

2018 *Baccalaureate*

45th Commencement Celebration

Thursday, May 3, 2018
12 Noon

William J. Seymour Chapel at the
Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
1435 N. Glenstone Avenue, Springfield, Missouri



Baccalaureate Program



Baccalaureate at the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary (AGTS) acknowledges several streams of influence. The medieval academic tradition is part of the seminary culture, so there are measures of formality: robes that reflect various academic disciplines and certain ceremonial dimensions that are integral to this event.

AGTS is firmly rooted in the Pentecostal faith tradition. We affirm worship that is celebratory and vibrant, and we welcome the dynamics of the Holy Spirit in our congregational life. We are committed to the redemptive ministry of Jesus Christ that is empowered by the Holy Spirit. These elements of the Pentecostal tradition are also integral to the AGTS baccalaureate.

AGTS is committed to thoroughness in graduate theological education. Ceremonial dimensions of this event acknowledge our graduates' significant achievements in study. The celebratory dimensions demonstrate our belief that today's graduates are people of destiny in God's eternal plan of redemption.



*PRELUDE AND PROCESSIONAL

RENÉE GRIFFITH
RANDY C. WALLS
"In Christ Alone"
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

*CELEBRATORY WORSHIP

RENÉE GRIFFITH
RANDY C. WALLS
"Great Are You Lord"
David Leonard, Jason Ingram, and
Leslie Jordan

*SCRIPTURE READING

2 PETER 1:3-11
MICHAEL D. McCORCLE
Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs, Evangel University

INVOCATION AND WELCOME

CAROL A. TAYLOR
President, Evangel University

DEAN'S REMARKS

TIMOTHY A. HAGER
Vice President, Evangel University
Dean, Assemblies of God Theological
Seminary

BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS

"CONFIRM YOUR CALL"

TIMOTHY A. HAGER
TIMOTHY L. GILLIGAN, SR.
Doctor of Ministry Candidate
TIMOTHY A. HAGER



JAKE KRAHN
Master of Divinity Candidate

TIMOTHY A. HAGER

CHRISTINE TRIMBUR
Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies
Candidate

TIMOTHY A. HAGER

PHD IN BIBLICAL INTERPRETATION AND THEOLOGY PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT

PAUL W. LEWIS
Associate Dean of the Seminary
Program Coordinator: Intercultural
Doctoral Studies
Professor of Historical Theology and
Intercultural Studies

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

DARRYL WOOTTON
Chair of Seminary Board of Advisors;
Executive Presbyterian, Oklahoma
District Council; General Presbyterian,
General Council of the Assemblies
of God; Lead Pastor, Spirit Church
(Bartlesville, OK)

**HOODING AND AWARDS CEREMONY

TIMOTHY A. HAGER

JAMES D. HERNANDO
2018 Faculty Marshal
Professor of New Testament

LOIS E. OLENA
Doctor of Ministry Project Coordinator
Associate Professor of Practical
Theology and Jewish Studies

JOHN A. BATTAGLIA
Chair of Doctoral Programs
Director of Doctor of Ministry Program
Associate Professor of Practical
Theology

DEBORAH M. GILL
Chair of Masters Programs
Chair, Bible and Theology Department
Professor of Biblical Studies and
Exposition

PAUL W. LEWIS

DANIEL MORRISON
Director of Cordas C. Burnett Center
for Biblical Preaching
Assistant Professor of New Testament

JAMES H. RAILEY
Professor Emeritus

DELONN L. RANCE
Chair, Global Missions Department
Director of Intercultural Doctoral
Studies
Professor of Intercultural Studies

RANDY C. WALLS
Chair, Practical Theology Department
Associate Professor of Pastoral
Leadership and Practical Theology

CONGRATULATIONS

TIMOTHY A. HAGER

DEAN'S CLOSING REMARKS

TIMOTHY A. HAGER

*PRAYER OF COMMISSIONING AND CELEBRATORY BENEDICTION

DOUG CLAY
General Superintendent of The
General Council of the Assemblies of
God

*RECESSIONAL

RENÉE GRIFFITH
"Ode to Joy"
Edward Hodges, Henry Van Dyke, and
Ludwig van Beethoven

Please silence all cell phones.

*Audience is requested to stand if able.

**Please hold applause until all candidates have received hoods and awards.

For parents with small children, please see an usher for designated cry room.



