

praxis

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Partnership to Assist Faith Groups

Interfaith Coalition to Provide
Research-based Resources

Story on page 4

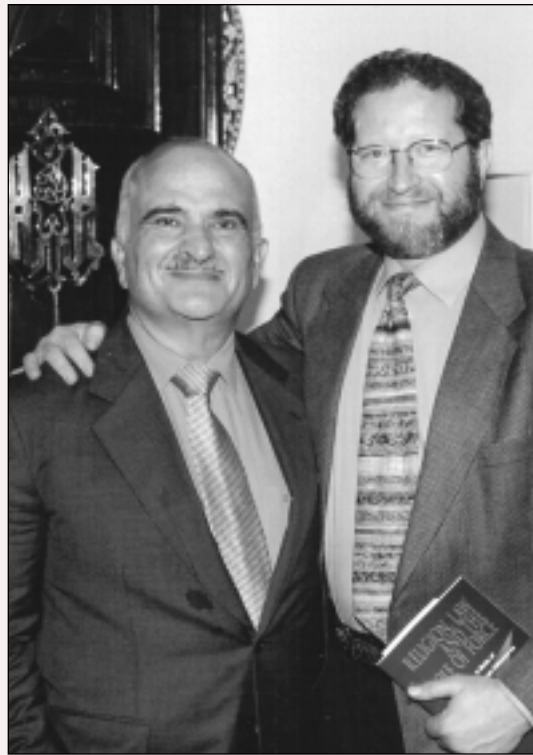


Hartford Seminary President Heidi Hadsell and Dean Ian Markham led the Seminary's graduation ceremony in June. More photos on Page 7.



The Rev. Dr. William McKinney, President of Pacific School of Religion, was the keynote speaker at the 2004 Alumni/ae Reunion in April. Story and photos on Pages 8 and 9.





Landau Participates in Peacemakers Conference in Jordan

Yehezkel Landau, faculty associate in interfaith relations and co-founder of the Open House Center for Jewish-Arab Coexistence in Ramle, Israel, was one of 14 religious peace activists who took part in a Peacemakers in Action retreat in Amman, Jordan, in May. The gathering was co-sponsored by the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding in New York City and Majlis El-Hassan, the office of HRH Prince El-Hassan bin Talal of Jordan.

Prince Hassan delivered the opening address to the conference and later hosted the participants in his home for dinner. The retreat was designed to help religious peacebuilders share their experiences and support one another in developing effective strategies for transforming conflicts in their societies. The countries represented were: South Africa, Nigeria, Bosnia, Northern Ireland, Korea, Sudan, West Papua, Ethiopia, Sierra Leone, Israel/Palestine, El Salvador, East Timor, Afghanistan, and the United States. A book with descriptive accounts of these peacemakers' efforts is in preparation. Each of the retreat participants is a recipient of a Peacemaker in Action Award from the Tanenbaum Center. Landau received this recognition in 2000, at a ceremony held at Open House in Ramle.

Shown in photo are Yehezkel Landau, right and HRH Prince Hassan.

Hartford Seminary Study/Travel Seminar to India January 7 - 21, 2005

Join us for a unique opportunity to deepen your own spirituality, while at the same time spending two weeks in India, a country rich in faith, history, and physical beauty. The participants of this tour will consist of representatives from the Christian, Muslim, Jewish, and Hindu faiths so that the best possible environment for interfaith dialogue will be created.

Currently, the itinerary on this trip to India includes:

4 days in Hyderabad: The emphasis of the time spent in this destination will be on interreligious relationships. One highlight of the stay will be the visit to the internationally renowned Henry Martyn Institute's International Center for Research, Interfaith Relations and Reconciliation.

4 days in Bangalore: Particularly of interest in this city is the United Theological College, where participants will focus on modern Hinduism, the impact of globalization on interfaith relations in the area, and information technology in the city of Bangalore.

3 days in Kottayam: The seminar will visit the Orthodox seminary in this city and learn about Orthodox Christianity and Judaism in India.

4 days in Mangalore: The visit to this city will concentrate on classical Hinduism and Jainism, and also include information about initiatives for education in religious harmony.

Hartford Seminary President Heidi Hadsell and faculty members Dale Bishop, Ingrid Mattson, Jane Smith, and Worth Loomis will lead this travel seminar. Detailed information on each tour leader is available when you visit our web site: www.hartsem.edu.

The group will leave from, and return to, New York City. A shuttle will be available from a Hartford area location to the airport in New York. The cost of the trip is projected to be about \$3,000 per person including: round trip airfare, all accommodations, lectures, city tours, meals, admission costs and guide fees (exclusive of tips). The exact cost of the trip will be determined in September, once the exact final itinerary has been prepared.

All accommodations will be comfortable and safe, generally in rest houses on campuses and at seminaries. Transportation in and between our destination cities will be by comfortable, air-conditioned bus and train, and there will be a knowledgeable, Indian speaking guide.

For more information or to apply for the seminar, please contact Valerie Vick, at the Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations, at (860) 509-9534 or vvick@hartsem.edu

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New Trustees at Hartford Seminary

At the annual meeting of Hartford Seminary, three new trustees were elected:



The Most Rev. Dr. Lorraine J. Bouffard is the Bishop for the Diocese of Connecticut of the American Ecumenical Catholic Church. A Hartford Seminary Doctor of Ministry graduate, Bouffard is a volunteer chaplain at York Correctional Institute in Niantic, CT, and Cedarcrest Hospital, Newington, and co-director of Grace Episcopal Church food pantry in Hartford. Bouffard is host and producer of "Voices in the Wilderness," a monthly television series produced at West Hartford, CT, Community TV. Bouffard joins the Board as an ex officio member because she is vice chair of the Alumni/ae Council.



The Rev. Dr. Terasa G. Cooley is Senior Minister of the Unitarian Society of Hartford. Cooley, who received a Doctor of Ministry degree from Hartford Seminary in June, previously was a minister at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Bridgeport, CT, the First Unitarian Church of Chicago and the First Unitarian Universalist Church of Detroit. She is a board member of the Greater Hartford Interfaith Coalition for Equity and Justice and wrote "The Theology of Baseball" for the *UU Voice* in 1998.



Wendy G. Grammas is a financial executive with more than 20 years of experience in major multinational corporations. She was treasurer of UST Inc. of Greenwich, CT, and treasurer and director of planning and investments of Philip Morris Capital Corp. in Rye Brook, N.Y. Grammas is a member of the Board of Directors of New Neighborhoods Inc., an organization that develops moderately priced housing, and works with American Red Cross and The Connecticut Hospice.

Hartford Seminary Joins Connecticut Public Television To Produce Religion Documentary

The complicated and emotional issues of same sex marriage, Muslim women's roles in the United States, and leadership and accountability in the Catholic Church were explored in an original documentary aired in June on public television in Connecticut.

"Religion & Politics: An American Challenge" was produced by Connecticut Public Television in association with Hartford Seminary, which provided background expertise to guide the content of the documentary. The partnership worked together for 10 months to develop a program that provides fresh insights into religion in the United States today.

The documentary explores three different ways that the intersection of politics, culture and religion affect contemporary American life: the struggle for civil rights for same sex couples, the roles of Muslim women in the United States and the groundswell of demands from the laity for more transparency in the workings of the Roman Catholic Church.

The producer and writer was Roynn Lisa Simmons of Connecticut Public Television.

Trustees Leave Board



Margaret Shanks with Martin L. Budd



Marnie Mueller with Martin L. Budd

Margaret Shanks and Marnie Mueller have retired from the Board of Trustees after completing three three-year terms of service. Shanks served most recently as first vice chair, while Mueller was treasurer. They were honored at the annual meeting of the Board in May. Board Chair Martin L. Budd awarded each of them plaques to thank them for their service.

Seminary Supports Partnership to Assist Congregations

By David S. Barrett, Director of Public and Institutional Affairs

Already Hartford Seminary's Hartford Institute for Religion Research has an international reputation for its research, and as a pioneer in congregational studies, it has published texts used as standards in classroom instruction across the country.

