

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary



Dear Friends,

The beginning of a new school year is undoubtedly the most exciting and optimistic time on the campus of Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. God continues to bless this school with a wonderful incoming class year after year and this year is no different. I thought that you might enjoy hearing some facts about this class.

Ninety-one students make up our "junior" or first year class. This is one of the largest classes the school has ever welcomed! Of these 62 will be pursuing Master of Divinity degrees, 15 the Master of Arts, 5 the Master of Sacred Theology, and 12 are registered as special student status which means that they are still deciding on a program of study or may be taking classes for personal interest. As has been the case in recent years, a large majority of the students are Presbyterian while United Methodists make up the second most common denomination. Collectively, 20 denominations are represented in this incoming class!

This new class comes to us from across the United States and around the world. Our international students hail from South Korea, Singapore, and Trinidad Tobago while our U.S. students have come from as far away as Seattle, Utah, Colorado, Texas, North Carolina, and Mississippi. Remarkably, this class has an average age of only 30, while most seminaries have an average age in the range of 37 -40. It is sure to be an exuberant year on our campus with these many young people joining our PTS family.

**One More Makes Twelve!
Annual Alumni Phonathon
Held Sept. 17-21 and 24-28**

This class also comes well prepared academically. They have received undergraduate degrees from six of our Presbyterian colleges, from seven schools within the Pittsburgh area, 10 other schools from within Pennsylvania, and 36 other colleges and universities from around the country and world. Fifteen members of this incoming class have already earned degrees beyond the undergraduate level. With these broad educational backgrounds, I'm sure that our faculty will be very excited and challenged to be teaching this class!

**Annual Teacher Training
Workshop Held Sept. 22**

On Tues., Sept. 4 our convocation service will take place in the Hicks Memorial Chapel at 11:30 a.m. This annual tradition includes a formal faculty procession with all our colorful, academic regalia, and I will be giving the convocation address, which is titled "What's Going On Over There?" If you are in the Pittsburgh area, I hope that you will come to the Convocation and then join us for the free community lunch that follows.

**McClure Lectures to
Address Appropriate
Media for the Gospel in the
21st Century**

As we begin this new year, I am grateful to each of you for all that you do to help fulfill the mission of Pittsburgh Seminary as we prepare leaders who proclaim with great joy God's message of good news in both word and deed! Your prayers, words of encouragement, and gifts of financial support provide the "faithful cloud of witnesses" that runs this great race with us. May God's blessings be with you!

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William J. Carl III
President & Professor of Homiletics

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William J. Carl

One More Makes Twelve!

Annual Alumni Phonathon Held Sept. 17-21 and 24-28

Without the financial aid program at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, many students couldn't afford the education that prepares them to respond to God's call to ministry. Last year, qualified students were granted more than \$1 million in student aid. Of this amount, \$145,000 was contributed through the generosity of the Seminary's alumnae/i donors. We are thrilled to report that alum support underwrote full financial aid packages for 11 PTS students during the last academic year. This aid included tuition, rent rebates, and book rebates.

This year, the Alumnae/i Council wants to stretch forward and has set the goal for alum support at \$155,000, an amount that will provide the full financial aid packages to 12 students (and 12 is a fine biblical number!).

A fellow alum will be contacting you during the annual Phonathon, Sept. 17-21 and 24-28. If you have not been in the habit of making an annual gift, we hope that this year you will join our efforts. If you have given in the past, we hope that you will consider matching or increasing the amount of your gift so that we can achieve this year's goal.

Regardless of its size, every gift is gratefully received and will make a world of difference to that one additional student who will receive financial aid because of our generosity. Join us in supporting tomorrow's leaders who proclaim with great joy God's message of good news in both word and deed.

Contact Director of Alumnae/i and Church Relations Carolyn Cranston '99 at 412-441-3304 ext. 2109 or ccranston@pts.edu with questions. You can give on the Seminary's website by following the "Donate Online" link to the left.

Annual Teacher Training Workshop Held Sept. 22

The Office of Continuing Education will host the annual Teacher Training Workshop Sat., Sept. 22 from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Keynote speaker Joyce MacKichan Walker will present "Bringing the Bible Story Alive for Different Ages."

Workshop selections include three 80-minute sessions in the morning and eight 90-minute sessions in the afternoon. Some topics for discussion include "Caring for the Soul of Educators," "Preaching the Art of Storytelling," "The Art of Illustrations," "Encouraging Preschoolers to Experience God," "Small Churches: Teaching a Broad Range All at Once," "Teaching for Transformation," and "Transforming Youth Ministry" among others.

Contact the CE Office at 412-441-3304 ext. 2196 or ConEd@pts.edu to register for this event. Before Sept. 17, the fee is \$20 and includes lunch; fee after Sept. 17 is \$24 and includes lunch. Visit <http://www.pts.edu/CE%20TTW%20brochure.pdf> for complete details.

McClure Lectures to Address Appropriate Media for the Gospel in the 21st Century

Dr. Miriam Adeney, associate professor of global and urban ministries at Seattle Pacific University, will present "How to Tell a Story: Appropriate Media for the Gospel in the 21st Century" as part of the annual W. Don McClure Lectures in World Mission and Evangelism. The first day of lectures Mon., Oct. 1 will feature "What Media? Like a Man Seizing a Dog by the Ears" at 11:30 a.m.; the World Mission Initiative Dinner at 6:00 p.m.; and "What Content? The Gospel as Hamburger" at 7:30 p.m. On Tues., Oct. 2 events include a chapel meditation at 11:30 a.m. entitled "Slaves of the System? Daniel, Esther, and Nehemiah in an Era of Globalization" based on Daniel 7:9-14 and the final lecture "What Context? Apocalypse of Golden Arches?" scheduled for 4:30 p.m.

Each of these lectures is free and open to the public. The WMI dinner is \$10 and reservations

can be made by contacting 412-441-3304 ext. 2252. The McClure Lectures honor the Rev. Dr. W. Don McClure, '34 who served as a missionary in Africa for nearly 50 years. For a printable flier about the McClure Lectures, visit <http://www.pts.edu/CE%20McClure%20lectures.pdf>.

Direct additional questions about the lectures to the Continuing Education Office at ConEd@pts.edu or 412-441-3304 ext. 2196.

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