From The Desk of The Chaplain

Happy New Year!

It is with great excitement that I write to you. Our Goddard Chapel Forum on Religion and Media was a huge success this past semester. We had Fr. Bob Reed of Catholic TV, Reverend Scotty McLennan returned to the Hill and Professor Marla Frederick from Harvard University. This semester we welcome to Goddard Chapel Michael Paulson of the Boston Globe, Maria Karagianis, writer and journalist, and Tufts alum and founder of Walden Media Micheal Flaherty. Please check inside for the full schedule and times. All the presentations have and will be very thought-provoking on the play between Religion and Media.

The Office of University Chaplain is very proud to be a sponsor of two student-led programs that are doing great work. “The Giving Camp at Tufts” is a student-run program that allows physically and mentally challenged adults and children be included in community events. Throughout the semester The Giving Camp has trained new volunteers to work with our guests to give them a great day or night out in the local community. Please checkout the home page at http://www.thegivingcamp.org. The Giving Camp was started by Tufts grad, Diane Ricciardelli.

The second student group that is sponsored by this office is C.A.F.É. (Communication, Action, Faith and Education). This student-run group had 15 incoming students for a pre-orientation program exploring the issues of interfaith dialogue. The C.A.F.É. has run many events over the semester and is planning to host all the student religious organizations for a mini-retreat to work on increasing interfaith and interreligious dialogue on campus and beyond.

Tom Bourdon, the Director of Tufts Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual and Transgender Center and this Office co-sponsored a four part program on “Religion and Sexuality”. There were three movie nights with discussion and then a final group panel. All of the Chaplains took an active role in the four-part program. It was a very well-received program that fostered dialogue and respect for the dignity of all people.

Thanks to former Provost and Professor of Physics; Kathryn McCarthy, I was able to give a presentation on “Catholicism” at Brook Haven Center for Living in Lexington for their series on Spirituality. It was a very pleasant experience. I welcome other opportunities to speak to your group or organization. It is just a matter of scheduling.

Please see the schedule for all of our Chaplaincy programs for the second semester; Goddard Chapel Forum on Religion and Media, Noontime Concerts and Chaplain’s Table. You are most welcome to attend them all.

Pax et Lux,

Fr. Dave O’Leary, S.T.L., D.Phil. University Chaplain & Senior Lecturer in Religion & Medical Ethics
**CHAPLAIN’S TABLE**

“A LOOK AT RELIGIONS”

WINTER/SPRING 2010

MacPhie Conference Room

Thursdays, 5-7 PM

February 4  David O’Leary  
University Chaplain  
Introduction to Chaplain’s Table

February 11  Lynn Cooper  
Catholic Chaplain

February 18  TBD

February 25  Naila Baloch  
Muslim Chaplain

March 4  Professor Ken Garden  
Religion Department

March 11  Professor Paul Waldau

April 8  Rabbi Jeff Summit  
Jewish Chaplain

April 15  Professor Mary-Anne Wolfe  
Child Study Department

April 22  Reverend Kerrie Harthan  
Protestant Chaplain

Tufts University, Medford, MA  02155  
(617) 627-3427  
Website:  [www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy](http://www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy)

---

**GODDARD CHAPEL FORUM ON RELIGION & MEDIA**

WINTER/Spring - 2010

6 PM

February 3  Michael Paulson  
Boston Globe Religion Reporter  
Pulitzer Prize Winner, 2003

March 3  Maria Karagianis  
Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal Winner, 1975  
“Creating a Meaningful Life”

April 3  Micheal Flaherty, A’90  
Co-Founder, Walden Media  
2010 Russell Lecturer

Cosponsored by The Chaplain’s Office, the Fletcher School,  
and The International Center  
Tufts University, Medford, MA  02155 – (617) 627-3427  
Website:  [www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy](http://www.tufts.edu/chaplaincy)

---

**GODDARD CHAPEL NOONTIME CONCERTS**

WINTER/Spring 2010

Thursdays, 12:30 PM

February 4  Janet Hunt, organ

February 11  Casey Hannan, piano

February 25  Tanya Bartevyan, piano

March 11  Barbara Owen, organ

April 8  Leah Kosch, piano

April 25  Larry Gall, bass and  
Eric Huenneke, piano

Late Arrivals Welcome  
Goddard Chapel, Tufts University  
Medford, Massachusetts  02155  
(617) 627-3427  
Wheelchair Accessibility via Tower Door
This is the expression a young friend in seminary uses to register agreement with something. I also hear it from young people with whom I work in the organic grocery business. After I commented to them on the need for Americans to put their money where their mouths are – paying living wages to growers and retailers of good food – several of them piped up with a harmonic “Word!”

Language says a lot about where, how, and by what a person is shaped. As much as students listen to me during Sunday evening worship at Goddard, so do I listen to them.