Now, in a new development that has received the enthusiastic support of the Seminary's Faculty and Board of Trustees, an interfaith coalition

of organizations that seeks to become the leading source for research-based resources in congregational development for local, regional and national faith groups is becoming a program of the seminary, located in HIRR.

This new initiative, which formalizes nine years of shared work by the coalition, will be known as the Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership (CCSP). It will enhance the capacity of congregations, denominations and related organizations to do and to use congregational studies and it also will promote interfaith cooperation.

David Roozen, Professor of Religion and Society at the Seminary and director of the Hartford Institute, cannot hide his excitement when he is asked about the partnership.

"From the beginning, the research program at the seminary has been about research-based resources for congregations, networking and creative dissemination," Roozen said. "This represents an integration and an extension of these efforts in a way that we could not have imagined even a decade ago, much less than when the seminary's Church and Ministry Program began 30 years ago."

The new program will:

- Publish academically and scientifically sound research on comparable congregational characteristics
- Produce research based resources (publications, consultation and training) for congregational development and renewal
- Support the partners in the initiative in additional cooperative research
- Expand the coalition of religious groups working together

- Serve as a public advocate for the contributions that congregations make to society

Coalition member dues, fees for services and grant funding will support the program.

The partnership is an outgrowth of the Faith Communities Today coalition. FACT brought together denominations, colleges and research agencies to conduct a comprehensive survey of congregations. The survey was completed in 2000, and the first results were published in 2001 in "A Report on Religion in the United States Today."

The FACT survey was one of the most inclusive, officially sanctioned programs of interfaith cooperation ever undertaken in the United States. It provided a public profile of religion in America – at the local congregational level – at the turn of the century.

Roozen said that the FACT survey has become so significant that the organizations that participated in it decided that they wanted to continue their cooperation and work on further research projects together.

"FACT was so successful, so significant that the participating groups felt compelled to build on it to continue their cooperative work. To do otherwise would have been poor stewardship of a unique resource," Roozen said. "The magnitude of the interfaith effort, the comprehensiveness of the data set – there is nothing like it. It is precedent-setting," he said.

In late June, he noted, the Association of Theological Schools announced that the congregation will receive priority attention for the next three years. FACT information figured prominently in the discussion around the announcement, which is symbolic of the renewed focus on congregations that FACT, and now CCSP, are so well positioned to serve.

Roozen said that a third reason for his excitement is that it integrates Hartford Seminary interests and expertise. The partnership reflects all six priorities Hartford Seminary has for its programming: innovation; bringing different faith traditions together; speaking to the public, especially through the media; connecting with faith communities; connecting with national and international constituencies; and being financially self-sustaining.

Roozen said that he hopes that, by the end of the first year of the partnership in June 2005, all 26 organizations that participated in the 2000 survey will be members. The partnership will be guided by a steering committee consisting of coalition and seminary representatives.

A preliminary plan for the partnership suggests a variety of projects in the first year.

One would be the development of an electronic newsletter that focuses on research-based resources for congregational development. The primary constituency would be congregational leaders and persons who resource congregations.

A second initiative is a 2005 replication of FACT-2000 for interested members. This would be the first of an annual, national sample survey of congregations.

Others projects under consideration are:

- Continued development, refinement and marketing of new approaches to the use of congregational study data. Immediate priority would be given to the creation of CCSP data related resources for congregational development and denominational planning.
- Revision of the website, including close coordination with the newsletter

Roozen said the FACT report and website have served congregations in three ways, and he expects this new initiative will be of similar benefit.

Congregations have used the data from the study, and in some cases a workbook available on the website (fact.hartsem.edu), as a resource for parish development.

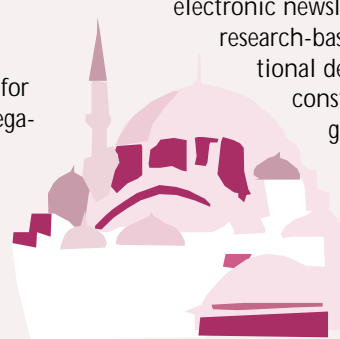
The survey has been a reflection-provoking resource for judicatories and national staff that assist congregations.

Seminaries are beginning to refocus attention on congregations, because of the FACT data.

The new information developed by the partnership will be an additional resource for all these groups, plus continue FACT's outreach to the public through the media and to the academy, Roozen said.

Already, he said, "even in scholarly literature, all the new stuff has to reference the FACT study."

This new partnership, he said, only will enhance this reputation as the leading resource nationally for parish development.



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Seminary Completes Survey on Its Identity

Hartford Seminary recently completed a survey of people who know of the Seminary, and some who don't, in order to better understand how people use the Seminary.

The offerings of the Seminary which are known to a majority of persons surveyed are in descending order:

- Special lectures, workshops and events
- The Bookstore
- The Library
- The Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations
- Praxis

The website, although known to only a third of the respondents in total, is a very recent addition compared to other offerings. It is most likely to be known and used by current Hartford Seminary students and others surveyed who are under fifty-five.

About 270 people responded out of a total of 860, which is considered a good response rate. This response fairly accurately depicts the opinions of those who currently are interested in Hartford Seminary.

Regarding the characteristics of the respondents, 70% of the whole sample is age 55 and older. The youngest respondents generally were from the West End neighborhood where the Seminary is located or on a list of active clergy in Connecticut. The sample is fairly well divided between women and men, lay and clergy. In total, 49% are clergy (17% women and 32% men) and 51% are laypersons (30% women and 21% men).

More than four-fifths of the total sample is Christian. Although more than twenty denominations were mentioned by respondents, the largest denominational representation is UCC-Congregationalists (31%), followed by Episcopalians (16%), and third by Roman Catholics (11%).

The bookstore and library reinforce the use of the other; however, the bookstore may be the prior magnet for more persons.

Taking classes involves reading. Of those survey respondents who took a class at the Seminary last year (10% of the total sample), although the great majority (70%) did use the library, slightly more (89%) visited the bookstore. Since relatively few of those surveyed took classes last year, there are clearly other better-traveled paths to the library and bookstore, including the web site and reading a newspaper in which someone from the Seminary was quoted.

Special events at Hartford Seminary bring in larger numbers than classes; and fully 34% of the survey respondents had attended a Seminary event in the last year. More than three-fourths (77%) of those who attended events last year, also stopped by the bookstore, and nearly half (49%) checked out the library.

On a list of five phrases that might communicate Hartford Seminary's unique mission, the top choices very clearly were: "Exploring differences, deepening faith" and "Leaders in interfaith dialogue and understanding." About two-thirds of the respondents checked both of these as appealing, indicating that for a substantial majority both are acceptable.

In follow-up telephone interviews, respondents' understandings of "exploring differences" and "deepening faith," and how well Hartford Seminary is doing each and connecting these two, were central questions. The twenty-four persons interviewed, drawn from different mailing lists of survey respondents, are primarily persons who have had some connection with the Seminary in the past year. Fourteen are ordained and ten are laypersons.

Most interviewed saw "exploring differences" as meaning gaining understanding of the similarities and differences between faith groups in the Abrahamic tradition, particularly Christian, Muslim and most recently Judaism. This area is seen as a major strength of Hartford Seminary. Although exploring differences among Christian denominations and racial/ethnic/national groups were also aspects named by interviewees as concerns of Hartford Seminary, most do not see these as major foci of "exploring differences" at the Seminary or aspects in which the Seminary stands out as unique from other educational institutions.

A second definition of "exploring differences" at Hartford Seminary, most apt to be voiced and applauded by clergy as well done, is examining differences among congregations and other religious organizations through the Seminary's Congregational Studies Institute and HIRR publications in the sociology of religion.

