

# GODDARD TALK

## THE GODDARD CHAPEL NEWSLETTER Tufts University

### From The Desk of The Chaplain

Greetings!

It has been a full year since our new Interfaith Center opened. Many events and religious programming have kept the Interfaith Center very busy. If you are on campus and have not seen it, please stop by Goddard Chapel for directions.

It is with profound sadness that I announce the departure of our Catholic Chaplain, Ann Penick and our Muslim Chaplain, Shareda Hosein. Ann has served at Tufts as the Catholic Chaplain for over six years. She has moved to Maryland to be in charge of the Counseling Center of Southern Maryland College. Shareda Hosein had just started at Tufts as our first Muslim Chaplain after serving a year as an intern in the Chaplain's Office. Shareda was invited to serve active duty in the Army in the Civil Affairs section. She will now be training Special Forces; i.e. Green Berets, Army Rangers & Delta Forces on how to work with Muslim populations. Both Ann and Shareda gave their all to ministry and service to our students. May our Gracious Creator continue to Bless them and their work.

(As we go to press, mid-July, we are in an active search and interviewing for the new Catholic and Muslim Chaplains. They should be in place for the start of the new academic year. Please check our website [www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy](http://www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy) for their information.)

Also, in "good-bye" mode, Miss Edith Stead, "Edye", retired from Tufts University and faithful service in the Chaplain's Office after 20 plus years. Edye was our living version of oral history. She was the "voice" of the Chapel on the phone and gave everyone who entered the office a great big smile. May God continue to bless this wise and elegant lady. We are pleased to welcome Mrs. Laura Manion as our new Staff Assistant. She is the mother of three small children and lives in Arlington. Laura is a wonderful addition to the Chapel staff, and we look forward to working with her in the years ahead.

This year we are kicking off a new Goddard Chapel Forum on Religion and International Relations. Our past Forums have been on Religion and Science, Religion and Law, Religion and Politics and Religion and Medicine. The first Wednesday of every month, October – April, 6 PM, we will have an outstanding speaker. Please circle your calendar for the dates for this year's Goddard Chapel Forum on Religion and International Relations. The full schedule and speakers appear in this edition of Goddard Talk.

This past May's Baccalaureate Service was the most attended in recent years. To view the webcast of the entire Baccalaureate Service, The Wendell Philips Speaker, Alex Pryor and President Bacow's address go to the website <http://commencement.tufts.edu/>

The Spring/Summer rest went very quickly. But during the "down time" I made 13 mini shows for Catholic TV. Their website is [www.catholicTV.org](http://www.catholicTV.org). The show is called "Catholic Citizenship" and runs under the "Blinks" program. They are also being used for pod casting and downloading.

Please know I am at your service for a presentation, a talk to your group or in any way to serve your religious or spiritual needs. It is just a matter of scheduling. Call Goddard Chapel at 617-627-3427.

Pax et Lux,

Fr. Dave O'Leary, S.T.L., D.Phil.

University Chaplain & Senior Lecturer in  
Religion & Medical Ethics

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September 2008



*Father David O'Leary, S.T.L., D.Phil.  
University Chaplain*

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## Upcoming Chapel Events

### CHAPLAIN'S TABLE—"Religion & Politics" Fall 2008—MacPhie Conference Room Thursdays, 5-7 PM

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>September 25</b> | Overview of Program,<br>Reverend David O'Leary, University Chaplain   |
| <b>October 2</b>    | Christina Remond, Fletcher School<br><i>"Religion and Politics: Who's Driving the Bus?"</i>   |
| <b>October 9</b>    | Heather Curtis, Religion Department<br><i>"Religion and Politics in American History"</i>   |
| <b>October 16</b>   | Tufts Democrats/Republicans<br>Mike Hawley, Tufts Republicans<br>Shana Hurley, Tufts Democrats<br><i>"The Race for the President"</i> |
| <b>October 23</b>   | Professor George Scarlett<br>Child Study<br><i>"The Problem of Religious Diversity As it Relates to Politics"</i>                     |
| <b>October 30</b>   | Professor James Glaser<br>Political Science Department<br><i>"A Conversation About the 2008 Elections"</i>                            |
| <b>November 6</b>   | Larry Lowenthal, Director<br>American Jewish Center<br><i>"Religion in America/Religion in Europe"</i>                                |
| <b>November 13</b>  | Mona Abu-Zena, Education Department<br><i>"The Role of Women in Religion and In Political/Civic Life"</i>                             |
| <b>November 20</b>  | Wrap-Up Discussion, Reverend David O'Leary  |

