



# Consortio

INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES ON MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY

FALL 2006

Msgr. Dr. Larry Hogan, President of the ITI

## The First Years of the ITI

Though the ITI was not officially founded by the Holy See until the Feast of its patroness St. Thérèse on October 1, 1996, it actually began a year before at the request of the Austrian bishops and the Holy See. Cardinal Schönborn, just named Archbishop

of Vienna, asked me in the summer of 1995 to teach at the ITI and I leaped at the opportunity as one often does without knowing what one is getting into. In looking back over the years, I want to express again, this time as President

of the ITI, my and our indebtedness to Dr. Fougerousse and Frau Eva Hametner, as well as to Cardinal Schönborn, for that wonderful year before the Waldsteins and the Thompsons made their equally adventurous leap across the ocean to establish us on a firm footing.

I remember well my first class. A qualification for teaching in that first year was fluency in both German and English. Dr. Fougerousse told me I should simply teach in the language that the majority of the students understood. This to my embarrassment turned out to be Czech. How much the students understood of that first lesson taught in a mixture of German and English, I found out a week later, when I asked a Polish student about it.

His answer was about 10 percent. But I was not discouraged and neither were the students, whom Dr. Fougerousse presented as students of the ITI in an audience to the Holy Father Pope John Paul II a few months later.

Over the years I have seen the ITI mature and serve the Church through its students in many lands. It is my special joy to see that we have grown to take seriously John Paul II's mandate for the universal church "to breathe with both lungs" of the Roman and Eastern Rites. This is symbolized in our beautiful Byzantine chapel with its icons written by

two students, one a seminarian, the other a priest. But it was not always so. At first our Eastern Rite (Greek Catholic) students could only have their Liturgy once a week when a priest could travel to the campus. Now we

have an alumnus serving here as our Byzantine Chaplain and all of our students can experience the fullness of the Eastern Rite as well as the Roman Rite in liturgies, prayers, devotions and of course in studies. I am also happy to say that we have helped to nourish

*continued on page 3*

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Top: ITI Priests and Seminarians with His Eminence Christoph Cardinal Schönborn, Bottom: The ITI's First Graduating Class, May 1997

### Inside this issue

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## Graduates of the ITI – Where Are They Now?



Ten classes have now graduated from the ITI and our 127 graduates are making a great impact in the Church and in society. They are spread across the globe, working on several continents and in more than 20 different countries, including: Austria, Belarus, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, England, Estonia, France, Hungary, India, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Romania, Slovakia, Ukraine, and the USA. Over 21 % are currently in religious life, are clergy, or are consecrated. Their vocations were found or nurtured at the ITI. See pages 2 and 3 for more particular examples of what our graduates are doing.



# The Graduates of ITI – Where Are They Now? 10 Years, 127 Graduates

Teaching, Promoting the Church, and Protecting Marriage and Family

Teaching in Seminaries, Colleges, Universities and High Schools Throughout the World



**Oleg Novoselsky, Ukraine** - Oleg graduated from the ITI in 2003. After finishing his Licentiate at the Faculty of Theology of Lugano in Switzerland, he started teaching Theology in Lviv at the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) of the Greek-Catholic Church as well as at the Byzantine seminary. Currently his work is with the Eastern rite of the Church, but he has also been invited to teach some courses on Roman Rite subjects. In addition to teaching theology, Oleg has been busy working as the assistant to the Pro-rector for Academic Affairs at the UCU. He recently completed the major documents for governmental accreditation of the theology program in Ukraine, which was received at the end of the 2005-06 academic year. Now their theology graduates get a degree and diploma that is recognized by the state. At present, he is working on the documents for the

