The Center for Anglican Communion Studies at Virginia Theological Seminary

Virginia Theological Seminary offers a context and an education that is ecumenical, international and cross-cultural. VTS exists to form leaders for the Church, to provide continuing theological education for all and to serve the world Church and Anglican Communion. Integral to the mission of VTS is the Center for Anglican Communion Studies as it seeks to bring community to the Communion. The Center for Anglican Communion Studies does this through resourcing congregational community, academic community and cross-cultural community.

Learn More
For more information, visit www.vts.edu/anglican or contact cacs@vts.edu.

Center Staff
The Rev. Robert S. Heaney, Ph.D., D.Phil. – Director
Claire Haymes – Program Coordinator and Interreligious Officer
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Reflect Congregational Community and the Communion

- We have a rich heritage of hosting visiting bishops, Church leaders and religion scholars from around the Communion to conduct research, lead worship, give lectures and provide reflection on how congregations in the Anglican Communion can thrive. In recent months, the Center has hosted leaders from Canada, Cuba, India, Kenya, New Zealand, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Taiwan, Tanzania and the United Kingdom.

- We welcome and have a history of welcoming students from all over the globe, helping form future leaders in the Communion. In the past fifteen years, we have provided graduate level theological education to 75 students from over 25 countries.

- We develop and manage exchanges and residencies with partner institutions around the Communion, including St. George’s College, Jerusalem, Ripon College Cuddesdon in Oxford, England, and Msalato Theological College in Dodoma, Tanzania.

Resource Academic Community and the Communion

- We facilitate the annual meeting and research of the Society for the Study of Anglicanism, an international scholarly organization committed to excellence in promoting the study of the Anglican Church worldwide.

- We spearheaded the research, compilation, writing and editing of a new publication, the Wiley-Blackwell Companion to the Anglican Communion which appeared in 2013.

- We offer an extensive collection of resources from throughout the Communion in our Bishop Payne Library, a major research facility for the study of Anglicanism.

- We continue to develop innovative ways to equip leaders with traditional and digital resources for transformative practices throughout the Communion.

Reconcile Cross-Cultural Community and the Communion

- With generous funding from the Henry Luce Foundation, we are committed to fostering understanding between Muslim and Christian communities. CACS hosts a visiting Muslim scholar, offering courses on Islam, and engaging students in dialog with the Muslim community in America and beyond.

- Cross-cultural opportunities are available to all of our students in Jerusalem, the Philippines, Dominican Republic, Tanzania, Haiti, Myanmar and South Africa.

- Luce funding has provided for a project in 2013-14 to foster interreligious understanding in Episcopal congregations and for the creation of web-based resources on interreligious issues facing the Anglican Communion.

- Building on the successful interreligious leadership conferences hosted by the Seminary on campus in 2011 and in Tanzania in 2010, we are hosting another conference in June 2014 for Christian and Muslim leaders from across East Africa.