A large flock of birds, likely terns, is captured in flight against a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The birds are scattered across the frame, with a higher concentration on the right side. The overall mood is serene and expansive.

*To the Ends
of the Earth
for the Glory of God*

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

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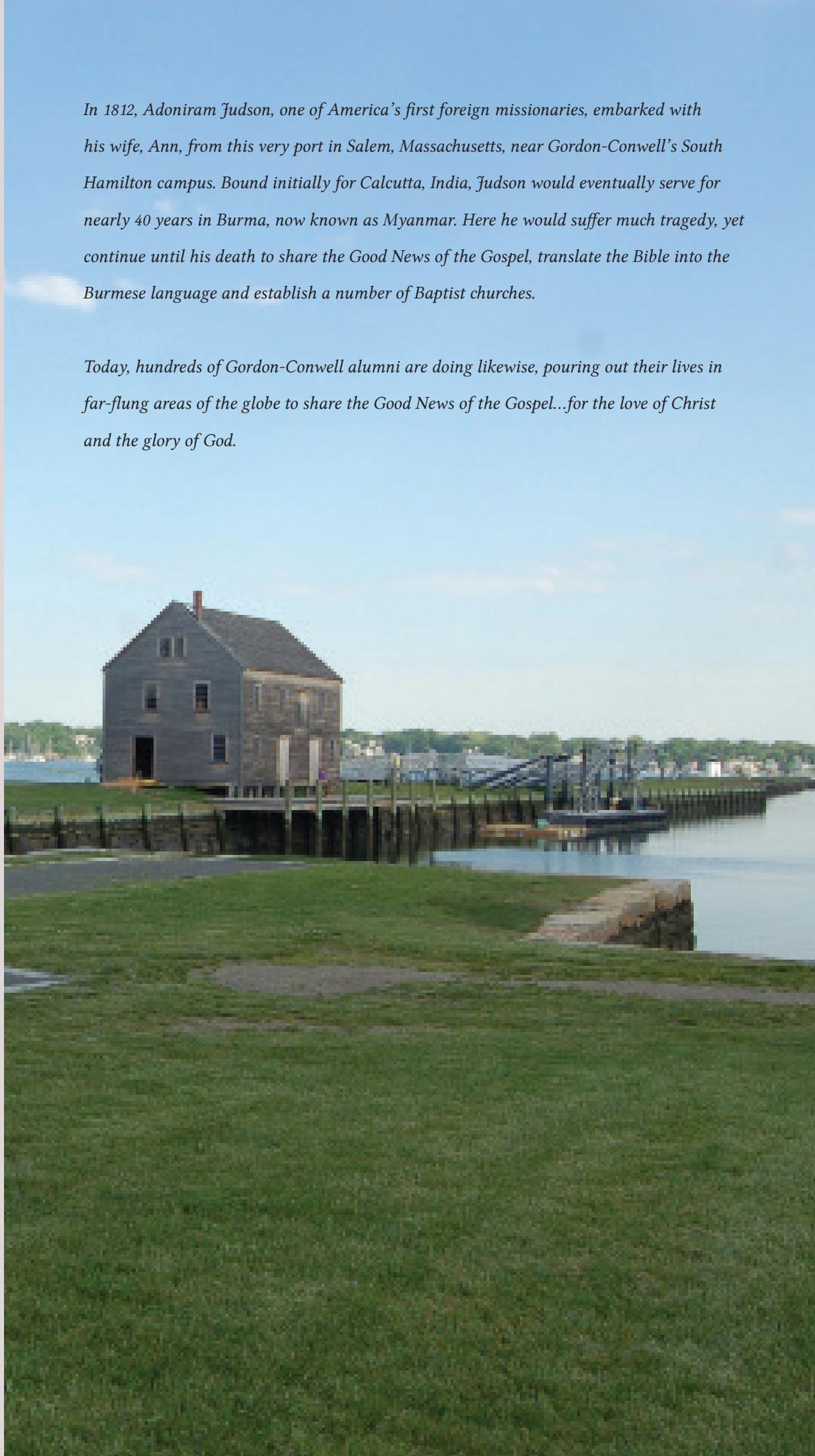
Ms. Nicole S. Rim

PHOTOGRAPHY

Ms. Nicole S. Rim

In 1812, Adoniram Judson, one of America's first foreign missionaries, embarked with his wife, Ann, from this very port in Salem, Massachusetts, near Gordon-Conwell's South Hamilton campus. Bound initially for Calcutta, India, Judson would eventually serve for nearly 40 years in Burma, now known as Myanmar. Here he would suffer much tragedy, yet continue until his death to share the Good News of the Gospel, translate the Bible into the Burmese language and establish a number of Baptist churches.

Today, hundreds of Gordon-Conwell alumni are doing likewise, pouring out their lives in far-flung areas of the globe to share the Good News of the Gospel...for the love of Christ and the glory of God.





PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Engaging the Global Church

The vision of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary is “to advance Christ’s Kingdom in every sphere of life by equipping Church leaders to think theologically, engage globally and live biblically.”

The global component of our vision is an extension of the Great Commission: “Go and make disciples of all nations” (Mt. 28:19). But it is also a vital element in educating men and women in today’s “global village.” On our four campuses, students from around the world learn from each other and from an international faculty, are encouraged by God’s global work, and deepen their dedication to Christ’s church as they interact with brothers and sisters from numerous cultures.

In this annual report, “To the Ends of the Earth for the Glory of God,” you will learn about the seminary’s rapidly growing array of global initiatives. And you will meet individuals who reflect the scope of our own global community. We trust that you will be as inspired as we are by their passion to both embody and proclaim the Gospel in every corner of the world.



Dennis P. Hollinger

Dennis P. Hollinger, Ph.D.
President &

Colman M. Mockler Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics



Spring Convocation on the Hamilton campus.

A GLOBAL STUDENT BODY

In 2015, our students came from 55 countries and more than 98 denominations. Among the countries were Costa Rica, Columbia, China, Ethiopia, Ghana, France, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Malawi, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Uganda and the United Kingdom.

Some students have served Christ in places of significant persecution and opposition. But all are being equipped to faithfully minister in the contexts to which God has called them. As they interact with each other, they gain a much greater sense of what God is doing in the world today, and they learn to think theologically and apply biblical truth in cross-cultural contexts.

In addition to the students from other countries, we had a significant population of American students from various ethnic, racial and national backgrounds. Thus, more than 38 percent of our students on

all campuses and in all programs were either non-American or non-Caucasian. Numerous groups on campus are represented through student associations, including the Chinese Student Association, Black Student Association, Hispanic Student Association and Korean Student Association. Truly, this represents the great vision of the fullness of God's Kingdom: "With your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God" (Rev. 5:9-10).

A GLOBAL FACULTY

Education at Gordon-Conwell is enhanced not only by international students, but by a global and globally engaged faculty. Twelve full-time faculty members, including one Senior Research Professor, are culturally from and grew up in nations other than the United States. These include Argentina, Australia, China, Croatia, the Dominican Republic, Germany, South

Korea, Puerto Rico, Romania, Switzerland and Zimbabwe.

Five faculty members have Spanish as their first language, and many more are fluent in other languages. Twenty-eight have studied abroad, and numerous professors have served globally in either short-term or long-term missions. This past year 19 professors taught or ministered in 32 different countries.

Likewise, alumni are serving God around the world as missionaries, pastors, teachers and para-church workers, and in marketplace ministries. Currently, our 9,562 alumni are ministering in 83 countries and every U.S. state. Some have held key positions, such as heads of mission agencies, denominational leaders, presidents of Bible societies and professors in seminaries, colleges or universities.



Clockwise from left: Dr. Alvin Padilla, first row, second from right, in San Juan, Puerto Rico, with students in the Liderazgo Pastoral D.Min. track; **top right:** participants in recent forum on Racial Reconciliation in the Evangelical Church; **bottom right:** Students at Charlotte Commencement.

A GLOBAL CURRICULUM

To “engage globally” also means that all students have exposure to, and are enabled to grapple with, global issues facing the church and the world. All M.Div. students are required to take a Missions or Global Church course and an Ethics class to help them think through the major ethical and global issues of our day. Faculty are also encouraged to include readings by key thinkers from around the world to help students better contextualize the Gospel for specific cultural settings.

In addition, the seminary offers a Master of Arts in World Missions and Evangelism, with five concentrations: General, Church Planting, Cross-Cultural Counseling, Cross-Cultural Teaching and Islamic Studies; a Master of Theology in Missiology; and a joint Ph.D. in History and Hermeneutics: Mission Studies Concentration, in partnership with the Boston University School of Theology.

Several international study programs also enable Gordon-Conwell students to take graduate courses at Jerusalem University College in Israel or participate in a semester-long exchange program at the Giessen School of Theology in Germany.

Our Doctor of Ministry program has 10 tracks that include an international component. Classes in the past two years have been held in places such as Singapore, Israel, Bosnia/Croatia, South Korea, Haiti and Thailand. Eighty international students from 22 different countries bring a truly international perspective to the Doctor of Ministry degree, which is designed to enhance a person’s current ministry and calling.

The seminary’s Hispanic Ministries Program (HMP) is equipping leaders to serve the Church within Hispanic contexts. The HMP offers a Diploma in Christian Leadership and a Master of Arts in Religion with concentration in Urban Ministries. Students take classes in English and/or Spanish at locations in New Jersey, Texas and Florida;

through intensive residencies at all four Gordon-Conwell campuses; and online.

GLOBAL INITIATIVES

The international scope of Gordon-Conwell’s work is enhanced by a wide variety of educational initiatives in various cultural contexts, deepening the learning experience and vision of God’s work in the contemporary world. Recent global courses have included Religions Along the Old Silk Road, taught by Dr. Todd Johnson in Uzbekistan and Turkey; Paul and His Letters, taught in Greece and Turkey by Dr. Sean McDonough; and several courses on biblical background and archaeology in Israel and Jordan with Drs. Tom Petter, Tim Laniak and Jim Critchlow.

Upcoming courses available to current students, alumni, friends and students from other seminaries and graduate programs include Heritage of the Reformation in Germany with Dr. Gordon Isaac; Study Seminar in Israel and Jordan with Drs. Tom



Fiftieth anniversary celebration of continuous research on global Christianity started in Africa by the late Dr. David Barrett in 1965, and ongoing through the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

and Donna Petter, January 2017; and NGOs and Development in Mission in Thailand with Dr. Todd Johnson, May-June 2017.