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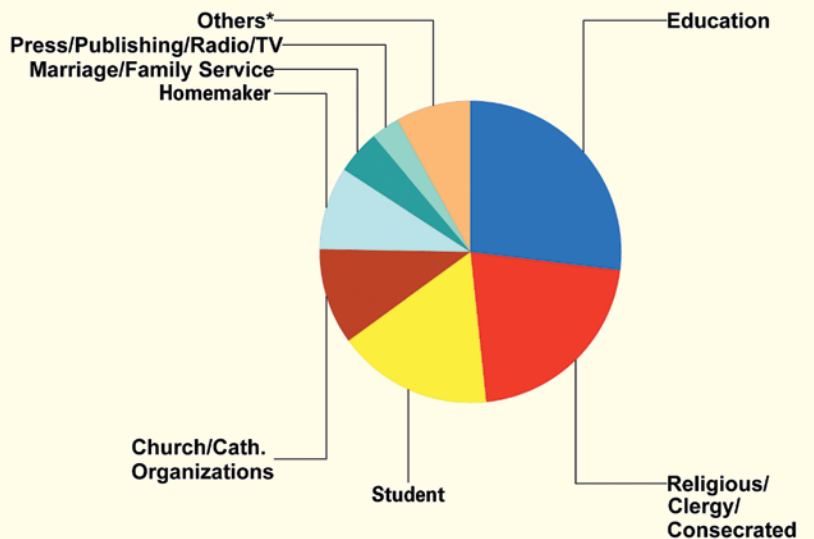
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## Graduate Nationalities

WEST	EAST	
Austria	Albania	India
Canada	Belarus	Latvia
England	Bulgaria	Lithuania
Germany	Croatia	Moldova
Scotland	Czech	Poland
United States	Republic	Romania
	Estonia	Slovakia
	Georgia	Ukraine
	Hungary	

## ITI Graduates' Primary Occupations



\*\*Others\* includes: Carpentry, Computers, Engineering, Property Management, Restaurant Service, Consulting, and Social Work.

Vatican accreditation of UCU's theology department.

### More Graduates in this Field

- **Stepan Dmytryshyn**, Lecturer on Marriage and Family Issues *Ukrainian Catholic University*.
- **William Dunn**, Adjunct Prof. of Philosophy and Theology. *University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas, USA*
- **Stephan Kampowski**, Assistant Prof. of Moral Theology, *Pont. Institute JPII, Rome, Italy*
- **Mindaugas Kubilius**, Philosophy Faculty *Vilnius University, Lithuania*
- **Father Gregory Arby**, Prof. of Dogmatic Theology *St. Joseph's Pontifical Seminary, India*
- **Several alumni** are at *Ave Maria University* in Florida, Nicaragua and Austria
- **Several alumni** are at *Franciscan University of Steubenville Austrian Program*

Providing a Mouthpiece for the Church through Public Relations, Press, and Publishing

### Dr. Gudrun Kugler-Lang, Austria



Dr. Gudrun Kugler-Lang, Austria - Gudrun graduated from the ITI in 1999. Afterwards, she completed her legal studies with a doctorate in International Criminal Law. From 2001 to 2004 she directed the World Youth Alliance Europe (www.wya.net), advocating human dignity at the United Nations and the European Union. In 2005, she and her husband, Martin, founded the enterprise, Kairos Consulting for Non-Profit-Initiatives. With this company, she has; started the non-governmental



organization, Europe for Christ! (www.europe4christ.net); helped launch a European Observatory on Christianophobia and Intolerance; and founded the German speaking Catholic marriage website, www.kathtreff.org. In addition to these initiatives, she is very much in demand for many conferences as a speaker on the Culture of Life.

#### More Graduates in this Field

- **Todd Agliodoro**, Editor, *Sophia Institute Press, USA*
- **Eugenjius Danilevicius**, President, *Radio Maria of Lithuania*
- **Leonard Faruanu**, Writer/Translator, *www.profamilia.ro*, pro-family website supported by the National Bishop's Conference of Romania
- **Vahur Orrin**, *Press Officer of the Catholic Church in Estonia*
- **Inese Ratnikaite**, *Diocesan Correspondent for Christian Events and for Vatican Radio, Diocese of Siauliai, Lithuania.*

## Protecting Marriage and Family

### Father Yuriy Kolasa,

**Ukraine** - After Yuriy graduated from the ITI with a Masters in Sacred Theology in 2001, his Bishop, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, ordained him a priest. Father Yuriy was soon put in charge of the Commission for Marriage and the Family in the Lviv archdiocese of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church (UGCC). The task of the commission was to create a program for marriage preparation that could be used in the UGCC today.

In just two and a half years, under Father Kolasa's leadership, the Commission set up thirteen



marriage preparation centers, published a marriage preparation book, and prepared over 2500 couples for marriage. In addition, the Commission set up a support network to take care of these young couples in a special way during the first years of their married life. The network shows these couples how to educate their children and enrich their marriage. It also gives them a support group throughout their whole married life. After this preparation, more than 250 newly married couples then became active participants in the volunteer efforts of the Church.

