

Press Release for the Board of Governors of the Theological College of the Canadian Reformed Churches for a meeting held on December 11, 2008.

The Board of Governors met at the College Facilities in Hamilton, Ontario on December 11, 2008. Present at the meeting were Archie J. Bax, Lammert Jagt, Hank C. Kampen (Treasurer), Dr. Gijsbert Nederveen (Chairman), Gerard J. Nordeman, Rev 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 are present. The Principal, Dr. G.H. Visscher is also in attendance. The meeting is opened by Dr. G. Nederveen with the reading of Scripture and prayer.

Minutes & Agenda

The minutes of the Board meeting held on September 4, 2008 are approved as written and the agenda for the meeting is settled.

Correspondence of Note

- a. A letter was sent to the Deputies for Training for the Ministry of the Free Reformed Churches of Australia in response to their comprehensive inquiries relating to the possibility of distance learning and working with the College.
- b. A letter was sent to Dr. N.H. Gootjes inquiring with respect to his health and his ability to return to his task at the College.
- c. A letter was received from Dr. Hannes Breytenbach, National Coordinator of the Ministerial Training Structure of the Free Reformed Churches of South Africa, requesting an opportunity to meet with representatives of the College to explore how the programs and expertise of the College could be used for the benefit of the FRCSA. The Senate of the College was designated to deal with the matter.
- d. The Board was informed of the formal conferring of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by McMaster University on Dr. G. Visscher which took place on November 21, 2008.

Material Agenda Items

- a. Executive Committee Report:** This committee confirms the recognition of Prof J. Geertsema for the 45th anniversary (celebrated on December 15, 2008) of this brother beginning in the ministry.
- b. Finance & Property Committee:** The continued faithful support of the churches was gratefully acknowledged and it was confirmed that the Free Reformed Churches of Australia were providing continued generous support in excess of that expected. All financial arrangements relating to Dr. Maris and Rev Van Vliet were confirmed.

c. Instruction in Dogmatics- Based upon the current understanding of the medical condition of Dr. N. H. Gootjes and recent contact with both himself and his wife, it was apparent that Dr. N.H. Gootjes would not be able to fulfill his regular tasks for the 2009-2010 Academic year. Dr. N.H. Gootjes was confirmed as being on indefinite medical leave until further certainty regarding his condition was available. To deal with the vacancy in the dogmatics department, it was agreed that there would be a further temporary appointment(s) for the 2009-2010 Academic year. The Senate was mandated to explore the matter and make a recommendation to the Academic Committee. The Academic Committee in turn was directed to bring a proposal to the next Board meeting scheduled for January 29, 2009.

d. Governance Committee- The proposal of the Governance Committee relating to the procedure for the appointment of new professors was reviewed and adopted, subject to final approval by the next General Synod of the churches.

e. Proposal re Exit Surveys- Rev E. Kampen and Rev J. Van Woudenberg were delegated to initiate the delivery of exit surveys to previous students, to collate the results and to report on same.

f. Department of Old Testament- As Dr. C. Van Dam is to retire after the 2010-2011 Academic Year, a vacancy in that department was declared. A search committee, comprised of Rev E. Kampen, Rev. R. Schouten, Rev. W. Slomp, Dr. G. Visscher and K. Veldkamp was established.

Next meeting of the Board was scheduled for January 29 2009 D.V.

Press Release and Closing

The completion of the Press Release was 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