



ProVita

Online Newsletter of the
University Faculty for Life



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Welcome to the inaugural issue of *ProVita*, the online newsletter for the University Faculty for Life. This is a revival of the print edition edited by Fr. Tom King which you may remember receiving for many years.

The focus of this newsletter is information which will help our members in their pursuit of excellence in scholarship and teaching. We hope to feature as wide a representation of disciplines as possible.

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UFL Updates

In which we highlight the scholarly activities of our organization, members, and chapters, including publications, talks, and consultations.

UFL

- **New President.** At the 2011 UFL Conference at Notre Dame in June, it was announced that the Board had selected **Teresa Collett**, Professor of Law at St. Thomas School of Law in Minneapolis to be the president of UFL for a two-year term.
- **2012 Conference.** The 2012 UFL Conference will be held at Brigham Young

University in Salt Lake City, Utah June 1-2 (Fri.-Sat.).

A Call for Papers for the annual convention is attached at the end of this newsletter. The deadline for submitting a paper proposal is April 7, 2012. Additional information about UFL and the annual conference is available at: www.uffl.org.

While you are attending the Conference, take advantage of the wonderful recreational opportunities in the Salt Lake City area, such as, for instance, the Grand Tetons. A detailed treatment of these options can be found at [this web site](#).

- **Smith Award.** Each year UFL bestows The Rupert and Timothy Smith Award for Distinguished Contributions to Pro-Life Scholarship at its annual convention.

The 2011 recipient of the Smith Award at the June convention at Notre Dame was **David Solomon**, outgoing Director of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture.

The 2012 Smith Award will be awarded to **William E. May**, Professor Emeritus and Michael J. McGivney Professor of Moral Theology at the Pontifical John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family at the Catholic University of America. Dr. May is slated to be the keynote speaker at the 2012 UFL Conference.

- **Scholarly Achievement Award.** UFL is now accepting submissions from college or university students for its Scholarly Achievement Award. Students may submit work in three categories: creative writing, literary criticism, or research. Work submitted in any category must demonstrate

the application of a life-affirming perspective on abortion, infanticide, euthanasia, or related issues. Winners in each category will receive \$200.

The student scholars who win in any category may be offered an opportunity to read their work at the annual UFL conference. Their work may be published on UFL's website. The deadline is May 19, 2012.

More information can be found [here on the UFL web page](#).

- The 13th Annual [Cardinal O'Connor Prolife Conference](#), co-sponsored by UFL, was held at Georgetown University on January 22, 2012. The keynote speaker was Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, Archbishop of Philadelphia. Congressional speakers included Chris Smith of New Jersey, Jean Schmidt of Ohio and Ann Marie Buerkle of New York. Among UFL members who spoke were **Steven Mosher**, of the Population Research Institute and **Stephen Fields, S.J.** of Georgetown. The winner of the 2012 Rev. Thomas King, S.J. Award, announced at the conference, went to the Students for Life of America group at the University of Michigan in recognition of their new initiative "Pregnant on Campus." This award honors the achievement of an outstanding collegiate pro-life group. You can read more about the conference at the [National Catholic Register website](#).
- ***UFL in the news***. Catholic New Service of the USCCB published a short piece about the 2011 UFL Conference focusing on the challenges pro-life scholars have in the academy. See the second item, "[Professor says pro-life faculty often feel isolated on campus for views](#)." A fuller version of the piece can be found [here](#) at *Today's Catholic News*, the newspaper of the Diocese of Ft. Wayne-South Bend.

➤ The [12th Annual Fall Conference](#) of the **Notre Dame Center for Ethics and Culture**, whose president is **David Solomon**, was held Nov. 10-12. The theme was, "Radical Emancipation: Confronting the Challenge of Secularism." Many UFL members were present, and many of the talks focused on the themes relevant to UFL.

This will be David Solomon's last conference as Director of the CEC. Beginning in 2012 the new Director will be O. Carter Snead, Professor of Law at the University of Notre Dame.

More information can be found on the [NDCEC web page](#).

