



The Seattle School

OF THEOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY

ANNUAL REPORT

— 2014 —

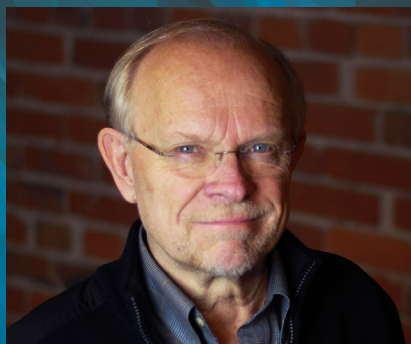
— A Letter from the President —

Ac'tu-al-i-za'tion: *n.* the act or process of making actual, realizing, or completing.

You hold in your hands a document of actualization. I'm proud to share it with you. At times in the past, this institution has been better at starting new things than at the harder work of bringing great ideas to maturity, completion, and alignment. A year ago, The Seattle School declared 2014 the year of actualization. We focused on bringing to completion many efforts we have launched over the past several years.

This is not simply a report on numbers and activities. It is our narrative of what we have done, made, and actualized. I hope you will feel the energy it contains. It is also a declaration of gratefulness for what God has done in our midst. We say out loud, "Thanks be to God," for we know that we can revel in this year only because so many have joined us as partners in stewardship.

Today at the restaurant across the street, our wonderful server Ali sent us out from our lunch with a 'benediction' of sorts: "Look at the diamonds on the water." It is that kind of day in Seattle—sunshine sparkling and dancing on the deep blue water of Puget Sound—an endless display of energy and light. Like the design on the pages of this report, the water was alive with facets of light and shape recalling the complex brilliance of diamonds refined through pressure, time, excavation, and craftsmanship.



It's not a stretch to say that you hold in your hands diamonds refined by the hard work of actualization and completion. You will read about integrated marketing, brand expansion, a new website, and social presence. It was literally a year of completion as we said goodbye to Dr. Jo-Ann Badley, our New Testament professor; Tim Conder, a long-term board member; and Molly Kenzler, a beloved and long-time staff member. We said hello to new professor Dr. Ron Ruthruff, several grants, and new ways to support our students and alumni. The Allender Center exploded in activity and engagement.

You can probably tell that I'm excited for you to read our report. I'll stop before I tell you about all the diamonds contained as you turn the pages. We say thank you for your financial support, participation in our programs, and your continued celebration of our work with us. "Look at the diamonds on the water!"

A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Keith R. Anderson".

Dr. Keith R. Anderson, President

— Our Board of Trustees —

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Chief Financial Officer, James Farrell & Co.

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President Emeritus, George Fox University

Fil Anderson
Executive Director, Journey Resources

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Owner, Canlis Restaurant

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Shannon Mackey
Director of Operations, Building Champions

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Joel Murphy
MAC Alumnus '04
Therapist, Joel Murphy Counseling Services
Co-owner & VP of Major Accounts, Murphy and Associates

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Ex Officio Trustee as Founder (non-voting)
Professor of Counseling Psychology, The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology

Dr. Keith Anderson
Ex Officio Trustee as President (non-voting)
President, The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology

— *Board Transitions* —

— *Celebrating Tim Conder* —

Tim Conder served on the Board of Trustees from 2004 until fall 2014. He helped lead this institution through a decade filled with our most substantial changes: the move into the heart of Seattle; the expansion of our board, staff, and faculty; the presidential transition to Keith Anderson; the solidification of our degree programs; the renaming of our institution; the pursuit of ATS accreditation; and the launch of The Allender Center.

Tim Conder is the first trustee to have reached the maximum time on the Board of Trustees since a term limit policy was instituted: 10 years. His tenure has only been exceeded by our first board chair, Mike McCoy. We are so grateful for Tim's love for our mission, his evangelical commitment to telling our story, and his wisdom and service over the years. His presence on the Board will be greatly missed, though he will always be a vibrant part of The Seattle School family.



