

# The Seminary Times

May 10, 2019 | Volume 64, No. 37



You are educated. Your certification is in your degree.  
You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to  
think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world.  
— Tom Brokaw

## Student Ambassadors

Several departments at Louisville Seminary rely on the assistance from students. From working the switchboard to giving tours of the campus, students go the extra mile!

Sandra Moon, Director of Admissions shares this sentiment, "Grateful for this wonderful group of Student Ambassadors who are a huge help with our recruitment efforts."



PHOTO BY SANDRA MOON.

## HOURS OF OPERATION

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT CENTER

**Open during  
Research & Study  
and Finals Week**

Monday  
1 – 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday & Wednesday  
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Thursday  
10 a.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Friday  
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Calendar: May 13-19

### Monday, May 13 - RESEARCH AND STUDY

10:30 a.m. Chapel Ministers Meeting | WORSHIP RESOURCE CTR.  
5 p.m. End-of-Year Cookout | Tri-C  
*All are Welcome!*

### Tuesday, May 14 - RESEARCH AND STUDY

### Wednesday, May 15 - FINALS

### Thursday, May 16 - FINALS

### Friday, May 17

10 a.m. Faculty Meeting | MCATEE B

## GRADUATION CEREMONIES

Sunday, May 19, 2019

**Baccalaureate**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Louisville Seminary**

Caldwell Chapel

1044 Alta Vista Road, 40205

Sunday, May 19, 2019

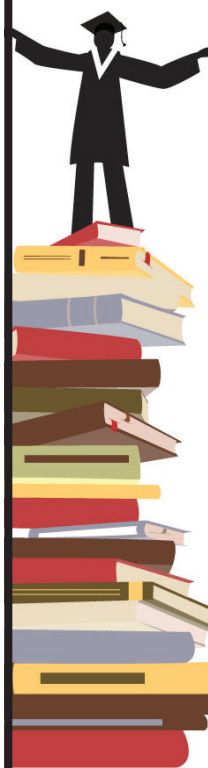
**Commencement**

**3:30 p.m.**

**2nd Presbyterian Church**

3701 Old Brownsboro Road,

Louisville, KY 40207



Submit all articles, questions or inquiries to  
Editor Jean Campbell Herp, ext. 360 or [jherp@lpts.edu](mailto:jherp@lpts.edu)

LOUISVILLE SEMINARY

# TODAY

## Festival of Sacred Music

Friday, May 10 | 11:30 a.m. | Caldwell Chapel



WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD!  
SONGS, HYMNS, AND SPIRITUALS  
FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE

*Based on readings from Howard Thurman and Holy Scripture,  
in honor of President Alton B. Pollard III.*

## Field Education

Field Ed Spring Evaluations are due *before/no later than Wednesday, May 15.*

### Summer CPE Students—Paperwork

Please remember to register for the Field Ed part of your CPE experience. The Field Ed Registration form is in the FE section of the Seminary's website.

- You will register for "FE 114 C.P.E. – First Unit".
- Remember that we should have the correct titles for your CPE supervisor and your judicatory contact person.
- You need to submit a registration form to the Field Ed Office.
- There is a small box on the lower right side of the form for the number of **academic credits** you are registered for. CPE will give you 3. Please include the academic credits for any late summer course you will take.
- You must sign and submit a "Sexual Misconduct Form", also found in the Field Ed section of the Seminary's website.

If you have any questions on how to register for CPE, or any other questions, please contact Laura March.

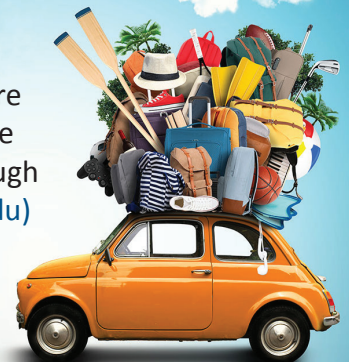
### Future Field Ed Dates to Note

Sunday, May 12	Final Sunday for Field Ed Placement
Wednesday, May 15	Spring Field Ed Evaluation Due
Friday, May 17	Last Day of Field Ed
Monday, June 5	Summer Administrative Agreements and Learning Covenant Due

## MAIL CENTER REMINDER

### VACATION ALERT

If you will be out of town for more than a week, please email Norm Hollabaugh ([mailcenter@lpts.edu](mailto:mailcenter@lpts.edu)) with the dates.