➤ ***Social Networking***. UFL is on Facebook and Twitter. On Facebook you can "like" the "University Faculty for Life" page. On Twitter follow "Faculty4Life". Our blog can be found at [www.uffl.org/blog/](#). There is also an active "University Faculty for Life" subgroup of the "Pro-life Professionals" group on LinkedIn.

Publications and member activities

- Several members of UFL signed [a statement](#) rejecting the Obama Administration proposed "compromise" on the HHS contraception mandate. The key statement is, "This so-called 'accommodation' changes nothing of moral substance and fails to remove the assault on religious liberty and the rights of conscience which gave rise to the controversy."
- **Peter Colosi** also wrote a response to the controversy over the HHS contraception mandate in [Contraception and the Fight Against the HHS Ruling](#), Catholic Exchange, February 7, 2012. (Theology)
- **Rev. James V. Schall** published, "On the Curious Discipline of Political Philosophy," in *Perspectives on Political Science*; Jan-March 2012, Vol. 41 Issue 1, pp. 30-37. (Political Science)

- **Samuel W. Calhoun**, with Lucas E. Morel, published “Abraham Lincoln’s Religion: The Case for His Ultimate Belief in a Personal, Sovereign God” in *The Journal of the Abraham Lincoln Association*, Vol. 33, No. 1, 2012. (History)
- **Jeff J. Koloze** has an online review called “Lisa De Niscia’s *Momentary Mother*: What a New Euphemism for Abortion and Hemingway Have in Common,” available at lifeissues.net. He says, “De Niscia has created a wonderful contemporary use of a Hemingway technique.” (Literature)
- **William F. Murphy, Jr.** wrote “Revisiting Contraception: An Integrated Approach in Light of the Renewal of Thomistic Virtue Ethics” for *Theological Studies*, Dec. 2011, Vol. 72 Issue 4, pp. 812-847. (Theology)
- **Walter Nicgorski** wrote, “An Introduction to Yves R. Simon’s ‘The Doctrinal Issue Between the Church and Democracy,’” for *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought & Culture*, Winter 2011, Vol. 14 Issue 1, pp. 122-131. (Political Philosophy)

It should be noted that Prof. Nicgorski (former teacher of your editor) will be retiring from the Notre Dame Program of Liberal Studies at the end of this academic year. Congratulations to Dr. Nicgorski on a distinguished career.

- **Thomas Cavanaugh** has an article in the *National Catholic Bioethics Quarterly*, “Double Effect, Craniotomy and Vital Conflicts: A Case of Contemporary Catholic Casuistry,” Autumn 2011, 453-463. (Philosophy)
- **Richard S. Myers** wrote “Same-Sex Marriage, Education, and Parental Rights” for the *Brigham Young University Education & Law Journal*, 2011, Issue 2, pp. 303-322. (Law)
- **James Hitchcock** wrote “Catholic Liberals and Abortion: Chapter Two” for *Human Life*

Review, Winter/Spring 2011, Vol. 37 Issue 1/2, pp. 31-43. (History)

- **Richard Fehring** has two recent articles dealing with religiosity and sexual behavior: “[Religiosity and Sexual Risk Behaviors Among Latina Adolescents: Trends from 1995 to 2008](#),” Edwards, Lisa M.; Haglund, Kristin; **Fehring**, Richard J.; Pruszynski, Jessica, *Journal of Women's Health* (15409996), June, 2011, Vol. 20 Issue 6, pp. 871-877; DOI: 10.1089/jwh.2010.1949; The Association of Religiosity, Sexual Education, and Parental Factors with Risky Sexual Behaviors Among Adolescents and Young Adults,” by Haglund, Kristin; **Fehring**, Richard, in *Journal of Religion & Health*, Dec. 2010, Vol. 49 Issue 4, pp. 460-472; DOI: 10.1007/s10943-009-9267-5. (Nursing)
- **Richard Stith** has an article, “Anti-Choice: When Having a Choice Diminishes Family Solidarity,” in *International Journal of the Jurisprudence of the Family*, Valparaiso University Legal Studies Research Paper No. 11-12. (Law)
- **Fr. Joseph Koterski, S.J.**, has published a number of reviews lately in the *International Philosophical Quarterly*: “Church, State, and Society: An Introduction to Catholic Social Doctrine,” by J. Brian Benestad, June, 2011, Vol. 51 Issue 2, pp. 272-274; “The Ethics of Abortion: Women’s Rights, Human Life, and the Question of Justice,” by **Christopher Kaczor**, March, 2011, Vol. 51 Issue 1, pp. 122-124; “New Proofs for the Existence of God: Contributions of Contemporary Physics and Philosophy,” by **Robert J. Spitzer**. Dec. 2010, Vol. 50 Issue 4, pp. 530-531. (Philosophy)
- **Lynn Wardle** published “The Impacts on Education of Legalizing Same-Sex Marriage and Lessons from Abortion Jurisprudence,” in *Brigham Young University Education & Law Journal*, 2011, Issue 2, pp. 593-635. (Law). See also his “The Boundaries of Belonging: Allegiance, Purpose and the Definition of Marriage,” *BYU Journal of*

