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Seminary Faculty: Why I Like Teaching at Hartford Seminary

Recently Hartford Seminary conducted searches for two new faculty members. During these searches, current faculty were asked why they liked teaching at the Seminary. Here are some of their answers:

Uriah Kim:



I like and value our students' wisdom that comes from life experiences and admire and appreciate their commitment to theological education. I think one anecdote would suffice to capture my feeling. About once a year, usually when I teach the course on prophets, I share my feeling of dissatisfaction about being a seminary professor. I tell them that I wish I were a scientist because I believe I would've had more opportunities (and money) to do positive things for the world. I'm always surprised

but pleasantly so by their reaction. They strongly disagree that what I'm doing is less valuable than what I'd have done as a scientist. In fact, they argue that what I teach is invaluable. If these words had come from younger folk who had less experience in life than me, I may have taken their encouragement and affirmation with a pinch of salt. However, knowing that many of our students have had years of experience in the real world and have chosen to study theology makes their words credible. It is a moment like this that makes me feel good about teaching at Hartford Seminary.

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Annual Fund Update – April 2012

The Seminary leadership began the 2011-2012 academic year by setting an ambitious goal of \$235,000 for the Annual Fund, representing a 7% increase from the previous year’s goal. We are pleased to report that the fund moves closer to that goal every day, due to the continued generosity and support of our leadership, alumni, faculty and staff, and friends. At this time in the annual fund campaign, we are nearing the halfway point, with several months left before we close the fiscal year on June 30.

The Annual Fund is the cornerstone upon which the diverse programs of the Seminary are built. Though foundations and individuals often generously underwrite new initiatives – such as the new Religious Diversity Leadership

Workshop and scholarships to allow students of the Jewish Theological Seminary to study at Hartford Seminary – your faithful support of the Annual Fund allows the school to function day-to-day, ensuring that students, faculty and staff have the resources they need to work, study, reach out, dialogue, and carry forward the mission of the school.

The Annual Fund, for example, enables the outreach that brings the expertise of the Seminary to both long-time friends and all-new audiences. On campus, hardly a week goes by without a noontime or evening educational event, featuring our own excellent faculty and guests of many faiths and professions who make informative, challenging and inspiring presentations. If you are missing

these events, please send us a note and we will add you to our postal or email lists to connect you to what’s happening on campus. Indeed, communicating clearly and expansively is another essential benefit of your Annual Fund gifts!

As the Seminary continues to attract students from all over the world to receive the training they need to lead and minister in a diverse world of many cultures and faith, we are encouraged to know that our alumni and other donors stand with us by supporting the Annual Fund. Thank you again for your generosity as we continue to move forward and break new and relevant ground in theological education. ✿

Alumnus Working for Peace in Indonesia



The Rev. Jacky Manuputty, a Master of Arts and International Peacemaking Program graduate, has helped form Peace Provocateurs to use social media to combat religious conflict between Christians and Muslims in Indonesia.

“If provocateurs could use the new technology to incite violence, we could use it to undermine their incitement,” says Manuputty, a Protestant minister.

Manuputty and others dispatch volunteers to any location in a matter of minutes to check the credibility of disturbing claims. They then send the facts to the leadership, who double check the details with other witnesses and craft messages to set the record straight before preparations for revenge attacks can pick up steam. Full Story

In addition, the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding has named Manuputty as a recipient of its Peacemakers in Action award. ✿

Corrections

The following names were mistakenly omitted in the year-end Annual Report as having made generous contributions to the *Building Abrahamic Partnerships* Program. We extend our apology and thank these donors for their support.
Jeffrey and Jane Digel
William and Michele Voss
Gary Tabasinske
David and Ann Brandwein
St. John’s Parish
The Rev. Dr. Mark Heilshorn
The Rev. Donna Manocchio
Jacqueline L. White, D. Min.
Scholarship Fund ✿

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back issues if you would like more information about Praxis or about Hartford Seminary, please contact David Barrett at Hartford Seminary, 77 Sherman Street, Hartford, CT 06105. Our website, www.hartsem.edu, provides additional information and news about Hartford Seminary.

Hartford Seminary Launches Program in Chaplaincy in Multifaith Contexts

Hartford Seminary has launched a new, innovative program in chaplaincy in multifaith contexts.

Open to chaplains and those who plan to become chaplains, the Graduate Certificate in Chaplaincy in Multifaith Contexts is designed to deepen understanding of religious diversity and to sharpen professional skills needed for service in multifaith contexts.

The ground-breaking Graduate Certificate is a 24-credit program for concrete study of topics such as religious diversity in North America, theologies and philosophies of religious diversity, and theology and ethics for the practice of spiritual care.

Its foundational courses – “Understanding and Engaging Religious Diversity” and “Chaplaincy Models and Methods” – will be offered as one-week seminars in June 2012. Program requirements include completion of one unit of Clinical Pastoral Education, plus field work in a multifaith setting. Through elective courses, enrollees also will explore

each of four themes: Theology or Sacred Texts, Life's Transitions, Institutional Settings, and Dialogue and Conflict-Resolution.

“Hartford Seminary is known for offering opportunities for collegial study in a multi-faith setting,” said Faculty Associate Lucinda Mosher, who will be the program director. “This new Graduate Certificate takes full advantage of that. It is also designed to be practical. Those planning to pursue board certification as chaplains will find much in the program to help them gain the competencies required by certifying agencies.”

More than a decade ago, Hartford Seminary started the first Islamic Chaplaincy Program, to train Muslims for chaplaincy in the military, universities, hospitals and prisons. Today, this program is thriving. Now, in this new program, the Seminary is building on its expertise to educate chaplains of all faiths for service in multifaith contexts.

“Once again, Hartford Seminary is a pioneer in theological education,” President Heidi

Hadsell said. “For more than 100 years we have offered education in Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations. In the last decade we have launched Islamic Chaplaincy and Building Abrahamic Partnerships programs. Now we are meeting the educational needs of all chaplains in the United States.”

“It is vitally important to prepare religious leaders to lead their faith communities in our plural society. Hartford Seminary is a key player in this effort, through our various interfaith initiatives such as this new certificate,” Hadsell said.

For more details about the program, contact Dr. Lucinda Mosher, Director of the Program & Faculty Associate in Interfaith Studies, at (646) 335-2951 or lmosher@hartsem.edu.

Contact Tina Demo, Director of Recruitment and Admissions, at (860) 509-9549 or tdemo@hartsem.edu, with inquiries and for admissions materials. ✿

Hartford Seminary Receives Grant for Religious Diversity Leadership Workshop

Hartford Seminary has received a \$30,000 grant from Shinnyo-En Foundation to support a new Religious Diversity Leadership Workshop in June.

The workshop, which will take place from Sunday, June 3 through Friday, June 8, will be an annual religiously and otherwise diverse gathering of experienced and emerging leaders who are eager to share their own expertise and to learn new leadership practices, engage case studies of religious diversity issues in the

public square, and define strategies for raising up and training young leaders in the changing American religious landscape.

Participants will learn methods for encouraging productive dialogue and collaboration between religious groups at the intersection of religious and public life, and in the context of multi-faith civic gatherings – thus improving their ability to build community around common concerns.

“In a culture marked by religious diversity, effective religious leadership must include awareness of, and engagement with, faith traditions other than one’s own. I am delighted that Hartford Seminary is offering this special workshop that reflects our mission and underscores the importance of interfaith dialogue in today’s plural world,” President Heidi Hadsell said. “We’re grateful to Shinnyo-En Foundation for its support.”

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New Report Examines Changing Worship Practices in the United States

Congregations that have adopted innovative worship and contemporary worship styles are significantly more likely to have grown in the last five years, a new report has found.

Contemporary worship seems particularly important in attracting young adults.

In addition, worship is changing in another way. As non-Christian groups such as Muslims and Baha'i increase their presence and congregations of all faith groups attempt to become more sensitive to the diversity of members' schedules.

Worship is no longer an exclusively Sunday morning affair -- people worship at many different times from Friday through Sunday evening

They also worship in many different languages; the survey on which the report is based identified 66 different languages. These are among the findings in a new Faith Communities Today 2010 report titled "FACTs on Worship." FACT is releasing this latest analysis to help congregations understand how worship practices can affect their vitality and inspire their members.

The author is Marjorie H. Royle, former Director of Research for the United Church of Christ. She is secretary of the Religious Research Association and has written extensively about worship,

congregational vitality and clergy leadership.

"All in all, quality worship experience is important for congregations that want to grow," Royle wrote. "Because our culture is changing, congregations may need to change and innovate in their worship to create such an experience."

"However, faith tradition is important. Drums and projection screens [forms of contemporary worship] do not fit in every tradition or with every age group. Innovation and change need to occur within a congregation's faith tradition. Finding the balance between the two is one of the major challenges of worship in the 21st Century," Royle wrote.

The report is one in a series produced by The Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership (CCSP), based on a 2010 survey that analyzed responses from 11,077 randomly sampled congregations of all faith traditions in the United States. The survey updates results from surveys taken in 2000, 2005, and 2008 and is the latest in CCSP's series of trend-tracking national surveys of U.S. congregations. Overall, the FACT survey series includes responses from more than 28,000 congregations.

Among the findings:

- Non-denominational congregations and those from historically Black denominations have led the way in introducing contemporary worship styles and instruments and other innovations.
- Sunday morning remains the most common time for worship, but congregations are adding evening services. Multiple opportunities for worship are more typical of groups with larger numbers of constituents, such as Roman Catholics and Muslims.
- Change continues to occur slowly. When asked how much they had changed in the last five years, nearly half of all congregations said they had not changed at all.
- When change occurs, it is not without its costs. Forty-two percent of congregational leaders reported conflict over how worship is conducted, over the last five years.
- In general, non-denominational Protestants are the leaders in adopting contemporary worship. This group is newer than conservative or oldline Protestants, are somewhat larger and have a higher percentage of young adults.
- Size affects worship in several ways. Larger congregations, with more resources, are more likely to use drums, electric guitars, and visual projection equipment.
- In most faith groups, innovation in worship is more typical of the West and South.
- Decreasing average attendance at worship is the biggest difference since 2000. The median size of the congregation decreased in every Christian denomination group.
- Congregations with contemporary worship elements are more likely than others to be rated as vital.
- Several characteristics of worship were positively related to growth in attendance between 2005 and 2010 -- multiple worship services; worship described as joyful, innovative and inspirational; and the use of drums, electric guitars and projection equipment.

Links to view the full report and related material are available at: <http://faithcommunitiestoday.org/report-facts-on-worship>

Faith Communities Today surveys and publications are products of the Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership, a collaborative, multifaith coalition of American faith communities affiliated with Hartford Seminary's Hartford Institute for Religion Research. 🌸

New Report Examines Technology and Internet Use in American Congregations

Internet technologies are being used by a large majority of American congregations, and those that do not use these technologies are likely to be perceived as out of sync, a new report has found.

Ninety percent of congregations embrace email for communications, 69 percent have websites, and more than 40 percent use Facebook, a staggering rate of adoption since the general public use of Facebook was only four years old when the survey was conducted.

These are among the findings in a new Faith Communities Today 2010 report titled “Virtually Religious: Technology and Internet Use in American Congregations.” FACT is releasing this latest analysis to help congregations understand how internet technologies can contribute to their vitality.

The author is Scott Thumma, Professor of Sociology of Religion and Director of Distance Education at Hartford Seminary. “Properly employed, technology can make members’ daily lives outside of the worship service richer with religious meaning,” Thumma wrote. “It can function as a medium to carry one’s faithful living into everyday life – whether sharing prayer requests on Facebook, tweeting about a recent sermon, surfing to religious websites, or actually participating in online worship services.” “Ministry should be, even must

be, a technological hybrid venture in this day and age. But technology is not an end in itself. It has to be employed strategically and intentionally as a component of the overall ministry effort of the congregation. It is not a matter of having a webpage, a Facebook account or projection screens, but of using these to enhance and expand the activities and communal life of the congregation,” Thumma wrote.

The report is one in a series produced by The Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership (CCSP), based on a 2010 survey that analyzed responses from 11,077 randomly sampled congregations of all faith traditions in the United States. The survey updates results from surveys taken in 2000, 2005, and 2008 and is the latest in CCSP’s series of trend-tracking national surveys of U.S. congregations. Overall, the FACT survey series includes responses from more than 28,000 congregations.

Among the findings:

- The intentional use of internet technologies allows congregations to do more with fewer resources, which is important when so many Oldline Protestant congregations are facing declining membership numbers and financial uncertainty.
- While the number of congregations with websites has increased from 33 percent to 69 percent between 2000

and 2010, the number with websites has declined in the past two years. This potentially is attributable to the growth in Facebook use, in place of websites.

- For the most part, the technologies are being used by congregations to communicate to membership rather than take full advantage of the interactivity of the technologies.
- The size of a congregation is the primary factor in its level of technology use.
- Likewise, the wealthier the congregation, at any size, the more likely it is to be employing technology.
- Not surprisingly, age has a profound influence on the use of technology. Robust technology use is diminished if the membership is older, the pastor or primary clergy person is older, and the congregation itself is older.
- There are several key reasons why there is a direct correlation between adoption of technology and vital, growing congregations: Adoption of technology, particularly social media, indicates innovativeness. Increased use of technology enhances distinctiveness and competitive edge. Congregations with a greater use of technology are more likely to describe worship as innovative, joyful, thought-provoking and inspirational.

- Per capita giving increases as the use of technology rises. This applies to congregations of all sizes.
- While greater use of technology nurtures growth, it is not a guarantor of growth. Other factors, such as conflict, may adversely affect vitality of a congregation no matter how sophisticated the use of technology is.

“The intentional and strategic use of technology by congregations demonstrates that faith and ministry are relevant and congruent to the contemporary context especially for younger generations,” Thumma wrote. “This may not happen without pain and conflict, but any growth and change can cause discomfort. Avoiding this possible painful effort may well mean closing a congregation’s virtual doors to a new high-tech generation.”

Links to view the report and related material are available at: <http://faithcommunitiestoday.org/2011-Technology-Internet-Use>

Faith Communities Today surveys and publications are products of the Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership, a collaborative, multifaith coalition of American faith communities affiliated with Hartford Seminary’s Hartford Institute for Religion Research.



Hartford Seminary Receives Grant for Religious Diversity Leadership Workshop

Continued from page 2

A year ago, in June 2011, more than 30 people participated in a seminar at Hartford Seminary titled “Religious Leadership in an Interfaith World.”

The seminar provided religious leaders of all faiths – clergy, educators, administrators, chaplains, and others – an opportunity for deeper study of America’s religious diversity, sharing of methodologies for interfaith engagement, and resources for further exploration.

Participating in the seminar were Christians, Muslims, Jews, Buddhists, Hindus, Quakers, Unitarians, and Wiccans. The geographic range was broad – from California to New York, with one pastor coming from Switzerland.

This initial offering showed that there is hunger among leaders in the arena of religious diversity for opportunities to share with and learn from people doing similar work.

“Nichelle Blanco, a reverend of Shinnyo-en USA’s Los Angeles Temple, had an opportunity to participate in the ‘Religious Leadership in an Interfaith World’ workshop last year. From her first-hand experience and subsequent meetings with the faculty of Hartford Seminary, we were encouraged by the workshop’s design of promoting much needed authentic interfaith dialogues across a wide variety of religious and spiritual traditions around the world,” Tsutomu Ben Takagi, Vice President of the Shinnyo-en Foundation, said.

“In addition, we recognized that one of the strengths of the workshop was that it encouraged every participant to put the theories into practice in their leadership roles as their actions reverberated beyond

themselves, thereby widening the impact on others. We are inspired by our relationship with Hartford Seminary through our support of this year’s workshop, and are honored to be a part of this important work,” Ben Takagi said.

The 2012 workshop will incorporate learnings from the 2011 experience to offer an enhanced program:

- The workshop will give significant time to models of leadership and development of specific skills useful for effective leadership.
- Experiential learning will be a prominent feature of the program, and will be complemented by use of case-study methods and collaborative conversation.
- Communal meals will provide extended opportunities for sharing and learning about each other’s religions and leadership practices.

“Hartford Seminary is known for offering opportunities for collegial study in a multifaith setting,” said Faculty Associate Lucinda Mosher, who will be the program director and lead instructor for the workshop. “This Religious Leadership Diversity Workshop and our new Graduate Certificate take full advantage of that.”

“Once again, Hartford Seminary is a pioneer in theological education,” Hadsell said. “For more than 100 years we have offered education in Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations. In the last decade we have launched Islamic Chaplaincy and Building Abrahamic Partnerships programs. Now we are meeting the educational needs of all those seeking leadership training to serve in multifaith contexts.”

Hartford Seminary is a laboratory for this type of innovative project. The Seminary is dedicated to preparing peacemakers and promoting vital faith communities. It offers unique programs within an interfaith setting, focusing on deepening knowledge of one’s own tradition balanced with developing skills in interfaith dialogue. Students enjoy a lived experience, in the classroom and on campus.

About Shinnyo-En Foundation

Shinnyo-en Foundation, based in San Francisco, CA, is a secular, philanthropic arm of the Shinnyo-en Buddhist Order and supports educational programs that engage and inspire young people in meaningful acts of service.

The mission of Shinnyo-en Foundation is to promote global peace through service by nurturing future generations.

The Shinnyo-en Order was established in 1936 by Shinjo Ito, a master of Shingon Esoteric Buddhism, one of Japan’s oldest forms of Buddhism. It teaches lay people how to use each day as an opportunity to reflect, connect with their awakened nature, and find enlightenment by being a vehicle for the happiness of others.

Today, the Shinnyo-en Order and its leader Her Holiness Shinso Ito - daughter of Shinjo Ito - are widely recognized for their contributions to contemporary Buddhist practice and philanthropic activities in Japan and around the world.

Founded on the commitment to universal truth, compassion and service, Shinnyo-en teaches that all people carry the seed of enlightenment within them and that by acting with sincerity and kindness, they each may bring that seed to fruition. ☸

Hartford Seminary and **Heidi Hadsell**, President of the Seminary, have been named the first recipients of the Rev. Dr. Richard B. Griffis Award, presented by the Connecticut Council for Interreligious Understanding, for their deep commitment and ongoing contributions to interreligious understanding. The Seminary and Dr. Hadsell were recognized at an Award Dinner on Thursday, May 10, at Congregation Beth Israel in West Hartford from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.



Ed Waggoner is Faculty Associate in Christian Theology and the newly appointed Coordinator of

the International Ph.D. Program. Dr. Waggoner studied at Willamette University, Yale Divinity School, and Yale University. His primary aim is to think creatively and theologically about individual and social change, drawing from the full gamut of traditional theological sources but also marginalized or emerging Christian communities and contemporary social, political, and philosophical thought. Dr.

Waggoner works in the areas of constructive/systematic theology and religion and politics



Omer Awass has been named Visiting Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations, starting in Fall 2012.

Awass, who is close to completion of his Ph.D. in Religion at Temple University, will teach three courses during the 2012-2013 academic year, assist in a team-taught course, and advise Seminary students. In the fall, he will teach “The Life of the Prophet Muhammad” online and assist in the “Dialogue in a World of Difference” course. During the Winter/Spring semester in 2013, he will teach “The Qur’an and Its Place in Muslim Life and Society,” followed by “Contemporary Islamic Ethics” during Summer session, both on campus.

Francis Acquah, a Methodist minister, has completed his Ph.D. He came to Hartford Seminary from Ghana originally to study Christian-Muslim Relations in the International Peacemaking Program. He

decided to seek the Ph.D. “because I wanted to build my capacity through knowledge for leadership. My desire is to teach and raise future leaders for both the church and the nation.” Profile

When **The Rev. Marjorie Nunes** became pastor of Summerfield United Methodist Church in Bridgeport, CT, in 2002, she arrived at the church to lead her first worship service and found the gate in the front of the sanctuary padlocked with a note instructing guests to drive around to the social hall for service. Inside were about a dozen people. Today, the church has a summer program for neighborhood children, a food pantry, a clothing closet, a new music program, and overhead projectors and is an ethnically diverse congregation. Between the English, Spanish and French services, Nunes said about 140 people worship at the church each weekend. Her Doctor of Ministry studies at Hartford, fueled her. She named her thesis, “To dream again: A new dream of a new community for new times.” The DMIN project, she said, is what kept her on track as she continued to help the congregation transform. Profile 🌸

Religious Diversity Leadership Workshop

Sunday, June 3, 4 to 9 p.m.; Monday, June 4 – Thursday, June 7, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Friday, June 8, 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Sunday: Opens with a review of America’s multi-religious culture and a dinner with a keynote speaker, who will take up the issue of leadership in the multifaith context. Participants will be able to share information with each other about the locus of their own leadership during the opening session and throughout the week.

Monday – Friday: Sessions will address topics such as models and methods of leadership generally; leading youth in the multifaith context and in interfaith activities; formation of emerging young leaders; meeting the challenge of bullying; theologies and philosophies of religious difference; philosophies and models of dialogue; and multifaith efforts for the common good, as well as the identification and sharing of resources for organizing local interfaith projects and

activities. Site visits to houses of worship illustrative of the changing religious landscape of Connecticut and New York will be included. The workshop will be of benefit to administrators of not-for-profit agencies, clergy, teachers, chaplains, researchers, healthcare providers, and others who are leaders in the field of religious diversity or who work in multifaith contexts.

The workshop will be offered concurrently with a course, “Understanding and Engaging Religious Diversity,” for students in the Seminary’s new Graduate Certificate in Chaplaincy in Multifaith Contexts.

Funding for the workshop has been made available through a grant provided by the Shinnyo-en Foundation. Limited financial assistance is available to participants who qualify. Please send a note (email preferred) to admissions@hartsem.edu outlining why you wish to participate in the workshop and if you would need aid for housing, transportation and/or tuition. Housing on campus is available (housing application deadline is May 13.)

Faculty in the News



Professor Yahya Michot has just published a new book, “Ibn Taymiyya: Against Extremisms, Texts Translated, Annotated and Introduced by Yahya Michot,” (Albouraq Publishers).



Professor Uriah Kim has published a new article, “Preaching David and Saul from Multicultural Contexts,” in the *Living Pulpit* magazine. The magazine is offering a free trial through June so if you register on the magazine website, then you can read Professor Kim’s article without charge.



