The Seventh Summer Institute on Theology and Disability hosted by Western Theological Seminary and Hope College, Holland, Michigan, May 23-26, 2016.

**Planning Information**

**Registration**

* Is being handled by Hope College, both for the Summer Institute and lodging.
* A note on costs: The registration fee will go up slightly this year as the SITD transitions from having Bethesda as a major sponsor in the past to new and hopefully a more diversified funding stream. We hope to have sufficient funding for some student scholarships but that also depends on donations and grants. The scholarships will be our standard $250 credit towards registration costs. We cannot assist with travel or lodging.
* If you are able to pay by check, rather than credit card, more funds will be available to the Summer Institute because of a standard credit card processing fee.
* We want to give you that alert so you can do several things:
	+ Have more time to find extra funds if needed. If you are a person with a disability or a family member, check with your state’s Council on Developmental Disabilities. Some of them have funds to help people with disabilities and family members to attend out of state conferences.
	+ We welcome gifts or grants for scholarship funds and sponsorships. Contact Bill Gaventa at bill.gaventa@gmail.com.

**Meals**

* Registration will include lunches and the opening dinner, per tradition. Breakfast tickets will be available for Phelps Dining Hall for $7+ plus day. The closing dinner will have a $25 price and two or more excursion options on Wednesday night will have a $25 cost. Downtown, with a variety of breakfast, lunch, and dinner options, is in easy walking distance.

**Lodging**

Other than Chicago in 2012 and Toronto in 2013, this will be our most compact conference. The residence options, cafeteria and meeting spaces are very close to one another. Google Hope College and see the map. <http://www.hope.edu/index.html>

Cook Hall and Haworth Inn are adjacent to one another. Cook Hall is not available before or after the Summer Institute. Haworth may be, but at their normal rates. Reservations are made through the SITD Registration Site at Hope College.

***Cook Hall* (**115 East 10th St. Holland, Michigan 49423)Most suites have two bedrooms with two twin beds in each and a private bath. All rooms are air-conditioned. A wi-fi code can be provided. There is an exercise room, laundry room, and lounges in the building. There are a few suites that are handicap accessible.

- Full Week Private Suite (Sunday-Friday): $760

- Full Week Private Suite HA (Sunday-Friday): $760

- Full Week Shared Suite Two Person Occupancy (Sunday to Friday): $380

- Full Week Shared Suite Two Person Occupancy HA (Sunday to Friday): $380

- Full Week Shared Suite Four Person Occupancy (Sunday to Friday): $190

- Partial Week Single: Daily Rate of $155

- Partial Week Double: Daily Rate of $78

***Haworth Inn and Conference Center****.* 225 College Avenue Holland, Michigan 49423  *(*Amenities include: complimentary deluxe continental breakfast, wi-fi, a pass for the Holland Aquatic Center, on-site wellness room, and a pass for the Dow Physical Education Center)

- Full Week Hotel Room with 2 Queen Beds (Sunday-Friday): $642

- Full Week Hotel Room with 1 King Bed HA (Sunday-Friday): $642

**Other Lodging Options**

This is a list of preferred hotels from the Hope College Website. Note that some are within walking distance:

PREFERRED HOTELS

These hotels have demonstrated excellence in hospitality for parents, alumni and friends. We are pleased to recommend them to you for your next visit.

* [Haworth Inn and Conference Center](http://www.haworthinn.com/)
* *Located on Hope’s campus*
* [CityFlats Hotel](http://cityflatshotel.com/)
* *0.6 miles north of campus*
* [Country Inn by Carlson](http://www.countryinns.com/holland-hotel-mi-49424/holland)
* *2.8 miles north of campus*
* [DoubleTree](http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/michigan/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-holland-GRRHLDT/index.html)
* *1.9 miles southeast of campus*
* [Fairfield Inn](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/grrfi-fairfield-inn-holland)
* *3.3 miles north of campus*
* [Hampton Inn](http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/michigan/hampton-inn-holland-HLDMIHX/index.html)
* *3.2 miles north of campus*
* [Holiday Inn Express](http://www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress/hotels/us/en/holland/hldfe/hoteldetail)
* *3.4 miles north of campus*
* [Hyatt Place](http://www.grandrapidssouth.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html?hyattprop=yes)
* *21.9 miles east of campus*
* [Residence Inn](http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/grrho-residence-inn-holland)
* *3.5 miles southeast of campus*
* [Teerman Lofts](http://teermanlofts.com/)
* *0.5 miles west of campus*
* [The Beach House at Lake Street](http://www.lakemichiganbeachhouse.com/ownership/)
* *6.2 miles west of campus*
* [The State Rooms at Yacht Basin](http://www.yachtbasinmarina.com/the_staterooms.html)

*5.8 miles west of campus*

If you go through a travel site, you will also find other hotel options in Holland.

