A Note from the Chair

This year’s word from the Chair must first acknowledge the bittersweet news that dominates this eleventh annual newsletter, which is addressed directly below. After a Spring of stirring sendoffs, we are at this moment beginning to see Harry Yeide tackle the undoing of his monumental office. He has been a departmental treasure, and even as his moving on will slowly sink in, his countless contributions will all be treasured. With that, this newsletter also informs you that the Religion Department will meet change with new vitality. As for me, I write as an outgoing chair about to take a sabbatical, and am happy to tell you that in your next Newsletter, the note from the chair will come from my esteemed colleague Dewey Wallace, whom most of you know well. ✤

-Alf Hiltebeitel

Reception for Harry Yeide on the Occasion of his Retirement

On May 11 the department and the university held a spirited celebration of the long career of Harry Yeide on the occasion of his retirement. A crowd of seventy, including former GWU President Lloyd Elliott, gathered to pay tribute to his achievements. Alf Hiltebeitel, Department chair, introduced Dean Peg Barratt who began the event with gracious remarks. The surprise of the day was the appearance of long-time former Department Chair Robert G. Jones, who travelled from his retirement in Tennessee for the occasion, regaling us with the vintage Bob Yeide combination of humor, affection, and learning which many readers of this newsletter will recall. Bob noted that like the Arkansas farmer speaking at his pastor’s retirement, “he was glad to be present to welcome [Harry’s] departure,” and present him with a gift, “to add a little momentum to his going.” That gift was a new business card, in the guise of a diploma, signed by those present.

The inimitable Bob Jones was always a hard act to follow, but he was nonetheless followed by tributes to Harry from faculty persons both within and outside the Department of Religion, and one former student, Ann Benfield. The tributes were connected to different aspects of university life, with, for example, Alf Hiltebeitel discussing Harry’s scholarship, Dewey Wallace his teaching, Paul Duff his administrative ability, and Lilien Robinson, Professor of Art, his University service. The remarks of those who spoke at the event included commendations of Harry’s special qualities, humorous recollection of his idiosyncracies, and endearing recognition of what he has meant to those with whom he has worked. Among those qualities, Dewey Wallace called attention to Harry’s dialogical and analytic mind. Alf Hiltebeitel to the frequently changing open books scattered throughout Harry’s office, an indication of his ever fresh class preparation, Lilien Robinson to the “effective contributions” he made to the many committees on which he served, and Dean Peg Barratt to his departmental office, “known for the constant flow of students, friends, and colleagues who came by to discuss coursework, campus-wide initiatives, and world-wide concerns.”

story continues page 7
The Department of Religion is pleased to announce the appointment of Irene Oh as Assistant Professor of Religion; Irene will be joining us for the fall semester of 2009. She will teach courses for us in Religious Ethics in which she has concentrated on both Christian and Islamic ethics. She comes to us after five years of teaching at the University of Miami, and has degrees from Swarthmore College (B.A.), where she majored in Religion, the University of Chicago (M.A. in Divinity), and the University of Virginia (Ph.D.). Her book *The Rights of God: Islam, Human Rights, and Comparative Ethics* was published in 2007 by Georgetown University Press. She is also the author of several articles, and has on many occasions presented her research and reflections at academic conferences. She has already taught courses in biomedical ethics, the ethics of sex and gender, business ethics, Religion and globalization, and other subjects. She was the recipient in 2001 of a Fulbright-Hayes Fellowship for study at Yarmouk University in Jordan. And she recently was chosen to serve on the board of directors of the Society of Christian Ethics. Besides her teaching responsibilities for our department, she will serve as the Director of the Peace Studies program. It is with genuine enthusiasm that we welcome her to the Department of Religion.

The Religion Department is delighted to announce that, as the outcome of a position search this year, it will be joined full-time in 2010-11 by Professor Xiaofei Kang, who currently teaches as Associate Professor in the Department of Modern Languages at Carnegie Mellon University. Professor Kang did her Ph.D. in History at Columbia University in 2000 and M.A.’s at the University of California at Santa Barbara and Beijing University in 1992 and 1987 respectively.

Xiaofei Kang will fulfill the Religion Department’s long-sought goal of teaching East Asian religions on a full-time basis. Professor Kang will be able to do so not only with scholarly depth in China’s ancient, classical, and medieval religious traditions, but with fieldwork experience and good contacts in modern China, and with ethnographic and teaching interests in ethnicity and modernity, women and Chinese religions, gender, pilgrimage, and Chinese literary narratives. She will also be able to contribute to the teaching of the department’s required course for majors and minors on “Theories and Methods in the Study of Religion.”