Cardinal Husar then appointed Father Yuriy as head of the organizing committee for the commemoration of the Year of the Family in the Ukraine for 2003. For this occasion, Father Yuriy drafted the statement of the Synod of Bishops of the Metropolitan Province of Kyiv about the family.

Cardinal Husar has sent Father Yuriy back to the ITI in order to continue his education with a Licentiate in Sacred Theology.

#### More Graduates in this Field

- **Aidmantas and Judita Bernatonis**, work with married couples, give retreats, Lithuania
- **Adriana O. Coman**, prepares young couples for marriage, Romania
- **Matt Fish**, Founding LifeTeen Program, Dallas, Texas
- **Father Oleksiy Korostil**, pastoral work with young couples, Ukraine
- **Father Peter Labanic**, secretary to Bishop in charge of Marriage and Family, Slovakia
- **Jutta Lang**, Director, Jugend für das Leben (Youth for Life), Austria. ✂

#### First Years *continued*

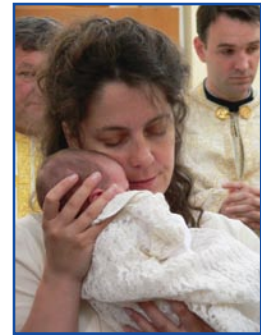
many vocations to the priesthood and religious life and many have found their vocation at the ITI.

What visitors remark about when they come here, and what has always been a characteristic of our life together as an academic community, is the presence of families with young children. Our support of students with families is probably unique. There are very few Catholic institutes or universities in the whole world that make it possible for students with large families to study. I hope we will always have the financial resources not only to teach about marriage and family life as a specialization but to witness in our lives to that teaching.

As an academic community we learn from one another. In that sense we are all students and at the same time teachers.

My life has been much enriched by students who have studied here. At graduation I always feel like a proud parent, proud of the achievements of our students and, if I may admit it, a bit sad that they will no longer be with us.

At last year's graduation I ended my speech by saying that we can never stand still in life. We must go forward or we end up going backwards. I like especially the Italian expression of that, "andiamo avanti". I look back over these years with gratitude at a treasure chest of wonderful memories. At the same time I look forward to the future and all it will bring with God's help and say again, *andiamo avanti*. ✂



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# Introducing the 10th Graduating

A milestone was reached on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2006, as the ITI celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> graduation with 16 graduates from 9 different countries. Archbishop Schulte, former Archbishop of New Orleans and member of the ITI board, celebrated the graduation Mass. He had also reached a milestone and was celebrating the 54<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. Our new president, Msgr. Dr. Larry Hogan



Class Speaker, Eleonora (Ella) Stefanyan

gave the graduation speech and encouraged the graduates to “go forward” and reminded them of the words of Our Lord, “Do not be afraid”. “Magnificat” was the theme chosen by our Class Speaker, Eleonora Stefanyan, from the country of Georgia, as she described her life and studies at ITI. Here are some passages from

Ella’s beautiful talk:

“My soul magnifies the Lord”... for through these years in the ITI the Lord gave me an understanding of the past, strength and joy in the present, and hope and confidence for the future. ...

I sing the **Magnificat** to the Lord as I gratefully repeat the words of St. John: here “we have come to know and to believe in the Love God has for us” for the Word became flesh for our sake and dwells among us.

**Magnificat**, for through these studies I came to touch the truth and to have a glimpse of the dignifying vision God has for man. I received a glimpse of what reality in the eyes of God is like, and

wherever God brings me, I want to be faithful to this reality.

**Magnificat**, for all the professors who not only teach the truth, but live it by their loving example.

**Magnificat**, for I learned about His love by living in the community, side by side with all of you who try to live the Word of God: the best theologian is the one who learns theology on his knees. I am grateful for the deep, beautiful friendships which God gave me here.

**Magnificat**, for the beautiful families, whose examples make my heart leap with joy, filling it with courage and hope: because now I know that it is possible to have a beautiful and faithful family, striving together for truth in trust and love. Your examples were the best training in the field of marriage and family.

**Magnificat**, for the dear priests, who by prayers, advice, and example have led me to Christ and supported me in difficult times.

**Magnificat**, for the benefactors who answer the call of the lord in their generosity.

**Magnificat**, for the administration and all those who have put their hearts into building up this institute in God’s truth.

