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) Lilly Network institutions, 2) present and former Lilly Fellows and, 3) the LFP office at Valparaiso University.

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Name Change for Lilly Fellows Program

If you notice the banner above, the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts is changing its name simply to the "Lilly Fellows Program" in order to reflect our transition from focusing solely on the humanities and the arts to involving all disciplines, including STEM, social scientific, and professional fields.
Call for Nominations, The Tenth Biennial Arlin G. Meyer Prize in Music Performance for 2020

The Lilly Fellows Program is now accepting nominations for the Tenth Biennial Arlin G. Meyer Prize in Music Performance. The Nomination deadline is March 1, 2020. For more information, read below, click here or view the flyer (PDF) here.

The Prize is in Music Performance, and we encourage you to coordinate with those on your campus who especially might be able to identify a worthy nominee for this prize.

The Arlin G. Meyer Prize is awarded biennially to a full-time faculty member from a college or university in the Lilly Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities. Work that exemplifies the practice of the Christian artistic or scholarly vocation in relation to any pertinent subject matter or literary and artistic style will be considered. The prize will be awarded in different years for works of creative imagination and for works of scholarship. The 2020 Arlin G. Meyer Prize will reward the conductor or performer of a musical work that emerges from his or her practice of the vocation of the Christian musician, in accord with the principles and ideals of the Lilly Fellows Program.

The Prize honors the late Arlin G. Meyer, Professor Emeritus of English at Valparaiso University, who served as program director of the Lilly Fellows Program from its inception in 1991 until his retirement in 2002.

The 2020 Arlin G. Meyer Prize will be awarded to a full-time faculty member at a school in the Lilly Network of Church-Related Colleges and Universities who has conducted or performed a musical work before a live audience in 2017, 2018, or 2019.

The Prize of $3000 will be awarded at the Lilly Fellows Program National Conference at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio, Texas, October 9-11, 2020.

For more information or to submit nominations, click here.

Save the Date: the 2020 LFP National Conference

The 30th National Conference, Tranquillitas Ordanis: Liberal Arts Education and the Common Good, will take place on the campus of St. Mary’s University in San Antonio, Texas, October 9-11, 2020.

The conference will focus on how Christian higher education generally, and the liberal arts in particular, play a crucial role in the emergence of a personal and social tranquillitas ordinis. The plenary sessions include a presentation by Jeremy D. Wilkins, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Theology at Boston College; a panel discussion among liberal arts, science and professional programs faculty; and a liturgical celebration premiering works by Lilly Graduate Fellows Nathan Cornelius, D.M.A. (Cohort 8), Joel Scott Davis, D.M.A. (Cohort 2) and Daniel Gee, D.M.A. Candidate (Cohort 10). A Mariachi Mass at Mission Concepcion will be followed by a reception at the Omni La Mansion, the original home of St. Mary’s University. Throughout the conference is the, the art exhibition, Matter and Spirit, a LFP-sponsored collaboration between Chinese and American artists.

Download a Conference Flyer here.

Registration will open in May 2020.
Upcoming Regional Conference at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT: The Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Challenges and Opportunities for the Catholic University in the 21st Century

On April 16-18, 2020, Sacred Heart University, in partnership with the Lilly Fellows Program, will host a conference titled The Catholic Intellectual Tradition: Challenges and Opportunities for the Catholic University in the 21st Century. Confirmed speakers include: Gregory Kalscheur, Boston College; Carolyn Woo, Purdue University; Michael Higgins, Sacred Heart University; and Gerald J. Beyer, Villanova University.

The Core of a Catholic University is its intellectual and faith life. However, Catholic colleges and universities, today, face vexing challenges: a growing secularism and careerism among students, an increasing number of students who identify as “nones,” a “hyper-specialization” among faculty and an epistemology of relativism within disciplinary thought, and a diminishing focus on Mission and Catholic Identity. Faced with these challenges, Catholic colleges and universities wrestle with the question of how to maintain a robust and distinct Catholic identity that will prevail across the institution. This Conference affirms that the compass that can serve as a creative guide for transforming Catholic higher education is the Catholic Intellectual Tradition which, characterized by rigorous intellectual inquiry and with rich roots in the past, animates an ongoing conversation in the present that looks to the future.

