


HANDBOOK OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST MINISTERIAL AND THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

July, 2001 Edition

The Controversy of Theological Education

- Differing emphasis between the “hiring organizations” and the “training institutions.”
 - Practics versus Academic Preparation
 - Symbiotic relationship regarding outcomes and finances.
 - NAD  MTAC – Ministerial Training Advisory Council
 - How many ministerial training institutions is it healthy for our church to have?
 - Should we have a similar basic core curriculum?
 - Can we ensure high quality educational programs around the world?
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Role and Function of IBMTE

The International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education [IBMTE] works in cooperation with the world divisions in providing overall guidance and standards to the professional training that Church-supported institutions offer to pastors, evangelists, theologians, teachers of Bible and religion, chaplains, and other denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation.

Objectives of IBMTE

- a. Foster a dynamic theological unity in the world Church.
 - b. Sharpen the focus on the Seventh-day Adventist message and mission.
 - c. Support the spiritual and professional development of faculty involved in ministerial programs.
 - d. Promote professional excellence in ministerial training and practice.
 - e. Nurture a strong partnership between church leaders, educational institutions, and faculty engaged in the training of ministry.
 - f. Energize the spiritual life of Seventh-day Adventist educational institutions through committed faculty.
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Board Members

- About 51 individuals.

- *GC Vice President (advisor for education), Vice-chair
- *GC Vice President (advisor for Ministerial Association), Vice-chair
- *GC Department of Education Director, Secretary
- *GC Ministerial Association Secretary, Associate Secretary
- *GC Secretary
- *GC Treasurer
- *GC Adventist Chaplaincy Ministries Director
- *GC Biblical Research Institute Director
- Division Presidents
- *GC Education Department Associate Director

- Presidents/Deans of seminaries and universities offering denominationally recognized doctoral programs in ministerial formation
 - Two deans of graduate programs in ministerial and religious formation
 - Two chairs of undergraduate programs in ministerial and religious formation
 - Four faculty from institutions offering programs in ministerial and religious formation
 - Six individuals experienced and active in ministerial formation (pastors, chaplains, Bible instructors, etc.)
 - Up to four additional members, as selected by the board
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Duties of the Board

- a. To establish the general goals and objectives for Seventh-day Adventist undergraduate and graduate education for pastors, evangelists, theologians, teachers of Bible and religion, chaplains, and other denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation in the world field.

 - b. To establish a basic series of subject areas and requisite content as well as to develop guidelines and core standards for faculty selection and student entry into programs that will meet the needs of the field and foster the mission of the Church through undergraduate and graduate programs for denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation.
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- c. To provide guidelines to be used by the division boards of Ministerial and Theological Education to endorse faculty, including the design of the faculty application procedure for denominational endorsement.

 - d. To arrange for surveys and to grant recognition to new programs designed to prepare denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation, as recommended by the respective division Board of Ministerial and Theological Education, and then to recommend the new programs to the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities.

 - e. To facilitate the exchange of endorsed faculty from among the recognized programs offered in the world divisions.
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- f. To affirm the faculty authorized to teach in these programs at General Conference educational institutions through the process of denominational endorsement voted by this board. This endorsement may be valid for up to five years, as long as the faculty member is teaching in the program for which he/she was endorsed, and may be renewed.

 - g. To recommend to the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities the criteria for the accreditation of seminaries, schools, and departments offering undergraduate and graduate programs designed to prepare denominational employees involved in ministerial and religious formation, and to cooperate with the Association in conducting accreditation visits.
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Revisions to the Handbook

- Submit your suggestions.
 - Later review of proposed drafts.
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Comments, questions, or discussion