On behalf of the graduates, I ask our Blessed Mother to help us to grow in the virtue of humility – the virtue of truth which gives us the right attitude to God giving us gratitude for all his gifts. May she help us to become perfect in charity, and to walk in the trust of God’s providence. To give us grateful hearts because all is ultimately a gift. ✂

## Master of Theological Studies on Marriage and the Family



Ewa Pakulska  
Poland

Ewa is attending Vienna University in order to pursue linguistic and translation

studies. With this training, she hopes to work for international contacts within the Church. She plans to join the World Youth Alliance and would like to focus on pro-life projects.



Vesela Sadovska  
Bulgaria

Vesela is continuing her studies of marriage and family at the JP II

Institute in Rome. After her studies, she wants to help organize a Center for Marriage and Family in Bulgaria, as well as help her Bishop to start a Catholic college.



Tetiana Stawnychy  
Ukraine

Tetiana is working for the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the Lviv/Kyiv Diocese.

She is using her talents to focus on development projects.



Adam White  
USA

Adam is spending his next two years working as a Resident Director for the Franciscan

University of Steubenville Austrian Program.



# Class of the ITI

## Master of Sacred Theology



**Peter and Erin Baklinski**  
Canada

*Peter and Erin are preparing courses to teach at Our Lady Seat of*

*Wisdom, a newly founded Catholic liberal arts college in Canada. Peter is planning a course on Theology of the Body and Erin would like to teach a course on Ecclesiology.*



**Maria Colonna**  
USA

*Maria is continuing her studies at the Teresianum in Rome. She wants*

*to obtain a licentiate and then a doctorate in spiritual theology.*



**Matthew Fish**  
USA

*Matt is teaching at Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas and starting a*

*TeenLife program in his local parish. He is also discerning a vocation with the Jesuits.*



**Thérèse Grimm**  
USA

*Thérèse was accepted by several graduate schools for the year 06/07. She*

*hopes to defer this acceptance until Fall '07 and to work for a year.*



**Anthony Pagliarini**  
USA

*Anthony is teaching a theology course and working as*

*the Student Life Director for the Ave Maria University Austrian Program.*



**Maria Proksova**  
Slovakia

*Maria is planning to teach English and Theology at the high-school level. In addition,*

*she deeply desires to translate theological publications from English into Slovak.*



**Eleonora Stefanyan**  
Georgia

*Ella is continuing her education with a licentiate at the JP II Institute in*

*Rome. After her studies she wants to work in a Chaldean Catholic parish and for the Sulchan-Saba Orbeliani Institute founded by Msgr. Giuseppe Pasotto 4 years ago. In addition, she will continue her service with "Faith and Light" to help the mentally disabled and their families.*

## Licentiate in Sacred Theology with Specialization in Marriage and the Family



**Radko Blichar**  
Slovakia

*Thesis:*

*"Marriage in Islam Compared with Marriage in Christianity"*

*Radko, a seminarian, was asked by his bishop to serve as a journalist for the Catholic newspaper, Slovo, in Slovakia. He would also like to continue his studies with a doctorate in interreligious dialogue at the University of Limerick in Ireland.*



**Melinda Fabova**  
Slovakia

*Thesis: "Family Systems Theory in the Perspective of Christian Anthropology"*

*Melinda will be teaching at a Catholic high school and counselling in family centres.*



**Ioan-Iulian Hoticu**  
Romania

*Thesis: "Family in European History and in the Contemporary Context"*

*Iulian, a Greek rite seminarian, is continuing his studies at the University of Vienna. He is also planning a conference on pro-life issues. He and his wife are hoping for children.*



**Jelena Kačan**  
Croatia

*Thesis: "Authentic Love and Human Sexuality"*

*Jelena will be teaching*

*catechesis and hopes to work in family counselling centres.*



Dr. Andrei Gotia reports on a successful ITI event

## Distinguished Speakers Highlight New Childhood Conference



Erin Baklinski and Dr. Hanna-Barbara Gerl Falkovitz are of one mind – children are a gift.

**C**hildhood – Vital Foundations of Personality – this was the title of the conference organized by the International Theological Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family held in Sonntagberg from March 31<sup>st</sup>-April 2<sup>nd</sup> this year. This was a most fitting theme for our times when children are threatened from so many corners. More than 100 attendees from Austria, the United Kingdom, the United States, Croatia, Germany, Slovakia, Switzerland and Slovenia proved with their participation that this was a topic of vital interest.