— *Celebrating Lisa Kruse* —

Lisa Kruse ended her role on the Board of Trustees in fall 2014 after serving since 2009. As a 2006 alumna of our Counseling Psychology program, she offered great insight into our work as an alumni voice. Lisa works as an Equine Assisted Psychotherapist at Diamond LK Counseling in Dallas/Forth Worth, Texas, with specific training working with PTSD and sexual abuse in both individual and group settings. We are deeply grateful for her courageous and steadfast commitment to her work and her faithful support and service to the school.



— *Welcoming Shannon Mackey* —

Shannon Mackey joined the Board of Trustees this fall and brings a great deal to the table as a well-versed nonprofit board member and a Pacific Northwest consultant. Shannon is Director of Operations at Building Champions in Portland, Oregon. She has worked in higher education for the last eleven years and brings experience in organizational consulting, enrollment management, and leadership development. We are so thankful for the opportunity to welcome Shannon to our Board of Trustees.

— Celebrating Molly Kenzler —

After twelve years of service at The Seattle School, Molly Kenzler retired last year in preparation for a move to Portland, Oregon, to spend more time with her daughter and family. During the annual Spring Banquet in June, our entire community honored Molly's faithful service as an "uncommon pastor," one whose wisdom, hospitality, and presence expanded the classroom experience for so many. We were also able to surprise her during Commencement, granting her our first Honorary Degree in Theology & Culture.

In honor of Molly's remarkable tenure, we established the Molly Clarke Kenzler Scholarship Fund (formerly the Alumni Scholarship for Leadership Excellence), awarded annually to students who have demonstrated exceptional leadership experience in a church or community context.



— New Staff Members Who Joined Us in 2014 —

Cameron Cary
Event Coordinator at The Allender Center

Linda Ruthruff
Bookstore Manager

Katie Metzger
Event Coordinator at The Forum

Brian Long Schroeder
Creative Manager

Erin Quartermann
Assistant Librarian

— Celebrating Dr. Jo-Ann Badley —

After eight years as Professor of Biblical Studies, Dr. Jo-Ann Badley ended her time at The Seattle School in 2014 to join Ambrose University in Calgary as Dean of Theology. In her new position, Dr. Badley leads 14 faculty members in the theology department and oversees the seminary programs, a small number of certificate programs, and the undergraduate ministry training program—a task for which she is well prepared after her efforts cultivating the curriculum and unique style of education at The Seattle School.

Dr. Badley was honored with words of gratitude and blessing, by the entire community at our annual Spring Banquet in April. In one of her final acts as a faculty member, Dr. Badley offered the commencement charge to the Class of 2014.



In a statement to the community, Dr. Keith R. Anderson, President of The Seattle School, said: “I came to The Seattle School with Jo-Ann. I liked her immediately because I found in her qualities and characteristics one doesn’t always find in colleagues—curiosity, intensity of conviction, and commitment to the craft. I have worked in higher education for more than 30 years in four institutions. I know dozens of teachers, but I know only one Jo-Ann Badley—one who, I believe, will become an extraordinary dean in Calgary, because everyone knows what I know: she is an extraordinary teacher. It’s our sacrifice to let her go. But we do so with trust that she will spend all of her days there as she did here—as a scribe for the sake of the reign of God.”

— Welcoming Dr. Ron Ruthruff —

The focused expansion of the Master of Arts in Theology & Culture degree program, which has grown in enrollment by 33 percent in the past three years, took a significant step forward in the spring of 2014 with the hire of Dr. Ron Ruthruff as Associate Professor of Theology & Culture.

With experience and emphases in both scholarship and praxis, Dr. Ruthruff will function as an anchor in the continued growth of the innovative and compelling Social & Global Partnership track. For more than 30 years, Dr. Ruthruff has served homeless and street-involved youth and their families, providing case management services, designing programs, and educating the community on the issues that impact this vulnerable population. He is on a regular preaching schedule at several Seattle-area churches and is an associate with The Center for Transforming Mission.



