## UNDERSTANDING & IMPLEMENTING COMPETENCY BASED THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

**CONFERENCE OVERVIEW:** Bible College and Seminary leaders are well aware of the challenges facing theological education. Competency-based theological education (CBTE) attempts to address many of these challenges through an innovative approach that prioritizes preparation of students for effective, real-world ministry, collaboration and connection with churches, and improved affordability and access. This conference is for leaders who wish to learn about the foundational pedagogies, principles, and practices of CBTE and engage with institutional leaders who have first hand experience designing, operating, and accrediting CBTE-style programs.

### MONDAY | APRIL 22

**6:00 — 7:30**

**OPENING DINNER AND SHARING — CATERED IN THE ABHE DINING ROOM**

### TUESDAY | APRIL 23

**9:00 — 9:15**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS — PHILIP DEARBORN, PRESIDENT | ABHE**

**9:15 — 10:00**

**SESSION 1: THE BIG PICTURE OF CBTE**

**Presenter:** Kenton Anderson, President | Providence University College & Theological Seminary

**Overview:** Competency Based Theological Education (CBTE) has been part of higher education for several years and is disrupting traditional approaches to biblical and theological education.

- Gain insights into the educational philosophy that drives competency-based theological education
- Explore the essential elements that underpin CBTE programs

**10:00 — 10:30**

**Q & A DISCUSSION**

**10:30 — 10:45**

**REFRESHMENT BREAK**

**10:45 — 11:30**

**SESSION 2: AN ECOLOGICAL PEDAGOGY OF EMBEDDEDNESS**

**Presenter:** Taylor Tollison, Director of Operations | Memphis City Seminary

**Overview:** CBTE’s success is dependent on a specific pedagogical approach. Understand an approach informed by place-based, challenge-based, and competency-based methodologies.

- Recognize how place-based, challenge-based, and competency-based methodologies work together to shape a pedagogical approach
- Gain real world insights into this pedagogical approach in action

**11:30 — 12:00**

**Q & A DISCUSSION**

**12:00 — 1:00**

**LUNCH — CATERED IN THE ABHE DINING ROOM**

**1:00 — 1:45**

**SESSION 3: OPERATIONALIZING CBTE**

**Presenter:** Ruth McGillivray, Executive Vice President | Northwest Seminary & College

**Overview:** A successful implementation of CBTE programming requires organizational alignment across all departments. From marketing to educational delivery and assessment, there’s no office or function untouched.

- Learn how Northwest Seminary reimagined their structure to support CBTE
- Explore practical strategies to avoid pitfalls that create roadblocks and stresses on faculty, staff and students

**1:45 — 2:15**

**Q & A DISCUSSION**

**2:15 — 2:30**

**REFRESHMENT BREAK**
### TUESDAY | APRIL 23 (CONT’D)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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| 2:30 — 3:15 | **SESSION 4: CBTE CURRICULAR DESIGN & ASSESSMENT**  
Presenter: Bennie Wolvaardt, President | Veritas College International  
**Overview:** Two of the most critical components of CBTE are curricular design and assessment. Student success is dependent on a robust curricular design with complimentary assessment techniques.  
- Discover how to design a curriculum that can be effectively and efficiently assessed  
- Learn assessment strategies unique to CBTE |
| 3:15 — 3:45 | **Q & A DISCUSSION** |
| 3:45 — 4:00 | **WRAP-UP** |
| 4:00 — 5:00 | **REFRESH & RELAX — HILTON GARDEN INN** |
| 5:00 — 6:30 | **DINNER OFF SITE** |

### WEDNESDAY | APRIL 24

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>9:00 — 9:15</td>
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| 9:15 — 10:00 | **SESSION 5: CBTE AND ACCREDITATION**  
Presenter: Lisa Beatty, Executive Director, Commission on Accreditation | ABHE  
**Overview:** Engaging CBTE programming on your campus may require prior approval from ABHE’s Commission on Accreditation. Explore how competency-based pedagogies and ABHE requirements intersect.  
- Identify the Standards and Essential Elements connected to CBTE  
- Learn ABHE accreditation requirements for CBTE |
| 10:00 — 10:30 | **Q & A DISCUSSION** |
| 10:30 — 10:45 | **REFRESHMENT BREAK** |
| 10:45 — 11:30 | **SESSION 6: PERSONAL ACTION PLAN — PERSONAL SHARING & LEARNING FROM OTHERS**  
**Overview:** Discuss the most pressings issues you are facing regarding CBTE with both the panel of presenters and attendee affinity groups. Create a draft of your *Personal Action Plan* based on the most significant and urgent issues you should address following the conference |
| 11:30 — 12:00 | **Q & A DISCUSSION AND WRAP-UP** |
| 12:00 — 1:00 | **CLOSING BOXED LUNCH — ABHE DINING ROOM** |