The main conference speakers were renowned theologians, psychologists and writers: Dr. Paul C. Vitz, Professor of Psychology at New York University, Dr. Phil Mango, Professor of Psychology at the John Paul II Institute for Studies on Marriage and the Family (Washington), Dr. Bernhard Dolna, Assistant professor of Ecumenical and Jewish



Little Hannah May Newton agrees with Dr. Vitz that it is important to experience a father's love.

studies at the International Theological Institute (Gaming), Mrs. Joanna Bogle, children's author, journalist and broadcaster (United Kingdom), and Dr. Hanna-Barbara Gerl-Falkovitz, Professor of Religion Studies at the Technische Universität (Dresden). Bishop Klaus Küng, a member of the Austrian Bishop's Conference for Marriage and Family, offered Mass for the participants on the last day.

Dr. Michael Waldstein, Founding President of the ITI and a member of the Pontifical Council for the Family, gave the welcome address. Starting from the last words of the Old Testament, in which the prophet Malachi announces that the Lord will turn the hearts of fathers to their children (4: 6), Dr. Waldstein shared some tips for fathers. One often hears that "time is money", but Waldstein, himself the father of eight children, is convinced that "time is life." The time one spends with one's children will give life to the family. The removal of the TV provides an

important space in family life which can be filled with the forming of common treasures, such as listening to good music or reading good stories to your children.

Dr. Paul C. Vitz gave the key-note address and spoke of the trends in contemporary psychology. Much to everyone's astonishment, Dr. Vitz said that Freud is taught very



little in the United States. Instead, there is a school of positive psychology promoted by M. Seligman, for example, which emphasizes virtues and their development as an effective means for healing.

Dr. Mango, through video conference, spoke about the impact of child-

hood experiences on a person's sexuality. He discussed the process of development of a person's sexual identity and the positive and negative factors that influence it.

One cannot abandon youth culture to secular media, Mrs. Joanna Bogle courageously asserted, but one has to take up

the challenge to produce vigorous alternatives. The speaker gave the example of the *Tamezin* magazine, a successful magazine of Catholic inspiration for girls.

In his talk about childhood in modern Catholic thinking, Dr. Bernhard Dolna sketched the most important traits of spiritual childhood: children in spirit never abandon the bosom of the Father, they are always ready to begin anew and look full of wonder at the beauty of the gift of life.

Dr. Hanna-Barbara Gerl-Falkovitz discussed the understanding of childhood in the Postmodern era. She pointed out that the current attitude is to treat the child as something planned and made, rather than as a gift.



Dr. Hanna-Barbara Gerl-Falkovitz





The crisis of fatherhood was the topic of Dr. Vitz' second talk, in which he explained the importance for children of having a father present in the family and for them to experience his love. The speaker said that all men are called to be fathers, whether in a biological or spiritual way, and that men mature by being fathers. In our society, which does not offer many good models for men, one

can always find a model of fatherhood in St. Joseph and of course in Jesus, the Son of the Father, who teaches men to sacrifice themselves for their spouses and children.

There were many other talks and seminars offered that developed the main themes of the conference. Throughout the weekend, the participants and speakers were able to discuss these issues in greater depth. Many thanks are due to the organizers and their numerous helpers from among the students for this great event. One hopes it will become a tradition with the ITI.

*Several of these lectures are available on CD from the ITI office in Austria. Please see the contact information on the back of the newsletter to order a copy.*



Dr. Paul C. Vitz

## A Diverse Group of Speakers Addressed the ITI in 2005/06

It was another fruitful year for our lecture series. Lord David Alton and John Klink, who are active in the political sphere, gave eye-opening views into the battles that are fought for human dignity. After these lectures, a Ukrainian student said, "Thanks for re-telling our story. Often we want to forget what we have suffered, but we must be careful not to forget the sacrifices that were made for us." Bishop Hlib Lonchyna, the Procurator of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church to the Holy See visited our campus and remarked on the good work that we are doing at ITI to give the East and the West an understanding of each other. Following is a list of the topics that gave us food for thought:

Sept 2 "Balthasar on Theology and Prayer", by **Cyrus Olsen, Oxford.**

Oct 4 "Imago Dei: Human Dignity from Conception to Natural Death" and "Christian Citizenship in a Hostile World" by **Lord David Alton**, Member of the House of Commons for 18 years, Life Peer of the House of Lords. His tireless work on behalf of human rights and the pro-life cause throughout the world, especially in Asia and Africa, has gained him the admiration of human rights groups, but has also garnered much opposition from the liberal establishment.

