

**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.	5 th 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 Deluliis**, 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
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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 Deluliis, 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.