

Academic Partnership Agreement Between

South Florida Bible College and Theological Seminary

And

Doon Bible College

Introduction

The relationship between South Florida Bible College and Theological Seminary (SFBC&TS) and Doon Bible College (DBC) was borne out of an academic and pastoral ministry connection between Dr. Becky Emerson (SFBC&TS), and Doon Bible College in 2001-2008. The idea of forging a closer relationship between the two schools was considered initially in discussions between principal Dr. Vidush Bhandari (DBC) and Dr. Emerson (SFBC&TS). Partnership consideration fitted well with SFBC&TS's newly created Center for Global Engagement (CGE) and DBC's interest in connecting with a Christian Institution in United States. Consequently, SFBC&TS Dean of Faculty, Dr. Esa Autero, visited DBC in the Summer of 2018 to explore the possibility of establishing a relationship between the two schools. The visit resulted in engaging SFBC&TS and DBC to consider a formal partnership between the two institutions.

Rationale for partnership

South Florida Bible College and Theological Seminary and Doon Bible College enter into this partnership, being led by the Holy Spirit, to edify each other as we work toward furthering God's mission. We believe such intercultural partnerships within the Body of Christ are pleasing to God and reflect the Kingdom of God on earth. We believe that in our increasingly globalized world, it is God's will for us to come together to pray, to raise up workers, and to preach the gospel. Each of our organizations needs this kind of complementary Christian union so that we can be enriched in our stand for Christ. As Christ has freely given to each of us so we will freely give to one another.

Philosophy of Stewardship

We (SFBC&TS and DBC) uphold the ideal of self-propagating, self-governing and self-supporting ministerial model. At the same time, we recognize the interdependence of the members of the body of Christ. We believe that each institution needs to strive to increase the level of self-support—and thus actively look for creative ways to fulfill that ideal. We also recognize the biblical mandate to give of our resources by God's grace according to our ability, for the matter of equality and edification in God's Kingdom (2 Cor 8-9).

Agreement and Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to establish a partnership that will mutually edify and enrich both Doon Bible College (DBC) and South Florida Bible College & Theological Seminary (SFBC&TS). This partnership will provide mutual encouragement, support and sharing of resources as we strive together to fulfill the mission of both colleges, in light of the Great Commission.

Goals:

- 1. Provide Faculty exchange and enrichment between the two schools
- 2. Provide mutual mission base opportunities for faculty and students
- 3. Promote Participation in periodic mission's conferences
- 4. Support each other with mutual prayer and encouragement
- 5. Students from DBC will have opportunities to come and study at SFBC&TS
- Promote Academic exchange: DBC will provide expertise in theological materials of Asian and Indian context; SFBC&TS will provide expertise on theological materials of American and western context
- 7. Establish an agreement for mutual sharing of responsibilities and resources
- 8. Establish financial accountability between SFBC&TS and DBC
- 9. SFBC&TS will participate in the DBC Annual General Meeting when possible

Commitment

SFBC&TS and DBC

- 1. Will regularly uphold each other in prayer among the faculty and students
- 2. Will plan/participate in long- and short-term mission opportunities and conferences when possible
- 3. Will make available faculty to be guest lecturers when possible
- 4. Will share responsibilities, resources, and financial accountability as agreed upon by both institutions.

SFBC&TS

- 1. Will grant priority admission consideration to DBC students for graduate work
- 2. Will participate in DBC Annual General Meeting, when possible

DBC

- 1. Will provide contextual ministerial training for visiting SFBC&TS students and faculty
- Will provide research assistance for visiting SFBC&TS faculty about Indian context and theology

Signed and agreed upon by:

6/5/2019

Dr. Mary Drabik, President

Date

South Florida Bible College and Theological Seminary

Co (Kill)

6/5/2019

Dr. E. Antero, Dean of Faculty, Center for Global Engagement

South Florida Bible College and Theological Seminary

Date

Rev. Vidush Bhandari, Principal

Date

Doon Bible College

Mr. John Emmanuel Nandeti, Dean of Academics

Date

Doon Bible College

Notice of Revisions and Termination

SFBC&TS and DBC enter into this agreement willingly and voluntarily with the mutual understanding that this agreement will be periodically reviewed and updated; and that due to unforeseen circumstances, it may be dissolved anytime with the consent of both parties.