### GODDARD CHAPEL FORUM ON RELIGION & INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FALL 2008—SPRING 2009—6 PM

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>October 1</b>  | U.S. State Department Speaker   |
| <b>November 5</b> | Kathryn Coughlin, Ph.D.<br>President & Executive Director of<br>Global Research and Analysis, Inc.  |
| <b>December 3</b> | Professor Roger S. Gottlieb<br>Dept. of Humanities and Arts<br>Worcester Polytechnic Institute<br><i>"The Global Possibilities of Religious Environmentalism"</i> |
| <b>February 4</b> | Reverend Raymond G. Helmick<br>Dept. of Theology, Boston College<br><i>"Talking with Adversaries"</i>   |
| <b>March 4</b>    | Imam Talal Eid, Th.D., Commissioner<br>United States Commission on<br>International Religious Freedom   |
| <b>April 1</b>    | Assistant Professor Elizabeth Prodromou<br>Department of International Relations<br>Boston University<br>2009 Russell Lecturer                                    |

### NOONTIME CONCERTS AT GODDARD CHAPEL Thursday, 12:30 PM—Fall 2008

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| <b>September 11</b> | Special 9/11 Musical<br>Remembrance<br>Fensgate Chamber Players |
| <b>September 25</b> | John McDonald, piano &<br>Ray Jackendoff, clarinet              |
| <b>October 9</b>    | Lois Regestein, organ   |
| <b>October 23</b>   | Janet Hunt, harpsichord   |
| <b>November 6</b>   | Rosalind Mohnsen, organ   |
| <b>November 20</b>  | Sarah Takagi, piano   |
| <b>December 4</b>   | Christmas Concert, 4 PM   |

### TUFTS UNIVERSITY—ON-CAMPUS RE- LIGIOUS SERVICES 2008—2009

**Catholic:** Sundays, 10 PM, Goddard Chapel

**Jewish:** Conservative, Fridays, 5:30 PM  
(6:00 PM DST)  
Granoff Family Hillel Center  
Reform, Fridays, 5:30 PM  
(6:00 PM DST)  
Granoff Family Hillel Center

**Protestant:** Sundays, 7 PM, Goddard Chapel

**Muslim:** Prayer Service, Fridays, 1 PM  
Interfaith Center, 58 Winthrop Street

\*For further information, please contact  
Goddard Chapel at (617) 627-3427

### RENEW YOUR MARRIAGE VOWS!

Every 1st Saturday of the Month - 9 AM—12 PM

Call Goddard Chapel to make arrangements.

(617) 627-3427

## ECUMENISM AND MULTIPLICITY: Lessons from Interfaith Practices

**Jeff VonWald, Protestant Chaplain**

Warm greetings from the Protestant Chaplaincy!

Over the course of my first year as Protestant Chaplain, there has been a deepening of my suspicion that the contemporary practices of interfaith programming have much to teach us about best practices in “intra-faith” programming.

Being a part-time chaplain affiliated with what tends to be a mostly progressive Christian denomination (United Church of Christ), I find myself often in an attitude of thankfulness for the diversity of people who help offer the range of programming available to those in the Tufts community who identify with some strain of the Protestant tradition.

Through support from the Central Congregational Church of Newton’s Legacy Trust, which heavily funds my position; through efforts of dedicated student leaders in the various student groups; and through help from friends such as the staff and volunteers of the evangelical InterVarsity ministry, we together support programming for individuals and groups representing or exploring liturgical styles ranging from the highly expressive and unstructured to the highly contemplative and structured, as well as perspectives that could be placed in many locations on the “conservative – liberal” continuum, and sometimes in a set of places that disrupt our assumptions about that continuum.

Students can get to know more about Unitarian Universalism by visiting the weekly gatherings of TU3, the group that continues the liberal tradition at the heart of Tufts’ founding. They can attend candlelit services on Sunday evenings, with styles of practice and reflection drawn heavily from the many liturgical Christian denominations, and with student leadership offered by the Protestant Student Fellowship. They can also find the more evangelical styles of worship and reflection that often characterize the weekly Large Group Meetings of the Tufts Christian Fellowship. In any given week, students from many places within Protestantism can find an opportunity to share time in study, conversation, service, or socializing with others who will understand and share her or his basic spiritual perspectives and background.



*Jeff VonWald, Protestant Chaplain*

Simultaneously, we are beginning to seek avenues to increase understanding across groups while holding in place the particularities that make the multiplicity of groups important. This is happening across faith groups, but perhaps it is nearly as remarkable to say that it is beginning to happen across the Protestant groups. My hope is that both kinds of dialogue will continue, and that the intention we bring to our interfaith relations to understand differences rather than setting out to eradicate them can be brought to intra-faith relations as well. I look forward to contributing to both kinds of conversation.

