

Floor Committee #16: Board for Ministerial Education

Subject: Influences of critical theory at MLC (2025-03)

Reference: Memorial (2025-03); *Book of Reports and Memorials*, pp. 197,198

Report No. 03

Floor committee #16 agrees that ideologies incompatible with Scripture are becoming more widespread in higher education and in new standards of the Professional Educator Licensing Standards Board (PELSB) for teacher licensure. We also agree with MLC's President Gurgel, that a public accrediting body would not have a Christian worldview.

Martin Luther College has assured the floor committee that the PELSB does not mandate how MLC meets the standards but rather allows them to meet the standards in light of God's Word. MLC is also clear in its communication with the PELSB, ensuring that its stance and decisions are well understood. MLC continues to communicate its conviction to not have pre-service teachers teaching lessons in public schools where lesson content would disagree with Scripture. Neither pre-service candidates nor graduates in our Lutheran school system are ever required to demonstrate adherence in a way that disagrees with Scripture to obtain or renew a Minnesota teaching license.

Through the Minnesota Association of Colleges and Teacher Education, MLC and other Christian colleges have a voice at the table in discussions with the PELSB, which allows MLC and colleges like them to determine how and where in the curriculum the PELSB's standards are met.

Therefore, we do not recommend Memorial (2025-03) for adoption at this convention. We commend the work of MLC and its clear adherence to Scripture as it works through the challenges that come with securing licensure opportunities for teacher candidates.

Pastor Peter Metzger, chairman
Teacher James Rademan, secretary