Dr. Kang is well connected with colleagues in Religious Studies through her committee work for the American Academy of Religion, and in her election to the Executive Board of the Society for the Study of Chinese Religions. The Department looks forward to benefitting from the interdisciplinary range of Professor Kang’s research. With many articles to her credit, her book stands out among her publications: *The Cult of the Fox: Power, Gender, and Popular Religion in Late Imperial and Modern China* (Columbia University Press, 2006). The book fuses ethnographic material with research into Ming and Qing Dynasty writings. With fine touches of humor, it also shows the author’s mastery of early Daoist classics about which Professor Kang will be teaching. It has quickly become the key work on its subject and has received excellent reviews.
Abbie Ziffren Memorial Lecture, 2008

This year’s Ziffren lecture, held November 19, 2008, honored Abbie Ziffren’s interests in India by inviting Audrius Beinorius to speak on a subject that also touched on Abbie’s interests in matters relating medicine to culture and cosmology. Last Fall, Audrius Beinorius was a visiting Fulbright scholar at the Department of Religious Studies, Brown University, and was thus fortunately in the States and available to give this wide-ranging talk, titled “Astral Semantics: On the Relation Between Astrology and Medicine in Indian Religious Culture.” The talk was accompanied by vivid slides covering a wide range of Hindu, Buddhist, tantric, and medical practices and images. It was well attended by students, colleagues, and some of Abbie’s friends. Professor Beinorius (PhD Vilnius University 1998, Habilitation 2007) is Professor of Indian and Buddhist Studies and Head of the Center of Oriental Studies at Vilnius University, Lithuania.

Berz Lecture, 2009

This year’s Berz lecture, held March 26, 2009, brought us a distinguished talk by Kimberley Patton, Professor of Comparative and Historical Study of Religion, at the Harvard Divinity School. The talk was titled “Gods Performing Rituals; Religion of the Gods: A Paradox through a Comparative Lens.” The talk, with many illustrative slides mainly showing classical Greek vases and sculptures, unfolded from a depiction on one vase that showed one deity offering a libation to another. From this beginning, Patton brought out a rich discussion of “divine reflexivity” that challenged conventional expectations that gods would be worshiped only by humans. Extensive discussion followed. For those interested in thinking further along these lines, one can now turn to Patton’s newest book, Religion of the Gods: Ritual, Paradox, and Reflexivity (Oxford University Press, 2009) The lecture was supported by the David and Sherry Berz Fund for Religious Studies, and we were pleased that Sherry Berz was able to attend.
Faculty Updates

Eyal Aviv: This has been my first year of teaching at GWU and I feel blessed to work in such a department. I have been primarily engaged in acclimating to the life and rhythm of a faculty member, and taught four new courses that kept me quite busy. Aside from teaching, I was also selected to the steering committee of the AAR Yogācāra consultation group and wrote a paper that was accepted for 2009 AAR in Montreal. In addition, I am working these days on an article, which will be published as a part of a book about the Yogācārabhūmi, which is an important Buddhist compendium of knowledge that served as an Encyclopedia of Buddhist thought and practice. The book was accepted for publication in the Harvard Oriental Series. I was also invited to write my first book review on the topic of Buddhist Modernism. During this coming summer, I will travel to India to meet with an international research group that I am a part of. This will be our first in a series of meetings dedicated to the study of the impact Buddhist philosophy had on the formation of modern Chinese intellectual history. This group’s next meeting will be held in Australia at the end of this calendar year.


This past year, Professor Robert Eisen completed work on his book The Peace and Violence of Judaism: A Study in Jewish Ethics from the Bible to Modern Zionism, and it is currently under review at Oxford University Press. He composed an article, "The War Against the Canaanites and Amalekites: A Non-Violent Reading of Violent Jewish Texts," which will appear in Non-Violence and Non-Absolutism in World Religions ed. Chandra Varma (University of Hyderabad). He gave a presentation and participated in a panel discussion on the theme of "Alternatives to War" at the United States Institute of Peace in Washington in November. This was part of an ongoing project in which he has been involved in the past two years. He also gave a presentation and participated in a panel discussion on "Jewish Academics and non-Academic Audiences" the Association for Jewish Studies conference in Washington in December.


