

THE GEORGE W. WEBBER LECTURE IN URBAN MINISTRY

The George W. Webber Lecture in Urban Ministry was established in 1994 to honor the work and ministry of the Rev. Dr. George W. Webber, (1920-2010) President of New York Theological Seminary from 1969-1988. The emphasis of the Webber Lecture is on the work and ministry of the Church in an urban context today. Webber was instrumental in refocusing the mission of NYTS, placing emphasis on making available an appropriate, affordable theological education to men and women in churches in the New York metropolitan area, the great majority of whom are of African descent, Hispanic/Latino(a), and Asian and Asian - American. This mission is to specifically enhance the ministry of the church in an urban environment. Until 1999, Dr. Webber also presided over the establishment and direction of the unique Master of Professional Studies program at the New York Correctional Facility in Ossining (Sing Sing Prison).

The George W. Webber Lecturers, 1994-2015:

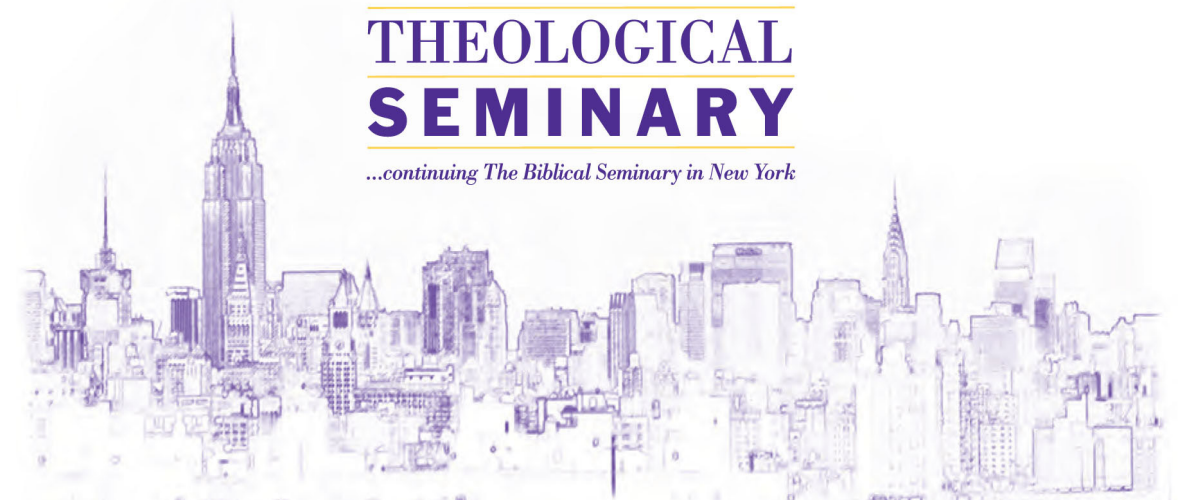
The Rev. Dr. Norman K. Gottwald	1994
The Rev. Dr. Justo Gonzalez	1995
The Rev. Dr. Katie Cannon	1996
The Rev. Dr. Gayraud Wilmore	1997
The Rev. Msgr. William Linder	1998
The Rev. Dr. Harold Recinos	1999
The Rev. Dr. Melvin Schoonover	2000
The Rev. Eugene F. Rivers III	2001
The Rev. Dr. Obery M. Hendricks, Jr.	2003 (Winter)
The Rev. Dr. James H. Cone	2003 (Fall)
The Rev. Dr. Letty M. Russell	2004
Dr. Cornel West	2005
The Rev. Dr. Eldin Villafaña	2006
Dr. Lowell Livezey	2007
Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock	2008
The Rev. Dr. Emilie Townes	2009
The Rev. Dr. Efrain Agosto	2010
Dr. Kathryn Tanner	2011
The Rev. Dr. Keith A. Russell	2012
The Rev. Dr. Eleanor Moody-Shepherd	2013
The Rev. Dr. Charles Amjad-Ali	2014
The Rev. Dr. Lester Edwin J. Ruiz	2015

NEW YORK THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL GEORGE W. WEBBER LECTURE IN URBAN MINISTRY

THE REV. DR. LESTER EDWIN J. RUIZ

OCTOBER 1, 2015
7:00 P.M.

