

The Lancaster Theological Seminary

Seminary News

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UP COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, September 20, 4:30 - 6:20 p.m., Mayer Commons, LTS Community Potluck - FREE

The SCC will be providing the meat and beverages in support of this weekly event and to welcome everyone back to campus.

Thursday, September 21, 11:00 a.m., Santee Chapel, Fall Convocation - FREE

The seminary community will celebrate Convocation celebrating the beginning of the academic year. It is a time for faculty, administrators, staff and trustees to bless new and returning students. The faculty will wear academic regalia (robes and hoods) and will be joined in the processional by some adjunct, emeriti faculty, as well as trustees. The speaker will be Dr. Bruce Birch, Dean and Professor of Biblical Theology at Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. The title of his address will be "Singing to the Exiles". During the Convocation, Edwin Aponte will be installed as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean and Ava Blackwell will be installed as Director of Admissions and Financial Aid. Bruce Epperly's promotion from Associate to Full Professor will also be recognized.

Thursday, September 28, 11:00 a.m., Hafer Center, Worship Planning Meeting - FREE

The Fall Worship Groups will have a planning session in which at the beginning of the meeting, Dean of the Chapel, Daryl Hollinger, will go over some important details about the fall worship. During the remainder of the session students will have time to plan worship with their individual group and leader. Please see the schedule posted on the Worship and Community Life Bulletin Board in Lower Level Lark for dates, names, and scriptures pertaining to your worship group. It is important that all participants in the worship groups attend. Please let me know if you are not able to attend the planning session. For questions, please contact Dean of the Chapel, Daryl Hollinger at 717-626-4709 or dhollinger@lancasterseminary.edu.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

Admissions and Financial Aid News

Lancaster Theological Seminary is pleased to announce the appointment of the Rev. Ava M. Blackwell as Director of Admissions and Financial Aid beginning the Fall 2006 term. Rev. Blackwell is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ and received her Master of Divinity degree from Lancaster Theological Seminary in 2000. Her ministry has focused on lay leadership in local congregations. Rev. Blackwell completed interim ministry training offered by the Interim Ministry Network. She serves on the Gettysburg Association Church and Ministry Committee and is a Doctor of Ministry student at LTS. Prior to her seminary education Rev. Blackwell was assistant registrar for Touro Law School in Huntington, New York. She served as a volunteer for 17 years with the Area Conference Minister of the Metro/Suffolk Associations in New York of the U.C.C. with responsibility for volunteer recruitment, registrar for Association meetings, and chair of the worship committee. As part of her previous church service Rev. Blackwell was the invited guest of the Bishop of South India and participated in a regional consultation trip to Puerto Rico. The Rev. Ava Blackwell is the widow of the late Rev. Dr. John A. Blackwell and is the mother of three adult children: Erika, James and Leah; and mother-in-law of Robert Holmes who is the husband of Erika. Ava can be reached at ablackwell@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8737. Kristin Oberholtzer is the Assistant in Admissions and Government Loan Administrator and should be contacted to make an appointment with Ava. She can be reached at 717-290-8741 to koberholtzer@lancasterseminary.edu.

Cokesbury Bookstore News

The Bookstore hours will change for the Fall semester. The hours will be Monday, Noon - 5:00 p.m.; Tuesday - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday, and Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Most textbooks are still available and many have a 20% or 25% discount. Some information you may not know - proceeds from Cokesbury stores help to support the United Methodist ministers' pension fund. We appreciate your support. We hope all students have a good semester! For more information on Cokesbury Bookstore, please contact the Manager, Janice Herman at 717-393-1077 or cokesbury@lancasterseminary.edu.

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Dean's Office News

New VP of Academic Affairs and Dean - Dr. Edwin Aponte has been elected Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Lancaster Theological Seminary by the Board of Trustees. Dr. Aponte was most recently Associate Professor of Christianity and Culture and Director of Advanced Studies at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University, in Dallas, Texas. In addition to serving as Academic Dean, Dr. Aponte will serve as Professor of Religion and Culture. He is a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church USA. He began his term of service on July 1, 2006 and began office hours August 1, 2006. Dr. Aponte received his Doctor of Philosophy degree from Temple University in 1998. His areas of study include: North American religious history and culture; Hispanic/Latino religions in the U.S.; African-American religions; religions in Latin America; race, class, and religion. He and his wife, Laura, hope to close on a home in Lancaster in mid-October. Ed and Laura have one son, David, an artist in Philadelphia. Ed may be reached at eponte@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8754. Maryann Bruce is Assistant to the Dean and Director of Field Education, and should be contacted to make an appointment with Ed. She can be reached at mbruce@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8752.

New Dean of Students - Lancaster Theological Seminary is pleased to announce that Dr. Frank Stalfa will serve as Dean of Students during this academic year in addition to his ongoing role as a member of the teaching faculty at Lancaster Theological Seminary. As Dean of Students, Frank will also serve on the Administrative Cabinet. Frank can be reached at fstalfa@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8739. Rachel Gawn, Faculty Secretary and Assistant to Leadership Now is also the Assistant to the Dean of Students, and should be contacted to make an appointment with Frank. She can be reached at rgawn@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8723.

New Director of Field Education - Lancaster Theological Seminary is pleased to announce that Dr. David Mellott will serve as Director of Field Education beginning July 1, 2006. He will continue half-time as Associate Director of Continuing Education, with particular responsibilities for Summer Academies, Multi-Church program, and Continuing Education lectures. David has extensive background in spiritual and vocational formation and will work with the Academic Dean and faculty in assessing LTS' program in Ministry Studies and field (contextual) education during the coming year. We are delighted that he has agreed to assume these additional responsibilities. David's Field Education Office is in Lower Level Lark, near the Youth Suite. David can be reached at dmellott@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8751. Maryann Bruce is Assistant to the Dean and Director of Field Education, and should be contacted to make an appointment with David. She can be reached at mbruce@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8752.

Voter Registration Information - As a post-secondary educational institution, Lancaster Theological Seminary is required to make available to students information about voter registration. Instructions and forms for registering to vote in Pennsylvania are available in the Dean's Office. If you wish, you may complete the form on-line by visiting:

www.dos.state.pa.us/voting/lib/voting/02_voter_registration_applications/online_english/voterregistrationapp

The deadline to register to vote in the next election in Pennsylvania is October 10. Each state has its own deadlines and regulations. If you are not currently registered in your home state and wish to do so, please contact them directly for voter registration information and materials. Contact information for each state can be found in the publication Your Vote Your Voice available in the Dean's Office.

Faculty Secretary News

Over the summer we made change in the way job opportunities are advertised. Part-time positions and those appropriate to seminary students will continue to be listed in the Seminary News. Full-time positions appropriate for graduates can be found on the Seminary website at: www.lancasterseminary.edu > alumni_ae > job_opportunities.htm. Details of both types of jobs will continue to be placed in the small library of binders in lower level Lark between David Mellott and Greg Carey's Offices.

Job Opportunities - York Otterbein United Methodist Church is seeking a part-time contemporary worship leader. Contact Skip Spangler at yorkotterbein@verizon.net or call 717-848-2904.

Hayshire United Church of Christ in York, PA needs a part-time church musician and choir director. Send a resume to Attention: Mrs. Donnie Gladfelter, Hayshire UCC, 100 Haybrook Dr., York, PA 17406, Fax: 717-845-4890, Phone: 717-848-4007, e-mail: hayshire@cpix.net.

Registrar News

Student Handbooks - The 2006-2007 Student Handbook and Catalog of Courses may be picked up by returning students in the Dean's Suite. New students received their handbook at new student orientation on August 28 or August 29. The first page of the handbook is to be completed, signed and return to Judi Hummer BY ALL STUDENTS no later than Friday, September 22. Please note that failure to sign and return the form by that date may result in restrictions on future registration and access to transcripts and grades. The Handbook is also on-line for your convenience at www.lancasterseminary.edu > Students > Current Students.

Advisors - A current list of Academic Advisors has been posted on the Academic Affairs Bulletin Board in Lower Level Lark for the Academic year of 2006-2007.

For more information, please contact the Registrar at jhummer@lancasterseminary.edu or 717-290-8718.

Seminarian Community Council (SCC) News

The SCC are currently in search for a vice moderator and first year representative. The SCC would like to thank the Cabinet members and especially Dean of Students, Frank Stalfa for accepting our invitation to be our liaison. We are hopeful that this year will continue to be a blessing. For more information on the SCC or to see a posting of current officers, please visit the SCC Bulletin Board located in Lower Level Lark.

Seminary News Information/Deadlines

Should someone wish to have something listed in the Seminary News, please submit your article, announcements, or notices via email to Maryann Bruce (mbruce@lancasterseminary.edu) by the following deadlines:

<u>Deadline for Copy</u>	<u>Posted Issue Online</u>
9/27	10/2
10/11	10/16
10/25	10/30
11/8	11/13
11/22	11/27
12/6	12/11

The next issue of this newsletter will be on-line October 2. If you would like an item in the October 2 issue, please email the article/information to Maryann Bruce no later than September 27.