The J Christy Wilson, Jr. Center for Global Missions provides numerous opportunities for expanding student understanding of God's mission in the world today. Each summer, students have the opportunity to do an Overseas Missions Practicum, earning course credit while providing contextualized ministry for the spiritual, physical and educational needs of others. Recent locations have included Turkey, Iceland, Kosovo, China, Myanmar, South Africa and Nepal.

The Wilson Center also brings missionaries and global leaders to campus to both challenge and educate students in global missions. In addition, every day at the Hamilton campus students gather in the Wilson Prayer Chapel to pray for the specific needs of a different country. Prayer for the Nations has been a student-led tradition of Gordon-Conwell for more than 30 years.

The seminary's Center for the Study of Global Christianity, led by Dr. Todd Johnson, is an academic research center that monitors worldwide demographic trends in Christianity, including outreach and mission. The data from the Center help churches, mission agencies and other organizations be more strategic and thoughtful in their approach to local contexts. The Center is frequently quoted in major press outlets around the world, crediting the Center for the Study of Global Christianity at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary as the source.

Because China is the largest country in the world and has a rapidly increasing Christian population, Gordon-Conwell has developed various initiatives for educating future leaders of the Chinese Church. The CentriHall scholarship program has given future "leaders of leaders" the opportunity to prepare for vibrant, in-depth ministry in China.

A new D.Min. program in Mandarin focuses on leadership development for

the Chinese Church. And the Chinese Semlink online program provides courses in Mandarin for both lay and pastoral leaders. Six hundred students have now taken at least one course. Through this program students can earn advanced standing toward a degree, shortening the time they need to be away from their home country.

Moreover, for students unable to afford a seminary education, Gordon-Conwell's 10 Dimensions of the Faith courses are offered online at no charge. Local pastors in China and other countries have informed us that the Dimensions series made possible the only theological and biblical education they had ever received.

Gordon-Conwell has also hosted conferences and seminars for key Chinese church leaders, has recently added 3,000 volumes in Chinese Mandarin to our library collection and has hired a top Chinese librarian, who comes to us from Yale University.



Clockwise from top left: Dr. Dennis Hollinger at conference for Chinese seminarians; Pastors for Africa Scholarship recipients Joseph Anaman and Nana Yaw Awuku; Students gather for daily Prayer for the Nations

At our Charlotte campus, the English as a Second Language (ESL) program is providing English courses in a theological context for students from various nations. This program allows prospective international students to enhance their language capabilities for acceptance into a Gordon-Conwell degree program. In the past two years, 23 students have enrolled in this program.

At the Hamilton campus, the new World Vision Fellows program is making it possible for two students each year to experience firsthand the rich holistic ministries of World Vision. In turn, they are encouraging fellow students to experience a similar vision. In the past several years, fellows have visited South Africa, Panama, France, Italy, Austria, Nepal, Slovakia and Ireland.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

A key to enabling international students to study at Gordon-Conwell is the availability of funded scholarships. While we offer a

number of international scholarships, most are not funded and thus put significant strain upon our operations budget. A primary funded scholarship is the Pastors for Africa Scholarship. This provides one new full scholarship each year, which includes tuition plus living expenses, for a person from the continent of Africa. Recipients make a commitment to return and serve the Church in their own country. In 2015, scholarship recipients were from Nigeria, Kenya and Malawi. The CentriHall Scholarship for Chinese students is also funded and provides significant aid for six students annually.

Other scholarships for international students and multicultural students, most of which are partial, include the Global Church Scholarship, International Scholarship, Multicultural Development Scholarship, Leta and Stewart Gray Canadian Scholarship, Arnold Scholarship and J Christy Wilson, Jr. Scholarship for Missions Ministry. One of the greatest needs we have is further funding for

scholarships to enable students from around the world to experience the rich resources of Gordon-Conwell.

ENGAGING GLOBALLY FOR THE GLORY OF GOD

Frequently in education today multicultural and global engagements reflect a political correctness or an attempt to satisfy accrediting bodies. At Gordon-Conwell we are committed to “engaging globally” as an extension of the Gospel and the calling of Christ to “go and make disciples of all nations.” We believe that the Body of Jesus Christ is truly a global church, and preparation for ministry in today’s world calls for leaders who understand and are committed to the global vision that we embrace at the seminary. It is our joy to steward this kind of vital education for tomorrow’s leaders around the globe. 🇬🇧



Jun found hope in the book of Romans.

A Burden to Equip the Underground Church "to stay strong in God's Truth" Anne B. Doll

“Jun” is a walking miracle who escaped with her life “by God’s protecting hand.” The third-year M.Div. student grew up in a country that formerly limited the number of children a family could have. Because of this policy, those with more than one child faced stiff fines, and some babies were even killed at birth.

When her mother became pregnant with Jun, the third of four children, a neighbor reported the pregnancy to the government. “The officials went to my home to see if the neighbor was telling the truth,” Jun explains, “because anyone who reported would get a reward.

“It was December, very cold and my mom was wearing a thick coat, so the officials didn’t notice that her stomach was big. Then they told the person who reported: ‘She is not pregnant. And even if she is, she’s not going to give birth to a baby very soon.’ After a few days, the reporter went back to the government officials to insist: ‘You must have made a mistake. That lady is going to give birth very soon.’

“One week later, the officials returned to my home with the intention of forcing my mom to have an abortion. But I was born two days before they came back—on Christmas Eve!”

Throughout Jun’s childhood, the government continued to harass her farming family, confiscating their grain, wheat and corn, refusing to give them land for growing crops and returning annually to fine her parents and remove more of their possessions. “They took away everything, so we did not even have enough to eat,” she remembers. “The government gave us a lot of hard times.”

Jun says that Christians have also suffered significant persecution solely because of their faith. In the 1990s, her country experienced

“I was separated from Him because of sin, and that He loves me so much, He died to bear my sin...Then I burst into tears thanking Him for His unfailing love, confessing my sins and inviting Him to be my Savior and Lord...At the same time I also realized that no matter how much my mother loves me, she cannot save me...”

a rural revival and many underground churches were formed. Officials would storm believers’ homes and haul away furniture and TV’s, threaten, beat or imprison some, and place others under house arrest—including Jun. And while the government has purportedly toned down the persecution, it continues still. “We can only worship the way they want us to worship,” she says.

Jun is now a devout believer who is earning her degree so that she can teach the Bible in her homeland. She admits, however, that during her younger years she did not believe in Jesus and was even ashamed of him, more influenced as she was by the culture around her. “I had a silly idea that because my mom is a Godly Christian and house church leader, she would take me to Heaven or would talk to Jesus to let me in.

“I remember going to church one day with my mother out of obedience to her. During the service, I heard a sermon from a circuit preacher about God’s sacrificial love, sin, the cross and the necessity of each individual having their own relationship with Jesus... Although I had heard that kind of sermon millions of times... this time I started to understand that the difficulties I had gone through were not God’s intention. God’s intention is to bless me, not curse me. Jesus is the source of life and blessing, but I was separated from him because of sin, and that He loves me so much, He died to bear my sin...Then I burst into tears thanking Him for his unfailing love, confessing my sins and inviting Him to be my Savior and Lord...At the same time I also realized that no matter how much my mother loves me, she cannot save me...”

Because of the government’s persistent persecution and her family’s financial situation, Jun had to drop out of school after the eighth grade. “Back then,” she says, “we had to pay for tuition, books and living expense, so my family couldn’t afford me. I was a straight A student, and I really liked studying. But I couldn’t go to school, and I was very sad and disappointed.” But once Jun was saved, she began praying to God, “...You are my Heavenly Father...You can provide everything I need.”

Over the next two years, she prayed specifically to receive more education and to study English. And then God gave her “a wonderful opportunity.” A missionary from South Africa offered to teach her English for free. She also studied on her own to take university entrance exams, and eventually earned an English degree.

Jun learned about Gordon-Conwell through an alumnus and American missionary. She applied in 2009 and was accepted immediately. But she didn’t have funds to enroll. So for the next four years her missionary friend faithfully contacted her to ask if she had renewed her application. Jun would say, “I have not,” and he would reply, “You need to do it. Maybe this year, God is going to open the door for you.”

In 2013, Jun reached a tipping point. For one whole week she earnestly prayed, ‘Lord, are you going to open doors for me to be equipped, to gain more knowledge? Are you going to lead me back to my country to serve?’ At the end of that week, she received an email from the seminary with the following news: “You can come here. We are giving you a scholarship...” She hopes eventually to earn Th.M. and Ph.D. degrees.

Some years ago, reforms in Jun’s country brought a surge of people into the cities. Numerous house churches sprang up, but many pastors had no biblical training. Some were even illiterate. As a result, when they encountered heresies, she notes, “they did not know how to discern whether the heresies were the truth or deception. When I saw that, it really grieved my heart. That is why God has put this calling, this burden in me to study the Bible. I want to go back to my country and teach and equip the Church so it will stay strong in God’s truth.

“I really believe that through all the difficulties, God’s grace and His plan were there and He sustained me.” 

Like Jun, most international students need scholarship support to complete their degrees. For more information, contact kdrescher@gcts.edu.



GORDON-CONWELL A

CANADA

233



Dimitri Alldridge
Pastor, England

U.S. 8,818



"In my years at Gordon-Conwell, professors, friends and colleagues helped me forge a theological vision that has infused my preaching and ministry ever since. I owe the school, its teachers and its alumni a debt I can never repay."

Tim Keller, Pastor
New York, USA



"My studies in missions and evangelism at Gordon-Conwell gave me a more global perspective of Christianity and a more strategic approach to missions, especially as it pertains to partnering with the church in Latin America towards global missions involvement today."

