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Faith's Reasons
The Catholic Intellectual Tradition at the University of Dayton
“St. Peter said that we must give a reason for the faith that is in us, and I am trying to give you those reasons . . .” —Dorothy Day

Interest and Involvement Widen

Summer Faculty Seminar

In the summer of 1998, the Forum on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition Today will sponsor a faculty seminar in the Catholic intellectual tradition. Aided by funding from the Marianist Foundation and the Provost’s Office, the seminar will sponsor ten faculty researchers and twenty discussion participants who will meet daily for two weeks (at the beginning of May and again at the end of June) to discuss readings and research in the Catholic intellectual tradition.

The ten research participants in the 1998 seminar and their areas of investigation will be: Una M. Cadegan (History/American Studies), U.S. Catholic publishing, 1880-1940; Brian Conniff (English), “The Poetics of Incarnation and the Modern Self: Hopkins, Ong, Taylor”; Susan N. Elliott (School of Law), a structural comparison of the role of the Catholic church in the development of English, Irish and Scottish law; Raymond Herbenick (Philosophy), the comparability of the virtue ethics of the historical Aristotle and the historical St. Patrick, and the historical St. Patrick and the Synod of Whitby; M. Therese Lysaught (Religious Studies), “Virgil Michel and the Liturgical Movement: An Undiscovered Source for Liturgy and Ethics”; John Quinn (Philosophy), “Thomas Aquinas on the Theological View of Charity and the Ordering of Love: Sources and Importance to the Catholic Tradition”; Eric Street (Music), “Nun of the Above: Changing Attitudes toward Roman Catholic Nuns in Opera, 1790-1990”; Maureen A. Tilley (Religious Studies), Eucharistic fasting and the link between ecclesiology and sacramental participation; Sandra Yocum Mize (Religious Studies), Dorothy Day’s life and significance within the U.S. Catholic community; Betty Rogers Youngkin (English), the place of Walter Ong in the Catholic intellectual tradition.

During the week of May 4-8, the seminar will discuss the issues facing contemporary Catholic universities, especially in the past three decades. Seminar participants will be joined on May 5th by Sister Alice Gallin, O.S.U., author of Independence and a New Partnership in Catholic Higher Education (University of Notre Dame Press, 1996). Sr. Alice has been both a scholar of and a participant in most of the major developments in Catholic higher education in recent years. Other readings in the seminar—drawn from philosophy, Scripture scholarship, literature and other areas—will invite discussion of the contemporary intellectual context.

During the six-week period from May 11th through June 19th, the ten seminar researchers will work on the projects for which they were funded for seminar participation. In the seminar’s final week, June 22 through 26, this research will be presented to seminar participants and all interested listeners. In last summer’s seminar—participation in which was voluntary and uncompensated (if you don’t count refreshments)—ten faculty members from six different departments presented work in areas ranging from addressing ethical issues in the first-year engineering curriculum to reconceptualizing the historiography of medieval philosophy.

The purpose of the seminar is to sustain the growing intellectual community of University faculty interested and active in investigating the many and wide-ranging aspects of Catholic intellectual tradition. Specialists and non-specialists are invited and welcome.

Walter Ong Bibliography On-line

Betty Youngkin of UD’s English department has made a complete bibliography of the works of Walter Ong available on-line. Compiled with Fr. Ong’s assistance and consent, the bibliography can be found at http://homepages.udayton.edu/~youngkin. The listing includes Ong’s books (written and edited), articles, reviews, unpublished papers, interviews, sound recordings and videotapes, and translated works. It also includes an introduction describing the current state of Ong bibliography, plans for another web-site at Ong’s home institution.
(Saint Louis University), and the origins of Betty Youngkin’s interest in Ong’s work.

“Under the aegis of Ong Studies,” Professor Youngkin writes, “I can bring all my interests and responsibilities for writing, rhetoric, language, and literature together.” She hopes that her bibliography can be “a gathering place” for other scholars and students of Walter Ong’s multifaceted intellectual contributions. Professor Youngkin’s future plans for the website include annotation of the bibliography, a task in which she invites the assistance of all interested persons.

Summer Research Grants Awarded

The Forum on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition Today has awarded two faculty research grants for the summer of 1998. The recipients are Cecilia Moore from the Department of Religious Studies and William Trollinger from the Department of History.

Professor Moore’s project, “Presenting United States Catholic History and Experience in Children’s Literature,” arose out of a course she taught on “Religion and Children’s Literature,” in which the students asked why so few books on the course syllabus were about Catholicism and Catholic experience. The answer, after much collaborative investigation, seemed to be that very few such books existed, in contrast to the large numbers of children’s books available about Jewish and African American religious experiences and about the role of Protestantism in shaping U.S. history and culture. As her summer project, Professor Moore will both investigate why this is the case, and help to remedy the situation by creating a children’s book about Father Augustus Tolton, the first recognized African American priest. Such books, Professor Moore hopes, will help in teaching children the values of religious experience and religious toleration.

