
GENERAL INFORMATION

OUR MISSION

Rooted in biblical and historic Christian faith, Northeastern Seminary prepares Christ-centered men and women for faithful, effective ministry to the church and the world.

OUR VISION

By the grace of God, the vision of Northeastern Seminary is to transform the spiritual climate of the Northeastern United States and beyond by preparing increasing numbers of theologically-reflective, spiritually-formed, professionally-competent persons for ministry. Northeastern Seminary's second decade will be one of significant growth in the richness of its educational programs, the breadth of its impact, and the strength of its organizational resources. NES will become recognized as a mid-sized, multi-denominational, multi-ethnic seminary whose faculty are gifted teachers and scholars, whose students are being transformed in a dynamic and supportive learning community, and whose graduates embody, articulate, and advance the kingdom of God in a variety of ministry contexts around the world.

OUR CORE VALUES

Rootedness: We provide a theological education that is built upon the foundation of a deep, sustained engagement with biblical and historic Christianity.

Responsiveness: We equip our students to practice ministry that is wisely and faithfully responsive to the constantly changing contexts of our culture and world.

Respect-filled community: We affirm and learn from each person in our richly-diverse community of faith, regardless of such distinctives as denominational affiliation, ethnicity, gender, or age.

Scholarship: We value the life of the mind, so we offer a carefully-designed, intentionally-integrated academic program that cultivates an aptitude for faithful theological reflection about the most central questions of life and ministry.

Spiritual formation: We affirm that the indispensable foundation for Christian ministry is a vital relationship with God through Christ, and so we seek to provide a nurturing community in which genuine Christian faith can deepen and thrive.

Service to the church: We believe that a theological seminary does not exist for its own sake, but exists rather to serve and resource the church of Jesus Christ.

OUR RELIGIOUS HERITAGE

Expressing a continuing commitment to the ideals of its founder, Roberts Wesleyan College founded Northeastern Seminary in 1998 as a graduate school of theology.

Roberts Wesleyan College, originally Chili Seminary, was founded by Benjamin Titus Roberts in 1866. Roberts was an evangelical Methodist minister and the first general superintendent of the Free Methodist Church. He and the other founders of the Church affirmed the view of Christian teaching, personal piety, and social action taught by John Wesley. The Church's official teaching in its Articles of Religion clearly shows its roots in classical Christianity. Its heritage can be traced through the Thirty-Nine Articles of the Church of England, the Augsburg Confession of the Protestant Reformation, and the great historic creeds of the early Church, such as the Apostles' Creed, back to the Scriptures, and the teachings of Jesus Christ.

This heritage has been of major importance in the development of the educational programs at Roberts Wesleyan College and informs the mission of Northeastern Seminary as a graduate school of theology. Stating his purpose for the founding of Chili Seminary, Roberts wrote, "While we cannot prize too highly the benefits of mental culture, we should not lose sight of that moral and religious culture which lies at the foundation of correct principles and good character."

OUR THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE

Northeastern Seminary welcomes students who seek to ground their thinking and practice in the Holy Scriptures, to understand the rich learning and nurture of classic Christian teaching, and to enter into significant conversation with the best of all Christian traditions, including those other than their own.

This is consistent with our own heritage that can be traced to John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. Wesley provides an exceptional model of theological method. He was immersed in the Holy Scriptures, acknowledged them as the supreme authority, and profusely used them in his writings with striking aptness. Likewise, Wesley's viewpoint was deeply rooted in classical Christianity. He loved the insights of early Christian writers.

Further, Wesley drew widely from the rich resources of the entire Christian family, such as the late medieval saints and the Protestant reformers. Finally, we note Wesley's pastoral passion: his vision sought embodiment in a holistic Christian life that included personal piety and social action as well as sound doctrine.

This is the theological perspective Northeastern Seminary seeks to emulate.

We acknowledge the centrality and authority of the Holy Scriptures. These works convey the revelation of God in an utterly unique way. Moses, the prophets, and the apostles, though ancient, speak an enduring and timely message. We aspire to know the text of the Bible—both in its breadth and depth, and to discover the meaning and application of its message to our own day. We believe our theological discourse, our worship—both corporate and private, our professional work, and our personal conduct are to be shaped by God's Word.