The Riverside Church, Assembly Hall
490 Riverside Drive
New York, NY 10027



THE REV. DR. LESTER EDWIN J. RUIZ

Lester Edwin J. Ruiz joined the staff of the Association of Theological Schools in the US and Canada (ATS) in August 2008 as director of accreditation and institutional evaluation. His work includes facilitating accrediting reviews, providing education and support to ATS member schools about the process of accreditation, and providing staff support to the work of the Board of Commissioners of the ATS Commission on Accrediting. Part of his work also involves resourcing some of the association's partner institutions outside North America including work with the Association for Theological Education

in South East Asia (ATESEA), the Global Forum of Theological Educators (GFTE), World Conference of Associations of Theological Institutions (WOCATI), the International Council for Evangelical Theological Education (ICETE), and other faith-based international organizations. Currently he is senior director for accrediting and institutional evaluation.

Prior to ATS, Ruiz was a faculty member of New York Theological Seminary in New York City beginning in 1997, where he was professor of theology and culture. He served as the director of the Doctor of Ministry Program for a number of years and later became vice president for academic affairs and academic dean in 2006. Before NYTS, Ruiz was associate professor of political science at International Christian University, Tokyo, Japan, teaching courses in peace and world order studies, international relations, and politics and culture. He has served as visiting professor at several seminaries in Asia. A graduate in pastoral care and counseling from Ottawa University (Kansas), he holds the Master of Divinity with an emphasis on religion and society and the PhD in social ethics from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Ruiz's areas of academic, professional, and personal interest include peace and world order studies, normative international relations, social and political theory, and cultural studies, as well as in the advocacy areas of Philippine politics, global North-South issues, especially migration, human rights, and transformation. He is co-editor of a number of published works, including *Re-Framing the International: Law, Culture, Politics*, with Richard Falk and R.B.J. Walker. He has contributed numerous chapters to books and has been widely published in journals and other periodicals, including *Alternatives: Global, Local Political*, the *Silliman Journal*, *World Policy Journal*, *Asian Christian Review*, *Theological Education*, and the *Journal of Race and Ethnicity*.

He serves on the editorial committees of *Alternatives: Global, Local, Political*, the *Journal of World Christianity*, and *Silliman Journal*, is on the advisory board of Global Action to Prevent War (GAPW) based in New York, and on the board of the Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia (FTESEA). Ruiz has served on the Boards of the International Peace Research Association (IPRA), Peace for Life, the International Christian University Peace Research Institute, and other civil society organizations around the world.

Ruiz is ordained in the Convention of Philippine Baptist Churches.

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The Twenty-Second Annual
George W. Webber Lecture in Urban Ministry

THE REV. DR. LESTER EDWIN J. RUIZ

Senior Director, Accreditation and Institutional Evaluation
The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada,
Pittsburgh, PA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2015

7:00 P.M.

The Riverside Church, Assembly Hall

490 Riverside Drive

New York, New York 10027

PROGRAM

INVOCATION

MIN. CYNTHIA GARDNER-BRIM
DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI AFFAIRS

WELCOME AND SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

THE REV. DR. DALE T. IRVIN
PRESIDENT AND PROFESSOR OF WORLD CHRISTIANITY, NYTS

INTRODUCTION OF THE LECTURER

THE REV. DR. KIRKPATRICK G. COHALL
VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND ACADEMIC DEAN
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, NYTS

THE GEORGE W. WEBBER LECTURE IN URBAN MINISTRY

“ON BODIES, THE ‘BODY POLITIC,’ AND THE CREATION OF (MANY) WORLDS:
GLOBALIZATION AND THE ENTANGLEMENTS OF MONDIALIZATION’S

BEING-BECOMING-BELONGING”

THE REV. DR. LESTER EDWIN J. RUIZ