This line from Mary Oliver’s poem “The Summer Day” is filled with challenge and hope. It is the paradoxical work of servant leadership to embrace our challenges and our hopes. Challenges can be clarifying and energizing. A challenge issues an opportunity to slow-down, reflect, and re-evaluate who we are and who we are becoming. Hope gives us the opportunity to reclaim and proclaim our song and our stories of serving and being served, leading and being led. What are the challenges facing you personally and professionally? What are the challenges confronting your institution and the people you serve with together? What are the challenges of your family members? And where is there hope? Hope that is more powerful than despair. Hope that sustains vision and spirit. Hope that fulfills promises and strengthens our resolve to serve and lead. Thank you for committing your one wild and precious life to servant leadership; you give us hope amidst our challenges. “Just as despair is spread person to person, so too, hope is spread person to person.” Elie Wiesel

Peace and all good,

Tom Thibodeau

Director, MA in Servant Leadership Program, Distinguished Professor of Servant Leadership, Associate Professor, Religious Studies and Philosophy, tathibodeau@viterbo.edu

William J. "Beau" Weston is Van Winkle Professor of Sociology at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky. Beau Weston joined the faculty at Centre College in 1990. He is an energetic and active teacher, known for getting involved in the lives and activities of his students on campus. He has pursued research and taught courses on a number of topics related to family life and major contemporary social issues. He recently served on the national task force on Changing Families for the Presbyterian Church (USA). In 2004, he won the Kirk Award for Excellence in Teaching. Weston previously was an editor of and contributor to Education and the American Family: A Synthesis of Research, published by New York University Press in 1989. Weston writes the blog The Gruntled Center: Faith and Family for Centrists. He has a special interest in the sociology of religion and in the “creative class.” Born in Plymouth Meeting, Pennsylvania, Weston earned a B.A. with high honors from Swarthmore College and subsequently completed an M.A.R. from Yale Divinity School and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees at Yale University.

Guest Scholar Beau Weston

June 29
Summer Institute 2012
Sunday, June 24 - Friday, July 2, La Crosse Campus
SVLD 601 Servant Leadership Theory and Practice, (Core Course), Tom Thibodeau, June 24, 25, 26, 27, 3 credits, Noon - 8 P.M.

SVLD 604 Ethical Decision Making for the Common Good, (Core Course), Rick Kyte, June 28, 29, and July 1, 2, for 3 credits, Noon - 8 P.M. Prerequisite: SVLD 601

SVLD 605 Colloquium, (Core Course), Matthew Bersagel Braley, 2 credits, June 30, Saturday. Advisor permission required

SVLD 610 Methods of Leadership Research, (Core Course), Matthew Bersagel Braley, June 24, 25, 26, 27, 3 credits, Noon - 8 P.M.

Also offered during the summer of 2012, but not part of the Summer Institute:
ETHL 531 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence I, 3 credits, July 16 - 19, 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.
ETHL 532 Interpersonal and Organizational Excellence II, 3 credits, August 6 - 9, 8 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Campus Housing is available, contact Vickie Unferth at vunferth@viterbo.edu

Annual Mississippi River Cruise, Tuesday, June 26, evening, RSVP to mjcooney@viterbo.edu

Guest scholar, Beau Weston, in residence, Friday, June 29. Evening lecture open all.

Matthew Bersagel Braley, Ph.D.

“Phinished” Announced an email sent from Emory University, after Matthew successfully defending his dissertation! Join us in a hearty congratulations to Dr. Bersagel Braley! Enjoy reading Matthew’s dissertation’s abstract.

More than Just Health: Theo-ethical Reflection as a Religious Health Asset

In this dissertation, I examine the recent turn on the part of global health leaders to religious entities as allies in the response to the HIV pandemic. A cursory survey of this turn highlights how global health leaders have used the language of religious health assets to revalue the activities of religious entities. But a closer examination of this revaluation reveals how it obscures an important dimension of religious participation, namely, critical theo-ethical reflection.

