

# Kuiper Seminar Board (KSB)

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## **Mandate**

The Kuiper Faculty Orientation Fund is an endowment fund of the College that exists for the support of the Kuiper Seminars, and its use is restricted to the support of these programs.

## **Oversight and Assessment of the Seminars**

An Evaluation Board for the Kuiper Seminar shall provide an annual assessment of the Fund and the seminars it supports. This Board shall be comprised of an administrator or academic dean, two faculty members, one person who teaches in the seminars, and a trustee. The faculty members and seminar teacher shall serve for a four-year term, renewable once, for a limit of two consecutive terms, with a mandatory waiting period of at least two years before being eligible for selection again. The administrative representative shall be appointed by the President and Provost of the College; the faculty representatives shall be appointed by the Committee on Governance; and the trustee representative shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees. In the normal course of its activities, its most immediate lines of reporting and relationship will be to the Faculty Development Committee and to the Academic Council. The Academic Council shall nominate coordinators for the various programs, consult with coordinators on the development of program plans, and oversee the budgeting and spending of funds for the programs. The Faculty Development Committee shall review and ratify the program plans and the selection of coordinators, and make recommendations for the improvement of the programs.

## **The Duties of the Evaluation Board**

1. Ensure that the seminars mandated by this charter faithfully carry out the stated intent of the College and the donors.
2. Conduct an annual evaluation of the content, course of action, and results of each seminar funded by the endowment.

3. Report the findings of the annual evaluation. The report shall address the Kuiper Seminar program's basic compliance to the stated intent of the donors and the College, and its overall quality and effectiveness.

## Statement of Purpose: Kuiper Seminars

The purposes of the Kuiper Seminars are as follows:

1. To ensure that the faculty and administrative leaders of Calvin College are well-acquainted with the Reformed Christian theology and world view that resides in the writings of John Calvin, Jonathan Edwards, Abraham Kuyper, St. Augustine, and the confessions of the Calvinist wing of the Reformation: The Belgic Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, and the Canons of the Synod of Dort.
2. To develop and sustain, through the study of these classic texts of Reformed Christianity, a passionate affirmation of historic Calvinist orthodox Christianity, and embrace of the vibrant Christian world view and cultural mandate this theological tradition supports, on the part of the Calvin College faculty and administrative leaders.
3. To engender among Calvin College faculty and administrative leaders a thorough acquaintance with and sincere appreciation for the particular branch of the Reformed, Calvinist tradition that founded the College: the Christian Reformed Church of North America, in its historical development, distinctive emphases, and contemporary witness.
4. To provide Calvin College faculty and administrative leaders with a deeper understanding of what it means to enter into and become part of the unique confessional and educational community that is Calvin College, through a study of its history, its traditions of thought, its relationship to the churches, and its place in American higher education and in Christian higher education.
5. To help Calvin professors and administrative leaders develop the habits of mind and orientation toward Christian life and work that point toward an integrally Christian understanding of one's discipline and profession as teacher, scholar, administrator and servant to the church and society.
6. To acquaint Calvin professors and administrators with the issues attending the relationship between faith and learning in particular, and the encounter between the Gospel and culture more generally, so that they can pursue a course of

ongoing growth in wisdom and knowledge, drawn from the deep wells of historic Christian orthodoxy and the Calvinist tradition in particular, for their lives as citizens of the Kingdom of God.

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