President Heidi Hadsell has been named to the Steering Committee of the International Abrahamic Forum of the International Council of Christians and Jews. The International Abrahamic Forum is an expression of the council’s commitment to Jewish-Christian-Muslim

dialogue. Dr. Hadsell is one of three Christian members on the nine-member Steering Committee. The main task of the Steering Committee is to further trilateral dialogue as an integral component of the interfaith work of the International Council and its member organizations and to advance the relations and contacts of the International Council with interested people and organizations involved in trilateral dialogue and encounter.



On January 15, the Seminary held a reception to celebrate the release of Professor **Miriam Therese Winter’s** new CD, “Loving You, A celebration of All Creation.” Here is an [introduction](#) to the CD and MT’s remarks at the reception. This video offers a

four-minute talk by MT about the CD and then her remarks at the reception. ❁

Seminary Faculty: Why I Like Teaching at Hartford Seminary



Lucinda Mosher When I sit in front of a class at Hartford Seminary, almost always the circle of students is multi-national, multi-religious, and multi-ethnic. Every class discussion is an exercise in appreciative conversation in the midst of intense and interesting diversity. I love the challenge of stimulating and guiding this dialogue.



Mahmoud Ayoub I was invited to Hartford Seminary at the suggestion of our dear late friend Ibrahim Abu-Rabi’. I joined the Seminary faculty as a faculty associate to teach one or two courses on Shi`ism. I was, however, drawn enthusiastically to the life of the Hartford Seminary

community academically, spiritually and intellectually. What I love most about teaching at the Seminary is the warm community relations that bind us together. Our community is a community of faith consisting of individual and small faith-communities. We eat together, pray together

and celebrate together at Jewish, Christian and Muslim festivals and special occasions as a large family, or small community. The Hartford Seminary community is a spiritually bound community, may it long continue.



Yehezkel Landau Hartford Seminary is a place where I can thrive, both personally and professionally. I cherish my faculty colleagues and the stimulating interactions among us. I love teaching here, interacting with mature students who really want to be in the classroom,

most of whom bring deep reservoirs of life experience. I relish the chance to share the riches of my own Jewish tradition with Christians and Muslims, and to receive in return the spiritual treasures to which they are heirs. I am grateful, also, for the time I have to do the kind of writing I could not do during my 24 years in Israel, being responsible for administering and raising funds for two peace organizations. The pioneering interfaith training program that I direct,

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Why I Like Teaching at Hartford Seminary

Building Abrahamic Partnerships, is yet another experiment in creating opportunities for fruitful interfaith study. The combination of academic and experiential modes of learning that characterizes this program could not be undertaken at most seminaries, but here at Hartford Seminary it is a natural outgrowth of earlier educational initiatives. In this new millennium, the Seminary is exploring new ways of training religious leaders, preparing them for ministry in a spiritually heterogeneous society. I am blessed to be a part of this cutting-edge community of scholar-practitioners and to contribute what I can, as a Jew, to the mix of spiritualities that makes this place so vital.



Adair Lummis Since I teach several online courses from a sociological perspective, students write weekly how concepts and trends described in course materials relate to their present work, ministries and faith groups. Fascinating and very important learning is provided in such student reflections for them and definitely for this professor! Generally because Hartford Seminary attracts interested students from diverse locations, faiths, and life trajectories, opportunity to teach such students spur our faculty to gain greater understanding of contemporary implications of what they teach. 🌸

Awad Named Associate Professor of Christian Theology at Hartford Seminary



The Board of Trustees of Hartford Seminary and President Heidi Hadsell have named Dr. Najeeb G. Awad, a scholar in systematic and contextual theology, to the faculty at Hartford Seminary.

Awad will become Associate Professor of Christian Theology at the Seminary, effective August 1.

“I am delighted that Najeeb Awad will be joining the faculty at Hartford Seminary,” Hadsell said. “Najeeb is an innovative thinker who has shown great skill as a professor and researcher. Our students will benefit from his scholarship and his fresh approach to theology. He will add in exciting ways to the interfaith dialogue at the Seminary.”

Awad, born in Lattakia, Syria, is the first Syrian Protestant Arab systematic theologian. He currently is Lecturer in Systematic and Contextual/Intercultural Theology in the Intercultural Theology program of Göttingen University, combined with the Evangelisch-Lutherische Missionseminar, in Hermannsburg, Germany. He also was a Visiting Fellow for a year at Yale Divinity School in 2008-2009.

Awad said he decided to come to Hartford Seminary because of the diversity of the faculty. “Such an atmosphere will be ideal for my scholarship and in teaching theology for today’s world,” he said.

“It is my belief that my non-western cultural background and life experiences, as well as my versatile intellectual and theological orientations and interests, are going to be valuable to students and also substantially enriched by being a member in the school’s faculty,” Awad said.

Awad has a Bachelor of Arts from the Near East School of Theology, Beirut Lebanon, and a Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy from King’s College, London. He currently is completing his Habilitationsschrift (a second Ph.D.) at Münster University.

“In welcoming Najeeb to Hartford Seminary, we are receiving a recognized, world-class scholar whose distinctive approach to Christian theology merges closely with the academic mission of our school,” said James Nieman, Academic Dean of the Seminary. “Najeeb is a gentle, wise, and engaging theologian who will contribute richly to our conversations in and beyond the classroom. I am eager to have him in our midst starting next fall.”

Previously, Awad taught at the Near East School of Theology in systematic theology and Christian doctrine, lectured on Protestant Theology at the Université La Sagesse, Faculté des Sciences Ecclésiales, Beirut, Lebanon and offered a series of lectures on “Science and Religion” at the National Presbyterian Church of Lattakia, Syria.

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Awad Named Associate Professor

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Awad also served as director of youth ministry and chaired the Religious Work Committee for the Reformed Churches of Syria, the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon. He was Church Senior Minister, Alhaskeh National Presbyterian Church, in 1997-1998. He was director of religious activities, Aljazerah Province, in the northeast of Syria, part of the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon.

He is the author of three books: “God without a Face? On the Personal Individuation of the Holy Spirit” (Mohr Siebeck, 2011); “God, Man and Evil: A Theologico-Existential Study” (Codmus, 2004, in Arabic); and “The Passion Narrative

in the Gospel of Matthew: A Historico-Narrative Criticism” (Al-Thaqaufa, 2003, in Arabic).

Most recently he finished writing a contextual theology manuscript on the Arab Spring and the role of Arab Christians in the future of the Near East.

Awad described the strength of Hartford Seminary as “its perception of and serious attention to the radical and challenging paradigm shift that is taking place in theological scholarship in the context of the postmodernist world we live in.”

He added, “In educating students from Christian, Muslim and Jewish backgrounds, and creating for these students a dialogue and

interaction venue, Hartford Seminary makes a giant step toward the interreligious, inter-cultural and cross-cultural future our world is heading to rapidly.”

“My main priority will be strengthening and developing the Christian theology scholarship at the school, by offering courses on Christian thought, which, while introducing the main elements of Christian faith, go beyond the narrow boundaries of the traditional, doctrinal and systematic framework of Christian pedagogy and touch upon practical and contextual questions that are pertinent to today’s human existence,” Awad said.

“I shall also be willing to develop a serious theological dialogue

with my colleagues in Islamic Studies and see how we could together contribute to the furtherance of the interreligious relationship and mutual understanding of Islam and Christianity,” he said.

In the fall semester, Awad will teach “Introduction to Christian Theology: The Basic Components of Christian Faith and Life.”