In a statement announcing the hire, Academic Dean Dr. J. Derek McNeil said, “Ron possesses that rare mix of academic training and rigorous field experience that makes his classroom presence and pedagogical method truly engaging and transformative. I believe that he will also bring a collaborative presence, interdisciplinary curiosity, and an integrative impulse.”

— Evolving Our Visual Identity —

Three years after re-establishing ourselves as The Seattle School of Theology & Psychology, we received a \$275,000 grant from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust that allowed us to build on our brand, expand our visual identity, and integrate our marketing efforts. We began by adopting the cleaner typeface *Leitura News* for our wordmark, expanding our color palette, adding icons for our degree programs, and creating a consistent visual standard for our print materials.

— Updated Wordmark —

The Seattle School
OF THEOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY



The Seattle School
OF THEOLOGY & PSYCHOLOGY

— Program Icons —



— Print Materials —



— Enhancing Our Web Presence —

The M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust grant also gave us the opportunity to redesign our website for the first time in almost a decade. Launched in the spring of 2014, our new web platform not only allows us to have a consistent visual aesthetic tailored to print, web, and mobile devices, but we also developed avenues for sharing content, news, and upcoming events from The Seattle School. We expanded and integrated our marketing efforts across departments, built audiences through social media platforms and email subscriptions, and developed new types of content such as The Allender Center Podcast.



12,000
MONTHLY RECIPIENTS



50,000
DOWNLOADS & COUNTING



856
SUBSCRIBERS



— Supporting Students & Alumni —

2014 was a landmark year for The Seattle School in terms of enrollment and retention. We welcomed more than 110 new graduate students in the fall—a 4% increase over the previous year—and were recognized as a retention leader by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). ATS cited our innovative admissions process, orientation curriculum, and student resources as reasons for our high retention rates. We also introduced a new partnership: the World Vision Fellow Scholarship, awarded to one student each year to promote social awareness and advocacy in our community.

After a successful pilot group, the Office of Students & Alumni launched Alumni Portfolio Groups in the fall of 2014, facilitating continued discernment and support, providing vocational and financial guidance, and developing practical resources for recent graduates.

72
GRADUATES
76% in their field
91% secured jobs

7
MDIV

54
MACP

11
MATC

20
LNP

110

New Students
Enrolled for
Fall 2014

935 Alumni
125 Homecoming Attendees



4 Alumni Chapters around the country
New chapters in Phoenix & Central Texas

We were also thrilled to receive a \$257,000 grant for alumni support from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust in November 2014. This monumental grant supports the strengthening of infrastructure and development of new services for alumni including hub cities, continuing education, expanded vocational development curriculum for the transition from students to alumni, and ongoing research and development regarding alumni needs. The Office of Students & Alumni is working to strategically implement the funds in order to assist future graduates as they transition into their careers and continue pursuing their formation.

— Academic Alignment —

This past year, the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion honored us with a \$20,000 grant for faculty development. Dr. Willie Jennings, a professor at Duke and a consultant from Wabash, joined us and offered a unique perspective into the heart of the change work we must do as a school to grow into our future: “The Seattle School will need to form deeper collaboration between the various sectors of the school. This is a matter of alignment, in that the various sectors of the school need a stronger working knowledge of how the goals of formation connect from the work of admissions to the curriculum, community life, and all the way through to alumni relations and development.”

The Seattle School is in a time of carefully, methodically reviewing our core curriculum to ensure that we continue to equip our students to thrive. The grant we received from the Wabash Center helped fund a series of four retreats for our faculty to be refreshed, inspired, challenged, and strengthened in their connections as a team. Faculty members are also in the process of thoroughly reviewing The Seattle School’s philosophy of education and the format and function of Common Core classes—all vital steps in our journey toward uncovering what it means to study at the intersection of *text.soul.culture*.



— New Courses Offered in 2014 —

- “**Frameworks & Intersections**,” a two-day course for new students introducing The Seattle School’s pedagogy and learning methods to help students succeed
- “**Social Entrepreneurship**,” with Dr. Ron Ruthruff
- “**Readings in Christian Spirituality**,” with Dr. Pat Loughery
- “**Unconscious Gods**,” with Dr. Peter Rollins
- “**Yearnings**,” with Christie Lynk
- “**Marriage Counseling**,” with Dr. Steve Call

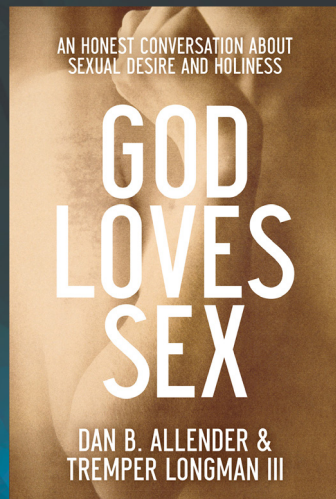
— Books Published by Faculty —

God Loves Sex: An Honest Conversation about Sexual Desire and Holiness

by Dan B. Allender, Professor of Counseling Psychology
& Tremper Longman III, Adjunct Professor

Published through Baker Books.

“God Loves Sex offers a truly liberating, godly view of holy sensuality by recovering the clear meaning of the Song of Songs as God-sanctioned eroticism. Then it uses that lens to answer questions posed by a fictional new Christian struggling with expectations of sexual purity. Pairing psychological insight with sound biblical scholarship, the book asks provocative questions such as *What does it mean to be both holy and filled with rich sexual desire?* and *How can sexual struggles take us deeper into the purposes of God?*”



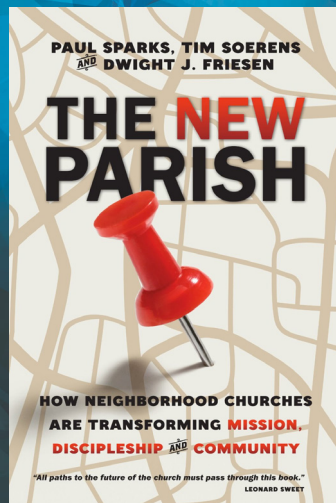
The New Parish: How Neighborhood Churches are Transforming Mission, Discipleship, and Community

by Paul Sparks, Leadership in the New Parish Certificate Co-Facilitator
Tim Soerens, Leadership in the New Parish Certificate Co-Facilitator
& Dwight J. Friesen, Associate Professor of Practical Theology

Published through InterVarsity Press.

Received the *Christianity Today* Award of Merit for Church & Pastoral Leadership.

“We have seen how powerful the gospel can be when it takes root in the context of a place, at the intersection of geography, demography, economy, and culture. In an age of dislocation and disengagement, the notion of a church that knows its place and gives itself to where it finds itself is like a breath of fresh air, like a sign of new life.”



— Highlights of Faculty Scholarship —

— Presentations —

- Dr. Roy Barsness:
 - “You are HEAVY, cause I can’t see you as my brother: The hidden effects of the trauma of exclusion.” Presented at *The International Conference for the Christian Association for Psychological Studies*, April. Atlanta, GA.
- Dr. Dwight J. Friesen:
 - Traveled North America and the UK with co-authors and certificate co-facilitators Paul Spark and Tim Soerens speaking in various congregations, denominations, and parish contexts.
- Dr. Caprice D. Hollins:
 - “Succession Planning for the Diverse Workforce of the Future,” at the NW Public Employees Diversity Conference.
 - “Talking with Children & Youth about Race,” at the Race & Pedagogy National Conference.



— Peer-Reviewed Articles —

- Barsness, R. & Strawn, B. “Playing our Cards Face Up: The Positive Power of Arousal and Disclosure in the Therapeutic Setting.” *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, Fall 2014.
- Kim, R. & Barsness, R. “The Changing Culture of Faculty Work: A Pedagogy of Cultural Dignity for Engaging the Diverse Other.” *Journal of the American Theological Society*.

— Annual Series from The Forum —

— Inhabit & Inhabit UK —

The Forum at The Seattle School and The Parish Collective welcomed a sold-out crowd of parish leaders in April for the fourth annual Inhabit Conference. Christena Cleveland, Shane Claiborne, Rev. Alexia Salvatierra, Noel Castellanos, Rev. Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil, and Michael Frost led the discussion around the year's theme, "Rooting & Linking." In October, in partnership with Springdale College, Inhabit launched its first international gathering in Birmingham, England, for Inhabit UK. Like the annual conference in Seattle, Inhabit UK showcased artists, community organizers, and entrepreneurs in keynote lectures, breakout sessions, and panel discussions meant to empower innovative, missional practitioners from across the United Kingdom.

— Alumni Lecture Series —

The inaugural Alumni Lecture Series in May featured David James Duncan, best-selling author of *The Brothers K* and *The River Why*. "The Alumni Lecture Series is offered in honor of our alumni, who lead our school's mission beyond our walls and into the middle of humanity's pain, joy, catastrophe, wonder, and suffering," said Paul Steinke, Dean of Students & Alumni. Duncan led a day-long writing workshop with 56 participants and offered a lecture and reading to more than 100 guests from our community and the greater Seattle area.



— Stanley Grenz Lecture Series —

The second annual Stanley Grenz Lecture Series, presented in honor of former Professor Stanley Grenz, featured keynote speaker Dr. Esther Acolatse, Assistant Professor of the Practice of Pastoral Theology and World Christianity at Duke Divinity School. Over two days, Acolatse engaged the theme of enchantment in the Christian South and how dialogue between the Christian South and North can open each side to important realities of Christian belief in the modern world. Associate Professor Chelle Stearns moderated a panel of leaders from the Pacific Northwest theological education community, and Acolatse hosted a brown bag lunch and Q&A session the second day.

— *Special Events from The Forum* —

— *Philosophers Esther Meek & Peter Rollins* —

The Forum at The Seattle School hosted Dr. Esther L. Meek, Professor of Philosophy at Geneva College and author of *Loving to Know*, and Peter Rollins, a philosopher and author most recently of *The Divine Magician*, for a series of special events in 2014. Meek sat down with Dan Allender for a public conversation about her new book and the gap between epistemology and psychology, while Rollins taught a three-day summer course titled “Unconscious Gods,” discussing how psychoanalysis and the modern philosophical critique of religion can inform the Christian life.

— *Pastors’ Breakfast* —

In September, The Seattle School and World Vision hosted our third annual Pastors’ Breakfast. This free annual event is for pastors and ministry leaders in the Seattle area, in hopes to connect with local leaders and provide meaningful training for their continued ministries. This year’s topic focused on “The Cost of Your Calling.” Dan and Becky Allender participated in a candid conversation about the impact and cost of the pastoral calling on their marriage, family, friendships, and community.



— *Psychoanalysts Avedis Panajian & Lew Aron* —

The Forum at The Seattle School partnered with the Northwest Alliance for Psychoanalytic Study to host two major events. Associate Professor of Counseling Psychology Dr. O’Donnell Day invited Dr. Avedis Panajian, a Fellow of the International Psychoanalytical Association, for a robust day of case presentations and dialogue in February. In September, Dr. Lew Aron, founding president of the International Association for Relational Psychoanalysis and Psychotherapy, was invited to present a two-day guest lecture seminar about the cultural history and clinical implications of relational psychotherapy.

— The Allender Center's Vision —

The Allender Center has grown exponentially since its inception 4 years ago. The need for restoration and healing continues to grow as we come to grips with the prevalence of abuse and trauma in our culture. As The Allender Center becomes known as a world-renowned resource for training and transformation, our vision is to be able to continue to meet this need with accessible content, geographically-focused training, and expanded leadership and training models. Dr. Allender and the teaching staff spent this past year deepening the roots of our methodology, and we have been able to fine-tune our teaching and training modules to launch The Allender Center into its next phase.

