

AGTS Alumni Newsletter

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Assemblies of God Theological Seminary  March 2015

We Want to Hear from You!

Send your latest news and photos to alumni@agts.edu.

Connect with Us on Social Media



Resources

[Rapport Alumni Magazine](#)

[Encounter: Journal for Pentecostal Ministry](#)

[International Journal of Pentecostal Missiology](#)

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[Prez Release, Commentary from AGTS President Byron D. Klaus](#)

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Keeping You Connected

AGTS to honor retiring president Byron D. Klaus



With the mind of a scholar, the passion of a visionary, the soul of a servant and the heart of an advocate for the marginalized, retiring president Byron D. Klaus has led the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary for 16 years. AGTS will celebrate his distinguished service alongside the 42nd annual graduation activities taking place April 30 through May 2, 2015.

President Klaus will retire late this summer. He and the graduating class of 2015 will be honored at a banquet on Thursday, April 30 at 7 p.m. at the White River Conference Center ([buy your tickets here](#)). He will also deliver this year's commencement address with student speakers and video. [Read the rest.](#)

Graduation and Retirement Celebrations 2015

Alumni are invited to attend the following graduation activities:

Thursday, April 30

2015 AGTS Golf Tournament

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www.agts.edu/alumni

Invest in Student Scholarships

Donate to the Pentecostal
Leaders Fund for AGTS
student scholarships:

- * [Online](#)
- * 417-268-1012
- * development@agts.edu

DONATE



- 8:30 a.m., Rivercut Golf Course, 2850 West Farm Road 190, Springfield, Mo.
- Special price for AGTS 2015 alumni: \$75 per person
- Register by April 24 for best pricing.
- [Click here to register](#)
- For more information, contact [Bryan Chambers](#), 417-268-1020.

AGTS Graduation and Retirement Banquet

Celebrating the Graduating Class of 2015 and Retiring President Byron Klaus

- 6:30 p.m. Reception
- 7 p.m. Dinner
- White River Conference Center, 600 West Sunshine
- Tickets: \$35. [Purchase your tickets here](#) by April 24. For more information, contact [Sarah Clark](#), 417-268-1012.

Friday, May 1

AGTS Doctoral Celebration

- Doctor of Ministry Symposium and Intercultural Doctoral Studies Investiture: 12:30-1:45 p.m., various rooms
 - For more information regarding the symposium, contact [Geneva Heiskell](#), 417-268-1068.
 - For more information regarding the Investiture, contact [Valerie Rance](#), 417-268-1068.
- Reception: 1:45-2-15 p.m., Great Hall
- Celebration Service: 2:15-3:15 p.m., William J. Seymour Chapel

Saturday, May 2

42nd AGTS Commencement Celebration

- 10 a.m. at Central Assembly of God, 1301 Boonville Avenue
- For more information, contact [Susan Meamber](#), 417-268-1010.

Connect with AGTS President Byron D. Klaus

Check out the latest Prez Release: "No Tengo Palabras"

My musings today reflect some serious thinking on how followers of Jesus are going to navigate the obvious hostilities that are coming our way in this nation and around the world. I have entitled my thoughts "No Tengo Palabras," which is a Spanish phrase that relays the idea that I simply don't have adequate words to express myself about this subject. In that contemplative space resides some convictions that I will stand on regardless of the consequences, but a realization that those "hills to die on" may be fewer than I previously daimed. That space is also inhabited by moments where I realize I have a lot of work to do in understanding those people and positions that I differ with and increasingly those who want to do harm to the cause of Jesus Christ. Read the rest.

Dr. Klaus will be at the following events:

- *April 9:* Speaking in chapel at Southwestern Assemblies of God University, Waxahachie, Texas
- *April 18:* Speaking at a Church of God in Christ leadership event, Memphis, Tenn.

If Only: Watch President Klaus share at the AG National Office chapel



AGTS News

Watch AGTS Passion Week chapels live



In the days leading up to Easter Sunday, we welcome you to worship and reflect with the AGTS/Evangel community via the following live streamed chapel recordings.

