

## St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary

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### Administration

**Metropolitan Herman**, *President*  
**Professor John H. Erickson**, *Dean*  
**Peter Pruzinsky**, *Chief Financial Officer*  
**Dr. Paul Meyendorff**, *Associate Dean for Academic Affairs*  
**V. Rev. Paul Lazor**, *Associate Dean for Students Affairs*  
**V. Rev. Steven Belonick**, *Director of Recruitment, Alumni Relations, and Outreach*

### Mission

Through faithful adherence to Orthodox Christianity, St. Vladimir's Seminary serves the Church and society through graduate theological education and the ministries of its graduates.

With a firm commitment to the structural unity of the Orthodox Church in North America and to inter-Orthodox cooperation on all levels of Church life, the seminary accomplishes this mission through the following programs and activities:

- ♦ Graduate programs for candidates for holy orders
- ♦ Graduate programs and special training for scholars and lay workers in the Church
- ♦ In-depth theological research and reflection
- ♦ Stewardship of the theological resources of the St. Vladimir's library
- ♦ Lectures, seminars, workshops, and retreats at the seminary campus and at other locations
- ♦ Publication of books, icons, and audio-visual educational materials on the Orthodox Tradition through SVS Press
- ♦ Publication of *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly*
- ♦ Providing information on Orthodoxy through faculty, bookstore, library, internet services, and other media
- ♦ Support of the Church in mission, evangelism, monasticism, family life, social work, and ecumenism
- ♦ Service and participation of SVS graduates and students in parish life, pastoral work, scholarship, monastic life, missionary activity, and ecumenism
- ♦ Spiritual and practical support of SVS alumni and alumnae
- ♦ Interaction with other Orthodox theological schools and centers of theological education and training within and outside the Church
- ♦ Participation in professional and service organizations both within and outside the Church

### Degree Programs

The seminary offers three degree programs: the Master of Divinity, Master of Arts, and Master of Theology. All programs are accredited by the Association of Theological Schools (ATS). Accreditation presupposes nationally accepted levels of academic excellence, without any interference of ATS in the content of what is taught. Accreditation is in accordance with curricula used in all graduate Orthodox theological schools ("faculties" or "academies") with necessary adaptation to the contemporary needs of Orthodoxy in North America. The seminary's programs are also registered with the New York State Education Department.

- ♦ **Master of Divinity:** a three-year program designed primarily for those called to the priesthood or other positions of Church work and service.
- ♦ **Master of Arts:** a two-year program with three possible areas of concentration: general theological studies, Christian education, and liturgical music.
- ♦ **Master of Theology:** a two-year program offering an advanced academic degree in preparation for higher-level studies, teaching, and research.

# Seminaries

## Student Life

Students coming to the seminary from traditional Orthodox families and parish life are now the exception rather than the rule. Many are older men seeking a “second career” in the Church. They are frequently married with children. Many of them are converts to Orthodoxy. These changes reflect the current realities of Church life and present the seminary with new responsibilities. A large number of candidates now apply from eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Financial constraints prevent the seminary from enrolling more students who require scholarships.

Students attend daily chapel services. Liturgical worship is the center of theological education. Pastoral training is an integral and required part of the Master of Divinity degree program. Along with courses in liturgical practice, homiletics, Christian education, and various aspects of pastoral ministry, the students’ training includes supervised field work, including a year-long parish assignment, and a second year in hospital ministry or similar work.

Seminary alumni now include more than 33 bishops and more than 700 priests and deacons worldwide.

*SVS Student Enrollment since the 13th All-American Council:*

Fall 2002-Spring 2003: 87	(OCA: 27)
Fall 2003-Spring 2004: 95	(OCA: 42)
Fall 2004-Spring 2005: 109	(OCA: 46)

In the fiscal year 2005, the seminary gave direct scholarship aid valued at \$324,350 to 53 students. All SVS seminarians are now required to have health insurance. A plan is available through the seminary for those who do not otherwise have health insurance.

## Finances

*SVS Finances since the 13th All-American Council:*

FY2003 Budget: \$2,561,575
FY2004 Budget: \$2,525,000
FY2005 Budget: \$2,810,000

During the past three years, SVS received from the OCA (through the Church’s annual Seminary Appeal): \$105,313. The seminary endowment is currently \$11,515,813, compared to \$10,166,304 in 2002.

