

Press Release for the Board of Governors of the Theological College of the Canadian Reformed Churches for a meeting held on January 28, 2010

The Board of Governors met at the College Facilities in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada on January 28, 2010. Present at the meeting were Archie J. Bax, Lammert Jagt, , Dr. Gijsbert Nederveen (Chairman), Gerard J. Nordeman, Dr. Andrew J. Pol, Rev Robert A. Schouten (Secretary), Rev. Willem B. Slomp, Rev Eric Kampen, Rev John VanWoudenberg and Karl J. Veldkamp (Vice-Chairman). All board members were present, save and except Hank Kampen (treasurer). The Principal, Dr. G.H. Visscher was also in attendance. The meeting was opened by Dr. Gijsbert Nederveen with the reading of Scripture and prayer.

Minutes & Agenda

The minutes of the Board meeting held on September 10, 2009 were approved and adopted and the agenda for the meeting was settled.

Correspondence of Note

- a. Correspondence was delivered to two churches in response to letters they had written in which they expressed concern and objection to the choice of words in correspondence from the Board of Governors. The Board acknowledged that, although unintended, it had overreached somewhat in presuming the decision of Synod Burlington 2010 relating to the appointment of Dr. Van Vliet.
- b. A letter was received from the Deputies for Training for the Ministry of the Free Reformed Churches of Australia. In this letter our sister churches wholeheartedly confirmed their ongoing support for the College, both financial and otherwise for which thanksgiving was expressed. It was noted that the churches in Australia have adopted the guidelines developed by the Pastoral Training Program Funding Committee (Canada), with adaptation for the Australian context.
- c. A letter was received from a church in the federation with recommendations to: expand and develop the Diaconology department (Missions/Evangelism) into a full fledged department; and having a fifth professor at the College specializing in historical theology, symbolics and church history. On the advice of the Academic Committee the Board accepted the recommendation of the Senate and did not accept the recommendations made by such church. This will be communicated by way of letter to Synod Burlington 2010.

Receipt of Reports-Material Items:

- a. **Academic Committee Report:** This committee provided their report which: confirmed that Dr. Van Vliet had signed the form of subscription for Professors; and considered and advised the Board on recommendations made by a church of the federation relating to an additional

professor for the College, the establishment of a new department and a re-division of responsibilities amongst the professors. In summary the Senate advised against adopting such recommendations.

- b. **Finance and Property Committee:** This committee provided an update on the ongoing arrangements with Dr. Gootjes, both financial and otherwise.
- c. **Lecture Visits** – the report of Rev E. Kampen and Rev J. Van Woudenberg on visits made to the lectures on September 30 and October 23, 2009 was gratefully received.
- d. **Governance Committee** – An updated version of the Form for the installation of new professors was reviewed and approved.
- e. **Review and Accreditation Committee** – This committee provides an update on our accreditation with the Association of Theological Schools, which has become a somewhat detailed and slow process. Concurrently the board considered further ways in which the Seminary could be evaluated by third parties and at the same time develop a process whereby the Board could complete a full and comprehensive review of the Seminary, its offering of courses and the number and composition of the Faculty.
- f. **Conference Reports** – the following reports were received: from Dr. A.J. DeVisser re NAPARC World Missions Executive Meeting of September 2009; and from Dr. C. Van Dam and Dr. G.H. Visscher with respect to the 61st annual meeting of the Evangelical Theological Society of November, 2009.
- g. **Pastoral Training Program** - the 2009 report of Dr. A.J. De Visser was received which provided a summary of the internships completed in 2009 and the proposed internships for 2010.
- h. **Visit to the churches in Alberta** – the report of Dr. G.H. Visscher on his visits to the various churches in Alberta completed in October of 2009 was received.
- i. **Proposals for General Synod Burlington 2010** – The Board (in closed session) reviewed and finalized the formal submissions to Synod Burlington 2010 seeking leave to appoint Dr. J. Van Vliet as the Professor in Dogmatology and a Professor of Old Testament (to be named and disclosed to the delegates of Synod), both positions to commence at the start of the 2010-2011 academic year. The Chairman was delegated to advise the suggested appointees of such appointments for their early consideration, all of which is subject to the approval of Synod Burlington 2010.
- j. **Duties of the Secretary** – Experience demonstrated that there are too many tasks and responsibilities delegated to the Secretary and that serious consideration should be given to spreading the task over more than one individual and/or placing strict limitations on the task of the Secretary. The matter will have the attention of the new Board in September of 2010.

- k. **Departing Members** – As the meeting was the last meeting at which Dr. G. Nederveen, Rev R. Schouten and G. Nordeman were in attendance, time was taken to properly recognize the unique and singular contribution and efforts of each of these brothers.

Next meeting of the Board is scheduled for September 9 2010 d.v.

Press Release and Closing

The completion of the Press Release is delegated to the Vice Chairman in consultation with the Executive and the meeting was closed with prayer and thanksgiving.

On behalf of the Board of Governors of the Theological College of the Canadian Reformed Churches ,
Karl J. Veldkamp, Vice Chairman