

# **Teaching the Bible Across the Church:**

## *A Covenant Cluster convocation of synodical and seminary teachers*

**July 12-16, 2009**

University of St. Mary of the Lake Conference Center, Mundelein, Illinois

### **Schedule for participants, v5.2**

#### **Goals**

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1. To honor the diverse teaching ministries in the Covenant Cluster
2. To build relationships among the teachers by spending time reflecting on our practice as teachers
3. To deepen the quality of teaching and learning throughout the Covenant Cluster, particularly those who are teaching Old Testament and New Testament, by sharing
  - a. Current research in Biblical scholarship
  - b. Best teaching practices
  - c. Opportunities for synodical and seminary teachers to learn and teach one another
4. To develop trust among synodical and seminary teachers by exploring what we hold in common and what is unique in our contexts and purposes of the teaching that we do
5. Renew and deepen our own love of and passion for the Scriptures and our joy in teaching, one of the goals of the Book of Faith Initiative

#### **Sunday July 12, 2009                      Theme: Hospitality**

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| 4:30pm | Welcome, overview of event, hospitality issues, introductions of leaders  |
| 5:00   | Dinner—Challenges and successes in teaching and learning. Questions for table conversation: When as a learner have you experienced a hospitable learning setting? An inhospitable learning setting? What difference did each make for your learning?  |
| 6:30   | Small Group Discussion: Experiences and Practices of Hospitality; How do we build trust in one another and the quality of teaching? Questions for discussion: How do you compose or construct your courses to be places of hospitality for learning? What difference does it make for you and for your students when you succeed well or less well? |
| 7:30   | Evening Prayer  |
| 8:00   | Hospitality Time  |

#### **Monday July 13, 2009                      Theme: Course Goals and Facilitation**

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| 7:30 | Morning Prayer |
| 8:00 | Breakfast      |

- 9:00 Large Group: *Developing Course Goals* (Patricia O'Connell Killen) This presentation is rooted in the assumption that all present share in the role of composing learning experiences for theological education. Presentation discusses how to construct course goals in light of purpose, knowledge of pedagogy, students, etc. Participants will have a simple model for course design by the end of the session.
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 Small Groups: Participants will work with a set of questions designed to let them test their own practices against the framework and guidelines presented in the first session. Flow will go: a) work sheet for solo reflection; 2) sharing in small groups around a set of questions that allow them to notice differences and similarities in designing course goals in different settings, and then imagine developing a goal.
- 11:30 Large Group: Q & A time with Patricia about course goals
- 12:00 Lunch and break with time for discussion and networking
- 1:30pm Large Group: *Facilitating discussion in the classroom* (Patricia O'Connell Killen) This session will focus on facilitating discussion through the construction of questioning strategies which grow out of course goals and so are integral to composing learning experiences.
- 2:30 Break
- 3:00 Small Groups: Practicing facilitating discussion
- 4:00 Large Group: Discussion with Patricia O'Connell Killen
- 5:00 Dinner
- 6:30 Large Group: What's new in Biblical Studies? *Performance Criticism* by Dave Rhoads
- 7:30 Evening Prayer
- 8:00 Hospitality

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**Tuesday July 14, 2009      Theme: Asking Questions**

- 7:30 Morning Prayer
- 8:00 Breakfast

9:00 Small Groups: Discussion of essays on facilitation & asking questions  
9:30 Teaching/Learning Experience #1 *Asking Questions*  
10:30 Break  
11:00 Continue Teaching/Learning Experience #1  
12:00 Lunch and break with time for discussion and networking  
1:30pm Small Groups: Work on course goals and learning experiences  
2:00 Teaching/Learning Experience #2 *What's new in Biblical scholarship?*  
3:00 Break  
3:30 Continue Teaching/Learning Experience #2  
5:00 Dinner  
6:30 Large Group: *What's New in Biblical Scholarship*  
7:30 Evening Prayer  
8:00 Hospitality Time

**Wednesday July 15, 2009 Theme: Social Location**

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7:30 Morning Prayer  
8:00am Breakfast  
9:00 Small Groups: Discussion of essay on social location  
9:30 Teaching/Learning Experience #3 *Social Location*  
10:30 Break  
11:00 Continue Teach/Learning Experience #3  
12:00 Lunch and break with time for discussion and networking  
1:30pm Small Groups: Work on course goals and learning experiences

2:00 Teaching/Learning Experience #4 *Resources for Teaching and Learning*  
3:00 Break  
3:30 Continue Teaching/Learning Experience #4  
5:00 Dinner  
6:30 Large Group: *What's new in Biblical Studies?*  
7:30 Evening Prayer  
8:00 Hospitality Time

**Thursday July 16, 2009      Theme: Deep hospitality, trust and a sustained network**

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7:30 Morning Prayer  
8:00 Breakfast, time for packing and checking out  
9:30 Small Groups: *How can we build an ongoing network of trust and deep hospitality?*  
10:30 Break  
10:45 Large Group: *How can we build an ongoing network of trust and deep hospitality?*  
11:30 Closing Eucharist  
12pm Lunch