

# For *the* Glory of God

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ANNUAL REPORT 2013

GORDON  CONWELL  
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Kate Hendrickson (M.Div.) and Justin Young (MAOT) enjoy the new Jacksonville facility.



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Ms. Nicole S. Rim

## Dear Friends,

I cannot believe that you are currently reading the third edition of Gordon-Conwell's *Annual Report*. It seems like just yesterday that we began putting the first edition together almost three years ago.

But much has changed since then. You'll read about many of the changes in the pages that follow. For example,

- The Great Room on the Hamilton campus has been remodeled (many alumni audibly cheered as they read that last sentence).
- The Partnership Scholarship Program continues as a runaway success. For those who don't know, the Partnership Program provides a full scholarship as well as stewardship training.
- At the JFK Library in Boston, our Boston campus held what will become an annual Signature Event honoring those who are making an impact in their community.
- The Jacksonville campus has a new home. First Presbyterian was a great place, but the needs of the growing campus necessitated a move. This summer, they relocated to a new facility that also houses a church, Christian radio station and a Christian counseling center.
- A new Lutheran Studies Program was inaugurated at the Charlotte campus.

Yet, for all that has changed, there is much that remains the same. And for that, we are thankful. Gordon-Conwell is still committed to Jesus Christ and his Church. If you haven't recently, I would encourage you to visit our website and read our mission statement. It is available here:

[www.gordonconwell.edu/mission-statement](http://www.gordonconwell.edu/mission-statement)

As always, I covet any thoughts, comments or suggestions for this publication.

Yours in Christ,

Michael Colaneri

Director of Communications & Marketing

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## *President's Report*

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IT IS SOMETIMES NOTED THAT, "AS GOES THE SEMINARY, SO GOES THE CHURCH." Because seminaries train men and women for various ministries of the Church of Jesus Christ, they have a huge impact on what happens in the Church and in local churches around the globe.

Seminaries impact the theological/biblical thinking of students and thus, churches. They shape the spiritual lives and gifts for ministry of students and hence, the churches. Seminaries have a major role in how the Church conceives and carries out its mission in the world. As goes the seminary, so goes the Church.

For more than four decades, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary has remained committed to historic orthodoxy, spiritual vitality, a Christian presence in culture and fulfilling the Great Commission of our Lord. We have sought to embody a thoughtful evangelicalism that provides leadership for the Church in all its ministries: pastorate, education, counseling, missions, para-church and lay ministries. We are grateful to God for his faithfulness this past year as we continue to carry out the mission and vision of the seminary.



## Enrollment

A recently released study by the Auburn Institute shows that seminaries in North America have experienced declining enrollment over the past six years.

Even evangelical seminaries that had unparalleled growth through the 1990s and early 2000s have either leveled off or begun to decline. In contrast to these trends, Gordon-Conwell experienced increased enrollment in 2013, the third year in a row. The fall 2012 official registration on all campuses and programs was 2,033, making us the fourth largest seminary in North America according to Association of Theological Schools data.

### Why is Gordon-Conwell growing when most seminaries are not?

When we ask students why they choose to study with us, the most frequent response we hear is, "Its strong academics and its spiritual vitality." Many prospective students want to study in a context that takes God's Word seriously, engages the culture, fosters ministerial formation and enables students to grow in their relationship with God. Our spiritual formation is enhanced not only by the exceptional ministry of the Pierce Center for Disciple-Building, but by chapel, classes and small groups.



## Giving

We are thankful to God for one of the most successful years of giving in the seminary's history.

Our Education Fund topped an all-time high of \$2.9 million, and our overall giving, restricted and unrestricted, was \$9.4 million. One of the major boosts to our Education Fund has been the unique Partnership Program in which students elicit donors for the seminary and receive not only a full-tuition scholarship, but training in finance and stewardship. Our comprehensive campaign, "Serving the Church with Faithfulness and Innovation," went over the halfway mark towards the goal of \$64.5 million. The campaign includes gifts for special projects, planned giving and our Education Fund over five years.

## Campus Revitalization

A significant part of our comprehensive campaign has been campus revitalization at Hamilton and Charlotte.

The Hamilton campus is now graced with a beautiful new stone wall entrance and, for the first time, lighting from the main entrance into the campus. New signage, including street names in honor of our founders, is found throughout the campus. The Alumni Hall, finished more than a year ago, has been a catalyst for student forums, conferences and special dinners.

The recently completed Pierce Great Room is providing space for student gatherings, meetings with

mentors, informal study and simply hanging out with friends. The Pierce Center also has new offices that facilitate its significant ministry on our campus. We are particularly grateful for the \$1.3 million gift from a seminary friend that helped make these renovations possible. It has truly revitalized the campus, enabling us to more effectively educate students in a context of community, spiritual vitality and educational richness.



## Strategic Partnerships

Gordon-Conwell exists to serve the Church. Thus, strategic partnerships with other like-minded organizations and denominations fit well with this commitment. Partnerships have long been a part of the seminary's ethos.

Clockwise from top left: Jacksonville, Charlotte, Hamilton and Boston campuses.



*At Charlotte*, we have developed a partnership with the newly formed North American Lutheran Church, which has established a Lutheran House of Studies on our campus. Charlotte has also developed a partnership with InterVarsity in that region, and is offering classes for their staff (and others) in Raleigh.

*The Boston campus* has partnerships with other urban centers and organizations such as the Black Ministerial Alliance and Emmanuel Gospel Center.

*The Jacksonville campus* is partnering with Salem Communications, a leading Christian radio broadcaster, Internet content provider and magazine and book publisher, through its rented facility.

*At Hamilton*, we have partnerships with the Anglican Church of North America, InterVarsity and World Vision (for student internships). Our Hispanic Ministries program has a vital partnership with the Church of God of Prophecy and institutionally we have partnerships with the Advent Christian Church and the National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference.

At Charlotte, plans are underway for a new addition, the Hall of Missions, which will provide much needed classrooms, faculty/staff offices, a large gathering room and space for exhibits and artifacts. Fundraising for the project continues, and we hope to break ground in early spring.

Our Jacksonville campus has moved to a new location that provides excellent offices, classrooms and meeting space, and is easily accessible from the broad areas surrounding the city. The campus reflects good steward-

ship by sharing space with other significant Christian ministries in the Jacksonville area. The library has room to grow, and the campus is now positioned to accommodate growing numbers of students.

At Boston, our dean, Dr. Mark Harden, continues conversations with the city and other nearby organizations to explore potential parking venues that would enhance the neighborhood and be a significant help to our students and staff.

In addition to these and other organizations are informal partnerships with countless churches, denominations and mission organizations, where our alumni serve and where current students are doing Mentored Ministries. These all reflect our deep commitment to serve the Church of Jesus Christ around the world.

We are encouraged by what God is doing in and through Gordon-Conwell. Our faculty members are deeply committed to an education and formation process that makes a salient difference in the lives of our students. Our administrators and staff work diligently and faithfully to ensure that our vision is carried out. Our students and alumni reflect that vision of Gordon-Conwell: "To advance Christ's Kingdom in every sphere of life by equipping Church leaders to think theologically, engage globally and live biblically."

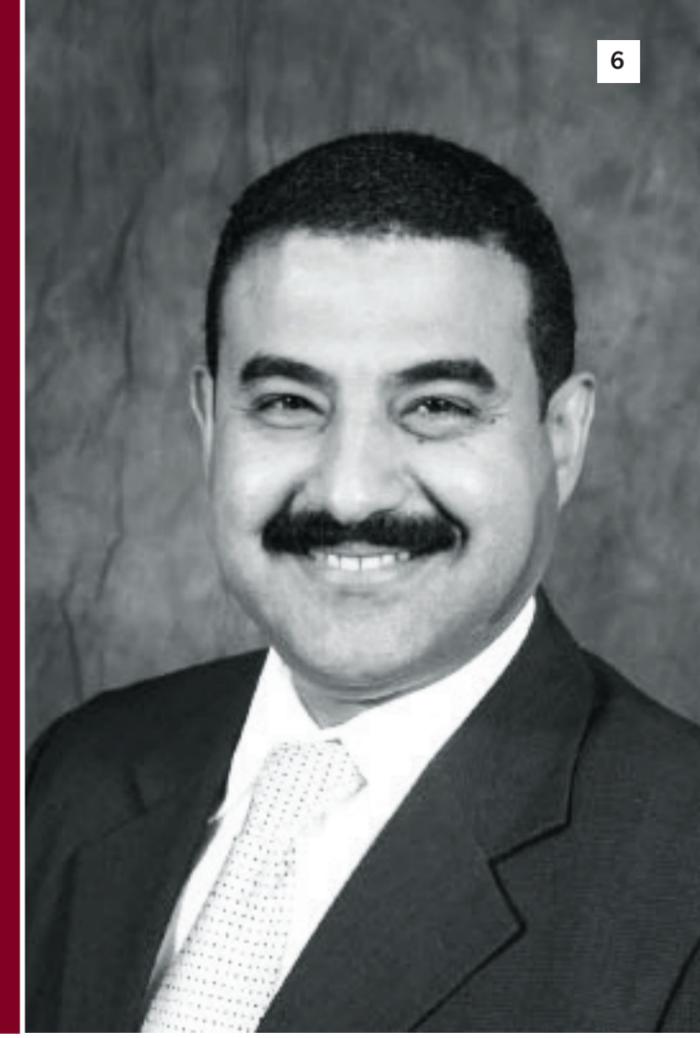
We are thankful to our many friends who work with us to make this possible.



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## STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

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# A Year of Growth for the Hamilton Campus

HEATHER KORPI & RICHARD LINTS, PH.D., DEAN OF THE HAMILTON CAMPUS



Gordon-Conwell's main campus in Hamilton, MA, welcomed a steady influx of new students this year. Enrollment numbers were on par with last year, with 939 total students in the fall.

Completed and dedicated just over a year ago, Alumni Hall has become an integral part of campus life and has proven to be an extraordinary space for conferences and forums. We have recently hosted events featuring renowned sociologist Dr. Peter Berger, Representative Frank Wolf (VA-10), and former U.S. Senator from Massachusetts Scott Brown. We extend a special thanks to the many generous alumni whose donations made this important renovation project possible.

After the completion of Alumni Hall, remodeling plans and construction began on the Great Room, which has been repurposed into a student study center and event venue. We are grateful for the incredibly generous donor who funded the renovations and beautiful new furnishings in the Great Room and the lobby between Alumni Hall and the Great Room. In addition, this

particular gift allowed for a complete renovation and refurbishing of the Pierce Center for Disciple-Building offices, which are now housed on the fourth floor of Kerr, next to the Pierce Center Sacred Space. A ribbon-cutting ceremony in September marked the completion of the renovations in each of these spaces as well as the renaming of the Great Room to the Pierce Great Hall.