Candidates for Degrees



DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN BIBLICAL THEOLOGY AND INTERPRETATION

Faith Elizabeth Lund

Dallas, TX

BS, Southwestern Assemblies of God
University

MDIV, Assemblies of God Theological
Seminary

PHD Dissertation: "‘Out of Egypt’: The
Exodus Motif in the New Testament"

Color Guard: Christian Flag Bearer

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Robert Timothy Hatcher

Canton, TX

BA, Oral Roberts University

MA, Oral Roberts University

MA, Graduate Institute of Applied
Linguistics

PHD Dissertation: "Testing Dye's Eight
Conditions of Scripture Engagement

Model in Cross-Cultural Vernacular
Bible Translation Programs"

Color Guard: Bible Bearer

DOCTOR OF APPLIED INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

James Dickerson

Columbia, SC

BA, Southeastern College of the
Assemblies of God

MA, Assemblies of God Theological
Seminary

PHD Dissertation: "Assessing the Pre-
Field Cross-Cultural Training of the
Latin American Caribbean Region
of the Assemblies of God World
Missions"

Melvin L. Hodges Missiology Award

David Ray Hilsinger†

China

BA, Central Bible College

MA, Asia Pacific Theological Seminary

PHD Dissertation: "China's Guanxi
Praxis Matrix: A Social and Biblical
Exploration toward Effective
Missiological Praxis in a China
Context"

DOCTOR OF MINISTRY

Esther Phin Shon Chia

Hong Kong

BA, University of Lethbridge

MDIV, China Graduate School of
Theology

DMIN Project: "Leadership for
Tomorrow: A Training Course
for CityLight Christian Church in
Kowloon, Hong Kong"



‡ Tribute to U.S. Military (Graduates who are U.S. veterans or active duty service members wear a red, white and blue cord.)

† Graduates who are inducted into the AGTS fraternity of chaplains will receive a chaplain coin.

Rhoda Carin Egert

Grove, OK
BA, Oral Roberts University
MA, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

DMIN Project: "Intentional Legacy Building: Living a Fruitful Life and Finishing Well in the Crucible of Military Ministry"

Rinaldo J. Feldman

Windber, PA
BS, University of Redlands
MBA, University of Redlands
MRS, Southern California Seminary
DMIN Project: "Developing Pastoral Care Services: A Handbook for Rural Hospitals"

Gary Warren Foshee††

Des Arc, AR
BA, Central Bible College
MDIV, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
DMIN Project: "The Heart of Sex: Exploring God's Design for Sexuality"

Timothy Lee Gilligan Sr

Ocala, FL
AA, Lake-Sumter Community College
BA, Sterling College
MA, Southeastern University
DMIN Project: "Jesus Spoke and People Were Astonished: Developing Pastors Who Possess Christ-like Communication Skills"

Joseph Steven Girdler

Crestwood, KY
BA, University of Kentucky
MA, Asbury Theological Seminary
DMIN Project: "The Superintendent Leader-Shift from Pastoral to Apostolic Function: Awareness and Training in Leadership Development for District Superintendents in the Assemblies of God USA"

James Harold Griffin Jr.

Nixa, MO
BS, Lamar University-Beaumont
MA, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

DMIN Project: "From Cohabitation to Covenant: Helping Churches Preserve the Traditional Nuclear Family in America"

Natalia S. Guerreiro-Brooks

Wichita Falls, TX
BA, Drury University
MA, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
DMIN Project: "Sharing the Harvest: Malnutrition Abatement through Education and Home Garden Initiatives"

James Robert Jernigan†

Marshfield, MO
BS, Auburn University
MA, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
DMIN Project: "Informed Consent: A Path toward Expanded Ministry Potential in a Restrictive Environment"

Gail Darlene Johnsen

Pasco, WA
AA, Northwest College of the Assemblies of God
BA, Northwest College of the Assemblies of God
MA, Spring Arbor University
DMIN Project: "The Attentive Leader: Living and Leading Fully Present to God, Self, and Others in a Distracted World"

Kimberly K. Martinez

Seattle, WA
AA, Northwest University
BA, Southern California College
MA, Fuller Theological Seminary
DMIN Project: "The Integrated Life: Cultivating Discipleship in the Marketplace"



Michael Shawn Moreland††

Springfield, MO
 BA, Central Bible College
 MA, Southwest Missouri State University
 MDIV, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

DMIN Project: "Nurturing Spiritual Formation through Relationship Education for Married Adult and Graduate Studies Students of Evangel University"

Dean David O'Keefe

Sydney, NSW, Australia
 THB, Sydney College of Divinity
 THM, Sydney College of Divinity

DMIN Project: "Pentecostal Pedagogy: Integrating Elements of a Pentecostal Worldview in the Classroom at Alphacrucis College"

