doctoral dissertation, "Islam as a Post-Christian Religion: An Inquiry into the Theological Evaluation of Islam, Mainly in the 20th Century."

He taught all over the world, including at the University of Leiden, Netherlands; at the University of Idaban, Nigeria; and at Hartford Seminary, starting in 1966. He also established the Islamic Studies program at McGill University in Montreal in 1975. "In each of these places, as in many other parts of

the world which he visited, Prof. Bijlefeld not only inspired students, but assisted churches to adopt many of his interfaith insights into their own ministries," according to a tribute to him in *The Muslim World* on the occasion of his retirement.

As Academic Dean, Prof. Bijlefeld oversaw significant changes at Hartford Seminary as the academic study of Islam became an emphasis. In 1974, Prof. Bijlefeld founded the Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations. In 1977, the Macdonald Center formed a partnership with the Task Force on Christian-Muslim Relations with the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States.

"Much of Prof. Bijlefeld's energy in these years was given to travel as he extended the resources of the Macdonald Center to meet the growing interest of Christians and Muslims in dialogue. As a lecturer or consultant, he was in touch with 30 institutions in 14 countries, several of them on a regular basis," according to the *Muslim World*. Prof. Bijlefeld was the editor of *The Muslim World* for 24 years. He nurtured it into a leading scholarly publication for Islamic studies and the study of Christian-Muslim relationships, past and present.

In 1990, Prof. Bijlefeld was honored at an international conference held at Hartford Seminary on the theme of "Christian-Muslim Encounter." At that time, the Prof. Bijlefeld International Visiting Fellowship was established to invite, biennially, a Muslim or Christian scholar from Africa or Asia to address the seminary community on intellectual concerns identified by Prof. Bijlefeld.

In retirement, Prof. Bijlefeld moved to Vermont with his wife, Ineke, and lived in a house redesigned by his architect brother, Jan, hosting hundreds of visitors – friends, family and former students and colleagues – from around the world. His interest in Christian-Muslim relations grew from his early childhood in Indonesia where his parents were mission workers.

Leona (Lee Parker) Hay, M.A.'55, died on August 21, 2013 in Steilacoom, Washington, survived by her husband, Ray. Leona attended the School of Religious Education.

Mary C. Mauzey, M.A. '50, died on May 18, 2013 in Seattle Washington. Born in Kansas, her family relocated to Washington state, where Mary attended public schools and was graduated from the University of Washington. After her studies in Hartford at the School of Religious Education, Mary served for many years at the Universalist Church in Hartford, and then for the Unitarian Universalist Association. Mary took the Teacher Corps Training in Seattle in the late 1960s and moved to Bernardston, Massachusetts to teach at the Putney Central School in Vermont until 1990, when she returned to the Pacific northwest to be nearer to family.

Mary Lou Pettit, M.A. '53, died on August 22, 2014 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Mary Lou graduated from Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, and then earned two Masters degrees, the first in Christian Education from the School of Religious Education here in Hartford, and then a second in English from the University of Michigan in 1962. In 1964, she participated in the Mississippi Summer Project in which she helped African Americans register to vote. For more than 40 years she was a guidance counselor at William Penn High School in Philadelphia,

Pennsylvania, and was an active member of Old First Reformed Church there. She returned to Grand Rapids, the city of her birth, in 2000. The Alumni/ae Office gratefully acknowledges the Rev. Robert H. Calvert, B.D. '55, who notified the Seminary of Ms. Pettit's death.

The daughter of a physician and a nurse, **Valerie Imbleau**, WLI, '04, was inspired to enter the medical profession. She received her nursing degree from Fordham University and did her training at St. Vincent's Hospital in New York City. Eager to see the world, Val became an airline stewardess for Pan Am, when a nursing degree was required. She returned to St. Vincent's and became a supervisor in the Emergency Room. She later worked at Kildonan Health Center, which specializes in educating dyslexics. In retirement she was active in St. Mary's Catholic Church in Lakeville, Connecticut. She died on July 23, 2014 at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford.



