DEAR GORDON-CONWELL - CHARLOTTE STUDENT:

Here is the April 2009 edition of E-Notes. E-Notes is the electronic newsletter for the Gordon-Conwell Seminary community in Charlotte. Monthly up-to-date and relevant information regarding the seminary will be sent to student GCTS mailboxes. If you want to have your E-Notes discontinued, please e-mail Dr. Steve Klipowicz at sklipowi@gcts.edu.

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1. FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Dear brothers and sisters,

At this time in the year we all want to line up in prayer behind our graduating seniors. They have only a month to finish their work and tie up all loose ends. Our staff and faculty will need your prayers to make sure we make their final days smooth ones. If you are a graduating senior, my prayer is that God would begin preparing your heart for the transition back to your family – many have been waiting patiently to have you back! – and onward into current and new forms of ministry. You are crossing an important threshold and may, in some cases, be entering a liminal zone of uncertainty. May the Good Shepherd guide you.

I thought you'd all be interested in some initiatives at the seminary. A new Spiritual Life Committee has formed under the direction of Dr. Kelly Breen Boyce (members include Percy Burns, Reid Satterfield, Sherri Grigg, Reginald Blackmon, Steve Klipowicz, and myself). The purpose of this group is to coordinate our efforts to enhance the spiritual life of our community and integrate spiritual vitality into all that we do. Please pass along your ideas for chapels, classes, retreats, etc. to Dr. Boyce.
Some of you will want to tell your colleagues of a new MACL cohort track starting next January. Students can come for three weeks during the year (January and Summer) and complete their whole degree in three years.

Another exciting development is the initial funding for a new faculty position in Early Christianity, an endowed chair in honor of Dr. Robert E. Cooley. We will begin the search for that position early next academic year. For those of you who haven’t been able to participate in our Cooley Center lectures, please contact Mark Poe, the Center’s fellow, at mpo@gcts.edu for videotapes and newsletters. He is available for research assistance as well.

At the institutional level we are making some history. Dr. Hollinger’s inauguration in March was a great moment for us to celebrate forty years of history as a combined institution, and the anniversaries of Gordon Divinity School (125 years) and Conwell School of Theology (120 years). Some of you enjoyed the live-stream broadcast of the inauguration in our chapel. Our Jacksonville site is ready to cross its own threshold this coming year as we prepare to have our first graduates in 2010.

Thank you all for your interest and investment in the life of our community. We especially appreciate your prayers as we try to serve you.

Shalom,
Tim Laniak, Th.D.
Acting Dean and Professor of Old Testament

2. GRADUATION AND BACCALAUREATE

Anne Graham Lotz will speak at the GCTS- Charlotte Spring 2009 graduation ceremony, held on Saturday, May 16, from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. The Baccalaureate service will be held the evening before on Friday, May 15, from 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m., with a reception following. Both services will be held at University Park Baptist Church, 6029 Beatties Ford Rd., Charlotte, N.C., 28216.

3. CHAPEL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

If you have gifts and talents that can contribute to the spiritual vitality of our campus, you are encouraged to participate in Friday night chapel services whenever possible. We are seeking students who can serve in the following roles:

- Worship leaders
- Singers
- Musical accompanists
- Hosts and hostesses
- Praying for other students
- Preaching or testimonies (short messages)

If you are interested in volunteering, email Dr. Kelly Boyce indicating in what ways you wish to serve and what weekends you will be available to help.
4. GCTS STUDENT LODGING NETWORK

GCTS - Charlotte has several families willing to provide free or inexpensive lodging for out-of-town students. If you are seeking to save lodging costs by staying with a local family during weekend or week-long module classes, please email Denise Flanders. Additionally, if you have a guest room that you would like to make available to students on Friday nights during the school year or if you know someone who does, please email Denise Flanders.

5. THE LIBRARY NOOK

Library Hours:
- Monday - Friday  8:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- Saturday    9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Spring Holiday Closings
- Easter, Friday – Sunday, April 10 – 12

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the standard borrowing period for library books?
Four weeks

Can I renew books online?
Yes, you can renew books online, by phone or in person provided that someone else has not placed a “hold” on the item you wish to renew.

What is the fee for overdue books?
Overdue fines for upstairs books are 25 cents per book per day. Overdue fines for reserve books are $1.00 per book per day. If you accumulate $10.00 in fines you will not be permitted to check out books unless you receive permission from the library.

Can I check out reserve books?
Yes. Professors place specific titles on reserve for use by students in the library. Normally, reserve books are to remain in the library, but may be checked out for up to one week with consent of the instructor and the library. No more than two reserve books may be checked out at one time, and the fine for late reserve books is $1.00 per book per day.

How do I request a book from the South Hamilton campus?
Please consult the Charlotte library homepage at www.gordonconwell.edu/charlotte/library for specific information on requesting books from Goddard library. No more than six books may be requested.

Can I check out books from other seminaries in the area?
Yes, you can check out books from other theological libraries in the Charlotte Theological Library Consortium. The Harold Lindsell Library at Gordon-Conwell-Charlotte is a member of the Charlotte Theological Library Consortium (CTLC), a group of seven theological libraries in the greater Charlotte and piedmont region of North Carolina. Gordon-Conwell students enjoy library privileges at each CTLC member institution subject to the rules of the consortium and each member institution. For more information, visit www.atla.com/ctlc/ctlc.html.
6. JOHN AND SUE NEUHS BOOKSTORE

**Semlink textbooks:** The bookstore stocks textbooks for Semlink courses that can be taken as part of a Charlotte degree program. Please contact [Alvis Yates](mailto:alvis.yates@gcts.edu) to inquire about the availability of Semlink texts.

