

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

### THE FORTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

The Catholic Theological Society of America held its forty-seventh annual convention June 11-14, 1992, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The theme of the convention was "Experience and Theology: A Critical Appropriation." In the opening session on Thursday evening, June 11, Most Reverend Donald W. Wuerl, the Bishop of Pittsburgh and an active member of the Society, welcomed the convention participants to Pittsburgh. The first plenary session followed. The evening concluded with a reception.

The convention's Eucharistic Liturgy was celebrated in the late afternoon Saturday, June 13, on the campus of Duquesne University. President Michael Buckley presided. Following the liturgy, the convention participants were welcomed to a reception hosted by John Murray, the president of Duquesne University. The convention banquet was held that evening at the hotel. At the end of the banquet President Buckley read the citation for the John Courtney Murray Award and presented the plaque and the medal to Margaret A. Farley of the Divinity School of Yale University.

After lunch on Friday, the Resolutions Committee held a hearing for a discussion of resolutions submitted for consideration and action at the annual business meeting which took place late Friday afternoon. On Friday evening an open forum session focused on the question "Is Jesus Christ the Unique Mediator of Salvation?"

The new members present at the convention were welcomed at the President's Reception for New Members on Saturday evening. Once again this year the convention included a Multicultural Concerns Breakfast and a Karl Rahner Society Breakfast. On Sunday afternoon there was an Informal Women's Lunch and a Women's Seminar in Constructive Theology (open to all CTSA members).

## CONVENTION PROGRAM

## PLENARY SESSIONS

The convention program included four plenary sessions. In the fourth plenary session President Michael Buckley delivered his presidential address.

1. "St. Thomas and the Appeal to Experience"  
Address: Kenneth L. Schmitz, Trinity College, University of Toronto  
Response: Mary Catherine Hilkert, Aquinas Institute of Theology, St. Louis
2. "Theology from the Experience of the Poor"  
Address: Gustavo Gutiérrez, Instituto Bartolomé de las Casas, Lima  
Response: Leroy F. Cormie, University of St. Michael's College, Toronto
3. "Living Word of Dead(ly) Letter? The Encounter  
between the New Testament and Contemporary Experience"  
Address: Sandra M. Schneiders, Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley  
Response: Donald P. Senior, Catholic Theological Union, Chicago
4. "The Rise of Atheism and the Religious *Epoché*"  
Address: President Michael J. Buckley, University of Notre Dame

## CONVENTION WORKSHOPS

On Friday and Saturday mornings twenty different convention workshops (ten each day) focused in one way or another on the theme of the convention.

1. Karl Rahner Society  
Moderator: William M. Thompson, Duquesne University  
"Rahner on the Human Experience of God:  
Idealist Tautology or Christian Theology?"  
Presenter: Mary V. Maher, Seminary of the Immaculate Conception  
"Nature, Grace, and Experience:  
Karl Rahner's Theology of Human Transformation"  
Presenter: Joseph A. DiNoia, Dominican House of Studies, Washington  
Respondent: Andrew F. Tallon, Marquette University
2. Theology in the Seminary Context  
Moderator: Walter J. Woods, St. John's Seminary, Boston  
"The Seminary between the Demands of Theology and Praxis"  
Presenters: Brian O. McDermott, Weston School of Theology  
Jack A. Bonsor, St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park
3. Hispanic Theology  
Moderator: Orlando O. Espín, University of San Diego  
"Community as/and Experience among U.S. Hispanics"  
Presenter: Roberto Goizueta, Loyola University, Chicago
4. Catholic Social Teaching  
Moderator: Todd D. Whitmore, University of Notre Dame

