

## Dean Candidates to Visit Campus

The Search Committee for the new Dean of the Ecumenical Institute of Theology has, with the approval of Mr. Bruce Behrens (Chair of the Ecumenical Institute Executive Board) and Fr. Thomas Hurst (President Rector of St. Mary's), invited four applicants to campus during January and February. The visits will include meetings with some of the key persons at St. Mary's with whom the new Dean will work.

Each candidate will also participate in an Open Session while on campus. Ecumenical Institute and seminary students, faculty, and administrators, as well as E.I. alums, are welcome to all of these Open Sessions. Each of the sessions will be held at 5 p.m. in classroom 103D.

### *Schedule of the Open Sessions* (all at 5 p.m. in Room 103D)

Thursday, January 12—Dr. Edwin Aponte

Monday, January 23—Dr. Judy Yates Siker

Thursday, January 26—Dr Brent Laytham

Monday, February 13—Dr. Chris Dreisbach

At the Open Session, the candidate will make a brief presentation on “the future of ecumenical theological education” and respond to questions from the Ecumenical Institute community and others who are present.

Those who attend the sessions are asked to send Dr. Jim Buckley, chair of the search committee, or any other member of the search committee (listed below, with email addresses) any responses they have to candidates in relation to the Dean's position—particularly keeping in mind the elements in the advertised job description (see below).

The four candidates for the Dean's position, listed here in the order of their campus visits, are the following:

**1. Dr. Edwin Aponte** has his Masters of Arts in Theological Studies from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and his Master of Arts and Doctorate in Religion from Temple University. He has been a member of the faculty and administration at the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University and at Lancaster Theological Seminary (where he was Professor of Religion and Culture as well as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of the Seminary). He is currently Research Professor of Latina/o and Latin American Christianity at New York Theological Seminary and Adjunct Professor of Religion at Temple University. He is also an ordained member of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and has authored a number of articles, book chapters, and books, including *Handbook of Latina/o Theologies*, co-edited with Miguel A. De La Torre (Chalice, 2006) and *¡Santo! Varieties of Latina/o Spirituality* (Orbis, forthcoming 2012).

Dr. Aponte will visit St. Mary's on January 12–13; his Open Session will take place on **Thursday, January 12 at 5 p.m.** in Room 103D.

**2. Dr. Judy Yates Siker** has her Masters of Divinity from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary as well as her Masters and Doctorate from the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill). She is currently Research Professor of New Testament and Christian Origins at San Francisco Theological Seminary. Besides also having been Vice-President at San Francisco Theological Seminary, she has been Dean of the faculty and Associate Professor of New Testament at American Baptist Seminary of the West and the Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley, CA). She has also published reviews, articles, and chapters in books, most recently the article on anti-Semitism for the *Dictionary of Scripture and Ethics* (Baker Academics, 2011) and “Exegetical Perspectives on Mark 13.24–37” in the *Lectionary Commentary Series, Year B, Volume I* (Westminster John Knox, 2008).

Dr. Siker will visit St. Mary’s on January 22–24; the Open Session will take place on **Monday January 23 at 5 p.m.** in Room 103D.

**3. Dr. Brent Laytham** has his Masters of Divinity from Nazarene Theological Seminary and his doctorate in Religion from Duke University. Dr. Laytham is currently professor of Theology and Ethics at North Park Theological Seminary, where he is also acting Associate Dean for Academic Operations. He is an ordained United Methodist elder, and has had fifteen years of experience in the United Methodist Course of Study schools at Duke, Candler, and Garrett-Evangelical. He has also published numerous reviews, articles, and chapters in books, and has edited and contributed to *God Is Not* (Brazos, 2004) and *God Does Not* (Brazos 2009). He is currently, among other things, working on a theological commentary on Second Corinthians for Brazos Press

Dr. Laytham will visit St. Mary’s on January 26–27; the Open Session will take place on **Thursday, January 26 at 5 p.m.** in Room 103D.

**4. Dr. Christopher Dreisbach** has his Masters and Doctorate in Philosophy from The Johns Hopkins University. He is currently Director of Applied Ethics and Humanities in the School of Education’s Division of Public Safety Leadership at Johns Hopkins. He is also a long-time faculty member in Moral and Systematic Theology, as well as former administrator (including Acting Dean [2001]), at the Ecumenical Institute. Dr. Dreisbach is also a postulant for Holy Orders in the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. He has authored numerous reviews, articles, and books, including *Collingwood on the Moral Principles of Art* (Susquehanna University Press, 2009), *Ethics in Criminal Justice* (McGraw-Hill, 2009), and *Social and Criminal Justice in Moral Perspective* (Bridgepoint Education, in process).

Dr. Dreisbach will visit St. Mary’s on February 13–14; the Open Session will take place on **Monday, February 13 at 5 p.m.** in Room 103D.

### ***Dean’s Search Advertisement***

The Ecumenical Institute of Theology of St. Mary's Seminary and University in Baltimore, MD seeks a Dean committed to the mission of the Ecumenical Institute, with knowledge of and experience in theological education within an ecumenically diverse context. The position also requires a collegial administrative style with other administrators, faculty, staff, students, and the

larger Catholic institution of St. Mary's. The Dean, who should possess an earned doctorate, will also teach, engage in fund raising and be committed to scholarly activity and publication. Applicants are welcome from any Christian faith tradition.

*Names and email addresses of the Search Committee*

James Buckley (chair), [jbuckley@loyola.edu](mailto:jbuckley@loyola.edu)

*E.I. Executive Board member*

Sarah Batley, [sbbatley@gmail.com](mailto:sbbatley@gmail.com)

*E.I. student*

Wanda Bynum, [wjbynum@aol.com](mailto:wjbynum@aol.com)

*E.I. alum*

Thomas Culbertson, [tlcdrc@gmail.com](mailto:tlcdrc@gmail.com)

*E.I. faculty member*

Dennis Edwards, [revdredre@yahoo.com](mailto:revdredre@yahoo.com)

*E.I. faculty member*

Mary Ellen Fise, [merf@comcast.net](mailto:merf@comcast.net)

*E.I. alum*

Philip Keane, S.S., [pkeane@stmarys.edu](mailto:pkeane@stmarys.edu)

*former E.I. faculty member; Sulpician*