

# A new chapter in stewardship: ATS welcomes controller Ron Slavonic

BY CHRIS A. MEINZER

*As The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) continues to refine its operational structure in support of its mission, vision, state, and strategic priorities, we are pleased to welcome Ron Slavonic as controller. Slavonic, who joined the Association this month, leads the ATS business office, guiding financial integrity, strengthening internal controls, and stewarding the resources that sustain both ATS and the Commission on Accrediting (COA).*

In his new role, Slavonic ensures that ATS and COA financial operations are executed with integrity, precision, and foresight. He leads the monthly close and internal reporting, and oversees payroll, benefits, and facilities.

Additionally, he coordinates the annual audit and manages investment records and grant reporting. In partnership with myself, Chris A. Meinzer, ATS senior director and COO, Slavonic will support the work of the audit and finance committees to ensure informed decision making and strong financial governance.

Slavonic brings extensive experience in nonprofit and higher education financial management and a record of strengthening the operational foundations of values-centered organizations. He most recently served as controller for Washington & Jefferson College, where he oversaw accounting operations and internal controls and helped to modernize financial processes to improve accuracy, timeliness, and executive decision making.

Earlier roles with the Allegheny County Bar Association and Foundation and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council sharpened his expertise in audit coordination, cash management, compliance, and transparent reporting. This breadth of experience equips him to reinforce the ATS financial infrastructure and contribute strategically to the Association's long-term resilience.

A graduate of Washington & Jefferson College with a bachelor's degree in accounting, Slavonic also earned a



Ron Slavonic

graduate certificate in executive nonprofit management from the University of Florida. He is a Certified Public Accountant in Pennsylvania.

"Ron brings to ATS a strong record of financial leadership and a clear commitment to the work that defines our Association," says Frank Yamada, ATS executive director. "His deep experience with modernizing financial systems and strengthening internal controls will significantly enhance our ability to serve member schools with excellence."

Slavonic is committed to organizations whose missions serve the public good. His arrival advances the financial health, operational agility, and long-range planning capacity of ATS and the COA, positioning both organizations to serve member schools with clarity, stability, and confidence in the years ahead.



Chris A. Meinzer is senior director and COO at The Association of Theological Schools in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.