We hosted a summer retreat for faculty at the Wylie Center at Endicott College, near the Hamilton campus, thanks to a generous grant from the Kern Foundation. The grant—which also funded a Mockler Center project and will fund a spring 2014 faculty retreat, 10 faculty projects and an all-faculty book of the year (Tim Keller's *Every Good Endeavor*)—centers on the theme of theology and work. Titled "Economic Flourishing and the Gospel," the retreat featured three guest speakers:



Pierce Great Hall

Drs. Scott Shuh, economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston; Judith Dean, Professor of International Economics at Brandeis University; and Greg Forster, Program Director for Faith, Work and Economics at the Kern Family Foundation.

Also this summer, we introduced Semlink+, the new and improved version of Semlink. Semlink+ offers more in-depth interaction with professors and a more defined course schedule to help students succeed in their online courses. Offered in the fall were "The Church from the Reformation" with Dr. Garth Rosell, Professor of Church History; "Christian Ethics" with Dr. Dennis Hollinger, President & Colman M. Mockler Distinguished Professor of Christian Ethics; and "World Mission of the Church" with Dr. Xiyi (Kevin) Yao, Associate Professor of World Christianity & Asian Studies.



Gordon-Conwell faculty and others participate in "God With Us" conference.

In October, we were honored to host a national conference titled "God With Us," focusing on the theme of God's presence among his people throughout Scripture and all of human history. The conference was held in honor of Dr. Gary Pratico, Senior Professor of Old Testament and Hebrew Language.

The fall semester marked the first of what we anticipate will be many in an exchange partnership with Giessen Theological Seminary. Six German students in the M.Div. program at Giessen took courses on the Hamilton campus for the fall semester, and are participating in a two-month internship at a local church before returning home in February. We were pleased to welcome them along with our new and returning students this year.

## A MODERN-DAY VERSION OF THE BOOK OF ACTS



**WHEN SOUTH AFRICAN GEOLOGIST MATTHEW BRAYSHAW** had finally completed the long slog through his bachelor's, master's and Ph.D. in geology, he landed a job in northwest Tanzania at the largest gold deposit in the country.

The 20-kilometer stretch between the company housing compound, where Matthew lived, and Lake Victoria was riddled with rural villages in extreme poverty.

"A couple of the other guys from the compound and I wanted to get out into a rural village to do ministry," Matthew says. "So, we started cycling there on our mountain bikes. The village leaders were very open and let us go into households to share the gospel and pray for the sick. Over the span of about two years, we went through the entire village—house by house—and quite a number of people came to the Lord, even some formerly involved in witchcraft. People were also regularly healed from diseases and afflictions."

Matthew and Albert, his Tanzanian ministry partner from the compound, then bought a plot of land, built a village church and led weekly church services for the next two and a half years.

"Those years were like the modern-day version of Acts for me...Throughout that time, I saw a huge need for teaching and training the elders and leaders in the church." Tanzanian churches, Matthew explains, face a number of spiritual battles, from legalism to superstition, and are in great need of grounded, godly leaders.

While ministering in rural Tanzania, Matthew was simultaneously working 11- to 12-hour days at the gold mine and leading a Bible study on the compound.

God began to call him away from his busy, draining schedule to a time of equipping and recharging at seminary. In July, Matthew handed the village church over to Albert after having been accepted to Gordon-Conwell's Master of Arts in Missions and Evangelism program.

After seminary, Matthew plans to return to the rolling hills, valleys, cattle tracks and mud huts of Africa. Having grown up near the Zulu tribal area in South Africa, Matthew says, "I've had a desire to teach and preach in the Zulu language. I plan to go back to South Africa and implement the same model as the one in Tanzania in another rural area at home. I also hope to minister in East Africa once or twice a year.

"It's not to say I'm a pioneer, because there are certainly other people doing this—but there aren't enough. It's about taking the gospel to the people, as well as equipping local pastors, elders and leaders from the area who have very little theological education or resources."

# Charlotte Campus Highlights

## Missions, Celebrates New Partnerships and Continued Growth of Cooley Center

TIMOTHY S. LANIAK, TH.D., DEAN OF THE CHARLOTTE CAMPUS



Reformation Worship and Inaugural Service for Gordon-Conwell-Charlotte's Department of Lutheran Studies, held at Christ Lutheran Church in October.

Over the past year, the Charlotte campus has advanced Gordon-Conwell's vision of teaching students to think theologically, engage globally and live biblically through missions-focused events, growing partnerships and the continued success of the Robert C. Cooley Center for the Study of Early Christianity.

### Missions Theme

#### Engaging Globally

The importance of engaging globally has been emphasized this year through a number of events instituted by our campus' Missions Oversight Team. These missions-minded events are inspiring our students to advance God's Kingdom worldwide.

#### Day of Prayer and Fasting

This year, we held our fifth annual Day of Prayer and Fasting at JAARS, an organization dedicated to supporting the work of Bible translation worldwide. The main speaker, Dr. Rollin Grams, Associate Professor of New Testament, encouraged participants to expand their vision of ministry by painting a powerful biblical picture of God's mission.

#### Integrative Seminars

We are also continuing our biannual Integrative Seminars that lead participants in meaningful reflection upon themes that affect ministry and mission. The theme of the seminar in August was "The Culture of Poverty." January 2014's seminar theme is "Global Missions," preceded by a special conference hosted by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association.

#### Chapels

This year's chapels guide students through the three movements of mission found in Acts 1:8—Jerusalem (local context), Judea/Samaria (regional/national/culturally different context) and the uttermost parts of the earth (global context). Students are encouraged and inspired to reach out to their local community and to the world.

### New and Growing Partnerships

#### Lutheran House of Study

We have partnered with the Carolinas Mission District of the North American Lutheran Church to establish a Lutheran House of Study. This twice-weekly day program is designed to support and encourage Lutheran students as they engage in their seminary studies.

#### InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

We are also pleased to announce the launch of a new partnership with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. This day program occurs once a month with about 25 students. It gives staff with IVCF the unique opportunity to benefit from Gordon-Conwell's renowned faculty, academically challenging classes and faithfulness to the gospel by taking a certain number of seminary classes for degree credit. We are hopeful that the partnership will equip staff members to more effectively advance God's Kingdom in their IVCF ministries.

#### Forest Hill Church

On September 25, we launched a three-course, non-credit certificate program in Biblical Leadership at Forest Hill Church. The 10 weeks of Bible, theology and ministry courses will prepare students to practice effective biblical leadership in their churches and ministries. Taught by Dr. Donald Fairbairn, Robert E. Cooley Professor of Early Christianity; Dr. Rodney Cooper, Kenneth and Jean Hansen Professor of Discipleship and Leadership Development; and me, this program combines faculty lectures and breakout groups led by Gordon-Conwell graduates who are on the staff of Forest Hill Church.

### Robert C. Cooley Center for the Study of Early Christianity

#### Current Programs

Finally, our Cooley Center has shown steady progress in its current programs and offerings. Highlights include the graduation of the first group of BibleJourney students. This innovative program continues to mature into a strong program for providing practical biblical knowledge and instruction for lay people. The Green Scholar Initiative is also continuing to offer talented and promising students the opportunity to examine valuable unpublished ancient texts. This work of our professors and students will be published in a prestigious series by Brill Academic Publishers.

#### Cooley Lecture

Our Cooley lecture this year featured noted Israeli archaeologist Dr. Gabriel Barkay. Dr. Barkay teaches at Bar Ilan University in Tel Aviv, Israel. He received the 1996 Jerusalem Prize for Archaeological Research, and is known for his extensive experience exploring archaeological sites near Jerusalem. He was also involved in the discovery of the archaeologically significant Silver Scrolls and provided the first translation of the famous Bethlehem Seal.

We are pleased with the vibrancy and progress of our campus' programs this year. Our students continue to benefit not only from strong academic classes, but also innovative programs and impactful events designed to equip them as future Church leaders. We look forward to continuing these programs and events throughout the coming year.

### MAR HYBRID STUDENT EXPLORES GOD'S CALL TO WRITING MINISTRY



"I ALWAYS THOUGHT that students enter seminary because they are answering the call to pastor or counsel a congregation. I never felt that specific call," says Master of Arts in Religion student **Carole Anne Hallyburton**.

Rather, Carole Anne's involvement in a church plant over the last three years caused her to think more seriously about going into ministry. But, she says, "God chose not to reveal a specific calling until after I enrolled at Gordon-Conwell."

Born with Cerebral Palsy, Carole Anne says that while she had the full support of her family, "others seemed skeptical of my decision to attend seminary, which is understandable given the speech impediment that goes along with my disability." In particular, she says that finding partners to support her in the Partnership Program has proven difficult because "many of my potential partners reason that without clear speaking skills I have no realistic purpose for attending seminary. Thankfully, we serve a God who has other ideas!"

Since coming to Gordon-Conwell in 2012, God has used Carole Anne's seminary experience to begin revealing her call. "The pieces haven't fallen completely into place, but God is getting me there... He has used coursework and the top-notch faculty at Gordon-Conwell to steadily guide and encourage me toward a writing ministry," she says. "I wrote my first complete Bible study as a project for my biblical interpretation class last semester. The effort was exhausting but at the same time brought me such joy. This avenue of writing is definitely one I feel compelled to pursue."

A graduate of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a B.A. in English, Carole Anne continues to exercise her writing abilities through a devotional blog, and was recently elected secretary for Gordon-Conwell's Student Council.

"My disability hasn't been a large problem as far as the dynamics of the school environment are concerned," says Carole Anne. "Since I'm in the MAR Hybrid Program, half of my classwork and communication unfolds online, so mainly the adaptations involve my own computer equipment in my home. When I do go to campus for residency weeks or intensive courses, however, the small classes make face-to-face communication less problematic than it would be if I were interacting with 50 or 100 students.

"The faculty and staff are more than willing to accommodate any needs that arise with me; I simply cannot stress enough the godly compassion and support they offer to students," she says. "Gordon-Conwell has embraced me in a way I never expected and has given me a godly confidence to in turn embrace the plan that God has for my future."

# A Year of New Initiatives, New Partnerships and Spiritual Renewal

MARK G. HARDEN, PH.D., DEAN OF THE BOSTON CAMPUS



Dr. Mark Harden speaks at Signature Event held at JFK Library in Boston.

Central to this year's progress report for the Gordon-Conwell Boston campus is the positive communication we have received from our students about their seminary experience.

One student told us, "The Holy Spirit lives inside of [our] facility and inside of our staff." Another said, "I was truly inspired by the service, worship and communal fellowship...The Integrative Seminar sessions I participated in were truly orchestrated by God." We think these encouraging words are the result of great strides we have made toward our goal of improving theological seminary education in urban communities. We believe that greater efficiency will help us better serve the Church and our students, and our efforts this year have included developing a cost effective approach to how we offer courses. We now have an efficient course scheduling process that empowers students to complete their degree program in a reasonable time, and ensures that almost all courses are offered within two years. Working to ensure high quality teaching, we have

increased the number of administrative and teaching staff positions, and reduced our reliance on adjunct instructors. This, in turn, has improved our capacity for meaningful faculty-student relationships and ongoing, in-person student advising.

