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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Inauguration Slated for PTS President

TULSA: Gary Peluso-Verdend, president and associate professor of practical theology at Phillips Theological Seminary (PTS), will be formally inaugurated as PTS's third President on Tuesday, November 10.

Slated for 7:30 p.m., the event will be held at First Christian Church, 913 South Boulder, in downtown Tulsa. The public is invited

Peluso-Verdend began his role as president on July 1, 2009. Past president William Tabbernee retired on June 30, after serving 18 years.

"PTS has a great history of preparing women and men for ministry, said Peluso-Verdend. "I am proud to have played a role in that recent history. I am also humbled and energized by the challenge we face to broaden our programs and brand of theological education to a wider audience, including laity."

A scholar in the field of Practical Theology, Dr. Peluso-Verdend's administrative, teaching and research interests are related to the study of Christian organizations and models for effective, transformative leadership within church and society.

His academic credentials include degrees from Carroll University (B.A., religion, 1977), Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary (M.Div., 1981), and the University of Chicago (Ph.D. practical theology, 1991). His 2005 book, *Paying Attention: Focusing Your Congregation on What Matters*, was published by the Alban Institute.

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Phillips Theological Seminar Inauguration – Add One

At PTS, Gary has previously served as vice president of stewardship (2005-2009), dean (1997-2000), and director of the doctor of ministry program (1993-2000). He has been a member of the faculty all of his time at PTS.

For more information about Phillips Theological Seminary visit our web site at www.ptstulsa.edu.

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About Phillips Theological Seminary

Established in 1907, Phillips Theological Seminary is a graduate seminary dedicated to preparing women and men for varied Christian ministries in the church and society. Affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Phillips provides an ecumenical education, with students representing more than 20 denominations. PTS is an intimate community of teachers and learners who are seeking to be faithful to God through disciplined, reasoned and reflective study of scripture, religious tradition, and human experience. In addition to serving the church's need for an educated ministry, the seminary also welcomes students who are not pursuing ministerial degrees but who want to explore their faith through courses in the curriculum.