

NEWS FROM THE  
GRADUATE  
THEOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY AT THE  
UNIVERSITY OF  
NOTRE DAME

# GTS Bulletin

VOLUME V, ISSUE 6

APRIL 24, 2007

INSIDE  
THIS  
ISSUE:

GSU Update	2
Gender Concerns Update	2
GTS Retreat	2
Transitions and Accomplishm ents	3
Conferences: CTS	4
MTS Colloquium	4
International Congress on Medieval Studies	4
Around South Bend	5
Football Tickets	5
New GTS Officers	6
Calendar	6

**DON'T MISS THE GTS**

## END OF YEAR PARTY!

**WHO: ALL THEOLOGY FACULTY,  
STAFF, AND GRADUATE STUDENTS**

**WHEN: Thursday, May 3, 4:30-6:30 PM**

**WHERE: Decio Commons**

**Food and drinks will be provided by the  
GTS, with the support of the department  
chair and the endowed chairs.**

**If you are so moved by the festive spirit,  
please feel free to contribute some  
additional wine or beer. Just remember  
we need to keep the alcohol indoors to  
meet our obligations to law and order.**

**GTS OFFICERS AND  
BULLETIN EDITORS**

Todd Hanneken  
President  
hanneken.1@nd.edu

Rhodora Beaton  
Vice President  
beaton.6@nd.edu

Molly Zahn  
Gender Concerns Rep.  
zahn.5@nd.edu

James Helmer  
GSU Co-Rep  
helmer.2@nd.edu

Charles Skriner  
GSU Co-Rep  
skriner.1@nd.edu

Dan Machiela  
PhD Committee Rep  
machiela.1@nd.edu

Damon McGraw  
Professional Development Rep.  
mcgraw.9@nd.edu

Mary Tracy  
MDiv Representative  
tracy.17@nd.edu

Sofia Barbato  
MDiv Representative  
barbato.1@nd.edu

Jenny Martin  
MTS Rep  
jmarti16@nd.edu

Jordan Wales  
MTS Rep  
jwales@nd.edu

*The next GTS Bulletin will  
come out in August.*

## Report from the GSU

The GSU held its final meeting of the year on April 5. Several items of interest were raised during the discussion. A great part of the discussion was devoted to the topic of health coverage for graduate students. While the current MegaLife plan will be extended for next year (with an increase in the subsidy), the GSU president and co-presidents reported that University officials were responsive to graduate students' concerns about weaknesses of the current plan, and were open to making changes in the future. With this in mind, the GSU approved a statement outlining the GSU's goals for a new health care plan; the presidents and vice presidents of the GSU will present this statement to the Board of Trustees in their annual meeting with them early in the Fall semester. In addition, the GSU co-vice president urged graduate students to

complete the Health Care survey that was sent recently by email.

The Academic Affairs Committee Chair, Stephen Molvarec, noted that the University is currently debating whether to make the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving a holiday; he asked that all graduate students who have an opinion on this topic please contact him at smolvare@nd.edu.

A GSU Blood Drive has been scheduled for May 14th in the LaFortune Ballroom from 10am to 4:30pm; those who wish to participate should contact Luke Simoni (lsimoni@nd.edu) in order to schedule an appointment time.

Finally, the GSU president noted that all graduate students should be aware that the GSU has travel grant money readily available, even during the summer. —CS

## Gender Concerns News

After a productive listening session with female students and faculty that took place late last term, the Theology department's Gender Concerns Committee has conveyed the issues raised to the Department Chair. A follow-up listening session, open to anyone in the department, was originally planned for this spring, but because of scheduling

difficulties has been moved to the upcoming fall semester. Word will go out as soon as a date has been decided on. In the meantime, any concerns or questions can be directed to the GTS's representative to the Gender Concerns Committee, Molly Zahn (mzahn1@nd.edu). —MZ

## GTS Annual Retreat: Our Hearts Are Burning

On Saturday, April 21 the GTS annual retreat took place in the cozy setting of Creek House, located a few blocks north of campus. Participants spent a relaxing day away from the usual pressures of the academic life and took time to enjoy quiet prayer and the opportunity to meet students from other programs of study.