As we continue to revise and develop new degree programs, we expect to increase our ability to meet new demands for in-ministry and church leadership. This year, we have strengthened our programs in content and focus to better serve the needs of the Church, and expect this to increase accessibility to theological education. Progress can be seen in the Mentored Ministry course, now called Field-Based Mentored Ministry. Churches and para-church ministry practitioners have joined forces with us in creating

## FROM INACCESSIBLE TO IMMERSED



**"I DIDN'T THINK SEMINARY WAS ACCESSIBLE TO ME," SAYS CATHERINE MILLER.**

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Catherine grew up in the church. When she came to know the Lord personally at age 26, she "really took a liking to Bible study and walking alongside new believers." As her passion for the Word increased, she became deeply involved in a number of ministries—from visiting the sick and grieving, to street evangelism and youth prison ministry. But, she says, "I never considered seminary because I always assumed I needed a bachelor's degree."

A 20-year veteran in the legal field, Catherine had started college and dabbled in continuing education courses, but never completed her degree. Rather, she devoted her time to work, ministry and dance. Formally trained in modern dance and ballet, Catherine started a community-based, Christian modern dance program while living in New York. After marrying her husband, Shelton Miller, in 2005, and moving to Randolph, MA, she continued to host Gospel Dance Workshops in nearby Cambridge and Boston.

"In 2008," Catherine explains, "a co-worker and friend, who was also involved in dance ministry, pointed me to the diploma program at Gordon-Conwell—Boston (CUME) where her husband studied. She believed in my gifts and calling, and urged me to consider enrolling."

"I was blown away when I learned that I could apply to a master's program after earning my diploma... The Lord just dropped me into seminary at 40 years old—who would have thought?"

In December of 2011, Catherine completed the Diploma in Urban Ministry and is now pursuing a Master of Divinity degree. In the future, she plans to enroll in the Master of Theology degree program and has her eye on doctoral studies, because, she says, "I can't stop now! I love it, I love it, I love it."

After finishing her studies, Catherine hopes to serve in hospice chaplaincy and provide pastoral care. In the meantime, she uses her education and experience to "equip, undergird and encourage others in the truth of God in and outside the church." At her church, Congregación León de Judá, she is involved in English ministry, facilitates prayer meetings and Bible studies, presents worship dance and hosts worship dance workshops, and occasionally preaches. Alongside her husband, Catherine's current focus is nurturing León de Judá's partnership with the homeless community.

"I have so much gratitude for the vision behind our Boston campus," she says. "People from all over the globe have a place to engage sound biblical and theological study as they participate in God's mission of 'building the new Jerusalem.'"



**Top left:** Dr. Eldin Villafañe receives the Dean's Signature Award. **Top right:** Dr. Seong Park, Assistant Dean of the Boston Campus, talks with guest. **Bottom:** Attendees at Signature Event.

and launching an action-learning course environment for a transformative experience in learning how to do ministry in a "real-life" setting.

In May, more than 200 participants joined us at the John F. Kennedy Library and Museum as 11 individuals received recognition awards during our new Signature Event, "Making a Difference in Christian Service." This annual awards event honors individuals for exemplary service in their respective churches and communities. Four recipients were presented with the "Dr. Eldin Villafañe Award for High Distinction in Christian Service:" Edward Davidson and Marcus Youksee for their extensive involvement in homeless ministry, Erica Forkner for her anti-human trafficking advocacy efforts and Jasmine Myers for her commitment to performing arts ministry. The award's namesake, Dr. Eldin Villafañe, Founding Director of the Center for Urban Ministerial Education (CUME), was also recognized for his numerous contributions to urban ministry and theological education in the city of Boston.

In June, we hosted 96 prospective students for our first explore!Seminary event, many of whom indicated that they had attended because of the Signature Event. We believe that by recognizing emerging Christian leaders in Greater Boston, we can encourage and inspire others for Christian service while promoting opportunities to get equipped for ministry at the Boston campus.

Effectively communicating our legacy and vision has brought about a sense of spiritual renewal. The climate at the Boston campus is one of excitement. This became evident in our new fall and spring all-day-Saturday events, which drew 280 students, staff and faculty for orientation sessions, convocation, fellowship luncheon and an integrative seminar series on spiritual formation.

# A New Home for the Jacksonville Campus

RYAN REEVES, PH.D., ASSISTANT DEAN OF THE JACKSONVILLE CAMPUS



Recently the Jacksonville campus underwent an exciting transition. In the fall, Gordon-Conwell students at our campus in northern Florida started attending classes in a brand new, spacious and convenient facility.

Gordon-Conwell—Jacksonville previously resided at First Presbyterian Church in downtown Jacksonville. Having existed there since our beginnings in 2006, the Gordon-Conwell—Jacksonville community has been blessed to grow friendships, build memories, teach, learn and prepare in a beautiful, comfortable, historic space. There, we expanded and worked through the growing pains that any new campus or organization faces. Gordon-Conwell—Jacksonville is eternally grateful for the time, contributions and support of First Presbyterian Church during our fledgling years.

In September, Jacksonville students began attending classes at the campus's new home inside the Salem Centre, located at 7235 Bonneval Road, right in the center of the city. The Jacksonville campus occupies

nearly 8,000-square-feet of the shared building that is also home to Paramount Church, a nondenominational evangelical congregation; The Promise, a local Christian radio station; and various other counseling practices, businesses and organizations operated by Christian leaders. Gordon-Conwell—Jacksonville is incredibly blessed to be a part of such an active hub for spreading the gospel both in the Church and the marketplace.

Our new classrooms and offices center around one main focal point: the library. Located in the exact center of campus, the library invites students, staff and faculty to connect and collaborate. Not only is it fully stocked with an ever-growing catalog and impressive reference volumes, but it also provides ample study areas for students and area pastors.



**Top:** Dr. Ryan Reeves, Taurean Sinclair (Mayor's Staff), Dr. Dennis Hollinger, Stuart Epperson (Chairman of the Board at Salem Communications) and family host ribbon-cutting ceremony at Jacksonville's Celebration Open House. **Bottom:** Open House guests mingle in Jacksonville's new library.

Our Jacksonville team spent several months collaborating with staff and faculty members in both South Hamilton and Charlotte, planning and preparing for this exciting transition. We hosted a successful Celebration Open House on October 24, welcoming students, faculty, staff and friends of the seminary to explore and enjoy our new location.

This exciting move comes on the heels of graduating our third class, and is already ushering in a record number of students. We expect this trend to continue, and will soon launch Doctor of Ministry and Master of Arts in Christian Thought degrees to provide more opportunities for students preparing for ministry.

Additionally, the new Jacksonville campus will be the site of Gordon-Conwell's next Board of Trustees meeting in February 2014. The Jacksonville campus is also privileged to host Bob Doll, CFA, Chief Equity Strategist and Senior Portfolio Manager at Nuveen Asset Management, LLC, for the "Christ in Business: An Encouragement for Christians in the Marketplace" event on February 13. Mr. Doll is a renowned analyst, and appears regularly on CNBC, Bloomberg TV and Fox Business News to discuss the economy and markets.

The Jacksonville campus is excited to celebrate the move. We are thankful to the Lord for his many provisions, and confident that from the foundation he has laid at Gordon-Conwell—Jacksonville will grow a legacy of equipping Church leaders to think theologically, engage globally and live biblically.

## DEAF STUDENT SHARES PASSION FOR BRINGING THE GOSPEL TO THE DEAF COMMUNITY



**FOR MARY BETH CANTRELL**, sitting through lectures means a little more than just listening to a professor and taking notes. "In every class I've taken at Gordon-Conwell—Jacksonville," she says, "sign language interpreters have been provided. I listen to the professor and classmates through sign language. For video lectures, I request transcripts so I can read them."

An Alabama native with a degree in Education for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Mary Beth says, "I grew up reading lips and speaking orally; I have little residual hearing. Hearing aids help me identify which words are being said. For example, the words red and green look the same on the lips, but hearing the difference in the vowels helps me differentiate the words.

"Sign language was not a part of my communication until my college days. In grade school, I had to sit up front in class so I could see the teacher's lips...If the teacher turned around to the board to write while talking, I would miss what she said. Classmates would participate in discussions and answer questions that the teacher asked. I missed that too; I rarely ever participated in group discussions.

"I did not realize how much I was missing until college. I used a sign language interpreter for the first time in my college class and I was able to see *everything* that was said... Learning sign language changed my life."

Mary Beth grew up in the church, but it wasn't until a high school retreat that she entered a growing, transformative relationship with Christ. Since that point, she has felt a pull toward ministry, but was unsure where God would call her.

"I prayed that God would reveal to me his calling for my life. In college, I discovered the Deaf community through a friend of mine. It was a world that I had never seen before. Everyone signed, and I was speechless to find so many people that were like me." Mary Beth—who considers herself Deaf, not hearing impaired or hard of hearing—says, "At that moment, I realized my calling. My passion is to teach the Deaf about Christ.

"Many Deaf people go to church with their families and they do not have a sign language interpreter...My heart breaks for them because I know how that feels. I know what it's like to be in a place where you have no idea what people are saying."

A current Master of Divinity student, Mary Beth remains involved in Deaf ministry alongside her studies, specifically teaching and leading Bible studies for Deaf women. She has also been involved in Deaf Teen Quest, reaching out to lost Deaf and hard of hearing teenagers.

"The desire to communicate and be loved is a huge thing in the Deaf community. I want to communicate the gospel with them and to show them that Christ loves them for who they are and that he does understand them no matter how they communicate!"

## D. Min. Program Offers a Variety of New and Revised Tracks

DAVID A. CURRIE, PH.D., DIRECTOR OF THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY PROGRAM



As the Doctor of Ministry Program at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary enters its fourth decade, God continues to guide students, faculty and staff in creating new, innovative strategies for nurturing passionate, reflective practitioners.

Several existing tracks are being offered with new twists to better fit changing ministry needs. Dr. Rodney Cooper, Kenneth and Jean Hansen Professor of Discipleship and Leadership Development, has reworked his long-standing and highly effective Redemptive Leadership track with a multi-ethnic emphasis, bringing in as a new co-mentor Dr. Mark DeYmaz, pastor of the Mosaic Church in Central Arkansas.

Dr. Peter Kuzmič, Eva B. and Paul E. Toms Distinguished Professor of World Missions and European Studies, has partnered with new Associate Professor of World Christianity and Asian Studies Dr. Xiyi (Kevin) Yao to offer Missions & Cross-Cultural Studies again, with a new East Asia emphasis and third residency location in China.

Another newer faculty member, Dr. Jim M. Singleton, Jr., Associate Professor of Pastoral Leadership and Evangelism, gave the Advancing the Church track a makeover, relaunching it as Transforming Congregations, with Dr. Paul Detterman, Executive Director of Presbyterians for Renewal, as co-mentor. Recent D.Min. graduate Dr. Randy Quackenbush will join me as co-mentor of the renamed Formational Worship, carrying on the vision of founding faculty mentor Dr. Gary Parrett.

