

Cornerstone

Transformational Scholarship at Azusa Pacific University

Summer 2014 ~ Office of Research and Grants



Faculty Spotlight

Don Thorsen, PhD
Chair, Department of Theology & Ethics
Professor of Theology
APU School of Theology

3

Thorsen, Don (2013). *Calvin vs. Wesley: Bringing Belief in Line with Practice*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon.



Student Spotlight

Andrew Soria
Undergraduate
Department of English
APU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

2

The SURE Program was a wonderful opportunity for me to explore humanities....
(continued on page 2)



Calendar and Events

Forthcoming events and scholarly ephemera sponsored by the Office of Research & Grants (ORG).

3

Trivium

Excerpts from Dr. Steve's *Almanac of Christian Trivia*



SURE

Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience

Mentors make a difference. Last fall Dr. Kevin Huang (Director of Undergraduate Research) discovered a powerful model for faculty-undergraduate scholarship via the Council on Undergraduate Research (known by its unfortunate acronym, CUR). Pioneered by Chapman University, the model specified internal grant awards to faculty-undergraduate mentor dyads interested in developing a scholarly product. With generous funding from the Office of the Provost, Kevin ran a pilot version of the model as *Scholarly Undergraduate Research Experience*, or SURE.

SURE pilot results were remarkable. Jane Huang (no relation to Kevin) was mentored by Dr. Melissa LaBonte Wilson in the Department of Biology & Chemistry. Their project, entitled *Evaluation of Anti-CXCR2 Small Molecule Inhibitors as Novel Chemotherapy Targeting the Interleukin-8 Pathway in Colorectal Cancer* was presented at the 105th American Association for Cancer Research in April. Jane writes,

“conducting translational research on colon cancer under the mentorship of Dr. LaBonte Wilson has been an invaluable learning opportunity. It has enabled practical, hands-on learning that complements the classroom experience by facilitating practical application of the theoretical concepts introduced in class and

Continued on page 2

The SURE Pilot Project

- **Carolyn Allbaugh** (Mentored by Bill Catling, Department of Arts & Design). *Reflexion Dangereuse*. Cuttress Fine Art & Main Street Gallery, June, 2014.
- **Jane Huang** (Mentored by Melissa LaBonte Wilson, Department of Biology & Chemistry). *Evaluation of Anti-CXCR2 Small Molecule Inhibitors as Novel Chemotherapy Targeting the Interleukin-8 Pathway in Colorectal Cancer*. 105th American Association for Cancer Research, April, 2014.
- **Andrew Soria** (Mentored by Carole Lambert, Department of English). *The Jewish Latin American Literature: A Case Study in Crossing Borders*. North American Christian Foreign Language Association, March, 2014.
- **Sam Vaudrey** (Mentored by Annie Tsai, Department of Undergraduate Psychology). *Not a Women's Issue: Gender Roles and Career Aspiration*. Southern California Christians in Science Conference, January, 2014.

Student Spotlight

...research. Working closely with Dr. Lambert, I have been able to experience firsthand the pressures of modern professorship and how to overcome them with professionalism and grace. It is because of this SURE award that Dr. Lambert and I were able to have many profound discussions about my research project and its theoretical components, which will continue to guide me as I pursue a similar line of inquiry at the PhD level this fall. In addition, the monetary aspect of SURE has given me access to dozens of texts in the field of Judeo-Spanish (including several rare books). This has allowed me to perform my research at a much higher level, approximating that of a legitimate scholar; indeed, my presentation at the Common Day of Learning was well received and noted to be at the graduate level. It has been a blessing to be part of the SURE program, and I hope that it continues to inspire and equip other Christian undergraduates to worship God with their minds and scholarship.



Andrew will matriculate for the PhD in English at USC in fall 2014.



(SURE, continued)

... providing exposure to a plethora of experimental techniques and instrumentation. In particular, Dr. LaBonte Wilson provides direction and guidance while allowing for a significant degree of independence, in that I have my own research project for which I have been responsible for determining experimental plans and analyzing results and am able to suggest and integrate ideas for how we can further empirically support our project premise. In addition to developing technical research skills, this level of independence adds value to our role as research students and has nurtured my growth into a more competent student researcher, particularly by fostering critical thinking skills and a more scientific mindset.



Despite our relative autonomy, research has likewise been a collaborative effort, in which we can contribute ideas toward other team members' projects and share what we've learned with others. This research experience has also provided numerous other opportunities for learning—i.e., articulating scientific research by presenting our study at regional and national conferences and the preparation of a manuscript for publishing in a recognized peer-reviewed scientific journal. Overall, directed research certainly presents a worthwhile opportunity for the APU undergraduate community, and it is encouraging to have APU's increasing investment in undergraduate research via the SURE program."