Kelly Pemberton spent the year on leave as a Larsen Fellow in Health and Spirituality at the Library of Congress’ Kluge Center. Her time at the Kluge Center has primarily been spent working on a monograph about the contemporary revival of Islamic medicine in Egypt, India, Turkey, and Pakistan. In February and March this year, she traveled to Lahore, Pakistan, to deliver a paper titled “The Influence of Persia upon the Development of Unani Medicine: Healing Systems, Epistemologies, and the Mirror of the Past” for the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies Conference, held at Punjab University and the Lahore University of Management Sciences. The paper will be published in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Persianate Societies. While in Lahore, she was invited by the American Institute of Pakistan Studies to speak at Punjab University, where she delivered a lecture titled “Islamic Medicine: Perspectives on its Contemporary Revival in South Asia and the Middle East.” In Lahore, and later India, she also had the opportunity to speak with several hakims, or physicians who practice Unani (Galenic-Islamic) medicine, and found that there is an impressive amount of research, including clinical trials, being conducted in the Subcontinent on Unani that is little-known here in the United States. Aside from this research, Professor Pemberton’s monograph on Sufism will be published in 2010 by the University of South Carolina Press. The book, titled Women Mystics and Sufi Shrines
in the Indian Subcontinent, investigates the roles that women play as de facto spiritual guides (pirs, shaikhs) in Sufi circles today. Finally, Professor Pemberton has been involved in collaborative talks with Professor Brigid Maher of American University about Professor Maher’s film on Muslim women (lay) religious leaders in Syria, Egypt, and Lebanon, which is currently in post-production. Professor Pembeton has invited Professor Maher to visit the GW campus sometime this fall to stage a screening and discussion of her film, Veiled Voices, which showcases an increasingly common phenomenon in the Middle East and Asia: Muslim women taking up the mantle of religious leadership, with or without the sanction of dominant religious authorities.

Dewey Wallace was one of two members of a panel who made presentations on “The Religion of Abraham Lincoln” for the annual conference of the Religion News Writers Association meeting in Washington DC in September, 2008. He gave the opening lecture in November for an elderhostel group learning about the religious life and sites of Washington DC. In January he attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Church History, where he was one of the co-leaders of a religious sites tour which visited several historic Roman Catholic churches on Manhattan’s west side. A chapter written by him on “Puritan Polemical Divinity and Doctrinal Controversy” appeared in The Cambridge Companion to Puritanism, published by Cambridge University Press in the fall of 2008. Seven entries he authored appeared in the first volume of The New Westminster Dictionary of Church History (Westminster John Knox Press, 2008). Two of Dewey’s book reviews were also published during this last academic year, one on The Evolving Reputation of Richard Hooker, by Michael Brydon (The Historian, Winter 2008), the other on English Hypothetical Universalism: John Preston and the Softening of Reformed Theology, by Jonathan Moore (Church History, March, 2009).

The Religion Department congratulates two of our talented and popular adjunct teaching faculty of recent years, who have submitted their Ph.D. Dissertations in the George Washington University Program in Human Sciences, and will be defending them early this summer. Both dissertations were directed by Religion Department faculty.

Perundevi Srinivasan’s dissertation is titled “Stories of the Flesh: Colonial and Anthropological Discourses on the South Indian Goddess Mariyamman.” Her Dissertation director was Alf Hiltebeitel; Professor of English Marshal Alcorn and Associate Professor of History Andrew Zimmerman served on her dissertation committee. Perundevi will be taking on a post-doctorate appointment next year at Rutgers University.

Natalie Houghtby-Haddon’s dissertation is titled “Changed Imagination, Changed Obedience: The Bent-Over Woman as Social Vision in the Gospel of Luke.” Her Dissertation director was Paul Duff; Political Science Associate Professor Ingrid Creppell and Alf Hiltebeitel served on her dissertation committee.
The Career of Harry E. Yeide, Jr.

Harry Yeide joined the George Washington University Department of Religion in the fall of 1963. Harry followed his undergraduate education at Williams College with a year in Germany on a Fulbright award. A divinity degree at Union Theological Seminary in New York provided him the opportunity to study with Reinhold Niebuhr and Paul Tillich. Subsequently he received his Ph.D. from Harvard University where his dissertation on the social ethic of the eighteenth-century German theologian Friedrich Christoph Oetinger was directed by James Luther Adams, from whom he gained a persistent interest in the social and communal contexts for ethical reflection.

