

Press Release of the Meeting of the Board of Governors of the Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary held on January 12, 2017.

Opening & Roll Call & Memorabilia

The Board of Governors met at CRTS in Hamilton, Ontario, on January 12, 2017. All the governors were present at the meeting with the exception of Rev. J. Ludwig, who was absent with notice. The chairman, Rev. R. Aasman opened with the reading of Philippians 3:7-16 and led in prayer. In the absence of Rev J. Ludwig who is the vice-chairman/corresponding clerk, Rev. J. Louwense was appointed to these duties. The retired faculty and their spouses were remembered.

Minutes and Agenda.

The minutes of the Board meeting held on September 8, 2016 were adopted. The agenda for the meeting was established.

Receipt of Reports-Material Agenda Items:

- a. The Board decided to give support for the professors and their spouses to attend the Eastern Ministerial Conference scheduled for October, 2017
- b. The Board took note of a letter from Dr. T. Van Raalte regarding a joint initiative of the Seminary and the Teachers College called "Celebrate 1517."
- c. The Board decided to grant Rev. J. Ludwig a leave of absence from his duties as governor during his sabbatical.
- d. Several letters from the churches which were referenced in Synod Dunnville 2016's recommendations to CRTS, and were received after the September 2016 board meeting are discussed and then passed on to either the Senate or the governance committee for further consideration and possible recommendations.
- e. Rev. R. Aasman and Rev. M. Van Luik, as members of the Executive Committee, met with the principal and reviewed his assessment which was positive. The work of Dr. G.H. Visscher as principal is going well.
- f. The report on visits to the lectures at CRTS on November 29 and 30 by Rev. J. Louwense and Rev. J. Ludwig is received with gratitude.

- g. The Report from the Governance Committee provided clarification that the term of a board member ends at the first meeting after Synod appoints new members to the Board.
- h. The results of the Board's self-evaluation 2016 were discussed.
- i. The final scheduled report until the next self-study in 2020 was sent to the Association for Theological Schools. The board received these reports with gratitude.
- j. The report of the Senate presented the following recommendations, which the Board accepted:
 - i. To have Dr. A.J. De Visser serve as Vice-Principal as of Sept. 10, 2017, when Dr. J. Van Vliet will become Principal; and Dr. T. Van Raalte serve on the Convocation Committee after the September 2017 convocation
 - ii. To add a second Evangelistic speaking course
 - iii. To introduce an internship for the B.Th. and Diploma students.
 - iv. To change the name of the "Department of Diaconiology" to the "Department of Ministry and Mission."
- k. A report on a visit by Dr. T. Van Raalte to the churches in Alberta was received with thankfulness.
- l. The following conference and membership meeting reports were received with thanksgiving:
 - i. Evangelical Theological Society Conference by Dr. G.H. Visscher, Dr. J. Van Vliet, and Dr. C. Van Dam,
 - ii. Institute of Biblical Literature Conference by Dr. G.H. Visscher
 - iii. Society of Biblical Literature Conference by Dr. G.H. Visscher and Dr. J. Smith.
 - iv. Evangelical Fellowship Canada and Christian Higher Education Canada membership meetings by Dr. G.H. Visscher.
 - v. Ottawa Conference on "Zanchi, Hooker, and the Rise of Reformed Scholasticism," by Dr. T. Van Raalte.
 - vi. Fellowship of Evangelical Seminaries by Dr. G.H. Visscher.
- m. The date of the next board meeting: September 7, 2017 at 1:00 p.m.

Press Release and closing.

The completion of the press release was delegated to the Vice-chairman in consultation with the Executive and the Principal, and Kasper Van Veen closed the meeting with prayer.

On behalf of the Board of Governors of the Canadian Reformed Theological Seminary,

Rev. J. Louwse
Acting Vice-Chairman/Corresponding Clerk.