Outside work, Awad is a poet and has three poetry books published in Arabic. Also, he said. He enjoys art and cultural activities, as well as sports and, when he has enough time, traveling and discovering new places and sights. ❁



Three International Peacemaking Program Students at Hartford Seminary



International Peacemaking Program Students; Hans Abdiel Harmakaputra, Abdullah Khan and Haidar Reda Mohamad.

Hans Abdiel Harmakaputra was a member of the research team for the Communion of Churches in Indonesia, collecting stories and information about church closings and church attacks in West Java, Indonesia. Through this work, he learned about the impact of religious conflict.

In Denmark and his home country of Pakistan, Abdullah Khan devised curricula to introduce the study of human rights in Islamic religious schools and in Christian seminaries.

Working for Mesopotamia, an Iraqi magazine, Haidar Reda Mohamad wrote and published articles on religion in Iraq and on democracy and non-violence. Through their personal experience, all three are immersed in interfaith dialogue. Now Hans, Abdullah and Haidar are students at Hartford Seminary's International Peacemaking Program, studying for a Graduate Certificate in Interfaith Dialogue.

Hartford Seminary initiated the International Peacemaking Program (IPP) in 2004, recognizing the need for skilled peacemakers in countries where there is interreligious conflict. Students in the program spend an academic year perfecting their interfaith dialogue and leadership skills, as well as enhancing their public engagement and public speaking skills. In addition to their formal studies, students are embedded in a local faith community where they experience American religious culture firsthand.

Students receive a scholarship covering tuition, books, travel and housing. After a year, the students return home to put their new skills and knowledge into practice.

That is what the three students for 2011-2012 plan to do. Once he returns home, Hans plans to become a pastor and

also a seminary scholar. He said that "I will implement my studies in my church because without changing our old paradigm of 'the other,' it will be very hard to encourage them to come into interfaith dialogue. Secondly, I will continue my interfaith network and see what we can do together for our society. Thirdly, as a seminary teacher, I will promote interfaith dialogue on an intellectual level, without neglecting the practical level, and try to encourage prospective church leaders to engage other faiths in dialogue."

"My objective and aim is to do interfaith dialogue among different faiths to bring peace to my homeland of Iraq," said Haidar.

"I would like to work with those people and organizations who are already working for dialogue or peace building. I will arrange workshops and training sessions for different sections of society. I am also planning to train and teach at the college and university level," Abdullah said.

Hans Abdiel Harmakaputra

In Indonesia, Hans filled a variety of volunteer roles in his and other churches, mainly with youth. He has been a teaching assistant and lecturer at seminaries and published articles on contemporary theology.

Hans has been at the Seminary since the fall. Asked what adjustments he has had to make in his understanding of other religions, after a semester at Hartford Seminary, he replied, "I have found many similarities between Muslims in America and Christians in Indonesia because we are both minorities in number. I have learned a lot from how Muslims here organize themselves and deal with their context as a minority religion. I also made a decision to learn more deeply about Islam as a religion in order to understand my Muslim brothers and sisters in Indonesia and the Seminary is an excellent place for this study." Hans said he decided to study at the Seminary because "I heard that Hartford Seminary is one of a few places in the United States, which provides actual interfaith dialogue learning, both in the classroom and through interaction outside class. I applied for IPP with the hope that I could experience this atmosphere. Also, I wanted to study, in a U.S. context, the issue of religious diversity and how to deal with it, especially Islam and Christianity."

"In my opinion, interfaith dialogue must be based on personal relationships. That is the reason why I began interfaith dialogue by building friendships and understanding with Muslim friends," Hans said.

Continued on next page

International Peacemaking Program Students

Continued from previous page

Dialogue is important, he said, because “in Indonesia we have lived side by side for a long time, yet there are many tensions and conflicts even in ‘peaceful’ situations. I strongly believe that co-existence is not enough, since it is interpreted mostly as indifference toward other faiths. In my opinion, Indonesian people, and also people around the world, should embrace the other in dialogue and mutual praxis in order to create a better society.”

ABDULLAH KHAN

Abdullah has been an imam in Copenhagen for the past four years, and previously worked as a research and project coordinator with the Institute of Policy Studies in Islamabad. While working in Denmark, Abdullah was actively involved in numerous intercultural projects, from interfaith dialogues to environmental campaigns. Among his projects in Pakistan was conflict resolution between

diverse sects and organizing interfaith dialogues with Christians.

Abdullah said he came to Hartford because “Hartford Seminary is unique – it is not a typical religious institute but rather offers diversity in terms of religious representation and cultural richness. It will expose me to new dimensions of dialogue and peace building.”

Dialogue is important to Abdullah: “In this world we witness almost every day conflicts at different levels. For me, one of the major causes of these conflicts is a deficit in trust and misunderstanding by two or more sides. It is imperative, therefore, that if people can engage in dialogue it will definitely improve the situation and de-escalate the tensions. For me dialogue is the best remedy or resort for peace.”

HAIDAR REDA MOHAMAD

Haidar applied to study at Hartford Seminary “to gain knowledge, skills and practices to incorporate into my research and dialogue.”

“I hope to come out of this program ready to bring change and work for peace,” he said.

He offered an example of the circumstances for misunderstanding in his home country. In Iraq, he explained, many Muslims believe that the Yazidi, members of an Assyrian religion, worship Satan. “But in my research I found that they in fact believe in one God, just as the Muslim population does. As a result of this misunderstanding, more than 1000 people have been killed in Iraq over the past few years. In my effort to change this, I published my research in an Iraqi magazine (Mesopotamia),”

Interfaith dialogue is important to Haidar, because “as an Iraqi citizen, the conflicts in Iraq and in the Middle East affect my daily life on a very personal level. Misunderstanding of other faiths causes the conflicts. When there is interfaith dialogue we can find the common ground among faiths,” he said.

During their time in Hartford, the three students will be part of the community at two local faith communities – Hans at First Church of Christ, Congregational, in West Hartford, and Abdullah and Haidar at the Islamic Association of Greater Hartford in Berlin.

They live on campus, in housing that is international and interfaith, and which provides a lived experience of what is learned in the classroom. ❁

Jewish Theological Students To Study at Hartford Seminary

Hartford Seminary and the New York-based Jewish Theological Seminary have entered into a pioneering agreement for JTS students to study at Hartford Seminary to gain a better understanding of interfaith relations.

The cooperation between the two seminaries is made possible

by a \$25,000 grant by the Prior Family Foundation, which will fund six course enrollments for JTS students at Hartford Seminary during the next year.

It is a continuation of a partnership between Hartford Seminary and the Jewish Theological Seminary that includes a national conference entitled “Judaism and Islam in

America Today.” Entering its third year, the conference is sponsored by Hartford Seminary, JTS and the Islamic Society of North America and funded by the Carnegie Corporation.

In addition, the partnership has involved enrollment of Muslim religious leaders studying at Hartford Seminary in a Clinical

Pastoral Education program located at JTS.

This new program will build on the Seminary’s commitment to Abrahamic dialogue by increasing the presence of Jewish students on campus. It will enhance the educational experience of current students by introducing Jewish conversation partners and will

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

The **Rev. Dr. Richard B. Griffis** died in Washington, DC on December 6, 2011 at the age of 77. Dr. Griffis was a minister in the United Church of Christ for 51 years, serving congregations in, among other places, Hartford and Greenwich, Connecticut, and working for the Connecticut Conference of the UCC as well as in the UCC national offices. He was active in the civil rights and anti-war movements of the 1960s, and continued to work and advocate for peace and justice domestically and internationally. Dr. Griffis founded the Connecticut Council on Interreligious Understanding, and was a long-time Corporator of Hartford Seminary. His obituary read in part, "At Richard's core, and in all of the work he did throughout his life, there was a quiet determination to create a more just and peaceful world." Dr. Griffis is survived by his wife, Anne, two sons, a daughter, and their families.

