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## About the Great Commission Research Network

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## **2024 Great Commission Research Network National Conference**

# DISCIPLE-MAKING: From To DOUBTING DISCIPLE

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**March 4-5, 2024**

**Orlando, Florida**

This year's conference will be one of the Pre-Conferences at Exponential (Mar 4-5, 2024), a large conference focused on church multiplication ([exponential.org](http://exponential.org)). The conference is held at First Baptist Church of Orlando. Information on hotels can be found on Exponential's website.

The price for both the Great Commission Research Network (GCRN) Conference and Exponential is \$178 when you buy through our website. Please register for both at [GreatCommissionResearch.com](http://GreatCommissionResearch.com)

The GCRN conference begins on Monday, March 4, at 1:00pm and ends Tuesday, March 5, at Noon, after which the Exponential conference begins and continues through Thursday, March 7. Registration through the GCRN covers both conferences.

If you are interested in presenting research, please email a 100-200 word summary of your proposed presentation to Brad Ransom, President of the GCRN, at [brad@nafwb.org](mailto:brad@nafwb.org). Proposals will be accepted based on quality of research, relevance to the theme of the conference, and potential for application in local churches.

# GREAT COMMISSION RESEARCH NETWORK

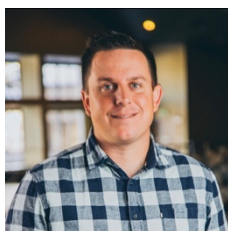
(formerly: *The American Society for Church Growth*)

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# **GREAT COMMISSION RESEARCH NETWORK**

*greatcommissionresearch.com*

## **MEMBERSHIP**

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### **What is the Great Commission Research Network?**

The Great Commission Research Network (GCRN) is a worldwide and professional association of Christian leaders whose ministry activities have been influenced by the basic and key principles of church growth as originally developed by the late Donald McGavran. Founded by renowned missiologists George G. Hunter III and C. Peter Wagner, the GCRN has expanded into an affiliation of church leaders who share research, examine case studies, dialogue with cutting-edge leaders, and network with fellow church professionals who are committed to helping local churches expand the kingdom through disciple-making.

### **Who Can Join the GCRN?**

GCRN membership is open to all who wish a professional affiliation with colleagues in the field. The membership includes theoreticians, such as professors of evangelism and missions, and practitioners, such as pastors, denominational executives, parachurch leaders, church planters, researchers, mission leaders, and consultants. Some members specialize in domestic or mono-cultural church growth, while others are cross-culturally oriented.

### **Why Join the GCRN?**

The GCRN provides a forum for maximum interaction among leaders, ministries, and resources on the cutting edge of Great Commission research. The annual conference of the GCRN (typically held in March each year) offers the opportunity for research updates and information on new resources and developments, as well as fellowship and encouragement from colleagues in the field of church growth. Membership in the GCRN includes a subscription to the *Great Commission Research Journal* and a discount for the annual conference.

### **How Do I Join the GCRN?**

For further information on membership and the annual conference, please visit [greatcommissionresearch.com](http://greatcommissionresearch.com).

## **Membership Fees**

- One-year regular membership (inside or outside USA) - \$59
- One-year student/senior adult membership (inside or outside USA) - \$39
- Three-year regular membership (inside or outside USA) - \$177
- Three-year senior membership (inside or outside USA) - \$117
- Membership includes a subscription to the *Great Commission Research Journal* which is in the process of transitioning to an electronic format.

## GREAT COMMISSION RESEARCH NETWORK AWARDS

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### **Donald A. McGavran Award for Outstanding Leadership in Great Commission Research**

Normally once each year, the GCRN gives this award to an individual for exemplary scholarship, intellect, and leadership in the research and dissemination of the principles of effective disciple-making as described by Donald A. McGavran. The award recipients to date:

Win Arn	1989	Charles Arn	2005
C. Peter Wagner	1990	John Vaughan	2006
Carl F. George	1991	Waldo Werning	2006
Wilbert S. McKinley	1992	Bob Whitesel	2007
Robert Logan	1993	Bill Easum	2009
Bill Sullivan	1994	Thom S. Rainer	2010
Elmer Towns	1994	Ed Stetzer	2012
Flavil R. Yeakley Jr.	1995	Nelson Searcy	2013
George G. Hunter III	1996	J. D. Payne	2014
Eddie Gibbs	1997	Alan McMahan	2015
Gary L. McIntosh	1998	Steve Wilkes	2016
Kent R. Hunter	1999	Art McPhee	2016
R. Daniel Reeves	2000	Mike Morris	2017
Ray Ellis	2002	Bill Day	2019
John Ellas	2003	Warren Bird	2022
Rick Warren	2004	Gordon Penfold	2023

