

Atlantic School of Theology Senate

Another year of serving on the AST senate has passed. It is always an interesting experience to pop into the world of AST and be invited to vote on decisions. Sometimes I feel completely inadequate in that responsibility, as the world of a minister can become quickly removed from the world of academia. Luckily I am not alone. Senators hear reports from all the departments, and get a sense of what is happening in terms of registration, in all programs, about the physical plant and the changes, made there, about partnerships, and staff, and the work that connect the Atlantic School of Theology to the partnerships that have been forged over the years.

This year the work included making many upgrades to the physical plant, including reclaiming library space for offices, and reworking some of the other space on campus. AST is located on prime real estate in Halifax, and maximizing its potential in order to offset costs has been one strategy in self-sufficiency.

A major grant from the Anglican church has helped with energy efficiency and providing solar panel to maximize the use of electricity.

Awarding honorary degrees and thinking about who we might be a likely candidate for the next year is another task. I have had the privilege of being in on some of those conversations as well.

The faculty and staff are always ready to invest fully in the life of the community and find opportunities to extend the work into the mainstream world, making theological connections and finding ways to interest graduates in continuation education.

It's been my pleasure to contribute in some small way from time to time.