

# GTU Currents

NEWS OF THE GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION

## A Commitment to Justice

JOANNA DEWEY - SCHOLAR, TEACHER, AND SEMINARY DEAN

"Do not use the Bible to oppress." Joanna Dewey's primary message expresses the deep commitment to justice and liberation that has marked her 25-year-long career as a biblical scholar, teacher, and administrator.

Since 1999, Dewey has served as academic dean at Episcopal Divinity School (EDS), where she is also the Harvey H. Guthrie, Jr. Professor of Biblical Studies. She joined the faculty in 1988. Both as dean and as a faculty member, Dewey has played a key role in integrating anti-racist and multicultural perspectives into the curriculum at EDS.



Well-known as a feminist biblical scholar, Dewey's areas of expertise include the Gospel of Mark; feminist, literary, and oral approaches to the gospels; and the critique of sacrificial interpretations of Jesus' death.

### *"Do you admit women?"*

Dewey grew up in New York City, but set her sights westward from a young age. "No one knows how I, as a six-year-old, knew I wanted to go to California!" she laughs. She came west initially to earn an M.A. in European history from the University of California, Berkeley.

After working for several years, she decided to pursue her longstanding interest in religion. She read the catalog from Church Divinity School of the Pacific (CDSP), then called them up and asked, "Do you admit women?" Of course, they replied. "No one would know it from your catalog," Dewey said. "Every picture is a man, every pronoun is 'he'!"

After earning her M.Div. from CDSP, she entered the GTU doctoral program. Dewey remembers the "sheer richness" of New Testament studies at the GTU in the 1970s, with Presbyterian, Lutheran, Jesuit and other approaches contributing diverse understandings. There is, she says, "real breadth in working with a lot of different people as a graduate student." She earned her Ph.D. in Biblical Studies with an emphasis on New Testament in 1977. Dewey then taught at two schools in Oklahoma and briefly in New York State before joining the faculty at Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, MA.

"I love teaching—that's my passion. And new ideas." Despite her satisfaction with her career, Dewey is clear-eyed and realistic in her advice to theology students planning teaching careers, saying that "it is probably not something you should do unless you can't help it! There are few financial rewards, and little choice of where to live. It is a calling, and takes a lot of devotion and perseverance. Yet I'm very glad I did pursue it."

### *Episcopal Divinity School*

One of the most progressive Episcopal seminaries, EDS is a member of the Boston Theological Institute, a loose consortium of nine theological schools, seminaries, and departments of religion. Formed in 1974 with the merger of two existing schools, EDS quickly became recognized for its progressive orientation as it hired to its faculty two of the "Philadelphia 11"—the newly and "irregularly" ordained Episcopal women priests.

Multiculturalism, anti-racism, and feminism have been key commitments for the EDS community. As dean, Dewey has deepened the integration of these ideas into the curriculum.

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*Photos: GTU Trustee Yolande Adelson, doctoral student Emily Wu, and the Honorable John T. Noonan*

Founded in 1962, the Graduate Theological Union educates women and men in theological scholarship and church leadership. The GTU seeks to teach patterns of faith that nurture justice and peace, and to equip leaders for a world of diverse religions and cultures.

FOUNDED IN 1962

# GTU Currents

*Currents* presents the news, people, and progress of the Graduate Theological Union. Published three times a year, *Currents* is distributed to alumni, faculty, students, staff, and friends of the GTU.

