Our agenda for the October 5th ARTS Commission on Accreditation meeting held at Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary (GPTS) on 200 East Main Street, Taylors, SC at 1pm - 6pm is as follows.

10/5/2015 1:10 PM

1) Greetings, Introductions, Quorum (3 of 5 in attendance) affirmed, with all five in attendance. Members present: Steve Adamson (ARTS, not a member of the Commission), Bill Van Doodeward (PRTS), Thad James (BTS), Stephen Suits (public member), Benjamin Shaw (GPTS), Ron Kruis (SdC)

2) Opening Prayer. (Shaw)

3) Elect Commission Chair and Commission Secretary/Treasurer Positions (after reviewing responsibilities and duration of term). Thad James, Chairman. Ben Shaw elected Vice-chair/sec/treas.

4) Approve this agenda as amended.

5) Approve ARTS-COA 2015 financial report and ARTS-COA 2016 budget.

 a) Financial report reviewed for the Commission by Dr. Adamson and received as information (see attached).

 b) M/S/P We will wait to submit our CHEA eligibility application until their November 2016 Commission meeting.

 c) Dr. Adamson reviewed the 2016 budget for the Commission.

 d) M/S/P to approve ARTS-COA Fiscal 2016 budget (see attached)

6) Review member institutions annual reports and approve statements in Assessment letters.

 a) New Geneva Theological Seminary

 i) Confusion as to who is President of the Seminary and Chairman of the Board, since Dr. Aquila signed as both.

 ii) Need to clarify the financial statement at the bottom of p. 2, which seems inconsistent with the full financial statement.

 iii) Need to expand Learning Effectiveness Assessment beyond student course evaluations. (Perhaps include such things as student performance indicators, student performance on ordination exams, students meeting course objectives, employment rates of graduates, etc.)

 iv) Did not indicate institution’s ARTS representative.

1. Sangre de Cristo Seminary

 i) Did not indicate institution’s ARTS representative.

 ii) Statements on compliance need to be fuller in explaining areas where the institution considers it is not quite meeting the standards. Also indicate fashion in which the institution meets compliance.

 iii) Need to expand Learning Effectiveness Assessment beyond student course evaluations. (Perhaps include such things as student performance indicators, student performance on ordination exams, students meeting course objectives, employment rates of graduates, etc.)

 c) Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

 i) The institution needs to define the ways in which it is meeting ARTS-COA standards.

 II) Need to have signed report (by President and Board Chairman) regarding subscription to the tenets of the faith.

 d) Western Reformed Seminary: excellent report.

 e) Birmingham Theological Seminary

 i) Needs to clarify how the institution relates to the various confessions listed.

 ii) Needs the signature of the Chairman of the Board on the Notice of Compliance.

 iii) Needs a note designating its ARTS representative.

 f) Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary

 i) Needs the signatures of the Board Chairman and President on the Notice of Compliance.

 ii) Needs to identify ARTS Board of Directors designate

 iii) The institution is to be commended for its Plan for Assessment of Student Learning

The annual report from Geneva Reformed Seminary was not received due to significant changes at the school over the past several months.

The Commission of Accreditation seeks the permission of WRS, BTS, and PRTS for the use of their reports by the COA as exemplary annual reports.

7) New/other business: Schedule of Reaffirmation to be changed to the following: 2016: BTS; 2017: WRS; 2018: New Geneva & Sangre de Cristo; 2019: PRTS; 2020: GPTS & GRS

8) Adjourn.

9) Closing Prayer.