A. Major issues addressed by the board during the 2014–15 year

1. During April 2015, an updated proposal was sent to the John Templeton Foundation requesting a $1,998,609 grant for over two years. It includes two request-for-proposals (RFP) research grant programs, in theology and the social sciences, for African scholars, with the added dimensions of a research and writing workshop, library collection development, a public conference, and publications. Templeton will decide in June 2015; program rollout would begin immediately thereafter.

2. Gospel and Culture Faculty Seminars for the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities. The Nagel Institute’s sixth seminar, to be conducted in India June 2015, will be on the topic of the social, economic and political dynamics of Christian conversion. Seminar leaders and resource people, are Rebecca Samuel Shah and Timothy Samuel Shah, both of the Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and World Affairs at Georgetown University, Robert D. Woodberry of the National University of Singapore; and Vinay K. Samuel of the Oxford Centre for Religion and Public Life.

3. Brazil 2013 book update. Eric Miller won a CCCU grant for travel and meeting expense to hold intensive writers workshop in August for the purpose of drafting book chapters. $6,000 funds remain in the account for possible subvention and book publication fees

4. South Africa 2013 “Between the Shadow and Light” traveling art exhibit continues to travel the United States at various venues.

5. Prophet’s Chamber—for visiting scholars in theology, in collaboration with the Langham Partnership: we have three scholars lined up from June – December:

6. June 1 – August 14: Leonid Mikhovich, Minsk Theological Seminar, Republic of Belarus
   • August 15 – September 15: Elie & Mireille Hadad, Arab Baptist Theological Seminary, Lebanon
   • September 15 – December 15: William Mbuluku, Bangui Evangelical School of Theology, Central African Republic (now evacuated to Yaounde, Cameroon)

7. Nagel Fellowships were selected in December, 2014.
   • “Faith-Based Institutions and their Attitudes toward Human Trafficking in Ghana.” Professor Stephanie Sandberg will carry out research on human trafficking in Ghana and write a documentary drama on the topic that her students (in Ghana and Grand Rapids) will perform.
   • “Longing, Learning, and Leaning toward Hope.” During Interim 2016, Professors Van Reeuwyk and Buursma will engage thirty-five Calvin students with Indonesian community and arts leaders from diverse traditions in an arts-based dialogue and inquiry where they will create new works of art that will be exhibited in the Center Art Gallery at Calvin.

8. Lectures/Events: six on-campus, public lectures were offered under Nagel auspices.

9. Other publishing ventures
   • Baylor University Press monograph series: This monograph series continues to publish one title per year: soon to appear is the third book, a history of the “Orthodox Baptist” movement in the Republic of Georgia, by Bishop Songulashivili.
   • *Christian Higher Education* dedicated issue: Mwenda Ntarangwi and Joel Carpenter were guest editors of a special issue [14:1–2 (2015)] of the journal, *Christian Higher Education*. “Global Challenges, Local Practices.”

B. Actions brought before Faculty Senate

None
C. Other actions, not involving Faculty Senate, that the board initiated or implemented
   1. The Nagel Institute continued strategic planning work, especially the need eventually to appoint a successor to
      the founding director. The board will complete its study of this matter and make a recommendation regarding
      the job description and the appropriate process for the search.
   2. Director Joel Carpenter continues to explore new possibilities for funded projects.
   3. Approval of a new position – In order to accomplish the specialized work of grant-funded projects, the board
      approved a partial load professional-level position, called “associate director for research.” That position would
      be filled, we presume, if and when externally funded projects required the Institute’s hiring a project director.

D. Issues that will continue to be before the board next year
   1. Several multi-year projects noted above are ongoing and will continue into 2015–2016.
   2. Future project and funding opportunities.
   3. Planning for succession of directors.