A new track, Global Pentecostalism, will begin in 2015, led by co-mentors Dr. Alvin Padilla, Dean of Hispanic Ministries and Professor of New Testament, and Dr. Hector Ortiz, Bishop and Director of the Center for Biblical Leadership for the Church of God of Prophecy.



The track builds upon a long-established tradition of Pentecostal scholars at Gordon-Conwell such as Dr. Eldin Villafañe, Professor of Christian Social Ethics, and Dr. Pablo Polischuk, Professor of Pastoral Counseling and Psychology, and a growing connection with the Church of God of Prophecy nurtured through the partnership of Dr. Padilla and Bishop Ortiz in the seminary's Hispanic Ministry Program (HMP). Some of the first master's graduates of the HMP will be continuing their studies at Gordon-Conwell through the new D.Min. track.

Several new tracks are in development for the coming years:

- As part of the seminary's ongoing China Initiative, Dr. Yao is working closely with Rev. David Ro, Director of the J Christy Wilson, Jr. Center for World Missions, to develop our first track in Chinese. A generous contribution will help make this track available to underground church pastors from Mainland China.
- D.Min. alum and retired Navy Chaplain Admiral Alan Baker ('97) and Dr. Jim Critchlow, retired Army major and Ranked Adjunct Assistant Professor of Old Testament, have begun discussions about a military chaplains track.
- Dr. Steve Kang, Professor of Educational Ministries and Interdisciplinary Studies, is exploring how he might craft a track for staff pastors, emphasizing congregational life.
- Dr. Jim Singleton has sketched out ideas for a Transformational Leadership track.
- Also in the planning stage is an online D.Min. Writing Support Seminar.

The Gordon-Conwell D.Min. program was honored to be featured as the first to be evaluated in a quality assessment process by scholars from Denver Theological Seminary as part of their study of D.Min. education nationwide.

## HELPING COLLEGE STUDENTS FORM SPIRITUALLY



**WHEN GORDON-CONWELL D.MIN. STUDENT LINDA LEON** explains why college ministry is important, she often uses a backpack metaphor.

"I love that students come into college with a backpack of beliefs they don't even know they're wearing," explains the Director of Spiritual Formation at Malone University, a Christian liberal arts school in Canton, Ohio. "Over time, they finally realize, 'Oh, I've got this backpack on. What's in it?' They start unpacking beliefs, attitudes and values from their parents, peers, youth director or the culture."

"Over the course of undergraduate life, hopefully, campus ministry is about helping students evaluate those attitudes and beliefs and decide what they're going to put back into their backpack and wear into young adulthood. I so love and am so honored to be part of that process alongside students."

Malone University requires full-time undergraduate students to earn at least 20 non-academic spiritual formation credits per semester. Students can choose from numerous opportunities—more than 70 during the fall semester alone. These range from student-led interactive worship experiences, to Life Groups on topics such as Doubters Anonymous and People in Pursuit of God.

The extensive programming was actually the outgrowth of an assessment of Malone's previous chapel program that Linda conducted as part of her thesis project for the Emerging Generations D.Min. cohort. Through that study, she says, "we realized we had to renovate our program."

Malone University has an open enrollment policy, which does not require a faith statement for admission. While many students are Christian, "some may or may not have church backgrounds, or...be Christ followers."

"We see in them the distinguishing aspects of the postmodern, millennial generation. They're very focused on using different learning styles and discovering truth for themselves. They're not very accepting of authority (although what generation ever has been), and very paranoid of the Church universal. They're over busy...and over committed."

Student response to the Spiritual Formation Opportunities (SFOs), she says, "is similar to the gamut of backgrounds. When you have a mandatory requirement for a spiritual life program—and this is the case at most schools in the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities—some rebel. With our program renovation, the desire is for our students to choose which opportunities to be a part of, so that they would become more proactive participants in their own spiritual growth."

The variety of programs, she adds, "helps accommodate various learning styles, not just sermons or lectures where students are sitting and receiving, but times where they can be kinetic, use art or music in community worship settings, or...be mentored in small groups. We didn't want to continue a 'one size fits all' spiritual formation model." In a recent survey of the new initiative, traditional undergraduate students on the whole rated the SFO program positively in all survey areas.

What does Linda enjoy most about working with young people ages "18 to 22ish?"

"I love relational college ministry where you earn the right to ask hard questions of students: 'Who am I? Where am I? What's wrong? And what's the remedy?' I love seeing the light bulb go on when it comes to them."

## Hispanic Ministries Program Continues to Redefine Hispanic Theological Education

ALVIN PADILLA, PH.D., DEAN OF HISPANIC MINISTRIES



The April 15, 2013, issue of *TIME* magazine highlighted for its reader how the Hispanic American church is transforming religion in America. Though the majority of U.S. Hispanics are Roman Catholics, Hispanic evangelicals are one of the fastest growing segments of America's churchgoing millions.

According to the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life, more than two-thirds of the 53-million-plus Hispanics in the U.S. are Catholic; by 2030, that portion could be closer to half, as many are joining evangelical Protestant ranks. It is difficult to track the numbers of the groundswell of these new Protestants. They often meet in storefronts or living rooms, and language barriers complicate the census process. This rapid growth is both a challenge and an opportunity for the evangelical church in North America—an opportunity that will transform American Christianity.

Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary has enthusiastically welcomed this challenge as an opportunity to expand the reach of the seminary in

numerous fronts. The Hispanic Ministries Program (HMP) has pushed the geographical boundaries of the seminary, as courses have been taught in the New York metropolitan area, south Texas and southern Florida—geographical centers of the growing Hispanic evangelical community.

The HMP seeks to redefine how theological education is delivered by offering intensive courses, both in English and in Spanish, in these locations. At the same time, the program partners with the seminary's Semlink+ program, affording HMP students the opportunity for online learning. Students enrolled in this program, on average, take four courses per year, leading to a Master of Arts in Religion. In the fall semester, we had 220



students enrolled, and we expect 150 additional students for the spring semester. The conclusion of the 2012–13 academic year yielded a total of 378 students enrolled in these non-traditional initiatives.

A Gordon-Conwell degree program would not be truly a Gordon-Conwell degree without the active involvement of our esteemed faculty. Thus, a significant number of these courses are taught by our own faculty, with adjunct faculty from throughout the country also teaching courses in each location. Among these are Dr. Justo González, founding member and former President of Asociación para la Educación Teológica Hispana (AETH) and one of the most influential leaders in Hispanic theological education. Dr. Hector Ortiz, Bishop and Director of the Center for Biblical Leadership for the Church of God of Prophecy, will also be teaching in our program.

In order to keep pace with the continued and projected growth of the HMP, we have appointed Rev. Juan Carlos (JC) Morales as the Assistant Dean. JC hails from Brooklyn, N.Y. He is a Gordon-Conwell—Boston alumnus ('01) and, along with his wife, Maribel, has served as pastor, marriage ministry trainer and as a non-profit consultant throughout the U.S. JC is currently completing his Ph.D. in Church and Society at Union Theological Seminary (N.Y.C.). Prior to his role as Assistant Dean, JC served as adjunct professor for a number of courses at Gordon-Conwell, Union Theological Seminary and Spanish Eastern School of Theology. He brings broad experience in teaching and ministering to both English and Spanish audiences. JC joins our dedicated and talented team that seeks to equip Hispanic church leaders with an affordable, quality theological education.

## HISPANIC MINISTRIES STUDENT SEEKS TO IMPROVE MINISTRY



**HISPANIC MINISTRIES STUDENT BENJAMIN (BEN) FELIZ** oversees Gordon-Conwell's largest Hispanic Ministries residency, located in the Dominican Republic. In addition, he oversees 1,696 ministers, 2,302 churches and 125,987 area members as the Church of God of Prophecy (COGOP) General Presbyterian for Central America, Mexico and Spanish Caribbean.

Ben coordinates courses for a cohort of COGOP bishops from around the world. This "Leaders of Leaders" track stems from a six-year partnership between the COGOP and Gordon-Conwell's HMP program. The cohort meets in the Dominican Republic twice a year for intensive courses taught by Gordon-Conwell faculty as part of the Master of Arts in Religion program.

Born in the Dominican Republic and raised in Chile, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic, Ben has lived in the U.S. for 25 years. He is stationed in the COGOP's U.S. International Office in Cleveland, TN. But, he says, "I'm always traveling—I'm never in one place. I spend about 50-percent of my time here and 50-percent on the road."

For the COGOP, Ben spends most of his time preaching, teaching, vision casting and managing projects such as church planting.

With a B.A. in Business from Eastern College (PA) and an MBA from Bryan College (TN), Ben started his career in banking and international finance. He enrolled in the Master of Arts in Religion degree through the HMP five years ago, and plans to earn a Doctor of Ministry degree.

When did God call him into ministry? "The better question," Ben suggests, "is 'When did I respond?' He was always calling.

"Ministry has been a lifelong experience. I've been involved in some kind of ministry throughout my whole life—worship, youth ministry, overseas work, church planting. It started with my grandparents, my parents—my father was a minister, and I became a believer through my parent's ministry—then me and now my children.

"As a result of this program, I think the quality of my ministry will improve. That alone would be a great benefit. I'm already getting immediate results from my theological education. In the long run...I would like to go back to the pastorate and teach younger pastors to be better prepared to meet the demands of pastors in the 21st century.

"The partnership between COGOP and HMP is unbelievable. It blesses us and opens doors to the seminary that otherwise may not be open." Of the 450 HMP students, 350 come from the COGOP, including 55–60 bishops comprising Ben's cohort.

## Ockenga Institute PROVIDES SEMINARY RESOURCES TO LEARNERS WORLDWIDE

DAVID HORN, TH.D., DIRECTOR, HAROLD JOHN OCKENGA INSTITUTE



*Dimensions of the Faith*, a free 10-course online program, continues to be an important resource for students of all kinds around the globe. We have translated and now offer the entire *Dimensions of the Faith* 10-course canon in Mandarin Chinese, thanks to our long-lasting partnership with a terrific Chinese organization.

In addition, the Ockenga Institute offers a six-course diploma program for those who may not be able fulfill the obligations of an entire degree. Designed mostly for lay leaders and bivocational pastors, the Life and Ministry Diploma program consists of six courses at a for-credit level that can be transferred into a degree program upon completion. To further train couples in ministry, a special Life and Ministry Diploma is offered for spouses of current students at the seminary.

Starting in January, we have the opportunity to expand the Ockenga diploma program in service to InterVarsity staff in New England. As a key element of their training, all new staff are now being asked to participate in six intensive courses taught by Gordon-Conwell faculty every January and June.

The 40+ Semlink courses developed by the Ockenga Institute are available for students of many kinds. For those who would like

These are only some of the many comments that we have received from people in at least 65 countries around the world who have expressed their gratitude for our *Dimensions of the Faith* program.

*"I have recommended this course to a number of my friends. My associate pastor and wife went through the [program] as well, and some friends in other churches. I led the church I pastored for 15 years to support Gordon-Conwell, mainly due to the Dimensions of the Faith. And, I plan to ask my mission church to support the seminary as well, and I will try to get my leadership to take the program. I believe God is going to return this blessing to the seminary, good measure, pressed down and running over."*

*"Thank you so much. The Dimensions of the Faith program was very helpful, informative and fun. I plan on doing overseas missions, and several missions organizations accept Dimensions of the Faith for Bible credits so this saved me a great deal of time and I was able to [complete the courses] while still in school for my degree in construction technology. This program was certainly a blessing."*

to reconnect with biblical languages, we designed the Greek and Hebrew courses to be used as tutorials. The non-credit option offers a full overview of church history, theology, biblical studies and practical theology. Approximately 30 Semlink courses are now also offered in Mandarin Chinese.



We are pleased to announce that Rev. David Ro (M.Div. '96) was appointed the new Director of the J Christy Wilson, Jr. Center for World Missions. Rev. Ro is a long-term missionary with OMF International and serves as the Lausanne International Deputy Director/East Asia. He will continue in his roles with OMF International and Lausanne, serving as a significant liaison between the two organizations and Gordon-Conwell.

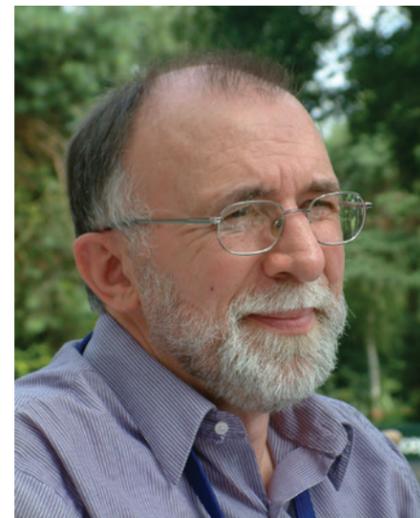
The Wilson Center hosted its annual Missions Emphasis Week in October. This year's theme of "People on the Move" focused on the dynamics of missions to the diaspora, featuring keynote speakers Dr. M. Daniel Carroll R., Distinguished Professor of Old Testament at Denver Seminary, and Dr. Todd M. Johnson, Associate Professor of Global Christianity & Director of the Center for the Study of Global Christianity. The Wilson Center continues to explore this theme with six additional lunch forums that began last fall and will continue into the spring.

For more than 25 years, the Ockenga Institute has broadened the student body beyond our traditional degree-seeking students to students of all circumstances, ages and locations. On the drawing board is a vision for expanding the horizons of theological education even more through new and creative delivery systems as we move into the future.

*"I do a lot of driving for my job and these lectures are fantastic. I honestly can't believe the caliber of biblical knowledge. Thank you so much."*

*"My name is Andrew Agnew. I am a church planter based in Scotland just outside the city of Edinburgh and have come across your lectures through iTunes. I am so blessed by them. As a young pastor who has not had any formal training theologically, I am learning so much that I can take into my understanding of the Bible and into my work. God bless you in your work to bring such important teaching to those who can't afford to travel to the seminary to study."*

To register for *Dimensions of the Faith*, visit:  
[www.gordonconwell.edu/dimensions](http://www.gordonconwell.edu/dimensions)



ALUMNI IN ACTION: JIM TEBBE ('76)

## Extending Grace in a Country Riddled with Violence and Intolerance

As hundreds of worshippers exited the historic All Saint's Church and filed onto the lawn for lunch, a pair of suicide bombers walked into the crowd. In place of church bells, the sound of explosions ripped through the air in Peshawar, Pakistan, that Sunday morning, September 22, 2013. Eighty-five people lost their lives and countless others were injured in the deadliest attack on Christians in the country's history.

"After the bombing, there was pressure to close the school, but we didn't close. That's what the terrorists wanted us to do," explains Dr. James Tebbe, Rector (President) of Forman Christian College in Lahore, Pakistan, approximately 320 miles southwest of Peshawar. "Instead, we held a prayer service. Our auditorium, which seats about 750, was packed full, and about 500 people were Muslim. What an opportunity to talk about the love and forgiveness of God."

Born and raised as a missionary kid in Pakistan, Jim developed an interest in Pakistan and Pakistani Islam at a young age—but was not always sure that he would return to the country of his youth. "By the time I was in college at Indiana University, I was very active in InterVarsity and knew I was interested in ministry. I thought it would probably be in the U.S., but as it turned out, God led us elsewhere."

Knowing that he would enter ministry, Jim sought seminary training. He learned of Gordon-Conwell through his father's friend and former co-worker, the late Dr. Addison Leitch, professor of theology at Gordon-Conwell. "I admired him so much that when I heard he had gone to Gordon-Conwell, that settled it for me," he says.

Shortly after graduating from Gordon-Conwell with a Master of Divinity in 1976, Jim and his wife, Beth, returned to Pakistan as missionaries with InterServe. For the next 25 years, he faithfully served with InterServe—as a pastor in Pakistan and Bangladesh; as a lecturer, writer and researcher in the Christian Study Centre in Pakistan; as Area Director West in Cyprus; and eventually as International Director, overseeing operations around the world.

From 2002–2010, Jim and Beth returned to the U.S., where Jim served as Vice President of InterVarsity, Director of the triennial

Urbana Missions Convention, and North American International Deputy Director for the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization. During this time, Jim says, "I really hadn't thought we would go overseas again. I had traveled quite a lot in my previous jobs and thought, 'I'd be glad if I never got on a plane again!'"

Then, the Tebbes learned that Forman Christian College was searching for a new president. Thanks to Beth's encouragement, Jim, who also holds a M.A. in Near Eastern Studies/Islamics from Princeton University and a Ph.D. in Religious Studies from St. John's Nottingham/Open University, inquired about the position. Shortly after, Jim and Beth were on a plane to Pakistan, returning to serve once again.

Forman Christian College, a chartered university, is home to 6,400 students. "Founded by missionaries, FCC was kept as a Christian college even though the majority of faculty and students would be Muslim," explains Jim. "It's an umbrella, rather than systemic, Christian organization...There is nothing like it in the world—its opportunity and place are unique, its influence in Pakistan is enormous, its visibility is high, and it is utterly and openly Christian."

"Pakistan is becoming increasingly intolerant. You read everyday of sectarian violence. Everyday. Without exception. Being able to model harmony, how to work with other people, and the dignity of every person in the eyes of God as a Christian value is really prized."

"It's not just Christians that suffer; it's mostly other Muslims that suffer. One of our students wrote in a blog post about FCC: 'I have concluded that if God is anywhere in Pakistan, he is with the Christians here. We are filled with hate and violence for each other, and here they are reaching out to us. The most important lesson I learned is one of love.'

"How do we get along with each other when violence and intolerance are so prevalent in the society?" Jim says, "We provide an umbrella of grace that shows love and forgiveness."

# Alumni Services: WORKING TO COMMUNICATE

## ALUMNI IMPACT AND KEEP ALUMNI CONNECTED

Gordon-Conwell has 8,948 graduates living in 82 countries, including every state in the U.S. The Alumni Services office exists to communicate the impact that Gordon-Conwell alumni have in their ministries, and their support of the seminary through recruitment of prospective student and giving. In addition, the Alumni Services office strives to help graduates from all campuses remain connected with the seminary, faculty and their classmates.

### Alumni Impact

#### Ministry

While the majority of graduates serve in pastoral ministry, counseling, missions, chaplaincy and para-church settings, we are grateful for the impact of all our alumni who serve in myriad vocations around the globe. We trust that the education our alumni received and the resources we currently offer are helping arm them to make an impact wherever they serve.

Our annual alumni survey enables us to see what we are doing well, and how we can improve resources. We are grateful to the graduates who completed this year's survey of class years end-

ing in "3" and "8." Graduates from a year that ends in "4" or "9" will have opportunity to provide feedback in June 2014.

#### Recruitment

Based on incoming student surveys and casual conversations, we know that many students find their way to Gordon-Conwell through personal contacts with our alumni. Through formal initiatives, some students ultimately enroll because an alumnus recommended them (see chart on page 27). We greatly appreciate the efforts of our alumni to send students our way.

#### Giving

Alumni also have an important impact through their giving to Gordon-Conwell. Since 2009, the percentage of alumni who give has increased each year to its current level of 11.2%. Their financial contributions are valuable in helping fund our services to students. In addition, alumni donations in any amount have significant impact in helping the seminary secure additional funding through foundation grants, as some are contingent on alumni participation in giving.



Alumni Library

During the past year, Alumni Services embarked on a project to collect publications from alumni authors and Gordon-Conwell faculty. The Alumni Library is part of the President's Dining Room, adjacent to Alumni Hall. It contains a collection of more than 350 books written by nearly 300 alumni and faculty. Alumni authors wishing to participate in this initiative can send their book(s) to Alumni Services, 130 Essex Street, South Hamilton, MA 01982.

### Alumni Connect

Alumni Services continues to keep alumni informed about their fellow graduates and the seminary through Alumni News and Notes online, social media, *Contact* magazine and the monthly e-newsletter *InCommunity*. Alumni can find Gordon-Conwell Facebook pages for Hamilton, Boston, Charlotte and Korean alumni; follow Alumni Services @GCTSalumni; or join the Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary LinkedIn group (now with nearly 900 members) to stay up to date on the latest news and events.

### Events

The purpose of Alumni Connect events is to link alumni with each other, the seminary and its faculty. Since July 2012, more than 350 alumni and friends have gathered at national and regional events such as the Women Pastors' Roundtable (Hamilton, MA), Society for Biblical Literature (Chicago, IL), Alumni Connect Breakfast (Asheville, N.C.), and at denominational meetings, including PCA (Greenville, S.C.), EPC (Colorado Springs, CO) Alumni Connect Breakfast, and WNCU UMC (Lake Junaluska, N.C.) Alumni Connect Luncheon.

