

Registration is open for GFM National Staff Meetings 2016!

We look forward to gathering the entire *Graduate & Faculty* Ministries staff team on March 15-17, 2016 at University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein, Illinois for **GFM National Staff Meeting 2016**. Next week we will send a second email with details about our theme, speakers and pre-course preparation.

This email includes information about making travel arrangements, registering for the meetings, childcare and expense reimbursement. Dates and travel information for additional meetings are also included. If you will attend our main meeting or any of the additional meetings you will need to ***register and submit your travel plans by February 22.***

Lorrey Thabet will direct the operations for this event. Contact her with questions about travel, childcare, expense reimbursement or other logistics by replying to this email or emailing lthabet@intervarsity.org. ***If you will not attend this year, kindly notify Lorrey.***

Many thanks,

Kathy Cooper
Conference Director & Director of GFM Staff Training & Leadership Development

Bobby Gross
Director of Graduate and Faculty Ministries

Notes about Additional Meetings:

Please check the 2016 GFM Nat'l Staff Conference Logistics document for logistical information about the following meetings. Descriptions of some of these meetings are listed below.

The following meetings will be held ***March 14-15 (Monday – Tuesday):***

- Guided Prayer Retreat
- Faculty Ministry Planting Cohort Training
- GFM New Staff Training, Years 1, 2 and 3
- Women in the Academy & Professions Advocates Training

The following meeting will be held ***Thursday afternoon March 17, from 1 – 3 pm***

- Geek Squad: Personal Coaching in Social Media
(book a flight that departs from O'Hare after 6:30 pm)

The following meetings will be held ***March 17-18 (Thursday – Friday):***

- Ministry with LGBTQ Grad Students and Faculty
- South Central Regional Leadership Team meeting

You will be able to attend only one of the meetings held March 14-15 and only one of the meetings held March 17-18. The Geek Squad Coaching may be combined with another meeting.

Meeting Descriptions:

Guided Prayer Retreat (open to all staff)

This day ahead retreat is an opportunity for solitude, rest, prayer, and conversation with Jesus and colleagues. If you have questions, email Jay Sivits at jsivits@aol.com. Start time: Monday 3 p.m. Ending Time: Tuesday Noon

Faculty Ministry Planting Cohort Training

This training is offered for those who have been accepted into the Faculty Ministry Planting Cohort. Contact Robin Capcara at robin.capcara@gmail.com for more information.

New Staff Training, Years 1, 2 and 3

This spring training is part of a year-long training program which begins each July.

Women in the Academy & Professions Advocates Training

This training is offered for new WAP Advocates. Contact Karen Guzman at karen.guzman@intervarsity.org for more information.

Geek Squad: One-on-One Coaching in Social Media (Thursday afternoon only)

Want some personal coaching about the digital platform of your choice? Tom Grosh & team will help you explore how to take the next step in your digital communications, whether you're just starting, branching out to a new platform, or refining your current communications strategy. You'll have the opportunity to choose coaching for these platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Mailchimp, Blogging (for your own blog), Blogging (for a blog maintained by another person or part of InterVarsity). ***Limited number of spots. Sign up soon to get a spot!**

Ministry with LGBTQ Grad Students and Faculty (Thursday afternoon-Friday lunch)

A day of learning with InterVarsity colleague Kate Vosburg. Kate's desire is that InterVarsity would help LGBTQ Christians grow in their faith and lead LGBTQ seekers to Christ. Come hear how Kate has been trying to do this and what she's learning along the way. In our time together, we'll consider some of the worldview and history of the American LGBTQ community, consider how to personally minister to LGBTQ people, learn how to help our InterVarsity communities minister to LGBTQ people, and help each other work through our own specific ministry situations.