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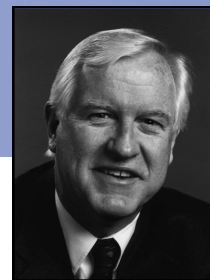
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## From the President's Desk



Dana Davis

Dear Friends of the GTU,

The American Academy of Religion meeting in November filled me with enthusiasm for the compelling work that is going on in the Academy, and in particular the theological work that is occurring at the GTU. I felt enormously proud to see the sheer volume and creative scholarship reflected in the papers and panel presentations given by GTU faculty and students in all the theological disciplines. I was particularly pleased to see the leadership roles that our faculty play in convening sessions of the AAR.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the alumni luncheon attended this year by over 150 GTU alums. A real spirit of community and camaraderie was evident at the luncheon. As an

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*The GTU provides a model for a more communal approach to scholarship.*

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alum, I can attest to how transforming the GTU experience is. It is impossible to engage in the conversations and curriculum here without being changed in fundamental ways. As our 2003 Alum of the Year Joanna Dewey said, the support of a community of scholars that is truly ecumenical and diverse shapes one's ideas of what theological education should look like. The academic life can be an isolated and isolating life. The GTU, as Dewey said, provides a model for a more communal approach to scholarship.

Being at the AAR reminded me once again of the uniqueness and distinctiveness of the GTU. There really is no other theological program like ours. Our alums talk excitedly about the ecumenical and interreligious aspects of their program; how they studied and learned with and from theologians and students from all religious backgrounds and traditions; about their work at UC Berkeley; and how supportive their own professors were in enabling each of them to find their own theological voice. It is the originality, the creativity, and the confidence of our training that alumni cite as having made an enormous impact on their careers.

The responsibility of the GTU today is to ensure that future generations of students and alums will be able to find that same ecumenical and interreligious community in pursuit of the theological training that will make a difference for the future. This issue of *Currents* will give you a glimpse of exactly how this is occurring right now. It is a most exciting time to be engaged in theological education. The GTU and the AAR reflect this excitement.

We are tremendously grateful for your continued involvement in, and support of, this wonderful institution. My very best wishes to you all.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James A. Donahue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

James A. Donahue



# New GTU Trustees



**Yolande C. Adelson**

Adelson, whose father and grandfather were Presbyterian ministers, is a Yale Law School graduate, former lawyer, arbitrator, mediator, and higher education administrator. When she learned about the GTU and its philosophy, they struck her as “immeasurably valuable.” As trustee, she welcomes the opportunity for involvement with individuals and groups whose religious beliefs

compel them to look “across” as well as within. “While I, like others, have some serious concerns about the way many religious institutions function, I would not want to experience a world without the benefits that flow from communities of faith, and especially those committed to interfaith dialogue and action.”



**Alan D. Kelchner**

Kelchner is senior minister of Danville Congregational Church, and teaches preaching at Church Divinity School of the Pacific. He has been an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ since 1975, and has served churches in Ohio, Vermont, Michigan, and Idaho. He is a longtime advocate for peace and justice issues, and recently led a group from his church to El Salvador where they

built a home for earthquake victims. Kelchner earned a Ph.D. in homiletics from the GTU in 2003, and comments, “There is literally nowhere on earth—except the GTU—where I could have gotten such excellent training in the theory and the art of preaching, from such a richness of talent and diversity of perspective.”

## OTHER NEW TRUSTEES

**Paul W. Brandow** is a managing director at JPMorgan Chase and chief operating officer of the firm’s institutional equities business. He is also the chairman of JPMorgan Securities, Inc., the company’s U.S. broker dealer.

**Linda Enger** is with the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, after thirty years at Bank of America (most recently as vice president). She is the Starr King School for the Ministry representative to the GTU Board.

Following a career in banking, **Susan Cook Hoganson** is now executive director of Enterprise for High School Students, a nonprofit youth development organization in San Francisco.

**Thomas M. Loarie** is co-founder, CEO, and chairman of Adams Merritt, Inc., and co-founder and chairman of CardioProfile, Inc. He has been an executive in the healthcare industry for over 30 years.

**Jeffrey M. Scales** is area executive vice president of Arthur J. Gallagher & Company, an international insurance and risk management consulting firm.

