

# Eden

Theological Seminary  
It's a *different* view from here.  
2009/2010 Annual Report

## Welcome

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Thank you for your interest in Eden Theological Seminary's 2009/2010 Annual Report. This report has been prepared to share the many blessings we've received during the past fiscal year – and to provide you with a snapshot of Eden today, and tomorrow. To read the full report, simply [click here](#).

## President's Message

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*As we begin our 161st year, we begin with the enthusiasm and curiosity of a toddler. Perhaps never before in this institution's long and storied history have we transitioned in to a new year with so much in which we all can look forward (for more) .*

As we're starting to say around campus, "It's a different view from here." Personally, as I enter in to my 14<sup>th</sup> year as the president of Eden, I have never been more excited about where we have gotten to today – but more importantly, where we're headed for tomorrow.

This past year also saw the creation of our five year strategic plan – a strategic plan that is rooted in our steeped traditions but recognizes the dramatic changes that are before theological education and the Church, as a whole. Our strategic plan has three core pillars – strengthening our programs, managing our resources and extending hospitality to all. Each of these pillars embodies specific strategies that will help Eden stay relevant as a theological institution for the next 160 years. Each of these pillars include strategies that show firsthand, it's a different view from here.



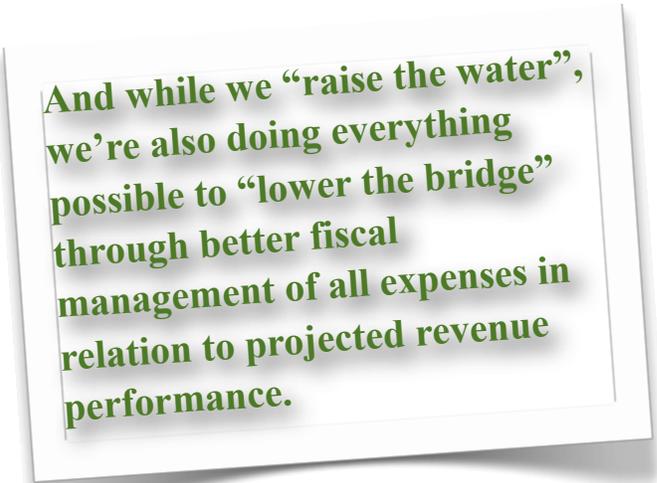
As a direct link to our first pillar of strengthening our programs, this past year we've added incredible bench strength to our faculty with the addition of three new professors – Dr. Allen Callahan, Dr. Kristen Leslie and Lerone Martin. Combined with our diverse and scholarly faculty led by Dean Dr. Deborah Krause, we've attracted a terrifically energized incoming class of first year students. The incoming student body continues to reflect and support our goal of being an ecumenical education center that is diverse in every aspect. Our incoming class of over 40 students comes from several states and countries including Africa and China. Some other specifics about the incoming class that I think you'll find interesting can be found in the "*Quick Facts*" section of this report.

Our second pillar, managing our resources, drives our work here daily. We have a renewed energy in our development activities and aggressive initiatives in discussion that will help Eden broaden its donor base and identify new revenue opportunities from new programs. And while we "raise the water", we're also doing everything possible to "lower the bridge" through better fiscal management of all expenses in relation to projected revenue performance. This area will greatly be enhanced because of these reforms

but perhaps more importantly, because of several new senior leaders that have been added to the Eden administrative team. With a more stable financial footing, I've been able to surround myself with seasoned professionals who have accepted important roles here at Eden. Rick Walters joined Eden as its Executive Vice President and head of Operations. Rick is an ordained minister who practiced law after leading churches. Jim Schnurbusch comes to Eden as our Vice President of Institutional Advancement – an area that has two important functions – fund development and strategic communications. Jim has spent the past 25 years as a partner and CEO of one of St. Louis' largest strategic planning and marketing communications firms. Wendy Enke joined Eden to head our business office. Wendy's professional background in finance and as a consultant gives Eden a strength that it just hasn't had on staff for many years.

Finally, the third pillar – extending hospitality to all – can only be understood through the changing culture – or as Walter Brueggemann would say – ethos – that's now found around campus. These changes are evident in the refreshing of some of our facilities and the newness of others like the Luhr Reading Room and the newly named and newly air-conditioned Wehrli Chapel. And I know you'll find this idea of extending hospitality to all in our spirit. This change is also represented by Kathy Thomas, our new staff member that oversees all Eden events. We think of her as the Eden concierge. Changes abound everywhere on campus reinforcing it's a different view from here.

Eden is blessed to have a rich history of 161 years yet so many new opportunities before it. Your continued prayers, support and engagement with Eden are very much appreciated. I hope you find time to visit us here on campus in the coming year.