We also embrace those understandings of the Scriptures that have always been treasured by the Church. The central teachings of such historic documents as the Nicene and Apostles' Creeds and, to a lesser degree, the

Augsburg Confession, the Thirty-Nine Articles of the Church of England, and the Articles of Religion of the Free Methodist Church provide indispensable guidance. So also do the great pastors and teachers of the historic Church, such as Augustine, Aquinas, the Protestant reformers, and Wesley.

Finally, we apply the rule often attributed to Augustine, “in essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity.” Thus, we heartily welcome students who come from various traditions. The vigorous, stimulating, and instructive discussion that takes place at Northeastern Seminary enables us to clarify, adjust, and think through our own understandings of theological issues, as we measure them against the teachings of the Holy Scriptures.

The following statements, which echo the language of the Scriptures and the affirmations of the Church, identify those doctrines we believe of central importance.

There is but one living and true God, spiritual in nature and infinite in power, wisdom, and goodness; and in this Godhead there are three Persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

God is the Creator and Preserver of all things, both visible and invisible.

The only begotten Son of God, by whom all things were made, for us and for our salvation was made flesh in Jesus of Nazareth by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. Truly God, of one substance with the Father, and truly man, like us in all respects, yet without sin, our Lord Jesus Christ suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, was raised on the third day, ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of the Father; he shall come again to judge the living and the dead.

The Holy Spirit, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, is the Lord and Giver of life, who rules over human affairs and brings us to salvation by convicting, persuading, renewing, sanctifying, comforting, and, at the end of time, raising us from the dead as our Lord Jesus Christ was raised, and who together with the Father and the Son is to be worshiped and glorified.

The thirty-nine books of the Old Testament, the Hebrew Scriptures, and the twenty-seven books of the New Testament belong to the universally recognized Christian canon, of which there was never significant doubt. These Scriptures, inspired by the Holy Spirit, contain the teachings of Moses, the prophets, the apostles, and especially our Lord Jesus Christ. They are true and reliable, and instruct us authoritatively about God, human nature, the way of salvation, and the life of faith. They contain all things necessary to our salvation so that whatever cannot be read in them or proved by them should not be required as an article of faith.

The Church was established by our Lord Jesus Christ through his ministry and his apostles, and he continues this ministry where there is a congregation of faithful persons in which the Scriptures, the Word of God, are rightly preached and the sacraments, the means of grace, are duly administered. Through its obedience to the Great Commission, our Lord constantly brings new persons into the Church and nurtures them in the life of faith. Though presently divided, the Church transcends these divisions and is composed of the faithful on earth, the saints who are in the presence of Christ, and the heavenly hosts. Through the Holy Spirit, our Lord Jesus Christ constantly renews the Church as one, holy, catholic, and apostolic; at the end of time, he will present the Church unblemished to the Father.

Though humankind was created in the image of God and endowed with spiritual life, after the fall of Adam, we have all been born in sin, rebelled against God, and are very far gone from original righteousness. By ourselves we cannot turn and obey God; the Spirit of God must prepare us to seek forgiveness and spiritual renewal by awakening us from sin, calling us to repentance and faith, and graciously enabling us to do so.

By the merit of our Lord Jesus Christ, those who acknowledge their sinfulness, genuinely repent of their sins, and trust in Christ are undeservedly forgiven and put in a right relationship with God.

Through the work of the Holy Spirit, those who yield themselves to God and become obedient from the heart are transformed into the image of our Lord Jesus Christ, the last Adam.

We are to follow the instructions of the Scriptures that guide our conduct; the moral commandments of the Old Testament, particularly the Ten Commandments; the admonitions of the apostles; and especially the commandments of Christ. All of these are contained in the Great Commandment to love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves.

LIFESTYLE STATEMENT

Northeastern Seminary seeks students whose lives are characterized by personal integrity and a devotion to high academic and ethical standards. Applicants must present evidence of their readiness for graduate studies in theology. They must also meet additional admissions criteria including, but not limited to, quality of character, spiritual and acceptable conduct.

Northeastern Seminary is part of a Christian tradition that values diversity in thought and behavior, but believes some practices in contemporary society do not represent the biblical ideal. The Seminary expects its students to refrain from questionable behaviors such as sexual activity outside of heterosexual marriage, viewing pornography, and sexual harassment. The use of alcoholic beverages and tobacco are not permitted on the College campus or in Seminary-related activities.

