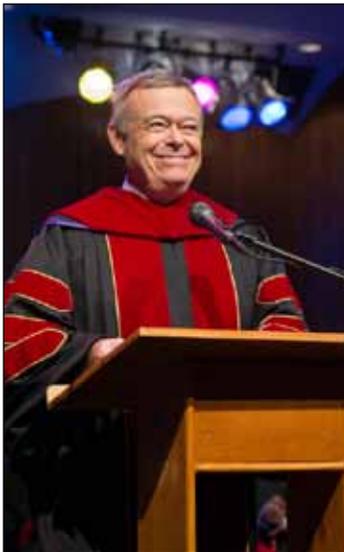




The Western FRONT

August 2014

where the gospel meets the world



Western Celebrates Commencement

On Saturday, July 12, Western Seminary San Jose held its annual commencement ceremony at Christ Community Church in Milpitas to celebrate the accomplishments of 31 graduates. Dr. Ron Allen gave the commencement address. Four of our graduates, Mark Clayton (MFT), Shadia Hrichi (MABTS), Lee Miller (MAML) and Joshua Stone (MDiv) shared of how God has transformed their lives as a result of training at Western Seminary. Dr. Jeff Louie gave the charge to the graduates. It was a great day of celebration and praise to our great God!

THANK YOU so much for those of you who supported Western Seminary this fiscal year with your time, talent and treasure. We appreciate you!
- The Western Staff

IMPORTANT DATES

September 27

Dr. Hutchinson's 20 Years of Teaching Celebration at Trinity Church of Sunnyvale (see page 2)

October 4

Campus Connection, 10:30am-1:00pm at Western Seminary San Jose. RSVP by Sept. 27 at <http://www.westernseminary.edu/connect-sanjose>

October 8

Co-Labor Breakfast with Dr. Scott Rae, 7:30am-9am at Trinity Church of Sunnyvale (see page 4)

October 8

Discover Coaching, 7pm-9pm at Western Seminary San Jose. RSVP by Oct. 1 at <http://www.westernseminary.edu/coaching/discover/>

October 17

Christian Therapist Fellowship, 12-2:30pm at Western Seminary San Jose
Topic: The Forgiveness Challenge
Speaker: Normajean Hinders, LMFT
RSVP to Steve Darrow at stevedarro@aol.com

[Other Community Calendar Events](#)

Farewell to Dr. Judi



This year marks the 16th year that Dr. Judith Needham-Penrose has taught at Western Seminary. As the Director of the Marital and Family Therapy program, she has been devoted and committed to the integration of psychology and the Christian faith. She has made decisions and

improvements to the program, including developing the Addiction Studies Certificate program, art therapy electives, and workshop development. She has also taught courses on group therapy and integration. Her love for Western's MFT students and their development as excellent therapists has been one of her greatest goals and motivations.

Dr. Judi has decided it's time to move on to the next chapter of her life where she can devote more time to her counseling and group therapy practice. She will continue mentoring interns and hopes to teach at least one class a year for Western. A beloved member of the Western Seminary staff, she will be greatly missed.

On Saturday, August 2, Western had a farewell event to celebrate and show our appreciation to Dr. Judi. For those who attended, thank you for making this day so special for her. Special thanks to Rebekah '09 and Andrew Laffoon, owners of Mixbook, who enabled us to present such a beautiful [keepsake book](#) of memories to Dr. Judi. If you are ever interested in a simple way to make a scrapbook, card, announcement or other like items, please check out their website at www.mixbook.com.

Transitions in the MFT Department

Written by Dan Ruiz, Executive Dean

The last few months have been a time of employee transition for the MFT department in San Jose. During this time, the seminary began the process of identifying and hiring personnel who will lead the MFT program in a new season as Dr. Judith Needham-Penrose focuses on her counseling practice and thus ending her tenure in San Jose as MFT Program Director. In addition, Dan Jackowitz has moved on from his MFT Administrative Coordinator position at Western to serve in a Care and Compassion Ministry at a local church. He will also focus on his coaching practice. Both Judi and Dan leave a legacy of many years of service to Western Seminary and particularly to current and past students in the MFT program. Now it is time to thank God for his provision over our site and to continually seek his will regarding future direction of the MFT program in San Jose.

And speaking of transition, I am excited about the addition of Dr. Ken Logan, Acting Director of the

San Jose MFT program at Western through December 2014. He will teach at both San Jose and Sacramento campuses this fall semester. Dr. Logan will provide needed continuity and stability of the program as we continue to explore hiring options related to the MFT Director role in San Jose.