Public Law; 2011, Vol. 25 Issue 2, pp. 287-315.

- **Peter Colosi** has launched a [new web site](#) with links to his articles on bioethics, John Paul II's theology of the body, and other issues in philosophical and moral theology. (Philosophy)
- **Fr. Wilson D. Mscamble, C.S.C.** published *The Most Controversial Decision: Truman, the Atomic Bomb, and the Defense of Japan* (Cambridge University Press, 2011). The book has been the subject of internet controversy, including an exchange on the Public Discourse web page between [Christopher Tollefson](#) and [Fr. Miscamble](#) about the effect of Fr. Miscamble's defense of Truman on pro-life argumentation.
- **Teresa Collett** testified in the Idaho legislature in favor of the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. Her written testimony can be found [here](#). (Law)
- **Evelyn and Paul Vitz** published "Women, Abortion, and the Brain," in *The Human Life Review*, Fall. 2010, Vol. 36 Issue 4, pp. 96-100. (Psychology)
- An article by Professor **Stephen Gilles** does an excellent job of revealing the Supreme Court's failure to articulate a clear meaning for Roe v. Wade's life-or-health exception: "Roe's Life-Or-Health Exception: Self-Defense or Relative-Safety?", 85 *Notre Dame Law Review* 525 (Feb. 2010). (Law)
- **Robert Destro** wrote an article on the Terri Schiavo case, "Learning Neuroscience the Hard Way: The Terri Schiavo Case and the Ethics of Effective Representation," at 78 *Miss. L. J.* 833-903 (2009). Bob Destro played an important role in the latter stages of the litigation; he represented Governor Bush and also the Schindler family in efforts to protect Terri's life. (Law)
- Two books by members have recently been released on Amazon.com in Kindle format:

- **Christopher Kaczor.** *The Ethics of Abortion: Women's Rights, Human Life, and the Question of Justice.* (Routledge Annals of Bioethics).
- **Glenn W. Olsen.** *Home and School Relations: Teachers and Parents Working Together*, 4th Edition. Co-authored by Mary Lou Fuller.

Scholarly Opportunities

In which we highlight opportunities for members to engage in further research on and networking regarding the issues of abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia in their respective fields.

Calls for papers, conferences, other opportunities

- The 2012 **UFL Conference** will be held June 1-2 at Brigham Young University Law School. See call for papers at the end of this newsletter. Additional information about UFL and the annual conference is available at: www.uffl.org.
- A LinkedIn connection of **Jeff Koloze** knows of a pro-life, faith-based consortium for higher education and healthcare that would like to have more JDs (constitutional attorneys specifically) working for the group. If interested, please contact Kathy Stenson at 877-787-1695; Kathy's detailed profile can be viewed [here](#).
- **Jeff Koloze** also recommends the several conferences sponsored by [The International Journal of Arts and Sciences](#). They hold conferences throughout the year at various locations around the world, including Rome, Germany, Italy, Austria, France, Canada, the Czech Republic, Malta, and the United States. "Each IJAS program (i) introduces professors and other delegates to geographical locations that would be ideal for

a study abroad program, and (ii) hosts an academic conference for research presentations in the following tracks: Social Sciences and Humanities, Business and Economics, Teaching and Education, and Technology and Science.”

