



Society for Values in Higher Education

Views and Values

Executive Director's Corner



Greetings! With spring right around the corner, many of us are ramping up our planning for the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Society for Values in Higher Education.

This year's meeting is scheduled for July 12-16 at Simmons College in Boston. Situated in the heart of the city, our venue will provide easy access to historical and cultural sites. From Revolutionary War relics to the Boston Red Sox, this year's meeting has plenty of attractions.

Of course, the main attractions are within the meeting itself. Most of our popular Morning Group Seminars and Afternoon Groups will be back on the schedule. There will continue to be plenty of opportunities to socialize with friends (both old and new), and innumerable occasions for intellectual inquiry.

The theme for this year's meeting is Sacrifice, Consumption, and the Public Good. Be sure to check out the Call for Papers on our website (and be sure to share it with others). The plenary speakers will give us a lot to think about in regard to our theme. Daniel McCarthy, editor of *The American Conservative*, will get us started on Wednesday night, and Lee Hull Moses, author most recently of *More Than Enough: Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess*, will speak on Thursday night. In addition, we look forward to many compelling contributions in our afternoon Working Groups from scholars responding specifically to our Call for Papers.

In short, it is shaping up as another wonderful meeting. I hope you have the dates saved on your calendars and are planning to attend. See you in Boston!

FM 2017

Office
News

Fellows
News

In
Memory



Save the Date!

93rd Annual Fellows Meeting

July 12-16, 2017

Simmons College, Boston, MA

Sacrifice, Consumption, and the Public Good

Registration will begin in early 2017

Plenary Speakers



Daniel McCarthy

Wednesday, July 12
7:30pm

Daniel McCarthy is editor at large of The American Conservative magazine. His journalism has appeared in a wide range of publications on both sides of the Atlantic, including The New York Times, USA Today, the National Interest, The Spectator, and the Daily Telegraph. Outside of journalism, he has worked as a senior editor of ISI Books and contributed to the volume *Dilemmas of American Conservatism* from the University Press of Kentucky. He is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, where he studied classics. He lives in Alexandria, Virginia

Lee Hull Moses

Thursday, July 13
7:30pm

A graduate from both Albion University and the University of Chicago's Divinity School, Lee Hull Moses is a writer and speaker. Her most recent publication *More Than Enough: Living Abundantly in a Culture of Excess* explores the effects that the consumer mindset has on not only the planet, but the people around us. Lee currently serves as pastor at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Greensboro, North Carolina.



Morning Group News

In search of a leader...

Forms of Autobiography, Biography, and Memoir is in need of a convener to be able to meet this year. The group has had loyal membership over the years and needs only someone willing to organize discussions. If you are interested in leading, or learning more about this group, let Sandy know.

Returning Groups

Historical Fiction and a group led by David Stewart and Amy Berger will be returning to the FM this summer. Others are considering offering one. Look for more information about the topics of discussion with the FM registration materials and the May newsletter.

Interested in starting a new group? Contact the office for information.

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c/o Western Kentucky University * 1906 College Heights Blvd. # 8020 * Bowling Green, KY 42101-1041
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Morning Groups

****New this Year****

American Freedom, Individualism, and the Common Good: Experiencing Public History in Boston

We will delve into the American roots of this year's conference theme of "sacrifice, consumption, and the public good" through tours of Boston's Freedom Trail and Black Heritage Trail. Primary and secondary source readings, together with small group discussion, will focus on questions of how Americans deploy our stories about ourselves and what those deployments tell us about the significance of individualism and the common good in contemporary American life. Who is included and excluded? How do ideologies of oppression, inferiority, and superiority shape conceptualizations of individualism and the common good?

Conveners -

[Denise Holladay Damico](#), [William Strosnider](#),
[Art Remillard](#)

Celebrating the Search

Celebrating the Search will continue its joyous convening and we have three spots already spoken for: John Raby, Nancy Corsan Carter and Allison Moore. But we also have a very welcome spot for YOU to share some of your experiences in a very welcome atmosphere.

