2023 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

YOUR GIFT



OUR INSPIRATION





As we write this letter, we are reminded and humbled by Ephesians 3:20-21, where God "is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think." We reflect on the many gifts God has provided to enable us to fulfill our mission to prepare people for faithful and bold church leadership. Indeed, there are so many beautiful things to reflect on and to look forward to. These experiences and hopes are all part of the Abundance and Grace that is Columbia, and for this unto God "be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus unto all generations forever and ever," Amen.

This year was a year of community building, both on campus and off. President Aloyo traveled the Southeast - from Georgia to Alabama to Tennessee to North and South Carolina to Florida - to worship and meet with alums and friends of Columbia. We prayed, broke bread, and talked about this great institution and our desire to continue to follow the Holy Spirit wherever she may take us in our mission to guide the next generation of church leaders.

On campus, we have held a series of forums with faculty, students, and staff to discuss life at Columbia and our future. The ideas and insights from these conversations and work sessions allowed our Strategic Blueprinting Commission to prepare our Blueprint and present it to the Board of Trustees in May 2023, where it received a unanimous vote of approval. This was an example of an entire community coming together to collaborate, invest in, and plan for our collective future.

We also celebrated the first Social Justice cohort in our Doctor of Ministry degree program. They culminated their first week together with a worship service shaped by the laments they had written. Seeing our students express themselves and share their hopes and desires with our community is a moving experience.

We are also thankful for the many blessings that you, our donors, have bestowed upon us this past year. Through your generosity, our students are flourishing as they pursue their call to serve God. We hope that our Annual Impact Report will help you see how they flourish and that you will experience some of the same joy we encounter daily at Columbia.

One of those joys is our 75-year association with the Presbyterian Women of the Synod of Living Waters (Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, and Kentucky) and the Synod of South Atlantic (Georgia, Florida, South Carolina) who have supported students at Columbia Theological Seminary through the Columbia Friendship Circle Scholarship Program. You will hear about two scholarship recipients who tell how this generous gift helped them flourish this past year.

You will also learn more about Columbia's commitment to stewardship of this magnificent earth that God has created for us. Faculty, students, and staff share in the commitment to making it a safe and livable space for all.

Friends, we cannot do this without your partnership. Thank you for your support now and in the future. We look forward to a new academic year with great anticipation and confidence because of you and your contributions and support. Thank you for your belief in us as we faithfully create innovative platforms so that our students may flourish in faith and hope. Your continued support, whether through financial contributions, spreading awareness, or participating in our events, is vital.

Jane E. Fakey

Jane E. Fahey
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Or. Victor Aloyo



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THE STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT GUIDING COLUMBIA INTO ITS THIRD CENTURY

In 2022-2023 academic year, President Aloyo kicked off the development of a new strategic blueprint to continue to nurture imaginative leaders for the Church and the world. Informed by input and insights invited from all students, faculty, and staff, a commission of Board of Trustee members, faculty, students, and staff led the development of the blueprint, titled *Abundance & Grace: A Blueprint for Flourishing in Faith & Hope*.

The strategic blueprint provides the substance for annual plans and assessments leading up to the 100th anniversary of the Seminary's 1927 move to Decatur, Georgia, and into Columbia's third century, beginning in 2028. It states that we aspire, through our strategic directions, to become an educational institution of theological inquiry and innovation that will:

- Build on Columbia Seminary's excellence in theological inquiry, critical thinking, and innovation, providing theological leadership for the Church and the world by educating and equipping faithful, imaginative, and effective pastoral leaders through degree and non-degree programs, contextual education, research, and lifelong learning.
- Expand on Columbia Theological Seminary's residential campus, developing and implementing the framework for a campus culture of Christian worship, hospitality, and belonging that exists on our campus and extends translocally and globally.
- Enrich Columbia Theological Seminary's exemplary workplace culture, pursuing excellence in our policies, procedures, and practices, stewarding the Seminary's resources, and building mutually beneficial relationships with external partners at the local, regional, and global levels.
- Strengthen Columbia Theological Seminary's vision of inclusion and commitment to diversity by engaging, exploring, and facilitating the highest levels of institutional leadership and effectiveness, organizational justice, and future-oriented planning within an environment of transparent, shared governance as we join boldly in the new thing God is already doing among us.

The Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the Blueprint. Now, the Seminary is in the implementation process. "Columbia approaches theological education as an enterprise in the formation of the whole person, both within and outside the classroom," affirms President Ayolo. "The Strategic Blueprint will guide the way we accomplish this mission."



We invite you to follow updates and information about the continued development and implementation of our strategic blueprint.



Core Values Guiding Strategic Blueprint Implementation

Gratitude

Mutual Respect

Excellence

Compassion

Innovation

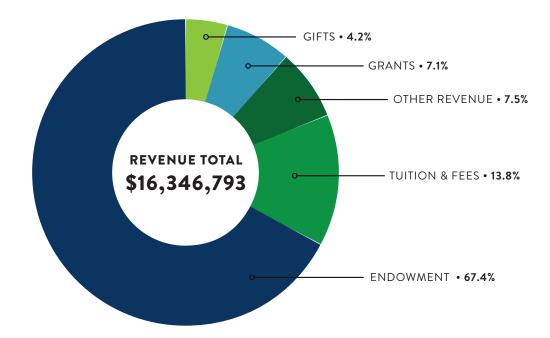
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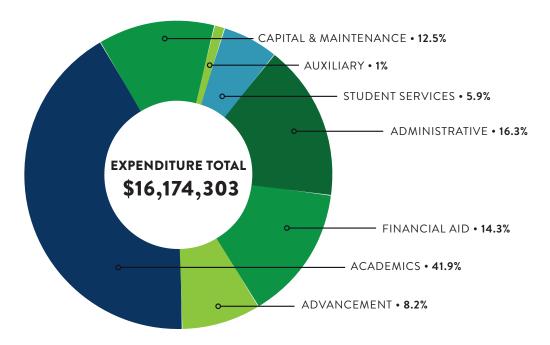
Belonging & Becoming

Communal Engagement

Gifts and grants made during fiscal year 2022-2023, alongside proceeds from endowments established over many years, brought forth a combined donor impact of 83% of Columbia's operating revenue. More than four out of every five dollars Columbia spent to fulfill its mission this year came from the abundance and grace of faithful donors, past and present.