Our community partners at Interfaith Paths to Peace and Muslim Americas for Compassion are hosting

the 9<sup>th</sup> annual interfaith Iftar dinner  
at Second Presbyterian Church  
(3701 Old Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40207)  
on Tuesday, May 14, 2019.  
Doors open at 7:15. Program begins at 7:45.

Iftar is the fast-breaking meal observed by Muslims each evening during Ramadan. The Interfaith Iftar is an opportunity for non-Muslims to join our Muslim friends for an evening meal as they break their Ramadan fast. The event includes presentations by community peacemakers and a traditional Middle Eastern meal.

The event is FREE but REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.  
[CLICK HERE FOR DETAILS AND TO REGISTER.](#)

## From the Business Office

Just a couple of reminders as we approach the end of the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

**We'd like to have as many 2018-19 invoices/check requests as possible by June 5.**

**If you have May invoices that won't arrive until after June 5**, send Kim Smith an e-mail with the invoice/check request detail (below), so that we can manually charge it to May.

Invoice/ck request detail includes:

Vendor name

Invoice # (if you have it)

Date of invoice

Amount of invoice

Account number to be charged

**If you have 2019-20 invoices, please hold them until June 10, if possible.**

If you have a June invoice that HAS to be paid by June 1, send it to us in May, but be sure to mark it so we charge it to the correct year.

Please don't hesitate to contact Kim Smith at ext. 356 or [ksmith@lpts.edu](mailto:ksmith@lpts.edu), if you have a question regarding how to handle an invoice.



## Voice

Viisha's



As the year comes to an end, I gladly hand over the crucifer to Daniel Van Beek! It's been an interesting year and as much chaos as it inflected, I would not change it for anything. Time has a way of showing us who we are, that's the most important thing ... to know ourselves first. The importance of self, is we have time to change our minds, change our approaches and change the way we connect with others. Be kind, you never know who's having a bad day. Be forgiving, unforgiveness can be a burden to self. Have patience, everything works out the way it is supposed to. As God's (or universe, or self-being) love surrounds us as we move forward, I send the warmest congratulations to those of the Class of 2019! You've made it out, and into the world you go! I trust God will keep God's ever-holding hand on you! To the class of 2020, WE'RE UP NEXT!! AGENTS OF CHANGE WOOT WOOT!!! To the Class of 2021, lead the way of

patience, kindness and focus for the next class! To the staff I have become friends with and the faculty and administration that listened to my ruckus, you helped me make a difference!!! Enjoy your summer everyone!!!

*Peace, and I'm Out!!!*  
Viisha P. Souza  
Student Body President 2018-2019  
Louisville Seminary MDiv '20



Everyone is invited!  
Staff, Faculty, Students.

Food is provided  
*(but you can also bring anything you  
want to share).*

Please let us know  
who is coming.

**SIGN UP HERE**



## THE 165<sup>TH</sup> COMMENCEMENT | SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019



### BACCALAUREATE SERMON

#### *"Living the Faith"*

**Dr. Debra J. Mumford**

*Frank H. Caldwell Professor of Homiletics, Louisville Seminary*

**10:30 a.m. | Frank H. and Fannie W. Caldwell Chapel  
Louisville Seminary | 1044 Alta Vista Road | Louisville, Ky.**



### COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

#### *"In This Present Age: A Calling at the Crossroad"*

**Dr. Iva E. Carruthers**

*General Secretary of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference*

**3:30 p.m. | Second Presbyterian Church  
3701 Old Brownsboro Road | Louisville, Ky.**



**LOUISVILLE PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

## More Commas

For such a small mark, for such a tiny drop of ink, the comma seems to give everyone a headache! Here's another attempt to guide you in your use of commas.