## Pathways and the MultiFaith Council Team Up To Bring Students Together in Dialogue

**Najiba Akbar**

This fall, the Pathways Interfaith Initiative will continue to support and develop the new MultiFaith Council (MFC) at Tufts. Last year, the MFC got off to a strong start with members from almost a dozen religious organizations on campus participating in bi-monthly dialogues and beginning to envision a campus-wide interfaith network. This year, the MFC will broaden its reach to include all members of currently existing religious organizations on campus by inviting organization members to attend open meetings that will be hosted by the religious organizations themselves. Thus, MFC meetings will rotate amongst the existing student groups, giving each organization a chance to host an interfaith meeting, and giving students a chance to learn more about their fellow student groups and about traditions other than their own. The Pathways program will play a supportive role in this process, helping student leaders design their open meetings as creative and engaging opportunities to engage with other groups, share aspects of their tradition, and invite others to learn and discuss in a comfortable environment.

To learn more about the MultiFaith Council or the Pathways Interfaith Initiative at Tufts, contact Najiba Akbar at [najiba.akbar@tufts.edu](mailto:najiba.akbar@tufts.edu).

## Church – State Issues 2008

The saying “Never discuss religion or politics” is dead. One only has to look at the newspaper headlines to see issues of morality being debated as political questions. Many faith traditions try to offer their members guidelines concerning issues of public policy and informing one’s conscience. Responsible citizenship means everyone needs to take voting as a serious civic duty.

The American discussion of religion and politics always begins with “the separation of Church and State.” This is a great place to begin, but not to end. The separation clause means religious institutions should expect neither favoritism, nor accept discrimination. The separation clause purpose is not to silence the religious voice or deny a public role for it. The separation clause guarantees the freedom for the religious voice to earn its way into the public policy debate by demonstrating the WISDOM of its teaching.

Many religious traditions and spiritual paths stress that responsible citizenship is a virtue and participation in political life is a moral good. The believer should participate, each according to his/her position and role, in promoting the common good. As far as possible, citizens should take an active part in public life. Believers should be guided by their moral convictions rather than party attachment helping to transform the party rather than let the party transform the individual.

A believer should have a well informed conscience based on one’s faith tradition and spiritual foundations. Conscience is a judgment of reason whereby the human person recognizes the moral quality of a concrete act that one is going to perform, is in the process of performing, or has already completed. No faith tradition or spiritual paths advocates for single issue voting. It is always important to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically, and to choose political leaders according to principles, not just party affiliation or mere self-interest.

Many political issues need to be considered and properly weighed. Issues like torture, armed intervention into another country, the use of the death penalty, the dignity of the human person, end of life issues and environmental economic issues. These issues provide a framework that does not easily fit ideologies of “right” or “left” or “liberal” or “conservative” or any specific platform of any political party but these issues do reflect fundamental ethical principles that are common to all people. All faith traditions challenge voters and candidates, citizens and elected officials to consider the moral and ethical dimensions of public policy issues.

Every person has the right to participate in social, economic, and political life and a duty to work for the advancement of the common good and the well being of all. Participation in the voting process, which makes our country and communities work, is an important step towards achieving peace and justice for all. Human dignity is

respected and the common good is fostered only if human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met. Every human being has the right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible. They also have a right to access those things required for human decency — food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing, family life and freedom of religion. Rights should always be understood and exercised in a moral framework rooted in the dignity of the human person.

While the common good embraces all, those who are weak, vulnerable, and most in need deserve preferential concern. A basic moral test for our society is how we treat the most vulnerable in our midst. In a society marred by deepening disparities between rich and poor, some faith traditions remind their believers that they will be judged by our response to the “least among us” or those on the “fringe of society”.

Building a world of respect for human life and dignity, where justice and peace prevail, requires more than just political commitment. Individuals, families, businesses, community organizations, faith and spiritual traditions, and government all have a role to play. Participation in political life in light of fundamental moral principles is an essential duty for all believers and all people of good will.

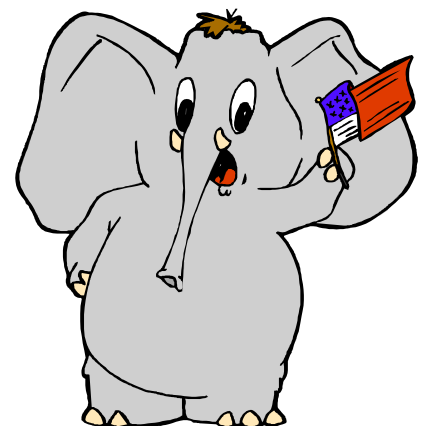
Believers and members of faith traditions should be principled but not ideological. Believers cannot compromise basic principles or moral teachings. In public life, it is important to practice the virtues of justice and charity that are at the core of one’s spiritual traditions.