**Regular bookstore hours:**
- **Monday – Friday:** 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- **Saturday:** 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- We are happy to help you outside of regular bookstore hours provided that you call or email ahead.

7. PRAYER REQUESTS

Gordon-Conwell faculty, staff and students meet on **Wednesday mornings in the chapel at 9:15 a.m.** to pray for students, the seminary, and special needs that arise. Please join us! Students can place prayer requests in the Prayer Box located in the Seminary break room. Know that we will keep your concerns and requests confidential.

Pray for GCTS graduates who are struggling spiritually since leaving the school’s community.

Pray for current students who are currently under spiritual attack on various fronts of home, work, and studies.

Pray for God’s comfort for Dr. Maria Boccia for the recent loss of her mother.

Pray for Steve Minnix, IT worker, who recently lost his step-father.

8. MINISTRY/HOBBY OPPORTUNITIES

Are you interested in more ministry opportunities? Check out [www.ministrylist.com](http://www.ministrylist.com).

**Youth Director:** [Lake Forest Church](http://www.lakeforest.org), EPC, is seeking a Director of Student Ministry to be responsible for middle and high school ministries. Must have 5 years experience working with youth. Send resume to [spowell@lakeforest.org](mailto:spowell@lakeforest.org).

**Director of Training:** [Peacemaker Ministries](http://www.peacemaker.net), which provides resources, training and assistance in biblical conflict resolution, is seeking a Director of Training. For more information, contact David Schlachter at [dschlachter@peacemaker.net](mailto:dschlachter@peacemaker.net).

**Advertising Representative:** The Shepherd’s Guide, a Christian Business Directory publication, is seeking an advertising rep with sales and marketing skills. If interested, contact Roger King, publisher, at (704) 545-2885 or [rking@shepherdsguide.com](mailto:rking@shepherdsguide.com).

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APRIL 2009 E-NOTES
9. REGISTRAR'S REMARKS

NEW CLASS – TH603, Contemporary Theology and Theologians: Are you interested in missional theology? Want to know what is going on in the global church? Interested in the chance to interact first-hand with theologians from around the world? The majority of the contemporary global church is outside of North America and Europe; this course will focus on Latin American, African, and Asian perspectives as we survey issues of contemporary theology.

In a nutshell, this will be a course in global theology as well as contemporary theology, with the conviction that you cannot do one without the other. You will have a chance to dialogue face-to-face with an active Latin American theologian, and hopefully via teleconference with others from other parts of the world. This course can serve as a theology or general elective. The course will be July 20-24 with Dr. Myatt.

Summer Registration: Summer registration is going on now. Check your Gordon-Conwell email for information and the correct registration form.

Scheduling a Library Proctor: Please notify Joni Horne (jhorne@gcts.edu) or Trish King (tking@gcts.edu) at least 24 hours in advance of the time you wish to take your exam. Proctoring may begin at 9:00 a.m., but must be finished 30 minutes before library closing.

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10. SEMINARY BULLETIN BOARD

Partnership Scholarship: Applications for the Partnership scholarship must be submitted to the Partnership office by April 25. An application and 3 letters of recommendation can be downloaded from the GCTS website under the “Partnership Program” link. Any missing components (i.e. letters of recommendation) must be received by May 1. Please contact the Partnership office at (704) 940-5840 with any questions.

2nd Annual Golf Tournament: GCTS-Charlotte will host this tournament to benefit the Partnership and Urban Ministry Scholarships on Monday, August 17, at 8:30 a.m. at Rolling Hills Golf Club in Monroe, N.C. For information about student player scholarships, contact Octavia Baker at obaker@gcts.edu.

Fall 2009 Integrative Seminar: Seminary or Cemetery? Exploring Spiritual Vitality in Theological Education will be held on Saturday, August 30, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. More information will follow.

Roommate Wanted: A family in the Ballantyne area is seeking a student to reside with them and help with transportation for their 8 and 12-year-old daughters in exchange for a flexible financial arrangement. If interested, contact Liz Beekman at (704) 499-4954 or lbeekman@carolina.rr.com.

Hebrew Tutoring: A GCTS graduate (and OT teacher at Good Shepherd Church) is offering Hebrew Tutoring to students for $20/hour for once a week, or $15/hour for more than one session per week. If interested, contact James-Michael Smith at jamesmichael7@yahoo.com.

FATZ restaurant discount: FATZ on S. Tryon (near the school) has begun offering all GCTS students, staff, and faculty a 10% discount on food. Show your school ID card to receive the discount.

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11. THE PIERCE CENTER

**Fellowship:** Each year Pierce Fellowships are awarded to returning students who have exhibited a commitment to walking in intimacy with Christ and helping others on their journey with Christ. This is the essence of discipleship. If you are interested in applying for the Pierce Fellowship visit our website at [http://www.gcts.edu/piercecenter/](http://www.gcts.edu/piercecenter/). The application deadline is May 20.

**Mission:** The mission of the Pierce Center for Disciple-Building is to prepare ministry leaders who prioritize intimacy with Jesus Christ and the development of effective disciple-building skills within the context of a healthy Christian community.