



The Besorah: The CAH Newsletter

Edition: Fall 2024/Winter 2025

A Message from Dean, Dr. Timothy J. Brown

In the Hebrew Bible, the word, "Besorah" indicates a royal announcement of "something good" that was shared with the people. Our "something good" proclaims the achievements and accomplishments of our faculty, staff, and students that reaffirm Eastern University's mission of faith, reason, and justice. As we end one year and look forward to another, we celebrate and "Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever" (1 Chronicles 16:34). Enjoy this inaugural edition of the College of Arts and Humanities (CAH) Besorah!



Program Highlights

A Glimpse of CAH Program Highlights

The College of Arts and Humanities is building a lasting legacy and contributing to Eastern University's flourishing future by providing educational experiences for students that integrate faith, reason, and justice.

[Click here](#) to view CAH Program Highlights!

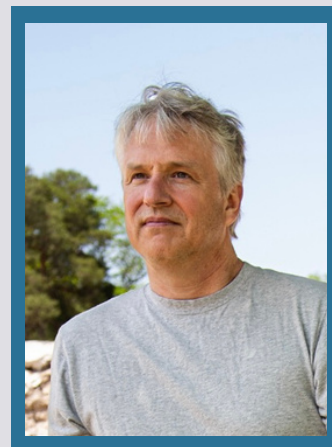


Faculty Features

Today's faculty question: What makes Eastern University a unique place for teaching and learning?

Dr. Chris Bittenbender, English

Having taught in various capacities at two other institutions prior to arriving at Eastern in 1998, I have come to recognize that one of the many ways in which our institution offers unique opportunities for teaching and learning is through the diversity of the student and faculty communities. That diversity is reflected in a number of ways: educational backgrounds, faith journeys, etc. I believe this polyphony of voices from a variety of experiences contributes to a rich potential for learning and teaching. To me Eastern has always seemed to offer that fertile space in which education can thrive through intellectual and spiritual fellowship. It also helps to have a spectacularly beautiful campus!



Dr. Karla Scott, Music

Several things make Eastern a unique place for teaching and learning, but three come to mind. Since our campus is Christ-centered, I have noticed that interactions with colleagues and students are more substantial, deep, and complete than those I have experienced at other institutions. Second, our faculty in the Music Department are highly collaborative. We often connect across disciplines to enhance student learning, skill development, and performing experience. Finally, our leadership at Eastern is visionary and strategic, yet led by the Lord. I believe the growth we are experiencing at Eastern is an outgrowth of the humility and obedience to God these leaders faithfully maintain. I am grateful to serve our students and alongside my faculty colleagues here at Eastern.



Dr. Amy Richards, Philosophy

One thing that makes Eastern University a unique place for teaching and learning is its openness both to faith and to genuine dialogue. At Eastern, faculty and students alike are permitted to ask questions in the full light of faith and engage in discussions that do not require us to set aside our nature as spiritual beings. We are encouraged to practice genuinely Christian learning, bringing our life in Christ to bear on how we pursue our disciplines both in the classroom and in our scholarship. This pursuit benefits from Eastern's encouragement of dialogue about what the light of faith reveals about the foundational questions at hand. This ability to hold a space of genuine inquiry open for ourselves and our students is a particular treasure of teaching at Eastern.



More to Know

Scholarship & Creative Work

The College of Arts and Humanities is comprised of accomplished faculty who are distinguished scholars, performers, educators, and professionals who embrace Eastern University's mission of faith, reason, and justice.

[Click here for faculty Scholarship/Creative Works accomplishments](#)



Trivia Question!

In 1952, Eastern University (then Eastern Baptist College) moved from Philadelphia to our current campus location in St. Davids, PA. The campus is on the former country estate of Charles Walton who was a wealthy leather-tanner, philanthropist, and church elder. **What was the name of the Charles Walton Estate?**

Send your answer to:
cahdean@eastern.edu

The first person to answer correctly will receive a small gift!



Events Calendar

Eastern University hosts a number of events that enhance the student experience on campus. Check out the Student Engagement Calendar which lists events for the campus and the community.

[Click here to access the Student Engagement Calendar!](#)



Building Update

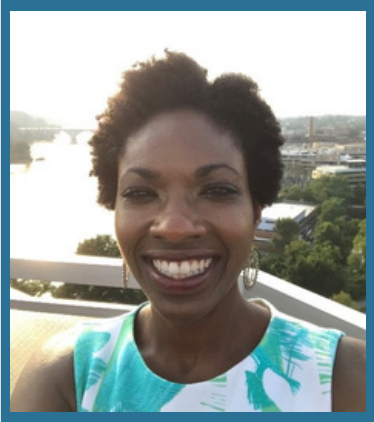
Fowler Hall Building Dedication

Faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and students gathered on October 14, 2024 to formally dedicate Fowler Hall to the Music Department. The adjacent photo features the Fowler Hall Great Room where the audience listened to a video interview with one of the Music Department's first faculty members, Dr. David Maness.

[Click here for more details from Dr. Steven Ford!](#)



Reflections with Chloe Bass Eastern University, Class of 2006



[Click here to read
Chole's full Alumni
Interview!](#)

Chloe Bass is an international development specialist and Certified Professional Coach with over 15 years of experience working with nonprofit organizations and INGOs. She currently serves as the Senior Technical Advisor for Women's Economic Empowerment at World Vision US where she provides technical support to a global portfolio in the areas of proposal design, program implementation, capacity building, and external engagement. Chloe has her master's degree from the University of Denver in International Administration, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Assistance and her B.A. from Eastern University with a double major in Biblical Studies and Communication Studies. Chloe has lived and worked in the U.S., West Africa, and the Middle East. She currently resides in Maryland with her husband and two sons.

From the Chaplin

A Verse for the New Year

As we anticipate our centennial year, our designated verse (Psalm 100:5) reminds us that God's goodness and love endures forever and God's faithfulness continues through all generations. This should inspire us to continue the providential work that began in 1925 through Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary.



One highlight of verse 5 is God's faithfulness. We often ask for God's faithfulness to help us in a present situation. Sometimes we ask for God's faithfulness when we anticipate a future problem. In either case, faith is seen as forward-looking. But God's faithfulness is also backward-looking-- to recall what God has already done in our lives. It's interesting that the name of the first calendar month originates from the Roman god Janus, who is depicted with a head with two faces --one looking backward and the other looking forward. It's as if one can't begin to enter the new year without first looking back at the past year. God's faithfulness is a lot like that.

May this centennial year for our community be filled with times of looking back at God's faithfulness, so that we can embrace the present and the unknown future with hope. Amen.