The Easter Season provided the theme of the day as participants reflected on the Emmaus experience of the disciples whose hearts were burning within them as they traveled

with the Risen Christ on the road. This theme was explored through a variety of media including visual arts, poetry and music. Participants discussed the challenges of student life and the struggle to keep the balance between academic study of theology and the life of faith. Special thanks to **Sofia Barbato (M.Div)** and **Keara Coughlin (M.Div)** for organizing the retreat and to **Ernesto Valiente (PhD, ST)** for sharing his experiences in a prepared talk.

—RB

# Transitions and Accomplishments



## MTS TRANSITIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**Brian Barrett** will begin doctoral work in History of Christianity at the University of Notre Dame. **Dulcinea Bosenberg** will begin doctoral work in CJA at the University of Notre Dame. **Andy Buechel** will be moving to Atlanta, GA to begin a PhD in Theological Studies at Emory University. **James DeFrancis** will begin doctoral work in History of Christianity at the University of Notre Dame. **Kevin Haley** will begin doctoral work in CJA at the University of Notre Dame. **Andrew Knapp** will begin a PhD in Northwest Semitic Languages and Literatures at Johns Hopkins University. **Kirstin Krueger** and Tom Apker will be married in Oklahoma City on August 4. Kirstin and Tom will remain in the South Bend area next year as Tom completes a PhD in Aerospace Engineering. **Jenny Martin** will begin doctoral work in Systematic Theology at the University of Notre Dame. She and her husband Jay are expecting their first child on (or around) May 9, 2007. **Nathaniel Marx** will begin doctoral work in Liturgical Studies at the University of Notre Dame. He and Kristen Bree will be married on August 4 at Notre Dame. First year MTS student **Brendan McGrath** has had a short story called "The Gift" published in the Lent/Easter 2007 edition of the online Catholic literary magazine *Dappled Things* ([www.dappledthings.org](http://www.dappledthings.org)). The story, which reflects the theology of Jesuit theologian and paleontologist Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (as interpreted by Fr. Thomas M. King, S.J.) can be accessed at <http://www.dappledthings.org/lent07/fiction01.php>. **Andrew Prevot** will begin doctoral work in Systematic Theology at the University of Notre Dame. **Matthew Reger** has secured a teaching job at Holy Spirit Catholic Preparatory School in Atlanta, GA. **Jordan Wales** will begin doctoral work in History of Christianity at the University of Notre Dame, after getting married to Kathryn Easter on June 2, 2007. Congratulations and best wishes to all!

accepted a position as Director of Evangelization and Pastoral Associate at St. Clement's Parish in Chicago. **Lourdes**

**Silva** will continue her work as Ministry Associate in the Office of Hispanic Ministry in the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend. **Jason and Grace Simon** have accepted positions as Co-Executive Directors of the Evangelical Catholic, a non-profit organization based out of Madison, WI. **Whitney Thompson** has accepted a position as Upper School Instructor in Religious Studies at Gilmour Academy, a school run by the Holy Cross Brothers in Gates Mills, OH. She will marry Pete Daly on June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations and best wishes to all!

## PHD TRANSITIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

'Tis the season for new jobs and new opportunities. We wish all of our colleagues the best and are happy to congratulate them on their many accomplishments.

**Susie Babka (ST)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at the University of San Diego. **Kristin (ST) and Shawn (HC) Colberg** have each received a Graduate Teaching Fellowship for next year. **Kindy DeLong (CJA)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA. **Franklin Harkins (HC)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at Fordham University. **James Helmer (MT)** has received a Kellogg Institute for International Studies Dissertation Fellowship. **LaReine-Marie Mosely (ST)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at Loyola University in Chicago. **Danielle Nussberger (ST)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI. **Chris Pramuk (ST)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at Xavier University in Cincinnati, OH. **Steve Rodenborn (ST)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at St. Edward's University in Austin, TX. **John Perry (MT)** has received a Sorin Post-Doctoral Fellowship. **David Pitt (LS)** recently defended his dissertation and accepted a tenure track appointment at Loras College in Dubuque, IA. **Sam Thomas (CJA)** recently defended his dissertation and continues to teach at California Lutheran University in Thousand Oaks, CA. **Thomas Trinidad (LS)** recently defended his dissertation. **Anastasia Wendlinder (ST)** has accepted a tenure track appointment at Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA and **Frankie White (LS)** has received a Graduate Teaching Fellowship for next year.