Northeastern Seminary expects its faculty, staff, and students to respect the standards of the Seminary, and to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with them. It also encourages them to find positive and practical ways in which the Seminary can support and minister to the Northeastern Seminary community.

PROGRAM GOALS AND GENERAL OBJECTIVES

RELIGIOUS HERITAGE: To provide students with in-depth (graduate-level) studies in the religious heritage of the Christian Church.

General Objectives

1. Demonstrate understanding of Scripture and its contemporary application to Church and society;
2. Demonstrate appreciation for the role of Scripture in Christian ministry, as well as in personal and spiritual formation, and in living the Christian life;
3. Demonstrate ability to interpret and use Scripture appropriately and effectively in ministry;
4. Demonstrate understanding of the foundational tenets of Christian faith as set forth in the Apostolic and Nicene Creeds;
5. Demonstrate acquaintance with the broader heritage of the Christian tradition, as well as the specific character and contribution of particular Christian traditions and communities;
6. Demonstrate awareness of the theological issues and challenges that have faced the Church down through history to the present day;
7. Demonstrate ability to formulate and articulate one's own religious beliefs, in conversation with the traditions of the historic Church as well as contemporary theologians.

CULTURAL CONTEXT: To provide students with an understanding and appreciation of the cultural context of ministry, throughout the history of the Church as well as in the 21st century.

General Objectives

1. Demonstrate acquaintance with the cultural realities and structures within which the Church, throughout history, has carried out its mission in the world;
2. Demonstrate awareness of the ways religious traditions both transcend and find unique expression in particular social and cultural settings;
3. Demonstrate understanding of contemporary cultural and social issues and their significance for ministry;
4. Demonstrate ability to analyze cultural contexts and to develop appropriate and effective strategies for ministry within local communities;
5. Demonstrate appreciation for the wide variety of religious traditions and for the gender, ethnic, and culture diversity present in the contemporary social context;
6. Demonstrate understanding of the global character of the Church in the 21st century and its implications for local congregations and communities.

PERSONAL AND SPIRITUAL FORMATION: To provide opportunities that nurture students' personal and spiritual development.

General Objectives

1. Demonstrate growth in one's personal relationship with God and the development of a spiritually-disciplined life;
2. Demonstrate developing sensitivity to God's active presence in one's own life, the lives of others, and the world;
3. Demonstrate growth in personal formation, emotional maturity, and moral integrity;

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4. Demonstrate deepening acceptance and love of others, compassion, and forgiveness;
 5. Demonstrate concern for and ability to relate openly to other people, especially in regard to personal and spiritual matters;
 6. Demonstrate deepening confidence and courage to be a public witness for Christ and the Gospel, in both religious and secular communities, even in the face of opposition.

MINISTERIAL AND PUBLIC LEADERSHIP: To provide experiences that help students to integrate theory with practice and to cultivate their capacity for leadership within the Church.

General Objectives

1. Demonstrate a deepening awareness of Christian ministry as a divine vocation in Church and society, and one's particular calling in contemporary ministry;
2. Demonstrate effective use of supervision and consultation in developing and improving ministerial skills;
3. Demonstrate ability to interrelate theological, cultural, and experiential learning, and to apply academic learning in the practice of ministry;
4. Demonstrate awareness of and commitment to the work, values, and ethics of ministry as a profession;
5. Demonstrate ability to be self-initiating and self-evaluative and to apply a positive use of one's self (as created by God) in ministry to other persons;
6. Demonstrate ability to use computer technology as a tool for ministry in the 21st century;
7. Demonstrate capacity for leadership in both ecclesial and public contexts.

RELATIONSHIP WITH ROBERTS WESLEYAN COLLEGE

While legally existing as a separate entity under New York State law, Northeastern Seminary shares the same board of trustees and president as Roberts Wesleyan College. Northeastern Seminary has its own separate budget and federal tax-exempt status. The Seminary annually contracts for support services and facilities with Roberts Wesleyan College. Both institutions share a common Christian ministry, Free Methodist heritage, and a commitment to serve the greater Church.

SHARED RESOURCES (SUPPORT SERVICES)

Admissions, Registration, and Student Development

The office of admissions for the Seminary is located in B.T. Roberts Memorial Hall.

The registration and student development offices for the campus are located in the Rinker Community Service Center, accessed from Westside Drive. The office of academic services at the Seminary functions as a liaison to the registration office and may be reached by calling 585.594.6623. Requests for official transcripts are processed in the Rinker Community Service Center in the registration office, by calling 585.594.6220, or online at www.roberts.edu/academics/registration/transcript/.