GCTS MAME '05 alumnus
Mobilizing Latin Americans for global missions

CENTRAL AMERICA & CARIBBEAN ISLANDS

22

SOUTH AMERICA

14

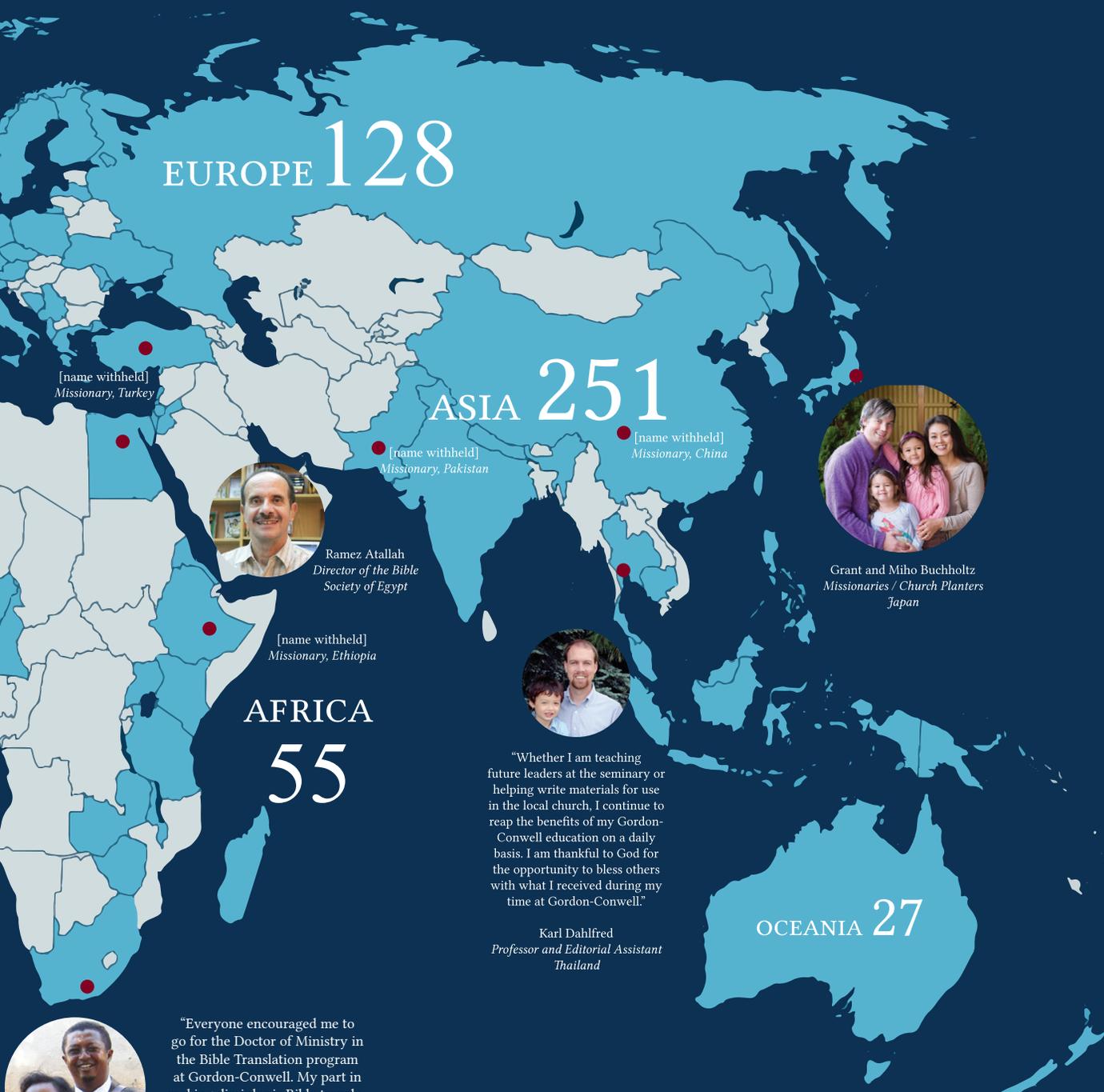


Naama Mendes
Professor / Pastor
Brazil

■ Countries in which Gordon-Conwell alumni serve

● Featured Gordon-Conwell Alumni

ALUMNI: *World Distribution*



EUROPE 128

ASIA 251

AFRICA 55

OCEANIA 27

[name withheld]
Missionary, Turkey

[name withheld]
Missionary, Pakistan

[name withheld]
Missionary, China



Ramez Atallah
Director of the Bible Society of Egypt

[name withheld]
Missionary, Ethiopia



Grant and Miho Buchholtz
Missionaries / Church Planters Japan



"Whether I am teaching future leaders at the seminary or helping write materials for use in the local church, I continue to reap the benefits of my Gordon-Conwell education on a daily basis. I am thankful to God for the opportunity to bless others with what I received during my time at Gordon-Conwell."

Karl Dahlfred
Professor and Editorial Assistant Thailand



"Everyone encouraged me to go for the Doctor of Ministry in the Bible Translation program at Gordon-Conwell. My part in making disciples is Bible translation, to provide the tool for those to teach—because no one can teach without the Book."

Olivia Mamisoa Razafinjatony
Bible Translator South Africa



Garden of Gethsemane where Seong proposed to his future wife.

Led by Scripture from “Tough Times” to Leadership at Boston Campus

Anne B. Doll



Dr. Seong Hyun Park, Assistant Dean of the Boston campus and Assistant Professor of Old Testament, holds a B.A. in Archaeology from Israel’s Hebrew University of Jerusalem, an M.A. in Ancient Near Eastern Studies from Tel Aviv University and a Ph.D. in Archaeology of Levant and the Hebrew Bible from Harvard.

He has conducted extensive archaeological excavations and research in Israel, and served as Acting Director of Harvard’s Ashkelon Archaeological Laboratory in that country.

He is fluent in four languages, has taught in Argentina and Palestine, and continues to preach and teach in Central and South America during seminary breaks.

What most people don’t know, he says good-naturedly, is that he was a school dropout—twice.

When Seong was 11, his family moved to Paraguay from their South Korean homeland. “Living as immigrants was not easy,” he remembers. “My family was going through very tough times. So when I was in the ninth grade, I dropped out voluntarily and started selling vegetables in the marketplace to help with my family’s finances.” He was only out for a year, but then dropped out again his senior year to help in his father’s struggling business.

In 1986, with \$50 in his pocket, Seong arrived in Israel to begin his higher education. But first he had to master the Hebrew language. When he was finally able to enroll and pursue a dual degree in Classics and History at Hebrew University, he became so enamored by his archaeology courses that he switched to that major. By then he was 25 years old.

The Assistant Dean met his future wife, Dr. Hyun Gyung Jang, when she was on vacation in Israel. At the time, she was pursuing a doctorate in Chemistry in Sweden and Germany, and had left rainy days behind to soak up Israeli sunshine. He says that while she was touring Cana—the site of Jesus’ first miracle—Hyun drafted a list of characteristics she wanted in a husband and prayed over it. “So when we met in the spring, she described how I was a match!”

Shortly thereafter he proposed in the Garden of Gethsemane, Hyun transferred to a doctoral program in Israel, and the two

were married in Jerusalem the day after his 1993 summer excavation season ended. The excavation team comprised most of the wedding guests, and the Russian excavation photographer took the pictures. “He had been shooting skulls all summer, because that was the season we hit a layer of massive graves,” Seong recounts. “So when he and his wife showed up at our wedding, he said to me, ‘I’m so grateful I finally get to shoot living people!’”

It is a big question whether the union of the couple would have happened had Seong pursued his original plan—an M.Div. at Gordon-Conwell—after graduating from Hebrew University. As he was preparing to leave for the seminary, a call arrived from Bethlehem Bible College in Palestine asking for his help. Once he stepped onto the campus, he knew he couldn’t leave the students. Instead, for the next six years he would “live a season of unforgettable teaching and fellowship with the students.” It was during that time that his future wife visited Cana.

Following their marriage, the couple plunged back into their ministry and studies. By now, Seong was pursuing his master’s degree while teaching in Palestine during the week and helping teach and preach on weekends—first at a Korean student congregation and later at a Messianic congregation. And when the Sabbath ended, he would lead a worship team out to Jerusalem’s lively Ben Yehuda Street to sing praise songs.

This outreach started in a roundabout way. When the couple’s first son, Daniel, was born, Seong’s teaching salary of \$300 a month was their only source of income. “I had no way to feed Daniel,” he recalls. By then his parents and sister had moved to California, and one day they called to say, “If you are having a hard time, we can offer to raise your son and feed him.... We couldn’t help you, but we can help your son.” Daniel was only five months old when he departed for the U.S.

After their son left, the distraught parents and a friend prayed for an entire day and night, crying out, “Lord, this is such a hard time. We need for you to provide for us...we are behind in the rent, and we even had to send our son to California. What are we going to do? We are foreigners. We are not allowed to have full-time employment....”

“But as we prayed on, the Lord gradually changed our prayer. By morning, we were no longer praying about the financial situation. Instead, we were all praying that worship would be brought out to the street. So the three of us said, ‘This is very unusual. We’ve got to pursue this.’”

Eventually the worship team began reaching beyond the first neighborhood, circulating alternately between Palestinian and Israeli cities. “I am no evangelist,” Seong insists. “I was just led.... The thing I’m amazed about is that there is a group continuing even nowadays.” This experience would later become pivotal in the couple’s launch of a 10-year homeless ministry and a church plant in Boston before Seong joined Gordon-Conwell.

After 18 months, Daniel returned to his parents, and a few years later, the family moved to Boston for Seong’s Ph.D. program. The family has since grown to four with the birth of another son, Matthew.



Top photo, row 1: Seong, second from left, outside Harvard Semitic Museum.
Lower photo: Ministering in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Looking back, Seong recalls several critical junctures in his life. At each, God led him through Scripture. The first was 1 Peter 1:24-25 (ESV):

“All flesh is like grass
and all its glory like the flower of grass.
The grass withers,
and the flower falls,
but the word of the Lord remains forever.
And this word is the good news that was preached to you.”

This was the word that pulled Seong out of despair after his second school dropout, and all the losses that followed. “It was ‘the Word of the Lord’ that I sought, and nine months later I was on a flight to Israel.”

The second word was Luke 4:18-19 (ESV):

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

“Can there be a clearer message than this?” asks Seong. “Once this word grabbed my heart, there was no turning from the decision to forego an M.Div. degree in order to serve the students in Palestine.” 🇮🇸



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Year in Review

Anne B. Doll

Through each passing season of 2015, God was faithful to Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He brought wonderful students to our doors from throughout the U.S. and across the globe. He provided for our needs, enabling us to expand or refurbish buildings at several campuses... add new classes...provide international learning experiences for students, alumni and friends... and offer relevant, thought-provoking educational forums and conferences for our campus communities, graduates and neighbors. In short, the past year was busy and blessed. Join us in the following pages as we chronicle a few of the myriad activities that took place at our four campuses, and even around the world.





