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JULY 2009  
 E-NOTES

DEAR GORDON-CONWELL - CHARLOTTE STUDENT:

Here is the July 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](mailto:sklipowi@gcts.edu).

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FEATURES:

1. [Dean's Year-End Message](#)
2. [Fall Integrative Seminar: Seminary or Cemetery?](#)
3. [Chapel Ministry Opportunities](#)
4. [Student Lodging Network](#)
5. [The Library Nook](#)
6. [John and Sue Neuhs Bookstore](#)
7. [Prayer Requests](#)
8. [Registrar's Remarks](#)
9. [Seminary Bulletin Board](#)

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## 1. DEAN'S YEAR-END MESSAGE

[back to top](#)



Dear students of Gordon-Conwell – Charlotte,  
 Another rewarding academic year has ended with the celebration of our 2009 graduates who leave behind the classroom and begin in earnest choosing among rich opportunities to impact the world. Our institution is settling into a new rhythm with a number of leadership appointments including President Dennis Hollinger, Provost Frank James, and myself as Dean in Charlotte. As a leadership team we will endeavor to honor our history, our many friends and partners, and keep our focus on “advancing Christ’s Kingdom” *together*. I see GCTS-Charlotte increasingly experiencing the synergy of being simultaneously a center for academic research, a community for theological reflection on life and ministry, and an oasis for spiritual renewal.

I want to briefly highlight portions of the expanding vision of the faculty and staff in Charlotte and Jacksonville. We are responding to God’s guidance in specific areas, and we believe the end result will be deeper and continued participation with you even as we broaden our reach to others.

- **GCTS-CLT will identify satellite regions** to organize current (and former) students for communication, mentoring, continuing education, ride sharing, etc. Contact Dr. Steve Klipowicz at [sklipowi@gcts.edu](mailto:sklipowi@gcts.edu) for these services or communicate with each other via the “GCTS-Charlotte” Facebook site. We’ll be introducing some interactive mapping software later this year to help you see where you fit in the GCTS puzzle and how to be connected.
- A **Spiritual Life Committee** has come together with vitality and vision this spring to bring a richer, integrated spiritual dimension to curricular and extra-curricular events. Contact Dr. Kelly Breen Boyce at [kboyce@gcts.edu](mailto:kboyce@gcts.edu) or Reid Satterfield ([rsatterfield@gcts.edu](mailto:rsatterfield@gcts.edu)) if you’d like to participate in chapel or contribute other ideas.
- A **Church and Ministry Partnerships Committee** has formed to join denominational, non-denominational, and para-church groups who want to partner with us for ministry education. I

believe that the next several years will be marked by **an increase in the number of institutional collaborations** – both formal and informal, local and international. Contact Dr. Alison Littauer ([alittauer@gcts.edu](mailto:alittauer@gcts.edu)) with any interest or ideas for this group.

- **Various Certificates** are likely to be promoted in these emerging partnerships. We expect to be able to serve the Church more broadly through a wider range of certificates for ministry leadership at every level. For now, please contact me at [tlaniak@gcts.edu](mailto:tlaniak@gcts.edu) if you represent a church or other constituency for whom you would like credit courses for certificates and degrees or non-credit bearing seminars.

- **Web-based education** is being explored for the Charlotte campus as we deploy a \$500,000 dollar grant from the Kern Family Foundation for this purpose. Overseen by a committee led by Dr. Klipowicz, this two year grant will build capacity to enhance learning for current students as well as research ways to reach a broader constituency with our programs. We are thrilled to have Dr. Joel Harlow back on board as an educational designer and biblical languages teacher.

- A new **Anglican/Episcopal track** is being offered as part of the M.Div. We are in the early stages of forming an advisory group. Please contact Tim Myrick ([tmyrick@gcts.edu](mailto:tmyrick@gcts.edu)) directly if you'd like to be involved.

- **The Counseling program** has increased its offerings to better serve MFT and LPC licensure requirements in our **contiguous states**. The indefatigable Drs. Boccia and Breen Boyce have worked to build a rigorous program that is highly regarded and distinctly Christian.

- **The Robert E. Cooley Center for Early Christianity** has finished its third year under the leadership of Dr. Grams, offering annual lectures, a regular newsletter, and a remarkable collection of resources in archaeology and history through the Patristic period. Contact Cooley Fellow, Mark Poe at [mpoe@gcts.edu](mailto:mpoe@gcts.edu) to be on the list for regular updates and announcements.

- **The Center for the Development of Evangelical Leadership**, under Dr. Rod Cooper's direction, has been offering continuing education seminars for the AME Church in Florida. New partnerships are underway in other regions.

- **The foundations of a Global Missions Center** are being built through our relationships with area mission agencies. You may know that several residential and adjunct faculty are missionaries who have chosen to invest the considerable intellectual and spiritual depth gained through their cross-cultural experience with the GCTS community. *We'd love to see all of our students globally connected during their seminary experience.* Dr. Myatt's course in Contemporary (Global) Theology in July provides one choice opportunity.

- **Our permanent residential faculty** is growing. This coming year we will undertake searches in Charlotte to make permanent our positions in **Counseling** and **Theology**, and to fill a newly endowed **Cooley Chair in Early Christianity**.