Professor Trollinger’s project is entitled “‘Crosses Burning Almost Every Night’: The Dayton Ku Klux Klan and the Campaign Against Catholics, 1921-1925.” It, too, grew out of a classroom experience, in which Professor Trollinger and the students in a course on American religious history researched and wrote a pamphlet on the history of intolerance in the city of Dayton for the meeting of the National Conference (an interfaith organization) held here in 1997. That research revealed the extensive activity of the Ku Klux Klan in Dayton in the 1920s (about which there seems to exist what Professor Trollinger describes as “historical amnesia”). It also revealed the central role the University of Dayton played as a target of the Klan’s anti-Catholic animus. In his summer research project, Professor Trollinger will investigate the Klan in Dayton “as a window into understanding the success of the Klan in the Midwest in the 1920s.” His project will focus on the Klan’s anti-Catholicism, as well as on the opposition the Klan aroused on the part of the Catholic population, including the University of Dayton.

Speakers Domestic and Imported

Three major speakers—one from the UD community, two invited from elsewhere—contributed to on-campus investigation of the Catholic intellectual tradition this year.

Terry Tilley, chairperson of the Department of Religious Studies, gave in September, 1997 a long-awaited presentation entitled, “Traditions—Made or Found?” The presentation was the latest in a series sponsored by the Forum on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition Today in which members of the University faculty are invited to reflect on the nature and parameters of the Catholic intellectual tradition.

“I had never expected to try to write a book on ‘Tradition,’” Professor Tilley writes. “It seemed a subject far from my usual interests in philosophy of religion and narrative theology. But when the assignment to speak on ‘tradition’ for the CIT Forum came, I began to do some research, only to discover that very little interesting had been done theologically on the concept of tradition since Yves Congar, O.P., wrote his massive Traditions and Traditions over 30 years ago. In the realm of the academic study of religion, ‘tradition’ seems to be a protean concept—important, used variously, but not much analyzed.

“In a book dealing with epistemic issues in the philosophy of religion, The Wisdom of Religious Commitment (Georgetown UP, 1995), I had proffered a working definition of ‘religion’ that I thought helped to clarify an understanding of the relationships between traditions, the communities in which they are learned, and the institutions that seek to insure their continued vitality. In reading the theological and social scientific work on tradition in preparation for the talk (along with a lot of other material), and unexpectedly cross-pollinating it with my own work in philosophy of religion, an evening’s lecture grew (almost while I wasn’t looking) into what is now 3/4 of a book and will be a book-length manuscript developing what I think is a new way of explicating a theology of tradition. I hope to finish it this year, depending on the amount of time my administrative duties leave me.”

James Turner of the History De-
partment, University of Notre Dame, spoke in September 1997 on the topic “Catholic Intellectual Traditions and Contemporary Knowledge.” In his presentation Professor Turner enumerated ways in which the two approaches to knowledge, often considered to be mutually exclusive, can benefit from encountering each other.


Technology, Ethics and Spirituality

April 6-7, 1998 was the occasion of UD’s Inaugural Technology, Ethics and Spirituality Symposium: International and Local Perspectives. The Symposium was sponsored by the Forum on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition Today, The School of Engineering, The College of Arts & Sciences, The Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering Department, The Office of the Chancellor, and The Office of the President. The Symposium brought together speakers from around the world to discuss the connection among science and technology, religion, ethics and spirituality.

Major speakers were Father Thierry Magnin, Professor of Physics and Materials Science and Engineering at the École Nationale Supérieure des Mines de St. Etienne, and a Catholic Priest in the diocese of St. Etienne. Fr. Magnin gave the Symposium’s keynote address on “Connecting Science and Theology.” The Symposium’s other major speaker was Arie van den Beukel, Professor Emeritus at Delft University of Technology in Delft, The Netherlands. Professor van den Beukel, an internationally-known researcher in Materials Science (with emphasis on micro-mechanics in solid materials), spoke on whether there is “Salvation from Science?”

Both major speakers also participated in a Tuesday afternoon panel discussion that considered the questions, “Should Technology, Ethics, And Spirituality Be Connected, And, If Yes, How Can We Connect Them?” They were joined by three other featured presenters: Jay Banerjee, Professor of Mechanical Engineering, University of Puerto Rico; Michael S. Inoue, Vice President of the North American operations of Kyocera and 1959 University of Dayton alumnus; and Barry D. Lichter, Professor Emeritus in the School of Engineering at Vanderbilt University. These panelists were joined by local industry leaders, resulting in a range of perspectives that included academia and industry, the local and the international. Plans are already under way for the next Symposium.