HAMILTON CAMPUS



Top row: Families enjoying the snow in back of Retreat House; Dr. Kevin Adams and Dr. Gwenfair Adams, serving up lobster at the annual Clam Bake.
Row 2: Students enjoying the Clam Bake; Dr. Patrick Smith at graduation with GCTS alumni.
Row 3: Student silhouetted outside the Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. Chapel; students gather at the beginning of the semester; students walking from chapel.
Row 4: Smiling faces at graduation.

Every 10 years, U.S. colleges, universities and other higher education institutions undergo a rigorous re-accreditation evaluation—an opportunity for accrediting agencies and schools to take a helpful look at how well goals are being accomplished.

For the past 18 months, under the leadership of Dr. Richard Lints, Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Hamilton Campus, the Gordon-Conwell staff, faculty and administrators at all campuses have been immersed in researching, writing, editing and preparing a 1,000-page document for site visits that took place in October and November 2015.

During those visits, a volunteer team from schools associated with the seminary's two accrediting agencies, the Association of Theological Schools (ATS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC), met with seminary leaders, professors, staff members and students to determine what is taking place at each campus, and whether the organization is meeting institutional quality standards.

“While this can seem daunting, the real purpose is to make sure that we, and all schools, have a clear mission and are accomplishing that mission,” Dr. Lints explains. “The arduous work of the accrediting process will serve to enhance our vision, as its aim is to help us ask: ‘Why are we doing what we do, and can we do it better?’ Beyond accreditation, we see this as a blessing and an opportunity to grow.”

Faculty and Staff Transitions

Several significant faculty transitions took place during the past year. Dr. Garth Rosell, Senior Professor of Church History, retired after nearly 50 years of teaching, 37 of which have been at Gordon-Conwell. A major conference in his honor was held in the fall. Likewise, Dr. Sam Schutz, Evangelism and Church Planting Professor Emeritus, retired following nearly 20 years of teaching at Gordon-Conwell.

Dr. Gary Pratico, Senior Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew Language, is fully retiring this year after phasing out of teaching over the past five years. Meredith Kline is moving from full-time Director of the Goddard Library and Adjunct Professor of Ancient Languages to part-time Librarian. Dr. Steve Kang, former Professor of Educational Ministries and Interdisciplinary Studies, has assumed a new post at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Chicago.

During the 2015-16 academic year, three faculty searches have been underway in Hamilton. Dr. David Gill has announced his retirement effective July 2016, and a search committee has begun the work of finding his successor for the Mockler/Philips Chair in Workplace Theology and Business Ethics. Another search committee continues to look for a Director of Formation and Leadership Development. That search began in late spring 2015, and is well underway. President Dennis Hollinger has also authorized a targeted search, which means a particular candidate has come to the fore with a unique background.

Senior Administrator Transitions

Long-serving Dean of Students, Lita Schlueter, retired in June 2015, and Michelle Williams has assumed that position in Hamilton. Michelle formerly served as Assistant Dean of Students at Anderson University in Indiana.

Robin Higle has taken on significant new institutional responsibilities as the Executive Director of Organizational Effectiveness and Human Resources.

A search is currently underway for a new Director of Technology as well as a new Director of Admissions.

Faculty Retreat

The fall 2015 Faculty Retreat took place at the Charlotte campus in August, funded by a generous grant from the Kern Foundation, on the theme of Pastoral Identity and Formation. The retreat enabled faculty to reflect on the seminary's mission to shape the identities of those preparing for a vocation in ministry, and a time for the Hamilton, Boston and Jacksonville faculties to experience the new building in Charlotte.

Educational Events

During the past year, a number of conferences and Dean's Forums took place on the Hamilton Campus and in Boston. These included:

The Surprising Work of God: Calling the Church to Spiritual Renewal, a conference that addressed the great historic and contemporary movements of spiritual awakening and how what can be learned from them is instructive for today's Church.

Speakers included historians and church historians from the University of Notre Dame, Duke University and Providence College; the President of LifeWay Research; President Emeritus Dr. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr.; and current and former Gordon-Conwell faculty members. The event was held to honor Dr. Garth Rosell for his contributions to the field.

Dean's Forums on numerous relevant and timely topics are regularly held at the Hamilton campus. A sampling during the past year included The Ferguson Protests: Christian Faith, Race Relations and Civic Disorder; Egalitarian and Complementarian Views; Speaking into an Empty but Partisan Culture; and Discipleship and Spiritual Formation: Do They Go Together?



Dr. Richard Lints, Vice President for Academic Affairs; Dean of Hamilton Campus; Andrew Mutch Distinguished Professor of Theology
www.gordonconwell.edu/hamilton

Boston's traditional program is now in full force. Improvements implemented in the campus' hallmark Diploma Program last year paid off in the 2015 spring semester. In the 2014-15 academic year, the Boston campus enrolled 54 students seeking diplomas.

This program gives pastors the opportunity to take masters-level graduate courses and apply credits earned toward Master of Arts and Master of Divinity degrees. Since the 70s, the Diploma Program has opened the door for pastors who did not complete a college degree, but needed theological education to better equip themselves for ministry in their respective churches. And it enables Gordon-Conwell to serve the greater and diverse community of churches throughout the Boston metropolitan area.

"We have found that many students who complete the program have high grade point averages, demonstrating their ability to perform graduate level studies," Boston's Dean, Dr. Mark Harden, explains. "In recent years, however, the Diploma Program suffered from a very high attrition rate for a variety of reasons. In 2014, great effort was made to restructure this program and provide greater resources and support for busy adult students wanting to earn a theological graduate degree.

"We reduced the program to a nine-month intensive learning format, with complementary courses selected so that students can demonstrate their academic abilities while receiving the best chance of successfully completing the program. For example, students now integrate course contents between two courses so that they can contextualize technical writing skills in theological education with biblical and ministry studies. More improvements include greater connections between courses to strengthen academic performance and student retention."

The enrollment of 54 diploma students in fall 2014 resulted in 19 students taking part in the graduation ceremony, with 26 students successfully completing the program for the academic year. These students matriculated into a masters-level degree program at the Boston Campus for fall 2015.



Dr. Mark Harden, Dean of the Boston Campus and Associate Professor of Community Development and Outreach
www.gordonconwell.edu/boston



BOSTON CAMPUS



Clockwise from top left: Staff and faculty at Boston campus; Boston Dean Dr. Mark Harden, Professor Borgman and Dr. Park, with new Boston graduates. **Bottom:** Dr. William David Spencer teaching at Boston Campus; Counseling class; outside the campus.





CHARLOTTE CAMPUS



Top row, l. to r.: New wing of Charlotte campus; Dr. Jeff Niehaus with Korean delegates from Pyeongtaek University. **Middle row:** Construction added advanced technology, including "smart classroom." **Bottom row l. to r.:** Hugs at graduation; commencement speaker Mart Green; hallway in new wing; Dr. David Howard with Dr. Tim Laniak at dedication ceremony.

A major highlight at the Charlotte Campus during the past year was the completion and dedication in May of the David M. Rogers Hall of Mission. In addition to gaining much-needed space, the new wing is equipped with vastly upgraded technology, including the capacity for video streaming of conferences, seminars and other events.

This technology was quickly put to use for a live panel discussion offered on Dedication Day. The discussion responded to a six-part series by CNN, "Finding Jesus: Faith, Fact, Forgery," focusing on major relics associated with the life of Christ. Noted scholar Dr. Craig Evans from Canada joined Charlotte professors as a panelist via videoconference for the live-streamed event.

Following that discussion was a Faith in Public Life Forum featuring Mart Green, CEO of Mardel Stores and Board Chair of Hobby Lobby, along with top executives from the Charlotte area. These included Tony Zeiss, President, Central Piedmont Community College; Ann Caulkins, Publisher, *Charlotte Observer*; Stick Williams, President, Duke Energy Foundation; Bishop Claude Alexander (D.Min. '04), Senior Pastor, The Park Church and Vice Chair, Gordon-Conwell Board of Trustees; and David and Jason Benham, Benham Brothers Real Estate Group. During the forum, the executives shared their own faith journeys.

The dedication ceremony included remarks by Louise Rogers, widow of David M. Rogers; David Rosser, son of the late Russ Rosser for whom the wing's Rosser Mentoring Center is named; Dr. Cho Ki-hung, President of Pyeongtaek University in Seoul, South Korea; as well as seminary leaders and friends.

Charlotte's hybrid Master of Arts (Christian Ministry) continues to attract students from diverse locations throughout the U.S. and other countries, such as Ukraine, Borneo and Costa Rica. This program enables students to take up to 50 percent of the course work fully online, with the remaining 50 percent taken through a combination of online course work and intensive residency experiences in Charlotte and other designated U.S. and international locations. Some students are able to complete their degrees in three years.

BibleJourney relaunched this fall with online students as a result of the upgraded technology in Charlotte's new wing. This program enables laypersons to learn the content of the Bible, practice proper principles of interpretation and application, and engage others in Bible study, using seminary faculty and graduates to guide learning. The program incorporates compelling visuals to illustrate Bible background, with video and images from Iraq, Iran, Syria, Lebanon, Israel, Jordan, Egypt, Turkey, Greece and Italy. The program also offers tracks for certification, as well as supplementary learning events such as study tours to the lands of the Bible. BibleJourney is also offered in Charlotte-area churches.



Dr. Tim Laniak, Academic Dean, Charlotte Campus, and Professor of Old Testament
www.gordonconwell.edu/charlotte

In spring 2016, the seminary's Jacksonville, Florida, campus will reach a milestone: 10 years of service to students in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Current students represent 27 denominations and are in careers ranging from pastor and other ministry-related positions to the military, small business, the corporate world, nursing and teaching. A number are preparing for second careers, and the majority already have some connection to ministry in a church or nonprofit organization.

Some students travel as much as five to eight hours in pursuit of Master of Divinity (M.Div.), Master of Arts (Christian Leadership) or Master of Arts (Christian Thought) degrees. Students can take evening, weekend and one-week intensive courses, and can earn an M.Div. entirely through weekend classes.

A new course, *The Gospel and Race*, will begin in January. Taught by Jacksonville scholar and teacher Dr. Van Gayton, this course will address the problems of racial tension and division in the Church, and how the Gospel addresses unity in Christ.

Jacksonville Gala

In September 2015, the Jacksonville campus held its first annual gala. The evening's events included a silent auction that raised money for the campus. Sponsored by numerous businesses and individuals throughout Jacksonville, the auction featured donated items such as vacation getaways, autographed memorabilia from the Jacksonville Jaguars and a bicycle.

