

The Director for Theological Education

Context

In 2004, an initiative entitled 'Theological Education across the Anglican Communion (TEAC)' was launched to promote the development of theological education for the whole people of God¹ as a priority for the Anglican Communion. The activities and resources associated with this initiative can be summarised with reference to the following explicit aims:

- to develop a shared vision for theological education and to encourage a culture of teaching and learning across the Anglican Communion to support the life of all the baptised;
- to strengthen awareness of Anglican identity and promote an understanding of the Anglican way;
- to encourage the faithful study of scripture and to stimulate reflection on the task of interpretation for all the baptised;
- to facilitate and develop resources which build the capacity for theological education in local contexts;
- to build networks that strengthen coherence and maximise shared learning across the Communion
- to support the delivery of theological education and to promote ecumenical collaboration where appropriate to context.

Summary

The Anglican Communion Office is seeking to appoint a Director for Theological Education, to co-ordinate, facilitate and develop networks across the Communion in order to build capacity to deliver good quality theological education for the whole people of God.² The Director for Theological Education would hold responsibility for enabling and coordinating three areas of work in relation to theological education:

- Vision
- Networks
- Resources

Job Description

The Anglican Communion Office, based at St Andrew's House, London, England, is the permanent Secretariat for the Instruments of Communion of the Anglican Communion. It serves the Archbishop of Canterbury (in collaboration with staff at Lambeth Palace), the Anglican Consultative Council, the Primates' Meetings, and the Lambeth Conferences as well as commissions, committees and groups that emerge from time to time, as the need arises.

Under the direction of the Secretary General the Director for TEAC will:

1. Vision

¹ The history of the work of TEAC – its implications for the Anglican Communion and recommendations of its future direction – are outlined in the [Pickard Report \[2012\]](#). The appointment of a Director for Theological Education is one of its principle recommendations. The new Director will be responsible for reviewing and implementing recommendations made elsewhere in the report (especially sections 3.7-3.12 [pages 25-29]).

- a. to develop a shared vision for theological education and to encourage a culture of teaching and learning across the Anglican Communion to support the life of all the baptised;
- b. to strengthen awareness of Anglican identity and promote an understanding of the Anglican way;
- c. to encourage the faithful study of scripture and to stimulate reflection on the task of interpretation for all the baptised;
- d. to undertake other theological education work as requested by the Secretary General especially in relation to the preparation for meetings of the Instruments of Communion.

2. Networks

- a. to develop existing networks through facilitating regional consultations for theological educators around specific themes (e.g. reconciliation, leadership);
- b. to develop existing networks by establishing a tri-annual conference for principals of Anglican seminaries and Anglicans in leadership in ecumenical theological institutions;
- c. to develop existing networks by establishing a tri-annual conference for women in theological education institutions;
- d. to develop online and web-based networks for the sharing of information and learning resources;
- e. to take responsibility for the ongoing management of the relevant sections of the Anglican Communion website e.g. the database of theological education institutions;
- f. to work collaboratively with the Standing Commission on Unity, Faith and Order at the Anglican Communion Office;
- g. to develop collaboration and cooperation with mission agencies and other providers involved in supporting theological education;
- h. to promote ecumenical collaboration in the delivery of theological education across the Communion.

3. Resources

- a. to coordinate the dissemination and sharing of resources for catechesis and the nurture of the whole people of God for their discipleship in the world;
- b. to coordinate the development of The Anglican Way Signpost series in collaboration with its editorial board;
- c. to support the work across the Communion on hermeneutics and the development of the materials that have emerged from the “Bible in the Life of the Church” project;
- d. to work with colleagues in the Anglican Communion Office and other Mission Partners to oversee the translation of resources into languages of the Anglican Communion in addition to English;
- e. to review the resourcing of leadership development currently available and to explore further development across the Communion;
- f. to identify and provide resources which will support the study of Anglicanism
- g. to provide advice and information to enable the St Augustine’s Foundation Trustees, and other similar funding bodies, to allocate their grants in line with their present policy guidelines
- h. to work with the Secretary General to identify resources which will ensure that the tasks contained in this job description will continue after the initial five year period funded by the St Augustine’s Foundation.

Evaluation and oversight

This work will be overseen by a TEAC Reference Group chaired by a primate, and made up of 6-8 other members with experience of innovative modes of delivering theological education at all levels of the Communion's life representing as wide a range of geographical contexts and theological positions as possible. This group will be nominated by the Secretary General and appointed by the Anglican Communion Standing Committee.

For the first five years of its life, the TEAC Reference Group will have one member on it nominated by the St Augustine Foundation, who will also report annually directly to the St Augustine's Foundation trustees about its work. This report will be in addition to a report from the Director in accordance with the requirements of the St Augustine's Foundation.

An annual appraisal of the work of the post-holder will be undertaken by the Chair of the TEAC Reference Group in conjunction with the Secretary General.

Objectives for the work in Year 1

It is recognised that this Job Description is both complex and demanding. The particular emphasis that a future post holder places on each aspect of it will differ according to their skills and approach. It is therefore envisaged that in their first year, the post holder will draw up a coherent plan of the way they would wish to direct the work outlined in the Job Description. This plan will include clear objectives, which relate to each aspect of the work, and will demonstrate how the dimensions of the job description will be fulfilled over the initial five years. The plan will include reference to the financial support required following the initial 5 years funding period. This plan will then be discussed and agreed with the TEAC Reference Group towards the end of Year 1. The plan will be reviewed annually, and the objectives will be revised in the light of progress each year.

St Augustine's

This Job Description has a number of references to the St Augustine's Foundation. This body – a foundation established in 1979 *“to enable the training in ministry and mission of persons already serving, or wishing to serve, in Churches of the Communion”*. Its Board is appointed by the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and the Bishop of London. It is the sole funder of the post for the first 5 years. The Standing Committee of the Anglican Communion has resolved to find ways of incorporating the funding for the post into the core budget of the work of the Anglican Communion Office from the beginning of Year 6. This accounts for the Foundation's involvement in the actual work of this post holder [para 3g above] and its evaluation and oversight in the first 5 years. The Foundation will also be represented on the interview panel for the post.

Person Specification for the Director of TEAC post

This post offers the opportunity to join the senior management team at the Anglican Communion Office working to make a difference across the Communion. The position will entail international travel and the privilege of working with culturally diverse groups of people in many parts of the Anglican Communion.

The person we are looking for will have the following:

Essential skills, experience and qualifications:

- An understanding of the ecclesiology of the Anglican Communion.

- Extensive experience in theological education at all levels of the life of a church in the Anglican Communion and of working globally and cross-culturally at a senior level. Experience of working in Africa, South America or Asia is particularly desirable.
- Working experience of different approaches to and models of adult education as well as a knowledge of the current challenges facing the Church in the area of Christian education.
- A graduate qualification in theology; an earned doctorate in theology is preferred.
- Able to engage with and have experience of working collaboratively with people from a range of backgrounds and nationalities
- Able also, at times, to work independently
- Evidence of the ability to start and successfully complete a major project.
- Confident in working with web-based materials and in the use of IT tools including Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- Ability to communicate ideas through both the written and spoken word and to build capacity in others.

Desirable skills, experience and qualifications:

- A person who has had their work published.
- Demonstrable experience of fundraising.
- An understanding of virtual learning and technology enhanced learning.
- An awareness of the publishing/editing world in both the North and global South including digital and e-publishing.