



Annual Stewardship Report

GORDON  CONWELL
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY



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This past year, Gordon-Conwell conferred 221 master’s degrees and 24 doctorates to men and women who will serve Christ across the globe through the church, the workplace, and the academy. Here are a few of the highlights of this past year’s good work across One Gordon as we equipped students—residential, urban, and networked—with a rigorous theological education, deep spiritual formation, practical ministry skills, and financial preparation.

RIGOROUS THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

- Our faculty of scholars and scholar-practitioners continued to “magnify high academic standards,” providing an education that imbues students with a rich knowledge of Scripture as well as contributing to thought leadership through their publications.
- Our new PhD in Theological Studies will soon prepare global Christian leaders to conduct rigorous scholarship and teach theological studies in underserved areas.
- Our DMin in Bible Translation cohort met in Italy to participate in the prestigious Nida School of Translation Studies offered by the United Bible Societies.
- Across our DMin program and our graduate-level Networked, Urban, and Latino & Global programs, students who are “tentmakers” and serving in ministry demonstrated intellectual rigor and grit as they balanced intensive studies with ministry and family responsibilities.

DEEP SPIRITUAL FORMATION

- We continued our commitment to being a community where being disciplined and discipling *is common*.
 - In Charlotte, students and faculty went out for lunch on the weekends to continue conversations about theology and life.
 - In Hamilton, *all* campus faculty disciple students, who in turn disciple students at Gordon College as part of the Life Together Initiative's Discipleship Experience.
 - In Boston, the spiritual formation incorporated into community and classroom extends to churches throughout New England through the Thriving Congregations grant which provides pastors with a refresher on spiritual practices to help congregants grow in their relationship with God and one another.
- Gordon-Conwell and the Black church in Boston covenanted to reconcile and renew their sacred calling to serve the wider community together.

PRACTICAL MINISTRY SKILLS

- The first cohort of 30 pastors in Gordon-Conwell Institute's Ministry Competency Program in Korea completed their capstone projects. 17 of them are furthering their studies and formation in our DMin program.
- The 90 men and women in our cohorts with Global Theological Seminary in Ghana joined with many others across Gordon-Conwell every week to apply classroom learnings to their teaching and preaching.
- Our DMin in Workplace Theology, Ethics, & Leadership students met in England for interactions with leaders in the House of Lords and the Saud School of Business at Oxford in June.

FINANCIAL PREPARATION

- Every Gordon-Conwell student across all degree programs benefits from scholarships that our friends generously provide.
- The 131 students in the Partnership Program:
 - received a full-tuition Partnership Program scholarship
 - learned fundraising skills as they pursued their fundraising goals
 - were blessed by the prayers and encouragement of their supporters

The full annual report can be found online at www.gcts.edu/annual-report.

We could not have accomplished all that we did this year without your faithful prayers and generous gifts. We give thanks to God for your life and partnership.

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Expressions of Gratitude

FROM THE GORDON-CONWELL COMMUNITY

Jonathan Asbun Delgadillo, MATS Student Charlotte/Networked Education

Jonathan Asbun is one of many Gordon-Conwell students balancing full-time work with full-time ministry. He lives and serves in Cochabamba, Bolivia as a missionary pastor alongside his family and ministry team. Their mission focuses on two areas of ministry: church planting and partnering with local NGOs that rescue children from high-risk situations. He has an MA in Biblical Studies from a seminary in Guatemala but is pursuing an MATS with Gordon-Conwell to be better equipped in his ministry.



My experience at Gordon-Conwell has been wonderful. The professors, the staff, and the community in general are some of the most attentive and loving fellow believers that I have ever encountered. Classes are challenging and the academic requirements are high, but being challenged on the academic level is what I was looking for. One of my goals for seminary is to improve my Biblical studies and theological reflection skills. My understanding of the faith has grown deeper with every lesson and interaction I had have at Gordon-Conwell. Of course, finding a balance between family, ministry, and seminary can be stressful, but it is possible with faith, the support of our loved ones, and a good strategy. I understand that there are many generous donors who make it possible for Gordon-Conwell to be what it is. Without such generous people, students like me would not have the opportunity to access such a high-quality educational opportunity. Each donor and partner of Gordon-Conwell is making a difference for believers and ministers like me all over the world. For that, I want to thank each and every one of you! God bless you!

Monae Cooper, MDiv Student Hamilton Campus

As the 2023-2024 president of the Student Association for the Hamilton Campus, Monae Cooper is a committed part of the Gordon-Conwell community. In March 2023, she preached at the Women's Chapel. Intent upon pursuing a career in medicine, Monae came to Gordon-Conwell for purely academic reasons but discerned a calling to the ministry which has changed her trajectory.



