

known but diligently explores the unknown. Adventist scholars participate in the enlargement of the island of knowledge existing in the immense seas of the unknown that surround man. Graduate education requires the application of techniques of investigation and evaluation as found in the laws of evidence. The Christian educator and advanced student alike utilize the systems of evidence of reason and science, but also recognize the validity of divine revelation, which is accorded a paramount position.

Finally, all Seventh-day Adventist graduate education concerns itself with the nurture and training of leaders for the Church and its enterprises and for those service-centered vocations and professions wherein they may effectively witness for God and promote both the good name and worldwide mission of His Church. (See also Total Commitment to God declaration, A 15 30.)

### **FE 20 Educational Administration Outline**

**FE 20 05 The Department of Education—Purpose—**The General Conference Department of Education has been entrusted with the overall coordination of the Church's educational program, working through such administrative authority as is delegated by the various organizational entities of the world Church.

**FE 20 10 Composition of College and University Boards—**Subject to applicable civil laws and regulations, members of the governing boards of Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities shall be members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in regular standing. Others may serve in advisory capacities.

**FE 20 15 General Conference International Board of Education—**  
 1. *Purpose—*The General Conference International Board of Education is the primary vehicle through which the General Conference Department of Education coordinates Seventh-day Adventist education. It is authorized to act in the areas that are indicated in this *Working Policy*. (Institutions and programs in Ministerial and Theological education are under the purview of the International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education.)

2. *Composition of the Board—*a. The membership of the General Conference International Board of Education shall be designated by the first Annual Council following the General Conference Session. The director of the Department of Education, with the Nominating Committee, shall serve to nominate the membership of this board.

b. The General Conference International Board of Education shall be composed of the following members:

- \*GC Vice President (advisor for education), Chair
- \*GC Vice President, Vice-chair
- \*GC Department of Education Director, Executive Secretary
- \*GC Department of Education Associate Directors, Assistant Secretaries
- \*GC Undertreasurer, Treasurer
- \*GC Health Ministries Department Director
- \*Presidents of General Conference-operated institutions of higher learning
- \*North American Division President
- Division directors of education (attending as authorized)
- Up to five members, as selected by the Board
- Ex officio members:
  - \*General Conference President
  - \*General Conference Secretary
  - \*General Conference Treasurer
  - Division Presidents

c. Board members shall hold office between sessions of the first Annual Council following the quinquennial General Conference Session at which time elections take place.

d. Vacancies on the Board shall be filled by the Board for the unexpired term.

e. The Board shall hold regularly scheduled meetings at least once each year. The full Board, including the division directors of education, shall meet at least twice each quinquennium. The chair shall call meetings at such times and places as approved by the General Conference Administrative Committee.

f. A quorum shall consist of one third of the regular membership.

g. The Board may invite consultants to attend as deemed necessary.

3. *Executive Committee*—The Executive Committee of the Board shall meet as necessary between the sessions of the Board. It shall operate within the powers delegated to it by the Board. Its membership shall

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\*Members of the Executive Committee

consist of those marked by an asterisk in paragraph 2. b. A quorum shall consist of seven members.

4. *Duties of Board*—The duties of the General Conference International Board of Education are:

- a. To establish general guidelines, coordinate the interrelationship between division programs, and maintain general direction of the education program of the Church.
  - b. To develop and maintain a comprehensive long-range world master plan subject to regular updating and revision.
  - c. To approve the establishment or discontinuance of tertiary-level schools and programs, the upgrading of post-secondary institutions, the affiliation of schools across division boundaries, and the implementation of interdivision extended-campus programs.
  - d. To develop funding plans for the support of Seventh-day Adventist education.
  - e. To require from division departments of education such reports as will enable the Board to perform its duties and functions.
  - f. To recommend to the division boards of education general personnel policies for teachers, administrators, and related school staff.
  - g. To coordinate implementation of any approved financial program to assist the school system.
  - h. To review, through the Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Schools, Colleges, and Universities, existing programs of instruction, research, and training for denominational service in the schools and advise them regarding desirable change.
  - i. To commission research on the needs and outcomes of Seventh-day Adventist education and to keep the divisions informed through periodic reports, releases, conferences, and other means.
  - j. To coordinate all interdivision programs of professional education.
5. *The Executive Secretary*—The Executive Secretary shall be the Director of the General Conference Department of Education. He/She, subject to the approval of the Board, shall:
- a. Serve as the Secretary of the Board and have custody of its official minutes and seal.
  - b. Perform, exercise, and discharge the functions, powers, and duties of his/her office within the approved budget.
  - c. Administer all policies and activities prescribed by the Board.

d. Guide in the development and maintenance of a comprehensive long-range master plan for the Seventh-day Adventist education program which shall be subject to regular updating and revision.

e. Communicate to the appropriate parties the actions of the Board.

f. Make an annual report to the Board and issue such other reports as the Board shall request or as may be required from time to time.

6. *Board Minutes*—Copies of the minutes of this Board shall be sent to all members. A copy of the minutes of each of the division boards of education shall be filed with this Board.

7. *Finances*—All appropriations and other moneys available to the Board shall be used for the objectives and purposes for which appropriated, subject to any terms, restrictions, limitations, or other requirements imposed. These funds shall be allocated by the Board.

8. *Right of Appeal*—Any action of the Board involving a specific institution or unit may be appealed by the same in writing within 120 days of notification of such action. Such an appeal may be supported by a representation of no more than three persons before a meeting of the Board. The Board/Executive Committee in closed session shall then render its decision. In extreme and far-reaching decisions, further appeal may be made to the General Conference Executive Committee.

9. *Changes and Amendments*—Any changes or amendments to the organization or working policies of the Board shall have a two-thirds vote of the members present at any duly called meeting. A vote to change or amend shall then be sent to the General Conference Administrative Committee for confirmation at a General Conference Annual Council.

**FE 20 20 International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education**—1. *Purpose*—The International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education (GCC-B) 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. Utilizing existing interconnected institutional boards, policies, standards, and procedures, the board seeks to achieve the following objectives in relation to graduate, undergraduate, and other types of ministerial and theological education: