

# First ever handbook celebrates work of student personnel in graduate theological education

By JO ANN DEASY

ATS is pleased to announce the publication of the first handbook focused on the work of student personnel in graduate theological education: *Transforming Service: Reflections of Student Services Personnel in Theological Education*.

This edited volume “brings perspectives from experienced administrators on a variety of topics related to students services administrative leadership—from understanding the conceptual models that guide the work and gaining deeper knowledge of institutional contexts, to executing academic and co-curricular goals and recognizing the challenges of doing this work.” (*Transforming Service*, pg. xiv)

The book was the vision of its two editors—Shonda Jones, senior associate dean for strategic initiatives and integrative learning at Wake Forest University Divinity School, and Pamela Lightsey, vice president of academic and student affairs at Meadville Lombard Theological School—who wanted to create a handbook that would both orient new student services personnel in theological schools and provide a resource for experienced personnel to address the increasingly complexity of their work.

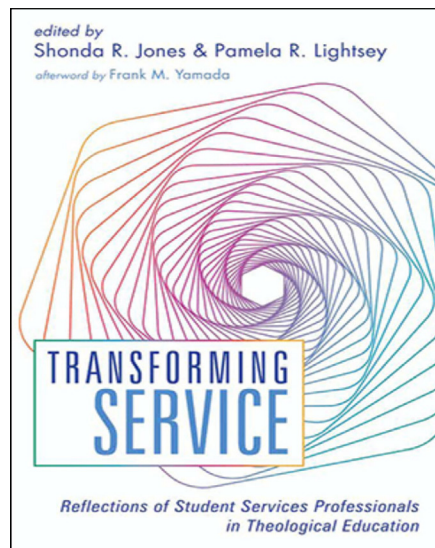
Jones and Lightsey bring their own expertise to this work with essays on graduate theological school choice and managing to avoid chaos. In addition, they’ve gathered 19 other administrative leaders from 15 diverse theological schools to write about both broad topics in student services and particular competencies required for specific roles ranging from registrar, to admissions officer, to academic advising, and career services.

This publication is unique in that it centers the student experience, and it addresses the unique intersections

of diversity, vocation, and formation present in theological schools. To learn more about the book and meet the authors, register to join us for our [virtual launch party](#) at 4 p.m., ET on Thursday, April 15.

One copy of *Transforming Service* has been sent to the chief academic officer of every ATS member school. In addition, student personnel who completed the recent ATS Leadership Education Survey also received a personal copy for their libraries. If you did not receive your copy of the book, please [email Jo Ann Deasy](#).

Additional copies of the book can be purchased on the [Wipf and Stock website](#) for \$33 U.S.



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