



__LFP Update__ 9.2

May 2014

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

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The 2014 LFP National Conference: *A Future City, A New Creation: Equal on All Sides*

The Twenty-fourth Annual National Conference will take place at Xavier University of Louisiana, September 26-28, 2014. Xavier and New Orleans look forward to welcoming you. The theme centers on the powerful meaning of the *apocalyptic* in Christian tradition, serving to communicate a vision of hope in the midst of urban crisis. The focus of this theme seeks insight into the significance of the city relative to church related traditions: the coming of a future city. That city, unequal in its present form, implores deeper understanding, broadening dimensions, and creative visions that portray a hope at the center of "creation groaning to be released from corruption and to share in the glorious freedom of the children of God." (Romans 8, 21)

The three speakers for this conference will be **Dr. Elijah Anderson Ph.D.**, William K. Lanman, Jr. Professor of Sociology, Yale University, **Dr. Monya Stubbs, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of New Testament, Austin Presbyterian Theological

Seminary, and **Dr. John Ware, D.M.A.**, Professor of Music and Director of Choirs, Xavier University of Louisiana. Dr. Anderson will focus on violence and racial disparities in urban society. Dr. Stubbs will engage attendees in a re-reading of the biblical text from the perspective of victims that facilitates a deeper understanding of current questions that affect so many peoples living in the inner city. Dr. Ware will conduct the nationally acclaimed *Freedom Rides*, an Opera composed by Dr. Daniel Shore, Ph.D. This opera conveys the spirit, suffering, and emotion accompanying the struggle for justice in urban America during the late 1960s.

The conference will also debut the [R5 South African Art Exhibit](#), from the LFP regional conference awarded to Calvin College in 2013. This will be the national premiere of R5 South Africa Art Exhibit, presented in collaboration with Rachel Smith of [Taylor University](#) and Joel Carpenter of [Calvin College](#). Rachel and Joel have worked with these artists and will bring these unbelievable art pieces for our appreciation.

The National Conference will also introduce you to the city of New Orleans and participants will stay at the New Orleans Marriott hotel located on Canal Street near Bourbon Street in the French Quarter. The New Orleans Marriott is a short shuttle-ride to the campus of Xavier University of Louisiana.

The [Third Cohort](#) of Lilly Graduate Fellows, which completed its three-year fellowship last year, will also attend this year's National Conference. The Graduate Fellows will attend a Reunion Conference the two days prior to the National Conference.

Registration for the National Conference opened on May 19, 2014. For more information and to register, see Xavier University of Louisiana's [conference site](#), or visit the LFP National Conference [page](#). The deadline for registration is **September 10, 2014**.

The 2014 Workshop for Senior Administrators: *From Mission to Meaningful Lives: Student Success in Church-Related Higher Education*

Immediately preceding the National Conference will be the [Fifteenth Annual Workshop for Senior Administrators](#) on the topic, *From Mission to Meaningful Lives: Student Success in Church-Related Higher Education*. The Workshop will be held at Xavier University of Louisiana September 25 – 26, 2014, and will examine how mission provides resources for church-related institutions of higher learning to define and to promote post baccalaureate success. Addressing the workshop will be Patricia O'Connell Killen, Academic Vice President of Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington, and Bobby Fong, President of Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pennsylvania.

The Workshop is offered at no cost to senior administrators at Lilly Fellows Program [National Network](#) member institutions. Each Institution is eligible to register one senior administrator (president, vice president, academic dean, provost, or equivalent). One participant from each school will be reimbursed for travel costs up to \$600. Meals and hotel accommodations will also be paid for by the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts. Additional participants from member schools will be on a waiting list until September 10 and will be enrolled as slots become available. **Registration for this conference opened on May 19, 2015, and the deadline for registration is September 10, 2014. For more information and to register, [click here](#).**

New Lilly Fellows Selected

This year, the Program received 177 complete applications from prospective candidates in humanities and arts disciplines vying for one of three [Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) the Program awarded. A selection committee of seven [Valparaiso University](#) faculty, with Program Director Joe Creech, winnowed the number of candidates to six finalists who visited the Valparaiso University campus. We are extremely pleased to announce that the committee's three choices have each accepted the offer of the Lilly Postdoctoral Fellowship.