Also, I am equally excited about the hiring of Nancy Broxton as the Assistant MFT Director. Nancy brings to Western Seminary a wealth of teaching and administrative management experience.



Dr. Ken Logan may be reached at klogan@western-seminary.edu or at extension 409.



Nancy Broxton may be reached at nbroxton@western-seminary.edu or at extension 414.

Dr. Hutchinson Celebrates 20 Years of Teaching



This year marks 20 years that Dr. Lorraine Hutchinson has been teaching at Western Seminary in the Marital and Family Therapy program. She has

taught courses on Human Development and Counseling Violence and

Abuse. She firmly believes that all it takes to stop the abusive cycle from being repeated from generation to generation is just one person in a family that has the willingness and courage to find healing and live their life differently. She trains MFT students to be able to recognize abusive patterns and help people find help and healing. She encourages students to stand in the gap for these hurting families.

**SAVE THE DATE:
A Celebration for Dr. Hutchinson**

**September 27th
12:45pm- 3:00pm**

**Trinity Church of Sunnyvale
477 N. Mathilda Avenue**

**Hot hors d'oeuvres served at 1:15pm
followed by a formal presentation.
RSVP by September 20 to [Lisa Mueller](#).**

Preaching the Gospel in a Multi-Cultural Context

Written by Dr. Jeff Louie



APPLYING THIS TO THE BAY AREA

The Bay Area is known for cultural diversity. Culture is often understood as related to ethnicity. Ethnic culture is still present, but there are other cultural

distinctives that exist outside the ethnic boundary. There are now cultural differences in the generations: depression era, baby boomers, gen Xers and millennials. There are even regional differences between urban, ghetto urban, hipster urban, and the varieties of suburbanism. And finally, there are conservative versus liberal values cultures.

Besides the vast cultural diversity here, there is also a general feeling that one cannot be critical of other cultural groups. Teaching of absolute truth, teaching where I am right and you are wrong is often seen as narrow-minded, bigoted, and unloving. This makes any bold proclamation of the Gospel, and “repentance from sin” talk uneasy for the Bay Area listener.

As a result, ministries tend to minister to one specific culture. We have hipster churches, ethnic churches, young adult churches, family suburban churches, because they are easier to develop as they focus on one cultural type.

Then we also have a tendency to avoid speaking on sensitive sin. We would speak of sin, but they would be the second or third tier ones that are mostly acknowledged by all people. The sins of the culture are left barely touched lest they offend the congregation.

What are we to do?

A LOOK AT THE APOSTLE PAUL

The best way to answer this question is

to look at how Paul ministered to the Gentiles. A few key passages are Acts 17, 1 Corinthians 8, and Galatians 2.

Paul preached to the philosophers in Athens in Acts 17:16-34. These observations can be gathered from this text: (1) Paul is very disturbed by their polytheism (17:16); (2) he was very respectful (17:22); (3) he made ties and used illustrations from Greek culture (17:23-28); and (4) Paul did not shy from firm truths of the Gospel, such as repentance, the judgment to come, and the resurrection of Christ from the dead.

In 1 Corinthians 8, Paul tells us not to cause weaker believers to stumble by living our freedom in Christ in front of one who does not yet understand the same spiritual and theological reality. Sensitivity is the theme here.

In Galatians 2, Paul warns us not to allow our ministries to be religiously legalist so that it counters the grace that is found in the Gospel. He relates his rebuke of the Apostle Peter who withdrew from Gentiles in the presence of Judaizers. Finally, he reaffirms his ministry to the poor. The lessons from Paul are important

for us today in ministry. First, Paul was inclusive in his ministry, both ethnically and socio-economically. Second, Paul was respectful to the cultures around him, while affirming the truth of the Gospel. Third, Paul could refrain from the freedoms in Christ, in order to cause the weaker not to stumble. And finally, Christ and maturity in Christ was also his goal, so that cultural sensitivity and ethnic inclusion were not the goals of ministry. Christ was the goal, and to understand the grace and freedom in Christ over and above culture was his goal.

THE CHALLENGE

We give thanks for all the churches in the Bay Area. The ministry is hard enough and we want to avoid another layer of unwarranted guilt, but the church which Christ died for was to be marked by diversity, both ethnic and socio-economic. And the church was to be a place of deep transformation. We minister at first through the cultures of the people we minister to. We must understand them, and incorporate this into how we do ministry. But this is just the beginning. We must lead them to see that Christ will take us beyond our starting cultures and into the culture of Christ.