### **Win Arn Lifetime Achievement Award in Great Commission Research**

This award is given to a person who has excelled in the field of American church growth over a long period of time. The award recipients to date:

Eddie Gibbs	2011	Kent R. Hunter	2017
Elmer Towns	2012	Carl George	2019
George G. Hunter III	2013	Charles Arn	2022
John Vaughan	2014	Bob Whitesel	2023
Gary McIntosh	2015		

### **American Society for Church Growth/GCRN Past Presidents**

C. Peter Wagner	1986	Ray W. Ellis	1999-00
George G. Hunter III	1987	Charles Van Engen	2001-02
Kent R. Hunter	1988	Charles Arn	2003-04
Elmer Towns	1989	Alan McMahan	2005-06
Eddie Gibbs	1990	Eric Baumgartner	2007-08
Bill Sullivan	1991	Bob Whitesel	2009-12
Carl F. George	1992	Steve Wilkes	2013-14
Flavil Yeakley Jr.	1993	Mike Morris	2015-16
John Vaughan	1994	James Cho	2017-18
Gary L. McIntosh	1995-96	Gordon Penfold	2019-20
R. Daniel Reeves	1997-98	W. Jay Moon	2021-23

## **GREAT COMMISSION RESEARCH NETWORK SUBMISSIONS**

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The *Great Commission Research Journal* publishes both peer-reviewed articles reporting original research and reviews of recent books relevant to evangelism and disciple making.

The scope of the journal includes research focusing on evangelism, church planting, church growth, spiritual formation, church renewal, worship, or missions. Articles come from both members and non-members of the Great Commission Research Network and are generally unsolicited submissions, which are welcomed and will be considered for peer-review. There is no charge for submission or publication.

### **ARTICLES**

All submissions should be emailed to the editor, David R. Dunaetz at [ddunaetz@apu.edu](mailto:ddunaetz@apu.edu).

### **Peer Review Process**

Only the highest quality submissions presenting original research within the scope of the journal will be chosen for publication. To ensure this, all articles will go through a peer review process. Articles deemed by the editor to have potential for publication will be sent to reviewers (members of the editorial board or other reviewers with the needed expertise) for their recommendation. Upon receiving the reviewers' recommendations, the author will be notified that the submission was either rejected, that the submission has potential but needs to be significantly revised and resubmitted, that the submission is conditionally accepted if the noted issues are addressed, or that the submission is accepted unconditionally.

### **Format**

Papers should be APA formatted according to the 7th edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*. Submissions should include a cover page, be double-spaced in Times New Roman, and be between 3,000 and 7,000 words (approximately 10-22 pages) in .docx format. Contact the editor for exceptions to this word count.

In-text references should be in the form (Smith, 2020) or (Smith, 2020, p.100). At the end of the article should be a References section. No

footnotes should be used. Minimize the use of endnotes. If endnotes are necessary, more than two or three are strongly discouraged; rather than using Microsoft Word's endnote tool, place them manually before the References section.

Include an abstract of approximately 100-150 words at the beginning of your text.

After the References section, include a short biography (approximately 30 words) for each author.

## **BOOK REVIEWS**

The purpose of our book reviews is to direct the reader to books that contribute to the broader disciple making endeavors of the church. The review (500-2000 words) is to help potential readers understand how the book will contribute to their ministry, especially those in North America or which have a large cross-cultural base. The review should consist of a summary of the contents, an evaluation of the book, and a description of how the book is applicable to practitioners.

Before submitting a book review, please contact the book review editor Ken Nehrbass ([krnehrbass@liberty.edu](mailto:krnehrbass@liberty.edu)) to either propose a book to be reviewed or to ask if there is a book that needs to be reviewed.

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## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

To submit an article or for general questions, contact:  
Dr. David Dunaetz, [ddunaetz@apu.edu](mailto:ddunaetz@apu.edu)

For questions about book reviews, contact:  
Ken Nehrbass, [knehrbass@calbaptist.edu](mailto:knehrbass@calbaptist.edu)