

# Criteria for Membership on the Calvin University Board of Trustees

All trustees of Calvin University shall:

1. understand and affirm the historical creeds and Reformed confessions contained in the Calvin University mission endorsement form and sign upon acceptance to the board;
2. demonstrate a commitment to a Reformed Christian view of education;
3. promote diversity and inclusion in ways consistent with Reformed Christian theological ideas;
4. demonstrate the dispositions that mark a life of Christian faith and service, and pledge to provide Calvin University with her/his excellence in gifts of service;
5. provide a vita to the Trusteeship Committee;
6. Embrace the mission of the university, and
7. Sign the *Covenant for Faculty Members* approved for use by Calvin University.

Classis Region Trustees (elected and at-large) shall also:

- engage in Christian practices that are sustained by membership in a congregation of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA).

Alumni and At-Large Trustees shall also:

- engage in Christian practices that are sustained by membership in a congregation of the Christian Reformed Church in North America (CRCNA), a church in ecclesiastical fellowship with the CRCNA, or a Calvin University–supporting Protestant congregation.

## Calvin University Mission Statement

Calvin University seeks to serve Christ and His kingdom by being a faithful Reformed Christian institution of higher learning. Our approach to education is set within the tradition of biblical interpretation, worship, and Christian practice expressed in the creeds of the Reformed-Presbyterian churches having their roots in the Protestant Reformation. As the university of the Christian Reformed Church, we subscribe to the doctrinal standards of the Belgic Confession, the Canons of Dordt, and the Heidelberg Catechism, and we endorse the contemporary statement, "Our World Belongs to God" as a testimony of faith for these times. Together, these four expressions of the Reformed tradition serve as authoritative historic guides to our understanding of Scripture and its claims on our lives.

More specifically, the university mission to students, church, and world includes:

- preparing students for Christian life through an education based substantially upon the liberal arts;
- producing works of Christian scholarship and engaging in appropriate Christian service; and
- developing Christian community among those who study and work on campus

## EXPECTATIONS

The roles and functions of individual Board members and the Board as a body are detailed in section III of the Board of Trustees handbook (excerpted in attachment, which should be used for reference in the nomination process). In general, individual Board members are expected to:

- support the mission of Calvin University and appreciate its educational and scholarly roles
- engage in an orientation program and have a lasting curiosity and connection to campus life
- work in assigned board committees according to individual gifts and university needs

- develop a good working relationship with the university president and other university leadership
- practice confidentiality and professionalism in undertaking their Board duties
- advocate for the university in classical, regional and synodical discussions (particularly for Board members chosen through the regional process).
- support the university financially and encourage such support in others.
- regularly assess their involvement in the Board and the Board's collective performance

## **TERM**

Appointments to the board (other than those necessitated by unexpected vacancies) shall be for staggered three (3) year terms, so that the terms of approximately one-third (1/3) of the trustees shall expire each year on the convening date of the first full board meeting following the meeting of synod. Regional trustees shall not serve more than two (2) consecutive terms.

## **VACANCIES**

Vacancies on the board occurring for any reason, including an increase in the number of trustees, shall be filled by the synod or its designee. A trustee appointed to fill a vacancy occurring for any reason, including an increase in the number of trustees, shall hold office until the first of the following occurs: 1) The expiration of the remainder of the term that the trustee he or she replaced was scheduled to serve, 2) the next appointment of trustees, or 3) the resignation or removal of such trustee.

## **RESIGNATION AND REMOVAL**

A trustee may resign by written notice to the secretary of the board, which resignation shall be effective upon receipt by the board or at a subsequent time as set forth in the notice. Any trustee may be removed, at any time, without cause, by the synod, or its designee.

## **MEETINGS**

Meetings of the board shall be held in October, February, and May of each year or at such time as may be fixed by the chairman of the board. The secretary of the board shall notify the members of the board of the time and place of the meetings.

## **COMPENSATION OF TRUSTEES**

Trustees shall not be paid for their services as trustees. The board will pay reasonable expenses of attendance at any committee or full board meeting, as well as expenses to attend a classis meeting, should it be determined that a visit is in the best interest of the university.