Speakers for the event were local pastors Rev. Dr. Robert L Morris Jr. (D.Min. '96), Senior Minister of First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville and member of the Jacksonville Board of Advisors; and current student Sean Yost, Senior Pastor of Christ the Redeemer Church in Ponte Vedra, Florida. Their remarks focused

on the value of training for pastoral ministry and the need for Gordon-Conwell in Jacksonville.

Board of Advisors

The Jacksonville Board of Advisors also has a new Chair: long-standing BOA member Kenneth Souid.

Former President and Owner of National Financial Resources, Inc., he is currently retired after a 30-year career in the financial services field.

Since retirement, he has been actively involved in community and church issues. He served as an elder in the Presbyterian Church of America and is presently a deacon with Covenant Presbyterian Church, OPC, in St. Augustine, Florida. For the past 12 years he has taught *The Men's Bible Study of St. Augustine*, a group of men representing many denominations throughout the Jacksonville community. He and his wife, Holly, recently completed a year of teaching Bible as an afternoon elective in a local elementary school, where more than 30 students completed the program in Year One.

The new Chair is currently Trustee of the Abdullah Family Foundation, a trust dedicated to providing financial aid to Christian causes, personal and corporate. His desire to serve on the advisory board, he says, is "to do his part" to ensure the success of Gordon-Conwell's Florida campus, "a much-needed resource in the Jacksonville area."



Dr. Ryan Reeves, Assistant Dean, Jacksonville Campus and Assistant Professor of Historical Theology
www.gordonconwell.edu/jacksonville



Top row, l. to r.: Some of the guests at the Inagural Gala in September, student Lanorris Triplett at Orientation. **Left: (l-r)** Erin Horne, Kate Hightower, Marlene Reid, and Erin Crider at graduation, bottom, students at fall Orientation. **Middle:** Student Eric Olson, grinning during Orientation.





Clockwise from top left: Proud moment at Commencement; Old Fort in Old San Juan, Puerto Rico, is World Heritage Site students tour; Dr. David Currie with newly-minted doctoral graduates; D. Min. Class of 2015; Dr. Currie, student Laura Nelson, Dr. Ken Swetland on day of Laura’s successful thesis defense

Doctor of Ministry (D.Min.) Program

Doctor of Ministry studies at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary provide multiple opportunities and approaches to nurture students as passionate, reflective practitioners. They in turn advance Christ’s Kingdom in the multiple spheres of influence their ministries affect. The image is of overlapping ripples from stones cast into a pond, affecting the entire surface and touching every bank.

For example, several D.Min. thesis-projects in the past year have provided resources greatly welcomed by a variety of specialized ministries. Dr. Jack Wald, a long-serving pastor of an international church in Rabat, Morocco, developed a manual for international church pastors. He wrote it in hopes that others might be better equipped for the exceptional dynamics of serving a congregation of expatriates where an “old-timer” is defined as someone who has been around longer than 18 months. Dr. Wald’s manual is now being used by other international church pastors. And Jim Carlson, another D.Min. student, is building upon this work in his own thesis-project on European international churches.

Dr. Warren Seibert’s thesis-project explored the joys and challenges of bivocational ministry, resulting in a manual that will be published by the Reformed Church of America. He wrote it to give denominational leaders, congregations and pastors specific guidance and best practices related to this increasingly common form of ministry. Other denominations have already shown interest in adapting this work for their own contexts.

Dr. Rob Alexander created a new introductory theology of work curriculum in his thesis-project, “The Gospel-Centered

Life at Work,” drawing from his training in both theology and engineering. This curriculum has been published with a leader’s guide and is being used in a variety of contexts in churches, workplaces and campuses.

D.Min. students benefit not only from formal academic requirements of the program such as writing and defending their thesis-projects, but also from personal spiritual refreshment and encouragement. President Dennis Hollinger recently passed along to the faculty the testimony from a D.Min. alumnus, who said that he didn’t know if he would have remained in ministry if not for his D.Min. studies.

At this year’s Mentors Forum, faculty explored how to better help students discern God’s call as they develop from an assistant moving into a lead pastor position to someone who loves kids embracing youth ministry as a life-calling.

The Doctor of Ministry Program staff, led by Assistant Director Bridget Erickson, provide outstanding support for students. Their motto is: “You care for everyone else for the other 50 weeks of the year. Let us take care of you for these two weeks you are in residency.”



Dr. David Currie, Director, Doctor of Ministry Program and Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology
www.gordonconwell.edu/dmin

Alumni Services

The Alumni Services office, in coordination with the Ockenga Institute, develops opportunities and provides resources for our 9,562 alumni in 83 countries and every state in the U.S. These resources provide a connection with the seminary, faculty and classmates, as well as communicate the impact alumni have in ministry, recruiting and giving.

Shared memories of alumni often center on relationships with each other and Gordon-Conwell faculty. In 2015, more than 750 alumni and friends gathered at 12 events, including the second annual Engage Our Culture Forum sponsored by Charlotte alumni; regional events in Singapore, Philadelphia and Dallas; the Archaeological Study Tour to Israel and Jordan; the biennial Preaching Conference (Hamilton); the Society of Biblical Literature conference; and denomination meetings for the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference, Evangelical Covenant Church, Presbyterian Church in America, United Methodist Church/Western North Carolina Conference and Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Alumni unable to attend can still stay connected in other ways. The Alumni Services office provides news items and faculty activities in the monthly *InCommunity* e-newsletter, sends regular updates through social media forums and maintains a Faculty Publications webpage featuring recent books and other publications.

The ministry of Gordon-Conwell alumni covers a broad range of occupations. The largest number are pastors. Many others are having an impact in the marketplace, counseling services, missions, education, church and educational administration, chaplaincy, parachurch organizations, and more. Alumni featured in various media outlets over the past year include pastors,

professors, writers and founders of nonprofit organizations, to name a few. Gordon-Conwell alumni also have impact as “recruiters.” Fifty-three percent of new students reported that a relative or friend who had attended Gordon-Conwell influenced their decision to attend the seminary.

We are also grateful for the financial gifts of alumni. In November 2014, the Alumni Services office sponsored its first “Thanks for Giving” event. With the help of faculty, staff and administration at the Hamilton campus, 600 thank-you notes were sent to alumni who had given to the seminary in the previous year. In 2015, these gifts included annual voluntary dues from alumni of Phi Alpha Chi, Gordon-Conwell’s honor society in theological studies. Their generosity enabled us to present awards of \$1,000 to one graduating senior from each campus in recognition of the student’s mentored ministry and academic achievements.

In the 2014-15 fiscal year, nearly nine percent of alumni made a financial gift to the seminary. However, over the last five years a total of 18 percent contributed financially. This figure makes a striking impact as we recognize the difference that regular donations, in any amount, make in the support of our Education Fund. It is participation, rather than size of the gift, that matters when it comes to receiving donations from foundations. Consider making annual gifts to the Seminary Education Fund.

We are grateful to God for the faithful work of Gordon-Conwell alumni and trust that they will continue to stay connected to the seminary...and make an impact.



Rhonda Gibson, Director of Alumni Services
www.gordonconwell.edu/alumni

Alumni Spotlight: Herb Lamp, D.Min.’11

Herb Lamp has spent more than three decades working and serving with missionaries around the world.

“Missionaries,” he says, “often go through what St. John of the Cross described as ‘a dark night of the soul’—times where they feel far from God—often because they are serving the poorest of the poor and in areas where there is great injustice.

Long-term missionaries (20 or more years of service) can find themselves asking, ‘Is this all there is?’ Organizations like Barnabas International, the organization I now serve with, exist to provide care—physical and spiritual—to these missionaries.”

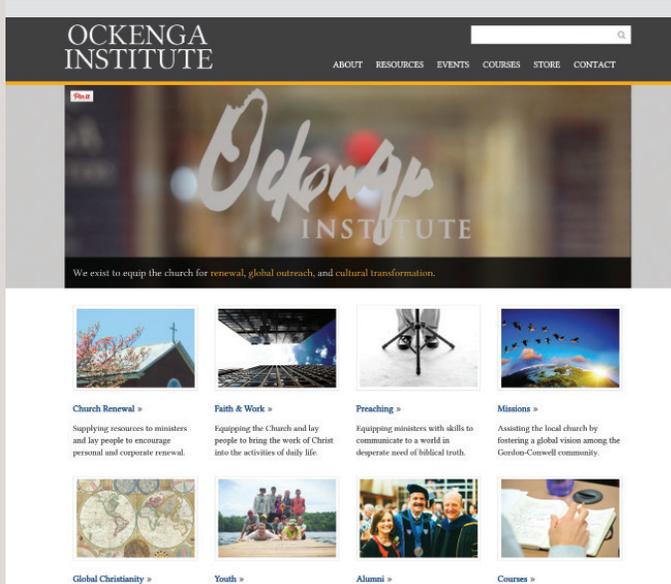
Before joining Barnabas International in 2009, Herb, along with his family, spent 28 years working with Greater Europe Mission (GEM). He was originally at Eastern European Bible Institute, a Bible school for Croats, Serbs and other Slavic peoples, where he was an Old Testament teacher and trained national church leaders from former Yugoslavia. He was also an adjunct faculty member at schools in Romania, Ukraine and Finland. “When the war came and we had to leave Yugoslavia, God led me into member care. I was drawn to provide for others the care that I hadn’t received at a very difficult time,” he says.

It was while they were living in Germany in 2006 that Herb decided to apply for Gordon-Conwell’s Doctor of Ministry program, specifically the Spiritual Formation track. “This track was both life-giving and life-changing for me,” he notes.

“It was life-giving, because it helped me re-center my own life in Christ. It was life-changing, because it gave me a community and a foundation.” This community of students also walked with Herb through his transition from GEM to Barnabas. The foundation of spiritual formation and care he experienced allows Herb to help missionaries all over the world go deeper in their own spiritual lives.

While Herb and his wife are now based out of Colorado Springs, they travel and provide pastoral care for those serving in all parts of the world. His wife recently traveled to Asia for several weeks, and their ministry through Barnabas extends from Brazil to Mongolia. “Currently, we are partnering with the Romanian Baptist Union, which is a sending organization, so that we can train them to help the folks they are commissioning.”