Joshua Chad Pennington

Joplin, MO
 Diploma, World Harvest Bible College
 BA, Georgetown College
 MDIV, Asbury Theological Seminary

DMIN Project: "The Ministry and Activity of the Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts: A Pattern of Church Health"

Joseph Francis Pridgen††

Seward, AK
 BA, Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God
 MA, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

DMIN Project: "The Opportunity of Danger: Establishing a Crisis Response Ministry for the Alaska Ministry Network of the Assemblies of God"

Philip J. Rasmussen

Kirkland, WA
 BA, Northwest College of the Assemblies of God
 MA, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

DMIN Project: "Developing Character in Ministry Leadership: A Leadership Development Course for Student Leaders at Northwest University"

Sheri J. Ray†

Murphreesboro, TN
 BA, Central Bible College
 MDIV, Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

DMIN Project: "Transforming Conversation: Engaging God and Others in Authentic Spiritual Dialogue"

Nathaniel Paul Ruch

Minneapolis, MN
 BS, North Central Bible College
 MA, Bethel University

DMIN Project: "Preparing the Receiver of the Baton in the Succession Narrative"

David Wayne Stanislaus

Springfield, MO
 BA, North Central Bible College
 BBA, Wichita State University
 MBA, Missouri State University

DMIN Project: "Mentoring Missionaries: A Seminar to Engage Veteran Missionaries in the Asia Pacific Mentor Program"

John Paul Vick

Lexington, KY
 BS, Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God
 MS, Mountain State University
 PhD, Tennessee Temple University

DMIN Project: "Creating Missional Leaders: A Training Seminar for Sojourn City Church in Lexington, Kentucky"

MASTER OF DIVINITY**R. David Bowering***†**

Springfield, MO
 BA, Central Bible College
 Sigma Chi Pi Honor Society

Jordan Marshall Dunn***

Tulsa, OK
 BA, Oral Roberts University
Outstanding Student, Practical Theology Department
Kappa Delta Chi Honor Society
W. I. Evans Award
Student Leadership Council



Joanne C. Guretsky*‡†**
Old Saybrook, CT
BS, US Air Force Academy
MA, Webster University

Kimberly A. Hinz†
La Grange Highlands, IL
BS, Liberty University
Student Leadership Council

Jake Paul-Henry Krahn***
Hamilton, MT
BA, Trinity Bible College
Sigma Chi Pi Honor Society
Kappa Delta Chi Honor Society
Burnett Preaching Fellow
Color Guard: American Flag Bearer

Timothy Taewoo Lee‡†
Baltimore, MD
BS, University of Maryland

Shane Michal Pucher‡†
Warrenton, VA
BA, Valley Forge Christian College

Jacob Edward Rogers‡†
Alton, IL
BA, Central Bible College

Laura Beth Scott†**
Springfield, MO
AA, Central Bible College
BA, Central Bible College

Erik Andrew Weidknecht**
Springfield, MO
BA, Muhlenberg College

Danica Eileen William**
Springfield, MO
BA, Indiana Wesleyan University

MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Henry E. Childress‡
Dallas, TX
BS, Mississippi Valley State University

Glen Douglas Hammons**
La Porte, IN
*Outstanding Student, Bible and
Theology Department*

Eleazar Gabriel Soto
Stockton, CA
BA, Christian Life College

Daniel Weirich
North Canton, OH
BA, Central Bible College

MASTER OF ARTS IN INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Christine M. Trimbur***
Winchester, VA
BS, North Central University
*Outstanding Student, Global Missions
Department*
Kappa Delta Chi Honor Society

MASTER OF ARTS IN CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Sean Patrick Fitzhugh
Martinez, CA
BA, Bethany College

Douglas L. Hayes
New Hudson, MI
BA, Central Bible College
BS & BA, Wayne State University

Terry L. Howell
Kissimmee, FL

Marie Angela Miller
Pickering, ON, Canada
Ministerial Diploma, Eastern
Pentecostal Bible College

Wilson Wayne Rimmer
Martinsburg, WV
Diploma, Zion Bible Institute

Scott Wayne Tuttle
Vacaville, CA
AA, Capital Bible College
AA, Yuba College
BA, Bethany University