Jennifer Illig graduated as valedictorian from Molloy College in Rockville Centre, NY with a B.A. in theology and English and a minor in history. She went on to earn an M.A. in theology from [Fordham University](#). She is currently completing her doctorate at Fordham with her dissertation, "Through a Lens of Likeness: Reading *English Wycliffite Sermons* in Light of Contemporary Sermon Texts." In it, she argues that the *English Wycliffite Sermons*, which were written by dissenters in late medieval England, are best understood in the context of late medieval liturgical cycles and preaching. Illig's teaching and

research interests include medieval theology, history, preaching, and heresy. In addition, she is interested in monasticism in both its historical and contemporary forms.

Joshua Kercksmar earned his B.A. in Theology from [Wheaton College](#); an M.Div. (*summa cum laude*) from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; and a Th.M. in American Religious History from Harvard Divinity School. He is currently completing his Ph.D. in U.S. History at the University of Notre Dame. His dissertation explores how Britons used their experiences raising five prolific animals – cows, sheep, horses, pigs, and dogs – to understand, implement, and question the enslavement of humans in America between 1550 and 1815. Kercksmar's teaching and research interests span early America, environmental history, the history of slavery, religious history, and human-animal interactions.

Kenneth Pearce received his B.A. in philosophy and classical studies and B.A.S. in computer science from the University of Pennsylvania. His honors thesis in philosophy, "The Semantics of Sense Perception in Berkeley," was later published in *Religious Studies*. In May, 2014 he will receive his PhD in philosophy from USC. His dissertation, *Language and the Structure of Berkeley's World*, explores the relationship between metaphysics and philosophy of language in the thought of Bishop George Berkeley (1685-1753). Pearce's primary area of research is the relationship between metaphysics, theology, and philosophy of science in 17th and 18th century European thought. He has also published articles in contemporary analytic philosophy of religion, and has broad teaching interests in analytic philosophy and the history of Western philosophy and science.

News from Former Lilly Postdoctoral Fellows

Susanna Childress has published a short story in *Image* and poems in *Columbia Poetry Review*, [The Cresset](#), and [Poetry in Michigan | Michigan in Poetry](#) (New Issues Press); she has an interview up at [Blast Furnace](#) and is an associate editor for [32 Poems](#). She presented at the annual Association of Writers and Writing Programs conference on the panels, "Where Your Life Still Matters: Richard Hugo's *Triggering Town* and the Creative Writing Classroom" and "The Subversive Spirit: Poetry Writing from the Edge of Faith." At the Festival of Faith and Writing she served on a panel entitled, "What's the Use of an MFA?" and she led the festival circle, "Calling All Slow Dazzlers: Why Literary Writing Matters." This spring, she was hired at [Hope College](#) as an Assistant Professor of Creative Writing.

Lisa Deam reports that her book, *A World Transformed: Exploring the Spirituality of Medieval Maps*, will be published by Cascade Books (an imprint of Wipf and Stock) in early 2015. An early discussion of the forthcoming book can be found at the [press' website](#), which reports that Deam's work "invites the reader on a journey into the strange and wonderful world of the medieval theological imagination as it was on display in the making of maps, in particular." Deam also continues to lead [spiritual formation workshops](#) based on the Christ-centered worldview of medieval maps.

Earlier this month **Lisa DeBoer** gave the concluding plenary address at the annual conference of the Abraham Kuyper Center at Princeton Theological Seminary. She spoke on "Worlds of Art in Art Worlds." The center honors the legacy of Dutch theologian, pastor, and politician Abraham Kuyper, whose Stone Lectures at Princeton in 1898 helped reinvigorate Calvinism as an intellectual force in the modern era.

Franklin Harkins reports that in the past year he took up a post as Reader in Medieval Theology in the Department of Theology and Religion at Durham University, UK, and he was awarded the Licentiate in Medieval Studies (L.M.S.) by the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, Toronto, Canada. He also had several publications to report including, "[The Early Aquinas on the Question of Universal Salvation, or How a Knight May Choose Not to Ride His Horse](#)," *New Blackfriars* 95 (2014): 208-217; "[Primus doctor Iudaeorum: Moses as Theological Master in the Summa theologiae of Thomas Aquinas](#)," 237-61 in [Illuminating Moses: A History of Reception from Exodus to the Renaissance](#), edited by Jane Beal, Leiden: Brill, 2014; "[Lectio exhortatio debet esse: Reading as a Way of Life at the Twelfth-Century Abbey of St. Victor](#)," 103-130 in [From Knowledge to Beatitude: St. Victor, Twelfth-Century Scholars, and Beyond. Essays in Honor of Grover A. Zinn, Jr.](#), edited by E. Ann Matter and Lesley Smith, Notre Dame, IN: University of Notre Dame Press, 2013; "[Docuit excellentissimae divinitatis mysteria: St. Paul in Thomas Aquinas](#)," 235-63 in [A Companion to St. Paul in the Middle Ages](#), edited by Steven R. Cartwright. Leiden: Brill, 2013.

