

General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in N.S.W.

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS

As amended 2009

**A8.01 Name** There shall be a Committee of the General Assembly on theological education named the Theological Education Committee.

**A8.02 Membership of the Committee** The Committee shall consist of six ministers and six elders elected by the Assembly, together with the Principal of the Presbyterian Theological Centre.

**A8.03 Functions** The Committee shall be the Committee referred to in Article 7.6 of the Articles of Agreement and shall:

- (a) have general responsibility for the provision of training for candidates for the ministry, subject to the requirements of the General Assembly of Australia, and have financial responsibility for such training under the General Assembly of New South Wales.
- (b) exercise governance of the Presbyterian Theological Centre under the Assembly;
- (c) have authority to enter into agreements with other bodies regarding the provision of theological education;
- (d) carry out any other responsibility referred to it by the Assembly.

**A8.04 Presbyterian Theological Centre – Its Aims** There shall be a body known as the Presbyterian Theological Centre (PTC), the aims of which shall be:

- (a) to be the theological college in NSW referred to in Article 7.5 of the Articles of Agreement and to provide the course of training for candidates for the ministry in accordance with the Articles of Agreement and in conformity with the General Assembly of Australia regulations for the College Committee, and under the oversight of the General Assembly of Australia and its College Committee;
- (b)
  - (i) to provide appropriate courses of training for elders, deaconesses and others engaged in diaconal ministries, Christian education workers, other congregational leaders, home missionaries and other missionary workers;
  - (ii) to provide in-service courses for ministers, elders, deaconesses, home missionaries and other Christian leaders;
  - (iii) to provide courses in a broad range of subjects, presented according to the standards of the Presbyterian Church of Australia and
  - (iv) to promote research and scholarship in the fields of Biblical and theological studies, Christian education and the Christian world view.

**A8.05 Governance and Management of the P.T.C.** The governing body of the P.T.C. shall be, under the Assembly, the Theological Education Committee. Operational management of the PTC shall be the responsibility of the Principal, under the T.E.C.

**A8.06 Relationship to Other Committees** In any case where the work of the PTC affects the area of responsibility of any other Assembly committee, the Theological Education Committee shall proceed in consultation with such committee.

**A8.07 The Faculty of the PTC** The Faculty of the PTC is the Faculty referred to in Article 7.6 of the Articles of Agreement and Code 8.23. It shall through the offering of accredited or unaccredited courses,

- a) on behalf of the General Assembly of Australia and its College Committee, train and assess candidates for the ministry and direct them in their course of training;
- b) train and assess other students admitted by the Principal to the PTC.

**A8.08 Membership of the Faculty** The Faculty of the PTC shall consist of:

- (a) The Principal;
- (b) The Convener of the Theological Education Committee;
- (c) The Professors or full-time lecturers appointed by the Assembly;
- (d) Two additional lecturers appointed annually by the executive of the Theological Education Committee.
- (e) The Dean of Women as appointed by the executive of the Theological Education Committee.

**A8.09 Length of Appointments for full-time staff** The Principal and full-time

lecturers (if not Professors) shall be appointed for an initial term of up to six years. This may be renewed for further terms of up to six years on the recommendation of the Theological Education Committee. The Committee may alternatively recommend advertisement and competitive selection.

**A8.10 Other Lecturers** Part-time and casual lecturing appointments shall be made by the Principal, in consultation with the Faculty, from a panel approved by the Theological Education Committee and reviewed at least every six years as with the appointment of full-time lecturers.

**A8.11 Vacancy on Faculty** In the event of a vacancy in any position on the Faculty, the Theological Education Committee may appoint a person to fill the vacancy until the next meeting of the Assembly.

**A8.12 Relationship of the Faculty to GAA College Committee** The Faculty shall be responsible (subject to the regulations and the oversight of the College Committee) for all aspects of curriculum planning and development, for recommending to the College Committee the admission of candidates to the course of study and their grading (including the granting of credit for previous studies), and for the planning and direction of research and scholarship.

**A8.13 Field Education Scheme** The Faculty shall conduct a program to be known as the Field Education Scheme, for the training of candidates in the work of pastoral ministry as an integrated part of the course of training.

**A8.14 Placement of Candidates in Field Appointments** The Faculty shall, normally at the commencement of each year, ensure that each candidate enrolled in the Field Education Scheme is related to a minister of a pastoral charge, moderator of a home mission station or other appropriate supervisor who undertakes to co-operate in this scheme.

**A8.15 Allowance to Candidates in Field Appointments** Where the candidate is not otherwise employed in the parish or home mission station, the congregation related to the minister supervising the candidate, or any other congregation supporting the candidate may pay allowances to the candidate in accordance with recommended rates to be determined by the Theological Education Committee prior to the commencement of each year.

**A8.16 Direction of Candidates in Field Appointments** Each student related to a minister under the Field Education Scheme shall be required to work under the direction of that minister in accordance with the recommendations as determined by the Faculty prior to the commencement of each year.

**A8.17 Relationship of Faculty to Field Appointments** In addition to issuing general guidelines for all candidates involved in the Field Education Scheme, the Faculty may, in respect of any candidate, specify requirements relating to that candidate's involvement in the Field Education Scheme, which requirements may supplement or vary the general guidelines.

**A8.18 Variation of Field Appointment of Candidate** The Faculty may, during the year, vary the period of field appointment of a candidate to a minister.”