

**Religious Studies, the Liberal Arts,
and the Public University**

Texas State University, April 10-11, 2015

Keynote Address: Stephen Prothero, Boston University

“Religious Literacy and Public Universities”

Friday, April 10, 2015

1:00-2:30 p.m.

Flowers Hall 230

Note: Professor Prothero’s address is open to the university community. Those who wish to attend the conference events below must register at the following link:

<http://www.txstate.edu/continuinged/Events/Religious-Studies-Conference.html>

Friday, April 10

(All sessions will be held in the Dialogue Room, Comal 116.)

First Session: Religion and the Liberal Arts Classroom

3:00-5:30

Rebecca Raphael, Texas State University, presiding.

Ralph Keen, University of Illinois at Chicago

"Interpretive Communities and Religious Studies at One Public Institution"

Brent Landau, University of Texas at Austin

"The Synopsis Problem: Inerrancy and the Ethics of Biblical Studies Pedagogy"

Clare Murray, Texas State University

"'Well, That's Your Opinion' -- Truth, Morality, and Religion in the Composition and Rhetoric Classroom"

Binita Mehta, Texas State University

"Relation Between Science and Religion: A Reappraisal and its Significance for Multidisciplinary Studies"

Second Session: Religion and Spanish Literature
6:00-7:30 p.m.
Susan Morrison, Texas State University, presiding

Yasmine Beale-Rivaya, Texas State University
"Lower the Drawbridge! Placing the Modern Student into a Medieval World"

David Navarro, Texas State University
"Teaching Golden Age Jewish Literature of Sepharad in the Spanish Literature classroom: Challenges and Benefits"

Catherine Jaffe, Texas State University
"Teaching Religion in Cervantes and Unamuno: Conversion, Faith, and Identity"

Saturday, April 11

Third Session: Religious Studies and Social Institutions
9:00-12:00
Joseph Laycock, Texas State University, presiding

Sarah Imhoff, Indiana University
"When God(s) Came to the University: The Cold War and the Rise of Religious Studies"

Komi Begehou, University of Lome; Fulbright Research Scholar, Texas State University
"Navigating the Intersections of a Christian Organization and a West African Public University"

Rodolfo Hernandez and William DeSoto, Texas State University
"Hellfire Nation and President Lincoln: Helping Students Understand Lincoln's Religious Rhetoric"

(15 minute break)

Greg Moses, Texas State University
"Religious Studies in the Academy: The Example of J. Leonard Farmer, Sr.'s Quest for 'Religion in Life'"

Tiffany Puett, Claremont Lincoln University
"Mediating the Liberal Public Sphere: Religious Identities, Civic Identities, and the Limits of Pluralism"

Lunch, 12:00-1:30

Fourth Session: The Academic Ethos of Liberal Arts
1:30-3:30

Robert T. Tally, Jr. Texas State University
"An Anagogical Education: The Vocation of Criticism and the Contemporary Liberal Arts"

Jenna Reinbold, Colgate University
"Teaching – and Living – the Secular in the Liberal Arts"

William De Soto, Nathan Pino, Chad Smith, and Hassan Tajalli, Texas State University
"The Role of Religion on an American University Campus"

Nathan Rein, Ursinus College
"Encounter and Critique: The Liberal Arts Classroom and the Analytic Study of Religion"

Fifth Session: Religious Studies and Public Universities: Local Histories and Program Development
4:00-6:00

Martha Newman, Chair, Department of Religion, University of Texas-Austin

Jamie Bouzard, Chaplain, Christ Chapel, Texas State University

Vincent Luizzi, former Chair, Department of Philosophy, Texas State University

Rebecca Raphael, Religious Studies Coordinator, Department of Philosophy, Texas State University

This conference is sponsored by Texas State University, the College of Liberal Arts, the Department of Philosophy, and the NEH Distinguished Teaching Professor.

For further information or to request accommodations, please contact the Philosophy Department at (512) 245-2285 or email philosophy@txstate.edu.