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# Calvin Courier

The newsletter of the H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies

Spring 2013, Number 51

## From the Director

In contrast to 2012, when the weather skipped directly from winter to summer, spring 2013 has been developing ever so slowly in West Michigan, accompanied by blustery showers and even snow squalls in April. Yet the work of the Meeter Center continues on regardless, featuring special lectures, conference sponsorship, and preparations for our upcoming National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminar. We were impressed by both the number and quality of the applications we received from potential participants. You will find the list of our confirmed participants and their research plans for that four-week program on p. 3. Calvin Courier readers who live locally are warmly invited to join us on Wednesday, July 24, at 7:30 PM in the Gezon Auditorium at Calvin College, for a special lecture by Dr. Amy Burnett (University of Nebraska-Lincoln), who will be co-directing the seminar. She will be lecturing on “Seven Myths about the Reformation Debate over the Lord's Supper”

Spring and summer usually herald the arrival of our visiting scholars, and this year is no exception. For the list of this year's fellowship recipients and their research topics, see p. 3. Of these, Reverend Jim Poelman, a

pastor from Sarnia, Ontario, is already in residence for his month-long stay, and we are delighted to welcome him among us. Our other visiting scholars will join us in July, overlapping with our NEH seminar, so the Center will certainly be busy this summer.

Finally, we wish to pay tribute to two Reformation scholars and friends of the Meeter Center. Professor James Cameron, emeritus professor of ecclesiastical history at the University of Saint Andrews in Scotland, died in December 2012. His deep interest in Reformation studies and his particularly careful scholarship on the Scottish Reformation, together with his great personal charm, will be greatly missed. We also want to honor the memory of Professor Frank Roberts, emeritus professor of History at Calvin College, who died on March 31, 2013. Frank was one of the main forces behind the creation of the Meeter Center, and served both as the Center's acting director and the first president of the Center's governing board. Throughout his career and in his retirement years, Frank continued to display a keen interest in and support for the Center and its projects. We are deeply grateful to him and to all those who have encouraged us in our work over the years.

Karin Y. Maag

## Rare Book Acquisitions

Two recent phone calls, which made the Center cautiously yet excitedly pursue the purchase of two very different books, came from individuals who have not been to the Meeter Center or dealt with us before. Yet, they knew the Center by reputation and called us based on that information.

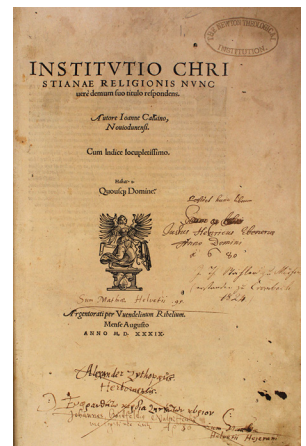
### *Institutio christianae religionis*

The first call came from a dealer with the exciting news that he had the 1539 *Institutio christianae religionis* for sale. This work is the second edition of Calvin's master work on theology. In 1539 two printings were produced in Strasbourg in which the body of the work did not change but the title pages were different: one has *Autore Ioanne Calvino, Noviodunensi.*, the second has *Autore Alconio*. Our copy is the first printing. The 1539 *Institutes* is three times as large as the 1536 edition. It grew from six chapters to seventeen and shows the influence of

Melancthon and Bucer, as well as Calvin's reaction to his interaction with Anabaptists during his time in Strasbourg.

### *La Bible, qui est toute la Sainte Esriture du Vieil et du Nouveau Testament: Autrement l'Ancienne et la Nouvelle Alliance*

The second call came from a Canadian pastor in the Toronto area who had happened upon a French Bible from 1588 which the dealer said was the French Geneva Bible. Subsequent calls determined that the work is indeed the 1588 “New



Calvin's 1539 Institutes

continued on page 2

## Justification by works in Reformation Theology

On April 11, 2013, Professor Anthony Lane of the London School of Theology challenged popular assumptions that would divide Catholics and Protestants into two camps according to their contrasting understandings of Justification. Professor Lane pointed out that early modern Catholicism did leave room for both faith and works in Justification, through a two-fold process in which the initial Justification is by faith, and the second is the Justification of the godly by their good works. Focusing on Protestant commentaries on the letter of James, Lane also pointed out that the Reformers, including John Calvin, did leave room for works in their understanding of Justification, although Calvin consistently downplayed the value of the works in and of themselves – Reformed believers were to do good works as a necessary sign of salvation, and their otherwise worthless works gained acceptance in God's eyes because the believers themselves were new creations in Christ.