This is the critical work to which Herb has been called and is committed, and in which Gordon-Conwell played a part. “Those friends and colleagues from Gordon-Conwell will always have a place in my journey.” **JAD**



“I want to thank you and praise God for all the spiritual benefits of attending these [Dimensions of the Faith] courses. I want also to stress the exceptional quality of this program. You gave me light and you helped me in my misunderstanding of the Word of God. I have been blessed, encouraged and sustained in my faith. I enjoyed listening to MY personal teachers so far [away] on my computer in France, but so near by the Spirit of God. My purpose is now to share with others these things.” – Dominique

Ockenga Institute

Gordon-Conwell’s Harold John Ockenga Institute serves as a bridge for all types of learners to experience the rich educational and spiritual resources of the seminary.

Pastors and laypersons alike can tap into manifold opportunities, from the Spurgeon Sabbatical that enables pastors to get away together for rest and renewal and the Compass program that gives high school students a taste of theological education and international mission service, to Dimensions of the Faith, which offers 10 free downloadable courses taught by seminary faculty. The courses include quizzes and online discussions, and are being used by individuals in a number of countries. Both the Semlink courses and the Dimensions of the Faith program are in Chinese translation and used throughout China and the world.

Through its six centers, the Ockenga Institute also offers a host of conferences, forums, counseling services for alumni and other opportunities for individuals to grow in faith and biblical literacy. Most are offered to the entire extended seminary community and the public.

Recently, yet another initiative, the Ockenga Fellows Program, joined the institute’s array of services. This two-year program enables early-career New England pastors to participate in cohorts for seven three-day roundtables and one study trip to China, all at no cost. The international experience is designed to give pastors a broader vision of the Kingdom of God, and, in turn, greater perspective on their own local contexts. The aim of this Lilly Foundation-funded program is to identify and nurture pastors in the critical first three to five years of ministry, and help them better engage with the culture of their churches and address social and ethical changes in society.

During the past year, the various centers within the Ockenga Institute also offered a number of forums and conferences for the seminary community, pastors, alumni and the public. Topics included:

“Evangelicals Around the World,” with Dr. Brian Still-
er, Global Ambassador for the World Evangeli-

cal Alliance and President Emeritus of Tyndale University College & Seminary, addressing various global forces shaping Christian witness in the 21st century.

“Devout Atheists: A Closer Look at the Non-religious Experience,” featuring Gina Zoltan, Assistant Humanist Chaplain at Harvard University, on why she doesn’t believe.

“Dying Well,” a discussion of topics such as end-of-life decisions, determining appropriate palliative care options, suicide, health care proxy issues and how pastors can help their congregations “finish well.” Speakers included Gordon-Conwell faculty members Dr. Dennis P. Hollinger, President & Colman M. Mockler Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics; Dr. Karen Mason, Associate Professor of Counseling and Psychology; and Dr. Patrick Smith, Associate Professor of Philosophical Theology and Ethics.

The Oasis ministry, another Ockenga program, provides counseling and support to seminary alumni from Dr. Ken Swetland, Senior Professor of Ministry. Counseling services during the 2014-15 fiscal year were provided for 130 pastors and leaders, involving 206 individual appointments (phone, in-person or in-office) to talk through issues pertaining to their lives or their ministries. Issues such as questioning one’s call to ministry, difficult transitions, anxiety, depression or other mental health issues, conflict, marital problems, sexual malfeasance, and abuse/domestic violence were addressed. This support is provided at no cost, and is greatly appreciated by the recipients, many of whom say that having a neutral person available to talk about troubling issues has been a Godsend in their lives.



Dr. David Horn, Director of the Ockenga Institute
<http://www.gordonconwell.edu/ockenga/>



THEN HE SAID TO HIS DISCIPLES,
“THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL
BUT THE WORKERS ARE FEW.

ASK THE LORD OF THE HARVEST,
THEREFORE,
TO SEND OUT WORKERS

INTO HIS HARVEST FIELD.” MATTHEW 9:37-38



*Serving the Church
With You,
for the Glory of God*

Kurt W. Drescher
Vice President of Advancement
with Alyssa Walker

Once a year, it is our pleasure to update you through this annual report on the advancement efforts here at the seminary. We are thankful and grateful to God for the resources he has provided to us this past year, and we hope you'll be encouraged by what, with God's help, we've accomplished. As we look forward to what comes next for Gordon-Conwell, we again trust in and wait expectantly on our great God.

THE IMPACT OF A GIFT TO GORDON-CONWELL

Every gift to Gordon-Conwell impacts the world for Christ. It is that simple. All of our students and our more than 9,500 alumni who have shared the gospel in word and deed, preached a sermon, cared for the poor, translated the Bible—every single one was equipped because of the generous support of donors who made gifts to the seminary. Our work is not possible without these vital partnerships. It is my joy to share in this report some of the ways that gifts to Gordon-Conwell impact the Kingdom.

Here are just a few examples:

Preparing excellent preachers. The Lilly Endowment gave just under \$500,000 to the Haddon W. Robinson Center for Preaching. Gordon-Conwell has long been known for training great preachers. Alumni such as Tim Keller (M.Div. '75), David Helm (M.Div. '88) and Kevin DeYoung (M.Div. '02) reflect that legacy, which this grant is helping us ensure for the future. Recent alums also see the value of this training. Kevin Walker (M.Div. '10) has used the preaching skills he acquired for his missions work in Europe and Africa. "Gordon-Conwell taught me to plumb the infinite depths of Scripture with an eye to clearly communicating the true and simple Gospel," he says.

Strengthening the Hispanic Church. Gifts to our Hispanic Ministries Program strengthened the Hispanic Church by training over 350 students for ministry at sites in 10 states and eight countries around the world. We are especially excited about a group of Nicaraguan students, because they come from an impoverished community that tends to create drug traffickers or Socialists out of its young people. One student, Holman Ulises Mendoza Molina, is already working with youth through Young Life. Like many of his peers, he shows outstanding promise for ministry and has huge opportunities to impact the youth of his community.

Charlotte building campaign and dedication. More than 500 donations of \$10 and up made it possible to celebrate the dedication of new educational space in Charlotte. We are unbelievably blessed to be able to offer this state-of-the-art building to our students, faculty and staff, and the greater Charlotte community.



New part-time student scholarship in Hamilton. A donor lamented that there were no scholarships for part-time students in Hamilton. Most of these students cannot study full time, because they're serving the Church in full-time ministry while they study. The donor started The Josetta New England Scholarship and helped 21 students last year alone. One pastor-student who received the scholarship reminded us that her ministry salary leaves her limited resources for education, making the scholarship a real blessing.

CAMPAIGN COMPLETION

It is hard to believe that the \$68.5 million Our Legacy Our Future Comprehensive Campaign will end on June 30, 2016. At the outset, that goal was a mountain; and honestly, we did not know how we would climb it. Fortunately, there are no mountains too high for God! We have reached 99 percent of our \$26.5 million cash goal, 77 percent of our \$24.5 million planned giving goal and 84 percent of our \$17.5 million Seminary Education Fund goal. This puts completion within reach, though there are still a few switchbacks leading to the peak:

1. A \$3.5 million Seminary Education Fund goal for 2015-16
2. \$5.5 million in Planned Gifts to be documented
3. Hamilton Apartment Renovations Project

THE SEMINARY EDUCATION FUND

During the 2014-15 year, more than 4,000 partners gave just under \$3.5 million. This all-time high topped the previous year by eight percent and missed the stretch goal of \$3.55 million by a very small margin of two percent. The Seminary Education Fund underwrites educational and operational expenses, keeping tuition affordable. This makes Gordon-Conwell training possible for many students, who then multiply these gifts by impacting the world for Christ.

For example, a group of people in Africa will have a reliable translation of the New Testament because of our donors' generosity. Faith, a native of New England, served with Wycliffe Bible Translators doing linguistic analysis and assisting with literacy programs. Then she took on the additional roles of technical adviser, team coordinator and exegete for the translation project. She came to Gordon-Conwell on the Dr. J Christy Wilson Jr. Scholarship to be equipped for that role, studying Hebrew and Greek and graduating with a M.A. in Biblical Languages. She is now back in Africa, and her team hopes to complete the New Testament in 2018. What a gift! And every gift to the Gordon-Conwell Education Fund contributed to that gift of Scripture.

Nana Yaw Offei Awuku came to Gordon-Conwell to prepare for his calling to be a catalyst in missions. He believes that the African church will be central to the future shape of missions. Originally trained as a chemical engineer, Nana now serves with the Lausanne Movement as the International Deputy Director for English-, Portuguese- and Spanish-speaking countries in Africa.

God brought him to Gordon-Conwell as part of “an intentional midlife break for personal reflection and formation for the next phase of ministry leadership. This is a strategic time to focus on the window of opportunity in developing capable young Christians in Africa as faithful disciples and Christ-like leaders for global missions.”

Ingrid Wright was born in Colombia and immigrated to Canada in 2007. She came to Gordon-Conwell after living and working in Calgary in the IT field. Ingrid and her husband were looking for a seminary that “upholds the Word of God.” She continues, “Since I became a Christian, I’ve had a passion to see people come to Christ and become fully devoted to Him...I perceived a great need in the area of Christian Counseling, particularly for women. I would love to minister in Spanish-speaking communities.”

This year, our goal is a very ambitious \$3.5 million, of which we still need \$1.7 million before June 30. Will you help prepare more students like Nana, Faith Ingrid and Holman through a contribution to the Seminary Education Fund?

PLANNED GIVING

When international evangelist Dr. Billy Graham, Park Street Church Pastor Dr. Harold John Ockenga and philanthropist J. Howard Pew put their heads together about theological education, they decided



in planned gifts to meet our campaign goal. Contact Bill Fisher, Director of Planned Giving, at bfisher@gordonconwell.edu for more information.

HAMILTON CAMPUS APARTMENT RENOVATIONS

God calls individuals to ministry. But pursuit of that call is often a family matter. The majority of students enrolled at Gordon-Conwell’s Hamilton campus are married, and many are parents. They come from across the United States and around the world, leaving behind the familiar and safe in response to God’s leading. For many students, access to affordable, on-site housing is what makes a residential seminary experience possible. Our students

“The warm community of Gordon-Conwell made me feel at home away from home.”
– Kenyan student

to create an interdenominational, evangelical seminary to equip students for “all facets of gospel outreach.” Some things change, but that goal certainly has not. Today, Gordon-Conwell is still equipping church leaders to impact the world for Christ.

