

## PTS APPOINTS DIRECTOR OF CE

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary has named Dr. Helen M. Blier as director of continuing education and special events. She will begin her service Sept. 1, 2013.

“Helen Blier brings a wonderful combination of rich experience and wisdom as well as national notoriety to the leadership of our ministry of lifelong learning, a continuing education program recently recognized in both the Washington Post and the Huffington Post. We are truly excited to welcome Dr. Blier to our team,” said the Rev. Dr. William J. Carl III, president and professor of homiletics at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.



Blier is a graduate of Emory University (Ph.D.) and Boston College (M.Ed. and A.B., theology). She is currently the director of student information and organizational evaluation at the Association for Theological Schools. There she oversees the administration and use of data-gathering instruments used by the member seminaries as well as consults with schools to construct assessment protocols for institutional, student learning, and degree program outcomes. She also regularly presents at ATS and Lilly Endowment Inc. events on student data trends and assessment. Blier likewise has conducted research at Auburn Seminary's Center for the Study of Theological Education and Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion.

In addition to her work with ATS, Blier has taught at Boston College in the Institute of Religious Education and Pastoral Ministry, Duquesne University, and Candler School of Theology. She has also served as an academic counselor at Emory College. As a research consultant, Blier worked with the directors of summer programs for high school youth at Candler School of Theology, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, and Duke University Divinity School to design and implement qualitative research protocols to investigate issues of youth faith development and vocational discernment. Her publications and presentations have generally focused on theological education and youth ministry. Blier is a member of the Religious Education Association, American Academy of Religion, and International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry.

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 more than 300 students are enrolled yearly in the degree programs. The Seminary prepares leaders who proclaim with great joy God's message of good news in both word and deed. PTS is rooted in the Reformed history of faithfulness to Scripture and commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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