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## Harold Attridge Steps Down as Dean of Yale Divinity School

### *Gregory Sterling Named as Dean-Elect*

After serving ten years as the Dean of Yale Divinity School, Harold Attridge will step down at the end of this academic year. Following a year's sabbatical, he will return to teaching New Testament in the fall of 2013.

For Berkeley Divinity School, the Attridge years were prosperous and productive. Setting the full integration of BDS into Yale as one of the goals of his deanship, Attridge helped to recruit and form a close partnership with BDS's own dean, Joseph Britton. Working together, and with the support of their respective staff teams, they oversaw the successful completion of a joint \$38 million capital campaign; established the Educational Leadership and Ministry program; invigorated worship life around the Quad; and expanded financial aid to students.

"Harry has been a true colleague," commented Dean Britton, "and has supported the strengthening of Berkeley in every way." The most recent manifestation of this "mutual col-



Dean of Yale Divinity School Harold Attridge and Dean of Berkeley Divinity School Joseph Britton



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For more information about Berkeley, please contact:

Berkeley Divinity School at Yale  
409 Prospect Street  
New Haven, CT 06511-2167  
Telephone: 203.432.9285  
Fax: 203.432.9353

[www.yale.edu/berkeleydivinity](http://www.yale.edu/berkeleydivinity)

laboration,” as Britton likes to call it, is the decennial renewal by Yale and the BDS Board of Trustees of the affiliation agreement that has bound the two schools together since 1971. In honor of his service, as well as that of Jan Attridge, the BDS Trustees have awarded them each the degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, which will be conferred at the 2013 annual Alumni Convocation.

**Ordained in the Church of Christ, Gregory Sterling has a lively interest in the future of the main-line churches, and sees YDS as having an active role to play in rekindling their vitality.**

Meanwhile, after an extensive international search, President Richard Levin announced the appointment of Gregory Sterling, currently dean of the Graduate School at Notre Dame University, as the next dean of YDS. Sterling, who is also a New Testament scholar, says he wants YDS to be “unashamedly, but without ever being narrowly, Christian.” Ordained in the Church of Christ, he has a lively interest in the future of the mainline churches, and sees YDS as having an active role to play in rekindling their vitality.

At the announcement of Sterling’s appointment, President Levin also named Attridge a Sterling Professor, Yale’s highest faculty honor. As the dean-elect quipped, “We now have both a Sterling Professor, and a Professor Sterling.”

### Join the Bishop Berkeley Society

Berkeley’s brochure on the Bishop Berkeley Society has been sent to all our alumni, and it is available to anyone upon request. It outlines the many ways in which you can make a planned gift to the seminary: bequests, charitable gift annuities, pooled income funds, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts, strategic use of assets (including designating BDS as the beneficiary of the Church Pension Fund life insurance policy).

Berkeley’s future depends on your generosity. Please consider making a planned gift and adding your name to the Bishop Berkeley Society membership list.

For further information, contact [pamela.wesley@yale.edu](mailto:pamela.wesley@yale.edu).

### SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

#### Religion and Environmental Stewardship

June 5-7, 2012

Made possible by the H. Boone and Violet M. Porter Religion and Environmental Stewardship Fund.

For more information, go to <http://summerstudy.yale.edu/environmental-symposium>

### FALL CONVOCATION

The annual **Fall Convocation** will be held on **Wednesday, October 24, 2012**, NOT on Tuesday the 23rd as previously announced. This change is being made to accommodate the installation of YDS Dean-Elect Gregory Sterling on Tuesday.

### The Annual Fund Needs Your Support!

Please remember that Berkeley is heavily dependent on the Annual Fund to meet its budget. Despite the strong support of many, as of press time the seminary has \$100,000 to go to meet its minimal goal by June 30.

Remember that **first time gifts will be matched** by generous supporters.

We are counting on your generous support!



(Top to bottom) The senior class gathered in front of the cross of charred timbers in the bombed-out ruin of St. Michael's Cathedral, Coventry; Canon David Porter with students in the Our Lady of Stalingrad Chapel; A visitor contemplates the tapestry of Christ behind the high altar.

## Canterbury Pilgrimage Adds Trip to Coventry

This year's annual senior class pilgrimage to Canterbury included a day trip to Coventry to explore the ministry of reconciliation centered at St. Michael's Cathedral. Students met with David Porter, Canon for Reconciliation, who explained the cathedral's multi-pronged work that includes not only its well-known global witness to reconciliation, but also work within the multi-ethnic diversity of the city of Coventry itself. Porter, who is Irish by origin, takes a very pragmatic yet hopeful approach to the work of reconciliation: for him, it has to involve an authentic confrontation with the hard realities of seemingly intractable situations.

