E-COMMUNICATOR NO. 7 VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER October 4, 2004

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, October 4

12:15 United Methodist Student Association Monday Prayer and Praise Service Wightman Chapel Scarritt Bennett Center

TUESDAY, October 5

WEDNESDAY, October 6

10:10 a.m. Worship Service All Faith Chapel

11:00 – 1:00 pm Community Meal

Common Room

11:45 - 1:00 GABLE Meeting

Private Dining Room

12:00 – 1:00 Employee Celebration Lecture by A.-J. Levine G-27

THURSDAY, October 7

7:00 p.m. UMSA Bowling Melrose Lanes (info below)

FRIDAY, October 8

10:10 Coffee Hour

Commons Room

12:00 - 1:00 Faculty Lunch

Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership Alexander Room, Law School (info below)

UMSA Goes Bowling Thursday, October 7 7PM at Melrose Lanes or carpool from Divinity School at 6:40

Thursday, October 7 the UMSA will be bowling at Melrose Lanes on Franklin Road. The cost is \$2.50 per person per game plus \$2.25 to rent bowling shoes. I will meet a group in the parking lot in front of the Divinity School to carpool at 6:40 PM, or you can meet us there at 7:00 PM. Either way, I hope that you will save the date and come out for an evening of fun and fellowship. See you at the lanes! jennifer.l.compton@Vanderbilt.Edu

The Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership in the Professions is pleased to invite Faculty members to the following luncheon discussion:

"Trade Off Between Visions of an Information-Based System of Care and Privacy"

William Stead, Director of the Informatics Center Friday, October 8, 2004, 12:10-1:00 pm Alexander Room, Law School (Room 105) Lunch will be provided. Please make reservations.

To make reservations, please visit our website at

http://www.vanderbilt.edu/moral_leadership/eventfac.htm and click on the "Register" button. You may also call the CTP office at 343-5447.

Cokesbury Bookstore and Vanderbilt Divinity School will host a book signing by Dr. James M. Ault, Jr. on Monday, October 11, 2004 at noon in the Cokesbury Bookstore. Dr. Ault is the author of *Spirit and Flesh: Life in a Fundamentalist Baptist Church*.

JAMES M. AULT, JR., was educated at Harvard and Brandeis universities. After teaching at Harvard and at Smith College, he made his first film, *Born Again*, a portrait of this fundamentalist Baptist congregation, which won a Blue Ribbon at the American Film Festival and was broadcast in the United States and abroad in 1987. He has since produced and directed a variety of documentary programs for the Lilly Endowment, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Episcopal Church Foundation, and other organizations. He lives in Northampton, Massachusetts.

October 11 6:30-8pm

Author, Rev. Karen McClintock, PhD, will speak about her book:

Sexual Shame; An Urgent Call To Healing will speak about her experience. An excerpt from her book: "My father was a gay man who lived in marriage with my mother for all of his 64 years. My mother chose celibacy over divorce. They both lived in the intense secret of this reality and raised me without a single word about it. I learned the truth of Dad's sexual orientation just six months before his death. The process of coming out of my family closet led me to do research on children of undisclosed homosexual and bisexual parents, culminating in a doctorate." Location: Vanderbilt Divinity School, room G-23.

Co-sponsored by the Office for GLBT Life, Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender and Sexuality and Lambda.

October 12th, 5:30-6:30pm

First meeting of group, "Stepping Out"

A new group formed for those beginning the process of coming out who desire a confidential space to discuss their journey. Meets once a month. Led by student Randi Minas and Counselor, Daniel Sullivan. Meets at the GLBT Office. Contact: randi.k.minas@vanderbilt.edu for more information.

Sister Helen Prejean, as portrayed in the movie, "Dead Man Walking" is speaking Monday Nov. 15th, 8pm, Wilson 103 about the Death Penalty. Sponsored by the Vanderbilt Catholic Community (more info. www.vanderbilt.edu/catholic_community)

ECO Concerns

Ever wondered how soap is made? Come learn how! Eco-concerns is sponsoring a soap-making night on Thursday, October 14^{th} from 5:30 - 7:30! Light snacks will be provided.

Location: 124 38th Avenue North (Lisa Dordal and Laurie Samuels' house)
Coming from the Vanderbilt area of West End, head away from downtown on West
End. Turn right on to Murphy Road (just before the 440 overpass). Intersection of Murphy and
West End is a HUGE intersection with office buildings, a gas station, etc. Go about a 1/4 of a mile
on Murphy to 38th. Turn Right. We are one block down on the right (you don't cross Nebraska).
PLEASE RSVP TO lisa.a.dordal@vanderbilt.edu IF YOU ARE PLANNING TO COME!

Women's Studies News

You are invited to participate in an important Town Hall Meeting on Tuesday, October 12th, at 5:30 p.m. in Wilson 103A. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the ongoing problem of fraternity and sorority "theme" parties in which women are asked to dress as prostitutes or some variation thereof.

For those of you new to this debate, I have been told that VU frat parties both on and off campus have included the following themes:

"Pimps and Hos", "Principals and Schoolgirls", "Playboy Bunnies", and "White Trash Wedding." Sorority parties, held off campus, have included "Hooters and Harleys" and "G.I. Joe and Barbie Ho." A party at an off-campus frat house last weekend, with the theme of "Corporate Hos," drew 1000 undergrads.

The parties alone are disturbing enough. But the fact that many students--even women students-outside of Women's Studies do not think these parties are a "big deal" is equally disturbing. As a number of you have pointed out, it seems the time is ripe for a collective discussion of these issues and the formulation of some kind of response. Surely such parties cannot be written off as "harmless fun."

The Town Hall Meeting will be an open forum for faculty, students, and administrators to discuss the continuing concerns surrounding questionable behavior by fraternities and sororities. We hope you will join us for what we hope will be a thoughtful, lively discussion.

Announcement:

The Nashville Chamber Singers is in need of an accomplished first soprano for their fall concert season. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings and a Christmas concert will be given in early December. The Nashville Chamber Singers is an a cappella chamber choir founded in the fall of 1996 to provide outstanding performance opportunities for distinguished community vocalists in the Middle Tennessee area. If interested in this opportunity, please contact the NCS Music Director, Ms. Angela Tipps at <adtipps@comcast.net> to schedule an audition. More information about the choir is available at www.nashvillechambersingers.com or you may contact Mark Justad at mark.justad@vanderbilt.edu.

RSVP Fall Open House 2004

Vanderbilt University Divinity School is sponsoring a free informational workshop on Saturday, October 23, from 8:00 a.m.- 3:30 p.m. Current students, faculty, alumni/ae and staff will address the professional, academic, financial and personal aspects of pursuing a theological education. The school offers a Master of Theological Studies and a Master of Divinity degree; the women

and men studying for those degrees come from thirty different religious and they include both first and second career students.

The Master of Divinity degree is a professional degree designed primarily for those persons interested in ordination. The Master of Theological Studies program is designed for persons interested in pursuing graduate study across the several theological disciplines in the Divinity School. This degree program may serve as a foundation for later doctoral studies in religion, for diaconal or ordained ministries in certain denominations, or as a vehicle for the enhancement of one's own religious faith and understanding.

Continental breakfast, lunch, and parking will be provided free of charge for those who preregister. Call the Office of Admissions at 615 343-3963, email marian.o.berky@vanderbilt.edu, or access the online registration form at www.divinity.library.vanderbilt.edu/div/admissions/openhouse.html. You may also fax the Office of Admissions at 615 322-0691,

If you have information/announcements to be included in the E-Communicator please email the information to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu All information must be received by noon on Friday for the following week's E-Communicator.