Charles H. Groesbeck, B.D. '57, died on March 11, 2011. No further information was available.

The Rev. Dr. Ralph Emerson Henard, B.D. '45, died on November 12, 2010, in Boulder,

Colorado. Ralph was minister of the First Methodist Church in Boulder from 1966 to 1972, previously having served parishes in Mystic and East Hartford, Connecticut, East Greenwich and Providence, Rhode Island, Columbus, Ohio and Indianapolis, Indiana. Ralph also held a number of administrative positions at the University of Colorado from 1974 through 1987. He was survived by his wife of 66 years, Ruth Fielding Henard, and a son and daughter.

Dr. Nelson M. Hoffman, Jr., KSM '48, died on August 1, 2008 in Versailles, KY, according to his son, Nelson M. Hoffman, III. After service in World War II, he received his Master's degree in history from the University of Kansas, and then came to the Kennedy School of Missions. From 1949 through 1957 he served as an educational missionary of the Methodist Church in South India at Hyderabad, Tandur, and Kodaikanal. Upon his return to the United States, Nelson served as a pastor of the Methodist Church in Williamsburg, Kansas, and then taught in the history departments of the University of Kansas, Emory-at-Oxford, Georgia, and Florida Southern College. He received his Ph.D. in history from the University of Kansas. He then served in a variety of leadership positions in secondary and undergraduate institutions, including as President of Midway College.

The final chapter of his working life was as vice president of Capital Formation Counselors in Belleair Bluffs, Florida. Dr. Hoffman was survived by his wife of 65 years, Marjorie, five children, and extended family.

Through **Dr. Esther Megill**, '60, '66, the Seminary learned of the death of Miss Jean Hoska, M.A. '60, on December 10, 2011. Following graduation Jean worked for the Women's Division of the Methodist Church as a "rural worker" (later called "Church and Community Worker"). She was commissioned a Deaconess in January of 1963, and in 1971, entered Peabody College in Nashville, later graduating with an EDS degree (Specialist in Education). She then served as an associate professor at Tennessee Technical University in Cookeville, preparing teachers to teach students with special needs. She herself worked in an elementary school in Cumberland County, Tennessee, teaching special education students. Miss Hoska retired in 1995 to Asheville, North Carolina.

Duncan Knowles communicated that his grandfather, **Archie Knowles**, '29, died in 1980, having worked for the Hartford YMCA, and been Executive Director of Camp Hazen in Chester, Connecticut.

Meredith Martin contacted the Seminary to convey that her

husband, **The Rev. James A. Martin**, APS, '99, died on December 24, 2008 in Littlestown, Pennsylvania.

The Rev. Albert M. Nehls, B.D. '70, was remembered by his friend and classmate Andrew Terwilleger, '70, who contacted the Seminary after learning of Albert's death on October 19, 2011. Albert served two churches in Hopkinton, New York after finishing seminary, and also worked with social services in that area. With his wife, Jeanne, and growing family, Albert relocated to western Kentucky, where he worked as a counselor and chaplain at Lincoln Village, a State correctional facility for teenagers. Albert and Jeanne were parents to nine children, six of which they adopted.

John B. Walsh, a Corporator of the Seminary for many years, died on December 26, 2011 at the age of 78. John spent his career with Aetna Realty Investor, Inc., was parishioner and staff member of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church, and volunteered his time and expertise to an array of service roles in greater Hartford, including the Seminary.

Christopher A. Wright, M.A. '73, reports that “after 30 years as a photographer involved in black and white large format and historic photography, I published, under the name of my company, “Visions in Silver Photography,” in December 2011, my first book of personal images, along with essays explaining the spiritual background of my personal/artistic aesthetics,” entitled, *Still Life—Still Living*. In December 2011, Chris participated in a symposium sponsored by the Religion Department of the University of Florida, Gainesville, called “Multidisciplinary Approaches to Plants and Religion,” which included presentations by a variety of experts in ethnobiology, botany, entheogenics and ritual behavior related to use of sacred plants. More information on Chris’ work and inspiration, as well as on his available and upcoming books, is available at www.visioninsilver.com.

After seeing his name on the “lost alumni/ae” list, **Dr. Franklin D. Graham, M.A.** '63, reports that he is living in Daytona Beach, Florida, serving as President of Heritage Academy there.

After studying at Hartford Seminary in the Cooperative Master of Divinity program, the **Rev. Charles G. Taylor** completed his program at Andover Newtown, and became the minister of the United Church of Ware (UCC) in Massachusetts in April of 2011.

Stephen J. Nelson, M.A.R.S. '72, has published “Decades of Chaos and Revolution: Showdowns for College Presidents,” the story and comparison of two eras in higher education history. The first era covers the period of the 1960s through the mid-1970s, and the second

is the first decade of the 21st century. Both decades were marked by events that shook the foundations of colleges, universities, and society as a whole. Steve tells the story through the eyes of the presidents of the institutions involved in the chaos of those eras. Steve is associate professor of educational leadership at Bridgewater State University and senior scholar in the Leadership Alliance at Brown University. He has written three previous books about the college presidency: *Leaders in the Crossroads: Success and Failure in the College Presidency*, *Leaders in the Labyrinth: College Presidents and the Battleground of Creeds and Convictions*, and *Leaders in the Crucible: The Moral Voice of College Presidents*. For information on his latest book, go to:

<https://rowman.com/ISBN/9781442210820>



Alumni/ae Reunion

Friday, June 1

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ALL classes invited and encouraged to attend!

Key Events

- Welcome by President Heidi Hadsell and presentations by faculty and others on what’s new and upcoming at the Seminary
- Alumni/ae lunches—opportunity to gather with fellow program graduates (M.A., B.D./M.Div., D.Min, WLI, BMP, etc.)
- Conversation with International Peacemaking Program students Abdullah Khan of Pakistan, Hans Harmakaputra of Indonesia, and Haider Reda Mohamed of Iraq
- Opportunities to discuss the work of the Seminary Alumni/ae Council with President Salahuddin Muhammad and Vice President Karen Bailey-Francois.
- Commencement Exercises 2012 (at 5:00 p.m.) -- at which the class of 1962, celebrating their 50th anniversary of graduation, will be recognized.



To register or for further information, contact The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lee, Chief Development Officer and Director of Alumni/ae Relations, at 860.509.9556 or jlee@hartsem.edu.

Jewish Theological Students To Study at Hartford Seminary

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provide Jewish rabbinical students the opportunity to engage in interfaith dialogue with students of other faiths.

A key component of the program involves the opportunity for the JTS students to live on campus in Hartford while attending intensive classes during the summer. In this way, students will benefit from a lived experience of what is learned in the classroom.

The first JTS students to take advantage of the program are likely to study at Hartford Seminary during the summer session 2012 that begins in June. JTS currently is recruiting students for the program, which will continue for three years.

“I am deeply appreciative of the generosity and imaginative thinking of Neil and Trudie Prior and their commitment to interfaith education. It is so important that Hartford Seminary continue its work in interreligious dialogue and understanding. The Priors’ gift will help make this possible in a new and exciting way,” Dr. Heidi Hadsell, President of Hartford Seminary, said.