At George Washington University, Harry earned recognition as a sterling teacher, Socratic in method, and committed to lively dialogue with students. In addition to taking his turn in introductory sections of World Religions and frequently teaching our seminar for majors on Theories in the Study of Religion, he developed courses in Christian Ethics and Modern Society, Introduction to Religious Thought, Ethics and World Religions, and The Religions Wage Peace. He was a pioneer in shaping courses in Bioethics, participating for many years in the team taught course in that subject given in the Health Sciences Program, and in organizing, coordinating, and directing a Columbian College program in Peace Studies. His excellence as a teacher was rewarded when he received the annual Trachtenberg Prize for Teaching in 1998.

His administrative skills and college-wide sensibilities served him well as an Associate Dean of Columbian College of Arts and Sciences from 1967-1979 and as Chair of the Religion Department from 1979-1991 and 1993-97. He was always committed to the task of advising students, whether as Associate Dean, Department Chair, a leader of Freshman Advising Workshops, adviser to the program of general Liberal Arts Majors, or simply by welcoming students to his office. His committee service was far beyond the call of duty, as he played seminal roles on the Joint Committee of Faculty and Students (for twenty-five years), the Hospital Ethics Committee, the Committee on Professional Ethics and Academic Freedom, and many others. In 2007 he received the annual Trachtenberg Prize for University Service.

Nor did Harry neglect his reading and research: he read widely as his commitment to contextualizing ethical discourse demanded, and published articles in Bioethics (one of these in German) and on issues of war and peace. His interest in the communal context of moral reflection came out in his book *Studies in Classical Pietism: The Flowering of the Ecclesiola*, which also made a case for German pietism as a richly varied and theologically profound movement.

Harry Yeide earned the esteem and affection of his departmental and university colleagues, and his impact in shaping the GW department of Religion cannot be exaggerated. With his retirement the University has lost one of its foremost citizens. While we look forward to benefiting from his wisdom as an Emeritus Professor of Religion, we know he will certainly be missed.

Special thanks to those who have already donated to the Harry Yeide Fund:

- Ann Benfield
- Paul Duff
- Robert Eisen
- Alf Hiltebeitel
- Robert G. Jones
- Seyyed Hossein Nasr
- Dewey Wallace
Max Ticktin praised Harry’s skillful negotiation between commitment and objectivity in academia. Rob Eisen told the story of an eccentric student whom Rob encountered in his very first year at GW and of Harry’s wise counsel of how to cope with the situation. Nor did we let Harry forget his idiosyncracies, particularly “the astonishing jumble of his office” which became proverbial around the campus.

Endearing remembrances of what Harry meant to others were profuse. Lilien Robinson spoke of how much she valued his friendship. Ann Benfield added reminiscences of that friendship. Representing the adjunct members of the department faculty, Balaji Hebbar, who had once been Harry’s student, praised Harry’s kindness in sharing his office with him. Kelly Pemberton described Harry as a mentor who had helped her settle into GW and and Melissa Goldstein, from the Health Sciences Program and co-teacher with Harry in Bioethics, declared that he was an inspiration to her. Eyal Aviv, finishing his first year in the department, observed that he was glad he had come before Harry left, having found in him “a role model that I can only aspire to emulate.” Bob Jones’ summed up a memorable event with his reflection that Harry, as John Milton said of himself, “had become a member corporate of the truth of which he was persuaded.”

After the tributes, those present enjoyed food and conversation and extended their congratulations to Harry and to those members of his family who were present, including his wife Betty and his son Harry Yeide III and daughter Martha Yeide and their spouses. The department is especially grateful for the efficiency with which Allison Taylor, our departmental executive aide, managed the logistics for the event.

In honor of Harry and his service to the Department and University, the Department of Religion has established The Harry Yeide Prize for Excellence in the Field of Religious Studies to be awarded each spring to an outstanding graduating Religion student. The department welcomes contributions to this fund in recognition of Harry’s scholarship, leadership, and friendship. If you would like to preserve Harry’s presence in our department, please send a check made payable to The George Washington University, with a memo line designating “Religion Department: Yeide Fund” to:

The George Washington University
2100 M Street NW Suite 310
Washington, DC 20037

Alternatively, gifts may be made by credit card online at www.gwu.edu/give2gw; again, be sure to designate your gift to “the Religion Department: Yeide Fund.”
A Note on “A Common Word”