MASTER OF LEADERSHIP AND MINISTRY

Richard Kenneth Bishop

Stockton, CA
AA, Christian Life College
BA, Christian Life College

Rachael Elaine Butler*

Summerville, SC
BA, Central Bible College

Jose Joaquin Ochoa**

Sacramento, CA
AA, American River College
BS, William Jessup University

Barbara Renee Van Wyk***

Spencer, IA
BS, North Central University

MASTER OF PASTORAL LEADERSHIP

Randall Dale DePriest*

Coffeyville, KS

William D. Fightmaster

Utica, KY
BA, Central Bible College

Charles Maina Rukwaro

Peabody, MA
BA, Moi University



BRIEF AGTS HISTORY

The Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, originally named the Assemblies of God Graduate School and incorporated in 1972, first opened its doors for classes to missionaries in the summer of 1973 and began with a student body of 77. For 44 years, AGTS has nurtured Pentecostal leaders in a context of academic excellence and spiritual passion. For its first 24 years, the seminary occupied space in The General Council of the Assemblies of God office complex.

After completion of its For Such a Time capital fund campaign, the seminary broke ground for a long awaited and functional 55,000 square foot facility in March 1996 and in July 1997 moved to its first permanent home. The Michael J. and Frances Cardone Building is an eloquent statement of theological purpose. Powerful symbols of creation and redemption, Pentecost and mission, servant leadership and Pentecostal heritage are found throughout—particularly in the Great Hall, the William J. Seymour Chapel and the Khoo Kay Peng World Prayer Center.

In August 2011, the General Council of the Assemblies of God voted to consolidate the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, Central Bible College, and Evangel University. The regional accreditor, The Higher Learning Commission, approved the proposed consolidation and as of April 30, 2013 the three institutions now operate together under one accreditation. AGTS is an embedded Seminary within the consolidated University.

AGTS enrolls an average of 330 students and offers Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Applied Intercultural Studies, Doctor of Ministry, Master of Theology, Master of Divinity, Master of Arts, Master of Leadership and Ministry, and Master of Pastoral Leadership degrees. Alumni currently serve in all 50 states and more than 100 countries. The seminary's mission is to **shape servant leaders with knowledge, skill and passion to revitalize the church and evangelize the world in the power of the Spirit.**



ACADEMIC SOCIETIES and AWARDS

BURNETT PREACHING FELLOWSHIP

All Master of Divinity students having a concentration in Biblical Preaching are inducted as Burnett Preaching Fellows upon graduation from the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary. Completion of the program, named in honor of the Seminary's first executive vice president, Cordas C. Burnett, requires that students successfully complete a minimum of five graduate courses that extensively cover the topics of biblical theology, hermeneutics, and homiletics.

KAPPA DELTA CHI

The Seminary Academic Council elects no more than 10% of the graduating master's class into the Kappa Delta Chi Honor Society each year. Students selected to receive this award must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.7, show potential for ministry and be in good standing with AGTS and the community. Graduates receiving this honor are noted in the program.

SIGMA CHI PI (The Greek Letters stand for "Diligent Christian Leader.")

This honor is awarded by the Alliance for Assemblies of God Higher Education to no more than 7% of the graduating master's class. Students are elected to this honor society by the faculty and must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5, proven Christian character and diligent servant leadership. Graduates receiving this honor are noted in the program. A maximum of three honorary memberships are permitted each year. Requirements for honorary membership consideration for alumni are: outstanding intellectual achievement, approved Christian character, demonstration of diligent servant leadership in Christian work, and an alum who graduated at least ten years prior to receiving the award.

The following alumni have been awarded honorary membership in Sigma Chi Pi:

Dr. Jodi Detrick, 2010 MACM, 2013 DMIN
CH (COL) Scott McChrystal (US Army, Ret.), 1984 MDIV, 2013 DMIN
Dr. Christopher J. Railey, 2004 CPRO, 2007 MDIV, 2016 DMIN

W. I. EVANS AWARD

This award is made in honor of the legendary Central Bible College principal, W. I. Evans. This award is to acknowledge the legacy of Central Bible College's emphasis on vocational ministry, anticipating that the award should go to a graduate with promise as a minister or missionary. The graduate receiving this honor is noted in the program.

MELVIN L. HODGES MISSIOLOGY AWARD

The faculty of Intercultural Doctoral Studies presents the Melvin L. Hodges Missiology Award to the graduate whose dissertation contributes significantly "to the research of missions philosophy and praxis from an integrated biblical, Christocentric, Pentecostal and ecclesial perspective."



About AGTS

ACADEMIC REGALIA

A tradition derived from the oldest European universities, academic dress in American higher education follows the guidelines adopted by the American Council on Education.

A bachelor's gown is traditionally black and has pointed sleeves. The master's gown is distinguished by its oblong sleeves, while the doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves with velvet panels on the sleeves, around the neck and down the front. In a few instances, the doctoral gown may be another color representing a specific institution.