- **Jacksonville has received M.Div. approval!** Under the capable leadership of Kent Gilbert, over 150 students have taken courses in just three short years. We should see our first handful of M.Div. graduates next May! The Trustees have approved searches for part-time residential faculty.

I am grateful for the many affirming calls and emails I've received since assuming the role of Dean. I trust that our shared vision for advancing Christ's kingdom will result in vibrant partnership with one another as we follow God's Spirit. We anticipate creating together a mutually beneficial life-long relationship. Remember, you are all future alumni!  
Shalom,

Tim Laniak  
Dean and Professor of Old Testament

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## 2. FALL INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR: Seminary or Cemetery? [back to top](#)

**Seminary or Cemetery? Cultivating Spiritual Vitality in Graduate Theological Education (IS504)** Although students and faculty continually discuss and reflect upon topics of biblical,

theological, and spiritual importance, the pursuit of theological education can be hazardous to one's relationship with God. Over exposure to sacred stories and symbols can create spiritual "dead zones" in some people's lives where vital communications with the Lord drop off to nothing. Constant analyses of Scripture for exegetical assignments often leave scant fragments of the bread of Life to feed the souls of the learner. In addition, a life of extreme busy-ness can almost eliminate the quietness, patience, and attentiveness essential to cultivating a life in the Spirit of Jesus.

This fall's integrative seminar, *Seminary or Cemetery? Cultivating Spiritual Vitality in Graduate Theological Education*, will focus on how students feel seminary education has influenced their spiritual vitality.

The seminar will be held on Saturday, August 29, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. Our Chapel speaker will be Dr. Dennis Hollinger, President of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. This will also be the day of our annual Pig Pickin' cookout.

Information regarding registration and pre-seminar assignments will be sent by e-mail within the next week.

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### 3. CHAPEL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

[back to top](#)

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:

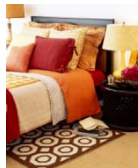
- Worship leaders
- Singers
- Musical accompanists
- Hosts and hostesses
- Praying for other students
- Preaching or testimonies (short messages)

If you are interested in volunteering, email [Dr.Kelly Boyce](mailto:Dr.Kelly.Boyce) indicating in what ways you wish to serve and what weekends you will be available to help.

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### 4. GCTS STUDENT LODGING NETWORK

[back to top](#)



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](mailto: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](mailto:Denise.Flanders).

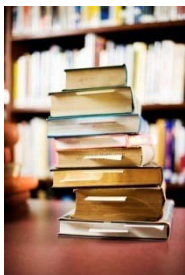
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## 5. THE LIBRARY NOOK

[back to top](#)

### Library Hours:

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



### 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](http://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 (CTLIC), a group of seven theological libraries in the greater Charlotte and piedmont region of North Carolina. Gordon-Conwell students enjoy library privileges at each CTLIC member institution subject to the rules of the consortium and each member institution. For more information, visit [www.atla.com/ctlc/ctlc.html](http://www.atla.com/ctlc/ctlc.html).

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## 6. JOHN AND SUE NEUHS BOOKSTORE

[back to top](#)

**Semlink textbooks:** The bookstore stocks textbooks for Semlink courses that can be taken as part of a Charlotte degree program. Please contact [Alvis Yates](#) 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.

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## 7. PRAYER REQUESTS

[back to top](#)

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 student Ruth Komer, whose father passed away recently. Pray for the Lord's presence and protection over her family.

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## 8. REGISTRAR'S REMARKS

[back to top](#)

**Readiness for Ministry (MC850), Change of Date:** The Readiness for Ministry class, MC850, will be offered this fall during Module 4 of our weekend courses (beginning September 25-26). Students planning to graduate in December 2009 or Spring 2010 should plan to take this class this fall. It will not be offered in January 2010. For more information or questions regarding this required course for the Master of Divinity program, contact Dr. Steve Klipowicz.

**Students taking Biblical Foundations for Christian Leadership** can now find the syllabus in CAMS. Please note: *A SUBSTANTIAL amount of work is due before class begins on July 27.*

**Fall Registration:** Fall registration opened in June. Please check your GCTS email for the correct registration form. If you are planning to take Preaching, you will need to fill out the registration form. We will notify you if you get in the class due to graduating seniors having priority on this course. If you have not paid off your summer tuition, you will not be able to register for the fall semester.

**Scheduling a Library Proctor:** Please notify Joni Horne ([jhorne@gcts.edu](mailto:jhorne@gcts.edu)) or Trish King ([tking@gcts.edu](mailto: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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## 9. SEMINARY BULLETIN BOARD

[back to top](#)

**Dr. Walt Kaiser will speak** at North Hills Community Church in Taylors, SC on August 20 – 22, 2010, on the topic "Messiah in the Old Testament." For more information, visit [www.nhccfamily.org](http://www.nhccfamily.org).



**Graduation DVD:** To order a DVD of Baccalaureate and/or commencement, visit [http://www.gcts.edu/charlotte/charlotte\\_campus](http://www.gcts.edu/charlotte/charlotte_campus) and fill out an order form. The cost is \$15 for a DVD of one service, or \$25 for both. There are also a few copies available in the bookstore.

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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



GCTS – CHARLOTTE

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2009-2010 NOTES

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