

2026 INTEGRATION SYMPOSIUM

Minding Our Gaps

Cultivating courage and mutuality in the face of power, privilege, and positionality

FEBRUARY 20-21, 2026



About the Symposium

Our world confronts us with weighty challenges related to social location, including (but not limited to) culture, race, gender, class, and power. These experiences of difference show up in all aspects of our clinical and ministry contexts and have particular implications for the integration of psychology and theology. This year's annual Integration Symposium will take place February 20 and 21, 2026, on the topic "Minding Our Gaps: Cultivating Courage and Mutuality in the Face of Power, Privilege, and Positionality." Together we will seek to model a path of humility and courage as we engage the complexities of our lived experiences in various vocational settings. Three different keynote presentations from a variety of presenters will embody the integrative challenges inherent to some of these gaps.

PLENARY SESSION 1: Friday, February 20, 2026, 9:00-11:00 am

"The Original Integrative Gap: Psychology and Theology"

This presentation will explore the history and challenges of the integration of psychology and theology, as well as some emergent models to facilitate disciplinary integration. An embodied experiential ministry example of integration will be shared that includes psychologically informed and theologically sound original worship music.

PLENARY SESSION 2: Friday, February 20, 2026, 3:00-5:00 pm

"The Integration of Nepantla: The In-Between as Whole"

Nepantla, a Nahuatl word meaning "in the middle," was popularized by Chicana feminist scholar Gloria Anzaldúa and speaks to those who live in these borderlands. This presentation will examine how dominant US discourses create rigid boundaries around identity, belonging, and citizenship, often marginalizing those who inhabit liminal spaces. In contrast, Nepantla offers a more fluid and liberating framework—one where complexity is honored and all can belong.

PLENARY SESSION 3: Saturday, February 21, 2026, 9:00-11:00 am

"Leaning Into Our Cultural Vulnerabilities & Authenticities in Clinical & Ministerial Contexts"

Differences between therapists/ministry leaders and clients/laypersons regarding race, class, gender, and so on inevitably present complex matters of power and privilege. These gaps may lead to therapeutic and relational impasses where imagination, meaning making, relationality, and hope break down and may become extinguished. This presentation will explore such challenges and suggest practical ways of working with these gaps. Embracing our vulnerabilities as an antidote to defensiveness and the derailments of relationality, imagination, meaning making, and hope may repair relational ruptures and move us toward true mutual recognition.

Friday

9:00–11:00 am

Plenary Session

PLENARY SESSION 1: “The Original Integrative Gap: Psychology and Theology”

Brad D. Strawn & Christin J. Fort in Travis Auditorium

11:00–11:30 am

Connection Break

11:30 am–1:15 pm

Lunch

1:15–2:45 pm

Workshops

WORKSHOP 1: “Knowing Ourselves to Know the Other: Gender, Sexuality, and the Mutual Formation of Identity Between Therapist and Client”

Jeff Chan in Travis Auditorium

WORKSHOP 2: “Where Do I Belong? Challenges from Mixed-Race Asian Americans”

Daniel D. Lee, Nicole M. Delano & Courtney J. Turner in Payton 101

2:45–3:00 pm

Connection Break

3:00–5:00 pm

Plenary Session

PLENARY SESSION 2: “The Integration of Nephantla: The In-Between as Whole”

Jessica ChenFeng & Saul Barcelo in Travis Auditorium

5:00 pm

End of Day 1

Saturday

9:00–11:00 am

Plenary Session

PLENARY SESSION 3: “Leaning Into Our Cultural Vulnerabilities & Authenticities in Clinical & Ministerial Contexts”

Brad D. Strawn & Christin J. Fort in Travis Auditorium

11:00–11:30 am

Connection Break

11:30 am–1:00 pm

Lunch

1:00–2:30 pm

Workshops

WORKSHOP 3: “Bearing the Weight: Immigration Enforcement, Mental Health, and the Work of Faith Communities”

Alexia Salvatierra, Lisseth Rojas-Flores & Jennifer Vaughn in Travis Auditorium

WORKSHOP 4: “Recognizing and Tending to Queer Miracles in the Gaps: Working with LGBTQ Individuals Between, and Beyond, Theological Battle Lines”

Barnabas Lin in Payton 101

2:30–3:00 pm

Connection Break

3:00–4:30 pm

Presenter Panel Discussion

in Travis Auditorium

4:45–5:00 pm

Wrap-Up / End of Conference