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Professor W. Dow Edgerton bestowed 'Emeritus' status by Board of Trustees

CHICAGO- May 10, 2018 - Rev. Dr. W. Dow Edgerton, an ordained minister, scholar, author, and former academic dean has concluded his phased retirement agreement with Chicago Theological Seminary and has been named Professor of Ministry Emeritus by the Board of Trustees.

"In his thirty-five years of service to Chicago Theological Seminary, Dow Edgerton has worked tirelessly to further our mission and commitments," Dr. Ken Stone, academic dean and vice president of academic affairs said. "He has done so as teacher, scholar, and administrator, but also as pastor and friend to faculty, staff, and students alike. His impact will remain with us for years, not only at CTS but through the work of hundreds of alumni now ministering around the world."

Edgerton first came to CTS as a student. After receiving his BA from Johns Hopkins University, he earned his MDiv at CTS in 1976. He served for several years as a United Church of Christ pastor in Wisconsin before returning to CTS to teach in 1983 and receiving his PhD from CTS in 1992. In addition to teaching the primary *Preaching* course at CTS, his teaching in recent years has included popular courses on *Forgiveness* and on *The Poetics of Grief*. Concurrent with his faculty appointment, Professor Edgerton held several administrative positions at CTS including that of academic dean from 1999 until 2008.

"Dow is an outstanding storyteller, preacher, and engaging professor by all accounts," Dr. Emily Vogt, assistant dean for academic administration, said. "It is a joy to be in his classroom. His lessons and stories keep his students on the edge of their seats. Dow embodies all the best qualities one could want in a professor. We will miss him, but are grateful for the legacy he leaves us with."

He was also one of the founding faculty members of the DMin in Preaching program offered jointly by several member schools of the Association of Chicago Theological Schools (ACTS), including CTS. His publications include the books *The Passion of Interpretation*, *Speak to Me That I May Speak: A Spiritual of Preaching*, *In Other Words: Incarnational Translation for Preaching*, with Charles Cosgrove, and *Listening to Grief*, which he generously gifted to CTS and published as an e-book. He is also well known for his passions for photography and music.

ABOUT CHICAGO THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Based on Chicago's Southside, Chicago Theological Seminary is committed to creating leaders for the next generation at religious leadership...whatever that may be. A leader in social justice, CTS is committed to LGBTQ and gender issues, interreligious understanding, and racial justice.

CTS is an affiliated seminary of the United Church of Christ. Since its founding in 1855, CTS has pushed at the growing boundaries of the church in order to make faith more relevant and transform society towards greater justice and mercy. The student body now represents more than 40 different faith traditions, perspectives, and denominations.

