

Friday @ the Center: April 14, 2006

Global Engagement Forum

Don't forget to register for the 2006 Global Leadership Forum on "Evangelism and the Persecuted Church," to be held on April 28-29, 2006. Speakers include Jayakumar Christian, National Director of World Vision India; Paul Freston, Professor of Sociology at Calvin College and author of *Evangelicals and Politics in Asia, Africa and Latin America*, Lamin Sanneh, D. Willis James Professor of Missions and World Christianity, Yale University, and author of *Whose Religion is Christianity?* and our own Priscilla Pope-Levison, Professor of Theological Studies and author of *Turn the Pulpit Loose: Two Centuries of American Women Evangelists*. Students receive free registration if they register before April 21, so encourage them to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. Faculty pre-registration is \$15 at www.globalengage.org/store. Same-day registration will be \$25. A continental breakfast and light lunch on Saturday are included.

Teaching Tip: Practice and Feedback

In *What the Best Colleges Teachers Do*, Ken Bain notes that it isn't what teachers do, it's what they understand about their students, that contributes to successful learning. Some teachers "think of memory as a storage unit and intelligence as the capacity to use the information in that tank. In their minds, some people simply have both big tanks and great power to retrieve and use the contents of those containers, and other people don't. Because they believe that there is little if anything that anyone can do to expand either memory or intelligence, they see limited responsibilities for themselves [as teachers]." Bain argues that more successful teachers recognize that the power to remember increases when students comprehend the material and use it in reasoning processes. This involves giving students opportunities to practice their reasoning abilities in discussions, group work, and papers—and then giving support and constructive criticism, BEFORE grading them. Practice and feedback is crucial for learning.

Thumbs Up or Down? Grant Advisor

The Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development is currently evaluating whether to continue our subscription to the *Grant Advisor*, the monthly e-newsletter with 20-25 full program reviews and over 300 listings of grant and fellowship programs, organized into eight academic divisions (fine arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, education, international, health, and other. See <http://www.grantadvisor.com/tgaplus/>. **If you would like us to continue our subscription, please notify me by May 1.**

Lilly Fellows Program Book Award

The annual Lilly Fellows Program Book Award honors an original and imaginative work from any academic discipline that best exemplifies the central ideas and principles animating the Lilly Fellows Program. These include faith and learning in the Christian intellectual tradition, the vocation of teaching and scholarship, and the history, theory or practice of the university as the site of religious inquiry and culture. Single authored books or edited collections in any discipline that were published in 2004 or 2005 are eligible. A prize of \$3000 will be awarded at the LFP National Conference, Oct. 13-15, 2006. For nomination procedures and further information, see http://lillyfellows.org/lfpbook_award.htm. Nomination deadline is May 31, 2006.

Happy Easter!



Susan

Susan VanZanten Gallagher
Professor of English
Director, Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development