



PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION DEPARTMENT QUARTERLY NEWS UPDATE, August 2006

FACULTY AND STUDENTS

GRADUATES (S06)

- PHILOSOPHY Concentration: **Karl Amelchenko, Henry Brooks, Paul Davis, Ty Jacobus, Matt Jordan, Brian Kubovcik, James Miller, Megan Phelps, Shannon Phillips, David Poisson, Jeff Poulsen, Eric Reaves, Mike Runkle, Matt Sayball, Andrea Smaxwell, Bill White**
- RELIGION Concentration: **David Massey, Chris Perry, Kelly Rawllins, Margaret Wilkins**

CHANCELLOR'S ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS (S06)

- This information is not yet available

NEW FACULTY, RETURNING, LEAVES

- **Dr. Guy Beck** is returning as Lecturer in Religion, specialization Hinduism with a focus on sacred sound.
- **Ms. Janelle Derstine** is joining us as a Lecturer in Philosophy, specialization ethics and metaphysics, with a particular interest in the ontological status of corporations. Janelle is ABD at Rutgers University.
- **Dr. Murrell** is returning from Research Reassignment. He reports having completed the bulk of his manuscript, which he anticipates will be published in 2006-2007.
- **Dr. Pasulka** is on medical leave this fall; she is expecting twins.
- **Mr. Alan Van Wyk** will be teaching 2 classes for us this fall. Alan is ABD at Claremont Graduate University, School of Religion.

HIRING PROCESS

- PAR anticipates hiring 2 faculty in 2006-2007 in Philosophy and in Religion. We have also applied for an expansion position in Philosophy.

STUDENT SCHOLARS

- **Everett Fulmer** attended the University of Colorado Summer Institute for College Students in Philosophy
- **Lauren Goodman** (2005) is doing GLS 591: *The Discovery of Wine and Winemaking in the Ancient Near East* this summer with Dr. Berg.
- **Matt Sayball** (2006) is doing a DIS this summer on Greek philosophical grammar with Dr. Zervos.
- **Josie Toothman** is currently in Peking, China, where, among other things, she is doing a DIS on Chinese archaeology and religious studies with Dr. Burgh.

ALUMNI –August's alumnus is

- **Catherine Sexton Knepper**, UNCW PAR 1995 and M.A., Theology, Boston University 1998, is currently an editor for The Editorial Department, one of the oldest independent editorial firms in the US. She reports that she is very happy in her work, as well as writing a novel and teaching workshops in fiction and poetry. She and her husband live in Des Moines, Iowa, where they spend their spare time renovating a house that celebrated its centenary in 2005. An avid reader, Catherine lists among her favorites Flannery O'Connor, Edith Wharton, Frank McCourt, C.S. Lewis, Tony Earley, Knut Hamsun, and George Eliot. You can contact Catherine at catknep@hotmail.com.



EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS/ PUBLICATIONS /ACTIVITIES–May-August 06

Dr. Beck

- *SACRED SOUND: EXPERIENCING MUSIC IN WORLD RELIGIONS*, Editor, Wilfrid Laurier University Press, Jul 2006
- "Music and the Afterlife in Vedic and Hindu Theistic Traditions" and recital, "Hindu Sacred Music," World Association of Vedic Studies, Houston, July

Dr. Berg

- "The Context: Muhammad," *Blackwell Companion to the Qur'an*, ed. A. Rippin, 187–204, Blackwell, 2006

Dr. Burgh

- *LISTENING TO THE ARTIFACTS: MUSIC CULTURE IN ANCIENT ISRAEL/PALESTINE*, Author, Jun 2006, T&T International

Dr. Conser

- Presented at Oxford Roundtable, Jul 30-Aug 5, Oxford, UK
- *A COAT OF MANY COLORS: RELIGION AND SOCIETY ALONG THE CAPE FEAR RIVER OF NORTH CAROLINA*, Author, due to be published in Sep 2006, University of Kentucky Press

Ms. Derstine

- "The Ontological Status of Corporations," Society for Business Ethics, Atlanta, August

Dr. Murrell

- Attended symposium on "Scriptural Fundamentalisms Project", Claremont Graduate School, Jun 22-25

Dr. White

- *POSTMODERNISM 101: A FIRST COURSE FOR THE CURIOUS CHRISTIAN*, Author, Jul 2006, Brazos Press

PUBLIC EVENTS



- B. Frank Hall lecturer **Dr. John Dominic Crosson**, “Jesus in Contemporary Scholarship,” Kenan Auditorium, 8 pm, Thursday, March 29, 2007. Dr. Crosson (<http://www.westarinstitute.org/Fellows/Crossan/crossan.html>) is one of the most famous New Testament scholars in the world, and a founding member of the Jesus Seminar (http://www.westarinstitute.org/Jesus_Seminar/jesus_seminar.html).