What has changed for students is not their desire to be trained for ministry, but their financial ability to do so. As educational costs and debt levels have risen dangerously over the past few decades, Gordon-Conwell has fought against the trends. We must continue to do so; and to that end, about 80 percent of the \$24.5 million we intend to raise in planned gifts for this campaign will endow scholarships.

For many of Gordon-Conwell’s friends and alumni, planning a gift from their estate is a way to bless future generations of church leaders. One friend of the seminary did some of his seminary course work at Gordon-Conwell through the Boston Theological Institute exchange program. His only regret is that he graduated from another university instead of Gordon-Conwell, and so he chose to bless the seminary with his estate. The gift will be transformative for our school, as well as being many, many times the amount this donor was able to give during his lifetime.

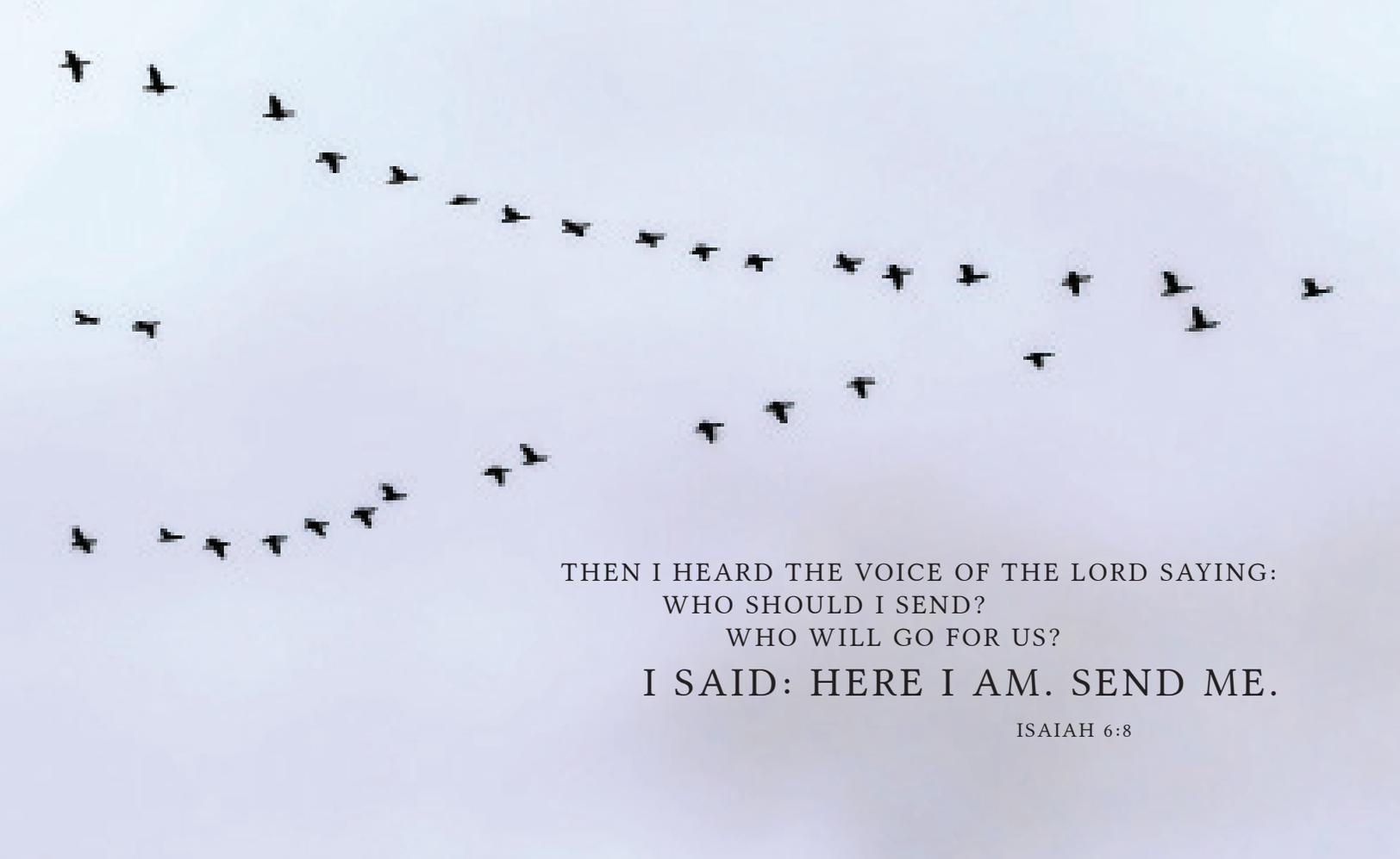
Are you interested in leveraging your estate to equip future church leaders? We still need to secure or document \$5.5 million

to create an interdenominational, evangelical seminary to equip students for “all facets of gospel outreach.” Some things change, but that goal certainly has not. Today, Gordon-Conwell is still equipping church leaders to impact the world for Christ.

to speak of the blessings that come from living in community with other learners and their families. Over the three or more years of a seminary program, neighbors become friends, the call to ministry grows stronger and networks develop that sustain a lifetime of Christian service.

A Nigerian family recently moved into one of the renovated and completely furnished apartments as a result of an extraordinary gift from one of our donors. Our student, Umar, was born into an Islamic community in northern Nigeria. As the son of the regional Emir (an Islamic “king” with many others under him), Umar had memorized the Quran by age 11, and was teaching and enforcing Islam. Through a series of visions and dreams, Jesus revealed himself to Umar and drew him to salvation. “All Muslims believed that God was their master and they were slaves,” he says. “I finally understood that I’m His child. I couldn’t think of anything better than that!”

As far as Umar knows, he’s the only Christian from his community. And when he became a Christian, his family and community turned on him, freezing his bank accounts, revoking his academic achievements, putting him in prison and even seeking to take his life. He says, “These situations put me in a place where the only one I could go to was God. He remained faithful by preserving my life and taking care of me in a place of extreme difficulty.”



THEN I HEARD THE VOICE OF THE LORD SAYING:
WHO SHOULD I SEND?
WHO WILL GO FOR US?
I SAID: HERE I AM. SEND ME.

ISAIAH 6:8

After escaping prison, Umar found some Nigerian Christians. While they helped him physically, he was surprised to find that as a Muslim convert he was put on a pedestal and immediately asked to minister—as a baby Christian! He was also told repeatedly that “it is impossible to reach out to the Muslims.” Umar wants to challenge that notion. A vision for ministry began to develop for pastoral care and discipleship of new Muslim converts in Africa. Eventually he found a YWAM Discipleship Training School to help him learn and grow. In 2003, Umar started a ministry in northern Nigeria for evangelism, discipleship and the integration of Muslims into the Church. The ministry grew to affect several West African countries, and saw more than 2,000 people receive training.

It also led to his desire to come to Gordon-Conwell as an investment in his future ministry. The generosity of donors provided his family a beautiful space decorated with African artwork, as well as scholarship funds to cover his tuition. A Gordon-Conwell degree will give Umar the authority he needs for his future ministry. Umar wants to impact the world for Christ, and as he says, in Africa, “more authority equals having more impact.”

Without a home for his family, seminary would not be possible for Umar. There are many more students like him. To meet that need, this project in the comprehensive campaign calls for \$2.3

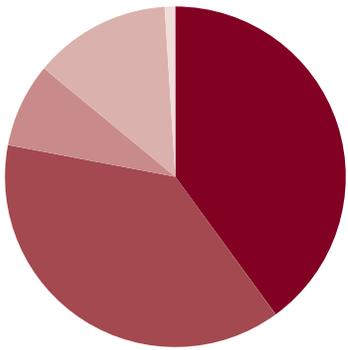
million to renovate 115 campus apartments. To date we have commitments to renovate 34 apartments. If you are interested in helping us finish the work, call me at 978-646-4070 or email me directly at kdrescher@gordonconwell.edu.

THANK YOU

As the Vice President of Advancement at Gordon-Conwell, I cannot emphasize enough that you, our donors, are partners in the Kingdom work we do. I am blessed that it is my job to facilitate that partnership, and to work with so many generous and thoughtful people. Thank you for enabling the successes and ministries I’ve shared in this article. And thank you in advance for continuing to partner with us to ensure the ongoing training of Christian leaders who think theologically, engage globally and live biblically.

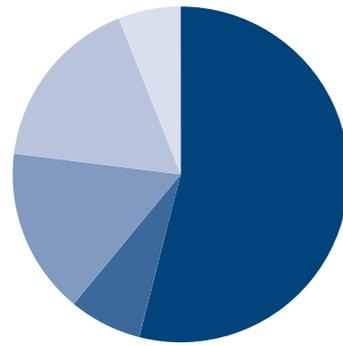


Kurt W. Drescher, Vice President of Advancement,
<http://www.gordonconwell.edu/development>



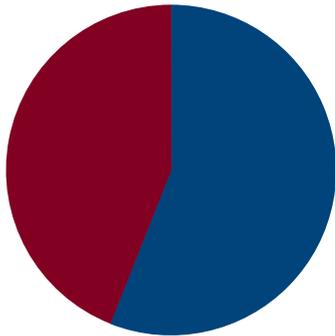
FY15 UNRESTRICTED REVENUES
BY MAJOR SOURCE

Net Tuition	\$ 10,974,072	40%
Donor Support	10,379,888	38%
Endowment Distributions	2,145,297	8%
Auxiliary Enterprises	3,525,228	13%
Other Income	470,021	1%
Total Unrestricted Revenue	\$ 27,494,506	100%



