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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**PITTSBURGH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
PROFESSOR RELEASES BOOK**

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary's Professor of Church History the Rev. Dr. John E. Wilson has released a new book *Introduction to Modern Theology: Trajectories in the German Tradition* (Westminster John Knox, 2007).

Surveying important 19th - and 20th -century theologians, primarily in the German tradition, Wilson provides a thorough introduction to modern theology and those whose work within it helped initiate a new era in Christian theology. Beginning with Immanuel Kant and extending into the late 20th century, Wilson describes the formative theological work of a number of theologians such as Friedrich Schleiermacher, Albrecht Ritschl, Karl Barth, Rudolf Bultmann, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Reinhold Niebuhr, Paul Tillich, Dorothee Sölle, and Wolfhart Pannenberg. In so doing he demonstrates the continuities that unite these theologians in a relatively common tradition of theological language. The first chapter is a survey of the social and political background of German theology in the modern period.

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Wilson has taught at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary since 1984. In his teaching he focuses mainly on modern church history (since the Reformation). Before coming to Pittsburgh he was Privatdozent for church history at the University of Basel and a pastor in the Swiss Reformed Church (1972-1984). Wilson's research interests focus in the area of 19th century religious thought, especially hermeneutics.

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is a graduate professional institution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). Founded in 1794, the Seminary is located in Pittsburgh, Pa. and approximately 380 students are enrolled yearly in the degree programs. The Seminary has nurtured men and women in their faith in God, while preparing them for pastoral ministry and lay leadership in all phases of the Church's outreach. The Seminary is rooted in the Reformed history of faithfulness to Scripture and commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In keeping with our tradition, we continue our mission to be a caring and ecumenical community, to nurture personal faith and corporate worship, to promote global consciousness and service, and to encourage students and faculty to relate their studies to the numerous styles of ministry emerging today.

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