**Dennis P. Stradford** is continuing a business career which has included serving as president and CEO of technology and start-up companies. He is on the board of directors for Shanti Project. ❖

*Along with these at-large and alumni representatives, the Board of Trustees also includes representation from the nine member schools, faculty, and students. The GTU is grateful to all for their service to the institution.*

## Interfaith Forum Illuminates Peacemaking

Faith communities and their leaders are like “candles in the dark” when they preach and practice peace in time of war, according to participants in a GTU forum on “Peace in Christianity and Islam.” Representatives of both faiths agreed that peace in the basic sense of wholeness and well-being is central to the beliefs of all the major faith traditions, but that it must become more central to their behavior to overcome the ravages of war. Dr. David James Randolph, of the GTU’s Center for the Arts, Religion and Education (CARE), hosted the December 2 event.

Hamid Mavani, director of the Islamic Cultural Center of Northern California, showed how theological study can enhance both the primary language in which faith is expressed, and a secondary language in which that faith is related to others in a universe of discourse. Richard Park and Mauro de Souza, GTU doctoral students in homiletics, illustrated how the New Homiletics facilitates this discourse, referring to Asia and Latin America respectively. ❖

*By Dr. David James Randolph, professor in residence of communications at the GTU’s Center for the Arts, Religion and Education (CARE). Recent books include **On the Way After 9/11: New Worship and Art and Candles in the Dark, Flames for the Future: Preaching and Poetry in Times of Crisis**. Both deal with faith and art since 9/11/01.*

## “Visual Arts and Theological Studies,”

This day-long conference will be held on Saturday February 7 in the Dinner Boardroom of the GTU’s Hewlett Library. The first two sessions are dedicated to the Junko Chodos exhibit “Requiem for an Executed Bird,” and to Stephen De Staebler’s “Winged Figure” (both on display in the Library). The third session will focus on Daniel Solomon’s Beth Israel Memorial Chapel. The conference is co-sponsored by CARE and the Society for the Arts, Religion and Contemporary Culture. For more information and to register, contact Dr. Doug Adams at 510/849-8285 or dadams@psr.edu.





## Islam – An Agent of Modernity and Pluralism

Leading us through the gates of the Alhambra, Dr. Syed Nomanul Haq's GTU lecture brought to life a rich and paradoxical period of al-Andalus (Muslim Spain), where Jews, Christians and Muslims related to one another with cooperation and mutual respect.

Describing the generous acceptance of paradox and the creative tensions that existed in Andalus before the fifteenth century Spanish Inquisition, his presentation created an appreciation for Islam's relationship to pluralism and modernism. Islam played a central role in the formative events of modernity, including the recovery and creative appropriation of the classic Greek intellectual legacy crucial to the Renaissance. In contrast to a current perception of Islam as incompatible with modernity, Dr. Haq's lecture pointed to the historical roots of a different perspective—that Islam is one of the chief creators of modernity through, among other things, its vigorous pursuit of philosophical and scientific discovery without regard to religious affiliation.

Even as Muslims were persecuted, expelled, or massacred in Andalus, Christians and Jews of Spain retained and carefully nurtured Arabic and Islamic influences. According to Dr. Haq, "the irony of human history is that Europe found its own soul through the process of destroying the enemy," the Muslims of Spain. Examples from architecture and the arts include Spain's Peter the Cruel copying the Islamic architecture of his enemy, and Jews inscribing Arabic verses from the Qur'an in their synagogues more than 300 years after the fall of Toledo in 1087. "Tolerance of others is one thing," said Dr. Haq, quoting the scholar Maria Rosa Menocal, "but the effects of taking pleasure in contradictions within one's own identity can be even richer."

"Through the Gates of the Alhambra: Revisiting the Question of Islam and Pluralism" was the 2003 Surjit Singh Lecture in Comparative Religious Thought and Culture. A Muslim scholar holding appointments in both the history of art and Asian and Middle Eastern studies at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Haq presented a provocative and intriguing lens through which we can engage with Islam today. He has published numerous works in the field of philosophy, science and religion, and Islamic art, and recently co-edited *God, Life and the Cosmos*.✽

By **Amir Kia**, a second year M.A. student at the GTU. Kia received both his B.A. and B.S. from the University of Pennsylvania. His field of interest is Ethics and Social Theory. He plans to study dissenting movements in Islam, especially the Submitters currently practicing in the United States and Iran. This annual lecture has been generously endowed by **Surjit Singh**, Professor Emeritus of Christian Philosophy at San Francisco Theological Seminary.



