

Meet with UTS President Dr. Hugh Spurgin on December 14 in person or online

Hugh Spurgin
December 8, 2016



President Hugh Spurgin Ph.D. invites you to a UTS Alumni meeting at the UTS Manhattan Extension Center on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 6:30 PM, 4 W 43rd Street, NY 10036 [Room directions will be given in the lobby] or attend online through Ustream (click the link below)

[A Conversation with UTS Alumni and Friends](#)

The media team will start broadcasting ten minutes earlier at 6:20PM to give time to correct any connection issues at your end.

The purpose of the meeting will be to answer questions about our main campus in Barrytown, discuss development options and consider how graduates can contribute to the revitalization of the property and of UTS itself. This meeting will be a follow-up to my letters of May 26 and August 22, 2016, in which I reported on positive developments at UTS as well as economic realities facing the Seminary, centering on the Barrytown property. Those trends continue.



UTS student enrollment continues to rise as it has for the past three semesters. This fall, we have a Master's student headcount of 70 and a full-time equivalent total of 56. Last fall, we had a Master's student headcount of 54 and FTE of 42. Work continues to develop at our Clinton, Maryland instructional site with 17 new students admitted this semester. We expect to have approval from the Maryland Higher

Education Commission to offer our full Master of Divinity and Master of Religious Education programs in Maryland beginning next semester.

UTS still faces challenges in maintaining the Barrytown property. In my earlier correspondence, I detailed annual costs of more than \$600,000 and indicated our intention of finding partners who are interested in maintaining or developing the property with a vision that is in accord with that of its Founders. We had a professional appraisal of the property done last May which set its value at between \$15-20 million.

We also have met with several interested parties and have recently received an eight-figure offer. However, that offer required that UTS eventually relinquish ownership within five years both of the outlying areas of our 260-acre campus and the central core, which consists of the Main Building and Massena House. The UTS Board of Trustees has made it clear to those who made the offer that it is unacceptable in its current form.

There may be openness by the Board to selling or placing an easement on unused portions of the campus. However, UTS intends to re-position the Barrytown property to be an east coast educational facility that offers intensives and distance learning for graduate degree programs and certificate courses. Barrytown will also serve the future needs of the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification to train and prepare the next generation of church leaders in America and worldwide.

In this respect, the Seminary's best partnership option for the development of the Barrytown property is with the sponsoring church, the Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU). FFWPU has invested tens of millions of dollars in UTS since its founding. FFWPU's ongoing investment as a percentage of the UTS budget is significantly higher than the support that other churches give annually to their denominational seminaries.

UTS is currently developing a five-year strategic plan (2017-22). Development of the Barrytown property will be a key strategic priority. As always, I invite your feedback and ask that you continue to keep Barrytown and UTS in your prayers and in your philanthropic contributions.

Please send an RSVP to Robin Graham or to myself, if you plan to attend either of the meetings. Robin is the Director of Advancement and Enrollment Management. His email address is r.graham@uts.edu Mine is h.spurgin@uts.edu

Thank you for your support for our alma mater, and may the love of God and the spirit of our Founders be with you at this critical moment in human history.

All the best,

Hugh D. Spurgin, PhD. (UTS '77)
UTS President