In the first part, I analyze changing understandings among global health policymakers, funders, and practitioners of the value of Christian religious entities. This analysis shows how the HIV pandemic has both intensified tensions between religion and global health and served as a catalyst for a renewed interest in the relationship between religion and health. Continued on page 4.
Coordinator's Corner

This past Lent, Tom and I invited Viterbo employees to participate in a ten-minute time tithe. Like the more familiar Lenten spiritual disciplines (almsgiving, prayer, and fasting), the time tithe serves to remind us of the many ways in which our days and the cultures in which we live them out can be filled without necessarily being fulfilling. Ten minutes of our day to tend the collegial relationships animating the institution in which we carry out our work of forming ethical leaders for faithful service in the world. As institutions grow in scope and scale, tending to these relationships becomes even more critical, re-binding us to one another through our shared stories, even as our office locations and schedules stretch us further apart. In my own conversations this past month, I heard nostalgia for a time when these conversations happened organically, in the halls, between meetings, in one another’s work spaces… But I also heard excitement about expanded opportunities to serve our students and the community around us, whether that is in state-of-the-art nursing training or collaborative arts facilities or many other opportunities that only become visible and viable as an institution grows. The task of servant leaders in these moments is to discern in these stories of what was and what is becoming the vital and vitalizing dimensions of our participation together, and then to cultivate institutional habits and daily practices to remind one another that in the drive to scale-up human doings we cannot afford to scale down our commitments to one another as human beings.

Matthew Bersagel Braley, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies and Philosophy
Coordinator, MA in Servant Leadership
mtbersagelbraley@viterbo.edu

Colloquium


Fall Semester 2012

SVLD 602-001 Theological and Philosophical Foundations of Servant Leadership, (Core Course), La Crosse, Matthew Bersagel Braley, September 7-8, 21-22, October 5-6, 3 credits

SVLD 602-002 Theological and Philosophical Foundations of Servant Leadership, (Core course), Tomah, William Reese, Thursday evenings, August 30 - October 11, 5 to 10 PM, 3 cr.

SVLD 605 Colloquium, Saturday, (Core course) La Crosse, September 15, December 1, 8 A.M. – 5 P.M., presentations December 14, TBA, 2 credits, *Advisor permission required

SVLD 657 Prophetic Leadership, La Crosse, Tom Thibodeau, October 26-27, November 9-10, 30, December 1, 3 credits

SVLD 786 Special Topics: Servant Leadership and Politics, online, Matthew Bersagel Braley, begins August 27-December 14, 3 credits
Alumni Audit Option

- Missing the challenge and intensity of your course work?
- Itching to take the new on-line courses or that elective you missed?
- Longing for stimulating exchange of ideas with fellow students?
- Hungry for Tom’s fine cooking & the midday meal of common good?

Come back to Viterbo for another Servant Leadership course or two

**As an alumni you have the privilege of auditing any course for just $100!**

Contact Maureen Cooney for information. mjcooney@viterbo.edu

---

**Matthew Bersagel Braley, Ph.D. (continued)**

The second part draws on the work of James Gustafson and Lisa Sowle Cahill to recover and expand a form of participatory theology that renders visible the distinctive role of critical theo-ethical reflection in the interpretation and response to complex social issues like those animating global health.

In the third part, I offer a historical and contemporary case study to highlight how processes of theo-ethical reflection have affected and been affected by participation in global health conversations, suggesting the possibility of processes of theo-ethical reflection as a religious health asset.

I conclude by pointing toward the institutional commitments and arrangements necessary for recognizing theo-ethical reflection as a religious health asset and supporting a mutually generative encounter between Christian ethicists and persons responsible for setting the policies and priorities of global health.

---

**Servant Leaders in Action**

**Jeff Reiter** received the Catholic Knight of the Year award this last December. Jeff has also started Preux Consulting which serves small and medium business and non profits organizations who cannot afford or lack the resources to support a full time Controller or CFO. Preux Consulting serves the organizations leadership by focusing on their strategic planning, financial, and operational needs, freeing leadership to focus on living their mission. Jeff is a MASL student.

**Ashley Skoczynski** traveled with the Viterbo Campus Ministry, to help repair the fire damaged home of an elderly man in Pittsburg during spring break. “I was also able to witness the unbreakable spirit of the homeowner and remembered to be grateful because even when I am having a bad day, someone else is having a worse one.” Ashley’s summer plans are to work with the Missionaries of Charity in Gary, IN; Ashley joined the MASL program this January.

**Robert Toomey,’11,** has discovered a learning community at the UW-Madison campus, which includes UW-Madison staff/faculty, that focuses on servant leadership! They meet to discuss servant leadership, learn from each other, listen to guest speakers, and discuss a book they are collectively reading related to servant leadership. Currently reading and discussing James Autry’s book, “The Servant Leader: How to Build a Creative Team, Develop Great Morale, and Improve Bottom-Line Performance.” Larry Spears spoke to the group, it was a privilege and a treat to hear him talk about servant leadership in an authentic, down-to-earth manner. Larry was for many years the executive director of the Greenleaf Center; he also is known for the “10 Characteristics of Servant-Leadership” which we learn in Viterbo MASL program classes.