**Dr. S. Nomanul Haq and GTU Dean Arthur Holder, at the Surjit Singh Lecture in November 2003**

### A COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE (continued from cover)

EDS has more diversity in their faculty than most seminaries: half the faculty are women, one third are people of color, and faculty specialties range from feminism to overseas mission as well as the standard theological disciplines. Bishop Steven Charleston, president of EDS, points to Dewey's work with the faculty as one of her main achievements as dean. In order to create greater collegiality, Dewey initiated a series of informal gatherings among the faculty, as well as a visionary group charged with brainstorming ideas for the school's growth. The work of this group led to a project on pastoral excellence which was awarded a million dollar grant by the Lilly Foundation.

#### **Accessible New Testament Scholarship**

"I am convinced that the world doesn't need one more scholarly article on Mark," Dewey comments. "There is no need for abstruse language." In keeping with this view, her scholarship has been directed towards both popular and more specialized audiences.

Her publications include *Mark as Story: An Introduction to the Narrative of a Gospel* (with David Rhoads and Donald Michie) and *Orality and Textuality in Early Christianity*, *Semeia* 65, as well as

numerous articles and reviews. In her GTU dissertation, she examined the literary structure of Mark 2:1-3:6. She has turned to a study of the oral nature of the gospels and now has a manuscript under contract with a publisher on *The New Testament in its Oral/Aural Media World*.

GTU doctoral student Paul Fullmer, whose work focuses on the Gospel of Mark, comments on the perspectives opened up by work like Dewey's on oral stories versus written texts. "The orality of the Gospel of Mark means that even though you can pick up the book and it seems tangible and solid, it's actually very fluid—more of a web of various voices and traditions, than a cohesive unit. This view makes it possible to see the Gospel with new eyes, particularly in terms of the role of women."

PSR Professor Mary Ann Tolbert, who served with Dewey on a group which introduced literary analysis to the Society of Biblical Literature, remarks that Dewey "has always had a deep commitment to liberation issues and to excellence in scholarship. She is one of those rare scholars who brings both together, in her publications and in her creative way of working with curriculum and institutional structures."✽



## What's new - from Alumni, Faculty, and Students

For more updates and to send in your news, visit [www.gtu.edu](http://www.gtu.edu).

**FR. PHILIP BOROUGHS, S.J.** (Ph.D. '89) is vice president for mission and ministry at Georgetown University.

**MARK BOSCO** (Ph.D. '03) is an assistant professor of theology and English at Loyola University in Chicago. His revised dissertation on Graham Greene will be published next year.

**VIRGINIA BURRUS** (Ph.D. '91) is a professor of early church history at Drew University. Her book, *The Sex Lives of Saints: An Erotics of Ancient Hagiography*, was recently published.

**MARY CHARLOTTE CHANDLER, RSCJ** (Ph.D. '01) has been appointed the new director of the Center for the Study of Religious Life at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.

**L. WILLIAM COUNTRYMAN**, Sherman E. Johnson Professor in Biblical Studies at Church Divinity School of the Pacific, has published *Interpreting the Truth: Changing the Paradigm of Biblical Studies*.

**MARK FISCHER** (Ph.D. '84) is a professor at St. John's Seminary in Camarillo. He has recently contributed chapters to *The Parish Management Handbook*.

**LAUREN FRIESEN** (Ph.D. '85) published her translation of Hermann Sudermann's play *The Storm Komrade Sokrates*. She chairs the theatre department at University of Michigan, where she is an associate professor.

**MICHAEL GARANZINI, S.J.** (Ph.D. '86) became president at Loyola University Chicago in 2001, after two years at Georgetown serving as assistant to the president and professor of psychology. Garanzini spent the previous 10 years at St. Louis University.

**CECILIA GONZALEZ-ANDRIEU**, a second year doctoral student in art and religion, presented two lectures at Voices of Hope/Voces de Esperanza, the 2003 Los Angeles Young Adult Conference.

### 2003 Blessing of the Crush

The GTU is grateful to all who supported the second annual *Blessing of the Crush* gala in October 2003. \$65,000 was raised for student scholarships.



GTU Board of Trustees Chair John Weiser; new trustee Susan Cook Hoganson; President Donahue; and Gala Chair and trustee Peggy Olsen.



Nancy and Herb Tully, with Delia Ehrlich

**DANIEL GROODY** (Ph.D. '00) has published *Border of Death, Valley of Life: An Immigrant Journey of Heart and Spirit*, a book on the spirituality of the southern California desert campesinos. He is a Holy Cross priest, assistant professor of theology, and associate director of the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame.

**MARC KRELL** (Ph.D. '98) is an assistant professor of Judaic studies at the University of Arizona. He has recently published *Intersecting Pathways: Modern Jewish Theologians in Conversation with Christianity*.

**REV. DR. JAMES F. LAWRENCE**, a GTU doctoral student in Christian spirituality, is dean of the Swedenborgian House of Studies at Pacific School of Religion.

**CARLEEN MANDOLFO** (M.A. '93) is an assistant professor at Colby College. She has recently published *God in the Dock: Theological Tension in Psalms of Lament and Relating to the Text: Form-Critical and Interdisciplinary Approaches to the Bible*.

**SCOTT MITCHELL** (M.A. '02), a GTU doctoral student in interdisciplinary studies, has built an informative website on Buddhist studies: <http://buddha-world.org>. He recently presented his paper "Shin Dharma Net as Virtual Dojo" at the International Association for Shin Buddhist Studies conference.

**JANE CAROL REDMONT**, a GTU doctoral student in systematic and philosophical theology, delivered "Being Church: Global and Ecumenical Challenges in Feminist Ecclesiology" at Villanova University's 2003 Theology Institute. She will be teaching a related course, "Women as Global Church," at the GTU in spring 2004.

**ANNIE RUSSELL**, a GTU doctoral student in history, presented her paper "Thirty Years After Jackie Robinson: Integration in Baseball's Press Boxes" at the 2003 meeting of the Organization of American Historians.

**LAURIE ZOLOTH** (M.A., Ph.D. '93) is a professor of medical ethics and humanities and of religion at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. ❖

# Presidential Scholars



*The GTU is proud to present the 2003-04 Presidential Scholars. The academic excellence and creativity of these doctoral students promise to embody the best of the GTU's tradition of bold and innovative scholarship.*

## Jennifer Davidson

### *Liturgical Studies*

Davidson is interested in liturgical renewal ecumenically and in her own American Baptist free-church tradition, particularly in exploring repetition and ritual. She is a contributing editor for "The Other Side," and has worked as a chaplain for a Women's Studies program and as a teacher. Her future goal is to teach in a seminary. "I would love to communicate the love of worship, even more than the 'stuff' of worship. I want people to fall in love with worship, and out of that love to desire excellence."

## Rebecca Gordon

### *Ethics & Social Theory*

Gordon is focusing on the ethical, social, theological and technical questions surrounding the issue of human access to food and water. Her interest "stems in part from the fact that it is women who produce and prepare the world's food. Many women's lives are all but consumed in that labor. Theologically, my focus is the centrality of the Eucharist in Christian liturgical practice. The Eucharist is at heart a shared meal, but unlike 'ordinary' or profane meals, this 'sacred' meal is one in which the work of women has become invisible." Her background includes an M.Div. from Starr King School for the Ministry, extensive work as an analyst and author on issues of race and social justice, and experience as a volunteer on peace and justice projects from California to Nicaragua and South Africa. Gordon says that receiving a presidential scholarship "has made all the difference in being able to really focus on my studies. There's nothing like being a doctoral student to give you a sense of what finitude is all about!"