Thanks to Dr. Kevin Huang for sharing the vision! We are grateful to the provost for bankrolling the SURE pilot. The Office of Research and Grants (ORG) will attempt to expand SURE in 2014-2015. Stay tuned. (KSR)





Faculty Spotlight

Our prolific theologian, Don Thorsen, has published a remarkable reflection on the Wesleyan tradition in which he stands. *Calvin vs. Wesley* offers sustained dialogue on several elements important to both traditions, with a particular emphasis: Thorsen proposes that despite doctrinal debates that have characterized the interaction of these schools of Christian theology, it is the way Christianity is actually lived that provides the most illuminating perspective on this exchange. Again and again he raises the question—what is the impact that Calvin has made on “beliefs, values, and practices,” and what has been Wesley’s impact?

Thorsen takes up eight issues that have separated these churches—the idea of God, biblical authority, human freedom, the way of grace, the effectiveness of the Cross, Christian spirituality, the scope of Church’s teaching authority, and the nature of Christian ministry. Chapter titles indicate his wish for us to consider what each side can offer, and to arrive at a balanced assessment; for instance, “God: More Love than Sovereignty;” and “Humanity: More Freedom than Predestination.”

Just as remarkable as his emphasis on the practical, is his irenic approach, which the reader will appreciate in the clarity of explanations for the positions of both Christian leaders, and the mild way in which he comes to his (quite firm) conclusions. Roger Olson, also a theologian in the Wesleyan tradition, opines (on the back cover) that Thorsen’s “treatment of Calvin is fair to a fault.” Indeed, the cover shows Calvin and Wesley gazing at each other not unpleasantly, and the chapters within characteristically describe the agreements between the two as a basis for understanding their divergence. Thorsen exemplifies the striking openness of Wesley to Christians of differing experience. We may well discern that there is between John Calvin and John Wesley “more concord than discord.”

One of the gifts this book bestows on the reader is that, in the process of his other aims, Thorsen delineates a powerful and consistent Wesleyan spirituality. It equates holiness not with legalism but with love; it rejoices in the human freedom to respond to God’s grace; and it finds its best service not in speculation but in active ministry. Coming in just under 150 pages, a great summer read! (DD)

Ave atque vale

Hail and farewell to Dr. David Dorman, friend to ORG and university. You will be missed!



Calendar & Events

Events

Malibu Writers’ Retreat

7/8/14-7/11/14 (hosted by Sarah Visser)

Sabbatical Leave Lunches

9/18/14 – Rob Muthiah

9/24/14 – Mark Arvidson

9/30/14 – Tom Cairns

Compliance Partners

IRB (human subjects research)

7/2/14 Application deadline for July meeting

8/6/14 Application deadline for August meeting

9/3/14 Application deadline for September meeting

IACUC (animal research)

7/9/14 Protocol or amendment deadline for July meeting

8/13/14 Protocol or amendment deadline for August meeting

9/10/14 Protocol or amendment deadline for September meeting

Consultations

Dr. John Trent (contact ORG for appointment)

Workshops

Responsible Conduct of Research: Conflict of Interest

9/10/14 (2:30-3:30 PM) – ORG Conference Room



Find and like us on Facebook!
<https://www.facebook.com/researchandgrants>



Conference At-a-glance

Emerging Tools for Innovative Providers 2014:
Interdisciplinary Spiritual Care Applications with
Immediate Impact

July 28 – August 1, 2014

www.EmergingToolsForInnovativeProviders.com

Early bird registration ends June 27, 2014

Conference Location:

Fuller Theological Seminary
Graduate School of Psychology
180 N. Oakland Ave. Pasadena, CA 91101

About the Emerging Tools Conference

The APU School of Nursing will co-sponsor an outstanding multidisciplinary conference. Conference speakers include: Harold Koenig (Duke University), Kenneth Pargament (Bowling Green State University), Gail Ironson (University of Miami), Jeffery Dusek (Allina Health), Kevin Reimer (APU), Sheryl Tyson (APU), and others. The goal is to develop a broad vision of the role that spirituality plays as a health or mental health determinant and specific applications that professionals can implement into their own practice, discipline and workplace.

This is the second year APU is involved in organizing this dynamic conference. The event will include many practical learning activities and workshops, exploring how the significant accumulation of spirituality and health research translates into useful applications for healthcare and other human services providers. Participants will have opportunity to work with leaders in the field to integrate significant findings from spirituality and health research into clinical practices. Teams will form at the beginning of the conference to work in mentored settings.

The conference is for healthcare administrators, nurses, clergy, chaplains, psychologists, social workers, educators, physicians, criminal justice workers (30 hours of credit for continuing education).

Trivium

Dr. Steve offers an account of St. Columba and conversion of the Scots:

“As legend has it, on one foray into mainland Scotland to meet with a Pictish king in 563, Columba came across some men burying a friend who had been killed by a sea monster. Seeing another swimmer also being threatened by the monster, he raised his cross and commanded the beast retreat. When the big critter complied with Columba’s order, several Picts converted on the spot. This is the first recorded sighting of the Loch Ness monster in history, with the next Nessie appearance not occurring until 1933. This is obviously one very old monster.”

Wilkens, Steve (2007). *The Original Dr. Steve’s Almanac of Christian Trivia* (Downer’s Grove, IL: InterVarsity).

APU Office of Research & Grants

680 Alosta, Suite #115
Azusa, California 91702
626.815.2082

<http://www.apu.edu/researchandgrants/>

