

January 2006



**Evangelical Theological
Seminary of Cairo**



Dr. Julius and Florence Scott

Visiting Faculty Enrich ETSC's Mid-Term

The ETSC community enjoyed the presence of two visiting faculty teaching in our Mid-Term January 9th-24th. Dr. Julius Scott, Professor Emeritus of Wheaton College joined us and offered a course entitled "Jewish Backgrounds of the New Testament" based on his book of the same name. The course presented the history, life and times from the end of the Old Testament to the coming of Jesus Christ to help ETSC's students better understand the setting of the New Testament. Dr. Scott's wife Florence supported his efforts and was an encouraging presence on campus.

Dr. Nancy Heisey also joined us in January teaching a course on early Christian history entitled, "Martyrs and Monks: Models of Christian Faithfulness." This course sought to help ETSC's students claim the early story of the Christian Church in Egypt as their own and learn from it. Dr. Heisey is Associate Professor of Biblical Studies at Eastern Mennonite University and President of the Mennonite World Conference.



Dr. Nancy Heisey



Surveying the Arab-Christian Environment in Egypt

Ten MDiv Students from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota joined students from ETSC's Masters Program in the Mid-Term to learn more about the Arab-Christian context of Egypt firsthand. The Seminar Course was co-led by Dr. David Grafton, ETSC's Graduate Studies Coordinator, and Dr. Mark Swanson. A former ETSC faculty member, Dr. Swanson is currently Associate Professor of Christian History and Islam at Luther Seminary. Together, the ETSC and Luther students explored the ancient and contemporary context of Christianity in Egypt from Alexandria to Upper Egypt through lectures, research, guest speakers and site visits. As the students from both seminaries had opportunities for fellowship and group reflection they enriched each others' understanding and became close friends.

Public Lecture Highlights Ancient Christian Papyri

On Saturday, January 21st, Dr. Julius Scott offered a public lecture entitled "Up the Nile, the Contribution of Christian Papyri to Understanding Early Christianity." The lecture focused on how the many discoveries of ancient Christian Papyri in Egypt in the last century have contributed to New Testament studies and our understanding of Early Christianity. Among these documents discovered in Egypt is "P-52", a small fragment of John 18 which is the oldest known piece of the New Testament. Dr. Scott encouraged his audience of Egyptian students, pastors, and lay people to get involved in the field of papyrology and not leave the study of ancient Egyptian documents to non-Egyptian experts!



ETSC Welcomes New Student from Iraq

The ETSC community extends a warm welcome to Rami Michael, a new student in the Bachelors Program from Basrah, Iraq. Rami completed his Bachelors in Education while in Iraq and is qualified to teach English there. His mother, father, and two older brothers still live in the Basrah area. Rami has a vision to return to Iraq after graduation to serve among his people, and help the Iraqi church grow and be strong in the midst of the changing context of his country.

***As always, please keep all of our students, professors, staff, and families in your prayers!
For information and inquiries about ETSC please contact etsc@etsc.org***