

CTSA Study Group on the Value of Theology in University Education 2024 -

The CTSA Board has asked the Centennial Committee to launch a study group that considers emerging developments impacting the future of the theological academy, including making a case for the distinctive value of theology/theological literacy in university education. The development arises as part of the society's response to theological precarity and recent/pending closures (and related 2023 resolution), but may also serve secondary purposes like helping colleagues make the case for the significance of our discipline amid core reductions, etc. The group's members will together determine its arc, timeline, and division of labor. Whereas in the past analogous study groups have met over three years and included convention presentations, this topic may suggest more urgency and an outcome such as talking points, instead. Centennial Committee members have expressed the hope that the Study Group's outcome will be constructive and not merely a rhetorical manifesto appealing to the "already converted" alone. The Board requests updates on the group's progress in advance of its June and October meetings, as appropriate; the board and Mary Jane Ponyik are happy to assist the group with communication/dissemination or other needs.