## DooHee Lee

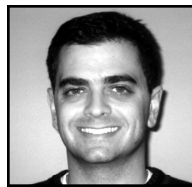
### *Biblical Studies*

Lee received an M.A. from Seoul National University, an M.Div. from the Presbyterian College and Theological Seminary in Seoul, and a Th.M. from Princeton Theological Seminary. His languages include Latin, Greek, German, French and Korean, and he has also studied Hebrew and Biblical Aramaic. Here at the GTU Lee plans to explore the relationship between the New Testament and the Greco-Roman world. Noting that Christianity did not originate in a vacuum, he believes that New Testament studies cannot be limited to works found in the Bible itself, but must extend to an examination of the surrounding cultures and religions.

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*"Sacramentality—how we apprehend God's presence in the world—lies at the heart of the creative process."*

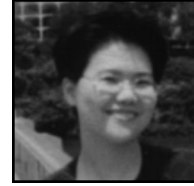
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## Joseph Pietrangelo

### *Christian Spirituality*

Pietrangelo received an M.A. in education from Notre Dame, and went on to spend two years discerning a vocation to religious life and priesthood before deciding to enter the GTU's doctoral program. American culture and literature are two of his primary interests, and he points to sacramentality—"how we apprehend God's presence in the world"—as lying at the heart of the creative process. "Certain pieces of writing can grab us, transform us," he says, naming Gerard Manley Hopkins, Walker Percy, and James Agee as writers who have meant the most to him. Now writing a paper in which he is drawing on ideas from Simone Weil, C.S. Lewis, and Percy, Pietrangelo is struck by "having the freedom in the GTU program to explore my main interests right off the bat!"



## Manhong Lin

### *Interdisciplinary Studies*

Lin is the first woman officially sent by the China Christian Council (a national umbrella organization of Protestant churches in China) to enroll in a Ph.D. program overseas. When she completes her program at the GTU, she will teach at Nanjing Union Theological Seminary, the national seminary in China, and help establish a doctoral program there. At the GTU, she is focusing on Christian ethics, Chinese cultural studies, and the history of Chinese Christian thought. Lin hopes to complete her studies here in three and a half years and return to China, where her husband (who is an ordained minister) and four-year-old daughter are waiting for her.



## Jennifer Veninga

### *Systematic and Philosophical Theology*

Veninga, who will begin the doctoral program in spring 2004, comments that she is drawn to the GTU for its "open and interfaith spirit of scholarship." She earned her B.A. from Southern Methodist University, an M.T.S. from Harvard Divinity School, and has also studied in Denmark. Veninga's interest is in Christian theological anthropology—reflection upon what it means to be human, and how humans can better relate to one another. She comments that Kierkegaard, one of her sources of inspiration and challenge, "keeps coming back into my life again and again. His driving question is what it really means to live authentically, in relation to God." Her community service experience includes work with Amnesty International and interfaith and environmental work in Ireland and India.



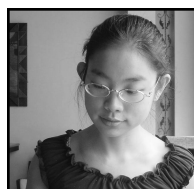


**Lisa Webster**

*Interdisciplinary Studies*

Webster holds an M.A. in comparative literature from Columbia University. She worked in publishing for a number of years, and returned to school in

order to answer some of her longstanding questions about the relationships between literature and religion, especially mystical writing and narratives of conversion. Webster's work brings methods of literary criticism to the analysis of religious language, particularly patterns in Jewish and Christian mystical literature; her current focus is on the rhetoric of religious autobiography.



