

PTS WELCOMES PROFESSOR KEN WOO

In July 2016 the Seminary community welcomed to our faculty Assistant Professor of Church History the Rev. Dr. Kenneth Woo, whose areas of expertise span the development of the Reformed tradition, the intersection of biblical interpretation and church history, historical religious responses to persecution and mass migration, and Asian-American history and theology, among others. Most recently Dr. Woo served as historian and archivist at Duke University Divinity School, where he also received his Th.D. and taught. An ordained Presbyterian Minister of Word and Sacrament, he is, in addition, a regular instructor for the United Methodist Church's Course of Study program for ordained ministry and has taught at Redeemer Theological Seminary and the College of New Jersey.



Dr. Woo has served Presbyterian churches in New Jersey, North Carolina, and

Virginia and for six years was associate pastor of the multicultural congregation Grace Christian Church, just outside Washington, DC. Prior to completing his M.Div. program at Westminster Theological Seminary, he served as a campus minister to students at Princeton and Towson universities. And from 2014-2015 he was the doctoral fellow for research and education with the Religion in North Carolina project, dedicated to documenting the diverse history of religion and religious bodies in that state.

Dr. Woo's doctoral dissertation examined the complex ways in which John Calvin and his followers worked to establish and enforce social and ecclesial boundaries in a variety of 16th-century contexts. His article "The House of God in Exile: Reassessing John Calvin's Approach to Nicodemism in Quatre sermons (1552)" appeared in *Church History and Religious Culture* (2015), and he has also published articles in *Concordia Theological Quarterly* and *Sixteenth Century Journal*. His conference activity includes presentations at the Sixteenth Century Society Conference, the annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion, and the Calvin Studies Society Colloquium.

PTS President Dr. David Esterline notes that "Dr. Woo brings a record of outstanding scholarship, a commitment to preparing women and men for ministry in its many forms, and deep understanding of the context of that ministry in North America—exactly the balance needed in theological education today. We will benefit from his gifts and presence among us."

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