Coventry was bombed on November 14, 1940 during the blitz of the Second World War, destroying not only much of the city but its medieval cathedral as well. A decision was quickly taken to rebuild the cathedral, but with a focus on the meaning of the words carved into the ruins of the old church: "Father Forgive." A new modern cathedral was designed by the architect Sir Basil Spence, and consecrated in 1962.

In order to prepare students to understand and respond to the new cathedral, architectural historian Karla Britton offered the pilgrims a preparatory lecture on its history and design. Britton, who teaches at the Yale School of Architecture, published *Constructing the Ineffable: Contemporary Sacred Architecture*, and teaches a course jointly listed in architecture and divinity on "Modern Architecture and Religion."

The presence of the students at St. Michael's Cathedral was made all the more meaningful because Berkeley has been a center of the Community of the Cross of Nails ever since a group of students journeyed to Coventry in 2000. There they received a cross of nails which resides in St. Luke's Chapel to this day. Every Friday at Morning Prayer, the Litany of Reconciliation is faithfully prayed, as it is in over 170 other sites in 35 different countries—an act that was given added depth for the pilgrims by their experience of praying the very same litany within the walls of the bombed out church.





Andrew Root

## Leadership Colloquium Focuses on “Youth Ministry: Now”



The annual spring leadership colloquium focused this year on youth ministry, working in partnership with the Congregational Church of New Canaan and the Yale Center for Faith and Culture. The series was designed both to offer a curricular component for students in youth ministry as a model of congregational leadership, and to provide a resource for area clergy and youth ministers.

Skip Masback, Senior Minister of the New Canaan Church, started the series off by describing the social crisis caused by the pressures on young people to succeed. Citing “Hardwired to Connect,” a report of the Commission on Children at Risk, he pointed to the need for “authoritative communities” to offer an alternative narrative of what human flourishing looks like—specifically the life of unconditional acceptance and the call to service of the Christian faith.

The series was grounded by four promi-

nent scholars with an interest in youth ministry who offered both lunchtime lectures at Berkeley Center—attended by some 85 to 100 people—and who spoke to the students in class. The first speaker, Andrew Root, is Associate Professor of Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary. He was followed by Roland Martinson, Academic Dean and Professor of Youth and Family Ministry, also at Luther Seminary. Next came Rodger Nishioka, Associate Professor of Christian Education at Columbia Theological Seminary. Finally, YDS’s own Miroslav Volf spoke on the theme of human flourishing.

Working with the staff of the New Canaan Congregational Church, BDS Director of Studies Greta Getlein helped to assemble eight effective youth ministries as case study sites. Ranging from the Powerhouse ministry in Chicago, Illinois; to the Congregational Church of Wellesley, Massachusetts; to Christ Church,



Roland Martinson

“This series ... gave me valuable lessons about what innovative, dynamic leadership looks like anywhere in the church.”

Bronxville, New York; to the Tabernaculo de Alabanza y Restauracion in Toa Alta, Puerto Rico, the sites sent their leadership teams to New Haven for an initial face to face meeting with small groups of students. The students were then charged to study the sites both theologically and practically, including several Skype interviews with their leaders.

Reflecting on the success of the series, Dean Joseph Britton noted that “this kind of partnership with models of success, as well as the resources of Yale Divinity School, is an example of my vision of what puts Berkeley on the map of theological education in the Episcopal Church.” Indeed, as one BDS student commented at the end of the semester, “This series not only inspired in me a powerful commitment to youth ministry as the heart of the church’s mis-

sion — it also gave me valuable lessons about what innovative, dynamic leadership looks like anywhere in the church.”



Rebecca and Jorge Gonzalez of PowerHouse Youth, Chicago, explain their work to a small case study group.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



**Andrew Root**  
Professor of Youth and Family Ministry, Luther Seminary, and leading scholar in the area of theology and youth



**Roland Martinson**  
Professor of Children, Youth, and Family Ministry, Luther Seminary, and project director for the Exemplary Youth Ministry Study



**Rodger Nishioka**  
Professor of Christian Education, Columbia Theological Seminary, and leading scholar in the *praxis* of youth ministry



**Miroslav Volf**  
Professor of Theology, Yale Divinity School, and Founding Director of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture

# Where in the World?

## Berkeley Students Head to the Four Corners of the Earth

The global emphasis at Berkeley Divinity School continues to grow, with students and faculty traveling on grants from the Seminary Consultation on Mission, the Episcopal Evangelical Society, the Conant Fund, and a new “global initiative” fund established by a generous donor.

