Alumni

GORDON CONWELL

Alumni Spotlight: David Currie (MDiv ’84)

Titles: Dean of the Doctor of Ministry Program; Dean of the Anglican Formation Program; Professor of Pastoral Theology

Family: Wife: Susan P. Currie (MATS ’84; DMin ’11); 3 adult children & 3 grandchildren

Favorite professor: Richard Lovelace (I served as his Byington for 2 years)

Favorite class: OT Hermeneutics with Meredith Kline (I disagreed vocally with him at the start of the class but was convinced by the end!)

Favorite memory: Forming a prayer group the first night on C-Level (our dorm floor) with the guys who lived beside and across the hall from me (Alvin Padilla and Tim Tennent) and continuing to pray throughout our degree programs and up to the present.

Please tell us about your area(s) of expertise and what courses you teach at Gordon-Conwell.

My doctorate is in church history, which is what I have mainly taught on the master’s level at CUME and in the Latino & Global Ministries Program. However, the bulk of my teaching has been in the DMin Program in these tracks: Pastoral Theology in Practice; Spiritual Formation for Ministry Leaders; Outreach & Discipleship; Church Planting & Multiplication; and Biblical Worship. I also now teach a few masters courses in the Anglican Formation Program: Anglican World Missions; Pastoral Counseling; and Leadership.

How did God weave together your Gordon-Conwell education with other life events to bring you back to Gordon-Conwell as a faculty member?

It goes back to that C-Level prayer group. When Alvin Padilla became Dean of CUME, he needed someone to teach church history and invited me to do so part-time in 1998 while I was still pastoring. I would never have picked myself to teach at

CUME, but I fell in love with the urban context and teaching practitioners. I had the privilege of teaching future CUME faculty, Quonekuia Day and Virginia Ward. Then in 2004, Alvin and Tim Tennent encouraged me to consider more seriously Barry Corey's invitation to apply to oversee the DMin Program.

What are some things you love about your role as a faculty member?

I love being able to equip students to live more fully into their callings to build up the Body of Christ. As Dean of the DMin program, I also have the joy of creating contexts for my faculty colleagues to translate their passions into DMin tracks that nurture passionate, reflective practitioners. Our DMin Program is team-taught, and I have had the amazing privilege of teaching alongside faculty who greatly shaped me such as Ken Swetland and Robert Coleman.

What's unique about teaching at Gordon-Conwell?

That students and faculty can agree about two things—the truthfulness and authority of the Scriptures and the transforming power of the Gospel through the Holy Spirit—and then disagree, mainly in love, about just about everything else!

How has teaching in a multidenominational setting shaped your own faith, ministry, or view of the Church as a whole?

On the one hand, witnessing such godly, faithful servants from so many denominations removes any illusion that my own denomination has any corner on such things, and nurtures wondrous thanks for the length and breadth of the Kingdom. On the other hand, it reminds me that my denomination's problems are not unique, and are at least ones I understand and feel called, and somewhat equipped, to address!

How has your own Gordon-Conwell education served you in your academic work, or impacted how you do your work?

Regardless of whether it's church history or pastoral theology, my starting point is always "What does Scripture say?" and "How does the Gospel address the challenge of a fallen world?"

Do you have any publications or links you would like to share?

The Big Idea of Biblical Worship: The Development & Leadership of Expository Services

Doctor of Ministry Overview Video