

# ATS welcomes seven new member schools and one new affiliate organization

At its 49th Biennial Meeting in Pittsburgh in June, the membership of The Association of Theological Schools voted to admit seven schools as new Associate members and to grant Affiliate status to one organization.

The seven new member schools represent the diversity of the Association:

**America Evangelical University** in Los Angeles is associated with the Evangelical Holiness Church from South Korea. It offers two graduate degrees: a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Intercultural Studies. Enrollment is steadily growing, with a current head count of 39, and the six full-time faculty members are supplemented by adjuncts.

**B. H. Carroll Theological Institute** in Arlington, Texas, is a 10-year-old program associated with the Baptist tradition. It offers 10 graduate degrees through a unique model that relies on teaching churches that are organized through an administrative hub. Head count enrollment currently stands at 145, with 17 full-time faculty members as well as 50 Resident Fellows who work in teaching churches around the country.



Representatives from the new Associate member schools and Affiliate status organization were formally welcomed to the Association at the June Biennial Meeting.

**Central Baptist Theological Seminary** in Plymouth, Minnesota, was founded in 1956 and is closely associated with Fourth Baptist Church, sharing facilities and staff. It offers four degrees: a Master of Divinity, a Master of Arts in Theology, a Master of Theology, and a Doctor of Ministry. Head count enrollment is 56, and the four full-time faculty members are supplemented by five regular adjuncts and the president.

**Grace School of Theology** in Woodlands, Texas, was founded in 2001 as Houston Theological Seminary in the evangelical tradition, changing its name in 2003. It offers four graduate degrees: a Master of Theology, a Master of Divinity, a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies, and a recently introduced Masters in Ministry. Current graduate enrollment is 108 students, nearly half of whom are African American and many of whom are serving in ministry and attending school part time. They are served by six full-time and seven part-time faculty members.

**Holy Apostles College and Seminary** in Cromwell, Connecticut, was founded in 1956 by the Diocese of Norwich but is affiliated with the Society of the Missionaries of the Holy Apostles. It began offering a Master of Divinity in 1978 and has since added three other degrees: a Master of Arts in Philosophy, a Master of Arts in Theology, and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies. Graduate head count enrollment is at 322 students, with faculty of 15 full-time and five part-time, complemented by 11 on-campus adjuncts and an additional 36 distance learning faculty.

**Institut de Formation Theologique de Montreal** is operated by the Priests of Saint-Sulpice to educate priests, deacons, religious, or lay people in philosophy, theology, pastoral theology, and canon law. It offers a Master of Pastoral Theology degree. Head count enrollment in that program is approximately 21, with eight full-time faculty.

**Kearley Graduate School of Theology of Faulkner University** in Montgomery, Alabama, is historically connected to the Churches of Christ. It offers a Master of Arts in Biblical Studies and a Master of Arts in Christian Ministry. Graduate enrollment is at 21 students, with six full-time faculty.

In addition, the membership voted to confer Affiliate status on **American Islamic College (AIC)** in Chicago, Illinois. AIC is a nonsectarian Islamic institution of higher education that offers rigorous academic formation in Islamic Studies as well as a master's degree in Islamic Studies/Theology Concentration and is developing a master's degree in Islamic Chaplaincy. AIC was granted Affiliate status, according to the *ATS Bylaws*, as an institution of higher education offering graduate theological degrees to communities of faith other than the Christian or Jewish faiths.

These actions bring the Association membership to 23 Associate member schools, nine candidate member schools, and 242 fully accredited member schools. Currently, 31 organizations hold Affiliate status.