- "Family Policy"  
Presenter: Christine Firer Hinze, Marquette University  
"The Common Good"  
Presenter: David Hollenbach, Boston College
5. John Courtney Murray  
Moderator: Leon Hooper, Woodstock Center  
"John Courtney Murray: Catholic Theological Reflection  
within American Society"  
Presenters: Thomas Hughson, Marquette University  
Joseph Komonchak, Catholic University of America  
Theresa Moser, University of San Francisco
6. Black Catholic Theology  
Moderator: M. Shawn Copeland, Yale Divinity School  
"Racism and Racialism: Theology and the Politics of Survival"  
Presenter: Phillip Linden, Xavier University, Louisiana  
Respondents: M. Shawn Copeland, Yale Divinity School  
Jamie T. Phelps, Catholic Theological Union
7. Aquinas' Ethics  
Moderator: Stephen J. Pope, Boston College  
"Experience in the Ethics of Aquinas"  
Presenter: Thomas Hibbs, Boston College  
Respondents: Jean Porter, University of Notre Dame  
M. Cathleen Caveny, Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals
8. "'Experience' in Philosophical Perspective"  
Moderator: Michael Stebbins, Boston College  
"A Whiteheadian Approach to Experience"  
Presenter: Joseph A. Bracken, Xavier University, Cincinnati  
"Experience as Problematical"  
Presenter: George Schner, Regis College
9. Panel on Sexual Ethics and the Experiential Criterion  
Moderator: Susan A. Ross, Loyola University, Chicago  
Presenters: Margaret A. Farley, Yale Divinity School  
Paul Lauritzen, John Carroll University  
Timothy E. O'Connell, Loyola University, Chicago  
Margretta Stokes Tucker, St. Benedict the Moor Parish,  
Pittsburgh
10. The Native American Experience and Catholic Theology  
Moderator: Kathleen Dugan, University of San Diego  
"Encounter of Religious Worlds: Ritual, Sacramentality, Inclusivity"  
Presenter: Sara Hassenpaugh, Mohawk Nation, Tekakwitha Conference
11. Hans Urs von Balthasar  
Moderator: David L. Schindler, University of Notre Dame  
and John Paul II Institute

“Experience as a Theological Category:

Hans Urs von Balthasar on the Christian Encounter with God's Image”

Presenters: Peter Casarella, University of Dallas

Christopher Potworwoski, Concordia University, Montreal

12. Interchurch Marriage

Moderator: Margaret O'Gara, University of St. Michael's College

Presenters: Joan M. Maguire, Office of Ecumenism, Archdiocese of Chicago

Michael G. Lawler, Creighton University

George Kilcourse, Bellarmine College

13. Patristic Theology

Moderator: Kenneth B. Steinhauser, St. Louis University

“Augustine of Hippo: Sin, Grace, and Experience”

Presenter: Marianne Djuth, Canisius College

Respondent: Thomas A. Smith, Loyola University, New Orleans

14. Medieval Theology

Moderator: Joseph Wawrykow, University of Notre Dame

“Discussion: E. Ann Matter, *The Voice of My Beloved:*

*The 'Song of Songs' in Western Medieval Christianity*”

Presenters: E. Ann Matter, University of Pennsylvania

Keith J. Eagan, St. Mary's College, Indiana

Elizabeth Dreyer, Washington Theological Union

15. Labor Issues in Pittsburgh

Moderator: M. Shawn Copeland, Yale Divinity School

“Theology in the Factory: Labor Issues in Pittsburgh”

Presenters: Msgr. Charles Owen Rice, Diocese of Pittsburgh

Charles McCollester, Pennsylvania Center

for the Study of Labor Relations

Russell Gibbons, Philip Murray Labor Center and

former Communications Director of the United States

Steel Workers Union

16. “Experience” as a Resource for Feminist Thought

Moderator: Ellen Leonard, University of St. Michael's College

“*La Realidad: La Chicana's* Ground for Experience”

Presenter: Jeanette Rodriguez, Seattle University

“Women's Experience in Feminist Ethics”

Presenter: Susan L. Secker, Seattle University

17. Has the Just War Theory Outlived Its Usefulness?

Moderator: Joseph Martos, Spalding University

Presenters: Francis X. Meehan, Pax Christi

John Langan, Georgetown University

18. Comparative Ecclesiology and Global Catholicism

Moderator: Robert Schreiter, Catholic Theological Union

Presenter: Judith Merkel, Xavier University, Cincinnati

Respondent: Jamie T. Phelps, Catholic Theological Union

19. Theology and the Natural Sciences  
Moderator: Elizabeth Johnson, Fordham University  
"Theology and the Heisenberg Uncertainty Principle"  
Presenter: Christopher Mooney, Fairfield University
20. Eastern Churches and Theologies  
Moderator: Petro B. T. Bilaniuk, University of St. Michael's College  
"The Churches in Eastern Europe Today"  
Presenters: Vladimir Vancik, Emeritus, Illinois Benedictine College  
and Duquesne Univeristy  
Petro Bilaniuk

## CONTINUING SEMINARS

On Friday and Saturday afternoons the continuing seminars held their two-hour sessions.