Registration Is Now Open! To Register and for More Information, Click Here.

Upcoming Regional Conference at Seton Hall University in South Orange, NJ: Communication and Religion in the 2020 US Presidential Election

On April 22, 2020, in anticipation of the upcoming U.S. Presidential Election, the Institute for Communication and Religion (ICR) within the College of Communication and the Arts at Seton Hall University will host a Regional Conference, “Communication and Religion in the 2020 U.S. Presidential Election.” Seeking to bring faith into the public sphere and promote civic dialogue, a full day of expert keynotes and panel discussions will explore the intersection of communication and religion in our current presidential race.

Featured Speakers:
Ronald C. Arnett Yoder/Wolfe Endowed Chair of Communication Ethics, Duquesne University
Peter Beinart Professor of Journalism and Political Science, CUNY
Heidi Campbell Professor of Communication, Texas A&M University

Special Guest:
Jaroslav Franc Cyril and Methodius Faculty of Theology, Palacký University, Czech Republic

For more information, Click Here

Upcoming Regional Conference at Valparaiso University: Religion, State, and Nationalism: Problems and Possibilities
On April 24, 2020, Valparaiso University, in partnership with the Lilly Fellows Program, invites you to a special symposium, “Religion, State, and Nationalism: Problems and Possibilities,” on April 24, 2020. The symposium will take place in three sessions, with the first focusing on problems, the second on possibilities, and the third on integrating issues of faith, nationalism, and the problems of historical memory into undergraduate curricula.

Description: Today’s world is witnessing to new configurations of alliances and conflicts between religious institutions and the state. Religion is a key player in rewriting nationalist narratives that underpin state policies. In the United States, evangelical Christians influence state policies and contribute to nationalist agendas. The Orthodox Church is a leader in the resurgence of nationalism in post-Soviet Russia and the rehabilitation of the mythological past of “Holy Russia” that contributes to the state’s ideological agenda. Analysts express concern that religion will fuel the flames of nationalist isolationism and increase the possibilities for international incidents of polarization, violence, and war. Critics call for the complete separation of religious organizations from the state. In some places of the world, cooperation between religious institutions and the state can become a positive force at the local and international levels. Religious leaders can consult the state and contribute to the formation of national identity that is inclusive and does not pose a threat to international peace.

Confirmed panelists:

Antoine Arjakovsky, Collège de Bernardins, Paris
Scott Hibbard, DePaul University, Chicago
Atalia Omer, University of Notre Dame, South Bend
Robert Saler, Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis
Dorian Llywelyn, S.J., Santa Clara University
Slavica Jakelic, Valparaiso University
Timothy Larsen, Wheaton College
Philipp Gollner, Goshen College
Samuel Graber, Valparaiso University

Registration is Now Open. For More Information and to Register, Click Here

Notice: Second Cohort of Lilly Faculty Fellows

In late spring, 2020, the LFP will issue a call for applications for the Second Cohort of Lilly Faculty Fellows. You can read about this program, generally, and about the First Cohort of Lilly Faculty Fellows Here.

Recent LFP Mentoring Grants

Mentoring Programs have been among the most popular and successful of all LFP initiatives. Mentoring Programs provide funds to nurture new and junior faculty at Network institutions and strengthen the commitment of all faculty to institutional mission. Well-constructed mentoring programs encourage new faculty as well as veteran faculty to understand and share the ethos of the school, to grow to love the questions that the institution holds dear, and to consider the importance of fundamental matters concerning the relationship between higher learning and the Christian faith. Such programs also seek to renew and deepen the commitment of the whole institution and its leaders to those central intellectual and spiritual matters. To learn more about mentoring programs, see the LFP website here. The current deadline for the submission of applications for the 2021-2022 academic year is September 15, 2020.
In 2018/2019, the LFP National Network Board awarded Mentoring Program grants for the 2019/2020 academic year to Anderson University, Concordia University Texas, Salve Regina university, Sterling College, and University of Pikeville.

