ANNOUNCING NEW FACULTY – WELCOME!

I am delighted to welcome three exceptional new faculty to the Boston University School of Theology. They are Walter Fluker, Martin Luther King, Jr. Professor of Ethical Leadership; Chris Evans, Professor of the History of Christianity and Methodist Studies; and Courtney Goto, Assistant Professor of Religious Education. These wonderful colleagues are all known as powerful scholars and teachers, and we are privileged that they are now part of us!

Professor Walter Fluker is world renowned as a public intellectual whose combined expertise on the work of Howard Thurman and Martin Luther King, Jr., is legendary. He is the Editor and Director of the Howard Thurman Papers Project, which has published the first of five volumes, *The Papers of Howard Washington Thurman, Volume I, My People Need Me*. Further, Dr. Fluker’s scholarship on ethical leadership is setting a standard for new work in this area, marked by his recent *Ethical Leadership and the Quest for Character, Civility, and Community*. He is a regular consultant to public and private leaders and organizations around the globe as he points new directions in ethical leadership. Dr. Fluker comes to BU from Morehouse College, where he has been Coca-Cola Professor of Leadership Studies; Professor of Philosophy and Religion; Executive Director of The Leadership Center; and Interim Director of The Andrew Young Center for International Affairs. A distinguished graduate of BU with a PhD in Social Ethics, Dr. Fluker earlier completed his MDiv degree at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Among his many teaching roles, he has served on the faculty of Vanderbilt Divinity School and Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School, as well as Visiting Professor in Harvard Divinity School and the University of Cape Town. Coming to the School of Theology with great distinction, Professor Fluker speaks of his own eagerness to return to BU: “This is an exciting time to return to my alma mater and share in the labor and the love of the new community at STH and the university.”

Professor Christopher Evans comes to us from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School in Rochester, New York. There he has served as Sallie Knowles Crozer Professor of Church History and Director of Methodist Studies. More recently, he has also been Acting Vice President for Academic Life and Dean of the Faculty. Dr. Evans describes his move to Boston as a privilege to become part of a school with the “distinctive legacy of Boston University School of Theology.” He actually did his MDiv degree in STH before moving to Northwestern University, where he completed his PhD in the joint program with Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary. Dr. Evans has served many years as a pastor and professor, and is well respected for his thorough scholarship and personal integrity. His books include: *Liberalism Without Illusions: Renewing an*
American Christian Tradition; The Kingdom Is Always but Coming: A Life of Walter Rauschenbusch; and a co-edited volume, The Faith of Fifty Million: Baseball, Religion, and American Culture. Our excitement to welcome Dr. Evans is matched by his own words: “I am excited about working with a faculty that is at the forefront of theological education in North America and globally, and to help students prepare for the challenges of ministry in a complex and changing world. I can't think of a better time to be in the vocation of theological education nor a better place to be than Boston University!”

Professor Courtney Goto is a scholar of remarkable energy and creativity, true to the artistic center of her own scholarship. She is a recent PhD graduate of Emory University, where she wrote a captivating dissertation entitled Artistic Play: Seeking the God of the Unexpected. She is also an MTS graduate of Harvard Divinity School, where she served as Project Manager with the Harvard University Pluralism Project. Dr. Goto has recently served as Managing Editor of the new online journal Practical Matters, and was co-editor of the inaugural issue. Since her youth years, she has been active in United Methodist boards and agencies, and also in the National Council of Churches and World Council of Churches. Dr. Goto’s journal articles include “Pretending to Be Japanese: Artistic Play in a Japanese American Church and Family”; “The Future of Interreligious Youth Education in the U.S.”; and “Imagination and Multireligious Cooperation: A Conversation with Dr. William Vendley” (video production). Dr. Goto says of her new home: “I’m grateful to be part of this dynamic, hard-working, faithful community where the Holy Spirit is moving. Thank you for helping me to find my place and for welcoming my gifts. I’m so happy to be at STH.”

Welcome to Professors Fluker, Evans, and Goto! We are so glad that you are here!