Student services are generally provided through the office of the academic vice president and dean at NES. Contact this office (585.594.6807) for help or referrals in a variety of student service areas. In addition, the

associate vice president for student development and dean of students for graduate programs at Roberts Wesleyan College is available within the office of student development. The associate vice president for student development and dean of students may be reached by phone at 585.594.6532 or in person in the office of student development in the Rinker Community Service Center.

Campus Safety

The main objective of campus safety is to provide a safe, secure environment for the Seminary community. The philosophy is to serve, protect, prevent, and enforce. The Seminary is always concerned about the personal safety of students, faculty, staff, and others using its facilities. It takes many steps to protect all of them. Equally important are the protective measures that each student can take to help ensure the safety of all. The participation of each student is a key component. Whenever a student needs security services or witnesses an accident, he/she should notify campus safety immediately, day or night.

To report any emergency, dial 6170 from a campus phone or 585.594.6170 from off-campus. Blue Light Emergency Phones found on campus may also be used to report any emergency or to request any service. There is no need to dial. Calls are automatically answered and the location of the caller is identified.

The advisory committee on campus safety will provide, upon request, all campus crime statistics as reported to the United States Department of Education. The Seminary reports these crime statistics to the U.S. Department of Education on an annual basis. The statistics can be viewed at the following website address (<http://www.ope.ed.gov/security>). The designated campus contact who is authorized to provide such statistics for the Seminary is Director of Campus Safety and Security, Rick Billitier at 585.594.6012.

Parking Permits

Parking permits are required for all cars using campus lots. Entering seminarians secure permits as part of their orientation process. Returning students renew parking permits annually at the campus safety office. For more information or questions on your vehicle registration, please contact or visit the campus safety office at room 270, Voller Athletic Center (585.594.6170). Parking information is also located on the intranet at <https://rwc.roberts.edu/webhome/departments/security>.

I.D. Card

A student I.D. card is the student's passage to many services at Northeastern Seminary and Roberts Wesleyan College. The student fee covers the cost of this card. Lost or misplaced cards should be reported to campus safety (585.594.6170). Replacement card cost is \$5.00. You may obtain your student ID at the campus safety office, room 270, Voller Athletic Center, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., or by special appointment (585.594.6170).

Lost and Found

Campus safety maintains a lost and found area. Students may check in this office for lost items. Additionally, students may check with the division office of the building in which they may have lost the item, or with the Seminary office.

Career Services

NES academic advisors, along with the academic vice president and dean's office, provide guidance in areas of ministry and church placement.

Through Northeastern's contract agreement with Roberts Wesleyan College, seminarians have access to the resources of the college's career services office, located in the office of student development, lower Rinker Center. It offers resources to help students identify academic programs and formulate career plans. The career services office is equipped to help students identify goals and obtain relevant employment by offering the following services:

Career Planning Services

- **Online Career Assessments:** Students interested in doing career assessments can now access the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator (MBTI) and the Strong Interest Inventory online at the career services website: <http://www.roberts.edu/LifeAtRoberts/ResidentLife/CareerServices>. Students would then need to make an appointment with career services to review their results.
- **Individual Career Advisement:** Individual appointments may be made with the director of career services to discuss issues and concerns;
- **Résumé/Cover Letter Review:** Individual appointments may be made with the director to review résumés and cover letters written in preparation for job hunting;
- **Workshops:** Throughout the year, special training sessions are provided to help students write their résumés and cover letters, be effective in interviews, and prepare for career days;
- **Resource/Résumé Center:** An area in the office of career services that is equipped with career and graduate school resources and a computer for students to utilize to plan and write cover letters and résumés;
- **Graduate School Information:** The Peterson's Guide to Graduate Schools is located in the career resource center.

Career Placement Service

- **Job Listings/Opportunities Board:** Part-time, full-time, and summer openings are posted in the office of student development and in folders in the office of career services, as well as on the NES website found at <http://www.nes.edu/Aboutus/Employment.aspx>;
- **Career Services Website:** This site includes weekly job postings and a calendar of events, as well as links to other career-related Internet sites. Local and regional church positions are posted on this site. You can find it at:
<http://www.roberts.edu/LifeAtRoberts/ResidentLife/CareerServices/JobPostings/Search.aspx>
- **Career Shadowing:** Arrangements may be made for students to shadow career professionals for a day;
- **Career Networking/Informational Interviewing:** Students are encouraged to build their professional network. One way of doing that is by conducting informational interviews with alumni/professionals in their desired field. Career services can provide assistance in connecting students to alumni as well as sample informational interview questions.