### Ways of (correctly) using commas.

To separate independent clauses joined by a conjunction such as FANBOYS.

The driver failed to signal (*independent*), but he went through the stop sign (*FANBOYS + indep*).

To separate dependent clauses at the beginning of complex sentence from the independent clause.

After the test was over (*dependent clause*), we got something to eat (*independent clause*).

To set off introductory words or certain short phrases.

Yes, the ASC is open during finals week.

For students, the busiest time of the semester is the week before finals.

To separate words in a series.

The students' favorite snacks include *Rice Krispie* treats, *Dove* candies, and *PopChips*.

To set off a name of a person or city/state from the rest of the sentence.

Do you remember, Jeremy, where we first heard that song?

To set off an appositive from the rest of the sentence.

Alan, Joseph's brother, earned his MDiv from LPTS.

To set off quotations from the rest of the sentence.

"That's fine with me," said Jacob.

### Avoiding unnecessary commas.

**DON'T** use a comma to "hold together" two complete sentences.

The meal was not hot, we sent it back to the kitchen.

This example needs a semi-colon to join the 2 complete thoughts,

Or make it into 2 separate sentences.

**DON'T** use a comma when separating pairs of items.

Two subjects (*no comma*):

Ticket agents and flight attendants hear many complaints from travelers.

Two verbs (*no commas*):

Too often, commercial airlines overbook flights and lose luggage.

**DON'T** use a comma to separate the subject and verb in a sentence.

A bag that is routed to the wrong city (*subject*) can ruin (*verb*) an entire vacation.

# From the Facilities Department

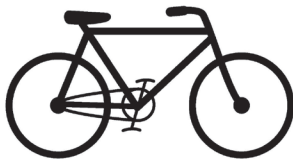
## BIKE SHED CLEANING | Wednesday, May 22, 2019

The Facilities Department will be doing the semi-annual cleaning of the bike shed located on the Housing side of campus. If you own a bike, please tag it to identify it as yours before noon on Wednesday, May 22. The shed is scheduled to be cleaned the next day, and any bikes that are not tagged will be brought to the Facilities Department where they will remain for approximately 48 hours. Anyone who needs to claim their bike can come to the Facilities Department during that time to retrieve it. After the 48-hour period, unclaimed bikes will be donated to charity.

**Tags may be copied from the last page of *The Seminary Times* or picked up at the Facilities Department.**

Please tape one of the tags to each bike that you own. If you know of anyone who is out of town and may not receive this message, please call Facilities at extension 387 to let us know. We appreciate your help and cooperation!

REMINDER: BICYCLES ARE TO BE STORED IN THE BIKE SHED OR INSIDE EACH RESIDENT'S APARTMENT ONLY. THEY ARE NOT TO BE LEFT OUTSIDE IN WALKWAYS, UNDER STAIRS, OR EGRESS PATHS.



## CHECK-OUT INSPECTIONS

For those of you who will be moving out of your campus apartment, the Facilities Department wants to remind you to call or email us to schedule your check-out inspection. This must be done to ensure the return of your deposit when you began your lease. We check for cleanliness of the entire unit including the bathroom sink, toilet, and tub, as well as the refrigerator and stove both inside and out. We also check the condition of screens, blinds, cabinets, countertops, walls (holes from pictures, mirrors, etc.), as well as fixtures and furniture provided in the studio/efficiency units. It is preferable to schedule the check-out as close to your departure as possible so we can ensure all above items are completed and to ensure prompt return of any deposits. It is not necessary that the unit be completely empty for check-out.

**Also, please be sure you also clear out your storage unit. Any items left will be discarded.**

If possible, we would greatly appreciate it if you could schedule your check-out a week in advance.

The Facilities Department is available to conduct check-outs **Monday thru Friday, from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**, excluding lunch from 12-12:30 p.m. We will begin recognizing Fridays off for the summer on May 24, therefore **we will not be available for check-out inspections on Fridays after that date.** If you have any questions, please let us know.

To schedule a check-out inspection, call Facilities at (502) 992.9387 or email [facilitiesworkorder@lpts.com](mailto:facilitiesworkorder@lpts.com).