The Rev. Dr. **Paul D. Hrdlicka**, D.Min. '83, died on February 18, 2014. Born and educated in Bridgeport, Connecticut, Paul received the Master of Divinity degree from Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary, and served Lutheran congregations in Pennsylvania, Connecticut and Massachusetts. He also served as the Dean of Western Massachusetts Lutheran



Churches, New England Synod, Lutheran Church of America.

The Rev. Dr. **Frank Andrews Stone**, Professor of Educational Studies at Neag School of Education at the University of Connecticut for more than 25 years, died on March 6, 2014 in Deland, Florida. Dr. Stone also served as a teacher and administrator at the Tarsus American College and visiting professor at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey as part of the United Church Board for World Ministries. After his retirement from UConn, he taught for 5 years at Trinity College in Hartford before relocating to Florida. The author of ten books and more than seventy journal articles, Dr. Stone was the founding editor of *Current Turkish Thought*, which continued in publication for 25 years. He is survived by four children, his sister, and three grandchildren.



The Rev. **George M. Chasney**, '60, died on April 10, 2014 in Trinity, Florida. Born in New Haven, George attended Drury College in Springfield, Missouri, and studied at Hartford Seminary with the Class of 1960. Ordained by the United Church of Christ in 1962, he served churches in South Dakota, Minnesota and New York. He was also a licensed drug and alcohol rehabilitation counselor, working on the Fond Du Lac Indian reservation outside Duluth, and at Moose Lake State Hospital in Minnesota.

The Rev. Dr. **Kenneth E. Knox**, D.Min. '84, died on July 31, 2014, at the age of 74. Born in Chester, Vermont, he graduated from Boston University, Andover Newton Theological School, and Hartford Seminary. Dr. Knox was a minister in the United Church of Christ for 44 years, serving the East Woodstock Congregational Church, the Talcottville Congregational Church of Vernon, and, for 24 years, the First Congregational Church of Auburn, Massachusetts, from which he retired and remained Minister Emeritus. He is survived by his wife, Jackie, a sister, four children and six grandchildren.



The Rev. **Donald J. Bosworth**, M.A. '53 died on February 3, 2014 in Fremont, Nebraska at the age of 89. Raised in Greenfield, Massachusetts, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II before attending and graduating from Springfield College and Hartford Seminary. His ministry began as a youth pastor in New York, and then as pastor in Buffalo, South Dakota; Estelline, South Dakota; Massena, New York; Winthrop, New York; Scribner, Nebraska, Minier, Illinois; and Inman, Kansas, from which he retired in 1990. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, two sons, two daughters, and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.



News of the death of **Charlotte Woods Beals Tasker**, M.A. '39 on

June 5, 2014, was received from her daughter, Mary Ann Tasker-Thompson. She wrote that her mother attended Highclerc Scholl (Kodai) in India "until 1929, when she was sent to America to finish as in those days, Highclerc only went through the 9th grade. She returned to India in 1944 as an RN, was married at Wai to a British soldier she had met aboard ship. World War II had ended but my parents had to wait until their daughter was 6 months old before the British Army would send them back to England, so my father was transferred to the Madra Guards until they could return. After two years in London they decided to emigrate to Canada and ended up in Vancouver, British Columbia before moving over to Youbou, a small lumber town, where I was born. Five years later they made one more move, to Tahsis, another small lumber town on the northwest coast of Vancouver Island, where they lived for 37 years until my father passed away in 1992 and we moved her to live with me and my husband in Washington State. She had returned to Kodai with my older sister and several relatives in 2001 to attend the schools' centennial. I believe her grandfather, the Rev. Samuel Bacon Fairbank, was in some way associated with the school at its inception. Her father, Dr. Lester Beals and mother, Dr. Rose Fairbank Beals, founded in 1913 and ran the Willis F. Pierce Hospital in Wai, Maharashtra until they retired in 1942. The memories of her days at the school remained with her all her life and she spoke of them often."

