

The Board of the Presbyterian Church Camp and Conference Association is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia (www.ctsnet.edu). This new relationship will include the following:

Consistent Schedule of Classes

Columbia Theological Seminary is committed to providing camp and conference ministry courses annually on their campus in the regular degree programs, as well as in their Lifelong Learning classes. The courses for basic degree students (Master of Divinity or Master of Arts in Theological Studies) would be offered in their January term. The seminary will avail students of the opportunity to do their Supervised Ministry class at a PCCCA site. Advanced courses, as demand becomes apparent, will be offered at other times of the year. These courses will be taught by their faculty or by adjunct faculty who will be selected by the seminary in conversation with representatives from PCCCA.

Using PCCCA Sites as an Extension of the Seminary

The Lifelong Learning program at Columbia Theological Seminary will consider conducting some of its classes at PCCCA sites. Also they will assist in providing leadership for programs planned by PCCCA. The Lifelong Learning staff is willing to support such programs in terms of publicity and administrative assistance.

Joint Poster Displayed at All Camps and Conference Centers

Denominational research has shown that many people have significant faith experiences at camps, conferences, and retreats. It is there that many first feel a call to ministry. Columbia Theological Seminary would like to work jointly with PCCCA to create a poster to be displayed at all camps and conference centers. This would invite participants to consider becoming a student at the seminary.

Certification and Advanced Degrees for Camp and Conference Professionals

Should PCCCA deem it useful, Columbia Theological Seminary will consider offering a certification program for camp and conference professionals. This could be offered through the seminary, perhaps linking it to the PC(USA) Certificate in Christian Education. Their faculty and staff would be interested in working with a PCCCA committee to investigate this possibility. The seminary is also willing to consider a specialization in Camps and Conferences as part of their Doctorate in Educational Ministries (D.Ed.Min.) degree program.

Programmatic Connection with PCCCA Events

Columbia Theological Seminary would like to make a formal tie with the programs offered by PCCCA. This could include co-hosting a future PCCCA Focus Event or Program Connection in conjunction with a local Presbyterian camp and conference center. They are also very interested in having their faculty serve as keynote speakers or workshop leaders at PCCCA programs.

Giving a Home to the Education of Camp and Conference Professionals

Columbia Theological Seminary is interested in becoming the school at the "top of the list" when people consider education as a part of a call to camp and conference ministry. This would be demonstrated at the seminary through its consistent schedule of classes. It would also be evident in their literature and even during their Conferences on Ministry Weekends for prospective students.