The colorful hood linings represent the colors of the institution conferring the degree. Hood linings for AGTS are royal blue and gold.

The velvet border on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree has been conferred. Those degrees conferred by AGTS are represented as follows:

Blue:

Doctor of Philosophy

Copper:

Doctor of Applied Intercultural Studies

Scarlet:

Doctor of Ministry
Master of Theology
Master of Divinity

White:

Master of Arts in Christian Ministries
Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies
Master of Leadership and Ministry
Master of Arts in Theological Studies
Master of Pastoral Leadership

THE IDS STOLE

An act of investiture ("clothing") formally establishes or ratifies an office or rank with accompanying insignia. The insignia of investiture chosen by the Intercultural Doctoral Studies (IDS) faculty is the stole. While there are varied explanations as to the origins of the clerical stole, the connection embraced by IDS is that the stole traces its roots to the towel used by Jesus to wash the disciples' feet and symbolizes a commitment to follow His example in obedient service. The stole placed on the shoulders of the graduates is a symbol of the Master's directive to follow His example in service as messengers of the gospel.

One side of the stole symbolizes the IDS faculty's formal recognition that the graduate's research contribution met the standard of the academy and welcomes the graduate to the fraternity of the scholars, specifically to the disciplines of missiology and intercultural studies. The opposite side of the stole celebrates the graduate's practical contribution to kingdom work in a specific context with a cloth identified with the student's geographic region of service and research.

THE PULPIT

The pulpit used during the commencement ceremony is a gift on loan from Central Assembly of God. When not in use during commencement, it is located in the Khoo Kay Peng World Prayer Center at the seminary. Every general superintendent of the Assemblies of God—except for the first, E. N. Bell—and every president and executive vice president of AGTS has preached behind this pulpit.



THE SEMINARY MACE

The seminary mace is an artistic rendering of the mandate and mission of AGTS. Approximately 36 inches in length, it is constructed of West African Bubinga wood and gold-plated brass.

The head of the mace is a carved wood globe representing all people in God's world. The globe is mounted on a horizontal cross symbolizing humanity's dependence on the atoning death of Christ. Above the globe is a descending dove with wings and tail configured to resemble a flame, a reminder of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in Christian life and ministry. "AGTS" is engraved on the face of the globe, which is also encircled by an unwound scroll depicting the Word of God and bearing the text, "'By my Spirit,' said the Lord" (Zechariah 4:6).

Since the sixteenth century, the mace has been a symbol of the institution that it represents. It is carried by the faculty marshal in all academic processions.

DIVINE SERVANT SCULPTURE

Among the most notable features in the AGTS Great Hall is a life-size sculpture, "The Divine Servant," by artist Max Greiner. The sculpture depicts Jesus washing Peter's feet, and reflects AGTS' deep commitment to equipping servant leaders. At graduation events, doctoral candidates are presented with a small replica of the large Divine Servant sculpture that is in the AGTS Great Hall. It is our hope that this sculpture will

serve as a reminder each day for our participants in their ministry contexts, as to why they do what they do in ministry. As Dr. Jim Bradford, AG General Secretary, noted at the 2016 AGTS D.Min. Symposium, "The heart of the Seminary's mission is the shaping of servant leaders in knowledge, skill, and passion. That pulls head and hand and heart together. At the core of it all, binding all of those things together is that one ethic of servant leadership. This is a statue of Jesus washing the feet not of His superior, not of even His peer, but of one of His followers. What a powerful example as to why we do all that we do in ministry." The sculpture was placed in memory of Noel Perkin (1893-1979), who served for thirty-three years as the Assemblies of God Director of Foreign Missions. He was a missionary statesman whose Christ-like character exemplified a model of servant leadership.

THE BIBLE

The Bible originally was presented to Central Bible Institute. The inscription reads, President's Bible for Ceremonial Occasions. The first record of its use was in 1963 for the inauguration of Philip Crouch as the third full-time president. The Bible was part of every Central Bible Institute, and later Central Bible College, ceremony until the last commencement in 2013. At commencement, the Bible was carried by the ranking graduating officer of Campus Missions Fellowship. It is open to our Commencement theme's passage, 2 Peter 1. Also tucked inside is the CBC Alma Mater.

GRADUATION EVENTS TEAM

Lois E. Olena (Chair), Kate Alsup, John Battaglia, Sarah Clark, Deb Gehris, Renée Griffith, Jacques Harrell, Kathy Harrison, Tim Hager, DeLonn L. Rance





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