THE 2nd PHILOSOPHY OF COMMUNICATION PRE-CONFERENCE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COMMUNICATION ASSOCIATION

“Thomas Merton and Philosophy of Communication: A Centennial Celebration of His Work”
September 25-26, 2014
Duquesne University

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2014

Registration Noon-6:00 p.m. 5th Floor Foyer Power Center
Welcome 1:30-1:45 p.m. Ballroom 1 Power Center
Panel One 1:45-3:00 p.m. Ballroom 1 Power Center

Freedom in an Era of Uncertainty: Just War, Communion, and Contemplation

Chair: David Delulisi, Duquesne University
Respondent: Garnet C. Butchart, Duquesne University

The Veil of Freedom: A Mertonian Perspective of Understanding Today’s (Just) War
Jenna M. Lo Castro, Duquesne University

The Presence of the Other is a Call for Communion: Merton’s Interreligious Dialogue
Margaret M. Mullan, Duquesne University

Contemplating Paradox: Contemplation as Communicative Response in the Life and Works of Thomas Merton
Br. Jonathan R. Crist, C.O., Duquesne University

Break 3:00-3:15 p.m.

Coffee/Hot Tea/Ice Water in back of Ballroom 1 from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Panel Two 3:15-4:30 p.m. Ballroom 1 Power Center

Thomas Merton in the Communication Classroom

Chair: Margaret M. Mullan, Duquesne University

Integrating the Seven Storey Mountain into an Honors Class on Intercultural, Interpersonal, and Interreligious Dialogue
Janie Harden Fritz, Duquesne University
Thomas Merton and an Ethic of Silence: Attending to the Other through the Construction of Silence in the Classroom
**Hannah Cherico**, Duquesne University

A Sense of Space and Community in the Communication Classroom
**Ozum Ucok-Sayrak**, Duquesne University

Break
4:30-4:45 p.m.

Panel Three
4:45-6:00 p.m.
**Ballroom 1**
**Power Center**

**Communicative Dimensions within the Work of Thomas Merton**
Chair: **Pat Arneson**, Duquesne University

Thomas Merton’s Creative Silence
**Johan Bodaski**, Duquesne University

No Man is an Island
**Linda Coleman**, Duquesne University

Thomas Merton Engages Natural Law
**Rachel Kosko**, Duquesne University

Dinner on Your Own
Group reservation at The Pittsburgh Grill (Steel Building), 600 Grant Street

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2014**

Coffee/Hot Tea/Ice Water in back of Ballroom 1 from 8:00-10:00 a.m.

Panel Four
8:00-9:15 a.m.
**Ballroom 1**
**Power Center**

**Love and Contemplative Action: Thomas Merton as a Philosopher of Communication**
Chair: **Br. Jonathan R. Crist, C.O.**, Duquesne University
Respondent: **Janie Harden Fritz**, Duquesne University

Merton’s Existential Communication: The Meaning and Power of Love
**Jen Jones**, Seton Hill University

Philosophy of Communication and Contemplation from West to East: Arendtian and Mertonian Perspectives
**Chelsea R. Binnie**, Duquesne University
Thomas Merton’s Engagement with Marxism
David Deluiliis, Duquesne University

Break 9:15-9:30 a.m.

Panel Five 9:30-10:45 a.m. Ballroom 1 Power Center

Keynote Address

From Communication to Communion:
Thomas Merton on the Use and Abuse, the Functions and Possibilities of Language

Patrick F. O’Connell, Gannon University

Patrick F. O’Connell, professor of English and Theology at Gannon University, Erie, PA, holds doctoral degrees in English literature from Yale University and in Historical Theology from Fordham University. A founding member and former president of the International Thomas Merton Society, he has served as editor of the society quarterly, The Merton Seasonal, since 1998. He coauthored with Christine M. Bochen and the late William H. Shannon the award-winning Thomas Merton Encyclopedia (2002) and has published more than three dozen articles on various aspects of Merton’s life and work. He has edited six volumes of Merton’s monastic conferences, most recently The Life of the Vows (2012), as well as Merton’s Selected Essays (2013). He is also the editor of the fifth volume of the Princeton edition of Henry David Thoreau’s Journal (1997) and serves on the editorial board of The Concord Saunterer: A Journal of Thoreau Studies.

Break 10:45-11:00 a.m.

Panel Six 11:00-12:45 p.m. Ballroom 1 Power Center

Communicative Expressions of Thomas Merton’s Work

Chair: Garnet C. Butchart, Duquesne University

Using a Mertonian Perspective to Formulate an Ethical Code for Journalists
Joe Marren, SUNY Buffalo State

Borgmann on Merton: Exploring the Possibility of Contemplation in a Technological Age through a Diachronic Examination of Philosophical and Prophetic Speech
Aaron K. Kerr, Gannon University

Thomas Merton: Communicative Reflections on the Precariat
Ronald C. Arnett, Duquesne University

Pre-Conference Closing and Thanks

Note: PCA Conference Registration opens at 1 p.m.