Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, IN

For Immediate Release

Lilly Fellows Program announces the selection of Rachel Pietka, Azusa Pacific University Class of 2006, as one of 16 Lilly Graduate Fellows.

The Lilly Graduate Fellows Program is a new initiative of the Lilly Fellows Program in Humanities and the Arts that will support outstanding students who want to explore the connections among Christianity, higher education, and the vocation of the teacher-scholar.

The 16 Fellows were selected by a 9-member selection committee who interviewed 24 finalists (selected from 66 applicants) in April, 2010 in Indianapolis, Indiana. The Fellows will meet together for three days at an Inaugural Conference on August 2-5, 2010, in Indianapolis, Indiana, with their mentors--Susan VanZanten of Seattle Pacific University and Patrick Byrne of Boston College. Following this Inaugural Conference, the Fellows will embark on a long-distance colloquium, engage in one-on-one mentoring relationships, and participate in the three additional conferences. All 16 are pursuing doctoral studies in humanities or the arts.

The Lilly Graduate Fellows Program is new program of the Lilly Fellows Program funded by a generous grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. The program will select at least 6 cohorts of graduate fellows from the current 93 schools that make up the LFP national network of church-related schools. Lilly Graduate Fellows participate in a three-year program in which they meet regularly with a mentor, attend four conferences, participate in a long-distance colloquium, and receive three annual stipends of $3000 ($9000 total) to use at their
discretion. For more information on the Lilly Graduate Fellows Program, visit www.lillyfellows.org.

The Valparaiso-based Lilly Fellows Program began in 1991. Since its founding, the program has provided postdoctoral fellowships for teacher-scholars who seek to enrich their intellectual and spiritual lives while preparing for leadership roles in church-related higher education. The program also supports mentoring programs for new and junior family members at network institutions, exchange programs showcasing distinctive programs that highlight the church-related characteristics of institutions and conferences examining matters of interest to those involved in Christian higher education.

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Dates to Remember: