

EMS Welcomes New Seminary Dean

EMS honored spring 2022 retirees Dr. Sue Cockley (dean) and Dr. Nancy Heisey (professor of biblical studies and church history). Rev. Dr. Daniel Ott is the new seminary dean. Formerly associate dean for academic initiatives and professor of religious studies at Monmouth College in Illinois, Ott coordinated the peace, ethics and social justice program there. An ordained Presbyterian minister and peace theologian, Ott says his new role at EMS “brings together my deepest passions and my life’s work.” Ott works with the associate dean of the seminary, Rev. Dr. Sarah Ann Bixler, to direct seminary programs and develop new initiatives.



Daniel Ott,
Seminary Dean

Statement of Purpose

Eastern Mennonite Seminary prepares servants of Christ to minister together locally and globally. In response to God’s gracious call, we invite students to embody and bear witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of God’s Spirit as wise interpreters, mature practitioners, discerning communicators, and transformational leaders.

New Graduate Certificate in Faith-Based Peacebuilding

In partnership with EMU’s Center for Justice and Peacebuilding, EMS now offers a certificate to help faith leaders respond more effectively to conflict. Students in the 18-credit program, which launched this fall, take half of their coursework in the seminary and half in the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding. Flexibility is built into the degree so students can choose relevant courses – in person or online – in theology, biblical studies, racial justice, conflict analysis and peacebuilding.

EMS Receives \$1 Million for Conflict Transformation Training

In June, EMS was awarded a \$998,606 grant from Lilly Endowment Inc. This funding will support the development of a new interdisciplinary pastoral leadership institute that integrates personal spiritual formation, biblical and theological frameworks, and conflict transformation skills. The institute will train ministry leaders in conflict transformation through online digital content, regional on-site trainings, workshops, new seminary courses, and week-long institutes.

Spring 2022 Graduation

EMS awarded five Master of Arts in Christian Leadership, four Master of Divinity degrees, and one Theological Certificate to the graduating class of 2022. Each master’s student presented a senior capstone project integrating seminary learnings with a particular ministry context. Topics included teaching the Bible, faith and human bodies, healing racial trauma, disability, and recovery ministries. Fall 2022 seminary enrollment is strong, with a 14% increase over 2021-22.

NEW: Study at EMS from Wherever You Live!

EMS is more accessible than ever! In 2022, all courses became available to take from a distance. Students can join the EMS learning community from their own location through Zoom technology and our online learning management system. Plus, thanks to forward-thinking donors, Mennonite students receive generous aid toward degree programs at EMS. Half- to full-tuition scholarships are available. Apply now or recommend our programs to someone you know! Visit <https://emu.edu/seminary/courses/> for information about upcoming classes.

- ▶ **Susan Schultz Huxman**, president
 - ▶ **Daniel Ott**, seminary dean
 - ▶ **Sarah Ann Bixler**, associate dean
- emu.edu/seminary**
540-432-4260

School for Leadership Training (SLT)

Jan. 9-12, 2023

“Creating Communities of Belonging: Appreciating EveryBODY”

with Ken Medema, Amy Julia Becker and JJ Flag

emu.edu/seminary/slt