- “I’m thankful for my family. I like – I need – a sense of family here at school. That’s why I joined this [religious] student group.”
- “I want to live a righteous life.”
- “I am not good. Only God is good.”
- “I know I’m not responsible for my friend’s actions, but I still feel guilty. Why?”

These are all real statements, though not all come from students who regularly worship at Goddard or are part of Tufts several Protestant groups. But in each statement we can hear a religiosity, a reckoning with the truth of human interdependence, a need for love and connection, a deepening sense of relationship with mystery, with God.

I’m often asked two questions: Are Tufts students religious? Do students care enough about spirituality to warrant a Protestant Chaplain, or a chaplain of any stripe, for that matter? As the statements above reflect, whether or not there are chaplains, students have spiritual questions and yearnings. The question is if and how 21st century universities will acknowledge and respond to such longings. It has been my experience that everyone is religious about something. Everyone has some sort of faith process. Faith is a way of making meaning out of life, of thinking about and acting on the relationship between Truth and the mechanics of our relationships, our dreams, our society and economy.

The Protestant Chaplaincy is in the midst of transition. PSF and TCF (Protestant Student Fellowship and The Christian Fellowship respectively) have able, stalwart senior leaders that are readying to hand the reins to a new generation. PSF student leaders have initiated weekly evening prayers and devotions open to all. There is regular Sunday evening worship at Goddard Chapel, and plenty of opportunity to visit and even join local churches. As in churches, the Protestant Chaplaincy encourages involvement in all aspects of faith community building, including liturgical participation and leadership. As such there are many opportunities for students to explore their gifts for ministry.

As we did last semester, we’ll continue to explore how our faith informs our American-shaped dreams. 2010 marks the completion of the first decade of the 21st century. Painful at times, it has also been a period of awakening to our individual and communal responsibility for the Common Good. The way of Jesus teaches us how compassion, love and humility, is the way to right ourselves. In that spirit the Protestant Chaplaincy will begin exploring fundamental social issues beginning with a series on Food and Religion. We’ll immerse ourselves in the real-time business world of international maritime trade with a service trip to Boston Seafarer’s Friend. Located in Chelsea, we’ll join Seafarer’s Friend chaplains on hospitality visits to the men and women sailors who crew the ships bringing us salt for our winter roads, cars to buy, and fuel to heat our homes and power our transportation. We’ll also be teaming up with the Africana Center and the LGBT Center to bring in a marvelous public theologian, Rev. Irene Munroe, during African-American history month in February.

As the Tufts Protestant Chaplain, I look forward to listening to Tufts students, faculty and staff and will gladly provide companionship on this part of their faith journey. In Tufts I’ve found an intellectual and spiritual home, one that closely fits a vision that has guided me for nearly two decades. Described below by a former president of my alma mater, Bowdoin College, it was penned over two hundred years ago by Joseph McKeen. It continues to guide my work at Tufts:

It ought always to be remembered that literary institutions are founded and endowed for the common good and not for the private advantage of those who resort to them for education. It is not that they may be able to pass through life in an easy and reputable manner, but that their mental powers may be cultivated and improved for the benefit of society.

As my young friends would say, “Word!”

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year and welcome back! We have some great things happening this semester in chaplaincy and I invite all students to join us. Catholic students and students from the CAFE group have expressed interest in working closer with the Outdoor Church in Cambridge and we hope to establish a consistent relationship with this community. As we seek to nourish our relationship with self, God and others, we will be venturing into different pockets of the city to walk a variety of labyrinths. These trips will be an opportunity to focus on acts of mindful prayer and I hope that we can collaborate with some of the other religious groups on campus and pray across our lines of difference. Please know that new ideas are always welcome. Let me know if you want to see something happen! Looking forward to seeing you and all the best as you begin a new term.

Peace—Lynn Cooper
Naila Baloch—Muslim Chaplain

This year has seen some changes in the programming offered by the Muslim Chaplaincy. This past semester, the MSA executed an exuberant evening of feasting and music for the annual Eid celebration, highlighting the cultural diversity of Muslims across the world. With the appointment of a new, female MSA president, the MSA and the Muslim Chaplaincy have started holding weekly women’s Quran circles. I have enjoyed engaging with the larger student body as a guest speaker in Religion 01 and the First Year Moving Beyond Diversity class. On a slightly more personal front, I have enrolled in a program to enhance my skills in Islamic teaching and devotional practice. I am very excited to share what I learn with students and the campus community, especially in terms of practical skills to deal with everyday challenges, and interfaith initiatives.

This next semester will see more community involvement in the Friday prayer services, where we will be tapping into the rich resources of the Boston area Muslim community, and inviting guest speakers at the Friday services. The Muslim Chaplaincy invites your comments and feedback in creating a more user-friendly environment, and continues to strive to create a diverse religious and spiritual space where it is possible to be Muslim (or not) in an infinite variety of ways.