There was less consensus among those interviewed, particularly clergy, on what "deepening faith" means exactly as a focus for Hartford Seminary. Several indicated that this interfaith Seminary does not explicitly focus on faith formation, nor should it. Rather, the Seminary should emphasize teaching those enrolled how to help those to whom they minister deepen their faith.

Given the multi-faith character of Hartford Seminary, another suggested this second phrase should better read in the plural, i.e. "deepening faiths." More of the lay interviewees, however, indicated that they did hope to deepen their own faith through attending Seminary programs, sometimes because they are consciously seeking to do so and sometimes because they are not getting as much as they would want in faith development within their congregations.

On whether the phrases "exploring differences" and "deepening faith" are closely connected or more separate, those interviewed were divided on whether "exploring differences" inextricably leads to "deepening faith", although most felt these should be connected. Despite such differences, a majority felt their own faith had indeed been deepened through recent experiences at Hartford Seminary. Further, a substantial proportion of both clergy and lay persons felt that whether "exploring differences" and "deepening faith" are generally connected, Hartford Seminary has managed to connect these two remarkably well throughout its educational offerings.

Several interviewed indicated that "exploring differences, deepening faith" captures aspects of Hartford Seminary's mission, but neither this nor any other statement listed on the survey adequately depicts Hartford Seminary, because as one put it: "Hartford Seminary is very complex."

The survey research and interviews were conducted by Adair Lummis, faculty associate in research at the Seminary's Hartford Institute for Religion Research.

Students: You Are Equipped to Serve

Joseph Wei, a Hartford Seminary alumnus and past chair of the Alumni/ae Council, delivered this charge to graduates at Hartford Seminary's 2004 graduation on June 4.

The great 20th century mystic, Thomas Merton, taught that our hold on the truth is both fragmentary and ambiguous. In 1988 I belonged to one of the estimated 10,000 religious sects in the world, most of which claim to be the sole repositories and guardians of "the truth" and regard all other belief systems as not only wrong but evil and worthy of damnation. My sect was the largest and fastest growing of its kind in America, members of which are major players in the current Bush administration.

In late spring of 1988 I had a premonition that Islam, a religion about which I – like most Americans – knew virtually nothing, was to play an increasingly significant role in world events. Having heard that Hartford Seminary had a respected program in Islamic studies, I applied to take a summer course called "Islam: Rumor and Reality." My co-religionists were aghast, wondering why I would want to study what they called "that Satanic religion."

So impressed was I by the content of that first course and the quality of the teaching that I went on to earn a degree in Islamic studies and Christian-Muslim relations, taking a four-year academic "scenic route" during which I experienced profound spiritual transformation and consciousness-raising. Of particular importance was my introduction to the esoteric, or mystical, dimension of Islam – Sufism, which connected me with a trans-religious, trans-personal awareness which informs every aspect of my life to this day.

In the years following graduation I continued to take courses here, served seven years on the Alumni/ae Council and also two on the Board of Trustees. This more intimate access to the inner workings of the Seminary convinced me not only of the integrity of the decision-making process here, but also of the ability and sincerity of those making those administrative decisions, strengthening my commitment to the critical work in research, teaching, and dialogue being done in a setting of collegial and irenic appreciation for diverse points of view.

While suicide bombings, burkas and beheadings grab the headlines, we have our own home-grown spiritual pathologies, visible in such things as the bombing of women's health care facilities and marches against granting equal civil rights to all our fellow citizens, replete with placards declaring God's hatred for this or that individual or group. Hartford Seminary stands as a unique antidote to those spiritual pornographers who misuse sacred scriptures to create or foment division, separation and hatred and to those reactionary elements who would degrade and distort the great faith traditions which are the common inheritance of all humanity, handed down by those who have

traveled the myriad paths of faith throughout recorded history. We hold these spiritual bequests in trust for those who will follow us, a sacred charge indeed.

Faith is not a museum exhibit of an antiquated worldview. Use what you have learned here not just to preserve the distinctions and particulars of your individual religious traditions, but also to transform and quicken them through the knowledge of contemporary scholarship and the dynamic of spiritually evolving human consciousness. We have the opportunity to transmute fate into destiny, life circumstance into creative meaning, and to move beyond narrow investments in partial truths into a positive celebration of the countless traditions manifesting that ultimate reality which defies every definition and exceeds all expectations.

I urge you to stay involved with Hartford Seminary, supporting our valuable work with your time, talent and resources. Consider serving on the Alumni/ae Council, the Board, or in some other capacity. Take courses, participate in workshops and events; share the good news of what we are doing here with others. It is you, our graduates, who are the bread cast upon the waters by Hartford Seminary. It is through you that the wisdom and blessings of this place will reach far beyond our little campus.

Once again from Thomas Merton:

The rush and pressure of modern life are a form, perhaps the most common form, of innate violence. To allow oneself to be carried away by a multitude of conflicting concerns, to surrender to too many demands, to commit oneself to too many projects, to want to help everyone in everything is to succumb to violence. More than that, it is cooperation with violence. The frenzy of the activist neutralizes his work toward peace. It destroys her own inner capacity for peace. It destroys the fruitfulness of his own work because it kills the root of inner wisdom which makes work fruitful.

My Buddhist friends have taught me to spend time in quiet meditation, discovering the pure nature of ordinary mind and cultivating real presence and awareness. I invite you to do the same. Take the time. Make the time. Nothing is more important, for the sages of old have shown us that not only is the way up the way in, but that in knowing ourselves we know our God.

And finally, as you go forth so admirably equipped to labor in the vineyards of your Lord, always remember that those same fields were made for play, too. May all your efforts yield a mighty harvest of wisdom and compassion, peace and justice, and may your goings out and comings in be so blessed as to bear the good fruit by which all people of faith are known. May the God of your journey grant you peace and love, and give you the increase of which there will be no end. Go in peace to bless and serve the Lord.

Graduates • Class of 2004

Doctor of Ministry

Joseph M. Callahan
Teresa Gabrielle Cooley
Lillian Fant Daniel
Ned Wolfe Edwards Jr.

Master of Arts

Hazza Abu-Rabi'
Nancy G. Aker
Zeynep Akbulut
Kemal Enz Argon
Jawad Ashraf
Sajjad Idris Chowdhry
Colleen Marie Keyes
Kitty P. Liu
Thomas W. Mallory Jr.
Haneef Mubarak
Kathleen Curran Smits
Umeyye Yazicioglu

Graduate Certificates

Bonita V. Buongiorno
Michael J. Dolan
Gail Elizabeth Figliola

Keisha L. Matthews
Mellonee S. Pauley

Black Ministries Program

Beverly E. Barracks
Juliet Yvonne Bernard
Vincent M. Clark
Sheron D. Fuller
Chantel Denise Gardner
Cassandra Gilbert
Lillie Pearl Hopkins
Lorna Lightner
Alberta R. Mendenhall
Jannise Riddick
James Stewart
Ray Strickland

Programa de Ministerios Hispanos

Marietta Marquez
Aida I. Santiago
Jacqueline Torres

Women's Leadership Institute

Ayat Agah
Shirle Moore Childs

Margaret A. Coffey
Louise M. Currie
Marilyn Garcia
Jennifer Gingras
Ruth McCrum Griffin
Carmela S. Hansen
Sharon Brisenehan Harney
Susan F. Henley
Sandra A. Hoyt
Johanna Hurkmans
Valerie Therese Imbleau
Dawn D. Karlson
Heather Kennedy
Diana M. Lee
Fay Kim Levin
Roseanne Massaro Lombardo
Louise B. Lynch
Karen P. Manz
Lesley Markham
Nikki McGary
Cathryn Ford Oles
Guat Kwee See
Maryam Sharief
Linda G. Sparks
Lee C. Trowbridge
Kenya Washington
Eva-Maria Weber
Sandra A. White

Hartford Seminary held its graduation ceremonies on June 4, on the lawn outside the main Seminary building.