Chapel Programming

While NES has its own spiritual formation program including a series of chapels offered throughout the Core curriculum, Roberts Wesleyan College offers a fall and spring semester chapel program where students, faculty, and administration share together in leadership along with distinguished Staley Lecturers and other Christian leaders. A schedule of these services is posted on the college intranet site at www.roberts.edu/SpiritualLife/Chapel.

Computer Services

Information technology services (ITS) supports all classroom, lab and office computers for Northeastern Seminary and Roberts Wesleyan College. ITS is located in the lower Smith Science Center. Help desk services are available Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 8:30 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. during the spring and fall semesters. Summer hours are Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Friday 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The help desk can be reached at 585.594.6898 during those hours.

Wireless Internet connection is available in all academic buildings. Public access computer labs are located in the Smith Science Center and Golisano Library for student use. These labs are loaded with Microsoft Office, Internet, and other academic software and contain laser printers. In addition, six computers are available in B.T. Roberts Memorial Hall computer lab exclusively for seminarians. Several biblical software packages are available for seminarians' use in this computer lab.

Counseling Services

NES provides limited counseling services to its students on a private contract basis with a local counseling agency. Students may receive up to four sessions per year, with the student being responsible for a co-pay of \$20 per session. To make a confidential inquiry about this service, please contact the office of admissions.

Library Services

The B. Thomas Golisano Library offers extensive resources and services that support teaching and research in religion and theology. Opened in fall 2007, this \$12 million facility is integral to the purpose of the Seminary through its contributions to teaching, learning, and research; moreover, it serves as a partner in curriculum development and implementation. The library's educational effectiveness has increased both the quality of its collections and information resources, and the expertise and service commitment of the staff. To accomplish its task, the Golisano Library continues to strengthen the appropriate collections, effective information technology, and sufficient human and physical resources.

The library supports the educational programs of both Roberts Wesleyan College and Northeastern Seminary through its collections and services. The theological collections are integrated into the holdings of Golisano Library. RWC and NES jointly support a Theological Librarian Dr. Barry Hamilton. The library brings together an array of resources in various formats (including electronic databases), competent professional and paraprofessional staff, and facilities for study and research. A designated graduate research room provides quiet individual study space for graduate students enrolled at RWC/NES who are actively pursuing academic research.

The library's resources and services, including the theological librarian, contribute extensively to Northeastern Seminary's educational programs.

The learning center, located in the Golisano Library, is a friendly place that assists students to become more efficient and independent learners. Its mission is to promote academic growth by offering assistance with writing a paper, tutoring services, providing an advocate for students with disabilities, and providing English language support and acquisition skills for international students.

The B. Thomas Golisano Library's collections exceed 140,000 volumes/113,000 titles, including more than 25,000 volumes/21,500 titles in religion/philosophy. Journal subscriptions exceed 650 print-only (15,000 including electronic), including more than 190 periodicals in religion/philosophy. Golisano Library provides access to 105 commercial electronic databases, including Academic Search Complete, ATLA Religion Index, ATLAS full-text serials, and WorldCat. The Library has also purchased two electronic book collections from EBSCO/NetLibrary.

The library has budgeted \$25,000 annually specifically for NES acquisitions in religion/theology, in addition to RWC acquisitions for undergraduate studies in religion and the humanities and other collateral fields. The D.Min. program has budgeted an additional \$10,000 annually for NES acquisitions, bringing the total to \$35,000 for NES-specific acquisitions.

Northeastern Seminary faculty adopted the Collection Development Policy for Northeastern Seminary in spring 2001 to ensure that the library's collections support the Seminary's curriculum. NES orders demonstrate adherence to this policy with resources being purchased in each designated subject. This policy strengthens onsite collections to provide more than 90% of resources listed on Northeastern Seminary course bibliographies. The principal subject areas are biblical studies, church history, doctrinal theology, pastoral theology, and spirituality. The policy is primarily determined by the NES curriculum and expresses a special concern for resources related to underrepresented groups, global perspectives, and feminist studies. The policy mandates acquisitions in several key areas, including ecumenical studies, missiology, philosophy of religion, religion and science, Methodist studies, and world religions. The policy reflects a strong concern for globalization, freedom of inquiry, and inclusion by requiring the acquisition of materials across a wide spectrum of traditions and perspectives. Northeastern Seminary is a founding member of LITANY, the Library Institutions Theological Association of New York.

