

Association of Practical Theology Biennial Meeting

April 9-11, 2010

The Academy and the Faith Community: Possibilities and Limitations of Partnership in Practical Theology

What are the possibilities and limitations of the relationship between practical theologians and faith communities, particularly given the robust multiplicity of faith identities and practices within churches as well as in the larger culture?

How might the discipline of practical theology critically assess and incorporate the wisdom of pluralistic faith communities and religious leaders in a mutually informing process of research and teaching?

An opportunity for constructive conversation, reflecting on actual research and teaching practice, and incorporating the insights of lay and ordained pastoral leaders, contextual educators, and practical theologians based in the academy.

Join the dialogue April 9-11, 2010. For more information, or to register, go to www.practicaltheology.org or email Holly Reed at reedhg@bu.edu

Schedule of Events

Friday, April 9

- 2-5:00 Check-In
5:00 Reception
6:00 Dinner
6:45 **Welcome and Opening Remarks: Claire Wolfteich, Boston University**
7:00 **Keynote Address: Nancy Ammerman, Boston University**

Responses:

Martin D. McLee, M.Div., J.D., District Superintendent, New England Conference of the United Methodist Church

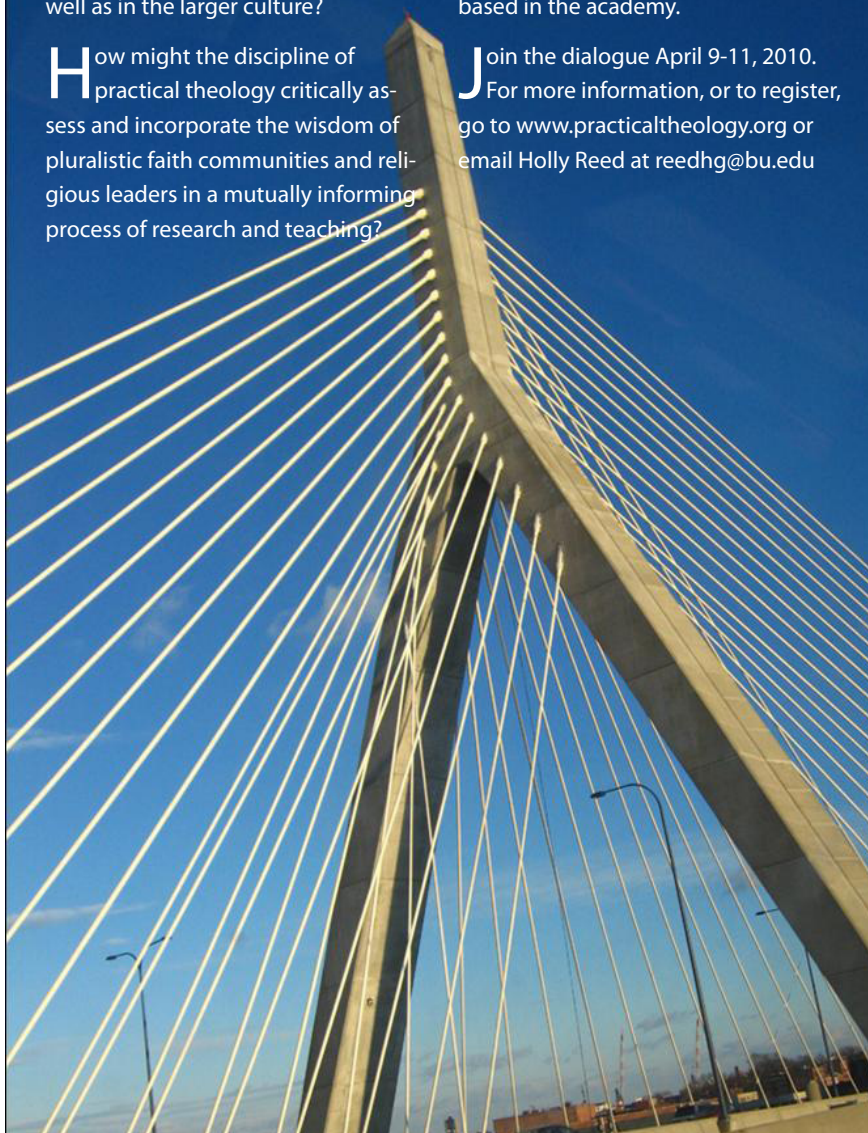
Gordon Mikoski, Princeton Theological Seminary

Saturday, April 10

- 8:30 Morning Prayer
9-10:45 **Plenary Panel—*On the Ground: Bridging Academy and Church***
Sue Dickson, Ashland University, *A Bridge Between Scholarly Resources and the Concrete Lives of Faith Communities*
Leah Gunning Francis, Eden Theological Seminary, *A Call to Oneness: Reflections on a Practical-Theological Approach to 'Bridging' the Academy and the Faith Community*
Fred Smith, Wesley Theological Seminary, *Context as Text for Practical Theological Education*
Anne Vandenhoeck and Annie Dillen, Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven, Belgium, *Practical Theological Thinking About the Religious Identity of Social Services*

