Global Institute of Theology

Name of Institution & Location
Songdo Global Institute of Theology (G.I.T.), Yonsei University
at Songo International Campus in Incheon, South Korea

Goal, Purpose, & Objectives
1) To educate global theology faculties and ministers to attain master and doctoral degrees
2) To provide continuing education programs, seminars, conferences for present ministers and theologians (ex) Leadership Formation in Global Context (3-6 months course)
3) To develop and provide the supporting & exchanging network among Asian theological schools and faculties, and their continuing education resources.
4) To develop scholarships for master and doctoral programs to support future global theologians & ministers
5) To provide technical (administrative) assistance to global Christian institutions

Collaborating Organizations
1) Yonsei University
2) UGST – the United Graduate School of Theology, Yonsei University
3) World Churches and Christian Organizations
4) Asian Churches and Christian Organizations
5) Korean Churches and Christian Organizations
6) KAATS (the Korean Association of Accredited Theological Schools)
7) UMC-GBHEM (the United Methodist Church - the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry)
8) UB (the United Board of Christian Higher Education in Asia)

Activities and Timeline
1) Continuing Education Programs on Global Leadership & Networking in fall, 2014
2) Accept new degree-program students in March, 2015
3) Asian Theology & Leadership Conference in fall, 2015

Background & Rationale
The United Graduate School of Theology at Yonsei University (UGST) was established in 1964 with the grant of the Theological Educational Fund of World Council of Churches (WCC) which united many major theological institutions that belong to the National Counsel Churches in Korea (NCCK). UGST has provided a high quality theological training through academic creativity and critical research, in order to raise both the standard of theological education and church leaders and to contribute to the development of Korean theology. Throughout its history, UGST has educated pioneering leaders of the Korean Christianity and served as a learning ground to cultivate numerous numbers of outstanding theologians and ministers. In its 49 years of history, over 1,300 students have graduated from UGST with master’s degrees, and 3,350 students have completed its extension programs. In recent years, there are growing numbers of foreign students (especially from Asian countries such as China, Japan, Myanmar, Vietnam and many others) who are continuing their studies in UGST as Christian community in such regions have increased.

With opening of its International Campus in Songdo (near Incheon International airport) in 2012, Yonsei University has set its new goal as intentional globalization of the school with the spirit of the 3rd renewal. The global campus is
designed to develop global-mind leaders of next generation by providing global school environment and to serve international communities, in need of higher education opportunities. To fulfill this purpose, the university government deliberately invites all colleges and graduate schools to initiate some global project or centers at the campus. With the acknowledgement of countless and generous supports by the missionaries and other Christian organizations throughout the school's history, we now plan to reclaim its Christian leadership and dedicate our role to return what we have received gracefully for the future of this global society.

After the 10th Assembly of WCC in 2013 in Busan, South Korea, there have been growing concerns for the necessity of a professional education center to educate and re-educate healthy ministers and theologians with ecumenical minds among the WCC participants, while witnessing the rapid growth of Asian Christianity, especially in China and the southeastern Asian countries.

As Yonsei University serves as one of the finest leading academies for Christian learning in South Korea, it is in our best interest to provide a global institution to educate the future leaders of theologians and ministers for the global Christian community. To accomplish such mission and calling, Yonsei University and its UGST plan to establish an ecumenical graduate school of theology, Global Institute of Theology (GIT) in Songdo International Campus to educate international students for their master and doctoral degrees.

As the first step, the United Graduate School of Theology already prepared for this mission by setting up MGEFLD (Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Developments) Asia office in its building, with the agreement of GBHEM (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry) of UMC (the United Methodist Church).

### Structure & Operation

1) **Organizational Structure**
   - G.I.T. within USGT of Yonsei University
   - 30 students/year the degree programs (100~120 students total)
   - Degree:
   - Master of Theology, Doctor of Theology, Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Ministry
   - Special Certificate for Continuing Education Programs

2) **Support Plan for Students**
   - 100% support for all degree program students
   - Tuition
     - $10,000 per person & per year
     - 100-120 Scholarship Accounts Required
     - 100% supported by Korean Churches & Others (WCC, CCA, GBHEM, UB, etc)
   - Room & Board
     - 100% Supported by Yonsei University

### The Spirit of Foundation

1) 100% Support for Educating Next Generation Global Christian Leaders
2) Responsibility project of Korean Church Communities for grace and support of the past
3) Multi-Cultural Setting at the Songdo International Campus of Yonsei University
4) Organizational Solidarity: Korean Church Community–Yonsei University–World Church Community
5) Theological Solidarity: Evangelical–Ecumenical–Pentecostal
6) Ministerial Solidarity: Homeland Church Experience-GIT Education-Korean Church Experience