

# Association of Professors of Mission Annual Meeting

20–21 June 2013  
Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois

## *Social Engagement: The Challenge of the “Social” in Missiological Education*

For the full announcement of the conference theme and call for paper/panel presentation details please visit the APM web page at [www.asmweb.org/content/apm](http://www.asmweb.org/content/apm)

The gospel’s social dimensions are integral to Christian mission. Concern for the poor, naked, homeless, starving, oppressed, and abandoned has always accompanied faithful witness and animated generations of missionaries who established schools, hospitals, orphanages, and relief programs for the poor with great impact throughout the world. Indeed, the second great commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” is inherently a social one. Yet long-standing tensions exist in missiology between evangelism and the “social gospel,” the relationship between theology and the social sciences, and over the nature and objects of service to a needy society in a world of growing complexity. At APM 2013 we will address issues related to “holistic” and “integral” concepts of mission while seeking to refine our perspectives on mission theology, social research and service to the world. Our particular focus will be on the demands of teaching a challenging interdisciplinary missiological curriculum in a world of human need. We will think together about mission’s “Social Engagement” with one eye on the development of course content, research agendas and service learning, and with the other on the formation of our students. As always, our discussions will take place in a warm setting of worship, fellowship and mutual encouragement. We will also present information about new web-based member services to encourage greater sharing of resources and to facilitate collegial interaction.

**Call for paper and panel proposals.** Members interested in presenting papers at APM may submit a proposed title with a 150-200 word abstract and a 30 word bio to APM president Gregory Leffel at [gleffel@onehorizon.org](mailto:gleffel@onehorizon.org) by February 1, 2013. Papers may focus on any topic, though preference will be given to those addressing the conference theme. Suggestions include:

- Theological, biblical and historical foundations of “holistic” mission paradigms.
- Instructional programs incorporating “social engagement” in the classroom and service-learning.
- Analysis of emerging models of community development, social enterprise, advocacy/activism, and business-as-mission.
- Integrating social theory and mission theology.
- Other topics of particular interest to APM members.

APM also encourages members to convene self-organized thematic panels on any subject as a way to bring colleagues together to collaborate on current research. Panel convener(s) should contact Gregory Leffel as soon as possible with a brief description of the panel’s activities.