Convener - [Carol Ochs](#)

Theorizing Culture

Most people agree that we are morally obligated to make some personal sacrifices in order to assure the wellbeing of those around us, but there is considerable disagreement about how much sacrifice a moral life requires. The philosopher Peter Singer has argued forcefully that a moral life requires much more sacrifice than most people are willing to give. Indeed, he argues that citizens who enjoy a middle-class standard of living should be willing to donate a substantial portion of their income to alleviate the suffering found in

less developed parts of the world. Not surprisingly, these claims are highly controversial. In this Morning Group, we will read a selection of Singer's work, and then consider some of the objections raised by his critics.

Conveners: [Eric Bain-Selbo](#) and [Allen Dunn](#)

Popular Culture Morning Group

I confess. I was obsessed with Donald Trump's Celebrity Apprentice. So much so that I held viewing parties in hopes that my friends and neighbors would catch the fever. Whether you were a fan of the show or not, it is hard to deny the influence of popular culture in shaping our values and world views.

This Morning Group provides an extraordinary opportunity to analyze the content, production, and distribution of all things popular culture.

In Boston, Batman will be on our radar. Kent Tonkin (St. Francis University) will facilitate a session on the ethics of the caped crusader. The Group will consider whether Batman is a hero or a villain. Like Batman, his foes, are also born of tragedy. What makes their choices different?

After discussing big brother Bruce Wayne, the Group will turn their attention to an Orwellian topic. Scott Berger, a long-time Popular Culture Group Member, will lead a discussion on alternative facts, fake news and more.

Finally, in our Group's newest tradition, we will take a field trip to explore a local cultural institution. Right now, Boston's Institute of Contemporary Art is on the agenda. We will see Academy Award Winner Steve McQueen's (12 Years a Slave) video project, entitled Ashes. This acclaimed work of art demonstrates that video has not lost its punch. We will need to catch our breath when it is over.

Convener - [Erika Goodman](#)

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Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal

The Soundings office has moved to Western Kentucky University and the first issue under the new editorship is out! In celebration of Volume 100, each issue will feature a special ReSoundings section, which will include the republication of an earlier article by a significant scholar in his or her field, followed by a commentary by a contemporary scholar. This section of Issue 1 of Volume 100, takes as its focus the *The Virgin and the Dynamo: An Essay on the Symbolism of Technology* by Harvey Cox from the Summer 1971 issue.

Not receiving Soundings and think you should be? Contact the SVHE office.

Thanks to all who contributed the Society last year!

Cynthia Amerman	Edward Langerak
Martha Bailey	James Longstreth
<i>in honor of Nick Tison</i>	Cyntha Magistro
Lynore Banchoff	Ellen Maher
<i>in honor of Elena Malits</i>	Jo Margaret Mano
Kathleen Banchoff	Joan McKee
Bennett and Cathy Bao Bean	<i>in honor of Betsy Williams</i>
Amy Berger	Al McQueen, Sr
Barbara Blair	James Merz
Sidney Bremer	Elizabeth Minnich
Preston Browning	William Mowat
Howard and Nancy Corson Carter	Harland Nelson
Trudy and Joel Cunningham	Sean O'Connell
Jean D'Aoust	Phil O'Mara
Bernard Dobroski	Carol Ochs
William Doty	Edward Ordman
Allen Dunn	Albert Rabil
Carla and Janet Edwards	John Raby
Reynold Feldman	<i>in memory of Jeanne Carlson</i>
Peter Fergusson	William Richter
Marianne Gilbert Finnegan	Dan Sack
Erika Goodman	Judy Saltzman-Saveker
Dorothy Guyot	Robert Spivey
Dick and Gay Harter	<i>in honor of Cathy Bao Bean</i>
James Hester	Axel Steuer
Melanie Howard	David Stewart
Hal and Agnes Jackson	Fiona Tolhurst
Nancy and David Jones	Mary Treanor
Patricia Kendall	Glenn Van Haitsma
<i>in memory of Robert Kendall</i>	Robert Woodworth

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Donation acknowledgements for 2016 have been mailed. If you have not received one and think you should have please contact the office.

Candidate statements and ballot for the BOD election will be coming soon via email.

Thanks to all who already paid their 2016-2017 dues and/or contributed to the Annual Fund. We count on your support to continue our good work!

Fellows News

Dick and Gay Harter

Dick and Gay recently moved to a continuing care community in Connecticut. They are well-settled. Their new address is 88 Notch Hill Rd Apt 272, North Branford, CT 06471-1851.

Terri LeClercq,

Terri recently attended the Election Protest as a Legal Observer for the Lawyers' Guild. No incidents; great time. Then she joined the Drum Corps (with pot lid and wooden spoon) to join the Women's March. Again, a great time was had by all. She is currently neglecting her scholarship in an attempt to save the Republic--writing letters and postcards, calling, meeting with legislators. When time permits, she continues to examine the unethical rhetoric behind the Prison Litigation Reform Act of 1996

Stephen Rowe

Stephen is a Professor of Philosophy, Liberal Studies, and Religious Studies at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. He published *Overcoming America/America Overcoming: Can We Survive Modernity* and more recently, edited *Educating for an Ecological Civilization: Interdisciplinary, Experiential, and Relational Learning*, with Marcus Ford.

Kay Turner

Kay is currently serving as elected President of the American Folklore Society (2016-2018). She recently presented "The Virgin Mary's Body: A New Twist on an Old Story" and will publish this essay in a new volume on vernacular religion.

Mary Tucker

Mary edited the Routledge Handbook on Religion and Ecology (2016) with Willis Jenkins and John Grim. She also helped launch MOOCs on *Journey of Universe*, a free course based on the regional Emmy award-winning film she made with Brian Swimme. For more info about, the film, course, and more visit journeyoftheuniverse.com

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Martha Spivey
12/7/1932 - 11/2/2016

Martha Emily Crocker Spivey (83) of Tallahassee, FL died on November 2nd, 2016. She was born in Suffolk, VA, December 7, 1932, to the late Henry Butler Crocker and Katherine Beaumont West Crocker. After graduating from Randolph-Macon Woman's College in 1954, she married Robert Atwood Spivey, also of Suffolk, who survives.

By way of comment, she excelled at the "little things", above all her relationships with family and friends. She was at home in church, including Sunday School, the Altar Guild, especially teaching with little children, and the Monday Night Group. Her jobs: secretary for Pitney Van Dusen at Union Seminary, Institute for Social Policy Studies, under Leo Sandon, she also worked as entertainment coordinator at R-MWC. Sabbatical years first in Germany and later in England. Recreation happily included tennis, swimming and bridge.

Though not officially a Fellow of the Society, Martha was, in the words of Lynore Banchoff, a beautiful, loyal, and dedicated person to the Society who spent many mornings in the Autobiography, Memoir group over the years.

More of her obituary can be found [here](#).

Michael Novak
9/9/1953 - 2/17/2017

Michael Novak, a Roman Catholic social philosopher who abandoned the liberal politics he espoused in the 1960s to make the theological and moral case for capitalism in a series of widely discussed books, died on Friday at his home in Washington. He was 83.

The cause was colon cancer, said Elise Italiano, a spokeswoman for the Catholic University of America, where he was a professor.

Mr. Novak, a former seminarian, emerged in the early 1960s as one of Catholicism's brightest liberal lights. His journalistic essays, collected in "A New Generation: American and Catholic" (1964), and his reporting from the Second Vatican Council, in "The Open Church: Vatican II, Act II" (1964), reflected his reform-minded view of the church and his eagerness to see it address young Catholics like himself with a faith that was, as he put it, "empirical, pragmatic, realistic and Christian."

Novak entered the Society as a Kent Fellow in 1961. More of his obituary can be found [here](#).