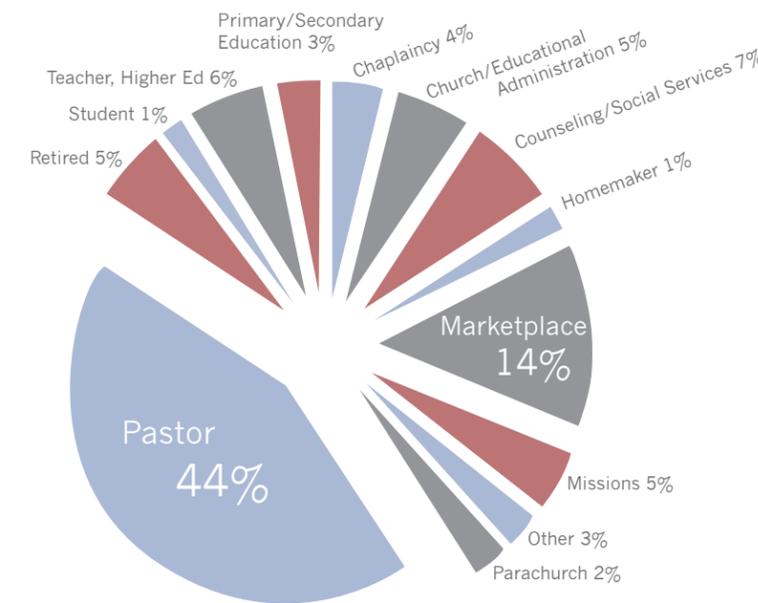
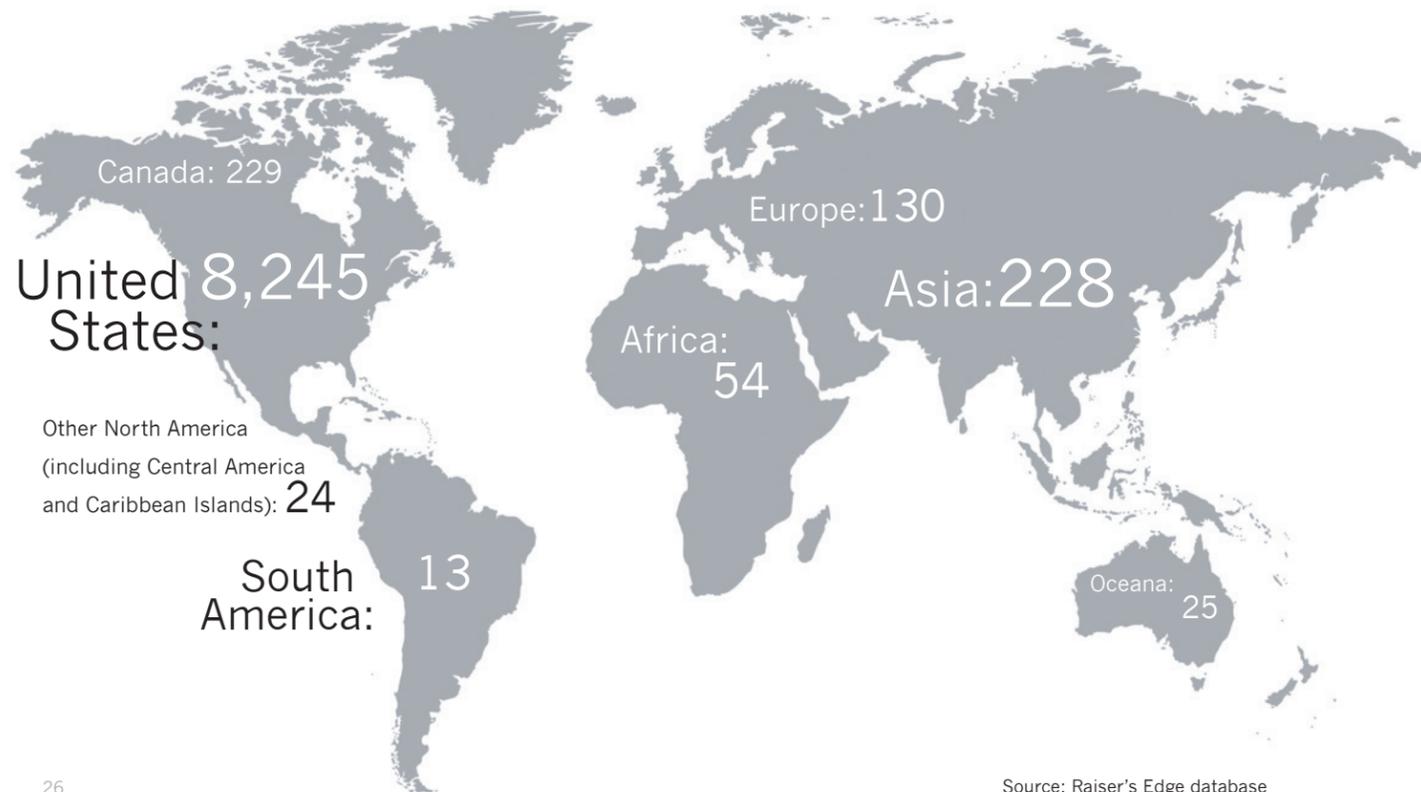
The first Alumni Tour, an archaeological study trip to Israel and Jordan, will take place in January of 2015. Information is available online at [www.gordonconwell.edu/israelandjordan](http://www.gordonconwell.edu/israelandjordan).

### Alumni Resources

- Audio Ministry
- Doctor of Ministry
- Gordon-Conwell Courses
- Online Bookstore
- Graduation Verification
- Library Resources
- Ministrylist.com
- Oasis Support Ministry
- Ockenga Institute
- Online Chapel
- Transcript Requests

<http://my.gordonconwell.edu/alumniresources>

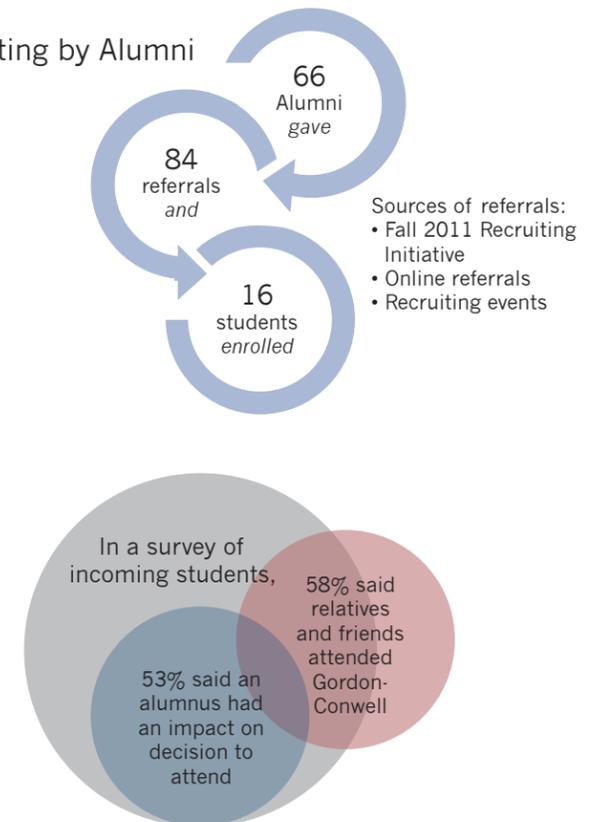
## 8,948 Graduates in 82 Countries



### Occupation

Source: Raiser's Edge Database. Sample of data based on 52% of graduated alumni reporting.

### Recruiting by Alumni



Source: 2012 Entering Student Survey

*In our annual reports, we highlight the building blocks of the advancement efforts at Gordon-Conwell. Our three primary buildings blocks are our Founder's Society, the Gordon-Conwell Education Fund and the Our Legacy – Our Future Comprehensive Campaign. We are stewards of all the resources that have been entrusted to us, and it is our pleasure to provide this article as a progress report on our initiatives. 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.*

## Gordon-Conwell Advancement Initiatives

Kurt W. Drescher, Vice President of Advancement

*This, then, is how you ought to regard us: as servants of Christ and as those entrusted with the mysteries God has revealed. Now it is required that those who have been given a trust must prove faithful.*

*1 Corinthians 4:1-2, NIV*



### The Founder's Society

Gordon-Conwell was founded in 1969 through the efforts of evangelist Rev. Dr. Billy Graham, Park Street Church pastor Dr. Harold John Ockenga and philanthropist J. Howard Pew. Their desire and goal was to establish an interdenominational, evangelical seminary dedicated to equipping students for “all facets of gospel outreach.”

At Gordon-Conwell, we are still pursuing that vision to this day, combining educational innovation with a high priority on academics and faithfulness to the gospel, as we seek to train students to think theologically, engage globally and live biblically.

One of the biggest barriers for student enrollment at Gordon-Conwell is the cost of tuition and other expenses. To stay ahead of this challenge, we are delighted to share that 88 percent of the money we are raising in planned gifts will go directly to endowing student scholarships. The remaining 12 percent will cover building endowments, which help reduce the burden on annual operations. We would be honored to extend membership in the Founders' Society to those friends who would be interested in making a planned gift of any amount to Gordon-Conwell. As a community, we are deeply grateful for the long-term investments that friends of the seminary have made through their planned gifts.

### The Gordon-Conwell Education Fund

Our annual fund for operations is referred to as the Gordon-Conwell Education Fund. It is vital to the seminary's ability to equip the next generation of church leaders to handle opportunities presented to the Church. This fund supports the distinguished faculty, programs and centers that draw students from around the world to one of our four campuses or our programs. It also supports the operations required for an efficient, student-focused learning environment. The Education Fund enables us to:

- **Keep Tuition Within Reach** – Our longstanding goal is to ensure that educational debt will not prevent called men and women from entering ministry. Without the valuable support of the Gordon-Conwell Education Fund, many students could not even afford to attend Gordon-Conwell.
- **Attract and Retain Gifted Faculty and Staff** – This fund is critical to our success in attracting and retaining gifted personnel through competitive salaries, resources for research and continuing education.
- **Maintain an Environment Conducive to Learning** – Gifts to this fund help us provide the academic resources crucial for graduate-level education and facilities that enhance learning and contribute to vibrant community life.

Words alone cannot express our gratitude for the thousands of people who gave faithfully and generously to the Gordon-Conwell Education Fund this past year. Our original goal was \$2.5 million, a 9 percent increase over the previous year goal. We are so happy to report that this year more than 3,600 partners gave a total of \$2.9 million, an all-time high, exceeding our goal by \$400,000. That represents 815 more donors than the previous year—a 34 percent increase. Reaching and exceeding our Education Fund goals are fundamental to a successful long-term advancement strategy. Please know that we are incredibly grateful to our friends of the seminary, and to our great God, who is using these faithful stewards to advance the Kingdom and serve the Church.

### Our Legacy – Our Future Comprehensive Campaign: Serving the Church with Excellence and Innovation

Through our present campaign, we have set out to revitalize and expand our campuses, reach more students and resource future leaders.

**Revitalizing and expanding our campuses** – We are seeking through our comprehensive campaign to enrich the South Hamilton campus as a place for reflection, research and renewal. We’re accomplishing these goals by improving the functionality of dormitories, apartments and classrooms, and by renewing our buildings and grounds to enhance student recruitment. This initiative turns some of our older facilities into family-friendly, community enhancing facilities in excellent condition and in harmony with our extraordinary surroundings. These improvements will enable us to increase the seminary’s residential student body on the South Hamilton campus.

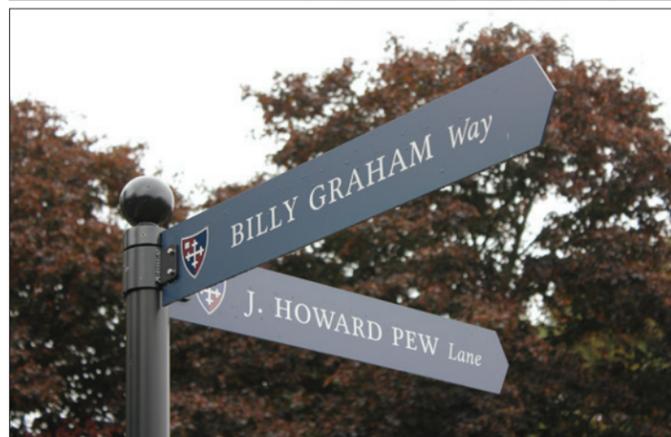
We have also made significant progress on our revitalization priority by repurposing three spaces, which have already enabled the Gordon-Conwell community, area churches and local community organizations to utilize our facilities.