Photos, clockwise, from top:

- The Rev. Dr. Steven J. Sidorak Jr., executive director of the Christian Conference of Connecticut, delivers the keynote address.
- Lillian Daniel listens as Dean Ian Markham recognizes her for completion of her Doctor of Ministry degree.
- Ruth McCrum Griffin receives a certificate for completion of the Women's Leadership Institute. Shaking her hand is President Heidi Hadsell. Looking on are Board Chair Martin L. Budd and Dean Ian Markham.
- The Master of Arts graduates stand as their names are read.
- Alberta Mendenhall receives a certificate for completion of the Black Ministries Program from President Heidi Hadsell.



April Reunion Honors 12 Alumni/ae

About 80 people enjoyed themselves at Hartford Seminary's 2004 Alumni/ae Reunion, held in April.

The Rev. Dr. William McKinney, President of Pacific School of Religion and former Dean of Hartford Seminary, delivered the keynote address.

Each year, the entire Seminary community honors a Distinguished Alumnus or Alumna whose ministry has done particular honor to the Seminary. This year McKinney was one of two recipients of the award, with Dr. Beverly Tatum, President of Spelman College in Atlanta and M.A. graduate at Hartford Seminary.

At a special luncheon, 10 alumni/ae received James N. Gettemy Significant Ministry Awards. They were:

- Shirley Nichols Berry, who spent 30 years in South Dakota working with Native Americans in religion and education programs. In particular, she was a consultant to Native American Head Start programs.
- Carolyn Brooks Burton, who is President of the Young Women's Christian Council at the Christ Temple Church of God in Christ in

Hartford. She is active in Hartford community and religious activities.

- Susan Campbell, who is a columnist for The Hartford Courant. The subjects of her writings range from human interest stories to critique and analysis of the challenges inherent in today's multi-faith ethnically diverse society.
- The Rev. Dr. Norman W. Jackson, who is retired Conference Minister of the Hawaii Conference, United Church of Christ. Jackson has, since retirement, been scholar in residence at Eden Theological Seminary.
- Imam Dr. Anas Khalid, who is staff chaplain at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in New York and adjunct professor of Arabic and Islamic Jurisprudence at Fordham and Seton Hall Universities.
- The Rev. Dr. Esther L. Megill, who was a missionary, educator and administrator for the Evangelical United Brethren and Methodist Churches. Before retirement, she developed and directed a program of lay and pastoral training for Wood Junior College in cooperation with the North Mississippi Conference, United Methodist Church.
- The Rev. Dr. Lawrence Peers, who is a consultant with the Alban Institute and an Associate for Pastoral Development with the Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ.
- Edith Gibson Rodgers, who has

opened a shelter for battered women and children and who works to assist the needy in Bridgeport and New Haven.

- The Rev. Jose F. Santiago, who is Pastor of the New Harvest Church in Hartford. He started the first Spanish Bible School and the first Spanish religious radio program in Hartford.
- The Rev. Dr. Donna Schaper, who is Senior Minister of Coral Gables Congregational Church in Coral Gables, Florida. She serves on the Board of Directors of the Florida Conference, United Church of Christ.

On the second day of the reunion, besides the awards lunch, there was an open discussion session and small group discussions that examined issues such as welcoming the stranger, identifying our fears of the stranger, hospitality, and how different faiths address these topics.

The breakout sessions focused on:

- Islam and welcoming the stranger
- Mideast peace - bringing strangers together
- Dialogue and interfaith - becoming friends
- Issues of inclusion and exclusion for members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community
- Strangers and ministry in the urban suburban context

Alumni/ae Council Outlines Priorities

Fostering community among students and graduates is the top goal of the Alumni/ae Council for the coming year.

"Hartford Seminary is a wonderful place to begin new friendships with people of faith. We want to make it easy to sustain those relationships," said Frank O'Gorman, newly elected president.

The new council has already sponsored two community-building events. It hosted a pizza party in May for international students at which everyone shared the journey that brought them to the seminary, and their ministry aspirations. The council prepared welcome packets for June graduates with a chocolate bar inviting them

to "taste and see" the social and personal growth opportunities offered by the council.

The next big council-sponsored event is the Hartford Seminary Family Homecoming, Sept. 11, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This potluck picnic will bring together students, alumni/ae, faculty, staff, corporators and trustees for good food, fun and festivities as we celebrate the start of a new academic year.

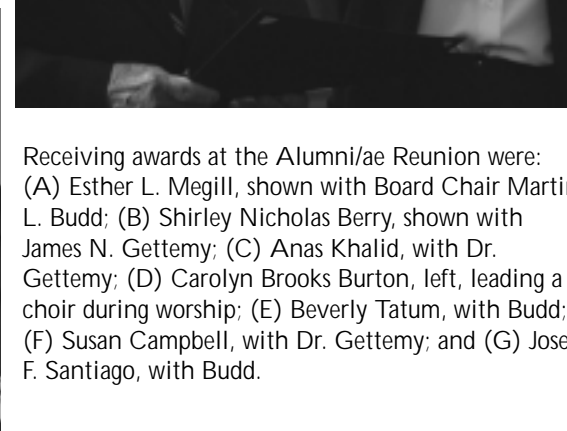
The council is also cooking up new twists on seminary "favorites." Several upcoming EDO events will be preceded by an optional off-campus dinner to enable alumni/ae to renew friendships in an informal family setting.

Council meetings themselves (Sept. 14, Nov. 9; 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.) will be open to all so that interested parties may directly

express their ideas. The council is also working with staff to implement modifications to the database which will allow for networking among alumni/ae based on ministry interest such as urban issues.

"I am excited about our activities to strengthen the sense of family here at the seminary," said O'Gorman, "and I look forward to fostering friendships among members and graduates of all certificate and degree programs."

Profiles of the new members of the Alumni/ae Council will appear in the December 2004 issue of Praxis.



Receiving awards at the Alumni/ae Reunion were: (A) Esther L. Megill, shown with Board Chair Martin L. Budd; (B) Shirley Nicholas Berry, shown with James N. Gettemy; (C) Anas Khalid, with Dr. Gettemy; (D) Carolyn Brooks Burton, left, leading a choir during worship; (E) Beverly Tatum, with Budd; (F) Susan Campbell, with Dr. Gettemy; and (G) Jose F. Santiago, with Budd.

Faculty Notes



Ibrahim Abu-Rabi' spent the Spring 2004 semester in Istanbul, where he studied Turkish. In May, he accompanied Heidi Hadsell, president of

Hartford Seminary, on a one-week trip to Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan to meet scholars and educators and to promote the Seminary's work in Central Asia. In August, Abu-Rabi' lectured in Malaysia, Cambodia, and Singapore as a member of a Fulbright Lectureship Program. He discussed Islam in America, the United States and the Muslim world, and globalization and the Muslim world.

April was a busy month for **Efrain Agosto**. He completed six years of service on the Hispanic Theological Initiative Final Selection Committee, interviewing Latino and Latina graduate students in theology and religion and dissertation year candidates at this annual event held at Princeton Theological Seminary. While no longer serving in this capacity, Agosto will continue to mentor an occasional HTI graduate student. He traveled to Pasadena, CA, at the end of April to visit his current HTI mentee at Fuller Seminary. Just before that trip, he attended his last meeting as a member of the Association of Theological Schools Executive Committee in Pittsburgh, also after six years of service. In May, Agosto hosted a meeting of local Latino/a pastors considering beginning "Tertulias Pastorales," pastoral reflection groups sponsored by the Association of Hispanic Theological Education (AETH). The pastors agreed to start a group and in June established some dates and guidelines for the group's meetings. Besides AETH and Hartford Seminary, the Christian Activities Council and the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut will help sponsor the meetings for the pastoral reflection group in Greater Hartford, one of four so far across the country. June also saw Agosto travel to Harvard Divinity School in Cambridge, MA, to participate in the Case Teaching Institute. He learned how to use the case study method in theological and biblical studies, specifically to prepare to teach his Spring 2005 D.Min. class, "Leadership in the New Testament: A Case Study Approach." In July, Agosto returned to Princeton Seminary for the annual HTI Summer Workshop, where he participated in several panel discussions on the latest research in theological and biblical studies for the benefit of Latino/a graduate students in theology and religion.

