**The L.I.V.E. Symposium**
A Bold New Initiative!

**Celebrating the World: Global Experiences of Faith in Action**

---

**Communicating Resources of Inclusion and Diversity at Princeton Theological Seminary**

The Seminary through its curriculum, programs, and services, endeavors to provide understanding and supportive interaction among diverse population groups and respects individuals’ personal values and ideas. This medium is intended to provide helpful insights as we move forward embracing a myriad of diversity of perspectives in our midst.

---

**Princeton Seminary Celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15—October 15) with the Herencia Lectures**

45.5 million is the estimated Hispanic American population in the United States as of July 1, 2007 making people of Hispanic origin the nation’s largest ethnic or race minority. Hispanics constitute 15% of the nation’s population and the U.S. is now the second largest Spanish speaking country in the world, second to Mexico with a 105 million. The Latina/o Collegium composed of the Association of Latina(o)/Hispanic American Seminarians, the Hispanic Leadership Program, the Hispanic Theological Initiatives through the Office of Multicultural Relations developed a forum for dialogue entitled: The Herencia Lectures. On Monday, September 29th, Dr. Ada Maria Isasi-Diaz, professor of Ethics and Theology at Drew University presented a dynamic forum on “It’s More Than Just Spanish! Theology and Praxis.” On Wednesday, October 1st, Dr. David Abalos, visiting professor in the politics department at Princeton University presented a lecture entitled: “The Politics of Liberation vs. Assimilation. Closing celebrations will take place on Tuesday, October 14 with a luncheon forum at 12:15pm with Dr. Edwin David Aponte and worship at 7:00pm with Rev. Raul Ruiz. [Click here](#) for more information.

---

**Worship at Miller Chapel Highlights Our Diversity**

The new academic year has witnessed a variety of changes on campus. One of those changes is our daily worship at Miller Chapel which takes place at 11:30 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m. Exciting cultural sounds, reflective music, diversity of liturgical formats, variety in preaching styles and theological insights are guided by the capable leadership of the Rev. Janice Ammon, Dr. Martin Tel, Chi-Yi Chen, Theresa Heyer and Sarah Hong. Students, faculty and administrators take part in this development. **Join us at 11:30 a.m.!**

---

**The Reading Circle began its efforts!**

On Thursday, October 2nd, the Reading Circle began its program in the Clarke Lounge at the Erdman Center. The reading for the fall semester will be on the book entitled: “More Than Serving Tea: Asian American Women on Expectations, Relationships, Leadership and Faith.” The next gathering will take place on Thursday, October 16th at 5:00 p.m. The environment breeds productive conversations and for more information on process and preparation please feel free to visit [here](#).
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INITIATIVES
Please refer to The Wineskin for more information on all campus events.


October 1, 2008 – Herencia Lecture, 7:00pm: “Politics of Transformation vs. Assimilation - Dr. David Abalos.

October 2, 2008 – The Reading Circle begins at 5:00pm in Clarke Lounge at the Erdman Center.

October 1, 2008 –Association of Black Seminarians’ Opening Worship Service in Miller Chapel at 7:00pm.

October 10, 2008 – Sister Circle Gathering


October 14, 2008 – Herencia Lectures: Luncheon Forum at 12:15pm. “Who Are We? A Pastoral Perspective.” Dr. Edwin Aponte, Vice President and Dean of Lancaster Theological Seminary.

October 14, 2008 – Herencia Lectures closing worship at 7:00pm at Miller Chapel. Speaker will be the Rev. Raul Ruiz.

October 14, 2008 – Asian Association at PTS will have their opening banquet at 5:30pm in the Main Lounge.

October 16, 2008 – The Reading Circle at 5:00 p.m. at the Clarke Lounge, Erdman Center.


October 27, 2008 – Unleashing the Voices: A Prayer Gathering in Solidarity of Domestic Violence Victims. 6:30 p.m. in Miller Chapel.

October 29, 2008 – Community Life Forum. How do we prepare for eventual change as a result of the upcoming elections? More information to follow!

Remembering victims and honoring survivors of domestic violence is the main purpose for the initiative entitled: Unleashing the Voices: A Prayer Gathering” to be held on October 27, 2008 at 6:30pm in Miller Chapel.

According to theologian, Flora Keshgegian, “knowing of God’s presence may help one live with pain and suffering, but it is not enough to change the situation of suffering. For that we need to be able to express agency and to change the conditions of oppression. In her remarkable book, Redeeming Memories, Keshgegian focuses on a theology of the cross that leads to an understanding of how the cross of Jesus is the ultimate sign for victims of domestic violence. By viewing Jesus’ death on the cross as suffering rooted in trauma, victims of domestic violence can become one with Jesus. By refusing to glamorize the crucifixion, we stand with victims against the belief that their suffering is necessary, valuable, beneficial and redemptive. Instead we weep together with the victims and God weeps with us. (An excerpt from a sermon entitled: Remembrance: Where Healing Begins” by Beth Truett, 2001).

“Violence is contrary to God’s intentions for the world. This reality demands the response of the church in these days of increasing danger to vulnerable peoples—children, youth, women, disabled and the elderly.” -Theological Statement PCUSA

The Office of Field Education provides an informative session on intercultural placement experiences.

