

WESLEY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, WASHINGTON, DC

Last year saw extraordinary growth and many changes at Wesley Seminary. Our newly refurbished Library enhances the study and research space on campus. It offers additional break-out rooms with audio-visual capabilities and a community gathering space for coffee and snacks.

Our academic programs have seen similar renewal. A new 36 hour Master of Arts degree will provide Basic Graduate Theological Studies and a flexible curriculum to equip students for children's and youth ministry, public theology, and arts ministry. Starting this summer, Wesley will offer Masters-level courses fulfilling GBHEM professional certification requirements in youth ministry, Christian education, urban ministry, and evangelism. We have dramatically revised the Course of Study School at Wesley, renewing the curriculum and making it easier for pastors to complete the course with alternative scheduling options, including weekend intensive courses. And the first class of Mission Fellows enters this fall to prepare for missional church and emerging ministry leadership.

Wesley received a grant of \$850,000 from the Lilly Endowment Inc. to continue the Lewis Center for Church Leadership's Lewis Fellows program through 2016. This partnership with Lilly Endowment comes from our mutual recognition of the importance of young, high-potential clergy to the church's future. The Lewis Center continues to offer new events and resources to help congregations reach more people and fund their ministry. See www.churchleadership.com.

United Methodists on the Wesley faculty published two new books. Dr. Lovett H. Weems, Jr. wrote *Focus: The Real Challenges that Face the United Methodist Church*, on the recommended reading list for 2012 General Conference delegates. And Dr. Kendall Soulen authored *The Divine Name(s) and the Holy Trinity: Distinguishing the Voices*, a history of Trinitarian theology.

Wesley introduced a new Doctor of Ministry track in January, "Theological Education in a West African Wesleyan Context." It includes educators from Liberia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone who will shape the next generation of United Methodist leaders in Africa. A new Urban Ministry track begins in January 2013 and a second DMIN track for Military Chaplains begins in May 2013.

In February, the Board of Governors approved the construction of a new, LEED-certified green residence hall, expected to ready for occupancy by fall 2013. It is part of the ongoing New Church Campaign which has supported expansion of international programs, the launch of Wesley @ Mount Vernon Square in downtown Washington, DC, and Wesley's continued efforts to renew the church by developing strong and dynamic leaders.

God's call is bold. Your seminary should be too. Meet us at www.wesleyseminary.edu.

Rev. Dr. David McAllister-Wilson, President