

# “Graced Infirmity”

Join us for the 2007 Fall Conference  
For Calvin College Faculty and Staff

Wednesday, August 29, 2007

Begins with coffee at 8:30 a.m. on the chapel patio (beautifully redesigned!)  
(rain venue: chapel undercroft)

Keynote address: Graced Infirmity, the Institutional Church, and the  
Expansive Mission of Calvin College:  
Some Redemptive Possibilities to Guide the Way Forward

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**Dr. John Witvliet**, director of the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship and adjunct professor of music and religion, will deliver the keynote address, speaking in the context of the 150th anniversary of the Christian Reformed Church. The breakout sessions will feature panel discussions led by colleagues from across the campus (see following pages).

**All faculty, staff, emeriti, and retired employees are invited to attend this conference**, which provides an ideal opportunity to welcome newcomers to the community and to begin the year together in worship.

The conference will conclude with a cook-out lunch for all faculty, staff, and emeriti at noon on the commons lawn (rain: commons dining hall).

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## Schedule

- 8:30 a.m. Coffee on the chapel patio (rain venue: chapel undercroft)
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and worship – a welcome of new staff and faculty, psalms of praise, words of encouragement, and intercessory prayer for our common work in this coming year
- 9:20 a.m. Keynote address
- 10:00 a.m. Refreshments served near sectional rooms (Hiemenga Hall)
- 10:15-11:05 a.m. Sectionals - session one
- 11:15-12:05 p.m. Sectionals - session two
- 12:00 noon Lunch on the commons lawn (rain venue: commons dining hall)

## Sectionals - SESSION ONE—10:15-11:05

All sectionals are in Hiemenga Hall and are open to all faculty and staff, current and retired. Refreshments are available near the sectional rooms.

### *Graced Infirmity – follow up discussion* (HH 316)

This session offers an opportunity to discuss the plenary speech, including the relationship between the church (especially the CRC) and Calvin College.

*Claudia Beversluis (chair), Jim Bratt, Simona Goi, Debra Rienstra, Laura Smit, Matt Walhout*

### *“Get out of Here!” Off-Campus Programs and You* (HH 331)

Learn about opportunities for students and faculty to study or teach in locations around the world.

*Dave Ellens, Ellen Monsma (chair), Helen Sterk*

### *Managing Work Space* (HH 332)

Are you struggling with how to arrange your work space to get the best work environment? Come learn how to maximize your office space and increase workplace efficiencies based on traffic flows, work load, daily tasks, and routines.

*Don Levy*

### *Metaphor, Music, Development, and Disability* (HH 337)

A conversation about faculty and staff reading groups—who’s been reading what, how to start and fund a group, what launches a great discussion, topics we should consider, why you might want to join. In short, a discussion about the pleasures and perils of reading with your peers.

*Jeff Bouman, Janel Curry, Susan Felch (chair), Caroline Chadderton*

### *A Multicultural CRC: Obstacles, Opportunities, Opting Out* (HH 428)

150 years and counting. The future of the CRC as a multicultural and reconciling community is explored in this session intended for faculty and staff. True reconciliation requires an honest look at our past in order to move forward. What does the church’s history with race matters tell us about the future of the CRC as a racial reconciling community? Come begin the conversation.

*Sue Hasseler, Michelle Loyd-Paige (chair)*

### *Preliminary Report on Calvin College Academic Integrity Survey* (HH 430)

The purpose of this session is to provide a brief initial overview of the results of the academic integrity survey (statistics as well as written comments) and to allow/invite faculty and staff to provide feedback related to possible steps Calvin College might take to promote academic integrity.

*Jack Bosscher, Kim Gall (chair), Jane Hendriksma, Sarah Kolk, Rick Zomer*

### *We Have Ways of Making You Talk!* (HH 431)

We all know the buzzwords—“active learning” is good, “sit and take notes” is bad—but how can we make engaged learning happen? How can we help students become more engaged and overcome their complacency so that they see themselves as participants in inquiry, not recording devices? We will share some of our ideas and strategies, such as encouraging students to challenge each other, getting them so irritated they can’t keep quiet, and (drastic but sometimes effective) teaching without saying anything. Participants, we hope, will have better ideas than these.

