



# Theological Research and the Church

A Graduate Conference  
March 21-23, 2014

**Boston University** School of Theology

2014 PROGRAM

# Call for Papers

The Center for Practical Theology and the School of Theology Doctoral Student Association are excited to announce its second graduate conference:

The theme, "Theological Research and The Church" seeks to explore growing trends in contemporary ecclesiological reflection with a particular emphasis on the relationship between empirical studies and systematic reflections. This student-led conference will be organized around four streams of inquiry: Ecclesiology and Ethnography; Feminism and the Church; Sociological Perspectives on Congregations; and Contemporary Catholic Ecclesiology.

The format of the conference is intended to help graduate students advance their work through inter-disciplinary engagement with scholars and colleagues in roundtable dialogs, interviews, and collaborative workshops.

*Roundtables* will bring doctoral students together, along with faculty for responses, for presentations and generative dialog on each stream of inquiry.

*Workshops* will facilitate opportunities for related student works-in-progress to receive constructive feedback from a faculty and other graduate students.

*Faculty* participants will include leading scholars from Boston area schools as well as from across the US and UK.

## **Participate!**

Student participants will be limited and selective with priority given to those currently engaged in research on the church. All meals will be provided during the conference and limited scholarships will be provided to help with housing and travel costs.

## **Call For Papers and Workshops | Deadline: February 21, 2014**

All papers presentations must contribute to one or more of the four roundtables (broadly construed): (1) Ecclesiology and Ethnography, (2) Feminism and the Church; (3) Congregational Studies; or (4) Contemporary Catholic Ecclesiology.

Paper proposals should include a 500-word abstract along with a 250-word rationale for how the paper will contribute to the roundtable you hope to participate in.

Workshops may either (1) propose a topic beyond the scope of the roundtables or (2) take up a practical skill related to furthering research on the church. Proposals for workshops may be proposed individually or in panel up to 4 participants.

For more information, contact: Timothy Snyder, [tk Snyder@bu.edu](mailto:tk Snyder@bu.edu) /830.305.0774

# Conference Schedule

## **FRIDAY, MARCH 21**

6pm	Registration Opens
7:30pm	Welcome Reception & Opening Conversation

## **SATURDAY, MARCH 22**

8am	Breakfast and Coffee
9am	Roundtable on Ecclesiology and Ethnography
11am	Feature Interview: TBA
12:30pm	Lunch
2pm	Roundtable on Feminism and the Church
4pm	Break
4:30pm	Workshops
6pm	Dinner

## **SUNDAY, MARCH 23**

8am	Breakfast and Coffee
9am	Roundtable on Congregational Studies
11am	Interview: TBA
12:30pm	Lunch <i>Sponsored by the BU School of Theology Doctoral Student Association</i>
2pm	Roundtable on Contemporary Catholic Ecclesiology
4pm	Break



# Faculty Participants



**Christian Scharen**

*Assistant Professor of Worship  
Director of Contextual Education  
Luther Seminary*



**Pete Ward**

*Professor of Theology and Ministry  
King's College, London*



**Nancy T. Ammerman**

*Professor of Sociology of Religion  
Boston University*



**Ellen Childs**

*Postdoctoral Fellow  
Congregational Studies Team  
Boston University*



**Mary Hunt**

*Co-director/co-founder  
Women's Alliance for Theology,  
Ethics and Ritual*



**Maria Teresa Dávila**

*Assistant Professor of Christian Ethics  
Andover Newton Theological  
School*



**Bryan Stone**

*E. Stanley Jones Professor of  
Evangelism;  
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs;  
Co-director, Center for Practical  
Theology  
Boston University*



**Claire Wolfteich**

*Associate Professor of Practical  
Theology  
and Spirituality Studies; Co-director,  
Center for Practical Theology  
Boston University*