*Friday Seminars*

1. *Christology*  
Moderator: Michael Slusser, Duquesne University  
"Anselm's Soteriology and the Stages of Meaning. Method in the *Cur Deus Homo*: Concept, Performance, and the Question of Rationalism"  
Presenter: William Loewe, Catholic University of America
2. *Ecclesiology*  
Convenor: Mark F. Fischer, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo  
Moderator: Jeffrey Gros, USCC Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs  
"The Vatican Response to the Anglican-Roman Catholic Final Report"  
Presenter: Margaret O'Gara, University of St. Michael's College  
Respondent: R. William Franklin, St. John's University, Collegeville
3. *Trinitarian Theology*  
Moderator: Earl Muller, Marquette University  
"Reflections on the *Filioque*"  
Presenter: Ralph del Colle, Barry University
4. *Spirituality*  
Convenors: Michael Downey, Gwynedd-Mercy College  
Elizabeth Liebert, San Francisco Theological Seminary  
"Heightened Consciousness: The Mystical Difference—  
Further Reflections by the Author"  
Presenter: David Granfield, Catholic University of America
5. *Moral Theology*  
Moderator: James P. Hanigan, Duquesne University  
"The Just War Theory and Christian Ethics"  
Panelists: Michael Duffy, Marquette University  
Michael J. Schuck, Loyola University, Chicago

6. *Sacramental and Liturgical Theology*  
 Moderator: Julia Ann Upton, St. John's University, New York  
 "Conversation on Faith and Marriage"  
 Presenter: Michael Lawler, Creighton University  
 Respondent: JoAnn Heaney-Hunter, St. John's University, New York
7. *Practical Theology*  
 Moderator: Robert L. Kinast, Center for Theological Reflection,  
 Madeira Beach, Florida  
 "Spiritual Formation and Group Direction through Texts"  
 Presenter: Susan Muto, The Epiphany Association, Pittsburgh
8. *North American Theology*  
 Moderator: Stephen Rowntree, Loyola University, New Orleans  
 "Was William James an Elitist on Religious Experience?  
 (A Response to Nicholas Lash)"  
 Presenter: William C. Spohn, Jesuit School of Theology, Berkeley
9. *Historical Theology*  
 Convenor: Bradford E. Hinze, Marquette University  
 Moderator: Jean Porter, University of Notre Dame  
 "The Origins of Social Catholicism"  
 Presenters: Paul Misner, Marquette University  
 Gregory Baum, McGill University
10. *Theological Anthropology*  
 Convenor: Mary Ann Hinsdale, Holy Cross College  
 Moderator: Ann O'Hara Graff, Loyola University, Chicago  
 "Faith and Experience: *Hommage à William F. Lynch, S.J.*"  
 Presenter: Mary Aquin O'Neill, University of Notre Dame  
 Respondent: Louis Roy, Boston College
11. *American Catholic Experience*  
 Convenor: Patricia O'Connell Killen, Pacific Lutheran University  
 "Community or Chaos: Theological Readings of the American Experience"  
 Moderators: William D. Lindsey, Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, N.C.  
 Judith Merkle, Xavier University, Cincinnati  
 "Columbus and the Quincentenary: Latin American Perspectives"  
 Presenter: Alfred Hennelly, Fordham University  
 "Christopher Lasch on Progress: The Direction of American Religion"  
 Presenter: Judith Merkle, Xavier University  
 "Community in Hegel's *Lectures on Religion*:  
 Some Ideas for the American Context"  
 Presenter: Stephen Schäfer, Belmont Abbey College, Belmont, N.C.
12. *Comparative Theology*  
 Convenor: Francis X. Clooney, Boston College  
 "The Hindu Experience of Devotion as Catalyst in Christian Love of God"  
 Presenter: Daniel Sheridan, Loyola University, New Orleans  
 Respondent: Robert Schreiter, Catholic Theological Union

