

Theme: Leadership

GENERAL COMMENTS:

What We Heard:

- Appropriate leadership is essential for the mission of the church; Leadership should be relevant to the reality of when and where we live.
- Some individuals felt lost in a discussion specifically on student preparation for ministry; there was concern there were knowledge gaps not necessarily addressed during the listening sessions, for example: the difference between testamur and a degree.

GCE 6 - FORMATION FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP

What We Heard:

- There was affirmation that this is a stronger document than what came to GC42.
- There was affirmation that the church should be in conversation with theological schools and theological training centers.
- There was recognition that schools/training centres have the responsibility of determining their curricula and programs; students have the option to choose the best school & program for their needs.
- The groups generally affirmed the direction of this proposal, with the following feedback on the numbered parts of the proposal:

- There was struggle with the 2-year Supervised Ministry Experience, wondered if there could be flexibility on the length of term.
- Groups named strong support for Point 11 about diversification of faculty and curricula. Some suggested a broadening of the definition of diversity (e.g. LGBTQ2+).
- There are mixed views specifically on Point 13; some groups affirmed it, others suggested it be removed. There were also questions about what accountability means and how the Office of Vocations would hold ministry personnel accountable for ongoing education.
- Some noted that the report is focused on preparation for ordered ministry - it does not deal with preparation for service as a Designated Lay Minister.

Suggested Way Forward:

That the 43rd General Council affirm proposal GCE 6 – Formation for Church Leadership and direct the General Secretary to implement its recommendations.

Moved: S. McLeod

Seconded: M. J. Hobden

CARRIED.