International Academy of Practical Theology

(IAPT

President: Prof. Claire E. Wolfteich

Boston University School of Theology

745 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston MA 02215

USA

president@ia-pt.org

www.ia-pt.org

October 2011

Dear IAPT colleagues:

Greetings from Boston! After an incredibly rich meeting in Amsterdam, we are moving forward to build on the excellent leadership and vibrant discussions that have enabled our academy to flourish. Many thanks again to Ruard Ganzevoort and the entire planning team for outstanding work in organizing and hosting the Amsterdam conference. We also express appreciation once again to Bonnie Miller-McLemore for her stellar leadership as president and to the previous Executive Committees that have done such a fine job in advancing and organizing IAPT affairs. I feel deeply privileged to serve as IAPT President and am delighted to serve alongside a wonderful, energetic, Executive Committee

I will be continuing the tradition of sending out newsletters to update you on developments and progress we are making as an organization and community of scholars. In order to make the newsletter quite user-friendly, I will put in bold any items that require action on your part. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I also invite your input at any time. Please e-mail your suggestions, comments, questions, or brainstorming ideas.

Website Updating: We Need Your Response

One of our current goals is to update the IAPT website—particularly in creating active member links so we can learn more about one another's research and more fully represent who we are and what we do to others. Therefore, we are asking all IAPT members to e-mail by November 15: 1) either a current CV or a list of your publications, and 2) the web address of your faculty page or research center. Please take a few minutes to e-mail this information to me and to the Center for Practical Theology at Boston University, whose administrator will assist in this work. Copy us both please: president@ia-pt.org and cpt@bu.edu.

Working Groups

One of the important aims of IAPT is advancement of the discipline of practical theology and the cultivation of international scholarly conversation. Towards those aims, the Executive Committee is happy to facilitate working groups around particular interest areas. Below are several working groups in formation, with contact names and an Executive Committee liaison. We invite you to make contact with these colleagues and/or to propose another group. We are all busy in our respective contexts, but these can be informal ways of connecting and supporting research, requiring as little as some e-mail conversations and exchange of ideas.

Practical Theology in Underrepresented Regions

Contact and EC Liaison: Jaco Dreyer (<u>Dreyejs@unisa.ac.za</u>)

Catholics and Practical Theology

Contacts: Tom Beaudoin (<u>tbeaudoin@fordham.edu</u>) and

Annemie Dillen (annemie.dillen@theo.kuleuven.be)

EC Liaison: Claire Wolfteich (cwolftei@bu.edu)

Interfaith Approaches to Practical Theology

Contacts: Daniel Schipani (<u>dschipani@ambs.edu</u>) and

Tabitha Walter (<u>Tabitha.Walter@unibas.ch</u>)

EC Liaison: Claire Wolfteich (cwolftei@bu.edu)

Methodology in Practical Theology

Contact and EC Liaison: Robert Mager (Robert.Mager@ftsr.ulaval.ca)

Developing Connections to Related Scholarly Organizations

Another goal is to develop stronger connections between IAPT and related scholarly organizations (including theological societies in different linguistic families and organizations for related disciplines such as liturgical studies, spirituality studies, ethics, biblical studies, pastoral care, etc.). This is one way to increase our global presence and facilitate partnerships with those who may be working in areas that are highly relevant to practical theology (whether or not they identify as "practical theologians"). We may wish to invite representatives of such scholarly organizations to the 2013 Toronto conference and/or host a roundtable exploring significant contributions and explorations in related areas of scholarship. Many of you are already involved in related scholarly associations; we need your suggestions about important groups of which we should be aware, whose work may be more broadly relevant to field of practical theology. Please e-mail me the names of any organizations you think important for IAPT to learn about and connect with in collegial ways. We also can include links for related scholarly organizations and conferences on the IAPT website.

Nominations for New Members: Due by April 15, 2012

According to the IAPT by-laws, nominations for new members must be made at least one year prior to the next conference. Here is the process: "Members may nominate

one or more persons for membership in the Academy by letters of nomination, supported and signed by two members, and forwarded to the current President of the Academy.... Letters of nomination should summarize the academic and other contributions to practical theology of the nominee. Letters of nomination shall attach a brief curriculum vitae of the nominee, a list of major publications, and current contact information, including the nominee's mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address (if any)." In making your nominations, please consider gender, regional and national representation. We also discourage nominations from within the same institution. Please review the By-laws, section IV, for the list of qualifications necessary for membership and forward your nominations to me at your earliest convenience.

Conference Volume 2009:

If you paid your 2011 dues, you are entitled to receive the 2009 conference volume. These were distributed in Amsterdam. For any member who was not present to receive your volume, the publisher will ship it to you. We are communicating with Lit-Verlag to make sure that anyone who should have a book receives one. Please contact Heather Walton, Secretary (Heather.Walton@glasgow.ac.uk), with your current address if you have not received your book.

Conference Volume 2011:

The Editorial team (Rein Brouwer, Ruard Ganzevoort, and Bonnie Miller McLemore) is working away and final selections for the 2011 conference volume will be announced shortly. The timeline then for completion of the volume is as follows:

- 1. The selected contributors revise their paper to comply with the guidelines (see attached) and feedback by the editors before November 30.
- 2. The chapters will be edited and sent back with questions and suggestions between December and March.
- 3. Authors then have four weeks to respond and send back their text.
- 4. April June 2012: Final revisions and editing, after the summer proofreading, and publishing.

Finances and Internal Audit

At the Business Meeting in Amsterdam, we requested two volunteers to conduct an internal audit of IAPT finances. This is an effort to strengthen our financial stability and ensure transparency with our members. Thanks to our colleagues Faustino Cruz and Lynn Bridgers who have volunteered to review the financial records over the next several months.

Conference planning 2013

The dates for the IAPT 2013 conference in Toronto have been set: April 11-15. The planning team explored options for alternate dates at the request of some members, and they determined that these are the only viable dates in this context. Planning is well underway, and we are grateful to Pam Couture, Program Committee Chair, and the hardworking local planning team for all of their efforts.

Sincerely,

Claire E. Wolfteich, USA (President)

On behalf of the Executive Committee:

Jaco Dreyer, South Africa (Vice President)
Heather Walton, UK (Secretary)
Neil Pembroke, Australia (Treasurer)
Pam Couture, Canada (Program Committee Chair)
Stephanie Klein, Germany (Member at Large)
Robert Mager, Canada (Member at Large)