



The Association of Theological Schools
The Commission on Accrediting

Frank M. Yamada • Executive Director

September 27, 2017

Dear Member Schools and Friends,

September 2017 will go on record as being one of the worst and most severe hurricane seasons in living memory. While this is usually the time of year when the campuses of theological schools begin to buzz with activity, this past month, for several of our schools, has included disruption and crisis in the wake of Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

This is a time when the member schools of the Association can pull together to support each other. We have heard from ATS schools in Houston and South Florida as well as the three schools in Puerto Rico. Some schools are back to full operations, while some, in particular the schools in Puerto Rico, were hit hard and are still without power. The devastation in Puerto Rico is so extensive—combined with a shortage of food, drinking water, and electricity—that relief organizations are calling on the global community to respond to this humanitarian crisis.

In the next few days, I will send out another email to the membership with updates from some of the schools in the affected areas. They will provide information about what individuals and schools can do if they would like to support the recovery and rebuilding efforts.

May the God of mercy and power be with the schools—the faculty, students, staff, and administrators—who have found themselves in the paths of the storms; and let us all be in prayer for our colleagues, our brothers and sisters within God’s family, who are in need.

Peace and grace,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Frank M. Yamada'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Frank Yamada
Executive Director