*Saturday Seminars*1. *Ecclesiology*

Convenor: Mark Fischer, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo

Moderator: Susan Wood, St. John's University, Collegeville

"Petrine Primacy and the Accrued Authority of the Papacy"

Presenter: Peter Chirico, Seattle University

2. *Trinitarian Theology*

Moderator: Earl Muller, Marquette University

"Photius and the *Filioque*: A Reexamination of  
the *Mystagogy of the Holy Spirit*"

Presenter: Earl Muller

3. *Spirituality*

Convenors: Michael Downey, Gwynedd-Mercy College

Elizabeth Liebert, San Francisco Theological Seminary

"Julian of Norwich: The Theological Consciousness of a Mystic"

Presenter: John Nuth, John Carroll University

"Edith Stein: Twentieth Century Mystic"

Presenter: Elizabeth Carr, Smith College

4. *Moral Theology*

Moderator: Eileen P. Flynn, St. Peter's College

"How Scripture Influences the Work of Moral Theologians"

Group discussions followed by a conversation with William C. Spohn,  
Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley.

5. *Practical Theology*

Moderator: Robert L. Kinast, Center for Theological Reflection

"Strategic Proposals for Practical Theology"

Presenters: Panel of Seminar Members

6. *North American Theology*

Moderator: Stephen Rowntree, Loyola University, New Orleans

"Royce contra James: Social Dimensions of Religious Experience"

Presenter: John Markey, Graduate Theological Union

7. *Historical Theology*

"Reconsidering Patristic Exegesis"

Moderator: Jean Porter, University of Notre Dame

"Patristic Exegesis Today"

Presenter: Charles Kannengiesser, University of Notre Dame

"Early Christian Use of the Scriptures as a Resource  
for Contemporary Biblical Interpretation"

Presenter: Mary Rose D'Angelo, Villanova University

"Early Christian Exegesis and Contemporary Hermeneutics"

Presenter: Bradford E. Hinze, Marquette University

8. *Nature and Method of Theology*

"How Is Experience Normative for Theology?"

Convenors: John E. Thiel, Fairfield University

Paul Lakeland, Fairfield University

Margaret Campbell, Holy Names College

Moderator: John E. Thiel

"Transcendental Method in Theology

and the Normativity of Human Experience"

Presenter: John R. Sachs, Weston School of Theology

"Negative Experience as a Norm for Theology"

Presenter: Patricia Wismer, Seattle University

"Experience as a Norm from a Cultural-Linguistic Perspective"

Presenter: Kathryn Tanner, Yale University

9. *Theological Anthropology*

Convenor: Mary Ann Hinsdale, College of the Holy Cross

"Collaborative Research/Publication Project: Contributors' Meeting"

10. *American Catholic Theological Education and Ecumenical Divinity Schools*

Convenor: M. Shawn Copeland, Yale Divinity School

11. *Comparative Theology*

Moderator: Francis X. Clooney, Boston College

"Religious Experience on Trial: Liberalism, Post-Liberalism,  
and Comparative Theology"

Presenter: James Fredericks, St. Patrick's Seminary, Menlo Park

Respondent: Joseph Bracken, Xavier University, Cincinnati

*Friday Evening Open Forum*

Moderator: Francis X. Clooney, Boston College

"Is Jesus Christ the Unique Mediator of Salvation?"

Presenters: Joseph A. DiNoia, Dominican House of Studies, Washington

Paul F. Knitter, Xavier University, Cincinnati

Ignatius Madumere, Duquesne University

Mary N. MacDonald, LeMoyné College

*Sunday Afternoon Seminar**Women's Seminar in Constructive Theology*

Moderator: Pamela Kirk, St. John's University, New York

"Catherine Mowry LaCugna, *God for Us: The Trinity and Christian Life*"

Presenters: Susan Wood, St. John's University, Collegeville

Jamie T. Phelps, Catholic Theological Union

Sally McReynolds, Seton Hall University

Ann O'Hara Graff, Loyola University, Chicago

Respondent: Catherine Mowry LaCugna, University of Notre Dame



## JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY AWARD

During the convention banquet on the evening of Saturday, June 13, the President presented the John Courtney Murray Award for achievement in theology to Margaret A. Farley of the Divinity School of Yale University. The award citation reads as follows:

With the 1992 John Courtney Murray Award, the Society honors a scholar who bears out Murray's own commitment to public responsibility and social justice. Like Murray, our recipient draws on St. Thomas' concern for reasonable moral discourse and the integration of love and justice. Reinterpreting Aquinas and Murray for the post-Vatican II world, this theologian makes a special commitment to justice and equality for those excluded from power—especially for women—in family, society, and Church. The personal and ecclesial side of that commitment is realized in a special way through the ministry of the Religious Sisters of Mercy, in whose dedication to the relief of suffering, whether corporal or spiritual, she has joined for over thirty years.

Born in Minnesota and educated at the University of Detroit, where her father established for her a scholarly and academic legacy through his own example as professor and administrator, this evening's honoree received her Ph.D. from Yale University. There she became one of a large Catholic sister- and brotherhood whose theological and ecumenical interests were nurtured by James M. Gustafson. Eventually, she was to follow in his path by assuming a professorship at her alma mater. The first Roman Catholic to receive a regular teaching position at this divinity school, she became the first woman to be tenured on the Divinity School faculty, where she now is Gilbert L. Stark Professor of Christian Ethics.

Author of *A Metaphysics of Being and God*, and of *Personal Commitments: Beginning, Keeping, Changing*, our award winner is shortly to enjoy the publication of *Just Love: A Framework for Contemporary Christian Sexual Ethics* and of *The Experience of Free Choice*, the latter coauthored with Jules Toner. In addition to these books, she is the author of over fifty articles and book chapters, focusing on themes of gender, sexuality, commitment, marriage and divorce, family and bioethics. We also note the anticipated publication of her 1991 contributions to the prestigious Rauschenbusch Lectures at Colgate-Rochester Divinity School. Entitled "Feminist Theology and Issues of Social Justice," these lectures are emblematic not only of the stature of our recipient in the theological community, but also of her dedication to a feminist, theological, ecumenical, and activist understanding of moral theology.

She also serves moral inquiry at the practical level by her membership on several ethics committees, notably that of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists; and through her term as President of Network, a lobbying organization for religious, feminist, and justice issues.

The esteem in which her peers hold her is well exemplified by her election in 1991 to serve as Vice President, then President (in 1993) of the Society of Christian Ethics. In our own Society, she has not only served on the Board of Directors, but as a coauthor in 1990 of the Report of the CTSA on the Profession of Faith and the Oath of Fidelity, a task requiring erudition, delicacy and

courage! And she has been since 1983 an elected member of the American Theological Society. To these signs of respect are added honorary doctorates from the College Misericordia, Fairfield University, Weston School of Theology, the University of Detroit, and Regis College, Weston, Massachusetts.

To these voices of affection and acclaim, we join those of her colleagues tonight, as the Catholic Theological Society of America presents to Margaret Ann Farley the 1992 John Courtney Murray Award.

### ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

President Michael Buckley called the annual business meeting to order at 4:50 P.M. on Friday, June 12. Timothy O'Connell served as parliamentarian.

#### *Committee on Admissions*

The members of the Committee on Admissions this year were Mary Aquin O'Neill (chair), Ronald Chochol, Susan Wood, Bradford Hinze, and the CTSA Secretary. Mary Aquin O'Neill presented the committee's report.

The committee reviewed seventy-six applications for membership and recommended that fifty-two applicants be admitted to active membership, twenty-four to associate membership. The committee's recommendation was approved by a voice vote. The President then asked the forty-two new members in attendance at the convention to stand for recognition, and they were welcomed by a round of applause. The President's Reception for new members was held on Saturday evening after the convention banquet.

Five of the new active members had been associate members. Twenty-four of the new members are women. Brief biographical entries for the new active members and the names and addresses of the new associate members are included in Appendix D, Addenda to the CTSA Directory.

The Committee on Admissions also recommended that those persons who were listed as active members in the 1988 Directory or who are so listed in the new 1992 Directory, but who have not been officially admitted as such, should now be officially declared active members, provided that they do in fact meet the criteria for active membership mentioned in the Constitution. The assembled members approved this recommendation.