Resources

In which we highlight scholarly journal and online articles and resources regarding abortion, infanticide, and euthanasia representing all sides of issue.

Recent research and data

- **Miscellaneous.** A new organization has been announced, the [World Expert Consortium for Abortion Research and Education](#). “WECARE brings together credentialed scientists with a research program on the physical, psychological, and/or relational effects of abortion on women and those closest to them to engage in international research collaboration, scientific information dissemination, professional education, and consultation.”
- **Psychology.** Susan E. Wills, of [National Right to Life News Today](#), writes in “[Study in Prestigious Journal Shows Abortion Harms Women’s Mental Health](#)” of a study in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* which does a meta-analysis of 22 studies to show a link between abortion and mental health problems. The original study can be found at: Priscilla K. Coleman. “Abortion and mental health: quantitative synthesis and analysis of research published 1995–2009,” September 2011 199:180-186; doi:10.1192/bj.p.bp.110.07. Wills also mentions a Canadian study which produced “strikingly similar results.” More on that University of Manitoba study can be found on [LifeSiteNews here](#).

➤ **Ethics.** USCCB has published a statement on direct and indirect abortion in light of the Phoenix case involving Bp. Olmstead and St. Joseph Hospital.

➤ **Medicine and Law.** Rohith V. Srinivas, “Exploring the Potential for American Death Tourism,” *Michigan State University College of Law Journal of Medicine and Law*, Vol. 13, No. 1, 2009. What is the American and foreign status of laws concerning the practice?

➤ **Medicine.** The current issue of the *Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology* contains an article reporting on a survey of 1800 obstetricians and gynecologists, “[Abortion Provision Among Practicing Obstetrician-Gynecologists](#).” The authors summarize the survey results as follows:

Among practicing ob-gyns, 97% encountered patients seeking abortions, whereas 14% performed them. Female physicians were more likely to provide abortions than were male (18.6% compared with 10.6%, adjusted odds ratio 2.54, 95% confidence interval 1.57–4.08), as were those in the youngest age group, those in the Northeast or West, those in highly urban postal codes, and those who identify as being Jewish. Catholics, Evangelical Protestants, non-Evangelical Protestants, and physicians with high religious motivation were less likely to provide abortions.

➤ **Psychology.** There was an interesting presentation on the emotion impact of counselors outside abortion clinics on Oct. 23 in Washington DC at the North American Forum for Family Planning (Forum), the combined annual meeting of the Society of Family Planning (SFP) and the Planned Parenthood Federation of America National Medical Committee® (NMC). The conclusions of the research presented say “Protesters do upset some women seeking abortion services. However, the effect of exposure to protesters does not seem to have an effect on emotions toward the abortion 1

week later.” An abstract of the talk can be found in *Contraception* 84 (2011) 303.

- **Law.** A graph representing abortion restriction laws by state, including the ability to change the weight of various types of laws can be found at [Remapping the Debate](#) web page.

Web pages

In which we highlight web pages that members have found to be helpful for pro-life scholarship:

- Social Science Research Network ([SSRN](#)) is “devoted to the rapid worldwide dissemination of social science research and is composed of a number of specialized research networks in each of the social sciences.” Among the networks are: Accounting, Cognitive Science, Corporate, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Financial, Health, Information, Leadership, Legal, Management, Marketing, Negotiations, Political, Social Insurance. There are also links to Classics, English and American Literature, Music, Philosophy, and Rhetoric and Writing research networks.
- The Witherspoon Institute has a [Public Discourse](#) webpage which publishes articles by experts and scholars on ethics, law, and the common good.
- [Mirror of Justice](#) is a blog dedicated to the development of Catholic legal theory.
- [Culture of Life Foundation](#) web page has many articles on life issues and other contemporary social issues. It contains frequent contributions by **E. Christopher Brugger** and **William E. May**.
- [LifeIssues.net](#) provides perspectives into a variety of life and other ethical issues. It includes links to articles to some of our members, such as [William E. May](#).

Editor's Corner

As long as the board has given me an opening, I might as well take advantage of it and put my two-cents worth in each issue. I promise not to be *too* verbose.