In addition to gifts and grants for operations above, donors also gave \$2,787,000 in new gifts and bequests to increase existing endowments or create new ones to strengthen Columbia's mission and vision for generations to come.



Columbia Seminary gratefully acknowledges the following donors for their support.

This Annual Impact Report includes donors whose gifts or pledge payments were received July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Gifts received after July 1, 2023 will be acknowledged in next year's report.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you bring them to our attention. Please report corrections to Nathan Kongthum at 404 687 4588 or KongthumN@ctsnet.edu.

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PHILANTHROPIC

THE REVEREND COLONEL MARY LOU KOLLARIK AND COLONEL DONALD MARTIN KOLLARIK MILITARY CHAPLAIN FUND ESTABLISHED IN 2023 BY COLONEL DONALD KOLLARIK, IN MEMORY OF REVEREND COLONEL MARY LOU KOLLARIK

The Reverend Colonel Mary Lou (Morris) and Colonel Donald Martin Kollarik first met as officers in the U.S. Army. Following their military service, Mary Lou attended Emory University's Candler School of Theology and was ordained as a United Methodist minister in the North Georgia Conference UMC. Meanwhile, Don regularly volunteered at Emory University Hospital and was a member of "The Sing-Alongs," which supported three Alzheimers facilities in Atlanta. As Mary Lou went on to serve as pastor in charge at several churches, the two spent most of their lives together devoted to Christian service. They were married for 53 years until Mary Lou's death on January 4, 2023.

The Colonels Kollarik have established scholarship endowments at the Smeal College of Business at The Pennsylvania State University, Winthrop University, and the Candler School of Theology at Emory University. Now, in memory of his wife and their shared commitment to national and Christian service, Don Kollarik has established an endowment at Columbia Theological Seminary. The Kollarik fund is geared toward furthering the work of the church of Jesus Christ by funding the seminary education of outstanding candidates for chaplaincy in the United States military.



Columbia Theological Seminary gratefully welcomes gifts in honor of or in tribute to a loved one.
Use this QR code to learn more at www.ctsnet.edu/giving-to-columbia/.

COLUMBIA PRESIDENT VISITS ALUMS AND FRIENDS OF COLUMBIA

President, Dr. Victor Aloyo has made getting to know Columbia and its people his first priority. President Aloyo visited alumni and friends of Columbia across the Southeast. He plans to continue visiting faith leaders across the country and the world.



"Columbia is blessed to have so many friends and supporters. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting with, praying with, and breaking bread with them over these last 12 months."

> Dr. Victor Aloyo President

14 Recognizing gifts made July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023

BUILDING COMMUNITY AND INSPIRING SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION: THE DOCTOR OF MINISTRY JUSTICE TRACK

Dr. Mitzi Smith and Dr. Bill Brown taught in the first course for the first cohort of the newly launched Justice track within the Doctor of Ministry degree program, co-teaching a new course titled "Biblical Perspectives of Justice."

The two instructors could not have been more different. Dr. Smith is a Black, womanist New Testament scholar, while Dr. Brown is a white, male, privileged Old Testament scholar. Likewise, the cohort brought together a diverse group of black and white pastors and administrators, both women and men, as well as a pastor from Myanmar.

The result? A highly generative, challenging, community-building, and spiritually transforming class.

The class critically and contextually explored a wide range of texts and their contexts raising awareness about injustice in our world and exploring how both justice and injustice are characterized in biblical texts. Reading this content through the lens of intersectionality, the class aimed to understand how systems of oppression overlap and converge, harming both individuals and their communities.

Knowing that trauma must be voiced and heard for healing to take place, students constructed laments, some of which are excerpted on this page. May they embolden us "to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God."





COLUMBIA FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

In 1948, the spouses of two Columbia Theological Seminary professors encouraged other Atlanta wives to contribute one dollar each to help the Seminary. Seventy-five years later, Columbia Friendship Circle has grown to include all who participate in the Presbyterian Women's organizations throughout the synods of South Atlantic and Living Waters. Churches from other denominations are also welcome to join.

Their mission continues today in three ways:

- Prayer for the students, faculty, staff, and all members of the Seminary community
- Encouraging men and women to consider Christian ministry
- Providing financial assistance through selected projects that help meet the Seminary's needs

In recent years, support has focused on scholarships for students with families and fellowships awarded to outstanding graduates.

To support the Columbia Friendship Circle's goal to fund five scholarships totaling \$60,000, use the QR code on this



page to make a gift online at https://www.ctsnet.edu/giving-to-columbia/. Be sure to select "Columbia Friendship Circle" from the Designation drop-down menu on the online giving form. Checks and gifts of stock are also gratefully accepted and appreciated.

"Just when you feel that things are getting tough and challenging, just when you feel doors are closing and paths are tighter, our gracious God opens a door so wide that I am left speechless and humbled. Words can't express how happy, excited, and overwhelmed I am by this scholarship."



16 Recognizing gifts made July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023





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