#### *Committee on Nominations*

The members of the Committee on Nominations this year were Elizabeth Johnson (chair), William Spohn, and Mary Ann Hinsdale. Elizabeth Johnson presented the slate of nominees, whose biographical resumes had been available for convention participants at registration time:

for Vice-President: Roger Haight, Weston School of Theology  
Zachary Hayes, Catholic Theological Union  
for Secretary: Edward Konerman, Loyola University, Chicago  
for Treasurer: Mary Hines, Emmanuel College  
for Board Members: Ann O'Hara Graff, Loyola University, Chicago  
Kenneth Himes, Washington Theological Union  
Robert Imbelli, Boston College  
Ellen Leonard, University of St. Michael's College

There were no nominations from the floor. Roger Haight was elected Vice-President. Kenneth Himes and Ellen Leonard were elected Board Members on the third and fifth ballots respectively. Edward Konerman and Mary Hines were reelected Secretary and Treasurer.

Lisa Sowle Cahill becomes the new President for 1992-1993. Gerard Sloyan becomes the President-Elect. The others who will continue on the Board of Directors are Michael Buckley as Past-President and Susan Ross and Orlando Espin as Board Members.

#### *Treasurer's Report*

The Treasurer commented briefly on the financial report for 1991 (printed elsewhere in this volume of the *Proceedings*). Receipts during the past year exceeded expenses. But the costs of the convention exceeded convention receipts by about \$10,000. So the convention continues to be subsidized by membership dues. At the end of the year there was more than \$59,000 in the CTSA accounts. \$19,000 of this had already been transferred to the accounts of the new office of Executive Secretary.

#### *Executive Secretary's Report*

*1992 Convention.* More than 400 people have registered for the convention this year. Among them there are a good number of students who report that they have been made to feel very welcome.

*The New Office.* The office of Executive Secretary has been reactivated and a central office for the CTSA has been set up at La Salle University. So far, the transition to the new office has proceeded very smoothly.

*Future Convention Sites.* In 1993 the convention will be held June 10-13 in San Antonio at the Hyatt on the River Walk. Dr. Donald Jones, of the University of Our Lady of the Lake, will head the local arrangements committee. In 1994 the convention will be held June 9-12 in Baltimore at the Sheraton Inner Harbor. Roger McGrath, of St. Mary's Seminary and University, will head the local arrangements committee.

*Thanks.* A special word of thanks is due to William Thompson and Michael Slusser who headed the local arrangements committee here in Pittsburgh. And also to all the other people at Duquesne University who were so very helpful.

*Needed Projects.* To improve the services provided to CTSA members the computer system needs to be upgraded. Then, too, the CTSA archival material needs to be processed professionally so that it can be of use, especially in the near future for work on the history of the CTSA. An estimated \$8,000 to \$10,000 will be needed for this project. To meet these expenses and to continue the expanded usual services the Board has approved an increase in membership dues except for retired members and those associate members who are not yet hired in full-time teaching positions.

#### *Vice-President's Report*

*Program for the 1993 Convention.* The theme for the 1993 convention, at the present stage of planning, is "Ecumenism, Interreligious Relations, and Evangelization." There will be four regular plenary sessions. These will be theological considerations rather than mainly historical or sociological. The tentative topics for these four plenaries are:

1. The Theology of Ecumenical Interaction: The North American Possibilities.
2. Catholic-Jewish Relations Since 1965: Has It Been Theologically Grounded?
3. 906 Million Catholics and 917 Million Muslims: A Conversation That Has Hardly Begun.
4. The Church's Mission to Bring the Gospel to All Peoples and the Meaning of Witness, Proselytism, and Respect for Other Religions.

In connection with the convention site in San Antonio, the fourth plenary and some of the workshops and seminars will try to focus on the situation of U.S. Hispanics.

#### *President-Elect's Report*

*Word of Thanks.* The President-Elect expressed her thanks to Duquesne University, its President, John Murray, and the others who have been so helpful; to William Thompson and Michael Slusser and their local arrangements committee; and finally to Michael McGinniss, the Executive Secretary, who took such very good care of so very many details.

