

Education Networks Memorandum of Clarity

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Background

- This memo is written by the Education Networks leaders (Elaine Moyer and David Wiebe) in consultation with the MWC Faith and Life Commission (FLC) Chair (Tom Yoder Neufeld) and Secretary (John D. Roth)
- Purpose: to clarify or comment on items in the Global Anabaptist Education Networks (GAHEN and GAPSEN) Terms of Reference (TOR)
- This memo is designed to complement the TOR and answer questions that may arise within that

Vision

- The vitality of MWC Commissions is frequently expressed in their networking activities.
- The Education Networks have potential to do the same: to foster and deliver the work of FLC through the many schools operating throughout the world. For example, the MWC Shared Convictions are foundational to the character of the church. Schools train students from early years through graduate levels toward embodying and leading others in the church in the spirit of the Shared Convictions.
- The networking of schools, along with maintaining a close relationship with the Faith and Life Commission, will magnify the schools' impact on the Anabaptist movement worldwide, from philosophies of education discussed in publications and presentations to the practicalities of curricula and student life practices at the local institute level.

RE: Administrative Structure

- RE: "Composition and Internal Organization of the Steering Committees"
 - o Structural connection between GAPSEN and GAHEN is needed. The following is recommended to be added into this section of the Terms of Reference after they are accepted by MWC General Council-as an internal organizational feature:
 - Title "Global Anabaptist Education Networks [GAEN] Joint Committee"
 - GAPSEN and GAHEN Steering committee chairs shall interact regularly.
 - They may form a "Joint Committee" entitled GAEN to reflect the name Global Anabaptist Education Networks
 - GAEN may appoint members from each Steering Committee to plan joint sessions at networking events
 - Term of appointment shall be 6 years
- RE: Relationship with the MWC Faith and Life Commission (FLC)
 - o Two representatives from both education levels of Primary/Secondary and Higher Education will be appointed to serve as members of the FLC. Attention will be paid to FLC needs for continental balance, gender balance, and areas of training or specialty.
 - Terms of the two representatives will be 6 years. Effort will be made to stagger term appointments every 3 years to match FLC's terms.
 - o Funding arrangements for GAEN representatives' expenses: GAEN will pay for travel expenses to FL Commission meetings; FLC will cover onsite meeting costs.