

# Jo Ann Deasy joins ATS staff

Director, Institutional Initiatives  
and Student Research

Jo Ann Deasy joined the ATS staff in June 2014 to fill a new position in the area of Programs and Services. Her primary responsibilities are to coordinate the Economic Challenges Facing Future Ministers initiative by planning gatherings and webinars; maintaining regular contact with project leaders; and capturing, interpreting, and disseminating what is learned. In addition, she is handling the management, collection and interpretation of data as well as promotion of the Entering Student, Graduating Student, and Alumni/ae Questionnaires and the Profiles of Ministry instrument.

An ordained pastor in the Evangelical Covenant Church, Jo Ann has served on staff at congregations in Duluth, Minnesota, and Mercer Island, Washington, and comes to ATS from Sojourner Covenant Church in Evanston, Illinois, where she started serving as an interim pastor in March 2010 and as permanent lead pastor since April 2012. She graduated from Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary with a PhD in congregational studies with an emphasis in congregational leadership and contextual theologies. Her research has focused on women clergy, evangelical women leaders, and how congregations form pastoral identity in young women. Prior to full-time studies, Jo Ann served for seven years as the dean of students and community life at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago. Her responsibilities including creating and implementing online Student Resources for a new distance education program, teaching in the areas of congregational leadership and racial reconciliation, and providing care, vocational guidance, and placement support for students pursuing ministry.

