MISSION STATEMENT
for the
BISHOP PAYNE LIBRARY

The mission of the Bishop Payne Library is to serve as a physical collection, an electronic portal, and an instructional center for the teaching, learning, and research activities of the faculty, students, staff, Board, and alumni/ae of the seminary.

Specifically, the library seeks to identify, acquire, organize, and disseminate all forms of recorded information (print, digital and audio-visual) that support the research, instructional, and administrative programs of the Seminary especially in the fields of Biblical studies, theology, ethics, church history, liturgy, missions, world religions, practical theology, and related areas; and to document the theology, liturgy, and local expressions of worldwide Anglicanism.

Additional components of this mission are to:

- provide professional staff for the organization of materials according to accepted library standards and for the instruction of patrons in the use, evaluation, and interpretation of those resources;

- provide a facility conducive to study and research and to the preservation of the collections;

- participate in resource-sharing with other Association of Theological Schools libraries, and especially the members of the Washington Theological Consortium, in order to provide access to materials not locally owned;

- serve VTS alumni/ae and local clergy of all denominations by sharing resources for theological education;

- sustain the heritage and memory of the Bishop Payne Divinity School.

Adopted by Library Committee 4/2/01; 1st paragraph updated by Library Committee 12/14/09