

Disinvitation of Dr. Tina Beattie: Timeline

- Summer 2011 With full knowledge of the administration, including President Mary Lyons, Dr. Tina Beattie, professor of Catholic Studies at the University of Roehampton, England, is invited as a Visiting Fellow at the University of San Diego's (USD) Center for Catholic Thought and Culture (CCTC). Her visit is scheduled for fall 2012.
- Feb. 2012 Dr. Paul Lakeland, a Catholic theologian who has publicly supported same-sex civil unions, gives an invited lecture (on an unrelated topic) at USD, sponsored by the CCTC. Along with Dr. Beattie, Dr. Lakeland had been appointed to the CCTC's Advisory Council in 2011.
- Aug. 13, 2012 A letter signed by twenty-seven people, including Dr. Beattie, appears in the *London Times*. The letter observes that Catholics hold a variety of views on whether same-sex *civil unions* (not to be confused with *sacramental marriage*) should be made legal. After quoting Cardinal Hume, the letter concludes "we suggest that it is perfectly proper for Catholics, using fully informed consciences, to support the legal extension of civil marriage to same-sex couples."
- Sept. 2012 At the request of a Vatican office, a lecture is cancelled that Dr. Beattie was scheduled to give in a church in a Catholic diocese in England, on Sept. 18. The diocesan bishop expresses regret over the cancellation.
- Oct. 5, 2012 Dr. Beattie gives a lecture at a pontifical (Vatican-linked) university in Rome.
- ~Oct. 18, 2012 An anonymous person contacts USD as well as Catholic bloggers and USD alumni in San Diego, circulating selected passages of Dr. Beattie's writings taken out of context. This prompts discussions among high-level USD administrators, including the CCTC's director. Dr. Beattie remains scheduled to arrive at USD on Nov. 6.
- Oct. 27, 2012 Without consulting the CCTC's director, President Lyons sends a letter to Dr. Beattie disinviting her from the CCTC fellowship. President Lyons cites as her reasons aspects of the CCTC's mission (aspects previously unknown to the CCTC's director), donor concerns, and her belief that Dr. Beattie publicly "dissents" from Catholic moral teaching. (The letter to the *Times* is not mentioned.) Subsequently, President Lyons declines Dr. Beattie's request that she reconsider, and rejects the suggestion that Dr. Beattie make her planned visit to USD under non-CCTC sponsorship.
- Oct. 31, 2012 Without consent of CCTC staff, every web page related to Dr. Beattie's visit as well as every mention of her name is removed from the CCTC's website.
- Nov. 1, 2012 Dr. Beattie reports President Lyons' disinvitation on her personal blog.
- Nov. 2, 2012 President Lyons sends a letter to the USD Faculty Senate stating that her reason for disinviting Dr. Beattie was Dr. Beattie's signature on the *Times* letter.
- Nov. 3, 2012 Dr. Michael Davis, UC-Riverside, resigns his spring 2013 appointment to the Knapp Chair of Liberal Arts in USD's Sociology Department, in solidarity with Dr. Beattie and her supporters.
- Nov. 5, 2012 Dr. Robert Kreiser, representing the American Association of University Professors, writes to President Lyons, seeking to clarify the academic freedom issues at stake in this incident.

Note: In 2008, Dr. Rosemary Radford Ruether, a feminist theologian, was disinvited from the Msgr. R. Portman Chair in USD's Department of Theology and Religious Studies.