**Emily Wu**

*Cultural & Historical Studies of Religions*

Wu received an M.A. from Boston University, where she studied the phenomenon of feng shui consult-

ants. At the GTU she is expanding the focus of her work to include how Chinese-American communities are reacting to the adoption of traditional healing practices by the broader American society. She plans to study immigrant Chinese practitioners and non-Chinese practitioners, analyzing the influences of cultural backgrounds on their perception of the healing practices. She argues that religious elements, although not institutionalized, account for some of the attraction these ancient customs have for non-Chinese. Wu is particularly excited about the GTU's relationship with University of California, Berkeley, and the opportunity it affords her to gain experience in anthropological fieldwork.✽

*Each year eight applicants to the GTU doctoral program are offered presidential scholarships. Merit-based, these scholarships offer two years of full tuition and a stipend. Presidential Scholars have the added support that enables them to complete the program more quickly and to engage in professional activities such as presenting papers at conferences and publishing articles in academic journals.*

*The GTU is committed to increasing our ability to provide supportive scholarship program. To learn about ways to advance the GTU's vision of education for theological scholarship and ministerial leadership, please contact the advancement office at 510/649-2420.*

## GTU Speakers Bureau

As part of the GTU's public outreach to the local community, a new speakers bureau lists faculty members who are available to speak to civic, service, and community organizations in the Bay Area. Presentations include:

- **'Some Assembly Required': The Perils and Promises of Gen X Religion,**  
by Jerome Baggett (Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley);
- **Sacred Space in Public Places: Why We Engage in Memorials and Shrines**  
by Lizette Larson-Miller (Church Divinity School of the Pacific); and
- **Evolution and Suffering in Nature: Is God Involved?**  
by Robert Russell  
(Center for Theology and the Natural Sciences).

*For the complete list, please visit [www.gtu.edu/speakersbureau.html](http://www.gtu.edu/speakersbureau.html)*

## M.A. in Orthodox Christian Studies now offered

In cooperation with the Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute (PAOI), the GTU M.A. program is offering a new concentration in Orthodox Christian Studies. The program will accept students beginning in fall 2004.

The PAOI was founded in 1981 by the combined efforts of the Orthodox Churches in the Bay Area and the GTU. In 1987 it was renamed the Patriarch Athenagoras Orthodox Institute to honor the late Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras, who opened significant doors between Orthodox Christian and Roman Catholic and Protestant Churches. Orthodox Christianity today is the second largest Christian communion in the world, with over 250 million adherents.

The new GTU program is the first accredited degree program in Orthodox Christian Studies outside of the three major seminaries, or west of Pennsylvania.





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## The 2004 Reading of the Sacred Texts



**"THE STRUCTURE OR THE SPIRIT:  
INTERPRETING THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES"**  
with the Honorable John T. Noonan

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 AT 7:30 PM**

Richard S. Dinner Boardroom, Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, 2400 Ridge Rd., Berkeley.

Free and open to the public.

For more information, contact 510/649-2541 or visit [www.gtu.edu](http://www.gtu.edu).

John T. Noonan is United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, and Robbins Professor Emeritus at Boalt School of Law at University of California, Berkeley. A respected legal scholar, Noonan has been called "accomplished, fair-minded and creatively contentious" by theologian Martin E. Marty. His most recent publication is *Narrowing the Nation's Power: The Supreme Court Sides with the States*. In *The Lustre of Our Country: The American Experience of Religious Freedom* (a New York Times Notable Book), he argued that the notion of religious freedom is America's greatest moral contribution to the world. Other major works include *The Believer and the Powers That Are*, a study of the interaction between government and religion, and *Bribes*, a history of the ideal of integrity in government. Noonan has also authored studies about the interaction of Catholic moral doctrine and law.

*This annual event is presented by the GTU's Friends of the Flora Lamson Hewlett Library, who invite a speaker with a particular connection to a "sacred text" —written or oral, traditional or new, within a canon of scriptures or drawn from outside a religious tradition. The presentations, held early each February, provide fresh insights into the words that shape our sense of the sacred.*