10:45-11:15 Break

(Continued)



(Schedule of Events Continued)

11:15-12:45 Paper Workshops: Three Simultaneous Sessions

A) **Joseph Bush**, Wesley Seminary, *Liminal Vocation: Practical Theology of Pastoral Authority*

Stephen Cady, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Rev. Robert Hill, Boston University, *The Embodied Theory-Praxis Relationship: Two Voices on Vocation as a Practical Theologian and Pastor*

Julie Lytle, Episcopal Divinity School, *Mutual Ministry Efforts Between the Academy and the Faith Community Reveal the Potential for and Boundaries of Partnership*

Celeste Mueller, Aquinas Institute of Theology, *Collaboration Healthcare Ministry Leadership*

B) **Leah Weiss Ekstrom**, Boston College, *A Methodological Approach to Religious Pluralism: Interreligious Dialogue Rooted in Shared Experience of the Religious Practices of the "Other"*

Leanna Fuller, Vanderbilt University, *Practicing Hospitality: Implications for a Theology of Intra-Christian Dialogue*

Eunice J. Park, Franciscan School of Theology at the Graduate Theological Union, *Catholicism, Confucianism and Communal Identity: Korean-Americans and the Struggle for a Sense of Self*

James Poling, Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, *Constructive Practical Theology*

C) **John Falcone**, Boston College, *Creative Discipleship and Sacred Jazz: Practical Theology and Situated Learning in an Inner-City High School*

Pat McLeod, Boston University, *A Theological Analysis of Campus Crusade for Christ's Contemporary Evangelistic Practice in Two American University Contexts*

Elizabeth J.A. Siwo-Okundi Jones, Boston University, *The Response of Practical Theology to the Contemporary Orphan Crisis in Africa*

Sharon Thornton, Andover Newton Theological School, *Practical Theology in the Public Square: Where Academy and Faith Communities Meet*

12:45-2:00 **Lunch Conversations: Sign up for small groups upon arrival (box lunches provided)**

2:00-3:30 **Roundtable Plenary: Roman Catholic Contributions and Challenges in Practical Theology: Academy and Ecclesial Life**
Chair: **Tom Beaudoin**, Fordham University

Roundtable Participants:

Kathleen Cahalan, St. John's School of Theology, Collegeville, MN

Thomas Groome, Boston College, Boston MA

Lynn Bridgers, Univ. of New Mexico, Santa Fe, NM

Bryan Froehle, St. Thomas University, Miami, FL

Rev. Robert VerEecke, Pastor, St. Ignatius RC Parish, Chestnut Hill, MA

Nancy Pineda-Madrid, Boston College, Boston MA

3:30-4:00 **Break**

4:00-6:00 **Plenary Panel: Feminist and Womanist Practical Theology**
Chair: **Mary Elizabeth Moore**, Boston University

Panelists:

Nancy Pineda-Madrid, Boston College, *Femicide and the Re-invention of Religious Practices*

Jo Ann Deasy, North Park Theological Seminary, *Called to this Image: How Gender and Ministry Discourses are Shaping the Potential for Young Women to Develop a Pastoral Identity*

Phillis Sheppard, North Park Theological Seminary, *Womanist Practical Theology—Practices in the Academy and the Faith Community*

Respondent: **Shelly Rambo**, Boston University

Business Meeting

6:00 **Dinner and evening on own (Graduate students: Join us for a special dinner with APT Executive Members)**

Sunday, April 11

9:00-12:30 **Practical Theology and the Local Congregation: Plenary Session, Worship and Closing Fellowship**

This session will enable us to contextualize our discussion in a local urban congregation, International Community Church (<http://www.icc-boston.com/>). This diverse congregation also hosts Immanuel Deaf Church (ASL), Boston Church for Mission (Korean), Overseas Burmese Christian Fellowship (Burmese), and Grace Church Boston (Russian). A panel will introduce some initiatives of partnership between ICC Church and Boston University School of Theology, with a focus on how this partnership has aimed to foster practices of Sabbath keeping in academy and church. We will participate in worship with the congregation, and then continue our discussion about practical theology and the local congregation.

Welcome, Opening Prayer, Introductory Remarks about International Community Church

Opening Discussion: Building Partnership between International Community Church and Boston University School of Theology: Sabbath Practices and Pastoral Leadership

Lorraine Anderson, Pastor of ICC

Bryan Stone and Claire Wolfteich, Co-Directors, Center for Practical Theology, Boston University

Worship with the Congregation

Respondents: **Dorothy Bass**, Director, Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith;

Sam Johnson and **Elizabeth Parsons**, Co-Directors, Office of Professional Education, Boston University School of Theology; **ICC Laity**

Open Discussion and Fellowship

12:30 pm **Conclude**