## SENIORS:

Would like to receive the *Seminary Times* after graduation?

Please send your 'non-LPTS' email address to Jean Herp at [jherp@lpts.edu](mailto:jherp@lpts.edu).



# Remembrance Legacy Call

Celebrating the Life and Work of

*Rev. Robina  
Winbush*



Memorial Services and Time of Conversation will take place

Thursday May 30 - Saturday June 1, 2019

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

National Office

100 Witherspoon St.

Louisville, Kentucky

Recommended travel dates are Wednesday May 29 for arrival  
and Saturday June 1 (after noon) departure.

Additional Details to Follow



Please tape one of the tags  
to each bike that you own.

# **SAVE THIS BIKE**

**Resident's Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Building & Apartment #:** \_\_\_\_\_

# **SAVE THIS BIKE**

**Resident's Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Building & Apartment #:** \_\_\_\_\_





## **Report of the Board Chair and President to the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary Community April 25-26, 2019**

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**Our Vision:**  
We Build Bridges.

**Our Mission:**  
Louisville Seminary educates and forms servant leaders for tomorrow's ministries.  
We build bridges:

- between sacred texts and human lives;
- between the past and the future;
- among persons of different faiths, Christian denominations, and cultures;

... all in the name of Jesus Christ, the bridge between God and humanity.

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### **FROM THE BOARD CHAIR**

The Board of Trustees of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary met on campus on Thursday and Friday, April 25-26, 2019. These days included presidential inaugural events in addition to the Board's business meetings. Some trustees were able to come early to campus so as to enjoy the other inaugural programs that were offered earlier in the week. Everyone who was able to attend experienced the gracious hospitality of the seminary community. Trustees are aware that having the Board on campus always creates more work for students, staff, faculty, and administrators. This time, the inaugural events made this effect even more pronounced. It was the Board's desire for President Pollard's inauguration and installation to be an occasion for celebrating not only his still-new presidency, but also the seminary's history and current directions. All trustees greatly appreciate the way the entire community embraced that idea. The seminary was extremely well reflected in the inaugural events; indeed, it sparkled! Thank you all for making that happen.

At the suggestion of our new president, the Board experimented with a new format for its spring meeting. Instead of devoting a half-day to on-campus meetings of the Board's committees, those committees met by teleconference and/or videoconference in the weeks leading up to the on-campus meeting. These virtual meetings were enhanced by the use of the Board's new communications platform—Cloud Concinnity. Increasingly, trustees and administrative colleagues are becoming comfortable with this new medium and the features that it offers. Because committees already had met before we arrived on campus, after introductions, meeting new employees, receiving a devotional

and the reports of the Chair and the President, the trustees moved directly to hearing reports of Board committees and acting upon recommendations that came from those committees. The following significant actions were taken by the trustees:

- Approved the proposed operating and capital budgets for fiscal year 2020, which are largely the same as the current budgets, with several notable exceptions—(i) a two percent increase in compensation to employees and (ii) an increase in one faculty position, which would be used if a dean is selected from outside our current faculty. The Board recognized that approving this budget will necessarily slow the reduction in endowment draw toward the target of 5% per annum. These additional expenses are projected to cause the current draw rate of 5.78% to increase to approximately 6%, rather than to decrease to 5% as was the Board's original plan for this coming fiscal year. After considerable discussion, the Board made this decision for several reasons. First, the President strongly recommended it. The Board decided that, as he is still finalizing his administrative team, it is too early to expect improved results from the Annual Fund, which is the most significant reason that the budget is currently under pressure. We all have high hopes for improved giving to the Annual Fund, but we need to give the President's new administrative team a chance to hit their stride. Second, trustees also realized that we cannot balance the budget on the backs of our faithful employees. It was time for a pay raise. Even so, the Board continues to aim seriously for an endowment draw that does not exceed 5%. The budget will show two draws from the endowment—the "normal" draw of 5%, plus an "extraordinary" draw as will be needed to balance the budget.
- Approved a policy recommended by the Faculty and the President concerning the process for awarding honorary degrees by the Seminary. Having approved the policy, the Board also voted to award the first degree under the new policy to Dr. Gayraud Wilmore, an African-American Presbyterian scholar who has been extremely influential in black church studies. As Dr. Wilmore is aged and in poor health, his son, Jack Wilmore will attend and accept the degree for him during the graduation ceremonies in May.
- Re-elected two trustees for additional terms of four years—Don Ridings (Chevy Chase, MD) and Nancy Falls (Nashville, TN).
- Elected two new trustees standard terms of four years, beginning at the conclusion of this Board meeting—The Rev. Dr. John M. Willingham (Doylestown, PA), pastor of Doylestown Presbyterian Church; and Wayne R. Kramer (Knoxville, TN), an attorney and former LPTS trustee (1997-2009).
- Expressed deep gratitude to outgoing trustees who were completing their terms—Anna James (Birmingham, AL), Laurie Hoagland (Woodside, CA), Sumpter Logan (Southlake, TX), and Betsy Otts (Mobile, AL).
- Received and approved the sabbatical requests of Professors Ashley Hicks White, Amy Plantinga Pauw, and Marcus Hong.
- Received and approved the sabbatical reports of Professors Christopher Elwood, Marion Soards, and J. Bradley Wigger.
- Voted to approve the recommendation of the tenured Faculty and the President that Dr. Tyler Mayfield be promoted to full professor, with tenure.
- Voted to approve the list of May 2019 graduates, pending successful completion of all degree and certification requirements.

- Adopted a revision to the Gift Acceptance Policy requiring that future, undesignated, planned or deferred gifts to the Seminary will, if they are less than or equal to \$25,000, go to the Annual Fund, and, if they are greater than \$25,000 will be allocated to the Annual Fund in an amount equal to the greater of 10% of the gift or the donor's most recent Annual Fund gift, with the balance of the gift being allocated 30% to a capital reserve account and 70% to the Seminary's Unrestricted Endowment.

The trustees met for several hours with members of the Faculty and senior administrators in order to receive guidance from In Trust consultants Delores Brisbon and Lynette Brown-Sow on a process we are calling the Common Purpose Initiative. The Board, the Faculty, and senior administrators have been assigned to various *ad hoc* working groups to consider a list of questions having to do with Roles & Responsibilities, Technology Platform, Board Orientation, Finance, Market Comparisons, Education Programs, and Fund Raising, as well as general questions concerning communications among Seminary constituencies and the Seminary's mission. During June, July, and August these groups will meet by teleconference or videoconference and will report their findings on August 30, which is the second day of a Faculty retreat, to which trustees and senior administrators have been invited. Suggestions from these groups will inform future discussions concerning possible changes to the Seminary's governance policies.

Other highlights of this meeting included all the inauguration festivities and programs, breakfast with students, attending classes given by Dr. Marty Soards and Dr. Beth Seeger Troy, hearing of "Beyond the Classroom" involvement of members of our Faculty, attending the community lunch and the pre-inauguration dinner, and meeting Dr. Pollard's family and friends. We continue our work over the summer and already are planning for the Board's next on-campus meeting in October.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### A Common Purpose

Before and since our October 2018 Board meeting we have begun to identify and implement some of the systems change needed to carry Louisville Seminary into the future. Additionally, our commitment to engage the opportunities and challenges presented by the remarkable mosaic that is metro Louisville, the commonwealth of Kentucky, the United States of America and the global village – social, cultural, religious and ever dynamic – only continues to foster and grow. From students, staff and faculty to board, alum and friends, we are exploring the meaning of our common purpose and life with renewed appreciation and engaging in revitalization with rigor, creativity, justice, and hope.