Congratulations to all! We wish those who will be departing for greener pastures a *bon voyage!*

## M DIV TRANSITIONS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The annual Blessing and Sending for the lay members of the graduating M.Div class will be held on the evening of May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Congratulations to the following members of the M.Div class who are moving on to new positions across the country. **Sean Agniel** has taken a job as Assistant to the Provincial for Social Ministries for the Missouri Province of the Society of Jesus. **Keara Coughlin** has accepted a position as Director of Young Adult Ministry at Old St. Patrick's Church in Chicago. **Mark DeMott** will enter Moreau Seminary. **Drew Gawrych, CSC and Steve Lacroix, CSC** will be ordained to the diaconate and are awaiting placement. **Becky Lyman** expects to teach in the Archdiocese of Portland. She will marry Roger Williams on May 12<sup>th</sup>. **Elizabeth Moriarty** has

## Conference Presentations: CTS

This year the College Theology Society's Annual Convention is well within driving distance! It will be held at the University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio. The topic is "Faith in Public Life," and the dates are May 31-June 3. A number of our fellow students are making paper presentations this year:

Friday, June 1, 9:00-10:30 - American Catholic Life and Thought

**Harold Ernst**, "How to 'Vote Catholic': Dueling Catholic Voter Guides in the 2006 Midterm Elections"

Friday, June 1, 9:00-10:30 - Mysticism and Politics, Theme: "God Talk" as Public Discourse

**Steven Rodenborn**, "Experience of God as Mediated Immediacy: A Protological Proviso on Religious Experience"

**James Helmer**, "Religion's Tyranny? The Practice of Scriptural Reasoning as a Potential Resource for Public Political Discourse: A Reply to Richard Rorty"

Friday, June 1, 11:00-12:30 - History of Christian Life and Thought

**Shawn M. Colberg**, "Martin Luther, Evangelical Freedom, and the Task of Public Service"

Friday, June 1, 2:00-3:30 - Mysticism and Politics/Contemporary Theology (joint session) Theme: Spirituality, Discipleship, and Reconciliation

**Ernesto Valiente**, "Living Today as 'Risen Beings' in Pursuit of a Reconciled World"

Saturday, June 2, 9:00-10:30 - Arts, Literature and Religion

**Susie Paulik Babka**, "What Arius, Quentin Tarantino, and Superman Have to Do With Christology: Teaching Analogies in Popular Culture for Undergraduates"

Sunday, June 3, 9:00-10:30 - Theology of the Church

**Sarah Morice Brubaker**, "What Sort of 'Where'? The Christian Church in Place"

For more information on presentations by faculty and recent ND grads or to register, visit the CTS website at <http://www2.bc.edu/~barciaus/cts.html> —DMcG

## MTS Colloquium: Andrew Prevot

On Wednesday, April 11, 2007, **Andrew Prevot** presented the final installment of the three Spring 2007 Colloquia dealing with war and Christian theology. Andrew skillfully broadened this semester's discussion by providing a collection of readings that fell generally under the ambit of "Faith and Ethics in Christian Theology." Using the Biblical narrative of Abraham's near-sacrifice of Isaac at Moriah as the common theme, Andrew facilitated an engaging discussion with the relevant Scriptural text, several poems of John Paul II, and selections from both *Veritatis Splendor* and Jacques Derrida's *The Gift of Death* as important points of contact. After situating the conversation in its proper

historical and philosophical framework by providing background information on Husserl, Kant, Kierkegaard, and Levinas, Andrew posed a litany of questions—What is the source of our moral understanding as Christian theologians? What happens when faith and ethics collide? What role should teleology play in ethical reasoning?—that provided substantial material for the ensuing discussion. Thanks not only to Andrew, but also to our previous presenters Andy Buechel and Kevin Meme for another excellent semester of MTS colloquia. —JM