*Anthony N. S. Lane*

## Meeter Center Regional Symposium



*Scott Manetsch*

The Center hosted its third regional symposium for colleagues at colleges, universities, and seminaries across the upper Midwest on the afternoon of April 18, 2013. We welcomed Professor Scott Manetsch of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, who led the group of twenty participants in a focused discussion of his chapter on the work of the Genevan Consistory, from his newly-published book, *Calvin's Company of Pastors: Pastoral Care and the Emerging Reformed*

*Church, 1536-1609* (Oxford, OUP, 2012). We hope to hold our next regional symposium this fall, on catechisms and catechetical instruction, as we mark the 450th anniversary of the Heidelberg Catechism. Please send an email to Ryan Noppen (rnoppe58@calvin.edu) if you are interested in being included in a mailing list for the half-day gathering once a semester.

## Lecture Recordings

*For our friends who cannot attend, Meeter Center Lectures and Colloquia are recorded, with speakers' permission, and are accessible on the Center's website via podcasts.*

## Calvin Studies Society Conference

The Calvin Studies Society gathered for its biennial conference at Princeton Theological Seminary on April 4-6. This year's theme, "Calvin and the Book", fostered a range of fascinating presentations. The Meeter Center sponsored two of the sessions, including Professor Andrew Pettegree's presentation on the contrasting use and impact of printing for Luther and for Calvin, using material from the large-scale bibliographic database projects that Dr. Pettegree has been heading for more than fifteen years. The Center also sponsored Professor Euan Cameron's presentation on John Calvin's use and understanding of history in his commentaries on Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Daniel. Conference attendees also enjoyed an evening of organ music focused on the Psalms, led by Dr. Martin Tel, and enjoyed the opportunity to meet and get to know other conference delegates in the beautiful and hospitable surroundings of Princeton Theological Seminary. At its business meeting, the Society decided to hold its 2015 conference at the Meeter Center, and we are delighted to be hosting the group once again.

*Participants at the 2013 Calvin Studies Society Conference; from left to right: Bruce Gordon, Bill Naphy, Andrew Pettegree, Amy Burnett, Margo Todd, Jeannine Olson, and Karin Maag*



## Rare Book Acquisitions, continued

Revision" or "French Geneva version" which remained the standard Geneva text until a revision which took place between 1699 and 1707.

This folio edition is the result of a project to revise the French Geneva Bible. The work began in 1569 under the auspices of the pastors and professors of Geneva. The requested revision was carried out under the direction of Corneille Bonaventure Bertram, professor of Hebrew in Geneva. No printer's name is indicated on the title page since it was stipulated that any financial gain not go to the printers but to the Church to aid religious refugees in Geneva. This aim is clearly stated at the beginning of the work in the "Advertissement aux Marchands..." Also, this printing contains several illustrations which are not included in ongoing reprints of the work after 1588.



*Rev. John Tenyenhuis and the 1588 Geneva Bible*

## Fellowships Awarded in 2013

### Student Research Fellowship

*Mr. Matthew Bussell*, Ph.D student at Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA, will look at the comparison of John Calvin's teaching on the moral law with Thomas Aquinas' doctrine of natural law.

### Friends of the Meeter Center Research Fellowship

*Dr. John Choi*, professor at Handong Global University, South Korea, will examine Calvinism and Dutch entrepreneurship.

### Emo F.J. Van Halsema Fellowship

*Rev. Jim Poelman*, pastor of Redeemer Christian Reformed Church in Sarnia, ON, will study John Calvin and the Lord's Supper.

### Faculty Research Fellowship

*Dr. Andrew Spicer*, Professor of Early Modern European History at Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom, will research art and French Protestantism.