Recent LFP Small Grant Programs

The Lilly Fellows Program National Network invites Network institutions to apply for small grants of $3000 to stimulate conversation about church-related higher education and church-related mission on their campuses or among church-related institutions in close proximity to each another. The LFP hopes these grants will extend and strengthen the LFP’s national conversation about church-related higher learning and mission within and among our network campuses. The Small Grant program is designed to fund new programs on network campuses rather than supplement ongoing ones. The current deadline for the submission of applications for the 2021-2022 academic year is September 15, 2020.


Recent LFP Regional Collaborations and Conferences at Benedictine University and Dordt University

Benedictine University in Lisle, Illinois, held a multi-campus collaboration over the academic year 2018-2019 entitled, “Promoting Human Dignity and Civic Responsibility at Catholic Universities in the Chicagoland Area.” Involving representatives from Benedictine University, Dominican University, Lewis University, Saint Xavier University, and the University of St. Francis, this collaboration held an extended conversation on mission, identity and Catholic Social Teaching. Participants are working on a book on the Sacramental Imagination and the Catholic Intellectual Tradition.

On April 4-6, 2019, Dordt University and the Andreas Center for Reformed Scholarship and Service, in partnership with the Lilly Fellows Program, hosted a conference titled “The Prodigal Love of God: Reencountering Dordt at 400 and Beyond.” Speakers included Marilynne Robinson, Richard Mouw, James K.A. Smith, Jemar Tisby, Paul Lim, Tish Harrison Warren, Timothy George, and Suzanne McDonald.

Description and Guidelines for Hosting a Regional Conference or Collaboration.

Regional Collaboration and Conferences Grants represent a flexible category of programs that encourage examination of topics of special significance to faculty, administrators, and students at a particular institution or group of institutions, or matters of special intellectual concern to faculty and others in Christian higher education. The focus, character, and constituency of the conference, collaboration, or workshop may vary to suit the needs of the applicant, within the general guidelines listed above. Previous successful conferences, collaborations, and workshops have focused on issues facing schools in a particular region, topics of current debate among faculty at a particular school, student life issues, graduate student matters, various theological or denominational traditions in higher education, an array of topics in liberal and professional education, and issues of civic and public concern to the Christian intellectual community. The Deadline for applications to host a Regional Collaboration or Conference in the 2020-2021 academic year is September 15, 2019. For more information, click here.
Apply to hold an LFP Network Exchange

Network Exchange Programs allow Network institutions to showcase distinctive, signature projects, institutes, or curricula that highlight the Christian or church-related characteristics of their schools. They provide for an extended visitation by faculty and leaders from other Network colleges, allowing close observation and study of the pertinent program, so that other institutions might learn from the host institution’s experience and perspectives.

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

A Network Exchange program may be funded for $25,000. The next deadline for applying for a Network Exchange in the 2021-2022 academic year is September 15, 2020. Click here for more information about submitting a proposal.

From the Cresset

With the Lilly Fellows Program Blog, Exiles from Eden, and the print newsletter network Communiqué on hiatus, we will now emphasize and publicize the LFP’s ongoing relationship with The Cresset, Valparaiso University’s review of literature, the arts, and public affairs. See the most recent Advent-Christmas 2019 edition here. It contains a number of articles by folks associated with the LFP, including former Lilly National Network board member Richard Hughes of Lipscomb University and Martha Greene Eads, a Lilly Postdoctoral Fellow at Valparaiso University from 2001-2003.

The Cresset’s most popular stories of 2019 included writing from many LFP-connected contributors, including Daniel Silliman, Hilary Yancey, Richard T. Hughes, Agnes R. Howard, Mark R. Schwehn, and Lisa DeBoer. Interested in writing for the Cresset? Contact the editor, Heather Grennan Gary, at heather.gary@valpo.edu with your pitch for an essay, column, or review. Submission guidelines are at http://thecresset.org/submissions.html.

Deadlines for Grants and Other Opportunities

Grants:
The next series of programs that will receive funding are: Mentoring Programs, Small Grants, Network Exchanges, and Regional Collaboration and Conferences. Proposals for the programs are due September 15, 2020.

Other Opportunities:
The Deadline to submit nominations for the Arlin G. Meyer Prize in Music Performance for 2020 is March 1, 2020.

For more information, visit the LFP website.

Facebook and Twitter
As always, the LFP can be followed on Facebook and Twitter at @LFProgram and @Exilesfromeden.