E-COMMUNICATOR NO. 4 VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER October 1, 2007

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, October 1

3:00 – 4:00 p.m. ATLA Religion Database Divinity Library, Rm 221

TUESDAY, October 2

Relevant Religion Series (information below) 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Worker's Rights Common Room

WEDNESDAY, October 3

9:00 a.m. Academic Planning
Tillett Lounge
10:10 a.m. Weekly Worship Service
All Faith Chapel
12:00 – 1:00 p.m. Community Forum on the Jena 6
G-23

THURSDAY, October 4

Noon – 1:00 p.m ATLA Religion Database Divinity Library, Rm 221

FRIDAY, October 5

The Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership Conference:
Sacred Texts in Law and Religion: Authorizing and
Constituting Professional Identity
(Information below)

10:10 Coffee Hour - Common Room

11:30 a.m. P&P
Tillett Lounge

12:00 noon SGA Meeting
138

12:00 noon Eco Concerns Meeting
Common Room

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Wabash Seminar
Tillett Lounge

Dr. Amy-Jill Levine will be speaking about her book, *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus*, at Immanuel Baptist Church on Wednesday, **October 3 at 6:20 p.m.** Immanuel Baptist Church is located at 222 Belle Meade Boulevard, Nashville. This event is open to the public. Please contact Marie McEntire in the GDR

Office (202C DIV) if you would like to attend the weekly buffet dinner that begins at 5:15 p.m.

Learn how to use the ATLA Religion Database . . .

- ... to find articles, book chapters, and book reviews
- ... to locate materials on specific scriptural texts
- ... to make the task of research more efficient and effective

Session dates and times:

Monday, October 1, 2007: 3 – 4 pm

Thursday, October 4, 2007: noon - 1 pm

(All sessions in the Divinity Library, Room 221. No reservations required.)

The Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership in the Professions is pleased to invite you to the following conference:

Sacred Texts in Law and Religion: Authorizing and Constituting Professional Identity

Date:

October 5-6, 2007

Location:

All sessions will be held in Flynn Auditorium at Vanderbilt University Law School

Keynote Speakers:

Stanley Fish, Davidson-Kahn Distinguished Professor of Humanities and Law and Florida International University

William M. Sullivan, Senior Scholar at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching

Registation Fee:

the registration fee is waived for current Vanderbilt faculty, students, and staff. Please register online at http://www.vanderbilt.edu/moral_leadership/lawdiveventpage.htm.

CLE Credit Available

please visit http://www.vanderbilt.edu/moral_leadership/events.htm for additional information.

Schedule and session description:

Sullivan Plenary (Friday, October 5, 10-11:30 am)

Professor Sullivan of the Carnegie Foundation will report and reflect on the findings of the Carnegie research on legal and ministerial education, recently published in two books, *Educating Lawyers* and *Educating Clergy*. The purpose of this address is to explore the state of ethics and professionalism in current education practices. Professor Sullivan is the lead scholar on the Carnegie Foundation's comparative study of education across the professions.

"Teaching Texts that Matter," Dean Rubin and Dean Hudnut-Beumler (Friday, October 5, 1-2:30 pm)

The deans of the Law and Divinity School will discuss the challenges of developing curricula that adequately address issues of moral and professional formation in contemporary professional schools. The focus in both Law and Divinity School education on critically examining foundational or sacred texts can make the later application of those texts problematic. The focus of this panel will be on curricular issues and the intersection of textual criticism and professional formation.

"Sacred Texts in Action," Professional Panel (Friday, October 5, 3-4:30 pm)

Practicing lawyers (Bob Tuke, Mary Francis Lyle) and religious professionals (Brad Braxton, Tom Laney and Awadh Binhazim) will discuss the realities of making their sacred texts relevant to their daily practice. How do professionals engage their respective sacred texts? What are the challenges they face? How do they make their foundational texts ethically significant in the lives of their constituents? The purpose of this panel is to have practitioners describe their experiences in bringing sacred texts to life in their daily work.

Stanley Fish Plenary (Friday, October 5, 7-8:30 pm)

Professor Fish is the Davidson-Kahn Distinguished University Professor of the Humanities and Law at Florida International University. His public address will take up two themes that have been the object of his concern for many years: the place and function of the University as a social institution and the question of textual interpretation. Professor Fish will challenge the audience to think about what it means to be part of a profession whose expertise lies in part in the ability to interpret texts. He

will focus on three orientations to texts: the Law, Religion, and Literary Studies, asking us to re-think what it means be textual interpreters.

