HISPANIC/LATINO THEOLOGY

For the sixth consecutive year, the workshop on U.S. Hispanic/Latino theology met during the annual CTSA convention.

This year the workshop centered on the collective book *Frontiers of Hispanic Theology in the United States*, edited by A. Figueroa Deck (Maryknoll: Orbis Books, 1992). Four well-known non-Latino theologians were invited to review the book during the meeting and start the discussion among the participants. The four theologians were Elizabeth Johnson (Fordham University), George Schner (Regis College), Mary Ann Donovan (Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley), and Lawrence Cunningham (University of Notre Dame).

After concise, fifteen-minutes presentations from the four reviewers, the floor was opened for discussion. The presence of some of the book’s authors, as well as of other Latino theologians, added to the quality of the conversation.

The presentations and discussion revolved around the emphasis placed on popular Catholicism by the book’s several authors, as well as on the important role they seem to discover in their people’s religion. A few of the chapters were highlighted by the reviewers and by the participants during the ensuing conversation, especially those by C. Gilbert Romero (“Tradition and Symbol as Biblical Keys for a U.S. Hispanic Theology”), Roberto S. Goizueta (“U.S. Hispanic Theology and the Challenges of Pluralism”), and Orlando O. Espín (“Tradition and Popular Religion: An Understanding of the *Sensus Fidelium*”).

This year’s workshop exposed many Euro-American theologians to the work of some of their Latino colleagues. It further pointed to the need for continuing and expanding the dialogue for the sake of the theological enterprise. Approximately thirty-five participants shared in this year’s workshop.

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