

An das  
Seminar für biblische Theologie  
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Via e-mail to:

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February 17, 2022

### **Re: Accreditation Decision**

Dear Felix and Andreas,

The ECTE Accreditation Commission in its session on February 15, 2022 granted institutional re-accreditation to sbt Beatenberg and programme accreditation with requirements for the 180 ECTS practice-oriented Bachelor (see requirements below).

This decision was made on the basis of the report submitted by the Review Secretary in December of 2021 after the on-site visit of November 2022.

The wording of the following **requirements** for the accreditation of the Bachelor programme has been aligned by the AC with the relevant ECTE standard. They must be met no later than May 31, 2022. Until then this programme delivered by sbt Beatenberg will be listed as “under review” on the ECTE website.

Requirement 1 - relating to standard B.3.5:

Design and implement the regular gathering of feedback from students and stakeholders on module delivery, quality of teaching methodologies and overall design effectiveness, and consequently implement improvement strategies. Feedback can be collected using a variety of methods, such as student feedback, peer-evaluation or stakeholder research.

Documentation of fulfilment of this requirement can be achieved by submitting to the AC a description of the feedback cycle to include standardised feedback questions for the various stakeholder groups (who is asked about what when and how often by whom. How and by whom is the feedback evaluated and used for future developments. Document implementation of improvement strategies) This to be consistent across the curriculum and reported on implementation in the next APR.

Requirement 2 related to B.5:

sbt Beatenberg's graduate certificate must clearly reflect ECTE's claims that its accreditation does not serve national degree recognition purposes but is for the purposes of international comparability and quality assurance and development: ECTE does not award academic degrees. The ECTE certificate specifies clearly that “This certificate is not equivalent to an academic degree”.

Documentation of fulfilment of this requirement can be achieved by submitting to the AC a copy of the revised sbt graduate certificate which fulfils the above criteria.

In addition, the following **recommendations** are made, and the Accreditation Commission requests that responses to these be included in the Annual Progress Reports (APR's).

1. The information about the programme should be published not only in the student guide.
2. Possibilities for input of external bodies like donors, churches and alumni could be further developed (see requirement # 2).
3. With some adjunct faculty and new staff, clear written procedures and standards need to be in place to assure effective handover.
4. In some cases, the workload of faculty members seems too high. We encourage the school to consider alleviation of responsibilities by focusing on core tasks.
5. Facilities for e-learning should be expanded if an online-delivery is being developed and the implementation of a distance learning software (like Moodle) is recommended
6. It would be beneficial for the librarian to get additional time for further training in library science.
7. Replacing older or outdated editions of books should be part of the library acquisition plan.
8. When assessing spiritual formation and character development, procedures for objectively assessing these qualities should be put in writing.
9. sbt's curriculum correctly reflects a practice-based orientation which aligns well with its mission statement. The AC recommends strengthening the reflective practice connection between the practical and academically oriented courses.
10. The VET team suggests that faculty members seek more training opportunities in adult pedagogy practices (i.e. free ICETE Academy courses, sharing of best practices in faculty meetings).
11. The methodological approach for achieving learning outcomes should be described in more detail (by giving examples of evidence) and distributed to students in the student guidebook.

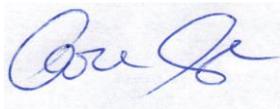
### **Congratulations to you and your team for a job well done!**

The ECTE Accreditation Commissions warmly commends the school as generally excellent in achieving its intentions in theological education and we encourage you to share the commendations of the experts listed in the review report (final attached) with the entire team at sbt Beatenberg.

Thank you for your warm welcome of the VET and the spirit of cooperation and transparency which has pervaded the entire visit.

Please do not hesitate to contact me as questions arise. I look forward to hearing from you.

Serving Him with you



Carmen Crouse  
Accreditation Director