## Buildings and Facilities

St. Vladimir’s Seminary is located on an attractive eleven-acre campus in Crestwood, NY. The seminary has a total of sixteen buildings, including the Three Hierarchs Chapel, three dormitories, seventeen married-student apartments, and eight faculty homes, encompassed within fourteen acres. Two new nine-unit married-student apartment buildings are currently being constructed. They will double the seminary’s capacity to house married students from seventeen to thirty-five.

### Three Hierarchs Chapel

- ◆ Chapel
- ◆ Kunett Auditorium
- ◆ The Boich Family Bell Tower

### John G. Rangos Family Foundation Building

- ◆ Fr. Georges Florovsky Memorial Library
- ◆ Virginia H. Farah Foundation Reading Room in the library
- ◆ Metropolitan Philip Saiba Auditorium
- ◆ The Joukowsky Family Administration Wing

- ◆ Brian and Marilyn Gerich Board Room
- ◆ V. Rev. Anthony Scott Advancement Office
- ◆ Offices for the dean and his assistant, chief financial officer, associate dean for academic affairs, three advancement officers, communications officer, recruitment officer, bursar, records, tech support, and receptionist
- ◆ The Boich Family Courtyard

## **Metropolitan Leonty Educational Building**

- ◆ Metropolitan Anthony Bashir Auditorium
- ◆ SVS Press sales, inventory, and packing room
- ◆ SVS Bookstore
- ◆ Four classrooms
- ◆ Annex dormitory for women students

## **Hooda Germack Student Building**

- ◆ Refectory
- ◆ Dean of Students' office
- ◆ Ecclesiarch's office
- ◆ Common room and solarium
- ◆ Single students' housing
- ◆ Guest rooms

## **New Facility**

- ◆ St. Vladimir's Seminary Press offices
- ◆ Five faculty offices
- ◆ Two classrooms

## **Three Facilities for Married Students and Single Men Students**

- ◆ One older building has rooms for single men students and eight married-student apartments
- ◆ A second new building has seven married-student apartments
- ◆ A third, newer building has two married-student apartments above a maintenance facility

There are currently seventeen married-student apartments on campus. In the 2004-2005 academic year, the seminary subsidized an additional eight married-student apartments off campus in the nearby Crestwood Lake Apartments.

## **Maintenance Facility**

- ◆ This facility is located beneath two married-student apartments and houses the maintenance workroom, seminary vehicles, and equipment.

## **St. Vladimir's Seminary Press**

St. Vladimir's Seminary Press has published more than 270 titles and is the largest publisher of Orthodox books in the English language, with nearly 100,000 volumes sold each year.

Since the last All-American Council, SVS Press has developed its series of children's books, continued publication of its "Popular Patristics" series, and is about to launch a new series of basic books on Orthodoxy, "Theological Foundations" ("Orthodoxy 101"). New releases in liturgical music include the long-awaited *Holy Week III*, a new edition of *The Divine Liturgy*, and two new CDs: *The Vigil* and *Chant Traditions*. New faculty publications include a series of New Testament commentaries by the V. Rev. Paul Tarazi and the first two volumes of a projected five-volume series by the Rev. John Behr entitled *The Formation of Christian Theology: The Way to Nicaea* and *The Nicene Faith* (in two parts). New audio CDs include twelve lectures by Dean Emeritus Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko on the Lord's Prayer. A best seller has been *Father Arseny (1893-1973): Priest, Prisoner, Spiritual Father* (trans. Vera Bouteneff), now also available in an audio version.

# Seminaries

## Outreach

The St. Vladimir's Seminary Alumni Association has increased its activity and outreach since 2002. For the first time in the seminary's history, an alumni reunion was held in October 2004, and the seminary plans to host more reunions in the future. Since 2002 many alumni gatherings have been held at locations all over North America, usually hosted by local alumni and led by a visiting member of the seminary's faculty or staff. The *Alumni News*, a newsletter sent by email to all alumni who have provided their current email address, is sent out each month with updates on campus life as well as personal news of alumni and their families.