The 2013-2014 certificate training program concluded in Chicago with the blessing and commissioning of 73 participants—25 in the Advanced Counseling Certificate and 48 in the Lay Counseling Certificate. The Fellowship at The Allender Center, a team of our lead facilitators, grew from 5 to 8 fellows in 2014 while our Externship Program, an intensive training for graduates of The Seattle School, expanded to 14 externs in 2014.

25
ACC

48
LCC

**2,224 Participants
across 8 States**

6 Story Groups

4 Recovery Weeks

3 Intimate Mystery Conferences

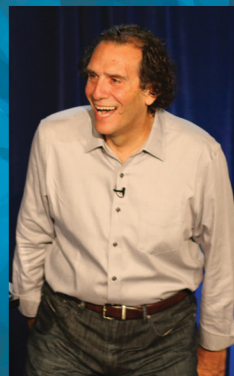
2 Story Workshops

1 Effective Trauma Care Workshop

1 Design of Desire Conference

1 To Be Told Conference

10 years of healing through
The Story Workshop

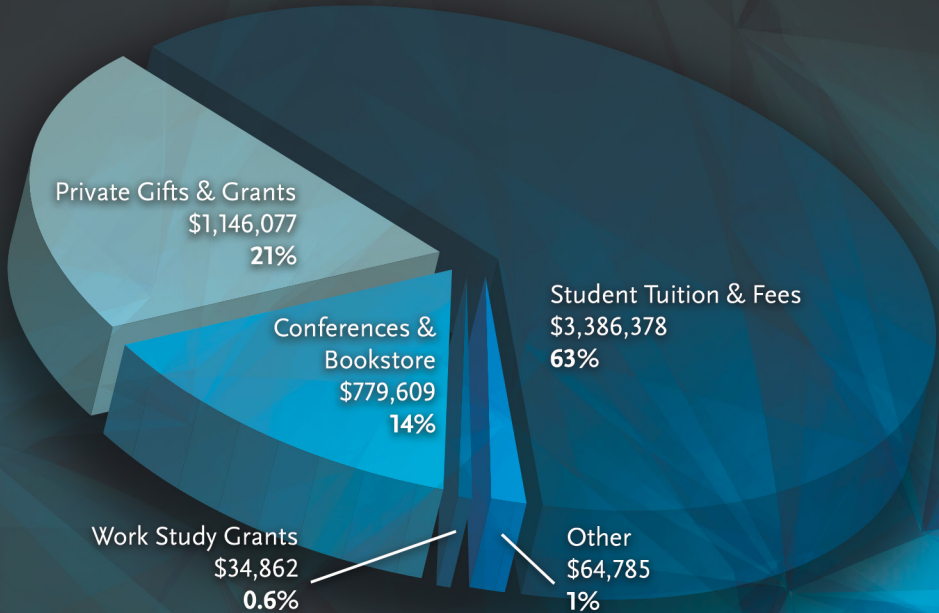


— The 10th Anniversary of The Story Workshop —

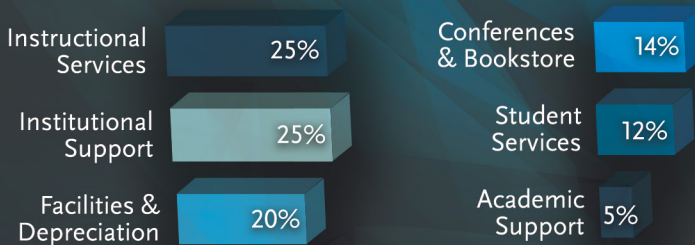
The Allender Center celebrated the 10th anniversary of The Story Workshop, a signature event that invites participants deeply into the themes of their lives as they seek to understand, write, tell, and live their stories in more transformative ways. Lisa Fann, a Fellow at The Allender Center and co-creator of the workshop curriculum, described the impact on participants' lives: "The Story Workshop is a banquet of stories of suffering and hope and redemption. Participants often leave with a freedom that comes from seeing themselves as the Beloved."

