Program for the conference on

Ecocriticism and Christianity in Literature

Regis College, Weston, MA
October 21-22, 2011

Co-Chairs:
Mary-Anne Vetterling,
Joan Hallisey,
Dorothy Kennedy

All sessions will take place in College Hall as indicated by [CH]

*The Kearns and CH 202 are on the same level as the Foyer*
*Rooms 340, 347, and 348 are up one flight of stairs*
*All meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner) are in the Foyer*

Friday, October 21, 2011:
Registration: 3:30pm-5:30pm, College Hall Foyer
4:00-5:30pm: Session 1
6:00-8:00pm: Welcome Reception and Poetry Reading, Kearns Conference Room

Saturday, October 22, 2011:
7:00am-3:30pm Registration in the College Hall Foyer
7:30-8:30am Continental Breakfast (complimentary), College Hall Foyer
8:30-10:00am Session 2
10:30am-12:00pm Session 3
12:15-1:45pm Luncheon and Business Meeting, College Hall Foyer
  (cost: $10, payable upon registration)
2:00-3:30pm Session 4
4:00-5:30pm Session 5
6:00-7:00pm Reception with Hors d’oeuvres (complimentary), College Hall Foyer
7:00-8:30pm Banquet, College Hall Foyer
  (cost: $35, payable upon registration)
3:30pm-5:30pm: Registration in the College Hall Foyer

4:00-5:30pm: Session 1

1A: Ecocriticism and the Writings of Anne Lamott and
Elizabeth Barrett Browning  [College Hall: CH 348]
Chair: Lynn Searfoss, Appalachian State University.
--Crumbling Stones and Golden Harvests: Elizabeth Barrett Browning’s Ecopoetic Theodicy.
   Melissa Brotton, La Sierra University, Riverside, CA.
--Ecological Pneumatology and the Landscapes of Anne Lamott.
   Lynn Searfoss, Appalachian State University.

1B: Ecocritical Approaches to Shakespeare  [College Hall: CH 347]
Chair: Raffaele Florio, Regis College, Weston, MA.
--Uncertain Omens in Antony and Cleopatra.
   Kreg Segall, Regis College, Weston, MA.
--Life in This Circumscribed Place: Comparing Thomas More’s Island Utopia with Shakespeare’s Isle in The Tempest.
   Tony Grasso, CSC, King’s College, Wilkes-Barre, PA.

6:00-8:00pm: Welcome Reception and Poetry Reading  [College Hall: Kearns]
(Bring your favorite nature poem!)

Saturday, October 22, 2011:

7:00am-3:30pm Registration in the College Hall Foyer
7:30-8:30 am Continental Breakfast (complimentary) College Hall Foyer

8:30-10:00am Session 2

2A: Crossroads Between Christian and Indigenous Beliefs  [College Hall: Kearns]
Chair: Chad Wrigglesworth, St. Jerome’s University at the University of Waterloo.
--The Spell of the Sensuous in Brian Moore’s Black Robe.
   Chris Fahy, Boston University.
--Salmon Theology: Environmental Catholicism in Sherman Alexie’s Poetry.
   Chad Wrigglesworth, St. Jerome’s University at the University of Waterloo.

Saturday, October 22, 2011:

2B: Dorothy Day & Peter Maurin  [College Hall: CH 347]
Chair: Dorothy Kennedy.
--Peter Maurin’s “Easy Essays” and Dorothy Day’s Radical Journalism: Foundational Documents for an American Catholic “Green Revolution.”
  Michael Boover, Anna Maria College.
--Peter Maurin’s Discipleship: A Christian Approach to Development.
  Dorothy Kennedy.

2C: Dutch Thought and Ecocriticism [College Hall: CH 340]
Chair: Robert Zandstra, University of Oregon.
--Maria Sibylla Merian: Religion as Chrysalis.
  Andrea Humphrey, Regis College, Weston, MA.
--Herman Dooyeweerd’s Philosophy as a Framework for Understanding Ecocriticism.
  Robert Zandstra, University of Oregon.

◆ 10:30am-12:00pm Session 3

3A Literature in Spanish [College Hall: CH 347]
Chair: Lucia Ortiz, Regis College, Weston, MA.
--Initiation to Racial Atonement: Coming of Age in “Warma Kuyay” (Child’s Love) by José Maria Arguedas.
  Moisés Park, Gordon College, Wenham, MA.
--The Earth, Human Suffering, and God in The Earth Did Not Swallow Him, by Tomás Rivera.
  Joy Renjilian-Burgy, Wellesley College.
  Verónica de Darer, Wellesley College.

3B Ecocriticism and Literature from the Past [College Hall: Kearns]
Chair: Natasha Duquette, Biola University.
--The Garden as Sacred Space in Julian’s Showings, Langland’s Piers Plowman, and Pearl.
  Sister Brigid Brady, O.P., Caldwell College, Caldwell, NJ.
--The Ecology of Person in Andrew Marvell.
  Ben Faber, Redeemer University College, Ancaster, Ontario, Canada.

3C Wendell Berry, Annie Dillard, and Bill McKibben [College Hall: CH 340]
Chair: Chad Wriglesworth, St. Jerome’s University at the University of Waterloo.
--Wendell Berry and the Divine Economy.
  Norman Chaney, Otterbein University, Westerville, OH.
--Wendell Berry: Rethinking Christian Environmentalism.
  Doug J. Sikkema, University of Ottawa.

◆ 12:15-1:45pm Luncheon and Business Meeting College Hall Foyer
  (cost: $10, payable upon registration)

Saturday, October 22, 2011:
◆ 2:00-3:30pm Session 4

4A Landscape and Nature in Poetry [CH 202]
Chair: Joy Renjilian-Burgy, Wellesley College.
--The Region of Unlikeness in Postmodern Poetry.
Robin A. Morris, South University.

4B Wilderness and (Dis)connections with Nature [CH 347]
Chair: Lynn Searfoss, Appalachian State University.
--Fresh Landscapes of the Heart: Nature as a Sacred Space.
   Natasha Duquette, Biola University.
--Wilderness Typology and American Literature.
   David R. Williams, George Mason University.

4C Ecocritical Approaches to Barbara Kingsolver and Marilynne Robinson [CH 340]
Chair: Chris Fahy, Boston University.
   Wendy Piper, Dartmouth College.
--Doors Wide Open: Marilynne Robinson's Housekeeping.
   Trish Verrone, Caldwell College.

✦ 4:00-5:30pm Session 5

5A Labor and the Land [CH 340]
Chair: Trish Verrone, Caldwell College.
   Jeremy Elliott, Abilene Christian University.

5B Theological Perspectives [CH 347]
Chair: Lauress Wilkins, Regis College, Weston, MA.
--Christianity, Ecocriticism, and the Policing of Pantheism: Pantheism in John Steinbeck's To a God Unknown.
   C.A. Damien, Boston University.

5C Climate Change [CH 202]
Chair: Mary-Anne Vetterling, Regis College, Weston, MA.
--Exchanges on Climate Change: Christianity's Bridge to Consensus.
   Richard Sweet.

✦ 6:00-7:00pm Reception with Hors d’oeuvres (complimentary) College Hall Foyer
✦ 7:00-8:30pm Banquet (cost: $35, payable upon registration) College Hall Foyer

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