Nov 18 "Sacraments and Sacramentals: History and Theology." by **Pater Bernhard Vosicky, O. Cist.**, monk of the Cistercian monastery Stift Heiligenkreuz; professor of Liturgy at the Philosophisch-Theologische Hochschule at Heiligenkreuz; author of a number of works on the sacraments and sacramentals of the Church.

Nov 25 "Eastern Catholic Churches: Protagonist or Impediment to Unity?" by **Bishop Hlib Lonchyna**, Procurator of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church to the Holy See.

Feb 2 "1990 to 2006: The Holy See's Fight for the Protection of Life, Marriage, and the Family at the United Nations" by **John Klink**, consultant to the Pontifical Council for the Family and to the Holy See Mission to the United Nations; Advisor to the White House and the US State Department.

Feb 24 "On the Pirke Aboth or 'Sayings of the Fathers'." by **Prof. Stemberger**, one of the world's greatest experts on this and similar Hebrew texts. The Pirke Aboth or Pirkei Avoth is the name given to a collection of aphorisms (in the manner of the Book of Sirach) by teachers learned in the Jewish law.

Mar 24 "The Problem of Depopulation, the Misuse of Sexuality, and the Preconditions for High Culture", by **Gabriele Kuby**, Sociologist, author of "My Way to Mary: The Power of Living Faith" and other books; mother of three children.

Apr 7 "Signs and Symbols of Heavenly Realities: Church Architecture as Image of Heaven", by **Prof. Denis McNamara**, Assistant Director of the Liturgical Institute in Mundelein, Illinois, USA; author of a book and many articles on the sacred arts. ✂



Speakers pictured, from top to bottom – Bishop Hlib Lonchyna, Mr. John Klink, Lord David Alton



# Monsignor Hogan Named New President of the ITI

**M**sgsr. Dr. Larry Hogan was named President of the ITI at the Board meeting in January, and this was recently ratified by Rome. In September he was appointed as a Monsignor. He has been at the ITI from its very beginning in the fall of 1995 and has served as its Vice President and Acting President. He will continue to serve as Professor of Old Testament.



Dr. Michael Waldstein was

appointed as Senior Professor and will hold the St. Francis Chair. He was also given the title of Founding President. He has shaped and formed the ITI for 10 years and will continue to serve on the Academic Council. With this change, he will now have more time to devote to his love of teaching, writing, and publishing. His new translation of John Paul II's Theology of the Body came out this fall. See the insert for more news about this translation.

Finally, after serving



for almost 10 years in the capacities of Vice President and then Academic Dean, Professor Walter J. Thompson wished to hand over the reins to someone else. Dr. Bernhard Dolna has been appointed as the new Academic Dean. Professor Thompson will continue to serve on the Academic Council to help guide the Academic discussions. ✂

*From top to bottom - Professors Bernhard Dolna, Walter J. Thompson and Michael Waldstein will work in new roles to guide the ITI into the future.*

## 2006 Fall Semester Calendar

Sept 5	Classes Begin
Sept 28	Lecture: "When the Christians were Jews; The Beginning of Jewish-Christian Dialogue" by Piotr Drag
Oct 5	Lecture: "What has Rome to do with Brussels? The European Union, Human Rights and the Dignity of Every Member of the Human Family" by Dr. Gudrun Kugler-Lang
Oct 12	Lecture: "Is Celibacy Possible?" by Univ. Doz. Med. Raphael Bonelli, neurologist and psychiatrist, Klinikum Graz
Oct 18	Lecture: "The Significance of the Roman Rite" by Pater Bernhard Vosicky, Professor of Liturgy, Heiligenkreuz Abbey
Oct 26-Nov 5	Semester Break
Oct 28-Nov 1	Good Shepherd Catechesis Training
Dec 7	Lecture, "The Occult and Sects" Pater Clemens Pilar, Kalasantiner, Vienna
Dec 15-20	Semester Final Exams
Dec 21	Fall Semester Ends

For more information, please contact:



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