

ATFE News & Updates Spring 2020

A Word from the Chair

I have enjoyed seeing new and familiar faces in our recent Friday gatherings. I have also been impressed all over again by the individual and collective resilience and creativity of field educators! You all have found ways to respond to the immediate, technical changes brought on by the pandemic and have even begun reflecting on long-term, adaptive changes to ministries of field education and beyond. I can honestly say that you have been a source of inspiration for me during this time. Thank you.

In this issue of the newsletter you will find several important announcements and pieces of news. Stay safe and well,
--Barbara Blodgett

A Decision about the next Consultation

The Steering Committee has decided that it is necessary to postpone the ATFE Consultation planned for Tampa in January 2021, due to the COVID-19 epidemic and its effects on travel and on institutional budgets. At this time, we have retained our deposit with the Safety Harbor Resort and Spa for a January 2022 gathering; however, we will continue to heed recommendations about large gatherings and will finalize a date when it is appropriate to do so. We considered hosting the January 2021 consultation via videoconference but decided against that option.

In the meantime, we will keep offering continuing education webinars and we will plan a brief virtual gathering for January 2021, along with a way for the membership to vote on a slate of nominations for a Steering Committee that would carry ATFE through the next consultation (see separate article).

Celebrations

The Steering Committee celebrates good news from our member Matt Floding: He has been named one of the co-editors of *Reflective Practice* (see separate article). Congratulations, Matt!

Several ATFE members are retiring or have retired this year, and we celebrate with them even as we know they will be missed, both at their respective schools and from our body.

Stephanie Crumley-Effinger, from Earlan School of Religion

Ken Ehrman, from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Chester Polk, from Princeton Theological Seminary

Stephanie Sauv , from Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School

If there are retirements we have missed, please let Barbara Blodgett know.

Continuing Education

The Research & Publications Committee has decided to postpone the webinar on grant writing originally planned for this Friday, May 14, until a date TBD in the Fall. Meanwhile . . .

Hosting an Intern Remotely, a webinar, will be offered by Matthew Floding on Friday, May 22 from 11am to 12:30pm Eastern/10am to 11:30am Central/9am to 10:30am Mountain/8am to 9:30am Pacific.

Most theological field education programs adapted quickly to virtual internships to complete the academic year. Reflecting on that experience for future field education internships this summer and perhaps the next academic year, we will explore nine facets of a rich remote supervision and mentoring experience. One of these is leaning into the power of learning theories. Review the PowerPoint on six learning theories and come prepared to tell a story!

Topic: ATFE Remote Supervision

Time: May 22, 2020 11:00 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://duke.zoom.us/j/97038477792>

Meeting ID: 970 3847 7792

Reflective Practice

The Editorial Board of the *Reflective Practice* Journal would like to thank the Rev. Dr. Scott Sullender for six years of creative leadership as the editor of the Journal. He has worked tirelessly to develop engaging topics for each volume, to find a wide range of professionals to address those topics, and then to work with the written submissions to edit them for publication. Dr. Sullender's leadership has continued the legacy of the Journal to offer critical, personal, and forward-thinking reflection on the work of supervised ministry. We are deeply indebted to Dr. Sullender for his efforts in guiding us through the preparation of the fortieth volume of the Journal and its predecessor and forward into a new era of reflection.

As Dr. Sullender steps away from the role of Editor of the *Reflective Practice* Journal, the Editorial Board is pleased to announce our new Co-Editors, Rev. Dr. Matthew Floding and Rev. Nancy Wood. Together, the Rev. Dr. Floding and Rev. Wood bring years of supervisor training and editing work as well as connections to a wide variety of practitioners in the field of supervised ministry. Each is excited to join the process of producing high quality writing and reflecting on this work and look forward to working together as a team to continue the creative and visionary work that the *Reflective Practice* Journal has offered throughout the years.

--Leslie Veen

Excellence in Supervision Award

The ATFE Steering Committee has created and appointed a new committee that will implement a new award given annually to outstanding supervisor-mentors called the ATFE Exemplary Theological Field Education Supervisor-Mentor Award. These people will serve for three years:

- Bonnie Abadie, Oblate School of Theology, Roman Catholic Caucus
- Melvin Baber, Lancaster Theological Seminary, African American Caucus
- Sung Hee Chang, Union Presbyterian Seminary--Charlotte, Presbyterian/Reformed Caucus
- Tim Coltvet, Luther Seminary, Lutheran Caucus
- Daniel Corpening, Duke Divinity School, United Methodist Caucus

- Susan MacAlpine-Gillis, Atlantic School of Theology, Canadian Caucus
- Tracy Stringer, Fuller Theological Seminary, Evangelical Caucus
- Matthew Floding, (Convener, non-voting)
- Dan Poole, Steering Committee liaison

Leading ATFE: A Call for Nominations

Consider nominating yourself or someone else to an at-large position on the Steering Committee. The term would begin in January 2021 and run through the next Consultation (which we hope will be January 2022 but cannot yet say for sure). We especially encourage nominations of persons who would bring various kinds of diversity to the SC.

The SC typically meets monthly by videoconference. Its primary task would be to plan the Consultation, but the SC also shepherds the financial, legal, and governance business of the organization. It's not a small job, but it is an interesting one!

--Barbara Blodgett (chair@atfe.org)

It's Time to Pay our 2020 Dues

<http://atfe.org/membership1/why-join-atfe/>

Membership dues rates remain as follows:

Institutional Membership: U.S. Members: \$150 U.S.

Institutional Membership: Canadian and other non-U.S. Members: \$130 U.S.

Individual Membership: \$110.00 U.S.