

CALL FOR PAPERS
AMERICAN JACQUES MARITAIN ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

33RD ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL MEETING

OCTOBER 22-24, 2009 -- HOUSTON, TX

***“ST. THOMAS AND THE PROBLEM OF EVIL:
CHOICE, HISTORY, & PROVIDENCE”***

CO-SPONSORED BY: THE UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS

Association President: John G. Trapani, Jr.

Local Chair: John Hittinger

Program Chair: Gavin Colvert

Program Committee: John Hittinger, Gavin Colvert, Bill Haggerty, and John Trapani

The American Jacques Maritain Association invites proposals for papers to be delivered at its 33rd annual international conference to be held in Houston, TX, Thursday – Saturday, October 22-24, 2009.

Sponsored by The University of St. Thomas, the theme for this year’s conference is “St. Thomas and the Problem of Evil: Choice, History, & Providence,” which is the title of Maritain’s book of the same name. While papers may be on any topic of philosophical merit, conference participants are encouraged to examine this book and reflect on its contents and the larger themes it suggests. Delivered as the 1942 Aquinas Lecture at Marquette University, this small but cogent monograph, written within the context of St. Thomas’ teaching on evil, focuses on two subjects in particular: “the meaning of the existence of evil in this world,” and “the cause of evil where free will is concerned.” In addition to evil, the conference’s broader themes suggest papers on the subjects of history, providence, the concept of “the law of two-fold contrasting progress,” freedom, the philosophy of human nature, social/political thought, philosophical theology, and ethics.

Paper presentations at the conference should be limited to 25 minutes reading time, with 15 minutes for discussion. To submit an electronic proposal abstract of 500 words or less, please visit:

<http://maritain.veritasprima.org>. In order to receive full consideration, proposals should be completed online by no later than **June 30th 2009**. Questions regarding the submission of proposals should be directed to the Program Chair: Dr. Gavin Colvert, Associate Professor, Philosophy Department, Assumption College, 500 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA 01609 (email: gcolvert@assumption.edu).

A special invitation is extended to graduate students. A stipend of \$250.00 together with waiver of registration fees will be awarded to a graduate student paper selected for presentation by the Program Committee. In order to be considered for this award, please indicate your interest at the time of the submission of your proposal. Papers will be solicited and evaluated by the Program Committee prior to the conference. The stipend will be awarded at the conference.

In addition, the AMA extends an invitation to societies or individuals interested in organizing a satellite session for the 2009 conference. Complete details regarding the submission of satellite session proposals are available at the web address indicated above.

The conference venue: Houston, TX is one of America’s premiere Southern cities. The Thursday and Friday conference sessions will be held at the Renaissance Houston Hotel. On Saturday, participants will spend the day on the beautiful campus of The University of St. Thomas. The conference venue is conveniently accessible by Houston-Bush Intercontinental Airport. More details to come!