Following the Regensburg address of Pope Benedict XVI that caused much pain and in certain places violent reactions in the Islamic world, a group of well-known Muslim scholars and religious authorities decided to prepare a letter to the Vatican calling for better understanding between Christianity and Islam. A text was prepared under the direction of Prince Ghazi ibn Muhammad of Jordan by a number of scholars in consultation with myself. I also need to add that three of the graduates of our religion department, Profs. Joseph Lumbard, Caner Dagli and Ibrahim Kalin, also played an important roles in its preparation and the propagation of the ensuing initiative. We gave the text the title *A Common Word* based on a verse of the Qur’an in which Muslims and Christians, as well as Jews, are invited to discourse in amity among themselves on the basis of “a common word” (*kalimat al-siwa*) which they share. The letter was signed by 138 major Muslim scholars including a number of leading Islamic religious authorities such as grand *muftis* and *ayatollahs* from all over the Islamic world and also from different schools of law. I was also one of the first signatories of the text which was then sent to not only the Vatican but also to leaders of the Orthodox Churches and all major Protestant denominations as well as to all the oriental Christian churches.

Our letter was received enthusiastically by the Anglican Church as well as by many other protestant denominations and Orthodox and Eastern churches. After a period of silence, the Vatican also responded positively and invited us to a dialogue. But first of all the Divinity School of Yale University, in cooperation with the Harvard and Princeton Divinity Schools, convened a major conference on “A Common Word”. It was held at Yale during September 2008 and included many evangelicals, among them Leith Anderson who gave one the major lectures. The opening keynote address was given by Senator John Kerry and the final one by myself. This event was followed a month later by a conference based on “A Common Word” at Cambridge University in England. It was hosted by the Anglican Church and the Archbishop of Canterbury himself participated. Due to illness, I was unfortunately not able to take part in it.

Finally from the 3rd through the 5th of November a three day conference was held at the Vatican. On the basis of the suggestion of our hosts 25 scholars were invited from each side led on the Catholic side by Cardinal Touran and on the Islamic side by Dr. Mustafa Ćerić, the grand *mufti* of Bosnia, and myself. The sessions were closed to the public except for the last meeting but nevertheless received very wide coverage in the media in Europe. The first day was devoted to theological issues and the two position papers were presented by Father Ferrer and myself. The second day was set aside for political issues and on the third day we met His Holiness the Pope. Both Dr. Ćerić and I delivered an address before him and he also gave an address based on great warmth and friendship and very different in both tone and substance from the Regensburg speech. The final statement of the conference was prepared in consultation with others by Dr. Ibrahim Kalin, now professor at Georgetown University.

“A Common Word” endeavor did not come to an end with this seminal event. Early in 2009 a smaller “A Common Word” conference was held at the University of South Carolina in which another of our graduates, Dr. Walid el-Ansari, who is presently a professor at that university, played a central role. And now there are plans to hold another major “A Common Word” conference this fall, this time at Georgetown University in which Hans Küng and I have been invited to give the keynote theological addresses. One can say without exaggeration that “A Common Word” initiative in which our department has played a central role is one of the most significant ecumenical initiatives of recent years and is having a major influence upon the whole field of Muslim-Christian dialogue.

Seyyed Hossein Nasr
Exciting Recent Buddhist Studies Events

The GW Department of Religion organized three exciting Buddhist-studies related events during the 2008-09 academic year. These were made possible by a generous grant from the Yeshe Dorje Foundation to the GW Department of Religion arranged by Professor Ani Kunga Chodron. Peg Barratt, Dean of the GW Columbian College of Arts and Sciences and Alf Hiltbeitel, Chair of the Religion Department, and Professor Ani Kunga Chodron gave opening remarks at the lecture and colloquium.

The first event was a guest lecture on January 13, 2009 by His Eminence Ratna Vajra Rinpoche titled *Sakya Pandita: The Life and Legacy of Tibet’s Greatest Sage*. Sakya Pandita was a famous thirteenth century Buddhist scholar who firmly established Indian philosophical Buddhism in Tibet, and also carried it to Mongolia as the religious preceptor of the Mongolian Khans. The speaker, His Eminence Ratna Vajra Rinpoche, is a renowned scholar and important lineage holder in the Sakya tradition of Tibetan Buddhism and a biological descendent of Sakya Pandita’s family. Following the lecture, students from the *Buddhism* and *Buddhist Philosophy* classes presented posters from their research on Sakya Pandita’s life and works.