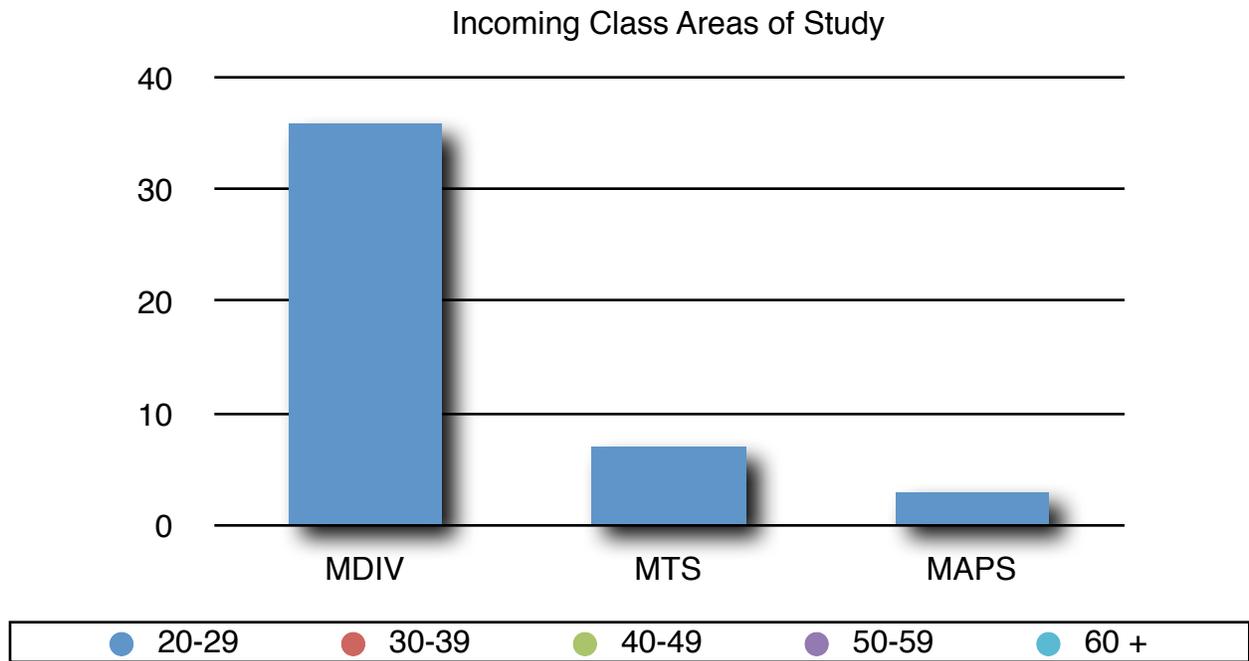


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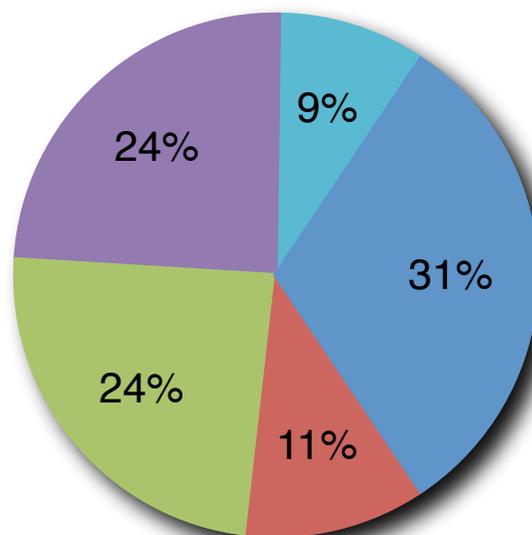
## Quick Facts: an overview of our incoming student body

*Eden's incoming class of first year students continues to reflect the diversity of what one would expect from an ecumenical education center for the progressive Christian movement (for more).*

The following information provides an overview of Eden's first year students as well as the entire student body. Note the diversity of the class and the first careers represented of these new Eden students.



**Age Breakdown of Incoming Students**



## Denominations represented:

United Church of Christ	AME
Baptist	Unitarian
Non-Denominational	Presbyterian
Christian Science	Anglican
Reformed Church of East Africa	Chinese Church
Disciples of Christ	Church of Christ
Unitarian Universalist	Evangelical Church Winning All

75% of the incoming students are from the St. Louis Metropolitan area (within 50 miles); the balance represent students from the central U.S. and international students from Kenya, China, Nigeria, Tanzania and Fiji

The first careers of the incoming class are far reaching – we welcome students who were a lawyer, teacher, doctor, social worker, higher education administrator, molecular geneticists, a member of the military – and, a funeral director.

## Your gifts are remarkable

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*Eden alumni, friends of the seminary, churches, organizations, foundations, board members, faculty and staff – all have been generous in their support of Eden this past year. We want to recognize each of you for your gifts.*

[Last Year's Donors](#)

## Your gifts are still vital

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*While the financial stability of Eden is strong, your gifts have never been more important to help us meet our daily operational needs – and the tuition support needs of so many of our students. We so appreciate your continued gifts to Eden's Annual Fund, Scholarship Fund and International Student Scholarship Funds (for more).*

Every year, we have to raise at least \$1-million to keep Eden moving ahead. Your gifts are critically important to our students, to our faculty, our staff – and to the preservation of our history and recognition of Eden's status as the preeminent ecumenical educational center for the progressive Christian movement.

There are many ways to give – gifts to our Annual Fund enable us to direct those monies to help offset the cost of operations and overhead; regular gifts or endowed gifts to our Scholarship Funds – both general scholarships and scholarships for our international students – to help us help them reduce the cost of their Eden education. And for those that may be considering including Eden in your estate planning, we are ready to start the conversation about how to best set that up to meet your needs today and your legacy of tomorrow. Please contact Jim Schnurbusch, Vice President of Institutional Advancement (314.918.2567; [jschnurbusch@eden.edu](mailto:jschnurbusch@eden.edu)) or Stella Schoen, Director of Planned Giving (314.918.2569; [sschoen@eden.edu](mailto:sschoen@eden.edu)).