A believer, a spiritual person, a person of good will should seek to foster a renewed kind of politics:

- Focused more on moral principles than on the latest polls;
- Focused more on the needs of the weak than on benefits for the strong;
- Focused more on the pursuit of the common good than on the demands of narrow special interests;

See you at the voting booth!

DO’L





## COMPASSIONATE LEADERSHIP: CULTIVATING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

**Three voices of insight come together to help us look at the world's need for compassionate leadership on a global scale.**

In a groundbreaking discussion, Her Majesty Queen Noor, Rabbi Irwin Kula and the Sakyong, Jamgon Mipham Rinpoche, will travel to Tufts University for open discussions with this rising generation on the power and practice of compassionate leadership. This public conversation will address current world events and help us to see how they relate to and affect our own inner life and capacity for leadership.

The escalating conflicts and crises in the world today offer the choice of continuing violence or of finding a way forward for society and our planet. Never have we needed more capable leadership than we do now, and no generation will be more affected by the choices we make than the generation emerging into political maturity.

Through this conversation, we will explore where politics, compassion, and leadership intersect, inviting participants to imagine a new kind of political leader, a new model of heroism, and a new understanding of spirituality that we could imagine becoming, creating and following.

This is a unique opportunity to experience three world leaders discussing the necessity of compassionate leadership in today's world. The Sakyong, a prominent Tibetan Buddhist leader, and Rabbi Irwin Kula, a provocative religious leader and well-respected rabbi, share the wisdom from their age-old traditions. Through her stories and experience, Queen Noor gives us a first-hand look at what it is to be a leader.

Each conversation will be moderated by Jerry Murdock. He is a co-founder of Insight Venture Partners and is a member of the Board of Trustees of both The Santa Fe Institute and The Aspen Institute. It has been a passion of his to look at how compassionate leadership can help to transform our businesses and our world.

The presenters will engage the audience in a lively conversation that will entertain, inform and inspire. Each event will be an opportunity for the audience and presenters to share their collective wisdom, experience, and practice.

The first Compassionate Leadership dialogues took place at the Aspen Ideas Festival in Colorado. This annual event is sponsored by the Aspen Institute and collects some of the most inspired and provocative writers, artists, scientists, business people, teachers and leaders drawn from myriad fields from across the country and around the world. These conversations are known for their insight, humor and intimacy in dealing with the complex question of how we embody compassion in our work, home and life in general.

This forum is schedule for Sept. 25, 2008. More information will follow once confirmed.

### REMEMBERING FATHER HUNT

A fund has been established to honor the memory of Father Michael Joseph Hunt, the former director of the Catholic Center at Tufts, who died in November, 2006. Gifts in Hunt's memory made to the Tufts Fund will be allocated to the Catholic Chaplaincy, which hopes to use them to produce a lecture series.

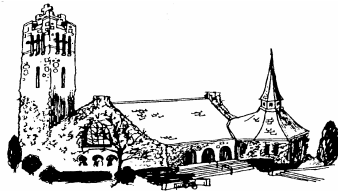
Hunt's ministry spanned 39 years, including service as Associate Catholic Chaplain and the Director of the Tufts Catholic Center from 1984 to 1997. He was also a lecturer in the religion department at Tufts, and served at Boston University, the University of California at Berkeley and Wayne State University.

Gifts may be made by check or credit card. Checks should be made out to Trustees of Tufts College, with "Catholic Chaplaincy" written in the memo line, and sent to:

Tufts Fund for Arts, Sciences & Engineering  
Tufts University  
P.O. Box 3306  
Boston, MA 02241-3306

Gifts may be made via credit card online at [www.tufts.edu/givenow](http://www.tufts.edu/givenow). "Catholic Chaplaincy" should be written in the "I would like to make a gift to" section.

In addition, any memorial donation for Father Hunt can be made to the Friends of Goddard Chapel Society.



## Tufts University

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Linda Karpowich, Chaplaincy Coordinator  
Laura Manion, Staff Assistant



### New Interfaith Center



58 Winthrop Street  
TUFTS UNIVERSITY  
Medford, Massachusetts

Please call Goddard Chapel to find out more about reserving the Interfaith Center for Prayer Groups, Spiritual or Social Events or other functions.

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy](http://www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy)**

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