In September 2003, St. Vladimir's Seminary hired a full-time communications officer, thus increasing the consistency of communication with its constituency and with Orthodox and secular media via regular press releases and more frequent updates to the seminary's web site, [www.svots.edu](http://www.svots.edu). Flyers and updates advertising upcoming events at the seminary are regularly mailed to Orthodox churches and parishioners within a 300-mile radius of the seminary. Other events mailings, such as the summer institute brochure mailing, are sent to all past participants and inquirers.

The *SVSNews* magazine, a four-color, sixteen-page newsletter, is published twice a year, in winter and summer, and is mailed to approximately 6,700 people. A shorter newsletter, the *SVSUpdate*, is published in early autumn and sent to approximately 18,000 people. Subscriptions to the *SVSNews* are available by request at no charge.

The seminary's advancement office regularly sends out mailings to current and prospective donors in order to keep them updated on significant events in the life of the seminary, such as student ordinations.

The *St. Vladimir's Theological Quarterly* has 1,000 subscribers.

The seminary library continues to be a major resource for scholars of Orthodox Christianity and has increased its holdings to 128,000 titles and 350 periodicals.

The seminary offers its resources through lectures, symposia, and institutes held both on and off campus throughout the year. The Liturgical Institute of Music and Pastoral Practice held each June continues to draw approximately 100 participants. The Annual Lenten Retreat, Orthodox Education Day, and the Father Alexander Schmemmann Memorial Lecture are also consistently well attended. Special events such as the recent Symposium on the Passion of Christ with Bishop Kallistos (Ware) of Diokleia have drawn as many as 300 people to the seminary's Metropolitan Philip Auditorium. The seminary faculty continues to travel for speaking engagements in the US and abroad. The seminary also offers an extension program so that individuals who are not enrolled as full-time students at the seminary may take courses.

## Faculty

Full-time faculty appointments follow procedures employed in other institutions of higher learning. Normal requirements include a formal Orthodox theological education in a recognized Orthodox school, a doctorate (or equivalent) in one's specialty, and a record of service to the Church.

SVS faculty members continue to conduct seminars and retreats in the US and abroad, to publish articles and books, and to participate in various ecclesiastical, ecumenical, and scholarly activities.

## Board of Trustees

Most Rev. Metropolitan CHRISTOPHER, *Serbian Orthodox Church*

Most Rev. KYRILL, Archbishop of Pittsburgh, *Orthodox Church in America*

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## Major Events and Achievements Since the 13th All-American Council (2002)

- ◆ Installation of Professor John H. Erickson as seminary dean
- ◆ Development of a new strategic plan, *SVS 2010*
- ◆ Hiring of the Rev. Alexander Rentel, now Assistant Professor of Canon Law and Byzantine Studies
- ◆ Promotion of the Rev. John Behr to the rank of professor
- ◆ Promotion of Dr. John Barnett to the rank of associate professor
- ◆ Development of new Advancement Office team, headed by Dn. Jesse Greendyk and Michael Kaufman (Capital Campaign)
- ◆ Successful completion of decennial visit of the Association of Theological Schools and reaffirmation of the seminary's accreditation
- ◆ Major symposium on *Russian Theological Traditions*, with His Eminence Metropolitan Philaret of Minsk as keynote speaker
- ◆ Major symposium on Mission, with His Beatitude Archbishop Anastasios (Yannoulatos) of Albania as keynote speaker
- ◆ Two major music symposia, drawing international participation
- ◆ Hiring of Dn. Kirill Sokolov as full-time director of systems (technology)
- ◆ Retirement of Professor David Drillock, after more than 40 years at SVS
- ◆ Mr. Peter Pruzinsky hired to succeed David Drillock as the seminary's CFO
- ◆ Hiring of Dn. Kevin Smith as Instructor in Liturgical Music and Director of Music in the seminary chapel
- ◆ Faculty-trustee-alumni retreat launches "Good Pastor" project
- ◆ First annual alumni reunion
- ◆ Beginning of construction on 18 new units of married-student housing
- ◆ Reviving the tradition of traveling seminary octets, the St. Vladimir's Chorale has toured Florida, area parishes, the Chicago vicinity, and sung at the St. Tikhon's Memorial Day Pilgrimage (2005)