

Theological School Funding

Motion: Paul Stott/Louise Rogers

2010-06-11-63

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve:

1. That, as of June 30, 2011, The United Church of Canada cease annual grant funding to:
 - the Queen's School of Religion
 - the Faculty of Theology of the University of Winnipeg
 - St. Stephen's College
 - the Vancouver School of Theology
2. That, after making the reduction that needs to be made for overall budgetary purposes, a significant portion of the released annual grants be distributed among the seven schools to be funded.
3. That a consultation be held in the fall of 2010 with the deans and principals of St. Andrew's College, the Centre for Christian Studies, Francis Sandy Theological Centre, Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Resource Centre, Emmanuel College, United Theological College, and the Atlantic School of Theology to review the annual grant distribution.
4. That the Francis Sandy Theological Centre and its community and the Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Resource Centre and its community be asked to begin intentional conversations around consolidating the two free-standing theological education programs, with the participation of the Aboriginal Ministries Circle of the General Council Office, the Aboriginal Ministries Council, the All Native Circle Conference, the Communities in Mission Unit of the General Council Office, and other constituencies.
5. That a portion of the released funds be allocated for subsidizing the travel expenses of Aboriginal students who may be required to journey a greater distance to attend a consolidated Aboriginal program.
6. That a consultation be held with the deans and principals of all 11 (funded and not funded) theological schools to discuss a number of important issues about aspects of our cooperative and supportive relationships. These discussions could include a range of topics such as:
 - the policy restricting special financial appeals
 - the memoranda of agreement concerning United Church approval of faculty and board appointments
 - recruitment strategies and the identification and removal of barriers
 - identification of all existing and potential sources of United Church funding that demonstrate continued support of the church to the schools

Carried