

The Swope Endowed  
Lectureship  
on  
Ethics, Religion, Faith, and Values

presents

**Gabriella Lettini**  
*Moral Injury as a Wound of  
War and the Need for  
Soul Repair*

Tuesday, March 5, 2013  
7:30 p.m.  
Schneebeck Concert Hall  
University of Puget Sound

UNIVERSITY of  
PUGET SOUND





The REV. DR. GABRIELLA LETTINI is the Aurelia Henry Reinhardt Professor of Theological Ethics at Starr King School for the Ministry, Graduate Theological Union, in Berkeley, Calif., where she serves as dean of faculty and director of studies in public ministry.

A native of Torino, Italy, Lettini earned her M.Div. at the Waldensian Theological Seminary in Rome. She is an ordained minister of the Waldensian Church, a movement that originated in France and Italy in the 12th century and was based on evangelical poverty, a critique of church hierarchies, refusal of the church as a political power, and a strong emphasis on lay leadership,

including women. She earned her Ph.D. from Union Theological Seminary in New York City, under the supervision of Delores Williams and James Cone.

Before accepting her position at Starr King, Lettini taught at Union Theological Seminary as a visiting assistant professor of theology and culture. She collaborated with the Poverty Initiative at Union Theological Seminary and served in several Poverty Truth Commissions in New York. She has organized similar programs at the Graduate Theological Union, working to educate community and religious leaders about the many dimensions of poverty and economic injustice in the Bay Area.

Lettini engaged the same grassroots model for truth commissions in addressing issues of war. Teaming up with Rev. Dr. Rita Nakashima Brock, she co-organized the Truth Commission on Conscience in War, which held a public hearing at the Riverside Church in New York in March 2010. The pair co-authored the book *Soul Repair: Recovering From Moral Injury After War*, published by Beacon Press, which explores the effect of moral injury on veterans, their families, and their communities.

Additionally Lettini is the author of *Omosessualita (Homosexuality)*, the first text by an Italian religious leader to publicly challenge homophobia and bless same-sex unions. She has written numerous book chapters and articles on topics such as theology and culture, women and religion, ethics, and more.

From 1987 to 1992, Lettini was the Latin Europe Representative for the European Board of the World Christian Student Federation. She has served as an officer of the American Waldensian Society since 1996, and was its president from 2006 to 2009. Currently she co-chairs the Transformative Pedagogy and Scholarship Consultation of the American Academy of Religion, and is a member of the board of trustees of Faith Voices for the Common Good and the steering committee of FSR (Feminist Studies in Religion). She is also a member of INTERFILM (International Interchurch Film Organization) and the Union Theological Seminary Alumni Council.

Moral Injury as a Wound of War and the  
Need for Soul Repair

An Evening with Gabriella Lettini

Welcome and Introduction by  
Rev. Dave Wright  
University Chaplain  
Swope Committee Chair

Questions and Answers

(Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.  
No photo or recording devices allowed.)

Reception following the lecture  
in Wheelock Student Center, Rasmussen Rotunda

The Swope Endowed Lectureship was established at University of Puget Sound through a gift from Major Ianthe Swope in honor of her mother, Jane Hammer Swope. In keeping with her mother's vision, and recognizing their deeply held religious values as Methodists, Major Swope chose to establish an endowed lectureship at University of Puget Sound to bring guest lecturers on the subjects of faith, ethics, values, or religion. The Jane Hammer Swope Lectureship is intended to promote broad discussions, critical thinking, and ethical inquiry to nurture the mind and heart about matters of religion, such as its role in public life, issues in contemporary spirituality, ethics, and world religions.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

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#### UPCOMING SWOPE LECTURE

Martha Nussbaum

Tuesday, Dec. 3, 2013

7:30 p.m., Schneebeck Concert Hall

Tickets: Lecture is free but ticketed.

Free tickets will be available at Wheelock Information Center  
beginning Sept. 9, 2013