The Watanabe Lecture
and Symposium on Cusanus, the Qur’an, and the *Cribratio Alkorani*

September 29-30, 2018

**United Lutheran Seminary**
(New Name, Same Location)
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania 17325

In Cooperation with the American Cusanus Society and the International Seminar on Pre-Reformation Theology

**Watanabe Lecturer: Walter Andreas Euler, Trier**

Banquet program: Cabaret Night with Broadway’s Bruce Moore

In addition to the annual Watanabe Lecture, we gather for a symposium focusing on the *Cribratio Alkorani* (1460-61), Cusanus’ detailed critique of the Qur’an. Here Nicholas undertakes a project unique in the fifteenth century: to discern Gospel truths within the Qur’an
itself. We shall discuss this project within Cusanus’ career and alongside works by his contemporaries and later thinkers.

This symposium, as well as several previous Gettysburg Conferences and the Bond-Watanabe Collection, now one of the largest Cusanus collections in the United States, is made possible by the Kiyomi Koizumi Watanabe Fund in memory of Morimichi Watanabe. In addition, we gratefully acknowledge financial support from the American Cusanus Society and facilities and staff assistance from our host, United Lutheran Seminary.

**PROGRAM** (Tentative)

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28** (for early arrivals)

3:30 p.m. Battlefield Tour Valentine Commons

5:30 p.m. Social Hour Singmaster Center

7:00 p.m. Dinner (on our own) Appalachian Brewing Company
          Singmaster residents: Gather in the foyer, 6:45 p.m.
          Motel guests: restaurant is two doors north.

9:00 p.m. Social Hour Singmaster Center

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29**

8:30 to 9:30 a.m. On campus guests: Breakfast on our own
                   Motel guests: In the motel

9:30 to noon Registration and Refreshments Valentine Commons/
          Coffee Shop

10:45 a.m. **Session I**
            Chair: **John Monfasani**, SUNY University at Albany

            **Cusanus, the Qur’an, and the Cribratio Alkorani**

            “The Missionary Purpose of *Cribratio Alkorani***
            **Pim Valkenberg**, Catholic University of America

            “*Cribratio Alkorani*’s Connections to *The Religious Concordance***
            **Joshua Hollmann**, Concordia College, New York

            “A New Set of Glosses on the Qur’an”
            **José Martinez Gázquez**, Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona
12:00 p.m. Lunch Refectory

1:30 p.m. Session II Library Lecture Room
   Chair:

Contemporaries of Cusanus

“Did Nicholas of Cusa Talk to Muslims? Revisiting Cusanus’ Sources for Cribratio Alkorani and Interfaith Dialogue”
Maarten Halff, Independent Scholar, New York

“Peace in the Thought of Juan de Segovia and Other Medieval Thinkers”
Anne Marie Wolf, University of Maine at Farmington

“The Confounding Other: Juan de Segovia’s Use of the Qur’an”
Jesse Mann, Drew University

3:00 p.m. Coffee Break Coffee Shop

3:30 p.m. The 2018 Watanabe Lecture Valentine Auditorium
   Chair: Donald F. Duclow, Gwynedd Mercy University

“Nicholas of Cusa and Martin Luther on Islam”
Walter Andreas Euler, Faculty of Theology, University of Trier

4:30 p.m. Reception Pioneer Room, Library
   Recent Acquisitions, Bond-Watanabe Collection

5:00 p.m. Free Time

7:00 p.m. Candlelight Banquet Aberly Room, Valentine Hall
   Music: “Cabaret on the Ridge”
Bruce Moore, Veteran Broadway Vocalist

9:00 p.m. Social Hour Singmaster Center

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

7:00 a.m. Mass St. Francis Xavier Church

7:30 a.m. Breakfast On-campus guests: Refectory
   Motel guests: In the motel
8:15 a.m.  Ecumenical Service of Word and Sacrament  Chapel

9:15 a.m.  **Session III**  Library Lecture Room
Chair: **Jason Aleksander**, National University

*Working Session on Texts of Cusanus and Torquemada*

Led by **Rita George-Tvrtkovic**, Benedictine University; and **Thomas M. Izbicki**, Rutgers University

Cusanus, selections from the *Cribatio Alkorani* on paradise
Juan de Torquemada, selections from *On the Errors of Mohammed*

10:15 a.m.  Coffee Break  Library Rotunda

10:45 a.m.  **Session IV**  Library Lecture Room
Chair:

*Cusanus and Later Thought on Islam*

“Tommaso Campanella’s Critique of Muhammad in his *Atheismus triumphatus*”

**Paul Richard Blum**, Loyola University of Maryland

“Erasmus’ Attitude toward Islam in Light of Nicholas of Cusa’s *De pace fidei* and *Cribratio Alkorani*”

**Nathan Ron**, University of Haifa

12:00 noon  Close

**Departures begin at 12:15 p.m.**  Library, Singmaster, Motel

12:30 p.m.  Lunch (Optional)

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The Committee for the 2018 Celebration: **Donald F. Duclow, Rita George-Tvrtkovic** and **Thomas M. Izbicki** (co-chairs). Arrangements: **Gerald Christianson**. Registrars: **Margaret Folkemer, Ashlyn Lizska**