

# *Beets Paper Contest*

The late Dr. and Mrs. Henry Beets established a fund, the income from which is used to award up to two \$500 first place prizes and two \$250 second place prizes annually for the best student research papers in historical, theological, or biblical studies in the Calvinist/Reformed tradition. Ordinarily, one first and one second place prize will be awarded to papers that treat either a systematic/historical theological theme or a social, cultural, or moral issue from the perspective of the Reformed tradition, and an additional first and second place prize will be awarded to papers in biblical studies. All prizes will be awarded at the discretion of the Department of Religion.

The Beets Paper Contest is open to all students enrolled in a Religion course during the Spring and Fall semesters of the calendar year. Faculty members from the Department of Religion will nominate the best qualifying papers from the Spring 2024 and Fall 2024 semesters for award consideration.

Papers devoted to a historical/systematic theological theme or to a social, cultural, or moral issue should seek as much as possible to treat that theme or issue from a distinctively Reformed theological or cultural perspective. Papers devoted to a theme in biblical studies should seek as much as possible to relate that theme to the ongoing vitality and meaning of the Calvinist tradition.

Students interested in submitting papers for the competition are required to consult the professors of their Religion courses early in the semester for assistance and direction.

## **To be considered for a Beets Award all papers must:**

1. Be at least 2500 words long, though we welcome and encourage longer papers.
2. Conform to a standard MLA or Turabian style.
3. Be written as part of the student's work in a course offered by the Department of Religion during the Spring 2024 and Fall 2024 semesters.
4. Be nominated for consideration by a faculty member of the Department of Religion.

**Note:** To have a paper considered for a faculty nomination, students must:

- (a) consult with their professor early in the semester and indicate their intention to have their paper considered for the Beets Award
  - (b) include with their submitted paper a brief typewritten note indicating their desire to have their papers considered for nomination for the Beets Contest.
5. Nominated papers must be submitted to the review committee by the nominating faculty member no later than Friday, December 13, 2024.