Activities of University Professor of Faith and Culture and Chancellor

Fr. James Heft recently published three articles: his address to the participants in the national symposium on private education, “Religion and U.S. Culture” (in Origins, January 15th, 1998); this address will also appear in a revised form in Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice. His article on “Catholic Multiculturalism: An Oxymoron?” appeared in Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture (Fall 1997). And his article on the Holy Spirit, “Earth, Wind and Fire,” appeared in the February issue of The Catechist. Two other articles are in press: one on the faculty seminar held last year on “Ethics and Religion in Professional Education” (to be published in the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities’ journal, Current Issues in Catholic Higher Education, and also as a chapter of a book on faculty development edited by John Wilcox of Manhattan College); also, an essay on “Leadership in Catholic Schools,” which will be a chapter in a book to be edited by Bro. Thomas Oldenski, S.M. and Dr. Thomas Hunt, both of the School of Education at the University of Dayton.

With the assistance of the chairs of the Departments of Sociology, Psychology, Philosophy and Religious Studies, Fr. Heft drafted a proposal for funding for a faculty seminar on Religion and U.S. Catholicism as approached by the Social Sciences and Humanities. This seminar will begin in January of 1999 and conclude in August and be similar in structure to the one held last year on Religion and Ethics in Professional Education. The following year, a seminar for faculty in the sciences will be designed.

A good deal of Fr. Heft’s time has been devoted to establishing a free-standing national Catholic Institute for Advanced Studies (CIAS). He is the chair of a group of 26 scholars and educational leaders, the Commis-
sion on Catholic Scholarship, who met in February near Georgetown University to clarify the scholarly focus of the CIAS, as well as develop plans for its governance and the fundraising needed to support its research activities—a $50 million dollar endowment. An anonymous foundation is willing to give $25 million if another $25 million can be raised. Two weeks before the Commission met, the Board of Directors of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities, which elected Heft its chair for the next two years, unanimously approved the establishment of such an Institute. The location of the Institute has not yet been decided.

Heft has led a process among the three Marianist universities (the University of Dayton, St. Mary’s in San Antonio, Texas and Chaminade University in Hawaii) to draft a document on “Characteristics of Marianist Universities." That document will be discussed at the June meeting of the three universities to be held here at the University of Dayton. Heft continues to participate in two Lilly Foundation seminars, each of which meets two weekends a year. The theme of one is “Religion and Higher Education” and the other is “Scholarship and Administration in Christian Institutions.” He continues to make presentations and visit alumni groups around the country.

**Collegium**

The University of Dayton continues to be an active participant in Collegium, the annual week-long institute on faith and the intellectual life. Begun in 1993, Collegium brings young faculty and advanced graduate students together for a week of reading, talk, prayer and socializing. The aims are personal growth in understanding and the creation of a network of people—Catholic and non-Catholic, teaching at Catholic, other religiously-affiliated and secular colleges and universities—interested in Catholicism and the intellectual life.

Attendees from Dayton have included Una Cadegan (History/American Studies; 1993), John Inglis (Philosophy; 1994), Carolyn Benz (Teacher Education; 1995), Michael Smith (History; 1995—now at Purdue University), Therese Lysaught (Religious Studies; 1996), and Lawrence Flockerzie (History; 1997). UD’s 1998 Collegium attendees will be Brian Conniff (English) and Kevin Hallinan (Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering).

Fr. Jim Heft served on the Collegium board for several years; he also gave one of the major presentations for Collegium 1994. Dennis Doyle of the Department of Religious Studies has twice served as a mentor/small group leader for the institute; Sandra Yocum Mize, also of Religious Studies, will serve in that capacity for Collegium 1998.

**Brown-bag Lunch Discussions**

The Forum and the Faculty Development Committee co-sponsored two brown-bag lunch discussions on the topic of Spirituality in the Workplace. Facilitated by Gordon Dehler (Management), the discussions included a rich mix of faculty and staff participants.

The Forum also invited the two recipients of 1997’s Summer Research Grants in the Catholic Intellectual Tradition to present the results of their summer work. Don Polzella of the Department of Psychology discussed his study of how young people’s reactions to images of various events in the life of Mary differ depending on the artistic style of the depiction. Therese Lysaught of the Department of Religious Studies discussed her project “In-Ritualed Bodies: Liturgy as the Foundation of Christian Ethics,” an interdisciplinary project, bringing together ritual studies and liturgy and ethics, two linked fields seldom in conversation with each other.

**Schola Cantorum Daytonensis**

The Schola Cantorum Daytonensis is a musical group founded and directed by Todd Ridder, S.M. (Department of Music) and dedicated to singing Gregorian chant and related medieval and Renaissance liturgical music. The Schola was formed in 1994 to provide an Ambrosian-rite Solemn Vespers as one of the events in The Twenty-First Annual Richard R. Baker Philosophy Colloquium on "Augustine on Human Goodness." Following this event schola members decided to continue singing services using music from various chant traditions as well as early polyphony.