One of my goals as editor of this newsletter is to highlight the work done on behalf of a culture of life by a wide spectrum of disciplines. I did an informal, unscientific study of our [public membership list](#) and, after conflating several categories, came up with the following statistics. Our membership represents the following academic disciplines in order of number of members.

Philosophy	79
Religion and Theology	59
Law	44
Medicine	40
English/Literature	34
History	20
Political Science	18
Biology	16
Mathematics/Computer Science	14
Nursing	14
Social Sciences	13
Education	11
Business	11
Administration	11
Economics	10
Foreign Language	9
Psychology	8
Library	7
Government	7
Engineering	6
Psychiatry	6
Liberal Studies/Humanities	6
Science	5
Chemistry	5
Journalism	4
Bioethics	3
Audiology and Speech Sciences	3
Social Work	3
Music	2
Classics	2
Physics	2
Pharmacy	2
Architecture	2
Misc.	13

Now, I know that civil engineers don't want to be lumped with electrical engineers any more than we theologians want to be lumped with "religious studies." The point, however, is the diversity of our disciplines. My hope is that this newsletter will grow to represent that diversity of disciplines. After all, we know how important diversity is.

One way I hope to highlight our diversity in future issues of the newsletter is have one or two "featured disciplines of the quarter." I would ask someone from a given discipline write a short piece describing the state of pro-life scholarship in their discipline, or suggesting how it might be enhanced. If you would like to write such a piece for your discipline, e-mail me as profgotcher@yahoo.com.

The next issue will be soon after the Conference. If you have any contributions to any of the sections, please e-mail them to

me. We want to get as broad a representation of the membership as possible.

Masthead

Publisher University Faculty for Life

Editor Robert F. Gotcher, Ph.D.

Technical Stephen Feher, of [the Ridgefield Group](#)

ProVita is the quarterly online newsletter of the University Faculty for Life. Its purpose is to promote research, dialogue and publication by faculty who respect the value of human life from inception to natural death, especially focusing on abortion, euthanasia, and infanticide. More information about UFL can be found on our web site at uffl.org. Editorial correspondence can be sent to the editor at profgotcher@yahoo.com.

22nd Annual

CONFERENCE ON LIFE AND LEARNING
of the UNIVERSITY FACULTY FOR LIFE
at Brigham Young University Law School
June 1-2, 2012 (Friday & Saturday)

INVITATION TO ATTEND AND CALL FOR PAPERS

University Faculty for Life (“UFL”) is a non-denominational, multi-disciplinary scholarly organization which each year welcomes pro-life academics to a conference on "Life and Learning." In 2012 the annual academic conference will be held at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. Attendance is open to current or former college, university, and seminary faculty and their spouses, graduate students, and others by individual request.

The 2012 UFL Annual Conference will begin at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, June 1, 2012 in the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University, hosted by Professor Lynn D. Wardle, and will conclude with a closing banquet at the university on the evening of Saturday, June 2, 2012. At the closing banquet, the keynote address will be delivered by, and the annual Smith Award for outstanding contributions to pro-life scholarship will be presented to, Dr. William E. May, the emeritus *Michael J. McGivney Professor of Moral Theology* at the *John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and Family* at *The Catholic University of America*, and Senior Research Fellow of the *Culture of Life Foundation*. The author of more than a dozen books, and more than 240 scholarly articles, Dr. May is known as a leading scholar in the revival of natural law theory. For decades he has been a powerful pro-life academic voice and critic of the culture of death.

Proposals for scholarly paper presentations are invited. Papers should focus on the life issues of abortion, infanticide and euthanasia. Themes for the conference include the legal, political, social, economic, and medical implications of these topics: relevant legal, philosophical and theological issues; the physical and psychological effects of abortion; and insights from history, literature, the arts, humanities and other disciplines. Paper proposals should be one page (maximum) and should include the working title of the proposed paper, author's name, affiliation, full contact information (including address, phone, fax and email), and a brief abstract or outline. The **deadline for receipt of proposals is April 7, 2012**. All papers presented at the conference may be submitted after the conference for possible publication in *Life and Learning*, an annual peer-reviewed selection of conference papers. To propose a paper, send the proposal (by email attachment) to:

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Additional information about UFL and the annual conference is available at:
www.uffl.org.