*David Hoekema (chair), Karen Saupe*

(more session one sectionals on other side)

## SESSION ONE, continued

All sectionals are in Hiemenga Hall and are open to all faculty and staff, current and retired. Refreshments are available near the sectional rooms.

### *Enticing First-Year Students towards Deeper Learning: Insights from the Science Division* (HH 463)

“There is a great danger in the present day lest science-teaching should degenerate into the accumulation of disconnected facts and unexplained formulae, which burden the memory without cultivating the understanding” (J. D. Everett, 1873). Panelists from the Science Division will discuss their experiences in implementing collaborative, learner-centered pedagogies to cultivate understanding in Chemistry 103, Engineering 101, and Biology 141.

Doug Vander Griend, Gayle Ermer, David Koetje (chair)

### *The End of Rock Stars and the End of Pop Culture?* (HH 466)

In a recent issue of *The Chronicle Review* the lead article asked the question, “Where have all the Rock Stars Gone.” Author David Shumway says that the era of the rock star is over because of major shifts in the way popular culture works—that we have moved from popular culture (in which a lot of people are listening to the same thing) to mass culture (in which a lot of people are listening to a lot of things). This workshop will look at the effect of web-based music, the iPod, and other factors that have affected the concert and music industry and the opportunity that has been created as a result.

Ken Heffner (chair), Rob Vander Giessen Reitsma

### *A Conversation about Evaluating Students in Practicum Courses* (HH 467)

In this session the panel and participants will share thoughts and experiences with the purpose, the players, the process (visits, forms, timing), and the outcomes of student evaluation in practicum. This session may be of interest to any faculty whose programs include students in practicum situations (e.g., social work, education, engineering, recreation, seminary, nursing, etc.).

Renae Boss Potts, Sara Koster, Karen Vander Laan (chair)

### *What I Learned about My Pedagogy, My Students, and Myself: An Immersion Experience with Diverse Students at Calvin* (HH 477)

Picture a Calvin classroom where at least half of the students are from racial minority backgrounds. What were the effects on teaching, classroom dynamics, students and the instructor?

Curt Blankespoor, Rhae-Ann Booker (chair), John Netland, Tasha Paul, Stephanie Sandberg

(more session one sectionals on other side)

## Sectionals - SESSION TWO—11:15-12:05

All sectionals are in Hiemenga Hall and are open to all faculty and staff, current and retired. Refreshments are available near the sectional rooms.

### *Hard Conversations Made Easy: Helping Students Identify a Better Major/Career fit from a Strengths-Based Approach* (HH 316)

As a faculty or staff advisor you may have thought, “I know this student has the potential to succeed, but I don’t think the current major or career focus is the best fit. How do I share my thoughts constructively?” Participants in this workshop will hear from a panel of faculty and staff who have used a strengths-based approach to help students identify a better major, internship experience, or career.

*Bob Eames, Andrea Kitomary (chair), Kurt Schaefer*

### *Enhancing the Calvin Network through Centers and Institutes* (HH 331)

Centers and institutes develop and enhance the mission of the college in its scholarship, service, and networks. Learn more about the three newest entities of the college, including the missions of the Nagel, Kuyers, and Van Lunen efforts as well as their implications for the future of Calvin College. The session will conclude with a short walking tour to the new offices of the Kuyers Institute and Van Lunen Center.

*Joel Carpenter, Shirley Roels (chair), David Smith*

### *What Can the Enterprise Center Do for Me?* (HH 332)

Want to learn about Calvin’s Enterprise Center, a joint venture between faculty, business people, and persons with ideas that could lead to product or service development and commercialization? This session offers information about (a) the structure and goals of this partnership; (b) benefits to faculty, students, and others; and (c) ways in which you can be involved.