AirBnB: There are a number of rooms and places listed on the Airbnb site.

**Transportation and getting there**

(If you are flying American, please use the **Business Extra Number 873578**. It will not take away your miles earned, nor provide a discount, but it will help us cut future costs for invited speakers.)

If your flight arrives at Chicago O’Hare…

Car Rental

Several car rental agencies operate at O’Hare Airport. The trip to Holland Michigan takes approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes, and you will encounter tolls along the way.

Train

All Amtrak trains serving Chicago depart from **Union Station** in downtown Chicago.  The best way to travel between O’Hare Airport and **Union Station** is by the CTA rail.  Trains are fast and run frequently, and the entire journey (including all waiting and walking) takes approximately 1 hour 15 minutes.  Beware that private shuttles run much less frequently than CTA trains do (about once an hour compared to every 10 minutes), and so on average you are not going to save much time by taking a shuttle despite paying at least 5 times as much as the train fare.  Moreover, trains run at all times, and trains do not risk getting stuck in Chicago traffic.  Unless you have a lot of heavy luggage, a train ride is a more sensible option in most cases.  You can follow the Blue Line route from O’Hare to the **Clinton Station** on the map found here: <http://www.mrl.ucsb.edu/~yopopov/directions/map_cta.html> . Exit the train at **Clinton Station** and walk two blocks to **Union Station**.

It should be noted that you can take a taxi from O’Hare to Union Station, but the fare is likely to run in excess of $50.

Trains between Chicago Union Station and Holland, Michigan generally run only once per day. Schedules and tickets are can be accessed here: <https://tickets.amtrak.com/itd/amtrak>

The Holland, Michigan Amtrak station is about three blocks from the Hope College campus.

Bus

Like train travel, you must first travel from O’Hare airport to downtown Chicago (Union Station). Buses leave O’Hare for downtown about every 10 minutes at a cost of about $2.00.

Bus service between Chicago Union Station and Holland, MI operates twice/day most days at a cost of approximately $30/each way. The trip takes 3 – 4 hours depending on the time of departure selected.

Schedules, fares and other information on Indian Trails Bus Lines are available here:

<http://www.indiantrails.com/maps-and-schedules>

800-292-3831

The Holland, Michigan bus station is about three blocks from the Hope College campus.

If your flight arrives at Grand Rapids, Michigan…

Shuttle Transportation to Hope College

Shuttle transportation is being arranged. Register for it through the online registration process for the Institute: <http://eventreg.hope.edu/EmsRegics/SITD2016>

Car Rental

This is probably the most costly but is, by far, the most convenient option. Several car rental agencies operate at the Grand Rapids airport. The trip to Holland, Michigan takes approximately 45 minutes.

Train

Train service between Grand Rapids and Holland, MI operates early mornings most days at a cost of approximately $10. Check schedules and prices here: <https://tickets.amtrak.com/itd/amtrak>

Trains do not leave directly from the airport. It will be necessary for you to take either local

train service (information at [www.RideTheRapid.com](http://www.RideTheRapid.com)), or a taxi to the Amtrak station. The

Grand Rapids visitor information source recommends the taxi option for people unfamiliar with

the city and local transit services.

Bus

Bus service between Grand Rapids and Holland, MI operates twice/day most days at a cost of approximately $10/each way.

\*\*Busses do not leave directly from the airport. It will be necessary for you to take either local train service (information at [www.RideTheRapid.com](http://www.RideTheRapid.com)), or a taxi to the bus station at **250 Grandville SW** in Grand Rapids. The Grand Rapids visitor information source recommends the taxi option for people unfamiliar with the city and local transit services.

The trip from Grand Rapids to Holland takes about 45 minutes. The Holland bus station is about 3 blocks from the Hope College campus.

Driving See directions and information about Holland, Michigan at <http://www.hope.edu/visit/index.html>