

Calvin Studies Society NEWSLETTER

September, 1998



Mark your calendar for the:

1999 Calvin Studies Colloquium: "Calvin and His Legacy"

April 22-24, 1999

Union Theological Seminary • Richmond, Virginia

Speakers will include:

- Thomas J. Davis**, Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis on *Calvin's Legacy in Homiletics*
Brian Gerrish, Union Seminary, Richmond on *Calvin's Theological Legacy*
Gunther (Gene) Haas, Redeemer College, Ontario on *Calvin's Legacy in Ethics*
Robert Kingdon, University of Wisconsin, Madison on *Calvin's Socio-Political Legacy*
Karin Maag, Directory of The Meeter Center, Grand Rapids on *Calvin's Legacy in Education*
John L. Thompson, Fuller Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids on *Calvin's Exegetical Legacy*
John D. Witvliet, Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Rapids on *Calvin's Legacy in Liturgy & Worship*

The program chair is Richard Muller, and Committee members include Philip Butin, Fred Graham and Jeanine Olson.

Registration

You can register anytime before March 31. Registration forms will be sent out in our January newsletter, but you can register now by e-mailing the Secretary at <dlfox67472@aol.com>. Advance registrations will help in our planning. The registration fee is \$40 (and this also covers your membership for the next two years). Please make your check out to CALVIN STUDIES SOCIETY and mail it to:

Calvin Studies Society
685 N. Van Nortwick Avenue
Batavia, IL 60510-1187

Accommodations

Union Seminary of Richmond is holding 36 double rooms and 28 single rooms for us on campus. Cost will be \$30 for a double, and \$15 for a single. A Union student calls the rooms "quite commodious" —but they do not have phones or TVs. We are also holding rooms at Holiday Inn Central, located about 1 1/2 miles from campus. The cost there will be \$51 for a single and \$60 for a double.

If you prefer a room at the Holiday Inn, please e-mail the Secretary immediately so that he can hold a room for you.

Other Costs and Transportation

Once a menu is established we will inform you of those costs. We will have a very nice banquet on Friday before the evening's lecture. Dinner on Thursday, breakfast and lunch on Friday and Saturday will also be available.

In the January Newsletter we will provide information for those flying to Richmond, as well as maps to the campus.

1995 & 1997 Colloquia Papers Will Be Ready By the First of the Year

The papers from the 1995 and 1997 Calvin Studies Society Colloquia will be sent to members right after the first of the year. The Board had decided to publish the papers in the Essays and Studies series of the 16th Century Studies Journal. However, following our agreement to do so, the publisher, Truman State Press, told us that they could not complete the work until late 1999. The Board is determined to make them available as soon as possible, and therefore decided to have them published by CRC Services which publishes the *Calvin Theological Journal*.

The volume will include papers from the 1995 Colloquium, "Calvin and Spirituality," by Joel Beeke, Richard Gamble, Brian Gerrish, Elsie Anne McKee, and John Witvliet. Papers from the 1997 Colloquium, "Calvin and His Contemporaries," are by Aurelio Garcia, Robert Linder, Jeannine Olson, Willem van 't Spijker, David Wiley and Randall Zachman.

Because their papers were part of their doctoral research, Thomas Lambert and Elizabeth Wengler requested that their papers not be published.

Members Approve Fee Changes

This spring the Board of the CSS approved the following amendment to the By-Laws:

"Membership is open to all persons who pay the annual (calendar year) membership fee of \$20. Registration at a Colloquium covers the membership fee for two years. Colloquium papers will be sent to all members."

In a vote by mail and e-mail, members voted 76 to 2 to approve the change. Both "no" votes included comments that the change was prejudicial to members living outside of the United States. The Board is open to other comments and ideas about membership fees. Please communicate them to the Secretary.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE!

www.CalvinStudiesSociety.org

As of mid-August, we have a website. The opening screen contains information on the Society and an invitation to become a member. You can also click on to information for the 1999 Colloquium, a list of Board members with their e-mail addresses, and a list of the papers still available for purchase from previous Colloquia.

The website will be updated regularly, and we will also have listings for other websites related to the field of Calvin studies.

The *NEWSLETTER* will also be posted on the website. If you can use the web to get the *NEWSLETTER* and do not need it mailed to you, please let the Secretary know. Saving postage is good!

E-MAIL LISTS & UPDATED MEMBERSHIP LISTS

Included in this mailing is a list of e-mail addresses for those members who have provided them for the CSS. We want to keep our membership database as up to date as possible. Please send us phone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses.