The schola consists of a wide range of persons, many of whom are professors, teachers or physicians. Todd Ridder acts as "primicerius"; Dr. Charles Larkowski of Wright State University is one of the principal soloists and acts as "secundarius."

During 1997-98 the Schola presented the following services and performances. In October 1997, Solemn Vespers for Our Lady of the Pillar (an important feast for Marianists because of Fr. Chaminade’s association with the shrine at Saragossa, Spain), was presented as part of Latin American Heritage Month. In December, the Schola participated in the celebration of the patronal feast of St. Barbara.
Byzantine Catholic Church (Dayton, OH) by singing the Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, celebrated in Slavonic plainchant (English and Old Slavonic) and Byzantine polyphony, according to the Byzantine Ruthenian rite. In March 1998 the Schola presented a program on the four major Marian antiphons in their solemn chant settings, and other settings, plus musical, artistic, poetic and spiritual reflections inspired by the antiphons. The program was accompanied by special reflections by Fr. Johann Roten, S.M., Director, International Marian Research Institute. The Schola concluded the year with the celebration of Tenebrae on Wednesday of Holy Week at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Oakwood, OH.

**Individual Notes and Projects**

Dennis Doyle (Religious Studies) begins a sabbatical in Fall, 1998 to complete his book on Communion Ecclesiology. Professor Doyle will be teaching the summer semester 1998 as a Visiting Professor at the University of Augsburg.

Tom Hunt of the Center for Catholic Education chaired the national research conference “Private Schools: Partners in American Education” held in Dayton in November 1997 (and described in the first issue of *Faith’s Reasons*); published an article on the history of the official teaching of the Catholic Church on moral education in schools in the December 1997 issue of *Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice*; co-edited a book on Catholic School Leadership that is under contract with Falmer Press; gathered summaries of 174 dissertations on Catholic Schools in the U. S. from 1991 to 1996 to be published shortly by NCEA; and wrote a research article with Joe O’Keefe, SJ, on the November 1997 Private Education conference that will appear in the next issue of *Catholic Education: A Journal of Inquiry and Practice*; served as Guest Editor for Vol. 19, No. 1 of the *Private School Monitor*; and was lead author for an article entitled “Quo Vadis: The Spiritual Journey of American Catholic Schools Since Vatican II” in the same issue.

Brother Todd Ridder, S.M., of the Department of Music researched, wrote and presented a scholarly paper entitled “Stability: A ‘Virtue’ in Austrian-German Monastic Musical Sources” for a session devoted to “The Development of the Scriptorium in Medieval Austrian Libraries” sponsored by The Hill Medieval Monastic Library (St. John's University, Collegeville, MN) at the 32nd International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI; presented a paper on “‘God Bless the Child’—Billie Holiday to Blood, Sweat and Tears: The Musical Thickening of Meaning and Cross-Cultural Commentary” for the Twenty-Fifth Annual Richard R. Baker Philosophy Colloquium: Music and Cross-Cultural Understanding, at the University of Dayton; directed the Schola Cantorum Daytoniensis in performance, researched and and wrote program notes for all the services and performances described in the article above; and wrote more than 30 entries for *Worship Music: A Concise Dictionary* (Liturgical Press, forthcoming 1999 or 2000).

The Religious Studies Department has hired Maureen A. Tilley (Ph.D. Duke, 1989) as an Associate Professor beginning Fall, 1998. Although her primary research area is Christianity in Roman North Africa, she has interests in Afro-Caribbean religion, popular Catholicism, and she also teaches the history and theology of Christianity in the medieval period. She is currently putting together an anthology on women in early Christianity for a Liturgical Press series (with some new translations, including her own translation of the Passion of Perpetua and Felicity), is under contract to translate all of St. Augustine's anti-Donatist works (two volumes) for the first complete translation of Augustine's works into English (sponsored by the Augustinian Friars), and continues work with five other textualists and material culture scholars on a long-term project developing a new history of Christianity in North Africa.


**New Doctoral Program Imminent**

The Religious Studies Department sent the final form of their proposal for the Ph.D. in Theology (with a focus on the U.S. Catholic Experience) to the Ohio Board of Regents for their consideration. The department expects formal approval from the OBR this semester and will begin advertising the program in May. The first students are expected to matriculate in Fall, 1999.
For the next issue:
The next issue of "Faith's Reasons" will appear next semester. If you know of any other activities, events, people, or publications that should be highlighted here, please bring them to the attention of the editors. Contact Una Cadegan by e-mail (cadegan@checkov.hm.udayton.edu) or at the Dept. of History, The University of Dayton, Dayton, OH 45469-1540.

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