Heidi Hadsell attended a conference sponsored by the Center for Theological

Study in South Africa in April, and attended an Association of Theological Schools task force meeting in Pittsburgh. In May, her article "Money and Ethics" was published in the Zion's Herald journal. Hadsell moderated a program on Separation of Church and State at the University of Connecticut School of Law and traveled with Ibrahim Abu-Rabi' to Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan to meet scholars and educators and to promote the Seminary's work in Central Asia. She attended the Association of Theological Schools' biennial meeting of deans and presidents in California in June. Hadsell led a class of Seminary students to the Parliament of the World's Religions in Barcelona, Spain, in July.

During the Summer 2004 session, **Yehezkel Landau** coordinated and co-taught the first round of a new course called "Building Abrahamic Partnerships." He wrote an essay entitled "Pope John Paul II's Holy Land Pilgrimage: A Jewish Appraisal" for a book that Paulist Press will publish in the coming year. Landau also wrote a review article on Barbara R. Rossing's new book "The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation," to be published in the journal *Conversations in Religion and Theology*. In April, Landau spent a day and a half at the Salisbury School in Connecticut, delivering an evening lecture on "Religion as a Force for Peacebuilding" and a sermon at the next morning's chapel service. Also in April, Landau was in the First Congregational Church of Greenwich, CT, sharing a dialogue-sermon with the pastor and leading an adult forum on Middle East peacemaking, was a guest teacher in a class on "Jerusalem" at Connecticut College in New London, CT, and addressed representatives of different Bible Societies on "Biblical Resources for Peacemaking" at their gathering in Bloomfield, CT. In May, Landau flew to Amman, Jordan, for a Peacemakers in Action consultation sponsored by the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding in New York City. This event brought together some 16 religious peacemakers from different conflict areas of the world, in order to share experiences and practical strategies for interfaith reconciliation. Other speaking engagements during May and June included a public dialogue with Professor Mustafa Abu Sway on "Jerusalem: Jewish and Islamic Perspectives" at Central Connecticut State University; an adult forum on religious peacemaking at Zion Episcopal Church in North Branford, CT; a luncheon address on "Healing the Holy Land" at First Congregational Church in Farmington, CT; and a Jewish-Christian-Muslim panel on "Intergroup Relations in the U.S." before a group of Jews and

Palestinians from Jerusalem taking part in the "Moderate Voices for Progress" program.

Adair Lummis published an article, titled "A Research Note: Real Men and Church Participation," in the journal *Review of Religious Research*.

In April, **Ian Markham** preached at the New Britain Unitarian Universalist Meeting House and at Trinity Episcopal Church, Hartford. In May, he participated in the Dulles Colloquium in New York, on the topic, "the Roman Catholic Church." Markham attended the Association of Theological Schools' biennial meeting of deans and presidents in California in June. He published a review of David Martin's "Christian Language and its Mutations: Essays in Sociological Understanding" in the journal *Conversations in Religion and Theology*.

In May, **Ingrid Mattson** completed teaching her first on-line course, "Introduction to Islamic Law." Mattson reports, "I missed being with the students in the class, but the on-line course presented a good challenge to the students to put their thoughts in writing. In addition, I enjoyed having the participation of some students who could not have come to Hartford." On May 10, Mattson convened the first meeting of the Islamic Chaplaincy Advisory Board. The same day, the Islamic Chaplaincy Program sponsored a roundtable on "The Role of Muslim Chaplains on College Campuses." Speakers included Muslim college chaplains Ahmed Kobeisy (Syracuse), Khalilah Karim-Rushdan (Smith), Walead Muhammad (Rutgers) and Shamshad Sheikh (Mt. Holyoke). This spring, Mattson has spoken at Tunxis Community College (Farmington), Fordham Law School, Philips Academy (Andover), the Islamic Society of Western Springfield, Masjid Al Abidin (Queens), and Wellesley College. Mattson received an award from ICNA (New Jersey) at their "Young Muslims Quiz Competition" on May 15th.

David Rozen spent three days in June at Wartburg Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa, sharing in the leadership of a conference he helped design: "Hearing the Congregation's Voice in Theological Education: Toward the Assessment and Revision of M.Div Curriculum." Sixty-one faculty and administrators representing 26 seminaries attended the conference. Four chapters from one of the edited collections from the Hartford Institute for Religion Research's Organizing Religious Work grant, "Church, Identity, and Change: Theology and Denominational Structures In Unsettled Times" (Rozen

Continued on next page

Faculty Notes *Continued from previous page*

and James Nieman, eds.; Eerdmans, forthcoming) appeared on Reporter Interactive - the online site of The United Methodist Reporter. Two additional chapters appeared in Volume 25 of *Pneuma: The Journal of the Society for Pentecostal Studies*. HIRR's New Horizons grant and the related New Horizons Fund created to honor Carl Dudley's career supported the apprenticeship of four leaders in June's Congregational Studies Institute. Roozen used *Meet Your Neighbors: Interfaith FACTS* - a publication from the Institute-coordinated Faith Communities Today national survey of congregations - during the opening session of the Building Abrahamic Partnerships course.

In April, **Jane Smith** made a presentation on Hartford Seminary at St. James Episcopal Church, West Hartford, and delivered two sermons, along with adult education and a community lecture on interfaith relations, at Grosse Pointe

Memorial Church, Grosse Pointe, MI. She participated in May on the Spears Board of Advisors, Choate-Rosemary Hall, Wallingford, CT, and spoke on "Inter-religious Understanding: What Does it Mean, What are its Challenges, and How do we Achieve it?" at the Connecticut Conference on Interfaith Understanding, Christian Conference of Connecticut. Smith spoke on "Understanding Islam and our Muslim Neighbors" at the Church of Christ, Norwalk, CT, in June and also served on a planning committee for a conference on the "Impact of U.S. Islamic Thinkers on Muslim Nations" in Washington, D.C. Smith published "Women's Issues in American Islam," in Union Seminary's Quarterly Review, a festschrift for Rosemary Skinner Keller.

In mid-April, **Miriam Therese Winter** joined feminist scholars Dr. Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz and Dr. Elizabeth Johnson as major speakers at a women's conference at Boston College entitled, "Envisioning

the Church Women Want." The title of Winter's keynote address to the standing room only crowd was: "Wanted: A Just Church, Not Just a Church." In mid-May, she was awarded an honorary degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, at Mount Saint Vincent University in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Cynthia Woolever made presentations to the leaders of Synagogue 2000, a group of Jewish leaders pursuing the revitalization of synagogue life, at Hebrew Union College, and to the strategic planning group of the Episcopal Church Pension Group, New York. She led a workshop for the Indianapolis Center for Congregations staff on the field of congregational studies; attended Calvin College's Festival of Faith & Writing; and spoke at the annual breakfast of Westminster John Knox Press.

Hamilton Delivers Rion Lecture

Samuel C. Hamilton, executive director and chief executive officer of the Hartford Economic Development Corporation and the Greater Hartford Business Development Center, gave a moving testimonial to the importance of ethics in the business community, as the 2004 Rion Lecturer. The Rion Lecture, named in honor of Michael Rion, a former Seminary president, honors an individual who embodies a dedication to ministry in daily life and has a commitment to service to others. Hamilton's lecture, delivered in May, spoke of his dedication to living a virtuous life as a model to others, including youth. Hamilton, a trustee of Hartford Seminary, is president of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, an international organization that trains men for leadership in their communities.



In Memoriam

The Hartford Seminary community lost the following beloved members recently. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their friends and families.

Elizabeth C. Batchelder ("Betty"), 78, of Cromwell, Connecticut, died March 29, 2004. Mrs. Batchelder was the wife of Dr. Robert Batchelder, former professor of ethics at Hartford Seminary. Mrs. Batchelder was a graduate of Keuka College in Keuka Park, New York, and in 1952 from Yale Divinity School.