Paul Harvey informed us that his book [The Color of Christ](#) (co-authored with Edward J. Blum) was named one of the top 25 academic books in the country by *Choice Magazine* in its annual "outstanding academic titles" list.

In other awards news, **Matt Hedstrom** reports that his book, [*The Rise of Liberal Religion: Book Culture and American Spirituality in the Twentieth Century*](#) (Oxford, 2013) was awarded the Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize (for best first book) by the American Society of Church History. The award was presented at the ASCH meeting in January 2014.

This past year, **Jennifer L. Miller** presented a paper at the Midwest Modern Language Association convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on the way teaching graphic narratives can be a helpful tool for promoting student engagement. She also published "The Monstrous and the Divine in *Doctor Who*: The Role of Christian Imagery in Russel T. Davies's *Doctor Who* Revival," in [*Time and Relative Dimensions in Faith*](#), edited by Andrew Crome and James McGrath, (Darton Longman, and Todd, 2013). She continues to teach at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, Minnesota, and she is a regular contributor to *The Cresset*, including a recent review of the 2013 LFP Annual Book Award winner and finalists entitled, "[A Season for Change.](#)"

Pamela Corpron Parker let us know that she will be giving a presentation on Elizabeth Barrett Browning and Italy at a conference entitled, "New Horizons: Reassessing Women's Travel Writing, 1660-1900," at The Centre for the Study of Early English Women's Writing, 1600-1830, (also called the Chawton House Library) from 10-12 July, 2014 in Hampshire, England. Chawton was Jane Austen's final home, and the Jane Austen House museum is there. This paper is the result of her month-long fellowship at the library in April.

Caryn Riswold published "[Being Woman, Being Human, Doing Justice](#)" in the *Journal of Lutheran Ethics* in September 2013, presented a paper on Christian privilege in the Teaching Religion section at the *American Academy of Religion* in November 2013, presented with a colleague in English at the *Association for Interdisciplinary Studies* in November 2013, published several op-eds in the local *Jacksonville Journal-Courier*, participated in a consultation on forming an ELCA Theological Roundtable in Chicago, continues to write at *Patheos.com* with the blog [feminismxianity](#), and is participating in the NetVUE Scholarly Resources Program as a collaborating contributor to a new book on vocation and higher education.

The Cresset – A Festschrift

This spring, *The Cresset* published a special edition examining the work and impact of Mark Schwehn, LFP Project Director and Provost of Valparaiso University, and Dorothy Bass, Director of the Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith. This special issue of *The Cresset* is timely as Schwehn will retire as Provost and return to teaching in Valparaiso University's Honors College, Christ College, and Dorothy Bass will retire as Director of the Valparaiso Project. This issue of *The Cresset* specifically honors the impact of Schwehn's *Exiles from Eden*, Bass' *Practicing Our Faith*, and their work together, *Leading Lives that Matter*. All three texts have been instrumental in the three programmatic initiatives of Lilly Fellows Program. Featured are critical articles by many friends of the LFP including Mel Piehl, Michael Beaty, Mark Roche, Susan VanZanten, Craig Dykstra, Stephanie Paulsell, Bonnie J. Miller-McLemore, Dan P. McAdams, Frederick Niedner, and Paul J. Contino. Schwehn and Bass' children, John Schwehn, Martha Schwehn Bardwell, and Kaethe Schwehn contribute reflective essays and poetry in honor of their parents' work.

The LFP National Board Welcomes Taylor University to the LFP National Network

The [National Network Board](#) met for its semi-annual meeting March 29-30, 2014 in Chicago, and along with other tasks approved [Taylor University](#) in Upland, Indiana, for membership in the LFP National Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities. Welcome Taylor University!

