CALL FOR PAPERS

Fifth Triennial Conference of the International Society for the Study of Reformed Communities (ISRCC)

Princeton, New Jersey, USA July 9-12, 2006

"Reformed Communities in an Era of Growing Globalization and Pluralism"

Three different trends are shaping and affecting the ways in which Reformed communities minister within their different social contexts as well as interrelate with each other – namely, the shifting demographics of Christianity and Reformed communities from the First World to the Third World, increasing globalization, and, at least in some contexts, increasing cultural pluralism within the social setting. Each trend offers different opportunities and challenges for the health and vitality of Reformed Christian communities. The 2006 Conference of the ISSRC welcomes paper proposals that will address either one (or more) such trends and the opportunities and challenges it (they) hold for Reformed communities, or studies that will address how particular Reformed congregations or communities may have sought to respond to any one of these trends that confront their community. Proposed papers need not adopt a particular approach or methodology nor reflect a particular field of study. Proposed papers may be historical analyses or more contemporary analyses of Reformed communities. They may be primarily analytical and abstract in nature, or they may be more empirical studies of particular communities. They can be rather "theoretical" in nature, or they can be more "practical" in terms of their emphasis.

Deadline for submission of proposals is October 1, 2005. Notification of acceptance of proposals will be made by October 15, 2005. Selected papers are to be completed and submitted by April 1, 2006.

Send an abstract of your paper proposal either by regular mail or as an email attachment to: Corwin Smidt (smid@calvin.edu), Director, The Henry Institute, Calvin College, 3201 Burton St. SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. The abstract should be two to three paragraphs in length indicating: (1) the particular problem(s) or questions which the paper seeks to analyze, (2) why the particular problem(s) or questions are important to examine, and (3) how you anticipate trying to address or answer the problems/questions raised – i.e., the kind of data to be employed or the kind of analysis to be done. Finally, be sure to provide your full contact information on the abstract itself.