

Representative to the Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia (1 vacancy)

Mandate

The Foundation for Theological Education in South East Asia (FTESEA) is seeking a representative from The United Church of Canada to join its Board of Trustees. The mission of the FTESEA is to support the ongoing development of theological thought and education in China and South East Asia in consultation with Christians in those areas. The FTESEA envisions implementing this mission through partnerships, especially in China and South East Asia. It seeks collaborative relationships with theological schools, leaders of Christian churches, and ecumenical theological networks.

The FTESEA works with partners in Asia, namely Nanjing Theological Seminary and the Department of Training of the China Christian Council, the Association for Theological Education in South East Asia, and the Ecumenical Theological Education Unit of the World Council of Churches to

- enhance the development of theological schools, theological consultations, conferences, institutes, publications, etc.
- advocate with a wide variety of funding agencies for the provision of funds for theological programs and schools
- fund theological programs and schools

Through these activities, the FTESEA encourages and supports the development of Christian theologies that arise from the specific contexts of China and South East Asia, the development of Christian leaders who provide competent leadership to their communities of faith, and the growth of Christian churches that share the good news of the gospel with enthusiasm and relevance.

Membership

The Board of Trustees is made up of 10 trustees nominated by member denominations and appointed by the board. Additional at-large trustees and honorary trustees are selected by FTESEA's Committee on Nominations. Bern Jagunos—Program Coordinator, East and Southeast Asia—is resource staff to the representative and serves as at-large trustee.

Member Skills and Experience

At this time, to assist in the representational balance of the Board of Trustees, women are particularly encouraged to express interest in this role. Representatives of the United Church to the Board of Trustees for the FTESEA will

- be Asian or Asian/North American, or have personal experience in theological education in China or South East Asia
- have current knowledge of theological education in China or South East Asia
- be committed to implementing the foundation's mission, vision, and priorities

The appointed representative will be a full member of The United Church of Canada, an active participant in a local pastoral charge or ministry, familiar with the polity of the United Church, predisposed to collaboration and teamwork, sensitive to diversity issues, a leader in a court of the church, passionately committed to the mission of the United Church, and willing to discern God's yearnings for this work.

Expectations and Term

The Board of Trustees meets annually, usually in the fall in the United States. A celebration of the 75th anniversary of the FTESEA will take place September 29–30, 2012, at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. It is hoped that Board Trustees will be able to attend this celebration prior to the Board meeting on October 1.

The representative is appointed for a three-year term, beginning June 2012, with the possibility of reappointment for an additional term.

Accountable to the Partners in Mission Unit-Wide Committee

Go to www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/servegc to learn how to nominate someone or express your own interest. Deadline: **February 21, 2012.**