Did you see a red-dot on your mailing label?? If you did, that means your dues were not paid for 1997 (yes, 1997!). Please send your \$20 membership fee for 1999 (Let's not quibble about 1998) to the Secretary-Treasurer as soon as possible!

Calvin Studies Society Officers and Board Members

President	Benjamin W. Farley farley@erskine.edu
Vice President	Richard Muller mullri@luther.calvin.edu
Secretary-Treasurer	David Foxgrover dlfox7472@aol.com
Past President	Elsie McKee elsie.mckee@ptsem.edu
Members-at-Large	
	Philip Butin Phil_Butin.parti@ecunet.org
	Fred Graham grahamw@pilot.msu.edu
	Jeanine Olson JOLSON@grog.ric.edu

SEND US INFORMATION ON YOUR RESEARCH AND ACTIVITIES

It's been some time since we have published information from our members on their activities and research. Please send the Secretary any items you wish to have listed under your name in the January *NEWSLETTER*: position, publications, papers presented, etc.

CALVIN STUDIES SOCIETY MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN 16TH CENTURY STUDIES CONFERENCE IN TORONTO

October 22-25 are the dates for the 16th Century Studies Conference in Toronto, and many of our members are presenting papers and chairing sessions. The Calvin Studies Society is sponsoring the session entitled "Images and Memories of the Reformation in the Republic of Geneva." **John Roney** and **Martin Klauber** are the organizers, and the presenters are **Jeannine Olson**, **Martin Klauber** and **John Roney**. Commenting on the papers will be **Richard Muller**.

Randall Zachman has organized a session on "John Calvin: Interpreter of Scripture". Chaired by **Elsie McKee**, the session will have papers by **Randall Zachman**, **R. Ward Holder** and **Thomas J. Davis**.

Among the many interesting sessions directly relevant to Calvin studies, space allows for only a few which must be mentioned. **Robert M. Kingdon** and **Donald Sinnema** will present papers in a session on "The Work of **Brian Armstrong**". **Mack Holt** of George Mason University is the organizer, and Brian will comment on the papers.

Raymond Mentzer is chairing a session on "Calvinists and the Social Order"; **Glenn Sunshine** has organized a session on "Humanism, Scholasticism and Protestantism," in which he will also present a paper. **Bodo Nischan** will present a paper at a session that he has organized on the topic "Adiaphora in Confessional Conflict"; and in the session "The Bible of the Strasbourg Laity in the Reformation," organized by **Elsie McKee**, there will be papers read by **Michael Monheit** and **Gerald Hobbs**, as well as **Elsie**.

Other sessions featuring CSS members include "Perception and Certainty in the 16th Century," organized by **David Steinmetz**, and two sessions entitled "Differently Sanctified," and organized by **Barbara Sher Tinsley**, in memory of **Edward Furcha** who passed away last year. **Charles Gunnoe** will present a paper at a session he has organized on Paracelsus. Finally, we mention "The Reformers as Educators and Polemicists," chaired by **Karin Maag**, with a paper by **Raymond Blacketer**, and "Calvin and Coornhert," chaired by **Robert Clouse**.

PAPERS AVAILABLE FROM PREVIOUS COLLOQUIA

Papers from previous Colloquia of the CSS are available for purchase:

- 1976:** *"Renaissance, Reformation, Resurgence"* Papers by John H. Bratt, Philip Edgecumbe Hughes, E. William Monter, Robert M. Kingdon, Joseph Tylanda and Ford Lewis Battles
- 1985:** *"Calvin and Christian Ethics"* Papers by William J. Bouwsma, William F. Keesecker, Wilhelm H. Neuser, E. David Willis, Daniel A. Augsburg and David L. Foxgrover
- 1987:** *"Calvin and the Holy Spirit"* Papers by Jelle Faber, John Bolt, Willem van 't Spijker, Richard C. Gamble, Brian G. Armstrong and Leonard Sweetman, Jr.
- 1989, 1991:** *"Calvin and the State"* Papers by Derk Visser, Jill Raitt, Robert M. Kingdon,

Anna Case-Winters, J. Wayne Baker, Willem van't Spijker, Richard Muller, Robert D. Linder and Glenn S. Sunshine

- 1993:** *"Calvin as Exegete"* Papers by Catherine Randall Coates, Heiko A. Oberman, Benjamin W. Farley, I. John Hesselink, Jr., Jane Dempsey Douglass, David C. Steinmetz, and David F. Wright

Papers may be purchased by contacting:

Paul Fields, Curator
The H. Henry Meeter Center
Calvin College & Seminary
3201 Burton Street, SE • Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616-957-7041
fax: 616-957-6740
e-mail: pfields@calvin.edu

The cost is \$10 plus \$2.75 for each volume. Please make your check payable to the Calvin Studies Society and send it to Paul Fields.

7TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON CALVIN RESEARCH IN SEOUL

Several members of our Calvin Studies Society participated in the 7th Quadrennial International Congress on Calvin Research in Seoul Korea. The opening address, "A Search for the Roots of Korean Calvinism in the Religion of John Calvin," was presented by **Chul-Ha HAN**, retired President of Asia United Theological University and the member of the Congress' Presidium who invited the Congress to meet in Seoul.



Nobuo Watanabe and Jae-Sung Kim in discussion after Bob Kingdon's paper.

Wilhelm Neuser, Secretary of the Presidium, was recognized for his service to the organization and to Calvin studies with the bestowal of an honorary doctorate by the Asia United Theological University on the final day of the Con-



Brian Armstrong and other members of the Presidium at Friday's head table

gress. Professor Neuser announced his retirement as Secretary at the Congress' business meeting on Wednesday and then presented **Brian Armstrong** as the new Secretary of the Presidium.

Papers presented at plenary sessions included:

"*Calvins Denken in Relationen*" by Michael Beintker of Munster

"*New Sources and New Ideas on the Life and Career of John Calvin, 1541-1557*" by William Naphy of Aberdeen

"*Toward the Recovery of the Historical Calvin: Redrawing the Map of Reformation Europe*" by Heiko Oberman of Tucson

"*Calvin on Resistance against the Government*" by Robert M. Kingdon, Madison

"*Nicodemism — Why Has Calvin Rejected It Sharply in Contrast to Bucer and Luther?*" by David F. Wright, Edinburgh

"*Preaching as Worship in the Pulpit of John Calvin*" by Hughes Old, Princeton

"*Calvin and the Greek Fathers*" by Irena Backus, Geneva

Four members of the CSS presented seminars at the Congress. **Donald Sinnema's** seminar was entitled: "*Calvin and Beza — Different Theology?*" **John Thompson** presented material from a book-length study with the title: "*Calvin, Haagar, and her Sisters: Women of the Old Testament as a Prism for Calvin's Exegesis.*" **Jeffrey Watt** led a discussion of "*Selected Texts of the Registres du Consistoire de Geneve,*" and **Herman Selderhuis** topic was "*Cognitio Dei et cognitio hominis in Calvin's Psalmenkommentar.*"

Others presenting seminars were **Istvan Karasszon** of Budapest, **Kyung-Yeun Burchill-Limb** of Strasbourg, **Willem Janse of Oegstgeest**, Olivier Millet of Bern, **W. H. Th. Moehn** of Wijk en Aalburg, **Max Engammare** of Geneva, **Peter Opitz** of Bern, and **Pieter C. Potgieter** of Bloemfontein.

Robert Kingdon's paper on resistance had a noteworthy personal dimension. Bob described how his maternal grandfather, George Shannon McCune, a Presbyterian missionary in Korea, had to decide whether to resist an order by the Japanese government (which occupied Korea at the time). The order compelled all Koreans to offer prayers at shinto shrines for the success of the Japanese military. Rev. McCune ("Yun San-on") was serving as the president of the Union Christian College and principal of the Soongsil Boys'



Michael Vandenberg and Wilken van't Spijker in the bus to Saturday's closing ceremonies.



Herman Selderhuis

Academy in Pyongyang. On Dec. 31, 1935, Rev. McCune was informed that he must make ritual obeisance at a shrine and send his students there as well. Sixteen days later, Rev. McCune replied that he believed the ceremonies were "forbidden to



Stacy Johnson & Elsie McKee after a plenary session

Christians by the Word of God" and that he must refuse to participate. Rev. McCune and his family were placed under house arrest and ordered to leave the country a few weeks later.

The paper prompted a flurry of questions and responses, including one by Prof. Nobuo Watanabe who had served in the Japanese army during the late thirties and into WW II. Prof. Watanabe's comments led to remarks by several of the Korean professors, including Jae Sung Kim of Hapdong Theological Seminary and Prof. Chul-Ha Han. The comments indicated to many of us that the pain of the Japanese occupation still lingers, but we were moved by the spirit of reconciliation that was displayed by the participants in the discussion.