*David DeHeer, Ron Lubbers, Wayne Wentzheimer*

### *Undergraduate Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences: Learning from Others and Ourselves* (HH 335)

This session reports on a recent Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) symposium exploring best professional practices for encouraging undergraduate research across the humanities and social sciences. Special attention will be focused on what Calvin and other institutions are already doing in the area of undergraduate research as well as identifying issues and challenges to strengthen our existing efforts.

*Don DeGraaf, Diane Obenchain (chair), Jolene Vos-Camy*

### *I Don’t Really Know You But We’re Friends on Facebook: Social Networking on the Web.* (HH 337)

The use of Facebook by students as a means of networking and communication has continued to increase. While these types of on-line communities allow individuals to remain in contact with a large number of people, they also present issues for the student and well as for the college. This presentation will examine the phenomenon of on-line communities from student, faculty, and administrative perspectives. A student-produced video will help frame the discussion concerning best practices for professionals as well as the positive and negative aspects of on-line communities from the student perspective.

*Bob Keeley, Kyle Sandison, Rick Zomer (chair)*

(more session two sectionals on other side)

## SESSION TWO, continued

All sectionals are in Hiemenga Hall and are open to all faculty and staff, current and retired. Refreshments are available near the sectional rooms.

### *Gender and the Calvin Professor: What's Church Got to Do With It?* (HH 428)

Since Calvin College requires Reformed or Christian Reformed church membership of all its faculty, what difference does it make whether that faculty member is female or male? This panel will show how the history and culture of the CRC have affected and still continue to influence possibilities for Calvin faculty women and men in relation to the classroom, leadership, and authority.

*Christiana de Groot, Joan Flikkema, Thea Leunk, Carol Rottman, Helen Sterk (chair), Dorothy Van Hamersveld*

### *Creating Harmony: Understanding CoWorkers* (HH 430)

Understanding each other is always a challenge...at home and at work. Having a tool to help you get along with others, and understand yourself in the process, can make life just that much easier. This workshop introduces you to the original DiSC® learning instrument to help you understand the behavior of others and acquire tools for managing your own.

*Mary Jane Pories*

### *Calvin Environmental Assessment Program—10 Years and Going Strong* (HH 431)

The Calvin Environmental Assessment Program (CEAP) celebrated its ten-year anniversary last spring. This program has involved faculty and students from across the Calvin curriculum—including biology, CAS, chemistry, economics, and geology—studying the physical environment at Calvin College, often in the context of service-learning projects. Some of the CEAP participants will present posters on their work, allowing time for discussion.

*David Dornbos, Mark Muyskens (chair), Randy VanDragt, David Warners*

### *International Students Speak Out* (HH 463)

A panel of international students will explain the academic challenges they face at Calvin and suggest ways that faculty and staff might respond to help ease the way for international students both inside and outside of the classroom.

*Linda Bosch (chair), students*

### *“Can I Talk to You?”: Speaking Up Against Racism* (HH 466)

Growing diversity creates opportunity for both understanding and misunderstanding. This session will address our need to be intentional as we build community with a goal of being an anti-racist campus. Particular attention will be paid to encouraging the ‘silent majority’ to speak up against racism and other forms of injustice. This session is intended for faculty and staff.

*Caroline Chadderdon, Michelle Loyd-Paige, Mary Beth Van Til*

### *Critical Thinking about Critical Thinking* (HH 467)

What is critical thinking? Does it differ from one discipline to another? How can we help students develop their critical-thinking abilities? During the past year, a task force considered these and other similar questions. A workshop with 22 participants representing 18 departments also met this summer to discuss critical thinking. This session will report on the task force and workshop’s conclusions and discuss concrete ways that instructors can facilitate critical thinking among their students.

*Jim Bradley (chair), Paul Moes, Don Tellinghuisen*

(more session two sectionals on other side)