Mrs. Batchelder was the director of Christian Education in the Presbyterian Church of Highland Park, Michigan. She was also the administrator of Solheim Lutheran Home in California. At Solheim, she was in charge of fundraising for a new skilled nursing wing, which was subsequently named after her. Mrs. and Dr. Batchelder were members of Second Congregational Church of East Alstead, New Hampshire and Asylum Hill Congregational Church in Hartford, Connecticut.

Mrs. Batchelder enjoyed bird watching, attending elder hostels, and traveling, especially to Costa Rica and Africa. An avid gardener and walker, Mrs. Batchelder also loved reading and writing. She was an active member of the Marlow Historical Society in New Hampshire, where she helped with fundraising and wrote the Society's history.

Mrs. Batchelder is survived by her husband, Bob; two sons, David and his wife Carmen; and Stephen and his wife Beth; one daughter, Peg, and her partner, May Coryell; and five grandchildren, Stacey, Michelle, Becky, Carrie, and Kaila.

The Rev. Dr. Zdenek F. Bednar, 79, of Springfield, New Hampshire, died on May 22, 2004. A survivor of seven years of Nazi occupation, he received his education and degrees at Charles University in his native Prague, at Hartford Seminary ('48 B.D.; '49 S.T.M.), Boston University, as well as Oxford, in the fields of theology, political philosophy, the Early Reformation, the development of Marx-Leninism and applied Christianity. He received his Ph.D. in history and social ethics from Boston University.

Following the Communist coup d'etat in his country in 1948, he stayed as a political exile in the U.S., and later became a citizen. For twenty years, he was a speechwriter for Radio Free Europe under the pseudonym of Josef Sadilek.

A gifted preacher, he served churches in Bennington, Vermont; Canton and Lynnfield Centre, Massachusetts, and was named the first Pastor Emeritus of the historic Wilton Congregational Church (UCC) in Wilton, Connecticut. He also served as the Moderator of Connecticut

General Assembly and chaired the Committees on Ministry both in Massachusetts and Connecticut. During his retirement in New Hampshire he served the churches in Keene, Claremont, and Wilmot.

Faithful to his Early Reformation heritage, even if it threatened his popularity in the local church, he always insisted on following the social implications of the Gospel. His ministry was marked by such efforts as housing for the elderly, providing a chance for better education for African American high schoolers in Boston, and finding help for drug addicts. He maintained a hot line for drug addicts in his home starting as early as the 1950s. He also fought for state support of community colleges.

A protagonist of the ministry of arts, he encouraged many in staging their first exhibits and was himself the winner of the first prize in Wilton Premieres for his play "The Strong Among Us." He is also the author of several books, including *The Broken Christmas Bell*, *Prayers for Morning and Nights*, *Keep Your Chin Up*, and *Where Is My Home?*

His friends and family have established a fund to continue his ministry and to publish some of his recent writings to be edited by his son-in-law, Allan MacDonald. The proceeds of this publication will be used by the First Congregational Church in Wilmot for mission projects. Checks for the Bednar Memorial Fund may be sent to the First Congregational Church, P.O. Box 204, Wilmot, New Hampshire 03287. All donors will be notified about the publication of Dr. Bednar's work, and events or tasks given in his memory.

Dr. Bednar is survived by his children, Marie MacDonald (Mrs. Allan), a local special education teacher, and James F. Bednar, foreign service officer presently serving as the USAID director in Rabat, Morocco; and his grandchildren, Alexander and Katherine MacDonald, and Pieter, Dennis, and Vera Bednar.

Rev. John (Beryl) Clemons ('84 BMCP), 82, of Plainville, Connecticut, died June 19, 2004. Rev. Clemons was a Quarter Master in the US Army and participated in the invasion of France in 1944 during World War II. He worked as an inspector for Fafnir Bearing Co. for 31 years. Rev. Clemons was a member of Second Baptist Church, New Britain, serving faithfully for many years as an assistant minister.

Rev. Clemons is survived by his wife Thelma; son, Vernon Ferguson and his wife, Donna; a daughter Lisa Vallera and her husband, Giulio; two sisters, Thomasina Clemons and Juanita Jackson; and a brother, Charles D. Clemons.

Inez Ostborg ('40 BRE), 90, of Weatogue, Connecticut passed away in the spring of 2004.

The Rev. Dr. Jack R. Rothenberger ('55 B.D.), 73, of Worcester, Pennsylvania died December 11, 2003. He received his B.D. from Hartford Seminary, STM from Temple University, and D.Min. from Lancaster Theological Seminary.

Dr. Rothenberger was Pastor Emeritus of the Central Schwenkfelder Church having retired in 1995 after serving as pastor for 26 years. He also served as pastor at the former Lansdale Schwenkfelder Church and Palm Schwenkfelder Church.

In 1964 he received his United Church of Christ Ministerial Standing in the Pennsylvania Southeast Conference and served as interim pastor of Wentz's United Church of Christ Church in Worcester for nearly two years after retiring. He was also supply pastor at several other United Church of Christ churches in the area.

He was the former headmaster, chaplain, teacher and coach at the Perkiomen School in Pennsburg, Pennsylvania.

Dr. Rothenberger served as president of the International Christian Endeavor Union and World Christian Endeavor Union. He was past president of Schwenckfeld Manor Advanced Living Inc. and the Upper Perkiomen Manor. He served as the charter board member chairman for the Expansion Committee for the Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center in Pennsburg and as the vice chairman of Meadowood Retirement Community. He was a member of the Pennsylvania Council of Churches governing board, North Penn Association United Church of Christ Ministerium, Methacton Area Ministerium and the Schwenkfelder Board of Publication/Education/Ministerium/Steering Committee of General Conference and Senior Minister.

He was the author of "Casper Schwenckfeld von Ossig and the Ecumenical Ideal" and "Erkenntnis Christi: A Model for Adult Schwenkfeldian Education." He also wrote many articles for the Schwenkfeldian Magazine and other publications.

His interests were traveling, reading, hiking, swimming, bicycle riding and group discussions.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Jean D. (Schultz) Rothenberger; a son, Dr. Bruce W. Rothenberger and his wife, Linda J., a daughter, Sue M. Rothenberger; grandsons, Brandon T. and Eric B. Rothenberger; and two brothers, Dr. Eugene R. Rothenberger and Dr. Jesse R. Rothenberger.

Alumni/ae Notes



Compiled by Nancy Aker, Associate Director of Development

Carl M. Wheelless, Ph.D., '57, currently of Lakeland, Florida, was invited by the current administration of Forman Christian College, Lahore, Pakistan, to spend the month of March 2004 there and to participate in several important functions including the celebration of the first anniversary of the college moving from government control to the church. Dr. Wheelless also had a private meeting with the president of Pakistan, President Musharraf, as an unofficial visitor that lasted over one hour.

While in Pakistan in March, Dr. Wheelless was the house guest of Chief Minister Chaudhry Pervaiz Elahi. During the process of nationalizing the college, Dr. Wheelless observed how the Chief Minister showed that "Muslims and Christians could work together for the betterment of the country." Dr. Wheelless states that, "the tolerance I learned at Hartford Seminary could be beneficial to all."

Rev. Cannon Dr. Richard T. Nolan '63, who served on the faculty in the 1960s and 1970s, and Bob Pingpank his partner, have launched, *Soul Mates: More Than Partners*, an online quasi-biographical introduction to Dick Nolan and Bob Pingpank, who will celebrate their 50th anniversary in 2005.

Linda Bieze '01 WLI, was appointed managing editor at Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. in Grand Rapids, MI, in July 2003.

The Rev. Yoshimichi Masaki '68 S.T.M., is the co-coordinator of the Spiritual Care department at Headingley Correctional Center, 6030 Portage Ave., Headingley, Canada.

Smith to Research, Write New Book on Dialogue



Jane I. Smith, Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations at Hartford Seminary, has received a \$10,000 grant from the Lilly Foundation to

publish a book on Christian-Muslim dialogue in the United States.