AUDIT A CLASS FOR FREE!

Alumni can audit one eligible course per academic year free. Check out Western's [fall course schedule](#) and [syllabi](#) for more info. Unless noted, the audit deadline is one week before class begins. Complete a [Non-Credit Application and Registration Form](#) and the [Alumni Audit Opportunity](#) and submit them to [Carrie Priest](#), Director of Student Services. Here are some courses to consider:

Fall semester:

- **DIS 526S** Religions of the World (begins Sept. 6)
- **MCS 510S** Introduction to Coaching (begins Sept. 18)
- **PCW 512XSH** Women in Pain - Part 1 *Register by Sept. 2!* (begins Oct. 3)
- **PTS 561LS/CNS 561LS** Premarital Counseling *Register by Oct. 8!* (begins Oct. 17)

Spring semester:

- (registration begins Nov. 1, 2014)
- **MCS 510S** Introduction to Coaching (in Jan. 2015)
- **PCW 511S** Pastoral Understanding of Women *Men are welcome!* (begins Feb. 6, 2015)

Welcome, Class of 2014!

Opportunities abound for Western Alumni

We are proud to welcome you to our Western Seminary alumni family. No, don't worry. You won't have to pay dues to join the fun! As a graduate, you have many ways to connect and benefit:

- **Receive Free Coaching-** Want help with your next steps? The Transitional Care Coaching Network (TCCN) is made up of a team of Western-trained coaches who are equipped to help you launch into your next season. Here is what two students shared about their coaching experience:

"It was a simple way to regain perspective about my challenges and come away with my own solutions."

- Danny Chen '13 M.Div

"He asked targeted questions that led me to find the answers within. In a loving manner I was held accountable yet without judgment. I was given grace to continue forth."

- Robbie Leong '13 M.Div

Contact [Charmaine Williams](#) for your free sessions.

- **Stay connected** with Western alumni at various event gatherings that meet on campus and around the Bay Area. Volunteer with a team of friends.
- **Take a Western class** without papers or tests. You may audit one course per year for free. See page 3 for info.
- **Get special offers at seminars** (like the \$190 savings at the annual Global Leadership Summit in August).
- Take opportunities to impact present and the future students with your resources. **Make a gift** at <http://www.westernseminary.edu/friends/give>, volunteer or mentor to support your alma mater. We appreciate your partnership.

Again, congratulations! We're excited to call you family.

MINISTRY AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

[Bridges Community Church](#) in Los Altos

- **Director of Middle School Ministries**
- **Director of Children's Ministry** (25 hrs/wk)

Send your resume to jobs@connectbcc.org.

[Crossroads Church](#) in Fremont (\$45-50K/year)

- **Children's Minister** (40-45 hrs/wk)

Send your resume to karen@crossroadsfremont.org.

[Pro Athletes Outreach](#)

- **Six internship positions available!**

Send your resume to Ken Hughes at ken@pao.org.

We have Ministry and Employment Opportunities and Counseling binders in the front lobby at the San Jose campus for more information about these positions.



Christian discipleship and sound theology has become disconnected from the largest portion of our lives, our daily work. Co-Labor seeks to restore this vital connection and to support pastors, business leaders, educators, and community leaders in their unique and crucial roles by forging mutually supportive partnerships between Kingdom leaders.

Western Seminary will be hosting a breakfast at Trinity Church in Sunnyvale. Please be our guest at:

**Why Work Matters to God:
Connecting Sunday to Monday**
with

Dr. Scott Rae

Professor of Philosophy, Religion and Ethics
Talbot School of Theology

Dr. Rae's primary interests are medical ethics and business ethics, dealing with the application of Christian ethics to medicine and the marketplace. He is the author of 10 books, a consultant for ethics at four Southern California hospitals, and a fellow at the Center for Bioethics and Human Dignity.

Wednesday Oct. 8th, 2014

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Trinity Church of Sunnyvale

477 N. Mathilda Ave, Sunnyvale

RSPV to Kate Schleusner by September 24th at
kschleusner@westernseminary.edu or 503.517.1975

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For alumni news, the Western Front,

and additional community events -

www.westernseminary.edu/alumni/sanjose

(click on the "San Jose" button)

For Western Seminary San Jose campus news -

www.westernseminary.edu/students/sanjose