The second event was a spring 2009 Visiting Professorship by Venerable Khenpo Kalsang Gyatsten, a senior Tibetan Buddhist Lama and Director of Sakya Phuntsok Ling Center for Tibetan Buddhist Studies and Meditation. Khenpo Kalsang gave five lectures in the *Tibetan Buddhism* course concerning the history and current situation of Tibetan Buddhism. Each of the students in the class also interviewed him for their research papers on various famous Tibetan historical figures. He also gave a guest lecture on Tibetan Buddhism in the spring *Buddhism* course.

The third event was an April 20 colloquium co-sponsored by the Religion Department and Gelman Library titled “Buddhist Meditation: Classical Scholarship and Contemporary Practice.” During the colloquium, three monastic scholars, each with years of meditative retreat experience explained famous sutras and meditations concerning compassion from their various Buddhist traditions. Speakers were Venerable Khenpo Kalsang Gyatsten from the Tibetan tradition, Venerable Dr. Thanat Inthisan from the Thai tradition, and Venerable Dr. Myong Beop Sunim from the Korean tradition. The explanations were followed by a few minutes of meditation in each tradition.

Peg Barratt, Dean of the GW Columbian College of Arts and Sciences and Alf Hiltbeitel, Chair of the Religion Department gave opening remarks at the colloquia, followed by presentations of research and discussion by a variety of local scholars. Over ten local scholars from various Consortium universities, including American, Catholic, George Washington, George Mason, and Georgetown Universities, presented research, as well as monastic scholars from local Mahayana and Theravada temples.

The GW website [http://www.gwu.edu/~religion](http://www.gwu.edu/~religion) contains video clips of the events.

Panel for April Meditation Colloquium
L-r: Venerable Dr. Myong Beop Sunim, Venerable Dr. Thanat Inthisan, Venerable Khenpo Kalsang Gyatsten
The Religion Department welcomes news and updates from students and alumni, including address changes. Please direct correspondence to:

Religion Department
2106 G Street NW
Washington, DC 20052

On the web: www.gwu.edu/~religion

MA Program Graduates, Spring/Summer 2009

Zeynep Kot’s Master’s Thesis, titled Muslim-Christian Relations: The Traditionalist Interfaith Language, looks through the lens of traditionalist writings on religious pluralism at the prospects for ongoing dialogue between global representative organizations like the World Council of Churches and the Vatican, and various international, national, and community-based groups, like the National Council of Churches and the Common Word Initiative, the latter being an interfaith dialogue group endorsed by over 100 Muslim scholars and leaders around the world. Surveying the literature in this area as well as contemporary critiques of traditionalist perspectives, Ms. Kot demonstrates how the traditionalist critique of modernity lends itself, perhaps unexpectedly, to cooperation, rather than conflict, with members of other faiths. Drawing heavily upon Perennialist thought and the language of metaphysics it employs, this study emphasizes the importance of actualizing Divine Wisdom through dialogue (particularly as understood in its Platonic and Socratic manifestations) and through action in the pursuit of fruitful, and sustainable, interfaith relations. As she points out, in light of a common disdain for the excesses and dissonances of modernity, including the denial of revelation, secularization of religion, materialism, positivism, excessive rationalism and relativism, and an undue emphasis on individualism, Islam and Christianity, when fully engaged in interfaith cooperation, promise not only to redress some of the spiritual and material ills that modernity has engendered, but also to strengthen the faith of each, while also opening each to new “religious universes.”

In addition to Zeynep Kot, three other MA students have completed their coursework and passed their comprehensive exams, and will complete the program by submitting their theses by August 2009. They are:

George Archer, who is working on a thesis currently titled “A Hidden History of Muslim and Christian Relations in the Crusader States: 1099-1187”;

Shahid Khan, whose thesis has a working title of “Mir Ali Hamadani’s Contributions for the School of Ibn ‘Arabi in the Subcontinent”; and

Ziyan Ling, whose thesis is tentatively titled “Ma Dexin’s Virtue”.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATE STUDENTS FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS!
# Department of Religion Contribution Form

Enclosed please find my contribution* to the Religion Department at The George Washington University.

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Please complete this form and return with your contribution to:

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2100 M Street NW Suite 310
Washington, DC 20037

*Checks should be made payable to the George Washington University (with “Religion Department” in the memo line)

Donations for the Yeide Fund should be designated “Religion Department-Yeide Fund” in the memo line

Thanks for your support!