

A Brief History

In 1922, what is now called OMSC@PTS was founded in Ventnor by the Sea on the New Jersey shore by N. American Baptists Ida and Marguerite Doane. Originally called "The Houses of Fellowship," the Doanes provided comfortable residences free of charge where furloughing N. American missionaries and their families could regain their strength before returning to their work overseas. In the first 25 years, 3,400 adult missionaries and 4,000 children and other visitors from 106 denominational boards and mission agencies spent time in residence.

In 1967 the trustees instituted a seminar series and changed the name to Overseas Ministries Study Center. Under the leadership of R. Pierce Beaver and Gerald H. Anderson, the study program and the *IBMR* achieved a high level of notoriety. With its need for academic resourcing and cultural enrichment, OMSC relocated to New Haven in 1987, just up the street from the renowned Day Missions Collection at Yale Divinity School. OMSC's signature programs have continued and expanded under the leadership of Jonathan Bonk (2000–2013), J. Nelson Jennings (2013–2015), Darrell Whiteman (interim 2015–2016), and Thomas Hastings (2016–).

In June, 2019, OMSC and PTS signed a memorandum of understanding, and OMSC relocated its operation to the seminary campus in June, 2020, officially becoming part of the seminary on July 1, 2021.

In its first hundred years, OMSC has hosted about 25,000 alumni from 100 nations, and we are excited to continue this legacy while embracing the future as part of the seminary.

Please consider making a donation to this unique ministry. You may designate your one-time or recurring gift for one of our signature programs, the general fund, or make a memorial or legacy gift.

To make a secure online donation, visit our website (omsc.pts.edu) or send a check to:

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OVERSEAS MINISTRIES STUDY CENTER

PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

*Engaging in God's Mission and Amplifying the
Voices of the World Christian Movement Since 1922*



Soichi Watanabe, 2008–09 OMSC Artist in Residence, "To God be the Glory," acrylic on canvas, 52" x 36"

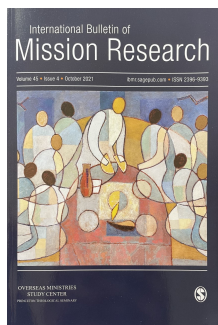
Residential Study Program

Each year, we welcome a group of *global partners* from the majority world to campus. They include local and cross-cultural church leaders, scholars, and educational administrators from every Christian tradition, enlarging our understanding and vision of the world church's participation in God's mission in Jesus Christ through the Holy Spirit. During residency, our *global partners* conduct independent research, attend seminars, and actively participate in the life of the seminary community to promote their own personal, intellectual, and spiritual growth.



2018-2019 OMSC *global partners* from China, Columbia, India, Myanmar, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, and S. Korea

International Bulletin of Mission Research



With peer-reviewed articles, book reviews, noteworthy news, and other regular features, the *IBMR*, published by SAGE, is an unparalleled resource on the world Christian movement engaged in God's mission. As the academic fields that study this engagement evolve, the *IBMR* continues to highlight current scholarship and new directions in Mission Studies, World Christianity and Intercultural Theology.

Artist in Residence Program

Integral to our mission of amplifying the voices of the world Christian movement, each year the executive director invites one artist in residence to participate in OMSC's residential study program for a full academic year (September-May).

While all former OMSC artists in residence have worked in visual media, we are expanding this program to include majority world artists who work in painting, photography, film, architecture, sculpture, literature, music, and/or dance. We believe artistic expressions showcase both the diversity of the church and all of God's creation.



Nalini Jayasuriya, OMSC's Artist in Residence 2001-03,
"Birds Sing, Saint Francis Dances," mixed media on
canvas, 27" x 21"

New Initiatives

Online Study Program

OMSC hosts a series of popular Webinars, "Meet the Author" book talks, "In the Studio" artist events, and online learning modules focused on Mission Studies, World Christianity, and Intercultural Theology.

Gerald H. Anderson Lecture

Named in honor of Gerald H. Anderson, OMSC Director (1976-2000), each year we invite leading scholars in Mission Studies, World Christianity, Intercultural Theology or a cognate discipline to deliver public lectures in conjunction with the seminary's World Christianity program.

Lamin Sanneh Research Prizes

Named in honor of the late Lamin Sanneh, Yale professor, pioneer in the study of World Christianity, OMSC trustee, and contributing editor to the *IBMR*, we award two annual prizes of \$10,000 each, distributed over two years, in support of research by Christian scholars from the majority world.

Digital Curriculum in Lived Theology & World Christianity

Our digital curriculum is training a new generation of *global partners* in qualitative research and theological reflection to better observe and share how God is at work in their social and cultural contexts. Delivered fully online over an academic year, participants earn a certificate in Lived Theology and World Christianity.

English Translations of Christian Scholarship

We invest in the professional English translation of articles from the majority world in any field of the theological curriculum, publishing them in the *IBMR*.