"Law, Religion and Their Sacred Texts," Fadel, Rubin, Brandon, Burns, Hudnut-Beumler, and Flake (Saturday, October 6, 9-10:30 am)

Mohammed Fadel, Ed Rubin and Mark Brandon are constitutional scholars. Patout Burns and James Hudnut-Beumler, and Kathleen Flake are religion scholars. Professor Flake will moderate a discussion between the panelists on the changing meaning and purposes of sacred texts in both fields. The purpose of this panel will be to explore more deeply the intersections of Law and Religion, especially around questions of textual authority, moral formation and social regulation.

If you need any additional information, please email Kathy Chambers at kathy.chambers@vanderbilt.edu or call the Cal Turner Program office at 35447

Would you like to learn conversational Spanish? Whether you'll be working with Spanish-speakers in your field ed placement, will be traveling in Spanish-speaking places (perhaps to the US/Mexico border next summer!), or simply want to have fun, stretch your mind, and learn something new...THIS CLASS IS FOR YOU!

Our FABULOUS teacher from last year, Alyson Nunez, is offering to teach ALL levels, according to our specific needs and contexts (i.e. Medical, business, congregational vocabulary), AND is offering classes that are convenient to OUR schedules!!

We would like to have a meeting next week to determine interest, schedules, levels, etc.

Please email me back as soon as possible with your questions, interest, and availability and we can set up a time for our initial meeting time.

Staff, Students and Faculty are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Thanks, Emily Snyder

Your friendly neighborhood Political Action Network is excited to announce, on behalf of Black Seminarians, Economic Empowerment Coalition, Office of Women's Concerns, Al's Pub, Eco-Concerns, GBLT, Black Law Students Association, and SGA:

A Community Forum on the Jena 6 Wednesday October 3, 2007 12-1, G-23 Organizers and activists from the Nashville response to the events in Jena including representatives from Nashville Black Covenant Coalition, The Village Church, and Citizens for Community Change and our own Dante Bryant will be on hand to explain the situation, answer questions, talk about their experience in Jena and help us plug in and develop a plan of action for interested students.

Lunch Provided.

Please come. We talk a good game about fighting racism, marginalization, oppression and injustice here in the Divinity school- this is a chance to actually put all that talk to work.

Hey all First Years!

We want to let you know that there is going to be pizza in the common room after the Hebrew Bible exam - AKA 12 noon on Monday, Oct. 1. Hopefully we can all come and decompress for a little while!

See you there, Shaily, Ryan and Emily Your First-Year SGA Representatives

In Concert together!

Craig Wiseman and Marcus Hummon

With guest Leslie McClure

Friday, October 12, 2007, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Vine Street Christian Church 4101 Harding Road, Nashville, TN 37205

(Doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

The cost is \$5.00 per person

Parking at the church is free.

Infant/toddler care provided

While enjoying Fair Trade coffee and the music of Nashville,

We invite you to make a donation to the Divinity School's

student scholarship fund.

¡Ven a la mesa! Come join us at Spanish Table on Fridays from 12-1:30 in the refectory. Come to practice your Spanish and join in fellowship together. Look for the purple "La Mesa" signs on the table (or just listen for Spanish). Questions? angela.m.flanagan@vanderbilt.edu

Vanderbilt University Divinity School Relevant Religion Series September 25, October 2, and October 9, 2007, 7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

"Worship(ing) in the Converging Church"

Robin M. Jensen, Luce Chancellor's Professor of the History of Christian Art and Worship & John S. McClure, Charles G. Finney Professor of Homilietics, Chair of the Graduate Department of Religion, and Fellow in the Center for the Study of Religion and Culture

Protestant worship has been in transition for half a millennium. Ministers, preachers, lay leaders, worship teams, musicians, and artists all try to address the perceived (and sometimes contradictory) needs for renewal, contemporaneity, identity, doctrinal coherence, and cultural relevance. This set of workshops will explore new worship styles and the questions of tradition, retrieval, evangelism, and pluralism in our planning for worship of the future.

Location Second Presbyterian Church 3511 Belmont Boulevard Nashville, TN 37215

Information and Online Registration

www.vanderbilt.edu/divinity/rel religion.html

(615) 936-8453

This event is free for students. Please respond to this e-mail if you would like to attend the series.

Folks – share your announcements!! Email your announcements to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu by 10:00 a.m. on Friday, and they will be placed in the weekly E-Communicator