— Our Finances —

— Revenue Sources —



— Allocating Our Resources —



— Financial Partners —

Getting to know the individuals who offer gifts to fuel our work is a privilege of immeasurable value for me. I am grateful for a year of beautiful, courageous stories that accompany the many names of our financial partners on the next few pages. You boldly trust us with your resources so that we may continue offering restorative and enlivening training in Seattle and across the country. Thank you for all that you made possible for our students, staff, alumni, and participants over the last year.



Ashley Wilson Oster, Director of Development

265
DONORS

100%
BOARD PARTICIPATION

\$10K
RAISED BY ALUMNI
IN A SINGLE WEEK

80% *of Donors Retained from 2013*

SEND. JOIN. HONOR.

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Jack and Lois Easterling
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Lou and Barbara Guiliano
George Long and Lisa Kruse
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Doug and Kathy McClay
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Joel and Jennifer Murphy
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Andrew and Cary Umhau
Patrick and Gail Walker
Jonathan and Kate Weinstein

— President's Table —

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Keith and Wendy Anderson
Mike and Stephanie Anderson
Roland and Clare Andreasson
Melodie Asdell
Ken and Jo-Ann Badley
Roy and Marie Barsness
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Rady and Jeanette Houghtelling
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Daniel Ichinaga and Allison Cook
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Russ Teubner
Clay and Laura Francis Thorp
Wes and Cynthia Vander Ark
Brandon Weber
Robert and Robyn Whitaker
Jay and Judy Yoo
Adam and Caroline Young

"We met each other at The Seattle School (then Mars Hill Graduate School), but probably more importantly, we were invited to meet ourselves and our God in new and more vibrant ways at The Seattle School. We are proud graduates and alumni, and we give with gratitude for the work that was done on our behalf, so that we may labor on behalf of others. Our lives are deeper, richer, more playful, and more joyous because of our time spent in seminary. God met us in this place as students, and God continues to meet us as we give back as alumni."

— *Laura Wade and Doug Shirley*

— Partners —

Tyler and Anita Aberle
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Amie Armstrong
Debbie Arnspong
Suzanne Aultman
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Leona Foley
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Stacie Furman
Bethany Gardner
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Hilary Golden
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— Partners —

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Wendy Schyberg
Jeanette Scott
Jarrod and Taryn Shappel
Cheryl Shay
Erica Shutes
David and Chelle Stearns
Kathryn Swanson
Nathan and Kate Sweet
Claire Tadych

— *Partners* —

Matt and Carin Taylor
Brendan Thatcher
Daniel Tidwell
Randee and Corrine Vance
Byron and Gina Waggoner
Joanna Waller
Stuart and Eve Watson
Amanda Webb
Campbell and Jeanette White
Chris and Jennifer Whiteford
Bill and Ruth Wiley

Kellay Wiley
Leslie Willcott
James and Susan Williams
Laura Willis
Duncan and Andrea Wilson
Judy Wilson
Johnny and Sue Wilson
Wendall and Lynn Winn
Erica Wrenn
Sam and Cynthia Young



Our mission is to train people in the study of text, soul, and culture in order to serve God and others through transforming relationships.



— About The Seattle School —

The Seattle School's core degree programs—*Master of Divinity*, *Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology*, and *Master of Arts in Theology & Culture*—and certificate offerings—*Leadership in the New Parish Certificate*, *Advanced Counseling Certificate*, and *Lay Counseling Certificate*—are the foundation of our mission and propel us forward as thought leaders, both nationally and locally, as we engage the intersection of theology, psychology, and culture.

The Forum at The Seattle School invites new voices and established thought leaders from the Pacific Northwest, around the country, and across the globe to the table for thoughtful engagement and meaningful dialogue. The Seattle School is also home to *The Allender Center*, a pioneering organization stewarding the legacy of Dr. Dan B. Allender. The Allender Center exists to foster redemption and healing in individuals, couples, and communities by helping them tell their stories with awareness and integrity while training leaders and professionals to engage the stories of others with courage, artistry, and care.

Learn more at theseattleschool.edu

