



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Association for Hispanic Theological Education (AETH) and Life Pacific University (LPU) Sign Collaborative Agreement to Strengthen Hispanic Theological Education Across and Beyond the United States

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The **Association for Hispanic Theological Education (AETH)** and **Life Pacific University (LPU)** have formalized a new **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)** to advance collaborative efforts that expand access to quality theological education for Hispanic and Spanish-speaking leaders across the United States, Puerto Rico, the Caribbean, and Latin America.

This collaboration agreement, signed during **AETH's 8th Lecture Series: Justo & Catherine Gonzalez Resource Center**, held at Life Pacific University's San Dimas, California campus last week, marks a significant step forward in both institutions' shared mission to promote theological formation that is relevant, accessible, and transformative. The event gathered close to 200 pastors, scholars, and ministry leaders under the theme *"Preaching and Migration"*, a timely conversation that highlighted the theological and pastoral challenges shaping Hispanic ministry today.

Through this agreement, AETH and LPU will collaborate in areas of **academic innovation, leadership development, and resource sharing**, including the promotion of AETH's quality certification standards, the creation of educational pathways for Hispanic Bible Institute graduates, and the facilitation of spaces for ecumenical reflection and dialogue.

"This agreement reflects our shared conviction that theological education must be contextual, collaborative, and deeply rooted in the lived experiences of our communities," said Rev. Dr. Jessica Lugo, Executive Director of AETH. "We are thankful for their hospitality and celebrate this partnership with Life Pacific University as a tangible expression of our mission: to prepare leaders who serve the Church and society with excellence, creativity, and faithfulness."

LPU President Dr. Angie Richey added,

"What an honor it was to host the AETH 2025 Lecture Series alongside our Provost, Dr. Daniel Ruarte, and our Dean of LPU Global, Dr. Hugo Aldana, at Life Pacific University. We celebrate our landmark partnership with AETH, uniting in purpose to advance Hispanic theological education. Their team is phenomenal. Together, we are strengthening the Church and shaping future leaders for the glory of God."

As the premier network of Hispanic theological educators, AETH continues to build bridges between the academy and the Church, fostering collaboration that honors diverse traditions while advancing a shared commitment to theological excellence. Through partnerships like this one, AETH affirms its mission to empower leaders who embody faith, justice, and hope in service to God and their communities.

For more information about AETH and its programs, visit www.aeth.org.

For more information about LPU Hispanic programs, visit <https://lifepacific.edu/programas-hispanos/>

Media Contact:

Asociación para la Educación Teológica Hispana (AETH)

Email: info@aeth.org

Website: www.aeth.org