FY15 EXPENSES
HOW FUNDS WERE ALLOCATED

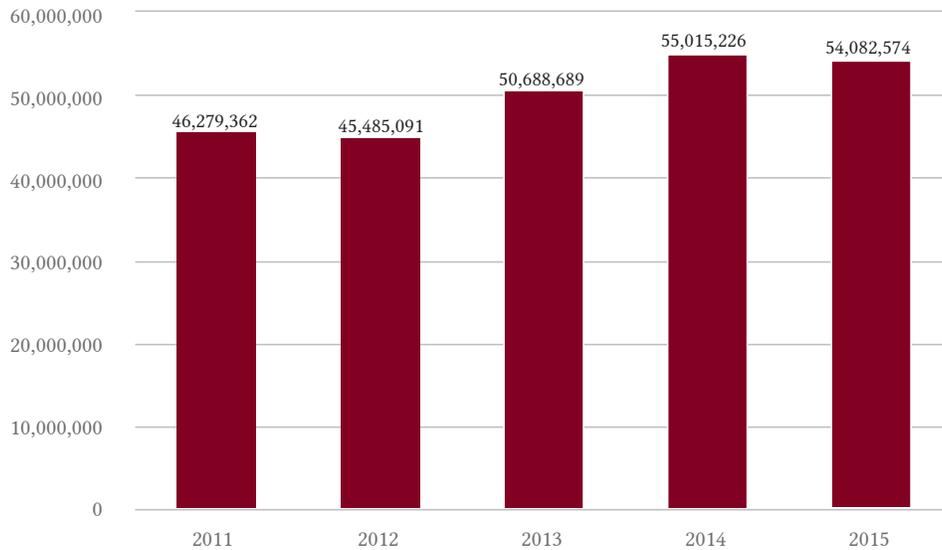
Instructional and Academic Support	\$ 13,848,290	54%
Student Services	1,838,074	7%
Auxiliary Enterprises	4,144,079	16%
Management and General	4,166,142	17%
Fundraising	1,419,656	6%
Total Expenses	\$ 25,416,241	100%



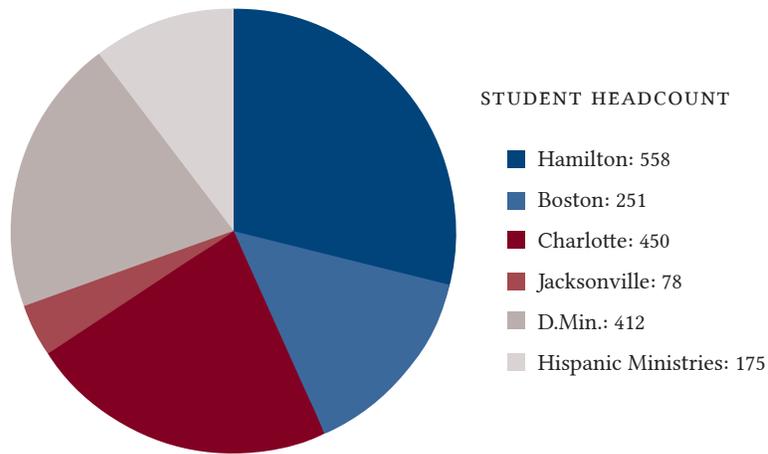
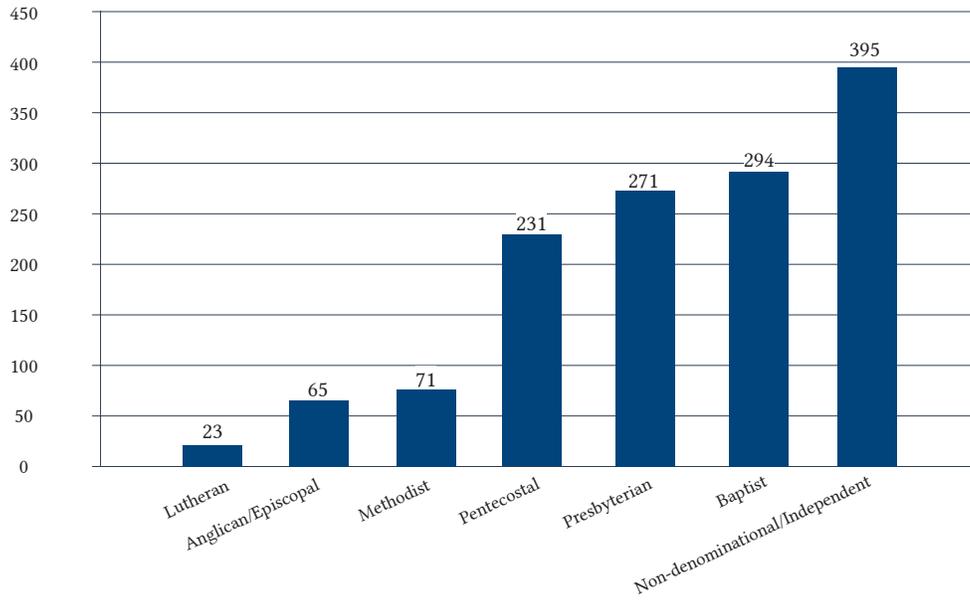
FY15 FINANCIAL AID AND TUITION
MAKING A GORDON-CONWELL EDUCATION MORE AFFORDABLE

Tuition Paid by Students	\$ 10,974,072	56%
Restricted Scholarships and Discounts	\$ 8,746,742	44%
Total Tuition	\$ 19,720,814	100%

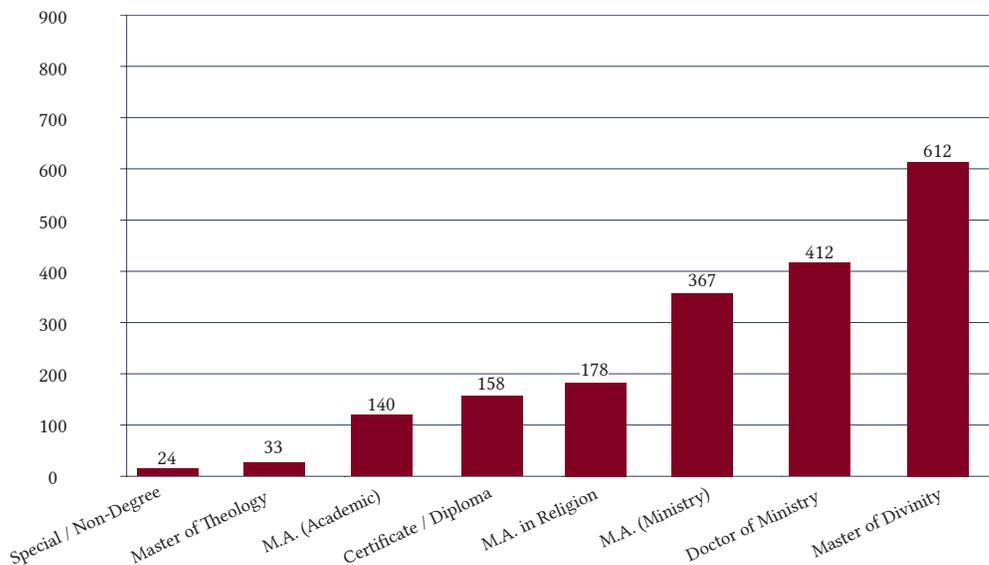
ENDOWMENT FUNDS



STUDENTS IN MAJOR DENOMINATIONAL CATEGORIES



STUDENTS BY DEGREE TYPE





The late J Christy Wilson interacting with students in class, in prayer and in a small group. He was known and loved for his care and interest in his students.

Our Legacy: Dr. J Christy Wilson, Jr. Jennifer A. Drummond

The late Dr. J Christy Wilson's powerful witness and passion for reaching the lost for Christ shaped and continues to undergird Gordon-Conwell's vision to engage globally and prepare students to help the Church fulfill its global mission.

The father of the modern day tent-making movement and the seminary's beloved professor of Missions and Evangelism was born to missionary parents, raised in Tabriz, Iran, and served for 22 years in Afghanistan as both teacher and pastor to internationals. While in Afghanistan, he became acting principal of a government high school, taught private English lessons to the Crown Prince and conducted an English course for Afghan diplomats in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Dr. Wilson received a Master of Divinity degree from Princeton Seminary and a Doctor of Philosophy in Islamic Studies at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He also pursued post-doctoral studies in linguistics at Columbia Teachers College in New York City.

Serving for four years on the staff of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (1943-47), Dr. Wilson was instrumental in developing the first major IVCF Missions Conference, the forerunner of the triennial Urbana Convention, now the largest student mission conference in the world.

He worked for 11 years as Pastor of the Community Christian Church in Kabul, was full-time Chaplain to the international community in Afghanistan and with his wife, Betty, founded the School for the Blind in Kabul.

In 1973, after serving for over two decades in Afghanistan, he and his wife fled the country that they dearly loved. Increasing tensions with the government, which declared Dr. Wilson *persona*

non grata and could no longer guarantee the Wilsons' safety, led to their departure. Dr. Wilson and his wife spent their last three days in the country ministering to friends and Afghan locals rather than packing their belongings, and left the country with only one suitcase each.¹

Dr. Wilson joined the faculty of Gordon-Conwell in 1974. During his 17 years at the seminary, in addition to his teaching he served as Dean of the Chapel and Senior Program Associate for the Adoniram Judson Gordon Center for World Missions.

Known for telling stories of God's amazing works on the mission field around the world, Dr. Wilson inspired more than a generation of students-turned-missionaries. Ivan S. Chow (MATS '92), an advisee of Dr. Wilson and author of *More to be Desired than Gold*, a compilation of these stories, reflects that these students "have provided both inspiration and insight for my own pilgrimage... they reflect the quality of the race Christy Wilson [ran] for his Lord for most of his 70 earthly years."

Gordon-Conwell Professor of New Testament Dr. Sean McDonough remembers when he was a student at Gordon-Conwell and had the opportunity to interact with Christy Wilson. "He was speaking at a missions event at my church, and I asked if I could have lunch with him. He replied that he was driving into Boston to visit a young Afghan girl who lost both of her legs from a bombing, so I went with him. He was incredibly attentive to me during that car ride, and I watched him joyfully minister to the young girl and her family. Then we went back to the conference. I always think of him as a model of Christian living. J Christy Wilson had an old-school zeal for evangelism, and because of his genuine love and interest for the person he was speaking to, he truly exemplified the Christian life."

Dr. Wilson, known around the world for his passion for missions and his desire to see new churches planted in unreached people groups of the world, lives on through the J Christy Wilson, Jr. Center for World Missions at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. His legacy of compassion and zeal, his genuine love for others, and his commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ continues to inspire the next generation of students. 

¹ Information compiled from *Where No One Has Heard: The Life of J Christy Wilson, Jr.*, by GCTS alum Ken Wilson '84, MATS (no relation to Christy Wilson), published by William Carey Library Publishers, to be released in early 2016. For more information, contact William Carey Library Publishers at <https://missionbooks.org>.

Address Service Requested



Gordon-Conwell students taking in the glorious sunset view from the hilltop at the Hamilton Campus.

"THE HEAVENS DECLARE THE GLORY OF GOD;
THE SKIES PROCLAIM THE WORK OF HIS HANDS."

PSALM 19:1