



AETH strengthens its collaboration network with new partnerships with the Seminario Internacional Teológico Bautista (SITB) and Vanguard University

Orlando, Florida | May 27, 2025 – The Association for Hispanic Theological Education (**AETH**) is pleased to announce two new collaboration agreements with institutions deeply committed to the formation of Hispanic Christian leaders: the **Seminario Internacional Teológico Bautista (SITB)** in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and **Vanguard University** in California, USA.

These partnerships result from a shared vision of expanding the impact of Hispanic theological education through networks of cooperation that promote academic, spiritual, and social development in our communities. Both collaborations foster initiatives that encourage dialogue among leaders, the exchange of knowledge, institutional strengthening, and the implementation of formative opportunities focused on mission, social justice, and educational excellence.

In partnership with SITB, AETH seeks to create spaces for joint reflection on the current challenges and opportunities of theological education in Latin America and promote projects that respond to the needs of our contexts from a theological perspective committed to God's Kingdom. This relationship will facilitate the development of joint academic initiatives, the advancement of quality standards in training programs, and the creation of digital spaces that enhance communication, collaborative work, and the dissemination of educational resources.

Dr. Viviana Barrón, Rector of SITB, celebrated this new chapter by stating:

“At SITB, we are deeply pleased to build cooperative relationships with those committed to theological education in Latin America. Since 1912, we have worked with an international perspective, understanding that the resources and learning God grants us are at the service of His Kingdom, both in our country and wherever they can be useful and a blessing.”

Meanwhile, the agreement with Vanguard University opens new opportunities for graduates of AETH-certified programs, who may be considered for admission to master's programs, subject to established academic criteria. The institutions will also collaborate to create preparatory opportunities for graduate theological education, especially for underserved or remote geographic contexts. The partnership includes access to institutional resources such as libraries and faculty, the development of joint research projects, and the organization of academic events that strengthen the educational mission of both institutions.

Dr. Renea Brathwaite, Dean of the School of Theology and Ministry at Vanguard University, shared:

“I am thrilled to partner with AETH because of our shared commitment to equipping Hispanic leaders for transformative ministry in the local church and beyond. This collaboration strengthens our university's mission to foster academically sound, Christ-centered, and Spirit-empowered leadership and service within our diverse communities. Together with AETH, we look forward to joining forces to equip the next





generations of Christian leaders to serve with love, wisdom, integrity, and cultural intelligence.”

Both agreements emphasize the importance of nurturing learning communities marked by a commitment to excellence, intercultural dialogue, justice, and faith. These collaborations are central to integrating digital technologies to facilitate learning, mutual support in certification and quality processes, and a commitment to accessible, contextual, and transformative theological education.

The reverend Jessica Lugo, Executive Director of AETH, emphasized:

“At AETH, we firmly believe that strategic collaboration strengthens our shared mission: to form Hispanic theological leaders who transform their communities. These alliances with SITB and Vanguard reflect the power of global connection and the hope for a more united church, prepared to meet today’s challenges.”

With these new steps, AETH continues to position itself as a bridge between institutions that dream of a better-prepared, more just church committed to transforming the world through the power of the gospel.

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