## 42<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Medieval Studies, Kalamazoo, Michigan, May 10–13

It comes as a bit of a surprise that the world's foremost conference on all things medieval takes place just up the road at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, but there you have it. Hundreds of sessions seem to cover almost any topic you can think of that pertains to Europe between ca 400 and 1500 CE. That includes much of interest to theologians, such as sessions on figures like Bede and Bernard of Clairvaux, on institutions and monastic orders, and on various aspects of scriptural interpretation. The book exhibit is also not to be missed! Our own department will be represented well in a session presided over

by Rabbi Michael Signer on Saturday afternoon, May 12: "Exegetical Theory and Practice, Medieval and Contemporary." Two recent ND Theology grads will present papers in that same session: Franklin Harkins (HC, 2005) will present a paper entitled "Canonizing Supersessionism: Esau and Jacob in the *Glossa Ordinaria*," and Aaron Canty (HC, 2006) will present on "The Contribution of John of La Rochelle to Scholastic Exegesis." For more information on the Congress, visit <http://www.wmich.edu/medieval/congress/index.html> —MZ

# Around South Bend

In honor of the arrival of the carefree months of summer—at least for those of us who aren't frantically learning languages, writing dissertations or working overtime in ministry internships—Around South Bend brings you recommendations for a variety of summertime entertainment and fun in and around South Bend. After all, everyone needs a night off once in a while!

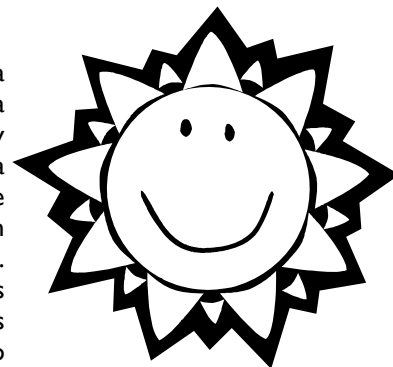
Whether you're a baseball fan or just looking for a way to spend an afternoon relaxing outdoors, consider going to a **South Bend Silverhawks** game this summer at Coveleski Stadium downtown. There isn't a bad seat in the house, and tickets are only \$5 or \$7 (children under 5 are free). Take a look at their website for more info: <http://silverhawks.com/>

—DMcG

**Zeke's Restaurant**, located on a quaint downtown square at 109 South Front Street in Dowagiac, MI, offers a large menu of casual dining options in an atmosphere that is just as unpretentious as it is comfortable. The friendly, small-town feel, enthusiastic waitstaff, and affordable entrees make Zeke's an excellent choice for a Friday or Saturday night just outside of the Bend. Lest you think, however, that these humble accolades may not warrant the near 40-minute drive to Cass County, consider this: with at least 250 options, Zeke's boasts the largest selection of imported and domestic beers in Michigan, including such impressive offerings as Old Peculiar and a wide selection of Belgian ales. And for the low, low price of \$1.00, you too can be a card-carrying member of the "World Tour of Beers" club, complete with a t-shirt that proudly proclaims, "If beer were a religion, this would be holy ground!" Quaff

enough of these international ales, and you can join the ranks of those whose names have been prominently engraved on lovely stein-shaped plaques near the entrance of the restaurant. Call (269) 782-5070 for hours and directions. —JM

**Bonefish Grill**. OK, it's a national chain, and it's in a mini-mall. And the noisy bar area tries to cop a hipper-than-thou attitude that is difficult to pull off in a mini-mall in Mishawaka. But the dining room is quieter and the food is definitely worth the trip when you're in the mood



for a special night out. The menu focuses, unsurprisingly, on fish and seafood. Alongside a few sauté and pasta options, the heart of the entrée section is a list of ten different types of fish or seafood that can be grilled with one of four sauces. The appetizers (also mostly seafood) and salads are creative—try the crab cakes! All of this comes for a fairly reasonable price: entrées are mostly between \$13 and \$20, with appetizers in the \$6–\$10 range. 620 Edison Rd. in Mishawaka (near Coldstone Creamery and Toyo Grill); 259-2663. —MZ

The **Olive Mount Grille** is the new Mediterranean place on Edison across from Coldstone and Bonefish. The entrées are a bit pricey, but no matter—go authentic and share a variety of "appetizers" with a couple of people. —TRH