*Review of Convention Structure.* The Board of Directors has decided to set up a committee to review the program outline of the CTSA conventions and to reconsider the structuring of workshops and seminars. A page with questions about this matter has been made available. Members are encouraged to give serious thought to these questions and to give the committee and the Board any other suggestions they may have. Any restructuring will not yet be in effect for next year's convention.

*President's Report**Membership Recruitment.*

1. *Theologians from Eastern Catholic Churches.* At the suggestion of Petro Bilaniuk the President wrote to the bishops of the Eastern Catholic Churches to ask them to encourage their theologians to become members of the CTSA. As a result, already the number of members from these Churches had increased from one to five.

2. *Hispanic Theologians.* Board Member Orlando Espín reported to the Board that there are fifty to sixty Hispanic theologians qualified for CTSA membership and another one hundred getting doctorates. But the problem with recruitment is that the CTSA is perceived as not really interested in these theologians or their concerns and theology.

The CTSA must work to correct this. Some ways to do this include having an Hispanic seminar, taking maximum advantage of the opportunities offered by having next year's convention in San Antonio, integrating the works of Hispanic theologians into the discussions in other workshops and seminars. The Board intends to continue to study this matter.

3. *African-American Theologians.* Board Member Jamie Phelps reported to the Board that while there are two and one-half million African-American Catholics, very few are CTSA members. Three hundred and fifty African-Americans have finished seminary studies but there are few with doctorates. Among seven hundred African-American women religious only two have doctorates. And only two African-American laywomen have doctorates.

An initial need (among several indicated by Phelps) is the establishment of a process to identify African-American Catholic scholars. The Board decided to appoint a committee to develop and to circulate an instrument among members of the CTSA to identify African-American and other underrepresented ethnic/racial (Hispanic, Asian-American) Catholic graduate and doctoral students and faculty in the field of theology and other ecclesial disciplines within their institutions. This would be a first step toward recruitment.

*Outreach to Other Theological Societies*

Theological societies are growing all over the Church in an effort to share common theological inquiry and concerns and to address common practical issues of depth and freedom in the doing of theology. And individual national groups are joining together in continental clusters.

1. *Continental Associations of Theologians.* The most recent continental cluster, one of critical importance, is the European. The Board of Directors has agreed to ask one of the members of the CTSA to serve as liaison with the European Society of Catholic Theologians and to keep the CTSA President advised about matters of mutual interest. Since there are other such continental groups in Africa, Asia, and perhaps in South America, the Board will explore the

possibility of similar relationships with them.

2. *National and Ecumenical Theological Societies.* The Board of Directors has asked the Past-President as part of his/her official duties to act as the coordinator of contacts between the CTSA and other learned theological societies, national and ecumenical, and will consider establishing a protocol for such connections. Contacts have already been established with the Catholic Theological Society of Southern Africa, the Ecumenical Association of Third World Theologians, the Brazilian Society of Theology and the Study of Religion, the Catholic Theological Society of Australasia, etc. But these contacts are still informal and inchoative. The Board is particularly interested in establishing such links with Latin American societies and those in the third world. It will take decades, perhaps, to develop an articulated network. But a beginning has been made.

#### *Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity*

As communicated to the members in an earlier letter, President Michael Buckley and James Provost and Frederick McManus represented the CTSA in a meeting with the bishops' Committee on Doctrine. The CTSA representatives discussed with the committee the scholarly study of these two documents and analyzed the Oath as an example of the problems. After the discussion the Committee on Doctrine took two actions. First, they will compose, in collaboration with the representatives of the scholarly societies, an information report to the bishops to inform them of the dialogue that has taken place, to instruct them about what is clear in the Profession and Oath, and to summarize the principal concerns raised by the discussion. Second, they will meet (later this June) to determine the further steps to be taken for continuing dialogue with the CTSA.

President Buckley reported that the atmosphere of the discussion was in general one of cooperation rather than confrontation. The bishops are as anxious as the CTSA is to work this out for the good of the Church.

The Board of Directors of the CTSA has passed the following resolution: that in order to keep the lines of communication with the bishops open, the Board of Directors of the CTSA establish a committee to study the interpretation and implementation of the Profession of Faith and Oath of Fidelity, to represent the issues entailed by this matter and to continue the dialogue with the appropriate officials in the Church, and to report periodically to the Board.

