



GATEWAY SEMINARY

Biblical • Missional • Global

2020 GOALS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Please describe accomplishments, relative to each of your convention assigned Ministry Assignments, in the past year that create "value added" to the Cooperative Program dollars that Gateway Seminary receives.

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

Gateway does not offer a baccalaureate program, but does offer the pre-baccalaureate ministry training program, Advance Leadership Development. Advance is delivered in partnership with large churches, associations, and some state conventions. Gateway designs the curriculum, established the basic academic policies, and recognizes graduates at its graduation ceremonies. Gateway continues to support approximately 50 centers in the US, and a growing number of centers internationally, with the most recent of these established in Australia. The program supports the work of Southern Baptists by providing affordable and accessible ministry training to underserved constituencies in a variety of ethnic church contexts.

II. Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.

Last Spring, WSCUC completed its periodic review of the seminary for re-accreditation. The review resulted in affirmations of the directions the seminary is moving educationally and a ten-year term of re-accreditation, the maximum allowable under WSCUC standards. The seminary has also begun the process for ATS re-accreditation review which should be completed in the Spring of 2021. In addition, the seminary received accreditation authorization from both WSCUC and ATS to deliver its MACC and MMiss and its DMIN fully online. As a result, all Gateway master's degrees are now available online to underserved Baptist communities in the west and beyond.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

As mentioned above, Gateway is now one of the few seminaries in ATS approved to deliver its DMIN fully online. This approval, from both WASACU and ATS was required in order to offer a hybrid program with 50% or more of the classes offered via distance learning. The Gateway online DMIN will likely be delivered as a hybrid program combining face-to-face and distance learning experiences. Making this option available should reduce the cost incurred by students and in the case of international cohorts, eliminate the difficult and costly process of securing a student visa and relocating to the US. The first cohort operating in this delivery mode, a cohort of 15 students in South Korea, has already begun its studies.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

Gateway's PHD programs in Biblical Studies and in Theological Studies continue to provide training at the highest academic level. Graduates serve both in the academic institutions and in the churches of the SBC. The process of employing "Affiliated Faculty" has broadened the expertise available to doctoral candidates while keeping program costs reasonably low. The addition this year of another Theology faculty member, Dr. David Rathel should further enhance the program.

Based on each of Gateway's Convention assigned ministry statements, what opportunities or challenges do you see on the horizon from 2020 and beyond that would necessitate changes, or new directions, in how Gateway is accomplishing the listed Ministry Assignments?

I. Assist churches by programs of prebaccalaureate and baccalaureate theological education for ministers.

The Gateway Advance program continues to develop new centers nationwide and support existing centers. The center managed by the Inland Empire Southern Baptist Association and meeting in the seminary's Ontario campus provides courses in English and Spanish to support leadership training in the immediate area of the seminary. The growing requests for an international version of Advance may be met through international centers, or through the development of Advance programed learning modules or some combination of the two. In this next year the Seminary will continue to explore options in this matter.

II. Assist churches by programs of master's level theological education for ministers.

The seminary is in the midst of its self-study in preparation for its re-accreditation review by the Association of Theological Schools. The institutional self-study is designed to reveal strengths and areas in need of growth. The delivery of the MACC and the MMiss online and the expansion of the DMIN online are priority projects for Gateway in the current year and we anticipate their growth in the year to come. In an effort to assist students training for missions, Gateway has just received authorization to rename its Master of Missiology degree to Master of Global Engagement. We anticipate this nomenclature change will make operating in limited-access countries a little easier. Finally, the seminary has reached capacity in its student housing and are in the process of securing additional housing, hopefully in time to accommodate incoming student by the Summer of 2020.

III. Assist churches by programs of professional doctoral education for ministers.

The Gateway DMIN program has long been structured as a cohort program with seminars scheduled to make it accessible for commuter students. These intensive seminars have been effective, but seeking a way to keep the same level of accessibility while expanding the time devoted to guided reflection on ministry studies led the seminary to apply for permission to deliver the DMIN program fully online. This level of authorization will allow the school to craft a hybrid schedule utilizing the best of face-to-face, intensive and online delivery modalities. For cohorts for whom travel is a major barrier, e.g., some international students, delivery will emphasize distance learning enhanced with limited face-to-face experiences. For student who prefer a face-to-face learning experience, Gateway will continue to offer such opportunities. Hopefully, the flexibility that the seminary has achieved in DMIN delivery mode will allow the degree to be even more accessible and more affordable than it has been in the past.

IV. Assist churches by programs of research doctoral education for ministers and theological educators.

In the coming year, the leadership of the Gateway PHD program will leverage the ATS self-study process to review and recommend ways to strengthen the program. New to the seminary is a recently hired Theology professor who we anticipate adding to the strength of the program. Next summer, one of Gateway's long-time Theology professors, Dr. Rick Durst, will also move from Fremont to Ontario and be more involved in the PHD program. In addition, the Jonathan Edwards Center at Gateway continues to enhance the experience of PHD students and the work and conferences sponsored by the center should add greatly to the PHD experience in the coming year.