The Rev. Father **James Diavatis**, M.A. '74 died in Yorba Linda, California on December 23, 2012. Father James served the parish of Saint John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church in Anaheim, California, from 1979 until his retirement in 2010. He also served the parish of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Waterbury from the time of his ordination in 1961 until he relocated to California in 1979. Father James was a 1961 graduate of Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology, and earned two post-graduate degrees: a Masters of Sacred Theology from Yale Divinity School, and a Masters of Religious Studies from Hartford Seminary. He was also known for his love of gardening, photography and fishing. Father James took great care in cultivating beautiful flowers for the enjoyment and appreciation of others.



Faye Hackney-Lance, KSM '59 died on March 22, 2013 in Asheville, North Carolina at the age of 86. After completing her studies at the Kennedy School of Missions, she and her first husband Edwin A. Hackney served in India as missionaries for 22 years until 1981. "She leaves behind a legacy of vital ministry in witness to Christ, serving the needs of others in the caring community of Brooks-Howell and across the world." She is survived by four sons, eight grandchildren, her brother and two sisters.



January Intersession & Spring Semester 2015

January Intersession

PRACTICAL MINISTRY

- Chaplaincy Models and Methods (AM-602)

INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

- Conflict Transformation and Peace Building (DI-580)

Hartford Seminary's January Intersession will run from Monday, Jan. 12, through Friday, Jan. 16. The Spring 2015 semester will run from Tuesday, Jan. 20, through Monday, May 11. The Seminary's courses carry three graduate credits and are open to the public. Individuals who do not wish to take courses for credit may register to audit. Participants are urged to register early to ensure a place in the courses of their choice.

For those enrolled in a three-credit course, the cost is \$1,989. The non-credit audit fee is \$575. A special audit fee of \$385 is available for: persons age 60 and older; persons 55 and older receiving disability income; graduates of Hartford Seminary degree programs or the Certificate of Professional Ministry (Cooperative M. Div.); donors of \$250 a year or more; and Hartford Seminary Adjunct Faculty. There is a limit of one course per academic year to receive the special rate except persons age 60 and older, for whom there is no limit.

To register, please contact the Registrar's Office at 860-509-9511, or via email: registrar@hartsem.edu. To see specific course syllabi prior to the semester or to learn more about Hartford Seminary and its faculty, visit our website: www.hartsem.edu

Spring Semester 2015

ETHICS

- Global Ethics (ET-630)

HISTORY

- History of Christian Spirituality (HI-585)

INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

- Suffering, Theodicy, and Repentance: Interreligious Readings of Job and Jonah (DI-665)

LANGUAGE

- Introduction to Arabic Morphology and Syntax (LG-581)
- Introduction to New Testament Greek II (LG-562)
- Readings in New Testament Greek II (LG-662)

PRACTICAL MINISTRY

- Essential Skills in Pastoral Counseling & Ministry (AM-638)

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

- Tackling the Issue: Retaining Young People in Congregations (RS-672) Online

SCRIPTURE

- Hadith Methodology: History and Transmission of the Prophetic Sunna (SC-539) Online
- Hebrew Bible II (SC-520)
- Major Themes of the Bible and Qur'an (SC-634)
- The Synoptic Gospels (SC-540)

THEOLOGY

- Theology and Contextuality: A Systematic Survey of the Theology-Context Relationship in Western and Non-Western Contexts (TH-605)
- Muslim Political Theology in the 20th and 21st Centuries (TH-692) Online

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

- Islamic Spirituality (WS-639)
- Leading with Spirit: Transforming Leadership for Social Change (WS-619)



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FAITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Lasting Relationships of Mutual Aid

For more than 20 years, the First Church in Windsor (United Church of Christ) has contributed to the Seminary's Annual Fund, which underwrites crucial operating expenses each year. The Rev. Char Corbett describes how the congregation "has historically chosen to support Hartford Seminary because of its commitment to the Greater Hartford community, its interfaith emphasis on issues of peace, justice, education and dialogue, and its dedication to growing community leaders with a deepened sense of faith and interdependence. We have supported and participated in many of Hartford Seminary's programs, which include tapping into the Professional Speaker's Bureau for church programs and the Seminary's Confirmation Workshop. We hope to continue to be an active community and faith partner long into the future."