Cornelius B. Prior, Jr., chairman of Atlantic Tele-Network Inc., headquartered in Beverly, MA, is the grantor of the family foundation. Gertrude J. Prior, president and general manager of Coral World Ocean Park in St. Thomas, is trustee. She serves on the Board of Trustees of Hartford Seminary.

Hadsell added, “It is vitally important to prepare religious leaders of all faiths to lead their faith communities in an increasingly plural environment. Hartford Seminary is a key player in this effort, through our various interfaith initiatives and now through this program.”

“The opportunity for rabbinical students from the Jewish Theological Seminary to study at Hartford Seminary in the multi-faith environment of Christian and Muslim colleagues is a Godsend,” said Rabbi Burton L. Visotzky, Appleman Professor of Midrash and Interreligious Studies and Director of the Milstein Center for Interreligious Dialogue at JTS.

“Hartford’s pioneering program affords JTS students an opportunity to supplement their rabbinic education with first-hand knowledge of the other Abrahamic religions. We expect this will help create a cadre of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim leaders who know one another’s religions. This innovative opportunity will engender a network of like-minded clergy who can work together for a more hopeful future,” Visotzky said.

Rabbi Daniel Nevins, Dean of the JTS Division of Religious Leadership, concurred with Visotzky and added, “JTS Rabbinical students have shown deep interest in learning about and from other faith traditions. This opportunity is a cause for celebration in our community, and we are very grateful to Hartford Seminary for extending this generous invitation to our students.”

The program is further evidence of Hartford Seminary’s pioneering approach to theological education. The Seminary offers the only accredited program to educate Muslim chaplains and in the past

year has begun certificates for imams and Muslim community leaders and for chaplains serving in multifaith contexts.

Cornelius Prior practiced law and investment banking in New York City before co-founding Atlantic Tele-Network (ATN) in 1987. He is the chairman of ATN, a public telecommunications industry holding company and the chairman of Caribbean – Central American Action (CCAA), a not-for-profit organization promoting investment in the Caribbean. He graduated from Holy Cross College and currently serves as a member of its President’s Advisory Council.

Gertrude Prior practiced law in Washington, D.C., before becoming president of Coral World Ocean Park. She is a former President of the Hebrew Congregation of St. Thomas and currently serves as a member of the Board.

Previously, the Priors made a \$500,000 gift toward an endowed faculty chair at Hartford Seminary in Abrahamic Partnerships. ✿



Indonesians To Study at Hartford Seminary

Nahdlatul Ulama, which is based in Indonesia and is the world's largest independent Muslim organization, and Hartford Seminary, have signed an agreement for 10 Indonesian students per year to study at Hartford Seminary.

"I am delighted to have NU and the Indonesian government as partners," Heidi Hadsell, President of Hartford Seminary, said. "Their agreement to send students strengthens our commitment to prepare peacemakers and make a positive contribution to interreligious understanding.

It also enriches the community of dialogue here on campus and in local faith communities."

Five students will pursue a Master of Arts degree in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations and five will participate in the International Peacemaking Program, which leads to a Graduate Certificate in Interfaith Dialogue or Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations. The first students will start their studies in the fall. The agreement is for three years.

Indonesia's Ministry of Education and Ministry of Religious Affairs will provide the financing for the students to attend Hartford Seminary.

"I would like to thank Alwi Shihab, our trustee, for working with us, NU and the government



In late 2011, Dr. H. Marsudi Syuhud, general secretary of NU, and Professor Dr. Said Aqil Siroj, general chairman, visited Hartford Seminary to initiate discussions that have led to the agreement.

in Indonesia to reach this agreement," Hadsell added.

Alwi Shihab is Special Envoy to the Middle East and the Organization of the Islamic Conference for the President of the Republic of Indonesia. Formerly he was Indonesian Coordinating Minister for People's Welfare and Foreign Minister.

The Master of Arts degree in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations is located in Hartford Seminary's Duncan Black Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim Relations. This center embodies Hartford Seminary's 100-year commitment to the study of Islam, Christianity and their complex relationships throughout history and in the modern world.

The Seminary initiated the International Peacemaking Program (IPP) in 2004, recognizing the need for skilled peacemakers in countries where there is interreligious conflict. Students in the program, who are young religious leaders, spend an academic year perfecting their interfaith dialogue and leadership skills, as well as enhancing their public engagement and public speaking skills.

In addition to their formal studies, students are embedded in a local faith community where they experience American religious culture firsthand and where they serve as windows onto their own countries, cultures and religious communities for the people in those congregations.

The agreement between NU and the Seminary also calls for a conference every other year, alternating between Hartford and Indonesia, that brings together students, alumni/ae, faculty and community leaders to take steps toward the development of a cooperative model for interfaith education.

NU funds schools, hospitals, and other institutions in Indonesia. It organizes communities in order to help combat poverty. NU manages 18,000 boarding schools from elementary to senior high school and 112 universities as well as 124 hospitals and other institutions. It has more than 40 million members. ❁

Summer Course Schedule 2011

Hartford Seminary's Summer Session 2012 will run from Monday, May 21 through Sunday, July 1. Most courses are weeklong intensives and will be held from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the weeks of June 4-8, June 11-15, June 18-22 and June 25-June 29. The Seminary's courses are open to the public 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 \$1,800. The non-credit audit fee is \$575. A special audit fee of \$385 is available for: those who are age 60 and older, persons 55 and older receiving disability income, graduates of Hartford Seminary degree programs or the Certificate of Professional Ministry (cooperative M.Div.), donors of \$250 a year or more, Hartford Seminary Adjunct Faculty, and up to three specially designated members of churches that participate in the International Peacemaking Program of the Seminary. There is a limit of one course per academic year to receive the special rate except persons age 60 and older, for whom there is no limit.

To register, please contact the registrar's office at (860) 509-9512. Her email is registrar@hartsem.edu. To see specific course syllabi or learn more about Hartford Seminary and its faculty, visit our website, www.hartsem.edu.

You also may access a registration form at http://www.hartsem.edu/sites/default/files/2012_summer_course_reg_form.pdf

ARTS OF MINISTRY

Chaplaincy Models and Methods (AM-602) **NEW**

Sunday, June 10, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Monday, June 11 – Thursday, June 14, 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.; Friday, June 15, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

This course will provide an orientation to the role of the chaplain and methods suitable to the contexts in which chaplains characteristically serve including: schools, colleges, and universities; prisons; health care facilities; fire and police departments; and the military. Students will be introduced to the 29 competencies expected of board-certified chaplains (and valuable to all chaplains) and practical information for service in spiritually and culturally diverse contexts. Students will also receive specialized training in disaster spiritual care, a useful competency in any trauma situation. (This course is required for all students enrolled in the Graduate Certificate Program in Chaplaincy in Multifaith Contexts.).