Being a student at this institution has truly been a formative experience. The combination of the academic rigor of the courses here with the residential campus setting means that I am not only learning but that I am also becoming. The true gift of a place like Gordon-Conwell is that when you come here, you are challenged intellectually, and you are challenged spiritually because being a member of this community pushes you to engage on a deeper level with God and with the Body of Christ. Even though I did not anticipate this when I first started at Gordon-Conwell, I am beyond grateful for the way this school has challenged me in both my head and in my heart. Thus, I am also beyond grateful to those of you who continue to support this institution and make it possible for those whom the Lord has called into ministry to be holistically formed into people ready to serve. As the Lord is preparing me for full-time, pastoral and preaching ministry, I am excited to see what He continues to do in and through me with my time here at Gordon-Conwell. I am grateful that He has allowed me to be in such a place as this.

Kirstyn Wright, MATS Student Jacksonville Campus

Kirstyn Wright is a homeschooling mother of six who felt the call to enter seminary at the age of 47. She'd spent her life in music ministry, homeschool education, and mission projects in Florida, Kenya, India, and China, but a "dark night of the soul" gave her a new desire to pursue biblical studies. After completing her degree at Gordon-Conwell, Kirstyn hopes to pursue a PhD.



When I felt called to enter seminary, it was a complete surprise as it was something I had never considered. I thought it was an impossible task for our family financially. I stepped out in faith and applied to Gordon-Conwell. The admissions department in Jacksonville assisted me in applying for a scholarship. I was overwhelmed with gratitude at God's provision in being awarded the John Dolaghan Scholarship. I would not be able to attend without this blessing. I would like to say thank you to all of the financial donors to Gordon-Conwell. You make it possible for students like me to acquire a solid theological education. Being at Gordon-Conwell has changed my life! I try to "live like a river" and share what I am learning with those around me, especially my children and a group of people I lead in Bible Studies. I have taught CASKET EMPTY, a study on the redemptive story of the Bible that was developed by professor Dr. Carol Kaminski. I have found a new family with students and faculty.

Bryan Weathers (MAGL '22)
Boston/Campus for Urban Ministerial Education



Bryan Weathers has served as a youth director, EMT, and combat medic. Since completing his MA in Global Leadership, Bryan has worked as an admissions representative for Gordon-Conwell while he pursues an MBA at University of Massachusetts, Boston. He attends Church of the Cross in Fenway where he leads the Global Missions Team and is developing a prison ministry. After completing his MBA, he and his wife hope to live and serve overseas in some context.

I spent most of my time as a Gordon-Conwell student at our Campus for Urban Ministerial Education (CUME). My wife and I attended CUME to prepare ourselves for the next steps that we felt the Lord is calling us to. CUME was invaluable in its contextualized approach to providing theological education. The diversity of students and faculty was incredible, and that diversity helped prepare and equip us to serve in an increasingly diverse world. Without the support of CUME, and those who support CUME, I don't know if we would be able to step into the next chapter with the same level of confidence that we currently have. As the world is rapidly urbanizing, supporting the mission of CUME as it equips those looking to serve in those urban contexts is vital as we must be prepared to meet the moment that God has placed us in.





Sean McDonough, PhD
Professor of New Testament (MDiv '93, ThM '94)

Dr. Sean McDonough came to Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in 2000 from Pacific Theological College in Suva, Fiji, where he had served as the Chair of the Biblical Studies Department and lectured in New Testament. In addition to active in ministry as a Sunday School teacher and occasional preacher at First Congregational Church in Hamilton, MA, he is a speaker for Medair, a Christian relief organization based in Switzerland.



At the Hamilton Homecoming in June, it was a joy to hear from the gathered alumni how formative their life at the seminary had been for their life and ministry. In an age where so much in education has been reduced to 'quick, fast, and easy,' I am proud that Gordon-Conwell continues to offer a rigorous, Scripture-centered curriculum that equips people for life-long learning and service to the Kingdom. Thanks to your generosity, our graduates are making a profound difference in the world, as they do what we have equipped them to do: to teach the church to think.

Donors of restricted funds who would like an accounting of their restricted gifts to the seminary may contact Dr. Liesl Smith, assistant director of seminary grants at lsmith4@gordonconwell.edu or 978-646-4167 to request a report. We will be happy to provide that to you. We are deeply grateful for your partnership with Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary as we equip men and women to serve, lead, and build up the Kingdom of God. You are a blessing to us. Thank you!



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