

## GA-1517

Report from the Council on Theological Education to  
The General Board of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)  
February 2015

The CTE is comprised of the presidents and deans of the four seminaries, and the heads of the two divinity houses and the Disciples Seminary Foundation along with staff from the Atlantic United Divinity Center. LaTaunya Bynum represents the College of Regional Ministers and Chris Dorsey serves as staff support from Higher Education and Leadership Ministries.

The schools of the CTE provide broad and deep resources to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) related to the priorities of starting new communities and congregations, renewing existing congregations, becoming a pro-reconciliation/anti-racism church, and developing leaders.

The Council received a grant from the Oreon E. Scott Foundation two years ago to explore the following questions:

- What is the actual arc of ministry for Disciples pastors?
- What should Disciples institutions, such as the Pension Fund, DHM, and the graduate theological institutions, be doing to support pastors in the arc of ministry?
- How can we use the gifts each institution brings to the table to contribute to the health of ministry as a whole?
- What do we mean by terms such as resilience, sustenance for ministry, creativity, pastoral imagination, and the like?
- What are we already doing that has the potential to sustain clergy in ministry?
- What can we do differently to encourage sustainability in ministry?

The Council used our February 2014 meeting to plan our exploration of the above questions, decided to host conversations with pastors at each of our institutions and then invite 14 pastor to meet with us at our next meeting. That meeting will be in Nashville April 15-17, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gary Peluso-Verdend  
President, Phillips Theological Seminary  
Chair, Council on Theological Education

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The General Board has reviewed GA-1517 from the Council on Theological Education. The report is submitted to the General Assembly for consideration and discussion. No action is required. (Discussion time: 12 minutes)