

MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF THEOLOGY SCHOOLS

ANNUAL MEETING SEPTEMBER 12-17, 2010

In conjunction with NCDVD and NCEA

Hyatt Regency, Downtown Milwaukee, WI

Dear Colleague in Seminary Ministry,

I am happy to announce a special opportunity for the membership of MATS to come together for a joint conference with NCDVD and NCEA members. **This years MATS meeting *will not meet in Schaumburg, IL* but will be held in conjunction with the NCDVD convention in Milwaukee, WI.**

For several years, our constituencies have had a desire to meet with vocation directors to share and discuss issues surrounding seminary admissions and formation. The workshops in this conference address several important topics that would benefit seminary admission and formation faculty as well as Rectors and Deans.

On Tuesday morning September 14th, Fr. Thomas Rosica, CSB will speak about the “type of candidates” applying to seminaries today. His reflections will analyze the cultural worldview they come from; assess the qualities and virtues they bring to formation, and highlight the role vocation directors and seminaries play in the formation process. Fr. Rosica will participate in a roundtable discussion following his keynote and moderate an afternoon workshop that reflects on the problem of cultural entitlement, with a panel of seminary administrators.

Additional workshops on Tuesday and Wednesday will address such topics as “assisting the seminary candidate’s growth in chastity,” “cultivating transparency: issues in the internal and external fora,” the role that family plays in formation,” and “ways vocation directors and formators might connect to the current generation.” Wednesday afternoon, MATS will hold its business meetings and hear from Mr. Dan Aleshire ATS Executive Director who will offer his reflections on the new accreditation standards our schools will utilize as standards and norms.

On Thursday September 16th there will be a morning workshop that features two practical models of how seminarians can assess their formational growth through ministerial outcomes and what components are necessary in evaluating seminary programs. Both of these models will offer practical advice and materials for reflection. In the afternoon there will be additional workshops on psychological assessment for the admission of candidates, and a discussion facilitated by Bishop Boyea on the relationships between rectors and vocation directors. Thursday evening we will celebrate the closing liturgy at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist followed by a closing banquet.

The convention will be held at the **Hyatt Regency** 333 West Kilbourn Avenue, Milwaukee Wisconsin 53203. The room rate for the Hyatt is \$139.00 US dollars per night. The fee for the conference is \$395.00 which includes transportation “from and two the airport”, most meals, evening hospitality and fees for all workshops and handouts and admission to the conference display booths/vendors. **The executive committee for MATS has dispensed their annual dues for 2010 of \$350 in order for each theological school to apply this toward the convention fee.**

The executive committee of MATS hopes that all of our schools will make an effort to attend this important and historic meeting. The collaboration and integration of the MATS and NCEA seminary department meetings with NCDVD provides a wonderful opportunity for renewal, prayer, dialogue, and networking.

I certainly look forward to seeing you in September.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark A. Latcovich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Mark A. Latcovich

MATS President