CALL FOR PAPERS

Lumen et Vita presents its third annual Graduate Conference
Saturday, January 30, 2016 at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

Sacramental Vision and Rejuvenating Word: Embodying Theological Conversations with a Troubled World

Keynote Speaker: Kelly Brown Douglas, Professor of Religion at Goucher College, Baltimore, Maryland

In a world that is constantly changing, the Church is called to a renewed practice of aggiornamento, a spirit of change and a commitment to theological engagement amid varied contemporary contexts. This practice of rejuvenation asks theologians to use greater imagination as they contemplate the world and enter into relationship and dialogue with their neighbors. The array of environmental, social, cultural, and political troubles facing society today demand that we listen authentically and hear the needs of the earth and its people. Only then can we respond creatively and productively to draw from the depths of faith the wisdom needed in our age of unrest. What questions does the world ask of theology? How do these questions challenge us and how do we allow that challenge to shape our prayers, our studies, our ministry, and our very lives? Once theologians have undergone this process of listening, discerning, and being moved to respond to the needs and questions of our time, then we are properly situated to offer the resources of our traditions to a world in peril.

For its third annual graduate conference, Lumen et Vita, the academic journal at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, invites papers from a various theological disciplines that address this pressing task. We are particularly looking for papers that creatively and honestly apprehend the questions being asked of theology today and how the theological project should engage in attentive aggiornamento while retaining organic continuity in a productive and relevant way. We welcome papers from these areas: Systematics, Biblical, Moral, Church History, and Pastoral.

Abstract submissions should be 250-300 words in length and should be sent via email to Lumenetvita@gmail.com no later than December 4, 2015. Please include your name, school affiliation, degree program, and the area in which your proposal falls. Final papers are expected to be 5-6 pages in length for a 15-minute presentation. A selection committee made up of STM Faculty will help decide the top papers from the conference for publication in Lumen et Vita. Any questions may also be directed to Lumenetvita@gmail.com.