Smith will spend the fall 2004 semester examining three key areas:

- The contributions that women can make to the dialogue.

Smith hopes to encourage dialogue between young female Christian and Muslim scholars who have made it their particular interest to reinterpret sacred texts to either (1) justify them as already inclusive of women, or (2) analyze them through the common lens of patriarchy. A very specialized dialogue might result from such conversations.

- Dialogue between African-American Christians and Muslims.

Smith wants to hear what issues Christian and Muslim African Americans raise in terms of participation in inter-faith, multi-racial dialogue.

- The possibilities of engaging the youth of both Christian and Muslim communities in working together on projects of common concern.

"If we cannot instill in our youth the importance of interfaith communication, those of us who have long sought to build bridges will not have been ultimately

successful," Smith said. "Current indications are that youth find less value in simply talking, and more in the kind of engagement that comes through service or other kinds of collaborative projects. I have a number of young people who are eager to work with me on this."

In her proposal to Lilly, Smith pointed out that national polls report consistently that the level of tolerance for Islam and Muslims in America is dropping. "American concerns about Islam are heightened by the actions of militant Muslims internationally, as well as by the inflammatory statements of some conservative Christian leaders, of some members of the U.S. government, and of others determined to fuel the fires of anti-Muslim reaction on the part of the general public," Smith wrote. "I am persuaded that strong efforts must be made to counter increasing polarization."

She said that Hartford Seminary, where she is co-director of the Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations, has intensified its commitment to dialogue as central to the mission of the institution.

Thus, she said, the current climate in the United States and the importance that the Seminary places on dialogue will make this project both timely and essential to increasing public interfaith understanding.

Smith hopes to complete the book by the end of the 2004-2005 academic year.

Students Win Scholarships

Seven Hartford Seminary students have won 2003-04 Merit Scholarships.

Yvette Cortez, a Master of Arts student, will receive a scholarship from the William Thompson Fund, as a degree program student who "has demonstrated notable proficiency or interest in the field of biblical studies." She won the award for her paper, "Paul's Liberation Ministry."

Bonnie Buongiorno, a Master of Arts student, and Maxwell Grant, who is in the cooperative Master of Divinity program, will receive scholarships from the Hartranft Scholarship Fund for demonstrating "excellence in written expression." Buongiorno won for her paper, "Transcending Time—Jewish Tradition," and Grant won for his paper, "Introduction to the Qur'an."

Four other students won awards from the Bennett Tyler Scholarship fund for excellence in written expression. They are Pegge Johnson and Nancy E. Kot, graduate certificate students; Dana Dixon, a special student, and Denise Rodriguez, a Programa de Ministerios Hispanos student.



Hartford Seminary's Fall Semester will run from Monday, September 13 through Monday, December 20. The Seminary's courses are open to members of the public on a space-available basis and carry three graduate level credits. Individuals who do not wish to take courses for credit may apply to take courses as an auditor. Many classes fill up quickly, so participants are

urged to register early to ensure a place in their courses of choice. For those enrolled in a three-credit course, the cost is \$1,265. The non-credit audit fee is \$575. A special audit fee of \$385 for those who are age 62 and older also is available.

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

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY

American Pluralism: Difference and Democracy
Wednesdays mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Sept. 15, 22 and 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20 and 27, and Nov. 3, 10, and 17
The demographic reality of increasing diversity in the United States serves as the course's point of entry and *raison d'être*. Against this backdrop, participants will: 1) probe the social and cultural differences among a variety of categorizations of American diversity including race, ethnicity, religion, social class, gender and ideology; (2) engage both historic and contemporary debates about the implications of such diversity for the creation and sustainability of America's national character and vitality; (3) explore a variety of contemporary approaches to dealing with diversity, e.g., interfaith dialogue, multiculturalism in the workplace and public school racial integration; and (4) given the 2004 presidential election, debate the presidential candidates' policy positions on related issues. *David A. Roozen, Professor of Religion and Society*

MASTER OF ARTS

Dialogue in a World of Difference
Mondays from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Sept. 20 and 27, Oct. 4, 11, 18 and 25, and Nov. 1, 8, 15 and 29
Students and faculty in a collegial setting will explore in depth the principles and the practice of dialogue in a pluralistic world through dialogical listening and cross-cultural conversations in a context of diversity. Goals of the course include the development of listening and communication skills in multi-cultural contexts; fostering an understanding of one another through information sharing and community building action; and learning how to discuss potentially divisive issues constructively and without animosity. *Ian Markham, Professor of Theology and Ethics, and Ingrid Mattson, Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations*

ARTS OF MINISTRY

Essential Skills in Pastoral Counseling and Ministry
Tuesdays from 7 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
This course will offer pastors, lay ministers and caregivers an opportunity to learn basic counseling skills for use in pastoral settings. Students will develop skills in assessment, honoring ethical concerns and addressing the most common diagnoses such as depression and anxiety. Attention will be given to clar-

ifying the differences between pastoral care and pastoral counseling. Issues of referral to professional mental health resources and community agencies also will be addressed. *Benjamin K. Watts, Faculty Associate in the Arts of Ministry and Theology and Senior Pastor, Shiloh Baptist Church, New London*

Leadership for Transformation

Wednesdays from 7 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.

For lay and clergy leaders, this course will identify resources, develop strategies, and practice essential skills for transforming ministries. Congregations learn by opportunity and sometimes threats, by hard work and taking risks, by practical experience and spiritual inspiration, by biblical models and visionary leadership. Using their congregational experiences as case studies, students will examine how their unique qualities can be mobilized to encourage local leaders, strengthen commitments, organize resources, and focus their energies to experience the satisfaction of changing to meet new challenges. *Carl S. Dudley, Faculty Emeritus in Church and Community*

ETHICS

Theological Ethics and the Public Life
Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
Ethics involves examining life in an attempt to interpret what is going on. Theological ethics undertakes this examination with the conviction that all things exist in relation to God. In this course we will survey models of our common life that have prevailed in western Christianity in the modern period, reflect on the religious symbols, stories, practices and habits by which we make sense of what is going on in public life, and consider what possibilities exist for fostering a civil society. Issues to be considered include religion and politics, human rights, war and revolution, and the treatment of animals. *Kelton Cobb, Professor of Theology and Ethics, and Worth Loomis, Professor of Faith and Public Life*

HISTORY

The Early Church
Thursdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.
This course will trace the growth and development of Christianity from its earliest beginnings in the first century to the great councils of the fourth and fifth centuries, stopping en route to examine selected texts from the New Testament, early Christian and Roman documents, the writings of the Fathers and the earliest creeds. The course will focus on emergent Christian thought, the nature of God and Christ, the Bible, Church and sacraments, sin, grace, salvation, the relation of church and state, and the Christian way of life, toward the goal of gaining keener insight into issues of religion and faith today. *Wayne Rollins, Adjunct Professor of Biblical Studies*

Islamic Political Movements in the Contemporary Muslim World
Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on September 21, October 12, November 2 and 30 and December 14
This course deals with Islamic political movements in the modern and contemporary Muslim world. Two prominent Islamist movements emerged in the twentieth century Muslim world: The Jama'at-I-Islami of India and Pakistan and the Muslim Brotherhood Movement of Egypt and the Arab world. Both of these movements advocated the revival of Islam through political means. In addition to these movements, the course will discuss other minor movements. Besides focusing on the political agendas of these movements, the course will highlight their

Continued on next page

Fall Courses 2004 *Continued from previous page*

religious and intellectual origins and their stand on such issues as secularism, social justice, the West, modernity, and democracy in contemporary Muslim societies. *Ibrahim Abu-Rabi', Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations*

