

Educational Effectiveness Summary Report for 2013-2014

Mission of ITS

Our mission is to equip and train in the Reformed tradition teachers, community leaders, and pastors, who can help transform local communities into vibrant places of worship, mission, and justice.

Institutional Goals of ITS

1. In response to the pressing needs and challenges of the churches in the Majority World countries, we primarily provide theological education integrated with ministry skills to students who will serve in the areas; and secondarily we train leaders for international/immigrant churches in North America.
2. We develop spiritually and biblically sound leadership in students for the global church.
3. We provide students who come from a wide variety of backgrounds with contextualized learning and knowledge of other cultures to broaden their ministry perspectives as well as to prepare them for cross-cultural partnership.
4. We promote spiritual maturity and integrity among students and faculty, because spiritual and biblically sound leadership must be paired with strong Christian character

Summary of Graduating Students Survey Responses 2014

1. *Respondents considered the following sources of income as very important in supporting their studies at ITS:*

Scholarship/grant –	50%
Denominational support –	50%
Spouse's work –	50%

2. *67% anticipate that they will go back to the ministry where they served before graduation.*
3. *Their seminary education was very effective in the following areas of personal growth:*

Empathy for the poor and oppressed –	50%
Enthusiasm for learning –	50%
Trust in God –	67%
Respect for members of other religious traditions –	67%
Respect for own religious tradition –	83%
Ability to live one’s faith in daily life –	67%
Clarity of vocational goals –	67%
Self-confidence –	67%
Self-knowledge –	67%
Strength of spiritual life –	83%

4. *Their seminary education was very effective in facilitating the following skill areas:*

Ability to preach well –	67%
Ability to interpret scripture –	67%
Ability to teach well –	50%
Knowledge of church doctrine and history –	50%
Ability to lead others –	50%
Ability to interact effectively with those of religious traditions other than their own –	50%
Ability to interact effectively with those from cultural/ethnic contexts other than their own –	67%
Awareness and appreciation of the globalized context in which ministry is practiced –	67%
Ability to relate social issues to faith –	67%
Knowledge of Christian philosophies and ethics –	83%
Ability to think theologically –	67%
Ability to integrate insights from science and ecological concerns into theology and ministry –	67%

5. *The respondents considered the following areas of study very important in their ministerial life and work:*

Biblical studies –	50%
Theology –	67%
Preaching –	67%
Church history –	76%
Ethics and moral theology –	67%
Christian/religious education –	67%
Missions and evangelism –	67%

6. *Other than faculty and coursework, the following has the most important influence on their educational experience at ITS:*

Cross-cultural engagement –	67%
Chapel/worship –	50%
Multiethnic/cultural contacts –	50%

7. *The respondents were very satisfied with the following academic services:*
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| Accessibility of faculty – | 85% |
| Quality of teaching – | 67% |
| Ease in scheduling required courses – | 67% |
8. On their overall experience:
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| Satisfied with academic experience in ITS – | 50% |
| Faculty were supportive and understanding – | 50% |
| Felt accepted within the school community – | 50% |
| Have grown spiritually – | 50% |
| Personal faith has been respected – | 67% |
9. *67% agree and strongly agree that If they had to do it over, they would still come to ITS.*

Analysis of the Result: Statement of Educational Effectiveness

1. ITS has utilized ATS GSQ and has chosen questions that are relevant to ITS missions, goals and to the students.
2. The following is the result of the survey for school year 2013-2014. The results may not fully reflect the educational effectiveness of the seminary due to very small number of graduates.
3. Questions #1 and #2 results reflect the “triangle relationship” between students, denominations and ITS and the commitment of graduates to return to their home country denominational church and school ministries. The results of the survey reaffirm the seminary’s goal.
4. Question #3 result highlights the effectiveness in students’ spiritual formation as well as their respect to each others’ unique denominational traditions.
5. Equally, the faculty members’ commitment to the mission and vision of the seminary is reflected in their being accessible to students. (See Question #7 result)
6. ITS has an overall average of 64% Educational effectiveness for school year 2013-2014.