

## **Breakout Sessions from 10:30 a.m. – Noon on Saturday, January 24**

### **CHOOSE ONE:**

#### **Session 1: Are We Really Doing What We Think We're Doing?**

Location: Zia A

Seminar Leaders:

- John H. Aukerman, MDiv, EdD. Director of Field Education and Director of Outcomes Assessment, Anderson University School of Theology
- Tom Tanner, MDiv, PhD. Director of Accreditation and Institutional Evaluation, The Association of Theological Schools, Commission on Accrediting

Synopsis:

- Outcomes assessment" can have a bad name in many quarters. But at its heart, it's all about helping us find out if we're really doing what we think we're doing. It can be fun and energizing, if done appropriately. And it can reveal holes and blind spots, helping us take needed corrective measures. Dr. Tom Tanner of ATS will address us via Skype, and Dr. John Aukerman will facilitate this important seminar.

#### **Session 2: Engaging Neighbors: Social Analysis in Field Education for Ministry**

Location: Zia B

Colloquy Leader:

- Joseph E. Bush, Wesley Theological Seminary

Synopsis:

- This colloquy will explore methods and tools for social analysis as relevant for theological field education. Methods include asset mapping, pastoral circle, and frame analysis. These will be examined for usefulness in both congregational settings and other situations of ministry such as service agencies. We will address the pedagogically challenging tendency for our students to become more self-absorbed when introduced into new communities—whether congregations or neighborhoods—and examine reflective tools for addressing this challenge.

#### **Session 3: I Have This Idea ... : How to Get Published**

Location: Zia C

Seminar Leader:

- Beth Ann Gaede, independent nonfiction editor

Synopsis:

- Many books and websites, agents and publishers offer would-be authors guidelines for developing proposals for books or articles. Beth Gaede has 25

years' experience as an editor and has worked with nearly 200 authors (including many ATFE members). She will guide participants through proposal development, focusing on the issues that matter most to prospective publishers, and outline the editorial and production processes.

#### **Session 4: Expanding Learning Contexts: Social Change and Theological Field Education**

Location: DeVargas

Workshop Leaders:

- Jenny Whitcher, Iliff School of Theology
- Trudy Hawkins Stringer, Vanderbilt University Divinity School

Synopsis:

- Changing landscapes of theological education offer challenges and opportunities for the discipline of theological field education. Our understanding of "ministry" is expanding beyond congregation-based leadership to include nondenominational parachurch organizations and secular nonprofits. An increasing number of students come with an interest in social justice, social movements, and social change initiatives as places of ministry. Such vocational orientation may include several expressions of vocation over the span of one's ministry, or bi-vocation—multiple, simultaneous expressions of vocation, and/or a more fluid understanding of the interplay between church and its contextual setting within society. In addition, there is a growing loss of faith in institutions within U.S.-American society, leading students towards emergent and entrepreneurial forms of ministry and community. In this workshop we will explore programmatic models for establishing community partnerships with a wide range of social change organizations and learning contexts. In preparation for the workshop, participants are asked to bring a contextual analysis of their institution setting, highlighting current programming, opportunities and challenges.

#### **Session 5: Developing Supervisor-Mentors in Communities of Practice**

Location: Sunset Room

Workshop Leaders:

- Matthew Floding, Duke Divinity School
- Lucinda Huffaker, Yale Divinity School
- Tom Fuller, Beeson Divinity School, Samford University
- Rhonda Parker, Duke Divinity School
- Jennie Rodriguez, Princeton Theological Seminary
- Allison St. Louis, Virginia Theological Seminary

Synopsis:

- 6 theological field educators from 5 diverse theological schools will share what they've learned from a group project that introduced "communities of practice" as a means of developing and supporting excellent supervisor-mentors. Each TFE convened a group of their outstanding supervisor-mentors over 1-2 years to reflect on their own practices of supervision and mentoring. The groups, as communities of practice, resourced each other to deepen their capacity for ministerial reflection, improve supervision skills and embrace their role as mentors to our students who even now are entering this community of practice! Workshop participants will learn some effective practices for developing these skills in supervisor-mentors, and they will try some of the exercises to explore their own learning in communities of practice at ATFE.

**Seminar 6: Where Spiritual Formation and Field Education Intersect**

Location: Anasazi Ballroom

Leaders:

- Sr. Mary Leanne Hubbard, SND, DMin, St. John's Seminary, Camarillo, California
- Rev. Dr. Wanda Stahl, Boston University School of Theology
- Dr. Brady Bryce, Graduate School of Theology at Abilene Christian University

Synopsis:

- The contemporary practice of formation can benefit from conversation with our past, across tradition, and between institutions. From three different theological schools and three different spiritual traditions, the presenters will reflect on their respective approaches to integration of spiritual formation and contextual pastoral experience. The methodologies range from formative field practice to individual mentoring to group reflection and discernment.