#### *The Stuttgart Meeting*

President Buckley and Past-President Walter Principe represented the CTSA at the first meeting of the European Society of Catholic Theologians at Stuttgart last April. A full report on the meeting can be found in three articles written by Nicholas Lash in *America*. From the meeting it seems clear that many of the problems encountered in doing theology within a secular world—with the intellectual culture and the elites in media in the U.S. profoundly alienated from religious concerns—are paralleled and compounded in Europe. Buckley and Principe

agree that both the CTSA and the European Society have much to learn from one another over the decades ahead, and a beginning of contacts has been made.

#### *Suggestions from Last Year's Open Discussion*

1. *Schedule Conflict with Bishops' Meeting.* The Board recognizes that this conflict does occur, but only occasionally depending on when the bishops schedule their meeting. The Board will try to avoid the conflict.

2. *Joint Meeting with Other Societies.* Board Member Susan Ross reported to the Board about the College Theology Society. There is some interest, but one of the chief difficulties has been determining mutually agreeable sites and times. Joint projects can be encouraged and further down the line a joint meeting may be possible. Vice-President Gerard Sloyan will explore this question later with the Catholic Biblical Association.

3. *Conversation with the Natural Sciences.* A good start was made last year. This year's convention includes a workshop moderated by Elizabeth Johnson. Efforts will continue in future conventions.

4. *Themeless Convention.* This would be possible, but the newly elected Vice-President would need to be alerted to this possibility since it is his or her responsibility to begin the initial planning of a convention.

5. *Nature of a Theological Society.* Tentatively, at least, it is planned to have this as the topic for the Open Forum session on Sunday morning. The Board has also decided to set up a committee of the Board to try to draft a statement about the nature of the CTSA as a scholarly society and the implications of this for the type of resolutions that would be appropriate for consideration at the business meeting, and for the use of the Society's name and mailing lists.

6. *Written Reports for Business Meeting.* In the view of the Board, the implementation of such a procedure would be more wasteful (in copier paper and time) than it is worth. Moreover, the business meeting should not be considered principally as a resolution-passing opportunity. Reports at the meeting should be kept quite short.

7. *A Newsletter.* Since the CTSA already has two regular letters in the President's January letter and the President-Elect's spring letter, and given the existence of a news column in the *CSSR Bulletin* which CTSA members receive four times a year, another newsletter would seem redundant.

#### *The 1992 Directory*

Finally, the President informed the members that George Kilcourse had reported that the work on the new 1992 Directory had been completed and the volume was in the mail to the membership. As proof, the President held up a copy of the new directory. And he invited the members to join him in expressing thanks to Kilcourse for his wonderful work.

*Report of the Resolutions Committee*

The Resolutions Committee received only one resolution for consideration. This resolution, submitted by Achille Peelman, had been discussed earlier in the Resolutions Committee's "Hearing" session and was now presented to the members assembled for the business meeting. Since the convention program had been rearranged due to its running over into Sunday and the business meeting was being held a day earlier than usual, the twenty-four hour interval called for by the procedures of the Resolutions Committee could not be observed. So the President asked the members to indicate by an affirmative vote of one-third their willingness to accept the resolution for consideration. This the members did.

In a friendly amendment John Boyle suggested some minor changes in the terminology of the resolution. The original mover accepted this amendment. Thus amended, the resolution read:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the President of the CTSA invite a group of scholar members to examine the *Nota* of the CDF concerning Professor Andre Guindon's book, *The Sexual Creators*, to give the judgment of this group whether the *Nota* accurately reflects the principal arguments of the book. That the report of the group of scholars be presented to the President for communication to the author of the book by December 1, 1992.

After some discussion both pro and con the question was called. A very clear voice-vote of two-thirds approved calling the question. The amended resolution was then passed by a very clear show of hands.

With no further business, the President entertained a motion to adjourn. The business meeting of this forty-seventh annual convention of the CTSA was adjourned at 6:30 P.M.

EDWARD H. KONERMAN, Secretary  
*Loyola University Chicago*