## FOOTBALL TICKET DEADLINE MAY 3

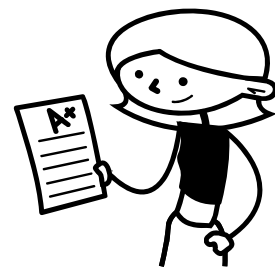


Sale of football tickets to returning students is different this year. The deadline is May 3, so no more waiting until August to decide to justify football home games as research into ritual and tradition. Also, sales are now all electronic, so no more passing around forms and student ids. Besides the emails from the ticket office, you can find the

necessary info right on the GTS website, <http://www.nd.edu/~gts>. To make sure you end up with all your theology department friends and colleagues use the group "GradTheo" and password "GTS". Spouse and child sales still need to be done in person at the box office (bring a marriage or birth certificate). —TRH

## CONGRATULATIONS!

The GTS congratulates the second year MTS students who recently passed their Comprehensive Exams as well as the new doctoral candidates who successfully passed their Candidacy Exams in March.



# New GTS Officers for 2007-2008

Yet again the GTS has seen a bloodless regime change. The elections for the offices of MDiv and MTS representatives take place in the fall. This spring the candidates worked out the offices among themselves, so there was no election.

The next President of the GTS is **Rhodora Beaton (ST)**. Next year will be her third year of service to the GTS, having already served as Gender Concerns Committee Representative and Vice President.

**Katharine Harmon (LS)** joins the officers for next year as Vice President. Besides running elections and keeping minutes, the Vice President is important to everyone who wants a carrel.

**Todd Hanneken (CJA)** is returning for a fourth year as a GTS officer, this time as Gender Concerns Committee Representative. He had previously been GSU Representative and President.

**Charles Skriner (MT)** is returning for a second year as the GSU Representative, keeping an eye on policy and spending decisions from our student activity fees.

**Molly Zahn (CJA)** takes over as PhD Committee Representative, having served previously as GSU Representative and Gender Concerns Committee Representative. The PhD Committee makes decisions about the interview weekend, among other policy matters.

Next year we will have two Professional Development Representatives working with the DGS to plan workshops and disseminate information. **James Helmer (MT)** will serve here, having served a year as GSU Representative. **Melanie Ross (LS)** will be joining the officers in this capacity.

As these new officers plan the next year, starting with the Welcome Back BBQ, the current MTS Representatives (**Jordan Wales** and **Jenny Martin**) and MDiv Representatives (**Mary Tracy** and **Sofia Barbato**) will continue to represent their constituencies until new elections this fall.

We thank all those who helped out this year, and give a fond farewell to those officers planning to move on to bigger and better things. **Dan Machiela**, the PhD Committee Representative, deserves enormous credit for the success of the interview weekend. **Damon McGraw** needs two people to fill his shoes as Professional Development Representative. **Rudy Reyes** served us well as Co-Vice President.

We often step outside our particular job titles to do what we can for Theology graduate students. In particular, there is no such thing as a social chair, as we all contribute our ideas and efforts to keeping us a socialized department. You can email your specific or general suggestions for the GTS to any officer. Better yet, you can get involved yourself. It's never too late to ask what you can do, or propose what you'd like to do.

—TRH

## Calendar

**May 10-13 International Congress on Medieval Studies. Kalamazoo, MI.**

**May 19 Graduate Commencement Ceremony**

**May 20 Commencement**

**May 31-June 3 College Theology Society Annual Meeting. Dayton, OH.**

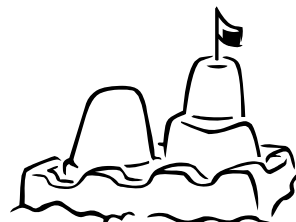
**June 7-10 Catholic Theological Society of America Annual Meeting. Los Angeles, CA.**

**July 19 Summer Session Begins.**

**August 4-7 Catholic Biblical Association of America Annual Meeting. Santa Clara, CA.**

**August 18, GTS Welcome Back BBQ. Time and Place TBA.**

**August 21 Fall Semester Begins**



**Have a Wonderful  
Summer!**