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## Introduction

Raymond M. Herbenick  
*University of Dayton*

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## INTRODUCTION

During the week of March 4th through March 9th, 1974, the University of Dayton conducted an Aquinas Week in commemoration of the 700th anniversary of the death of St. Thomas Aquinas. Organized by Raymond M. Herbenick of the Philosophy Department, the Week's activities were supported by the Marianist Institute for Christian Renewal and the Humanities Division of the College of Arts and Sciences.

The presentations contained in this special edition of the *University of Dayton Review* exemplify in cross-disciplinary fashion the continuing dialogue among contemporary scholars and the moral, educational, political, legal, social, and religious thought of Aquinas. In particular, they focus on the concept of personhood in Aquinas' thought with regard to such public issues of contemporary concern as: punishment of the innocent, discrimination against women, abortion, mass education, politics and national goals, productive and distributive justice amidst environmental concern, a place for religious belief, etc. Unfortunately, space limitations and prior commitments preclude publication of all the talks and presentations.

I am especially grateful to my faculty and staff colleagues at the University of Dayton for their participation in and contributions to the work of the Aquinas Week. In particular, I thank Professor Lawrence A. Ruff of the *UDR* for this opportunity to serve as guest editor and place before the academic community these Aquinas Week papers.

RMH