The report that follows invites you to think freshly and deeply about our institutional identity, vocation, mission and practices as we innovate and build capacity in a time of seismic ecclesial, theological and pluralistic social change. Each of my colleagues on our senior administration and staff are hard at work addressing matters that impact our institution from prospective and current students, friend and fund-raising, budgetary goals, educational outcomes, grant activities, programs and gatherings, and social media engagement. Together, they offer a signpost on our way to cross-organizational symmetry, including more collegial associations with the Louisville Institute. My year to date report below presents much of what we have learned academically and operationally, illustrates our connectivity seminary-wide and to broader publics, and creates momentum for our continued work into the future, even as the 2018-19 academic and fiscal year moves toward celebration and



culmination. Our institutional vital signs are strong and our missional dedications a distinctive strength, even as there is enduring work to be done.

### **Engaging our Students**

Our restructuring of services began in fall 2018 with the appointment of Kilen Gray (MDiv '02, DMin '16), Dean of Student Engagement and our newest senior administrator, with responsibility for the newly created division of Student Engagement. The offices of admissions and financial aid report to him as part of this reorganization. Sandra Moon (MDiv/JD '11) previously served in Institutional Advancement and is now the Director of Admissions and Student Engagement. Gina Kuzuoka is the new Financial Aid Coordinator, having recently joined us from Spalding University where she was Director of Financial Aid. Jessica Bowman is the new Administrative Coordinator to the Dean of Student Engagement (as well as Administrative Assistant for Grants Administration in the Louisville Institute). Admissions Specialist Becky Young completes the division staff. Student Engagement, knowledgeably led by Kilen Gray with an accomplished staff, offers a cohesive set of resources for our students and a collaborative interface for our entire learning community.

### **Advancing our Institution**

Our systems change further advanced in spring semester 2019 with the appointment of Anne Monell as Vice President of Institutional Advancement. A certified fund raising executive, Anne came to us from the Children's Hospital Foundation, where she served as Director of Major Gifts. Under her incisive leadership strategic review, reorganization and planning is taking place in Institutional Advancement. The multi-year Myrtle Collaborative project on meaning and vocation in congregations, directed by Laura Aponte and funded by the Lilly Endowment, now reports to the office of the president. A special note of thanks is owed to Beth Henley, Erin Hamilton and Heather Griffin for their dedicated service during our season of leadership transition. We look forward with anticipation to new outcomes from Institutional Advancement in relationship building and resource generation. The cultivation of new friends and donors is an important measure of our capacity building for long-term sustainability, which also and necessarily takes time.

### **Decanal Search**

In November 2018, the Advisory Search Committee for a new Dean was formed. The six member committee is guided and chaired by Amy Plantinga Pauw and staffed by Susan DiLuca. A charge was given to the committee by the president, a position description was written and made public, a workplan and timetable for receiving applications was established, and a careful review of all nominations and applications was conducted. As of this writing, the interview process is nearing completion, with the projected start date for a new dean to be July of this year. I look forward to gaining valuable perspectives on the candidates from the work of our advisory search committee and community.

### **Shared Governance**

One of the highest priorities facing our institution concerns relationships between the Board of Trustees, President, and Faculty. Our Self-Study Report to the Commission on Accreditation of the Association of Theological Schools (COA/ATS) in the fall semester respectfully indicated the same. It is further noted here that right attention must and will be given to ensuring that all personnel of Louisville Seminary receive equitable treatment and provision. Consistent with our institutional and cultural values, the engagement and development of staff matters. In November 2018, the Visiting Committee from the Commission noted among their several key findings that Louisville Seminary needs to achieve an improved institutional environment in matters of shared and collegial

governance. More will be said about our self-study and accreditation process in the next paragraph. In an effort to initiate better relations, improve the exchange of information and develop a shared governance process, our Board Chair Lant Davis and I extended an invitation to Delores Brisbon, a consultant associated with the In Trust Center for Theological Schools, to facilitate a series of discussions with our faculty, senior administrators and Board. Discussions with our staff, no less significant, have also begun. I am pleased to report these discussions will continue through the summer and into the next academic year.

