Western Theological Seminary
Board of Trustees
May 2017

In accordance with “A Vision of our Life Together,” as stated in the Western Theological Seminary Handbook: “Western Theological Seminary is committed to providing a learning environment that maintains a healthy climate for the development of relationships among its students, staff, and faculty. All our relationships in our Christian community must reflect the value of each person, for each person is an image-bearer of God and ought both to give and receive respect.”

In response to recent concerns at the seminary, we, the Board of Trustees of Western Theological Seminary, regretfully acknowledge that the seminary has not always been a place where all have felt affirmed, respected and free to participate in, and receive all the benefits of, WTS’s educational programs and activities.

Therefore, we accept and will implement the recommendations contained in the independent investigative report related to the January 19, 2017 sexual harassment complaint, including:

- Establish a WTS Sexual Harassment Prevention Task Force
- Increase security and monitoring of the Community Kitchen
- Update non-discrimination statements in all documents
- Provide training for administrators, faculty, staff, students, and trustees
- Revise grievance procedures
- Develop and initiate a climate assessment

Furthermore, we will establish a Board subcommittee to address the cultural and systemic nature of the concerns that have been raised and to develop a process to engender a healthy and respectful environment for all women and men as they train for ministry. We will work to build awareness of the negative impact caused by harassing or discriminatory behavior and provide information to students and faculty on how best to address concerns regarding such behavior should they arise.

Lastly, we affirm the leadership of President Timothy Brown and, together with President Brown, pledge to respond promptly and appropriately to any concerns raised and endeavor to fully comply with Title IX.

On behalf of the Board,

Kris DePree, Moderator