

**GENERAL CONVENTION OF THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH 2009  
ARCHIVES' RESEARCH REPORT**

**RESOLUTION NO.:** 2009-A135  
**TITLE:** Seminarian Cross-Cultural Formation  
**PROPOSER:** Standing Commission on World Mission  
**COMMITTEE:** Ministry

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**Directly Related:** (attached)

2006-A117 Fund Cross-cultural and International Experience for Seminarians  
2003-A060 Recommend Multilingual and Cross-cultural Competency for Those Preparing for Ordination  
1994-A139 Establish a Task Force on World Mission/Cross-Cultural Internships  
1988-A188 Request Funding for Cross-cultural Missionary Program for Seminarians  
1985-A170 Encourage Seminary Programs in Cross-cultural Experience

**Indirectly Related:**

1997-A023 Prepare Seminarians for a Religiously Pluralistic World  
1994-A141 On the Topic of the Task Force on Cross-Cultural Internships (Rejected)  
1991-A225 Develop Alternative Programs for Theological Education

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions of General Convention for the period 1976 through 2006, selecting "direct" resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. Committee members who are interested in obtaining copies of "indirectly related" resolutions, legislative history before 1976, or who require other research assistance should contact the Archives at 800-525-9329 before Convention or at Convention in the General Convention Secretariat.*



**Resolution Number:** 2006-A117  
**Title:** Fund Cross-cultural and International Experience for Seminarians  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 75th General Convention of The Episcopal Church provide funding toward cross-cultural and international experience for seminarians; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention request the Standing Commission on World Mission to consult with the Council of Deans and Seminary Consultation on Mission regarding how allocation of these funds can ensure participation by seminarians beyond the eleven accredited Episcopal seminaries and especially by those seminarians in institutions located in non-United States jurisdictions of The Episcopal Church; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$250,000 for the implementation of this resolution.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Columbus, 2006* (New York: General Convention, 2007), p. 464.



**Resolution Number:** 2003-A060  
**Title:** Recommend Multilingual and Cross-cultural Competency for Those Preparing for Ordination  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted and Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention recommend that all dioceses strongly encourage those preparing for ordination to study a contemporary language other than their native language and to participate in an intentional cross-cultural program; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the 74th General Convention direct the Standing Commission on Ministry Development to consider, in its continued revision of Title III, how to address the Church's need for multilingual and cross-cultural competency for many ordained and lay leaders in various mission contexts including possible canonical revisions regarding formation and continuing education, and report back to the 75th General Convention.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Minneapolis, 2003* (New York: General Convention, 2004), p. 689.



**Resolution Number:** 1994-A139  
**Title:** Establish a Task Force on World Mission/Cross-Cultural Internships  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That a Task Force be constituted during the next triennium to investigate and develop World Mission/Cross-Cultural Internships for Seminarians of the Episcopal Church;** and be it further

*Resolved*, **That the Task Force be made up of representatives of constituent groups committed to both mission, and ministry formation, including, but not exclusive to: the Standing Commission on World Mission, the Seminary Consultation on Mission, the Council of Deans of the Episcopal Seminaries, the Board for Theological Education, the Council for the Development of Ministry, the Association of Episcopal Colleges, the Episcopal Council for Global Mission, the World Mission Committees of both the House of Bishops and the House of Deputies, appropriate staff from the Episcopal Church Center, and partners in mission from other churches in the Anglican Communion;** and be it further

*Resolved*, **That the Standing Commission on World Mission and the Seminary Consultation on Mission cooperatively convene and provide leadership for the Task Force;** and be it further

*Resolved*, **That the Task Force on World Mission/Cross-Cultural Internships for Seminarians report to the 72nd General Convention through the Standing Commission on World Mission.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 1994* (New York: General Convention, 1995), pp. 676-77.



**Resolution Number:** 1988-A188  
**Title:** Request Funding for Cross-cultural Missionary Program for Seminarians  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That this 69th Convention, acting in response to the call of the Presiding Bishop for new initiatives in mission, and to Resolution 1985-A170 ( *Blue Book*, p. 445) of the 68th Convention:**

1. **Affirm and commend the work of the Seminary Consultation on Mission (SCOM) in providing cross-cultural missionary experience for seminarians; and**
2. **Request the Joint Committee on Program, Budget, and Finance to include in the Program Development Budget for the year 1989 the sum of \$40,000 to cover the costs (of transportation, room, board, and tuition) of an enlargement of the SCOM program; and**
3. **Suggest the Executive Council include in the Program Development Budget an annual sum (not to exceed \$40,000) for the continuance of this program, the precise amount to be determined by the Executive Council after receiving the recommendation of SCOM.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Detroit, 1988* (New York: General Convention, 1989), p. 659.



**Resolution Number:** 1985-A170  
**Title:** Encourage Seminary Programs in Cross-cultural Experience  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred As Submitted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, the House of Deputies concurring, **That the Council of Deans of the accredited seminaries be encouraged to develop programs for both students and faculty which would involve them in significant cross-cultural experiences.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Anaheim, 1985* (New York: General Convention, 1986), p. 580.

TOPIC/TITLE: Seminaries: Seminarian Cross-Cultural Formation  
 PROPOSER: Standing Commission on World Mission  
 C&C PAGE:  
 BB PAGE: 636

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- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention of The
- 2 Episcopal Church provide funding toward cross-cultural and international experience for
- 3 seminarians; and be it further
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- 5 *Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on
- 6 Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$180,000 for the
- 7 implementation of this Resolution.
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EXPLANATION:

Every year there are far more requests for grants for cross-cultural and international experience from seminarians than there are funds to provide such support. Yet it is widely recognized that active participation in world mission by seminarians leads to increased awareness of our engagement in world mission by the congregations they serve. The Standing Commission on Ministry Development has considered recommending that these types of experiences be required of seminarians, but is all too aware that without adequate support the financial cost is too high. At present, the Seminary Consultation on Mission (SCOM) has an annual income of \$65,000 (from its \$1.2 million endowment established by Venture in Mission) with which to provide internships to about 25-30 students and faculty per year, or only about five percent of all seminarians annually. By providing an additional annual allocation of \$60,000 to SCOM, the General Convention would enable nearly twice as many seminarians, 45-50, to participate in cross-cultural internships annually.