### **Reaccreditation Visit**

On February 26-28, the Louisville Seminary community welcomed the Evaluation Committee from the Board of Commissioners (COA/ATS) to campus. The findings of the Committee will be reviewed (and possibly even revised) by COA with official notification sent to us sometime in June. Mindful of the report's preliminary status, the accreditation of Louisville Seminary is still expected to be reaffirmed for all degree programs. The visiting team commended us, among other things, on our excellent institutional self-study. We cannot thank Sue Garrett and Steve Cook enough for their guidance and leadership of our excellent institutional self-analysis. Our next accreditation visit is scheduled for academic year 2020, with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC). Peer evaluators representing SACSCOC will be on campus in March 2020. Steve Cook again leads our internal review process and preparations.

### **Listing of Property**

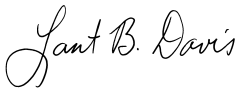
One of the Board of Trustees actions taken during the October 2018 meeting authorized the listing of 25.5 acres of land for sale on the southern and eastern edges of our campus. This parcel includes our dated residential housing, as well as space on the outskirts of campus, the maintenance of which has directed focus and resources away from our mission. The president called for a meeting of our campus community in early November with Caldwell Chapel as the venue. The discussion on the proposed land sale generated extensive questions and the concerns raised by our residential housing students were attentively addressed. From the beginning of this process, I have covenanted to faithfully steward our institution's fiscal and institutional health, make our student needs a priority, and keep the seminary community as a whole well informed. Subsequently, Scott Williamson, who serves on the Capital Planning Task Force, agreed to chair the Advisory Subcommittee on Housing, comprising a cross-section of Louisville Seminary, the preponderance of which are students. The subcommittee was tasked with surveying the LPTS community and gathering information on residential housing aesthetics. They recently presented their findings to the president and the task force.

In February 2019, Louisville Seminary welcomed representatives from the adjoining neighborhood association, parks conservancy, and city council office to address their questions and concerns. Consistent with our institutional sense of mission, we removed the listing of the property for thirty days to give neighboring organizations an opportunity to consider their options for purchasing the land. Per our good faith agreement, the property was re-listed on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Our pledge is to continue to remain in respectful and friendly communication with our neighbors and wider publics as we also entertain offers from potential buyers. Our primary emphasis remains the same, to refocus our mission and to repurpose our resources, that they may redound to the benefit of re-envisioning and building community at Louisville Seminary.

## **The Divine Promise**

This report would be incomplete without some mention made of the marvelous company of people I have met, and the incredible conversations and experiences I have had within and around metro Louisville, the commonwealth of Kentucky, regionally and across the country. Invitations to have lunch, dinner and coffee and to speak before gatherings large and small are both consequential and constant. Connections have consistently been made with the assistance of members of our Board, the President's Roundtable, faculty, staff, alum and other stakeholders. From my vantage point, the circle of friends of Louisville Seminary generously expands with every invitation extended, event attended, person met, presentation made, essay written and sermon preached. Everywhere I go, enthusiasm abounds, to affirm the witness of LPTS in the context of faith and in the public square. It is an honor to represent our seminary at a myriad of places and in partnering ways. In small gatherings, civic spaces, detention facilities, interfaith contexts, Presbyterian offices, Black church and communal life, colleges and universities, area presbyteries and justice work in the public square, again and again I find members of our LPTS community already bearing witness. May our faithful efforts continue to prosper and bear good fruit.

I write this report, by and large, prior to my presidential inauguration week. Our lives have also been recently and profoundly nurtured and illumined through the observance of another Lenten season. By design, I was not immediately involved in most of the inauguration preparations. By disposition, my energies were more comfortably focused on providing daily leadership for Louisville Seminary and wherever theological education happens. Having said this, I extend heartfelt thanks here to our Board Chair Lant Davis, Inauguration Chair Elizabeth Clay, Board of Trustees, Inauguration chairs and committees, and the entire Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. You have given much to make the inauguration week come to pass. I am immensely gratified to be part of this magnificent graduate theological community. I am overjoyed to be your tenth president. I am fully persuaded that our common purpose is to live into the divine promise of "whosoever." For our senior class of 2019, this academic assignment is almost done. The wider witness of love and justice, the very practice of the presence of God, promises to be fulfilling and demanding, and has only just begun.



Lant B. Davis  
Board Chair



Alton B. Pollard III  
President