- Monday, March 30, 10 a.m., at AGTS in Seymour Chapel: Combined service with EU School of Theology and Church Ministries. Speaker: Mitchell Santiago, EU senior.
- Tuesday, March 31, 11 a.m., at AGTS in Seymour Chapel. Speaker: President Byron Klaus
- April 1, 10 a.m., at AGTS in Seymour Chapel. Speaker: President Byron Klaus.
- April 2, 10 a.m., AGTS/EU combined chapel at Evangel University in the Spence Chapel. Speaker: President Byron Klaus

[Watch them all here.](#)

Evangel names new Veterans Center located at AGTS for Admiral Vern Clark

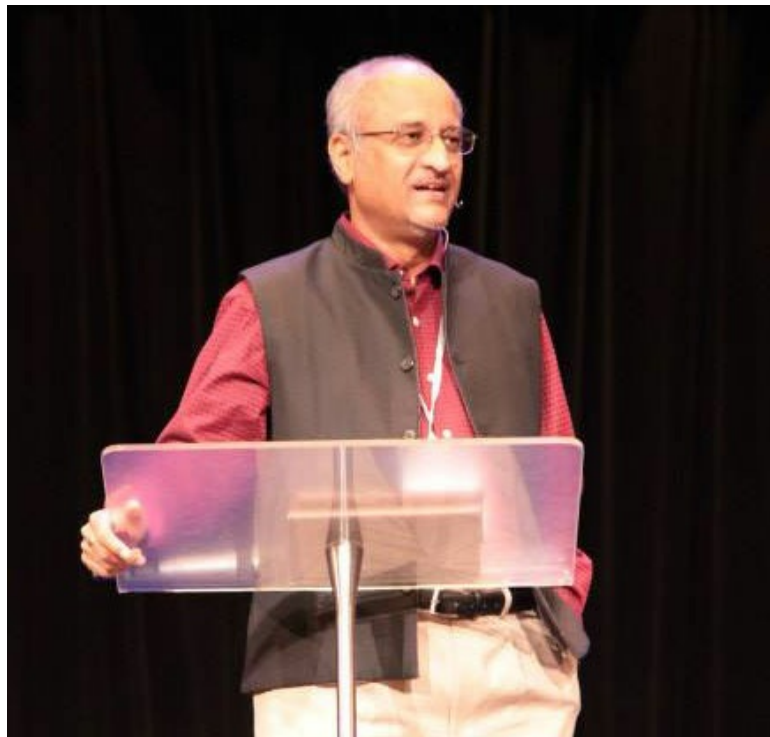


A ceremony was held Tuesday, March 24, to dedicate the new Admiral Vern Clark Veterans Center at Evangel University. The center is located on the first floor of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary. Admiral Clark is the retired

Chief of Naval Operations for the U.S. Navy.

Clark, a 1967 graduate of Evangel, served in that position and on the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 2000-2005. He is the second-longest serving CNO in U.S. history. [Read the rest.](#)

AGTS/EU community plays prominent role in 44th annual meeting of the Society for Pentecostal Studies



Does God work only within the believing community? That was the topic of the academic paper AGTS' Ivan Satyavrata (2009 J. Phillip Hogan Professor of World Missions) presented for the opening plenary session for the Society for Pentecostal Studies 2015 annual meeting. [Listen to the session.](#)

Several AGTS and Evangel University professors and a number of AGTS students and alumni contributed during the 2015 Society for Pentecostal Studies (SPS) annual meeting at Southeastern University in Lakeland, Fla., March 12-14.

Begun in 1970, the Society for Pentecostal Studies is an international community of scholars working within the Pentecostal and Charismatic traditions. This year's theme was Global Spirit: Pentecostals and the World. AGTS hosted the event in 1992. Evangel University hosted in 1999 and 2014. [Read the rest.](#)

AGTS dialogue invites influential church leaders to discuss social impact of the church



Pastor Wilfredo De Jesus, pastor of New Life Covenant Church in Chicago, Ill. discusses New Life's best practices.

The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary recently welcomed several noted church leaders in a dialogue concerning the social impact of the church within the context of recent national events. The generosity of a Kern Family Foundation (KFF) grant made this conference possible.

Beginning in 2012, the Kern Family Foundation, Inc., has awarded AGTS three separate grants to develop initiatives that integrate the theology of work and economics into educational programs. The biblical intersection of faith, work and economics leading to human flourishing in service of God's kingdom is at the heart of all Kern grants and foundational for these dialogues at AGTS. Randy Walls, AGTS director of continuing education and Kern team member, noted that this seminar was the first pastoral dialogue at AGTS to focus on the social impact of the local church. [Read the rest.](#)

19,337 AGTS/EU/CBC books ready to bless Africa



Stew VanArsdale, director of library services for Africa's hope, checks out the pallets of books and sections of library shelving being prepared for shipping.

Last summer, Evangel University announced that more than 50,000 books would be donated to several African libraries. The first of four shipping containers was loaded in February and is now on its way to Kenya. The books are duplicates and other titles that are needed following the recent consolidation of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary and Central Bible College with Evangel University. There were 19,337 books in the first shipment.