Just this month, Director of Studies Greta Getlein traveled with a group of students to the Diocese of El Salvador, renewing our relationship with the church there and its bishop, Martín Barahona. This trip was made possible by an anonymous gift from an alumna of the School.

From the new global initiative fund, grants have been made for travel to Latin America to **Andrew Barnett** '12 to go to Cuba to study its emerging church movement; to **Jordan Haynie** '13 to participate in the Panama Project; and to **Lisa Zaina** '13 to visit Our Little Roses orphanage in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. For travel to Africa, **Beth Phillips** '13 will visit Zimbabwe to create a documentary on the experience of women clergy there. **Anne Thatcher** '14 will visit St. Nicholas Seminary, Cape Coast, Ghana, in order to study their patterns of vocational discernment,



The Berkeley missionaries worshipping with the congregation of Iglesia Anglicana Santa Maria Virgen in Ilopango, San Salvador, El Salvador.

and **Elaine Thomas** '13 will visit the Institute for Healing Ministry workshop in Capetown, South Africa.

With grants from EES, Andy Barnett will be leading his Theodicy Jazz Collective on an evangelistic musical tour of the United Kingdom (including a premier of his jazz mass at Canterbury Cathedral). **Stephen Blackmer** '12 will be working on a project to develop resources for a Christ-centered response to the ecological crisis, and **Brin Bon** '13 will create a program entitled “Good Food: Good God.” **Adrian Dannhauser** '13 is planning to teach rela-

tional evangelism at two parishes over the summer, and **Jesse Zink** '12 is going to teach at St. Paul's Sudanese Mission in Phoenix.

Dean Joseph Britton will himself be traveling on a Conant Fund grant to Ghana to work on developing more formal ties with St. Nicholas Seminary, where **Victor Atta-Bafoe** STM '93 is dean and **Joseph Ayeh** MAR '09 teaches Old Testament.

Our gratitude to the individuals and organizations who make all this possible, and our congratulations and good wishes to all those embarking on these adventure-some projects!



(Above) Berkeley Middler Class on retreat at Camp Incarnation at Ivoryton, CT

(Left) Berkeley Junior Class on retreat at Holy Cross Monastery in West Park, NY



### *Dine with Berkeley at General Convention*

Berkeley is hosting a dinner for alumni and supporters on Tuesday, July 10, at the General Convention in Indianapolis. We shall gather at the Columbia Club at 7 p.m. Suggested donation is \$35. Reservations **must be made in advance** (before July 1) to [gail.chaisson@yale.edu](mailto:gail.chaisson@yale.edu).



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New Haven, CT 06511-2167

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THE ANNUAL BDS SUMMER LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM

June 4-5, 2012

## Jumpstarting Congregational Vitality through Spiritual Growth Findings from Robust Churches

**W**e invite you to join us for an intensive symposium on developing the relationship between individual spiritual growth and congregational vitality. Based on recent research into understanding congregants' beliefs and practices, this two-day gathering will be led by Mr. Eric Arnson and the Rev. Jay Sidebotham. Eric, a research pioneer, focuses on examining the "unseen": what congregants want and actually need from a church. After working with clients like Allstate, Gatorade, and Nike, Eric has turned his research skills in the last eight years to methods for measuring spiritual vitality in congregations. His findings arise from the responses of 80,000 members in 1,200 congregations.

Those results are telling: *the key catalyst to congregational health is the spiritual vitality of the church's members!* In this symposium, Eric Arnson and the Rev. Jay Sidebotham (Church of the Holy Spirit, Lake Forest, Illinois) will explore the implications of this research for Episcopal congregations. Their work is based on a conviction that the current "parish activities" model is unsustainable. As a result, churches need to refocus on core beliefs and practices. Using the

Church of the Holy Spirit and Diocese of Chicago as case studies, the symposium will consider factors that have proven to foster healthy, vibrant churches.

With the Rev. Kristin White (associate at Holy Spirit) as conference preacher, the symposium will offer opportunities to learn, to reflect, to worship, and to imagine. Come and consider the strategic implications of these findings, and decide whether change and growth can happen in your congregation.

The symposium is sponsored by the Wesley-Royce Leadership Initiative of BDS. Your registration fee of \$100 will help cover the expense. To register, email [gail.chaisson@yale.edu](mailto:gail.chaisson@yale.edu).



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