Services for Students with Disabilities

Northeastern Seminary strives to provide appropriate services and accommodations to students with disabilities based on individual needs. Students requesting services must provide complete and current documentation of a disability to the coordinator of services for students with disabilities for review and approval prior to receiving services. Students in need of accommodations should advise the professor and coordinator of services of the need for accommodations upon admission to the program. Later notification may delay the requested accommodations. For further information, please contact the learning center in the Golisano Library (585.594.6270).

Writing Center

The writing center is located in the learning center suite of the B. Thomas Golisano Library. Offered by faculty and highly qualified student tutors, they can help students in any stage of the writing process and assist them to become a better writer by focusing on personal areas of weakness. Drop-in's accepted although appointments are encouraged by calling the learning center at 585.594.6270.

SHARED RESOURCES (FACILITIES)

B.T. Roberts Memorial Hall, the oldest building on campus, became the permanent home of Northeastern Seminary after renovation in 2002. The building houses all administrative offices, faculty offices, and classrooms for the Seminary. A prayer room, lounge, and computer lab are also available for student use.

The Williamsville Campus is a new facility located at 6500 Sheridan Drive on the corner of Transit Road in Williamsville, NY. The Seminary is conducting daytime classes and evening interactive video at this location for the convenience of students located in Buffalo and the surrounding areas.

Carpenter Hall contains general classrooms and offices for the divisions of visual arts, social work and social sciences. Seminarians doing the articulated cooperative M.Div./M.S.W. programs have some classes here.

Division of Religion and Humanities, located at 65 Orchard Street, houses the faculty offices of this division. Additional faculty offices for religion and humanities are at 67 Orchard Street.

Merlin G. Smith Science Center, named in honor of former President Merlin G. Smith, houses the division of natural science and mathematics, the division of nursing, and information technology services. In addition, it provides classrooms, faculty offices, and computer labs.

Pearce Memorial Free Methodist Church is located on the southwest corner of the campus at Buffalo Road and Orchard Street. The sanctuary seats 1,200 and conference facilities serve upwards of 300.

Rinker Community Service Center was named in honor of David and Leigha Roberts-Rinker (B.T. Roberts' great-great-granddaughter). It houses the offices of the president, academic administration, human resources, registration, RWC admissions, development, student financial services, student development, and career services. The Rinker Community Service Center can be accessed from Westside Drive.

Roberts Cultural Life Center was named in honor of Howard S. Roberts and the Roberts family. Howard was the great-grandson of B.T. Roberts, the founder of the College. The facility includes a 1,000-seat auditorium and scenery fly designed for full-scale musical and theatrical productions and major concerts. The building also houses an experimental theater, an art gallery, a recital hall, a large open atrium, and several classrooms.

Voller Athletic Center was named in honor of former College President Ellwood A. Voller. This complex houses the chaplain's office, campus safety, lounges, the bookstore, the print shop, mailroom, lockers for undergraduate commuting students, and snack bar. Recreational facilities include racquetball, basketball, tennis and volleyball courts, swimming pool, 150-meter track, weight rooms, game room, locker rooms, sauna, and athletic team rooms. The Voller Athletic Center is open to the general public through its continuing education program which allows use of the entire facility.

ACCREDITATION

All degree programs at Northeastern Seminary are accredited by the following state, regional, and professional accrediting institutions.

State

The New York State Board of Regents granted academic accreditation in 1998. Dr. John B. King, Jr., Commissioner of Education, New York State Board of Regents, New York State Education Department, 89 Washington Avenue, 5 North Mezzanine, Albany, New York 12234, 518.474.2593.

Regional

The Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, 3624 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104, 215.662.5606. The Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. This Commission is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education for accrediting activities in the Middle States region, which includes the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Professional

The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, 10 Summit Park Drive, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15275-1103, 412.788.6505. The Association of Theological Schools is a membership organization of graduate schools in the United States and Canada that conduct post-baccalaureate professional and academic degree programs to educate persons for the practice of ministry and for teaching and research in the theological disciplines.