## 2013 NEH Summer Seminar

From July 15 to August 9 the Meeter Center will host an NEH-sponsored seminar titled "Persecution, Toleration, Co-Existence: Early Modern Responses to Religious Pluralism". Fourteen college and university instructors and two graduate students were selected from a large applicant pool to participate in this research-oriented seminar. The following is a list of the seminar's participants and the topics of their prospective research projects:

**Gregory Bereiter** (Graduate Student) from Northern Illinois University; topic: armed clerics and religious violence in late 16th century France

**James Blakeley** (Assoc. Prof, History) from St. Joseph's College, NY; topic: confessional elections in rural western Switzerland

**Victoria Christman** (Assoc. Prof, History) from Luther College, IA; topic: Mary of Hungary, queen-regent of the Netherlands, 1530-55

**Susan Cogan** (Instructor, History) from Utah State University; topic: Englishwomen's roles across the confessional spectrum

**Geoffrey Dipple** (Professor, History) from Augustana College, SD; topic: Anabaptist arguments for toleration

**Timothy Fehler** (Professor, History) from Furman University, SC; topic: Anabaptists in and around Emden

**Emily Gray** (Assistant Prof, History) from Norwich University, VT; topic: Lutherans and Catholics at Holy Cross, Augsburg, 1548-1648

**Ekaterina Lomperis** (graduate student) from the University of Chicago Divinity School; topic: theology and experience of suffering in Reformation

**David Mayes** (Assoc. Prof, History) from Sam Houston State University, TX; topic: religious pluralism in central German territories

**Beth Plummer** (Assoc. Prof, History) from Western Kentucky University; topic: interactions of nuns in German multi-confessional convents

**Brad Smith** (Professor, History) from Oglethorpe University, GA; topic: ideology of persecution for witch trials in Bamberg, 1620-1626

**Jason Strandquist** (post-doc teaching fellow) from Penn State University, PA; topic: anti-Jesuitism in Protestant German areas

**Gerrit Voogt** (Professor, History) from Kennesaw State University, GA; topic: Remonstrant defense of toleration, 1618-1689

**Danny Wasserman** (Visiting asst. prof) from Oberlin College, OH; topic: Luis de Granada, *Libro de la oración y meditación*

**Shira Weidenbaum** (independent scholar) from Quest University, BC, Canada; topic: French literary dialogues between Catholics and Protestants

**Jane Wickersham** (Associate Prof, History) from University of Oklahoma; topic: Italian crimes subject to religious and secular justice

### Hugh and Eve Meeter Calvinism Awards for High School Seniors

The 2013 winners are:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: **Jon Gorter** of Byron Center, MI

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: **Ashley Swaagman** of Bradenton, FL

Both winners will attend Calvin College in the fall.

### Friends of the Meeter Center

We welcome members to the Friends of the Meeter Center. Friends' donations help provide funding for special programs, including the Friends of the Meeter Center Fellowships, the Rare Book fund, and the biennial paleography workshop. Checks may be made out to Friends of the Meeter Center and sent to the Center's address. Thank you for your support! Annual membership fees are:

Student	\$20	Associate	\$100
Supporter	\$40	Partner	\$200
Donor	\$75	Benefactor	\$500



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## New Books

Balke, Willem et al., eds. *Théodore de Bèze: zijn leven, zijn werk*. Kampen: Uitgeverij Kok, 2012.

Beeke, Joel R. et al., eds. *Soli Deo gloria: un 'introduzione al calvinismo*. Caltanissetta: Alfa & Omega, 2010.

Bryćko, Dariusz M. *The Irenic Calvinism of Daniel Kalaj (d. 1681): A Study in the History and Theology of the Polish-Lithuanian Reformation*. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Rupprecht GmbH & Co. KG, 2012.

Greef, W. de. *Van één stam: Calvijn over Joden en christenen in de context van de late Middeleeuwen*. Delft: Uitgeverij Eburon, 2012.

Jongeneel, Roel. *Eerlijke economie: Calvin en het sociaaleconomisch leven*. Amsterdam: Buijten & Schipperheijn, 2012.

Muller, Richard A. *Calvin and the Reformed Tradition: On the Work of Christ and the Order of Salvation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2012.

Peyronel Rambaldi, Susanna, ed. *Giovanni Calvino e la Riforma in Italia: Influenze e conflitti*. Torino: Claudiana, 2011.

Stanglin, Keith D. *Jacob Arminius: Theologian of Grace*. New York: Oxford University Press, 2012.

Thompson, John Lee, ed. *Genesis 1-11*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2012.

### Funded Research Fellowships

Every year, the Meeter Center offers fellowships for graduate students, faculty, and pastors. Fellowship recipients receive a stipend to come to the Center to do research on subjects pertaining to John Calvin and Calvinism. **Previous fellowship recipients may re-apply after a minimum one-year hiatus.** For further details visit:

<http://www.calvin.edu/meeter/new/fellowships-and-scholarships>

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