"This first container of books is going to two schools, one in Nairobi and one in a new school that is going into Kitengala, that the government has asked the Assemblies of God to build as a liberal arts school," said Stew VanArsdale, director of library services for Africa's Hope.

Africa's Hope is a training ministry launched by African AG leaders in 1989. Van Arsdale has been with the Springfield-based organization for eight years. He served as a missionary for 21 years before that. [Read the rest.](#)



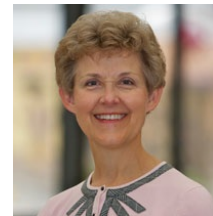
Refer a student

Do you know someone interested in attending AGTS? Use this [online form](#) or connect with [Brett Jacques](#), AGTS Enrollment Representative.

Faculty News and Publications

Deborah Gill ('78/'79)

- *April*: Continuing her sabbatical research project, "Spiritual Adventuring: Journeying Deeper into the Presence and Power of God," while traveling the west coast of the United States.



Paul Lewis ('88)

- *April 25*: Presenting a paper on "God, the Trinity and the Spirit among the First Millennium Christians of Tang Dynasty China: A Translation, Contextual and Theological Analysis" and participating on a panel on the translation of "Son of God" for the Evangelical Missions Society-North Central, at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill.



Johan Mostert

- *April 10-11*: Presenting a team workshop on the "Role of Faith-Based Organizations in Global Mental Health" with Brad Smith (Belhaven University) and Fred Gingrich (Denver Seminary) at the Christian Association of Psychological Studies (CAPS) annual conference in Denver, Colo.



Charlie Self

- Wrote the online article: "Your Job Doesn't Have to Drain You" in *Vital* magazine. [Read it here.](#)



Melody Palm, Johan Mostert, Charlie Self and Deborah Gill



- *April 22*: Facilitating the third of six events to launch the AGTS Discipleship Network in Seattle, WA. They completed two successful launches in Springfield (January 14) and Washington, DC (March 18). Further launches are planned for Chicago, Dallas/Fr. Worth and Sacramento.

Alumni News

Daryel and Rachel Erickson ('92) serve as AG missionaries working with Global Teen Challenge. They are missionaries-in-residence at Trinity Bible College in Ellendale, North Dakota. They have completed 32 years of missionary work, primarily in Europe.



Ronald Gay ('96) is currently supporting a third church plant in the Northeast Atlanta metro area. He is a doctoral candidate at Walden University. He expects to complete his dissertation this summer, earning an Ed.D. in curriculum, instruction and assessment.

Esther Kenyon-Marcotte ('82) with her husband, Dr. Ron Marcotte, are AG missionaries serving in Ecuador. They are currently in the States on furlough to share the vision for "Timothy's Abode," an intensive, practical missionary training program. It is the first in Ecuador for preparing Ecuador's future missionaries to cross language and cultural barriers.



Tadashi Najita ('86) recently passed away. Born in Hawaii, he served as a math teacher in the Hawaii public school system for 25 years. After graduating from AGTS, he served two terms as a missionary to Koror, Palua and briefly in the islands of Tonga.



John ('95) and **Carolyn Stewart** have served as AGWM missionaries for 20 years. They have just been reassigned to South Africa where John will serve as the new national director and principal for the Global School of Theology.

AGTS Alumni Directory is being discontinued



The online AGTS Alumni Directory is being discontinued due to system upgrades. Please contact the AGTS Alumni Office to update your information or share news/photos.

Upcoming Events

Good Friday

April 3 (AGTS Building closed)

Spring Semester Ends

April 24

Graduation Events

Thursday, April 30

AGTS Golf Tournament

April 30, 8:30 a.m. (Rivercut Golf Course)

AGTS Graduation and Retirement Banquet

Honoring AGTS Graduates and Retiring President Byron D. Klaus

6:30 p.m. Reception, 7 p.m. Dinner

(White River Conference Center, 600 West Sunshine St.)

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AGTS Doctoral Celebration

Doctor of Ministry Symposium and Intercultural Doctoral Studies Investiture

12:30-1:45 p.m. (AGTS)

Reception

1:45-2:15 p.m. (Great Hall at AGTS)

Celebration Service

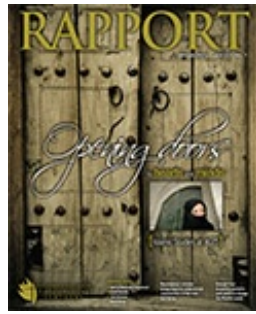
2:15-3:15 p.m. (William J. Seymour Chapel, AGTS)

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