#### Alumni Hall

- Our newly opened Alumni Hall is named in honor of our graduates and features a library showcasing our alumni’s published works. This project has produced first-class space for church retreats, conferences, campus and community events, weddings and many other gatherings. The theme verse for this hall is: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us* (Hebrews 12:1).

#### Pierce Great Hall

- Next door to Alumni Hall is our transformed Pierce Great Hall. The main campus in Hamilton is nestled on a picturesque New England hillside and the environment is inviting to learning, fellowship and disciple-building. Yet, there has been no common area for our students to



fellowship, enjoy a cup of coffee, meet informally with faculty or pray and study together. This lack of dedicated space has been a barrier to our values of disciple-building, fellowship and community.

At the top of the hill stands the campus’ most used building: the Kerr Building. A very large wing of this building, the Great Room, has long held much potential both functionally and aesthetically, but has gone largely underutilized over the years. It was a goal of our campaign to create an environment for disciple-building and spiritual formation by renovating and transforming the Great Room. That goal has come to the fruition with the completion of the Pierce Great Hall, named after John and Lois Pierce, founders of the Pierce Center for Disciple-Building. John was a long-time, faithful and generous trustee of Gordon-Conwell from 1976-2003. During his lifetime, he was deeply committed to stewarding his resources to further the cause of Christ.

The transformation of the hall has created an inviting space for discipleship, Bible study, mentoring or informal gatherings. All of these values are key ingredients for the relational growth and spiritual formation of our students.

#### Relocation for Greater Effectiveness

- To create even better traffic flow between spaces, both our architect and independent consultants recommended that the Pierce Center for Disciple-Building offices be relocated more strategically for the mission of the Pierce Center, while providing a quieter location away from the very busy front door. Placing these offices behind the Pierce Great Hall (adjacent to the Wilson Prayer Chapel and Pierce Center Sacred Spaces), and re-allocating the current Pierce Center Offices to serve as the Welcome Center for the seminary would also create a suite of spaces with natural flow. It would likewise allow The Pierce Center to be at the heart of campus, while creating a more hospitable welcome to new students and visitors at our main entrance. Many of these changes have been made, and are indeed achieving their intended results.

#### Renamed Streets

- Working closely with the town of Hamilton, we have renamed all the streets on the South Hamilton campus, providing an even higher level of public safety for our student community, which is served by the local police and fire department.

Out of a deep respect for our founders and their impact on the seminary and broader community, these streets have been named Billy Graham Way, Harold John Ockenga Lane, J. Howard Pew Lane, A.J. Gordon Court and Russell Conwell Court.

The Charlotte campus is currently fundraising to build an expanded facility to accommodate its growing student population and its partnerships with churches and missions organizations.

- Understanding that the environment provided by the Charlotte campus influences the experiences and opportunities of its students, we made the decision to expand the Charlotte campus. The goal of this expansion is to enable Gordon-Conwell—Charlotte to cultivate leaders of the Church for every generation, culture and calling, and to encourage God’s people to continue in vital, lifelong learning.

- The architectural motif for the expanding building is an abbey—a classic form of community space where learning, worship and collaboration come together in a blend of library collections, interactive classrooms, indoor/outdoor courtyards, walkways and trails, sacred art and spaces designed for intimate fellowship, reflection and collaboration.

Our Boston campus inaugurated a major annual event this past spring for young urban leaders in the Boston region. This event is an opportunity to celebrate the work that is going on in the city and to network with young urban leadership. We remain committed to aggressively eliminating the \$1.3 million mortgage on our Boston campus. Some significant results of paying of this debt will be:

- More funds toward student scholarships in Boston
- Reduced annual operating costs
- Keeping tuition at an affordable rate.

As we aim to partner well with our local community, we have begun conversations with our neighbors in Roxbury about parking challenges and the opportunities we might have in developing additional parking spaces on our property adjacent to the Boston campus.

This past year was transformational for our Jacksonville, Florida, campus, which experienced its largest enrollment ever. This campus has been growing steadily, prompting a move to a new location, and an open house in October 2013 to celebrate this milestone. We are grateful for the opportunity to prepare more and more students to serve the Church in Florida, the Southeast and beyond.

It is our prayer and our priority that all our campuses will continue to be used to develop community and church partnerships to serve the Church, and to be good Christian neighbors to those in our respective communities. We believe God is leading us and using us to be good stewards of the campuses he has provided, and to care for them as we serve our current students, future students and the churches and communities around us.

**Reaching more students** – Anticipating the needs of a growing and diverse Church, we are reaching out to many current and future church leaders who are seeking sound, transformative ministerial training. Some of the new programs we are implementing include:

- **Field-Based Mentored Ministry** at the Boston campus: This program engages a team of students in real-world problem-solving, using mentors from pre-selected host churches and faith-based organizations as participant-observers. The emphasis, which integrates spiritual formation, is designed to ensure learning outcomes that further the development of essential leadership skills at the master's level according to each student's specialization.
- **Lilly Endowment and the Kern Family Foundation:** These two partnerships focus on matters of student indebtedness, financial literacy, faith, work and economics.
- **Semlink+ online courses:** The Semlink+ program combines online education with faculty and peer interaction to provide a distinct theological education.
- **Hispanic Ministries Program:** The Hispanic Ministries Program offers courses in various U.S. cities and countries, combined with online offerings and intensive courses at the Hamilton campus.
- **Biblical Literacy Program:** Our Biblical Literacy Program for the Church aims to address a need in many churches by providing basic biblical and theological knowledge. We are committed to equipping Church leaders with a biblical education that can be shared with others to reverse the trend of biblical illiteracy.

All of these programs and initiatives help usher in the next generation of students to Gordon-Conwell, help generate new funding and further our mission in the world to meet the needs of a growing and diverse Church.



**Resourcing future leaders** – It's very common for students to enter seminary with debt from their undergraduate education. While in seminary, many students incur further debt that hinders some from becoming missionaries and saddles others with a significant financial burden in pastoral ministry. We are always working to establish scholarships to help students limit additional educational debt, and also ensure that prospective students without adequate financial means can enroll in Gordon-Conwell, a seminary with strong evangelical, biblical and theological convictions.

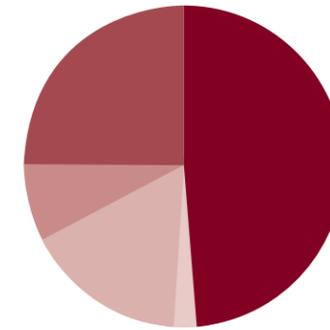
Here is just a sampling of the new scholarships established since the launch of the comprehensive campaign:

- Pastors for Africa Scholarship
- Kern Pastors-Scholars Program
- Presidential Scholarship for Future Christian Leaders
- Church Planting Scholarship
- Centrihall Student Scholarship
- International Student Scholarship
- Christopher Brown Scholarship
- Military Chaplaincy Scholarship
- Partnership Program Full-tuition Scholarship
- George and Helen Bennett Scholarship for Pastor-Leaders
- Doctor of Ministry scholarship for Chinese Pastors

Gordon-Conwell has a rich legacy of serving the Church. For God's glory and with the help of God and the people of God, we will continue to carry on this tradition with excellence and innovation. We simply cannot do this work alone and invite you to prayerfully consider your partnership with our seminary as we steward the resources entrusted to us. To God be the glory for the great things he has done, and will continue to do in and through the work of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

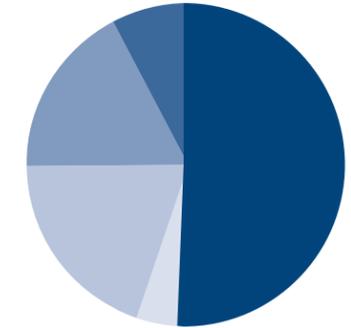
Investing in the Kingdom is our goal as we seek to live out Christ's mandate to "make disciples of all the nations" (Mt. 28:19).

For further information about partnering with us as we prepare future leaders for the Church, please contact Kurt Drescher, Vice President of Advancement, at 978.646.4070 or kdrescher@gordonconwell.edu.



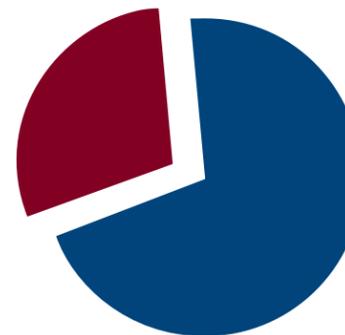
FY13 UNRESTRICTED REVENUES BY MAJOR SOURCE

Net Tuition	\$ 11,042,034	47%
Donor Support	5,994,187	25%
Endowment Distributions	2,034,512	9%
Auxiliary Enterprises	3,629,472	15%
Other Income	1,011,049	4%
<b>Total Unrestricted Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 23,711,254</b>	<b>100%</b>



FY13 EXPENSES HOW FUNDS WERE ALLOCATED

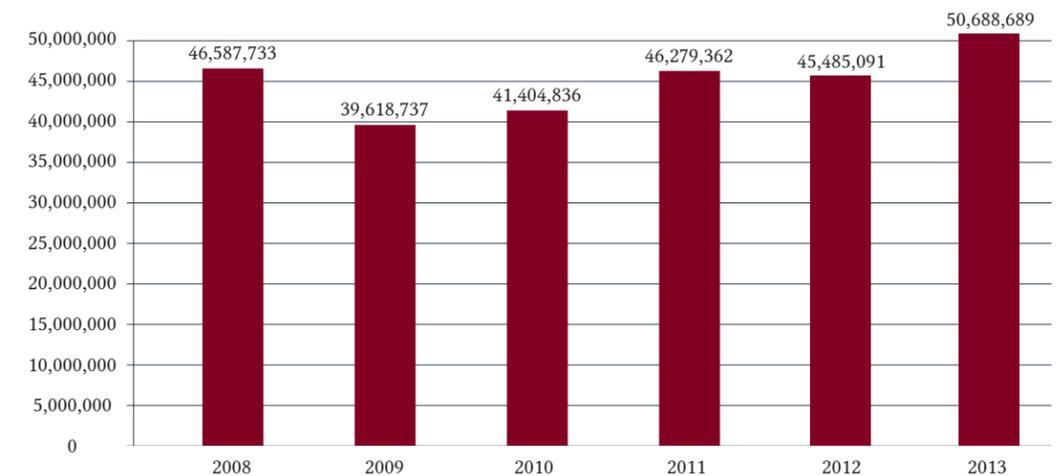
Instructional and Academic Support	\$ 12,337,549	52%
Student Services	1,712,650	7%
Auxiliary Enterprises	4,065,770	17%
Management and General	4,398,349	19%
Fundraising	1,184,862	5%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 23,699,180</b>	<b>100%</b>



