
WORD FROM THE CHAIR

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Our latest issue of Word in the World: *'Emerging Insights' Volume 4 (2011)* is finally here and it is my pleasure to present it to you.

This publication is a great accomplishment and is a living testament to the hours of hard work and dedication this entire committee and its associates have been through over the last year. This issue is special not only because it is the fruit of all this labour, but also because it marks a turning point in the history of Word in the World.

Over the past two years we have assembled what is, no doubt, one of the best and most efficient teams I have ever had the pleasure of being a part of. The committee which I have chaired during my time with Word in the World has been nothing short of exemplary and superb. We have achieved the goal we set out for ourselves which was to produce one volume each year. Not only did we accomplish our objective, we did so with added results. Over the past two years this committee has advanced Word in the World with the quality of its articles, the thoroughness of its peer-review process, its affiliations with other academic bodies, and its new online presence. Each of our issues has been – in my mind – better than the last and we hope to see this progression continue in the years and volumes to come.

While this committee has been one of great ability and even greater accomplishment, sadly it will come to an end. As it is with most student journals/associations, turnover is quite high. Students inevitably complete their degrees and fulfill their duties, which force them to move on to the next step of their personal and academic careers. As a result of time slowly moving us forward, the next committee will in all likelihood be very different from the one that worked on this issue; however, the end of one thing means the beginning of something new and it is with great anticipation that I wait to see what new improvements come from the next committee taking the reigns. A fresh mind and a fresh perspective are often the right ingredients for positive change and amelioration. I have no doubt the next committee will be ready and willing to take on Word in the World and bring it to the next step.

I would like to thank the entire Word in the World Executive Committee: Matte Downey, Lily-Catherine Johnston, Elisa Pistilli, and Robert Smith for all of their dedication and hard work. Also, a thank you to our faculty liaisons: Drs. Marie-France Dion and Matthew Anderson, for their contributions and guidance as well as the entire faculty of Theological Studies at Concordia University for their help. I would also like to acknowledge the work of Jean Daou and Sara Terreault. Jean's advice to continue the legacy of Word in the World was a constant reminder and a

driving force of every decision we made as we tried to improve Word in the World each year. Sara's help and support throughout the years have also been an invaluable tool for the entire committee.

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The support and contributions of everyone involved have been paramount to the successes we have witnessed with Word in the World.

On behalf of the entire Word in the World Committee, I would also like to extend a special word of appreciation to all those who have contributed to this journal and made this issue possible. A special thank you to the following for their generous financial support: *Concordia Council on Student Life (CCSL)*, *Concordia University Alumni Association (CUAA)*, *Concordia University Graduate Students' Association (GSA)*, *Department of Theological Studies, Theological Studies Graduate and Undergraduate Student Associations (TSGSA & TSUSA)*, and the *Concordia University Small Grants Program*.

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