

GLOBAL EDUCATOR

PURSuing MINISTERIAL EXCELLENCE

I'm often asked, "What business are you in?" I sometimes ponder what reaction I'd get if I said, "I'm in the people-growing business." Ministers are grown. Students don't arrive in our classrooms as spiritual giants. They come with willing hearts and pass through a spiritual formation and maturation process. As instructors, we need to be growth-oriented. How do the course objectives fit into the overall curriculum; the route God has planned for this student to reach his maximum potential? The purpose for being here is clear. We're equipping others for works of service in God's kingdom (Ephesians 4:12) and in apostolic ministry. Like Robert Dale once said, we're "sowing seeds of ministry and growing believers toward leadership." That is the sole purpose behind the Global Association of Theological Studies. Like a sign I saw, "We build Pentecostal leaders to grow Pentecostal churches." Spiritual growth is one of our four core values. We value helping people grow!



GATS is made up of six academic programs, in multiple languages, with a growing edge: certificate, diploma, associate degree, bachelor degree, distance education, and faculty development. It's a gigantic project. I used to think of it as a mountain to chip away at; an obstacle. Now, I'm changing my attitude. It's an opportunity; a mighty tree that we are growing. Its encircling shade provides a global education covering. GATS causes us to stretch heavenward to our supplying God; outward to a waiting, wanting world. It calls us to continuously improve.

You can grow. An outstanding instructor is a growing instructor. One cannot grow others unless willing to grow one's self. In classes and among staff we must create a

"culture of growth." It's the way we do things around here. Involvement with the *Advance Educators Series* (GATS) provides us with eighteen to twenty-four opportunities to grow. A new lesson is available most every month. Other faculty education courses are planned for the future. Read, read, read and study, study, study. No escape. Be determined to be the best instructor possible. Strive to be an expert in your subject. Continuous education opportunities abound. We only truly help others reach maximum potential when we've attempted to reach it ourselves.



I sometimes lament when I see other churches with more developed educational programs than ours. We can make a difference. John Maxwell in *Go for Gold* mentions a nursery in Canada that displays a sign on its wall: "The best time to plant a tree is twenty-five years ago....The second best time is today." We hope you will avidly be a part of GATS and its programs. Come, grow with us!

Our work will affect long after we're gone. A Greek proverb says, "A society grows great when old men plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in." Be deliberate at leaving a mark on this planet, to do something that imparts seeds of truth to the next generation, and impacts eternity for our world. Someone once said, "If your vision is for a year, plant wheat; if your vision is for a decade, plant trees; but if your vision is for a lifetime, plant men." Next time you're asked, "What business are you in?" smile brightly and say, "I'm in the people-growing industry." And when a friend asks, "What have you done today?" thankfully respond, "I saw someone grow today and I helped. I've been planting people; growing giants!"

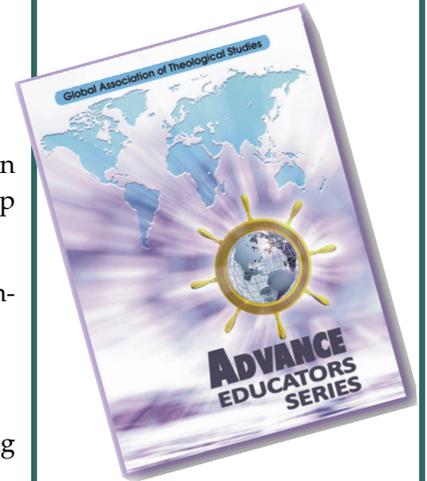


James G. Poitras
Coordinator of GATS

The Advantages Are Many...

The purpose of GATS and its membership schools is to develop and equip men and women to reach their maximum potential in apostolic ministry. This is achieved through partnership and produces a lot of advantages...

- ✓ An academic body that is continually improving to offer you the best in theological training.
- ✓ On-line access to various textbooks.
- ✓ Students globally have an equal opportunity to receive the same quality training regardless of how rich or poor the country may be or how developed the UPCI may be in that country. It is all about QUALITY and EQUALITY.
- ✓ Certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees come from Global University of Theological Studies.
- ✓ The latest lesson in the *Advance Educator Series* is "The Teacher and the Big Picture." You can download this and other lessons at <http://gatsonline.org/advancementforfaculty.html>.
- ✓ GATS brings uniformity while allowing you to be unique.



The answer to Faculty Education.
Training your staff to be the best
they can be in the Kingdom.



Are you ready for the next step?

Life is all about process. Going from one stage to another or as the Bible says, "from strength to strength" (Psalm 84:7) and from "glory to glory" (2 Corinthians 3:18). To date we have forty-two nations and fifty-three schools who have expressed intent of joining the Global Association of Theological Studies. We are glad that you have taken this first step. It is truly a move in the right direction. But do not stop there because this is just the beginning of your journey. Depending upon your curriculum and educational objectives, we can presently help you become an approved GATS school on one or all three levels: certificate, diploma or associate degree. GATS is the educational path for the future and we are here to help you achieve ministerial excellence. Are you ready for the next step?

If so, please visit our web site and download your application form. Should you have any questions feel free to contact our regional representatives.

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