

SECTION 5 MENTORING FOR MINISTRY IN A PLURALIST CONTEXT

Editor's Introduction

There is a good deal of discussion these days about representation, and for good reason. If a person, a group, a faith, an ethnicity, or other identity is not represented, how much more challenging is it to begin to build one's own identity? How do we begin to have empathy for others' faith and experience? How does one learn from them? How might one gain a fresh perspective on one's own tradition that comes through encountering others'? How can we collaborate faith-fully for the common or greater good? We don't know what we don't know.

This section does not aim to address all the faiths that make up the rich interfaith conversation and learning that could take place, but it is a modest start. We have invited these contributors—chaplains, ACPE educators, a priest, and a theological field educator—to write with candor and conviction about mentoring in their faith tradition. Sondos Kholaki is a Muslim chaplain serving at a hospital in southern California and author of Musings of a Muslim Chaplain. Brian Joshin Byrnes, Diana Fish, and Michelle Jiun Nicolle have teamed up to write about chaplain formation as a Buddhist. Sensei Byrnes is director of the Upaya Buddhist Chaplaincy Program. Diana Fish serves as a chaplain at Tampa General Hospital, and Michelle Jiun Nicolle is spiritual care manager at Wake Forest School of Medicine. Gail Helene Bretan is associate chaplain for Jewish life at Wake Forest University. Madhu Sharma is author of Dharmic Advisor: A Modern Way. She served formerly as a Hindu chaplain at Duke University and a Hindu campus minister at the University of North Carolina. Finally, John Senior is assistant dean of vocational formation and director of the Art of Ministry Program at Wake Forest University School of Divinity and co-editor of Empower: A Guide for Supervisor-Mentors in Theological Field Education.

We are grateful for these authors' sharing, from the wealth of their traditions, the heart of mentoring as described and distilled in their stories and their experience.

Matthew Floding Co-Editor

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