On Thursday, October 2nd, the Office of Field Education provided an enlightening information session to students on the various intercultural placements from around the globe. Rev. Dr. Chester Polk, Associate Director of Field Education is providing vital leadership in this regard.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Multicultural Relations at 609.688.1941 or multicultural@ptsem.edu. Also visit our web portal at https://our.ptsem.edu/ics/Campus_Life/Multicultural_Relations/Initiatives.jnz.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY Experience & Discipline

The L.I.V.E. Symposium
October 26-28, 2008
A bold new initiative!
In an effort to intentionally identify prospective students for the ministry, PTS through Admissions and Financial Aid and OMR is developing this exploratory opportunity for individuals from underrepresented populations groups wrestling with their sense of call. For more information click here or contact OMR at 609.688.1943.

AROUND TOWN!
Interesting lectures and forums on cultural, racial ethnic, and diversity issues are presented by various departments and organizations at Princeton University. For more information please visit www.princeton.edu/pr/pwh.

Being Grateful
We are grateful to Nassau Presbyterian Church for the luncheon this past World Communion Sunday and the invitation made to our international students.

Intercultural Dialogue Forum on Racial Reconciliation
Intercultural dialogue is a process that comprises an open and respectful exchange of views between individuals and groups with different cultural backgrounds. These differences of opinion, viewpoint, and values exist not only within each individual culture but also between cultures. A forum embracing a variety of presentation methods are being developed to create a safe space for dialogue. On November 6th at 7:00 p.m. a movie entitled: Divided We Fall will be presented for viewing and discussion. The film will be presented in Stuart Hall #6. For more information please click here.
Intercultural Dialogue Forum [IDF]: Building a Culture of Reconciliation

“I truly understand that God shows no partiality.”
-Acts 10:34

“A culture of peace and reconciliation cannot be imposed from above. It grows where space is provided for learning how to resolve conflicts peacefully, to sustain difficult relationships, to encounter the stranger without anxiety.”
-Konrad Raiser, former General Secretary of the World Council of Churches

God does not show favoritism. Therefore no race, language, people, tribe, or nation are exempt from God’s salvation. Therefore no race, language, people, tribe, or nation can claim salvation only for themselves. Today, there is no denying it. Our churches, church institutions, as well as the wider society in which we live---are becoming living mosaics of differences. The United States of America is a land of ethnic, cultural, racial and religious diversity. This diversity is healthy for our civic life. The hesitation of society, however, to embrace fully its increasing diversity threatens to shatter the fragile mosaic that is our nation. Today, the United States is a marvelous, creative mixture of peoples. With the myriad of gifts and opportunities in our nation, as well as its many achievements, our society is nevertheless marked by religious intolerance, ethnic stereotyping, cultural exclusivity, racial prejudice, xenophobia, gender bias, hate crimes, and violence directed against those perceived as ‘others’. For too long such diversity has been treated as threat rather than gift. And too often that threat has been expressed in racial contempt and conflict, in exclusion, discrimination, and intolerance.

IDF is a student-led initiative through OMR composed of representatives from ABA, AL/HAS, AAPTS, ISF, Seminarians for Peace and Justice and the Women’s Center. It will begin its ventures with a collaborative presentation of a movie/documentary for the entire Seminary community on Thursday, November 6th at 7:00pm in Stuart Hall #6. The movie is entitled: “Divided We Fall.” For more information please feel free to click here.

Conference on Global Christian Solidarity
November 21, 2008 & April 3, 2009
The International Students Fellowship (ISF) through OMR is developing a two-part conference with the purpose of raising a consciousness in our PTS campus and surrounding communities of the great challenges of oppression and persecution Christians worldwide are experiencing. The goal is to establish solidarity with our fellow sisters and brothers in the faith who are victimized by systemic physical, emotional, economic, socio-political abuses and are oppressed because of their faith.

The conferences will feature three student presentations, a faculty overview, dialogue and reflections. The events will take place at the Cooper Conference Room/Erdman Center from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on the above mentioned dates. For more information please click here.

Welcome Celebrations
September 14, 2008
A Student Life Affair!
In an effort to welcome all of our students, the Department of Student Life organized an amazing event filled with diverse music, an excellent meal provided by Aramark, exhibits from a variety of student organizations, activities for children and so much more! For more pictures please visit www.ptsem.edu.

Dinner for 7 or 8
The early church not only broke bread, they celebrated communion as a feast, a full meal. Communion is not only a sacrament in worship, it is a sacramental call in our daily lives. Hospitality is more than dinner, it is a gift of welcoming in a stranger and welcoming in the Spirit of God in all people. PTS provides abundant resources to grow academically and spiritually and Dinner for 7 or 8 is one new way we can be fed. Meet neighbors across PTS you may otherwise not get to know . . . And in doing so, hopefully you will find long-lasting colleagues in ministry or friends for the journey from every walk of life and cultural backgrounds. As this is a collaborative initiative with OMR, Dinners for 7 or 8 will begin anew each Long-Term. You sign up for only one Long Term as a time. For more information please contact Miriam Todd.

For more information please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Multicultural Relations at 609.688.1941 or multicultural@ptsem.edu. Also visit our web portal at https://our.ptsem.edu/ics/Campus_Life/Multicultural_Relations/Initiatives.jnz