Lucinda Mosher, Faculty Associate in Interfaith Studies

Addiction and Spirituality: Dealing with Holes in the Soul (AM-634)

Monday, June 25 – Saturday, June 30, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

This course will examine the largely unacknowledged and sorely underexamined epidemic of addiction in the United States. Statistics show that one out of every seven persons in the United States has some form of substance abuse. Every church, mosque, synagogue and temple has persons afflicted and affected by addiction. A holistic, pastoral overview of ministry to persons with addictions will be presented through reading, presentations, research and dialogue in and outside the classroom. Using the various models of addiction - moral, mental health, medical, etc., - we will discuss the underlying spiritual issues of sin, shame, unforgiveness and the spiritual responses of healing, forgiveness and grace. Persons engaged in religious leadership and service of all types, including pastors, imams, chaplains and the regular congregational member who cares and gives care will be interested in this important course. *The Rev. Dr. Charles Williams, Adjunct Professor of Arts of Ministry and Chaplain at Osborn Correctional Institution and Carl Robinson Correctional Institution*

Organizational Leadership for Justice in Congregation and Community (AM-644)

Friday, June 29, 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday, June 30 – Sunday, July 1, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday, August 18 – Sunday, August 19, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. plus additional online work between the two class periods

“Am I prepared to lead?” “How do I lead change and create a more just world?” “How do I manage diversity and conflict in my congregation and in the community?” Questions like these are frequently asked by religious leaders and those entering professional ministry, who yearn to translate their theological and academic training into practical and effective organizational and leadership strategies. This course is designed to explore the personal skills, analytic perspectives, and strategic knowledge needed to be a compassionate leader in religious systems and an effective agent of justice and social change in public life. Drawing on organizational systems theory, you will (1) investigate your personal understanding and style of leadership, (2) discover your role as a leader within a congregational or ministry setting, (3) learn about leadership processes in teams and organizations, strategic planning and measures for conducting congregational evaluations and assessments and (4) be provided with strategic tools for leading change around issues of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and economic justice. Through readings, class discussion, reflection papers, and case studies, you will be

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encouraged to shift both your paradigm and questions about leadership, and will be empowered to picture yourself as an effective leader of religious and politico-social change in an interfaith context. *The Rev. Dr. William McKinney, Adjunct Professor in Religion and Society and past President of Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, California*

DIALOGUE

Understanding and Engaging Religious Diversity (DI-641) **NEW**

Sunday, June 3, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Monday, June 4 – Thursday, June 7, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; Friday, June 8, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Through reading, discussions, multi-media presentations, and site-visits, students will be guided toward gaining (or improving) an understanding of America's current religious landscape, a conceptual grounding in the beliefs and practices of a number of America's religions, some awareness of the internal diversity of these religions, and strategies for engaging this diversity—including an opportunity to clarify and articulate one's own theological/philosophical position on the fact of religious manyness. Students will also explore a variety of forms and methods of leadership in religiously plural contexts. (This course is required for all students enrolled in the Graduate Certificate Program in Chaplaincy in Multifaith Contexts.) *Lucinda Mosher, Faculty Associate for Interfaith Studies*

Building Abrahamic Partnerships (DI-650)

Sunday, June 24 – Sunday, July 1 (intensive schedule, includes all days and some evenings)

This eight-day intensive training program offers a practical foundation for mutual understanding and cooperation among Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Participants learn about the tenets and practices of the three faiths, study texts from their respective scriptures together, attend worship at a mosque, synagogue, and church, and acquire pastoral skills useful in interfaith ministry. Combining the academic and the experiential, the course includes ample time for socializing over meals and during breaks. Building on Hartford Seminary's strengths as an interfaith, dialogical school of practical theology, this team-taught program is a resource for religious leaders who are grounded in their own traditions while open to the faith orientations of other communities. Due to the interfaith nature of this course, we aim for equal representation among each of the three Abrahamic traditions in admitting students to this course. *Yehezkel Landau, Faculty Associate in Interfaith Relations*

HISTORY

The Multi-Cultural Mediterranean (HI-683) **NEW**

Monday, June 11 – Saturday, June 16, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Mediterranean is often divided into the Christian and Islamic sides, implying a religious uniformity that did not exist on either shore. This course focuses on the history of the Islamic Mediterranean as a multi-religious space where Jews, Christians, and Muslims lived, traded, and even worshipped together. Beginning in the Middle Ages, the course uses documents from the Cairo Geniza to illuminate the day-to-day interactions of Jews, Muslims, and Christians in medieval Egypt and beyond. It covers the Ottoman Empire through the nineteenth century, looking at the Ottomans as among the most religiously diverse empires in world history. The course seeks to introduce students to Middle Eastern history while challenging pre-conceptions about the religious makeup of the region. Through the history of the Mediterranean, this course explores how pre-modern people of different faiths lived together before the widespread belief in values like tolerance and religious equality. *Jessica Marglin, Adjunct Professor of History and Ph.D. candidate at Princeton University*

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

Megachurches (RS-686)

Monday, June 4 – Friday, June 8 -- 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday), 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Wednesday) and 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (Friday)

Imagine a congregation where 10,000 people gather each week for worship, where church budgets are \$15 million a year and where thousands of people volunteer for programs weekly. Welcome to the world of megachurches. The past thirty years have seen a proliferation of these massive congregations throughout the nation. There are over 1,500 of these congregations in the U.S., and while less than half a percent of all congregations, they attract more attention than all other religious communities in the nation combined. This course will look at the phenomenon to understand the common characteristics of megachurches, how they function, why they are attractive. In so doing, we will focus on what lessons can be learned and used effectively by churches of all sizes and denominational traditions. *The Rev. Dr. Warren Bird, Adjunct Professor of Religion and Society, Director of Research and Intellectual Capital, Leadership Network, Dallas, TX,*

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and co-author of the book *“The Other 80%: Turning Your Church’s Spectators into Active Disciples”*

SCRIPTURE

King David and Multicultural Leadership (SC-629) **NEW**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on the following dates 5/21, 5/23, 5/25, 5/30, 6/4, 6/6, 6/8, 6/11, 6/13, 6/15, 6/18, 6/20, 6/22

King David presents an excellent opportunity to study leadership in a multicultural context. The Israelites and the kingdom of Israel emerged during the early Iron Age when the land of Canaan consisted of multitude of people competing for a space of their own. David emerges as the successful leader who is able to forge a multi-people kingdom and Saul is portrayed as the failed leader. We will examine characteristics of leaders and circumstances of contexts that make some types of leadership effective and others ineffective. We will reflect on questions like: What are essential characteristics of a good leader? What are important features of a successful leader in a multicultural context? To what extent can a leader recognize and heed God’s voice and to what extent do the practical and strategic interests of an organization muffle this voice? In addition to David and Saul, other leaders from the David story and the book of Judges will be examined. *Uriah Kim, Professor of Hebrew Bible*

THEOLOGY

Reading Ibn Taymiyya (TH-693) **NEW**

Monday, June 11 – Friday, June 15, and Monday, June 18 – Friday, June 22, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
(Two week course)

This high level course offers an in-depth exploration of the theological and spiritual writings of one of the most fascinating – and controversial – thinkers of classical Islam: the Mamlûk mufti and theologian Taqî al-Dîn Ibn Taymiyya (d. 728/1328). Key texts will be read in the original Arabic, translated orally, explained grammatically, commented on ideologically, and discussed, by the students as well as by the professor. A good knowledge of Classical Arabic is highly recommended to maximize the learning in this course. Some background information about the history of the Middle East since the Crusades and the Mongol invasions will also be useful. Bibliographical references will be provided. *Yahya Michot, Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations*

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

Maidservants of Allah: The Spirituality of Muslim Women (WS-630)

Monday, June 4 – Saturday, June 9, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

In this class we will explore the spirituality of Muslim women past and present. We will begin with a study of the lives of female companions of the Prophet Muhammad. How did their concerns and perspectives affect the process of revelation and the spiritual development of the early Muslim community? Over the centuries, what roles did women play in the establishment of religious institutions and spiritual orders? What challenges have Muslim women faced in fulfilling their spiritual needs? What forms does female spiritual leadership take across diverse Muslim societies and cultures? Wise scholars, Medieval saints and contemporary Qur’an reciters will be our guests in chronicles and in person as we share in the spirituality of Muslim women. *Ingrid Mattson, Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations* ❁