

# The Lancaster Theological Seminary Seminary News

September 3, 2003

Special Issue

## WELCOME...

...to new students and “welcome back” to returning students to another exciting year at Lancaster Seminary!

We are pleased that 48 new masters students and 7 new doctoral students have been accepted to date for the 2003-04 academic year. There are 26 full-time and 5 part-time Master of Divinity students; 5 full-time and 1 part-time Master of Arts in Religion students; and 11 unclassified students. Twelve denominations are represented, with students coming from 8 different states, and 4 different countries.

### New Faces

Incoming students will not be the only “new faces” on campus, as we are pleased to also welcome **Ken Dearstyne** as our new Business Manager. **Bruce Epperly**, an associate professor of Practical Theology, has joined the Seminary to direct the Alliance for the Renewal of Ministry as well as participate in ministry seminars and other teaching opportunities. We look forward to Ken’s and Bruce’s participation in the life of the Seminary community.

### Staff Changes

Returning students will notice some staff changes due to retirements and resignations during the summer break. **Maryann Bruce** (just returned from maternity leave) is now Administrative Assistant to the Deans and Field Ed Assistant; her desk is located on the right upon entering the dean’s suite. **Kristin Oberholtzer** remains to the left upon entering the dean’s suite and divides her support duties between Admissions and the Leadership Now youth program. **Judi Hummer**’s new title is Registrar and Director of Student Services, and she remains in her office in the dean’s suite. **Mary Lin Siever**, now serving as faculty secretary as well as staff support for the Alliance for the Renewal of Ministry, has moved to the glassed-in office just across from the elevator in lower level Lark building.

### New website

Be sure to take a tour of our new website at [www.lancasterseminary.edu](http://www.lancasterseminary.edu), for “all you ever wanted to know about Lancaster Seminary but were afraid to ask.” You’ll want to mark this site as a favorite to keep abreast of course schedules, events and other information. Students especially will want to click on the “Student > Current Students” tab to be able to access the 2003-04 Student Handbook as well as download forms such as drop/add, transcript requests, extensions, etc. This module will also allow you to access the SONIS webtools which students will learn about later in the semester.

Students may view the current semester schedule of courses and academic calendars by clicking on the tab named “Academic Programs” and going to “Course Catalogs.” We will make every effort to be sure this information is the most up to date.

### E-mail Communication

All registered students are assigned a Seminary e-mail account and should check this account regularly for important information about courses, events, announcements and scholarship information. If it is more convenient for you to have the Seminary e-mail account forwarded to your personal e-mail address, you may request this by contacting Rick Staherski at [rstaherski@lancasterseminary.edu](mailto:rstaherski@lancasterseminary.edu). Accounts which are not accessed for a period of 60 days are automatically deleted, and important information or announcements may be lost. Easy steps to follow to access your account for the first time are printed in the student handbook and are posted on the bulletin board in the lower level of the Lark building.

### **Seminary News**

*The Seminary News* is published every other week during the Fall and Spring terms, with the first one for the 2003-2004 academic year to be on-line on September 22. Issues will be distributed via your Seminary e-mail account and will also be available on the website at "Students > Current Students."

Anyone wishing to have something published in a *Sem News* should e-mail [mbruce@lanasterseminary.edu](mailto:mbruce@lanasterseminary.edu) no later than the Tuesday in the week prior to publication. Publication dates are September 22, October 6 and 20, November 3 and 17, and December 1 and 15. News items should include a contact name, phone and e-mail address. Items which do not contain this information will not be published.

### **Seminarian Community Council**

"The Seminarian Community Council (SCC) seeks to enrich the lives of the entire Seminary community in social, cultural and spiritual ways by offering a forum for matters of concern brought to the body and by acting as an advocate for the student community." [SCC Constitution Statement of Intent]

Your SCC officers for 2003-2004 are Joanne Marchetto, Moderator; Matt Hoover, Vice-Moderator; Heidi Nelson, Secretary; and Matt Deal, Treasurer.

### **Student Handbooks**

2003-2004 Masters Student Handbooks are now available in the Dean's Office. Be sure to familiarize yourself with the policies and procedures outlined in the handbook. Some of the updates in effect immediately include:

- MDiv Curriculum, Suggested Sequence of Required Courses for students entering 2003/04
- Library Procedures updates
- Course Catalog updates
- F&M Alumni Sports and Fitness Center update

Please stop by the Dean's Office to sign out your copy. Since this is the only copy which will be issued to you, it is recommended that you affix your name in a prominent place on the cover. A limited number of replacements and/or additional copies are available at a cost of \$5.00. The Handbook is posted on the website for your convenience, and is on reserve in the Library.

### **Some Important Dates in the Fall 2003 Semester**

September	2	Orientation for new Masters students and beginning of the September Term.
	18	Orientation for new Doctor of Ministry students
	19	End of September Term
	22	Fall Term Begins
	25	Fall Convocation and Conrad Lecture (The Reverend Lillian Daniel, speaker)
	26	Last Day to Add a Fall Term Course
October	16	More Lecture (The Reverend Glenda Hope, speaker)
	24-25	<i>DISCOVER</i> LTS Open House Weekend for Masters Programs
November	13	Ward Lecture (Dr. Gail Ramshaw, speaker)
	17-21	Registration Week
	20	Gerhart Lecture (Dr. Stephen T. Russell, speaker)
	24-28	Reading Week - No Classes
	25	Class make-up day
December	4	Doctor of Ministry <i>DISCOVER</i> Day
	19	End of Fall Term