VISION STATEMENT FOR HUMAN DIVERSITY

Northeastern Seminary believes that all people, regardless of such factors as race, gender, age, or socio-economic status, are created in the image of God. Therefore, the Seminary values and affirms human diversity, and is committed to providing a supportive environment that promotes awareness of, sensitivity to, and appreciation of human diversity. Specifically, the Seminary seeks to reflect the richness of human diversity within its students, staff, faculty, administration, and Board of Trustees as a manifestation of its Christian heritage.

The Free Methodist Church, with whom the College and Seminary share a covenantal affiliation, was founded as part of a reform movement which emphasized the rights of minorities, women, and the economically depressed.

Northeastern Seminary admits academically-qualified students of any race, age, color, sex, handicap, creed, national or ethnic origin.

HUMAN DIVERSITY GOALS

Goal 1: Maintain a Board of Trustees that strongly supports and directs human diversity development efforts at the Seminary;

Goal 2: Maintain an administrative leadership (i.e., president, vice president, deans, and directors) that is firmly committed to the achievement of human diversity at the Seminary;

Goal 3: Seek and retain qualified students, staff, faculty, and Board of Trustees whose demographic profile reflects regional diversity;

Goal 4: Create an environment that encourages all members of the Seminary community to share their talents, gifts, and cultures through involvement in campus-wide diversity initiatives and activities;

Goal 5: Develop broad curricula that include learning objectives relating to human diversity;

Goal 6: Provide students and faculty with opportunities to develop intercultural competencies and see themselves as part of an interdependent world community.

COMMUNICATIONS

Maintaining an effective communications link with students in a non-residential, commuting environment is often a challenge. NES has established the following means of staying in touch with its students and relaying special announcements, general information, and emergency notices.

Campus Email Accounts

All NES students are assigned a campus email account upon enrollment. This account may be reached through any network browser or through the NES intranet (called eBoard see below). This is the official means of electronic communication within the Seminary/College community. Students are responsible for all information sent to them from faculty and administrative offices via their campus email account. Students should check their campus email accounts on a daily basis for important announcements and messages regarding posting of grades, registration dates and changes, billing updates, scholarship deadlines, special events, school closing, etc.

NES eBoard

The eBoard is Northeastern Seminary's intranet site. All current students have access to it through the NES website (www.nes.edu). Students must use their NES login and password. The eBoard provides students access to multiple resources including: individual campus email folder and H:\drive; program check sheets; master class schedule and registration forms; curriculum plans and sequence sheets; cohort calendars; syllabi; course offering rotation sheet; R-Serve link for online registration and grade reports; retreat information; financial aid and transcript links; student life committee minutes; past and current NES electronic newsletters; and many more. Students are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the eBoard early on as they will be expected to utilize its resources throughout their years at the Seminary.

NEwSPOINT Newsletter

Students receive all communications from the Seminary via an electronic newsletter which is sent bi-weekly to all campus email accounts. The newsletter will keep students informed of all pertinent information,

announcements, deadlines, events, syllabus postings, new course offerings, and so on. Back issues of the newsletter are archived on the NES eBoard at www.nes.edu.

NES Website

The Seminary website, www.nes.edu, offers students access to a broad array of services and information. Students should periodically browse the home page as it provides: easy access to the eBoard; announcements of special upcoming events with links to details and registration forms where needed; links to numerous resources; a place to submit ministry milestones and accomplishments; and, it is also a great place to refer a friend or pastor who wants to know more about NES.

Student Mail Folders

Student mail folders are located on the lower level of Roberts Hall (next to the elevator) in a two-drawer file cabinet. Students should check their mail folders on a weekly basis. There is also a bookshelf in the same area for the purpose of returning student binders.

Emergency Notification

During the winter months weather condition in upstate NY can make traveling hazardous and therefore ill advised. NES has established the following procedures to notify students if the campus will be closing due to inclement weather or any other emergency (i.e., loss of power). Students should check for email alerts on their campus accounts if they think the campus may be closing, contact the institutional hotline at 585.594.6999 (press 4 when prompted for a voice recording), or check the online orientation guide for a list of local radio and TV stations that will carry an announcement. As conditions can and will vary greatly from Syracuse to Buffalo and south to Jamestown, students should always consult local weather authorities along with state travel advisories and then use their best judgment to determine if travel is safe.