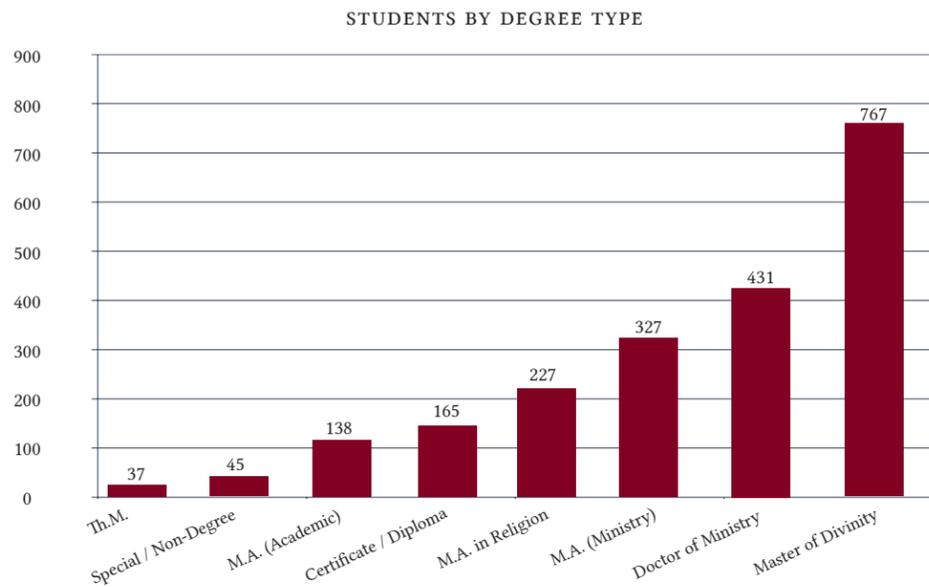
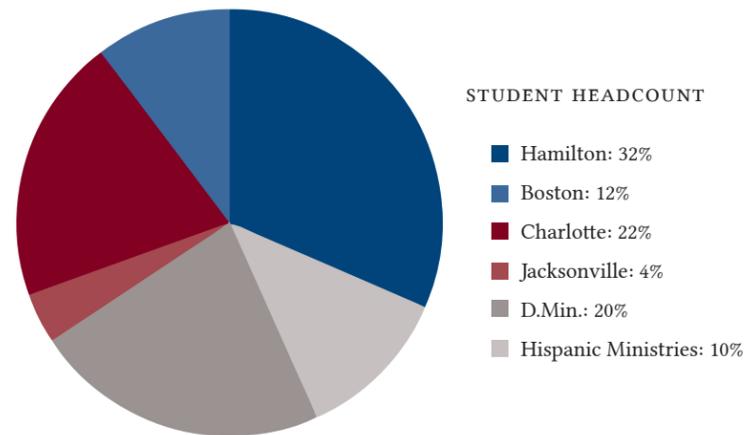
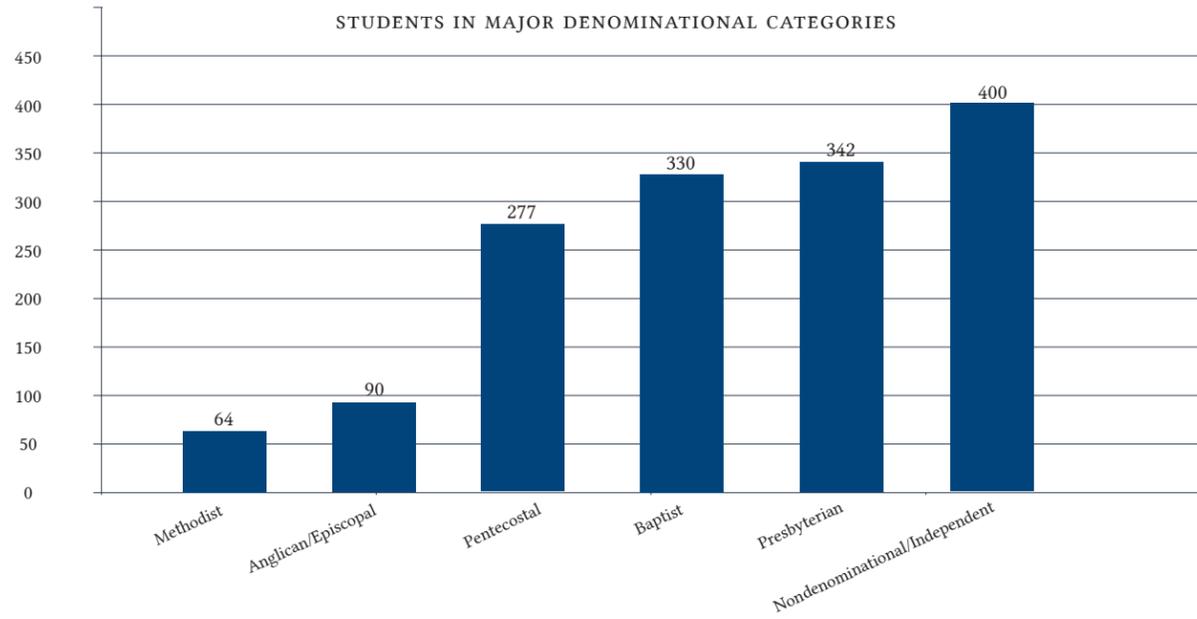
FY13 FINANCIAL AID AND TUITION MAKING A GORDON-CONWELL EDUCATION MORE AFFORDABLE

Tuition Paid by Students	\$ 11,042,034	64%
Restricted Scholarships and Discounts	\$ 6,082,462	36%
<b>Total Tuition</b>	<b>\$ 17,124,496</b>	<b>100%</b>

ENDOWMENT FUNDS



Please find a complete copy of our audited financial statements at [www.gordonconwell.edu/about/Financial-Stewardship.cfm](http://www.gordonconwell.edu/about/Financial-Stewardship.cfm)



## Our Legacy: Billy Graham

At Gordon-Conwell, we encourage our students to think theologically, engage globally and live biblically as they advance God’s Kingdom in every area of life. This vision for dedicated Christian service, faithful evangelicalism and commitment to the essentials of the faith comes from our co-founder, famed evangelist and faithful disciple of Jesus Christ, Billy Graham.

Billy Graham is one of the best-known evangelists in modern history. Born November 7, 1918, in Charlotte, N.C., he came to faith in Christ in 1934 during a revival meeting led by evangelist Mordecai Fowler Ham. In 1940, he graduated from the Florida Bible Institute (now Trinity College). In 1943, he earned a Bachelor of Arts from Wheaton College in Wheaton, IL, and married his wife, Ruth.

Over the next several years, Graham held a pastorate, began a radio program and started a traveling ministry that expanded rapidly. By 1949, he had gained worldwide fame for his evangelistic rallies. Until his retirement in 2005, he conducted more than 400 of these campaigns, reaching numerous states and dozens of countries. Out of his ministry came the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and a popular radio and television program, “Hour of Decision.” Both have also been instrumental in reaching millions of people for Jesus Christ.

Along with philanthropist J. Howard Pew, Graham initiated the establishment of Conwell School of Theology out of Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. However, Graham had a broader

vision, one that included combining Conwell School of Theology and Gordon Divinity School in Boston into a single, powerfully effective evangelical school on the East Coast.

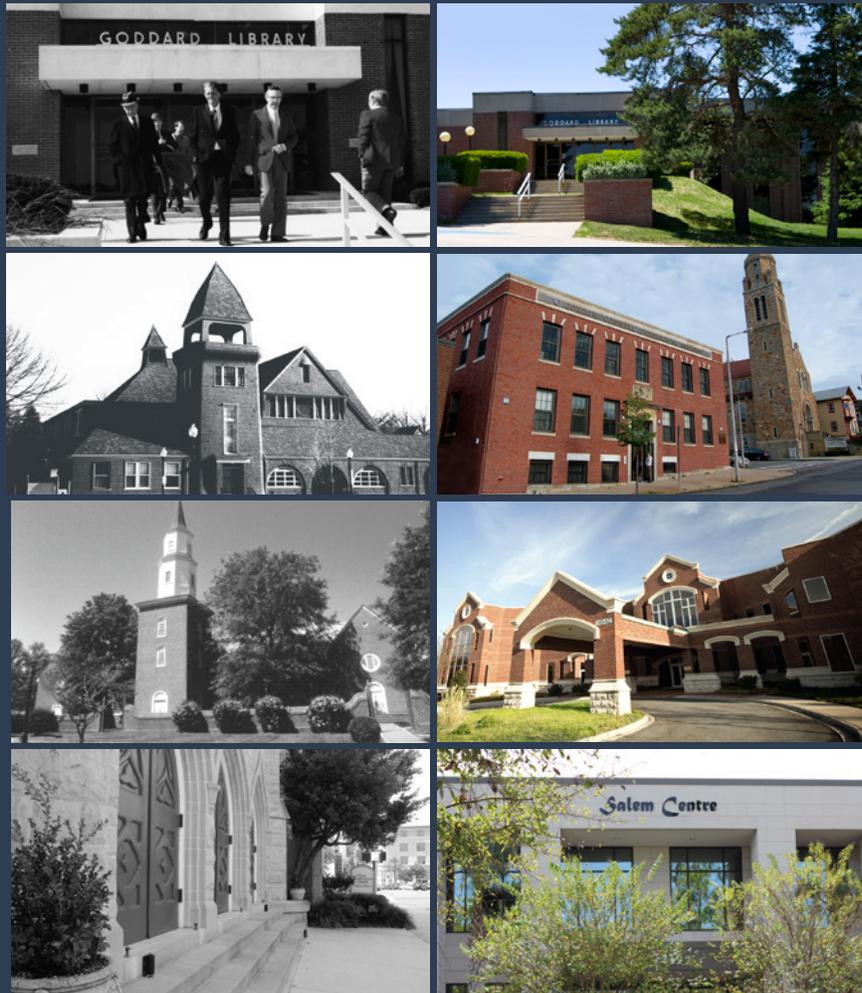
In 1969, Graham, Pew and renowned pastor, Dr. Harold John Ockenga, made this merger a reality with the formation of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. Ockenga became the president of the new school, and Graham served on the board continuously until 2011, when he was given the title of Co-Founder and Trustee Emeritus for the school. In 1974, because of his outstanding service and personal witness to Jesus Christ, Graham was awarded an honorary Doctor of Sacred Theology degree by Gordon-Conwell.

Over the years, Gordon-Conwell has remained faithful to Billy Graham’s vision for a faithful, influential and dedicated evangelical school. Through our renowned faculty, academically challenging classes and faithfulness to the gospel, we continue to equip Church leaders for powerful, effective ministry.

Address Service Requested



## *Then & Now*



### FROM THE TOP

Row 1: Hamilton campus, 1969 and 2013. Row 2: Boston campus, 1976 and 2013.  
Row 3: Charlotte campus, 1992 and 2013. Row 4: Jacksonville campus, 2006 and 2013.