ATS 2015 State of the Industry Webinar

Resources

ATS Data

- **Annual Data Tables**
  Data collected from all members of ATS for use in accrediting and to provide the data resources supporting applied research undertaken by ATS

- **Entering and Graduating Student Questionnaire Total School Profile Reports**
  Annual composite reports from participating schools on student demographics, educational debt, educational and denominational backgrounds, pathways to seminary, perceptions of their seminary experience, and vocational goals

- **Webinar: Highlights from the 2015 Graduating Student Questionnaire Total School Profile (coming soon)**
  Graphs and charts focusing on educational debt, student perceptions of effectiveness and satisfaction, and vocational goals of graduates. Includes graphs focusing on differences by age, degree program, educational context, gender, and race/ethnicity.

Visit the ATS website for more information about institutional data and student questionnaires.

Articles from *Colloquy Online*

- **Sixty-seven theological schools share strategies for reducing student debt**
  Highlights from the first year of the Economic Challenges Facing Future Ministers initiative

- **Breaking the code of silence: Financial planning tools seek to promote greater fiscal responsibility among incoming students**
  How schools participating in the Economic Challenges Facing Future Ministers initiative are addressing financial literacy and student debt among incoming students

- **Seminaries set six enrollment records**
  Six positive trends that defy unprecedented enrollment declines in higher education and a gradual decline in theological school enrollments that began in 2007

- **Why 100 ATS member schools have grown**
  Several factors that have contributed to the growth of approximately 37 percent of ATS member schools during the past five years
• Tenure and other faculty facts at ATS member schools, Part 1
  The most recent data provided by member schools revealing significant statistics regarding tenure and part-time faculty positions

• Tenure and other faculty facts at ATS member schools, Part 2
  The 25 schools where more than half of faculty earned their doctorates

• Participation by all member schools vital to Educational Models project
  Stephen Graham talks about why this project will be a game changer and shares a project timeline.

ATS Initiatives

• Economic Challenges Facing Future Ministers
  A webpage featuring a variety of resources including research on student debt, financial literacy tools and course syllabi, and financial mentoring programs available for download as well as lists of potential collaborators in the work to reduce student debt for future ministers

• ATS Educational Models and Practices project
  The project will “Explore” an expansive range of educational models and practices, “Assess” their educational effectiveness and financial viability, and “Affirm” those that should be continued by providing a new baseline of information and analysis contributing to the redevelopment of the ATS Commission on Accrediting’s Standards of Accreditation.

Financial Resources

• Institutional Peer Profile Report
  Provides comparisons of annual data reported by ATS member schools with those of other ATS member schools that are identified by the requesting institution as peer institutions. The tables focus on enrollment, faculty, and financial data.

• Strategic Information Report
  Provides ATS member schools with a variety of strategic indicators to help assess their overall financial strengths and performances.

• Why the Strategic Information Report is an essential tool in every school’s toolbox
  The SIR can also be used as a tool in your school’s strategic planning process by providing 10 years of institutional data along with benchmark comparatives to other theological schools.
Research conducted by ATS

- “Who Are the Faculty?” by Deborah H. C. Gin and Stacy Williams-Duncan

Research cited in the webinar and conducted by others

- Pew Research Center for Religion and Public Life
- Gallup surveys on trust in religious institutions
- Mark Chaves on congregational practices
- Linda Mercadante on the spiritual but not religious
- Nancy Ammerman on the spiritual but not religious
- Center for Applied Research for the Apostolate