



# Initiative for Global Christian Studies

## Our Vision

The campaign for the Initiative for Global Christian Studies (IGCS) at the University of Washington is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to create a long-needed program on the world's largest religion. This initiative breaks new ground at the UW and ensures the long-term study of global Christianity. The fulfillment of our bold vision will require a deep commitment and investment from our partners.



Jim Wellman  
Chair, Comparative Religion Program // Term Professor, IGCS  
jwellman@uw.edu

## Why Now?

Religion matters in our world. It impacts every facet of our lives, including economics, politics, health and security. As the world's most populous religion, covering nearly a third of the globe, Christianity has influenced our history and our present. The University of Washington, as one of the great global research universities, must not only understand this system of faith as it sees itself, but also in the context of other major global movements in culture, politics and religion. With full backing from the UW's College of Arts and Sciences, and strategic placement within the Jackson School, we are well-positioned to explore the impact of Christianity on global politics and culture. We desire partnerships with the larger community to fund this initiative for an unbiased and academic study of Christianity around the globe. IGCS is positioned in the UW to take the lead in driving international research, teaching and strategic interchange on global Christianity and its impact on our world.



Hajin Jun  
Assistant Professor,  
Korean History

## Building a Program

Since the appointment of Jim Wellman as Term Professor in Global Christian Studies, we are now in the process of appointing someone to fill the Catholic Newman Center Term Professorship in Catholic Studies, and hired a new program administrator. IGCS has held regular lectures and programming on Global Christianity, including stellar presentations and panel discussions on homelessness in Seattle, with over 100 in attendance. We will also be hosting the **Religion in the PNW Conference**, with a panel discussion- *Religious & Secular Transformations in PNW Christianities*, on Tues, May 28th at the

Jackson School of International Studies (Thomson Hall 101; 7:00pm). In partnership with the UW MAISS program, IGCS members Jim Wellman, Chris Seiple and Randy Thomson have developed the new **Cross-Cultural Literacy Certificate** for UW Grad Students, part of the Jackson School's initiative for interdisciplinary development of our students. Lastly, a Korean American Ph.d. from Stanford University, Hajin Jun, has been hired as a Korean History assistant professor. Brimming with enthusiasm, she will teach a course on Global Asian Christianity starting in 2020!

## Partnering With IGCS

Through the investment of committed friends, partners and key UW faculty, IGCS is becoming the academic epicenter for the study of Christianity around the world. IGCS looks to continue to develop with the following dreams!

### These are our short-term dreams:

- An annual endowed conference on Global Christianity -1 million
- Endowed funding for 2 MA / 2 Ph.d.s in Global Christianity -1 million
- The formation of a major in Global Christianity in the Comparative Religion Program at the Jackson School - 1 million

### These are our long-term dreams:

- Three more Endowed Professors in Global Christianity (4 million each) so that the teaching of Christianity is protected at the UW
- An endowed Center for Global Christian Studies - 4 million

## WAYS TO GIVE!

### Contact:

UW Arts & Sciences Advancement // Box 354882  
Seattle, WA 98195

Damian Peterson // damianbp@uw.edu // 206.616.1157

### Write a check:

UW Foundation | Global Christian Studies // Comparative Religion Program