Update on the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program

This year the [Lilly Graduate Fellows Program](#) received fifty-six nominations from twenty-nine [network schools](#). Of the fifty-six nominees, forty-two applied. In April, a selection committee interviewed fifteen candidates for the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program in Indianapolis, Indiana. Over the course of the two-day interview process, we came to know the remarkable individuals who made it to this final stage of evaluation. We will be announcing shortly the composition of Seventh Cohort, who will be mentored by Paul Contino of [Pepperdine University](#) and Susan Felch (former mentor of the [Second Cohort](#)) of [Calvin College](#). The Seventh Cohort will gather for its Inaugural Conference at The [College of the Holy Cross](#) in Worcester, MA, in July of 2014.

A very special thanks to all of you who nominated your students for this highly competitive fellowship. Your hard work keeps this program vital, as does the education and formation that our Fellows receive at your institutions. Again, thank you.

Summer conference season is upon us for the LGFP and the other active cohorts continued to maintain connections throughout the year by way of their online colloquia. They all are looking forward to their summer gatherings. The [Fourth Cohort](#) of fellows with their mentors Thomas S. Hibbs of [Baylor University](#) and Carol Simon of [Whitworth University](#) will have their final summer conference at [Saint John's Abbey Guesthouse](#) at [Saint John's University](#) in Collegeville, MN, this June. The [Fifth Cohort](#) and mentors Lisa DeBoer of [Westmont College](#) and Michael Patella, OSB, of [Saint John's University and Saint John's Seminary](#) (Collegeville, MN) will meet for their second summer conference at the home campus of their mentor Lisa DeBoer. Finally, Arlin Migliazzo of Whitworth University will welcome the [Sixth Cohort](#) and his co-mentor, Jane Kelley Rodeheffer of Pepperdine University to Spokane, WA this August for its first summer conference there.

The [Third Cohort](#) and mentors Susan VanZanten of [Seattle Pacific University](#) and Patrick Byrne of [Boston College](#), which completed its three-year fellowship in summer 2013, will come together this fall at their Reunion Conference on September 25-26, 2014, or two days prior to the Annual National Conference at Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans (September 26-28). At the end of their reunion, members of the cohort will join the other participants of the National Conference.

Save the Date: Gordon College's Regional Conference

On September 21, 2015, [Gordon College](#) will host a one-day LFP-sponsored Regional Conference: **"Islam in the Classroom: The Challenges and Opportunities of Teaching Islam in a Post 9/11 World."** Speakers will be Amir Hussain, (Loyola Marymount University); Jennifer Hevelone-Harper (Gordon College); Judith Rood (Biola University), and Gabriel Reynolds (University of Notre Dame). For more information, see the [LFP Regional Conference website](#).

Other dates and Deadlines for Your Calendar

Grants:

The National Network Board invites applications [Mentoring Programs](#), [Small Grants](#), and [Regional Conferences](#) for the 2015-2016 academic year. Please visit the [LFP website](#) for more information on these grant opportunities. **The deadline for submission for all three of these grants is September 15, 2014.**

The next deadline for [Network Exchanges](#) is **September 15, 2015**, and the deadline for [Summer Seminars](#) is **March 15, 2015**.

Programs:

The deadline for the [Lilly Postdoctoral Fellowship Program](#) at Valparaiso University is **November 4, 2014**.

The deadline for nominations for the [Lilly Graduate Fellows Program](#) is **November 18, 2014**.

Conferences:

Samford University will hold a Regional Conference, [Teaching the Christian Intellectual Tradition Conference: Augustine Across the Curriculum](#), October 2-4, 2014. **The deadline for submissions has passed.**

Boston College will host a Network Exchange March 22-25, 2015 entitled "Service, Faith, and Higher Learning" on the PULSE Program at Boston College, Sunday, March 22, 2015, to Wednesday, March 25, 2015. The deadline for applications is **October 15, 2014**. Information about submitting applications will come before the end of May, 2014. For more information on the PULSE program, see [Boston College's PULSE website](#).

The deadline for registration for the [National Conference](#) and the [Workshop for Senior Administrators](#) is **September 10, 2014**.

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

From the Colloquium

From the Colloquium section of the newsletter has moved to the new LFP sponsored blog, [Exiles from Eden](#). For more on the happenings of the weekly Post-doctoral fellows colloquium and other developments in church-related higher education, [check out the blog!](#)

Facebook, Twitter, and Exiles from Eden

Remember you can keep up with the activities of the Lilly Fellows Program by following it on [Facebook](#) and Twitter ([@LFPprogram](#) and [@Exilesfromeden](#)). You can also read more about matters relating to church-related higher education, among other things at [Exiles from Eden](#).