

ITEM C.207
FOR INFORMATION

RACIAL ETHNIC & NEW IMMIGRANT SEMINARIANS' CONFERENCE

Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries is expanding one of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)'s most important leadership development conferences – the Racial Ethnic Seminarians' Conference – to include new immigrant seminarians. The Racial Ethnic and New Immigrant Seminarians' Conference will be held on October 24 – 27, 2014, at Epworth by the Sea, a hospitality ministry of the South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church located on St. Simons Island, Georgia.

Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries invited the PC (USA)'s theological institutions and two affiliated institutions to provide the names of racial ethnic and new immigrant seminarians who have demonstrated outstanding leadership ability to attend the conference. Approximately thirty women and men are expected to attend the event.

Participants will join in community with other church leaders in a spiritual environment to engage in vocational discernment, discuss issues facing them as racial ethnic seminarians, learn about the connectional church, prepare for ministry and explore paths to ordination. Seminarians will be encouraged to deepen their relationships as part of their support system during seminary and in their vocational ministry.

Racial Ethnic & Women's Ministries looks forward to this important conference, which for many years was sponsored by ministries in the Office of the General Assembly and the Presbyterian Mission Agency. The conference has a rich history in the PC(USA), and has been a formative experience for racial ethnic leaders such as the Rev. Neal Presa, Moderator of the 220th General Assembly (2012), the Rev. Byron Wade, Vice Moderator of the 218th General Assembly (2008), and the Rev. Teresa Cho, a member of the Biennial Committee to Review General Assemblies and a worship leader at the 2013 Big Tent.