



Meadville • Lombard

THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

Meadville Theological School (Unitarian) of Lombard College (Universalist)
Affiliated with the University of Chicago

June 10, 2008

Students, Faculty and Staff of Meadville Lombard Theological School,

The Meadville Lombard Board of Trustees takes seriously its responsibility to preserve the best of the school's traditions of excellence while responding to new opportunities to build upon those traditions to maintain the school's excellence into the future.

This past weekend the Board of Trustees convened and heard President Barker's recommendation on the proposed integrated educational design. As we discussed that recommendation, we were able to consider viewpoints from faculty, students, alumni/ae as well as the administration. We recognize and respect the intense feelings of everyone who has a stake in Meadville Lombard's future.

On Sunday, June 8, the Board of Trustees voted to endorse the direction of the proposed design. We also asked to see a detailed implementation plan in order to approve the proposal at our November meeting. Endorsing the direction of the plan will allow the administration and faculty time to continue to plan specifically how the model will be implemented.

In the coming months, more detail about the implementation of the new design will be formalized with additional research and input from key groups. Research includes the feasibility of a one-year internship as a fourth-year option for students seeking a Master of Divinity degree.

The Trustees feel strongly that Meadville Lombard is moving in the right direction with the proposal, and that we are very positive about the progress being made to continue the highest standards in the preparation of students for UU ministry.

Sincerely,

Lawrence R. Ladd, Chair
Board of Trustees