

SECTION III

PEDAGOGICAL PRACTICES



One of the synonyms for education in my trusty *Roget's International Thesaurus* is 'preparation' or 'making ready.' Formation and supervision are ways of preparing women and men for a variety of professional roles in and on behalf of religious institutions. In renaming this Journal, the Editorial Board seriously considered adding education to the title and decided against that addition only because it would have made the title much too cumbersome. Reflecting on practice, we believe, is itself an educational method.

The essay by Barbara J. Blodgett on "Field Education and Critical Pedagogy: A Conversation" raises a question that applies beyond field education to all modes of preparation for ministry. If there is a crisis in ministry, she asks, is it not at least in part an educational crisis? "Could our goal as educators be to raise up a generation that will not settle for ministry as it is?" (p. 163) In order to answer that question, we need to imagine a church and ministry beyond what we can now see. There are some trajectories, however, that give us some direction.

Intercultural competency will be essential for the future of ministry. Joseph Tortorici and Shenandoah Gale identify criteria for effective intercultural immersions' in preparing seminarians for a global reality. Attributes of intercultural competency need to be articulated in both orientation and in debriefing to strengthen the learning. The global reality of future ministry is made very specific by KangHack Lee's thoughtful reflection on Christian spiritual direction in a Confucian context. The presentation of 'best practices' in Clinical Pastoral Education by Jane S. Litzinger raises the standards for CPE supervisory education without diminishing the importance of honoring the uniqueness of each program according to the center's needs, resources, gifts, and limitations. We hope there will be more presentations in subsequent volumes of *Reflective Practice* of 'best practices' in forming and supervising for ministry.

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Editor