LANGUAGE COURSES

Introduction to Biblical Hebrew, Part I
Mondays from 7 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
In this course the basics of Biblical Hebrew will be introduced. The goal is to obtain a grasp of the structure of Biblical Hebrew and some of the complexities in the language; by the end of the course students will be able to work with certain texts in the Hebrew Bible. *Levana Polate, Adjunct Professor of Biblical Hebrew and Senior Lecturer in Modern Languages and International Studies, Trinity College*

Introduction to Arabic, Part I
Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
A basic introduction to Arabic that assumes no prior knowledge of the Arabic language. *Steven Blackburn, Faculty Associate in Semitic Scriptures*

Intermediate Arabic, Part I
Thursdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.
Participants will consolidate their knowledge of Arabic. *Steven Blackburn, Faculty Associate in Semitic Scriptures*

LITURGY, WORSHIP & SPIRITUALITY

Spirituality as a Source of Hope
Wednesdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sept. 15, 22 and 29, Oct. 6, 13, 20 and 27, and Nov. 3, 10, and 17
Themes arising out of our lived experience give impetus to a collective exploration of the relationship between sacred and secular, tradition and imagination, the legacies of faith and the challenges to faithful living in our 21st century world. *Miriam Therese Winter, Professor of Liturgy, Worship and Spirituality and Director, Women's Leadership Institute*

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Varieties of Gay and Lesbian Religious Life in the U.S.
ONLINE
It has taken decades for the most liberal of religious groups to open their arms and welcome gay and lesbian believers as full participants in their congregations or as their pastors. Much of the rest of the religious world remains far from the adoption of an open and affirming position toward homosexuality. Controversy over this issue divides many denominational groups. Yet within this context many lesbian and gay persons of faith have created thriving independent and innovative counter-institutional forms of religious life as alternatives to the forms that excluded them. This online course will examine the history of the tension between homosexuality and religious organizations and explore the multifaceted methods adopted by gays and lesbians to meet their spiritual needs in modern American society. *Scott Thumma, Professor of Sociology of Religion*

SACRED SCRIPTURE

Hebrew Bible Survey II
Thursdays from 7 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.
An introduction to the Hebrew Scriptures, this course will apply historical-critical methods of study to develop a framework for understanding the origins of the texts and the rela-

tionship of the texts to one another. Attention will be given to contemporary theories of biblical interpretation. Survey II will examine the prophetic corpus, poetry wisdom and the rest of "the writings" in the Hebrew Bible. *John J. Ahn, Adjunct Professor of Hebrew Scriptures and Instructor, Yale Divinity School*

Studies in Paul's Corinthian Correspondence
Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.
After a brief introduction to Pauline studies and the place of the Corinthian correspondence in the life and ministry of the Apostle Paul, this course will undertake an analysis of the main units of 1-2 Corinthians. Attention will be paid to the occasion and purpose for the writing of the letters, the history of Paul's relationship to this urban congregation, and the various problems encountered between the church and its founder. Recent sociological, rhetorical and imperial studies of the Corinthian letters will inform our reading of the texts. Focus will be given to the ministerial issues found in the text and implications for ministry and faithful living today. *Efrain Agosto, Professor of New Testament*

THEOLOGY

Emerging Voices in Theology
Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.
The work of contemporary feminist, black and two-thirds world theologians is examined in relation to the classical traditions and contemporary liberation theologies. *Heidi Gehman, Adjunct Professor of Theology and Ethics*

The Attributes of God and the Purpose of Creation: Readings in Islamic Theology
Wednesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:50 p.m.
In this class we will examine the essential questions of theology through the eyes of Muslim scholars over the centuries. How does one understand the attributes of God without falling into anthropomorphism? What is the role of reason in interpreting revelation? Are humans truly free to choose their own destiny? In what way can we understand the Qur'an to be "God's speech" without undermining God's transcendence? Is paradise only for Muslims? These are the questions we will explore in our readings. *Ingrid Mattson, Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations*

The Rehabilitation of Mission: Christian Mission and the Interfaith Reality
Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on September 21, October 12, November 2 and 30 and December 14
Mission, traditionally defined, has often seemed to be at odds with interfaith dialogue and with the nurturing of relationships among people of different faith traditions. In this course we will examine the theory of mission in light of Biblical sources, and review historical concepts of mission, with particular focus on the early American missionary movement, with its original goals of conversion and the extension of "civilization." We will then consider the theory and the praxis of the creation of "three-self" or "partner churches," with a focus on the "center-periphery" dichotomy of "us" and "them." Following will be a look at a mission rehabilitated to our contemporary interfaith environment, with special attention to the implications of such an understanding of mission for vitality and faithfulness of the local church. *Dale Bishop, Faculty Associate in Interreligious Understanding*

Hartford Seminary will present lectures, seminars and special events for people of all faiths starting in September. For more information or to register for any of the programs listed below, please call the Public and Institutional Affairs Office at 860-509-9555 or send an email message to info@hartsem.edu.

Bible Institute

With Efrain Agosto, professor of New Testament at Hartford Seminary, and Cleotha Robertson, adjunct faculty of Hebrew Scriptures at Hartford Seminary
Friday, September 10, 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.
Saturday, September 11, 9 a.m. - noon

Drumming Circle and Workshop

with Jan Gregory, executive director of the Renaissance Center: A Conservatory of Music in Southbury, CT, and Alan Tauber, director of the Boston-area DrumConnection Circle: Mondays, September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13, 6:30 p.m. – 8:45 p.m.
Workshop: Saturday, October 9, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

God's Work in Greek: Readings in 1 Corinthians

with Efrain Agosto, professor of New Testament at Hartford Seminary
Wednesdays, September 15, October 13, November 10 and December 8, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

"What Future for Protestant Worship?"

with Ronald Byers, professor of preaching and worship at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education, Richmond, VA
Tuesday, September 28, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Religion and Contemporary American Presidential Elections

with Corwin Smidt, executive director of the Paul Henry Institute for the Study of Christianity and Politics at Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
Monday, September 27 – Friday, October 1, ONLINE

A Sacred Trust: A Forum on Religion and the Environment

with Bill Mckibben, author of "Enough" and "The End of Nature." Includes workshops and displays
Monday, October 4, 4 p.m. – 9 p.m.
LOCATION: Unitarian Society of Hartford, 50 Bloomfield Avenue, Hartford

Creativity: The Spiritual Catalyst

with Louise E. Loomis, founding director of the New England Cognitive Center
Thursday, October 14, 7 p.m.

Beyond Polarization: How to Dialogue on Difficult Issues

with Yehezkel Landau, faculty associate in interfaith relations at Hartford Seminary, and Hans Ucko, program executive in interreligious relations and dialogue for the World Council of Churches
Tuesday, November 2, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Organizing for Community Development

with the Rev. Dr. Johnny Ray Youngblood, senior pastor of St. Paul Community Baptist Church, Brooklyn, NY
Thursday, November 4, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Faith, Justice and the United Nations

with Gillian Sorensen, senior advisor at the United Nations Foundation and former Assistant Secretary General for External Relations at the United Nations
Monday, November 8, 7 p.m.

De-Coding "The Da Vinci Code": Exploring the Religion and Theology Behind America's Best-selling Novel

with Ian Markham, Dean and Professor of Theology and Ethics at Hartford Seminary, and Martyn Percy, Principal of Ripon College Cuddesdon, Oxford, and Canon Theologian of Sheffield Cathedral
Monday, November 8 – Friday, November 12, ONLINE

Christian-Muslim Dialogue in North America: Interpreting Scripture from Women's Perspectives

with Asma Barlas, Professor of Politics at Ithaca College and author of "Believing Women in Islam: Unreading Patriarchal Interpretations of the Qur'an"; Judy Fentress-Williams, Assistant Professor of Old Testament at Virginia Theological Seminary and Aida Spencer, Professor of New Testament at Gordon-Conwell Theological School.
Friday, December 3, 7 p.m.

Special Lecture and Book Signing

Islam: Contemporary Issues and Ideas

With Ibrahim Abu-Rabi', professor of Islamic studies and Christian-Muslim relations at Hartford Seminary
Monday, December 6, 7 p.m.



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