

**The Barnabas Venture**  
for the development of theological education  
in French-speaking Africa

41 Laurel Valley Ct.  
Concord, ON L4K 2B3

[www.barnabasventure.com](http://www.barnabasventure.com)  
info "at" barnabasventure "dot" com



**Doctoral Scholarship Program**

January 29, 2008

**Objectives**

The intention of the Barnabas Venture's doctoral scholarship is to help African scholars to receive training at the doctoral level so that they may in their turn train leaders effectively in the context of French-speaking African faculties of theology. The Barnabas Venture wishes to promote evangelical and orthodox scholars and faculties, where the term "evangelical" refers to Christian faith holding to traditional values based upon the view that the Bible is authoritative and normative for faith and practice in the church; where the term "orthodox" refers to Christian doctrine as summed up in the Apostolic and Nicene Creeds.

**Definition of Eligibility**

The recipient of a Barnabas Venture scholarship must in all cases be an African and a francophone. The recipient must be accepted into a doctoral program in an institution of higher learning with high academic standards. The recipient must be acknowledged as having both high academic ability and good Christian character.

**Form of Funding**

The applicant will provide a budget and will disclose other sources of funding. The Barnabas Venture will attempt to provide all or a part of the lacking funds of the budget approved by the selection committee. The budget will include tuition, supplies, books and other academic expenses; in addition, it will include estimated medical and dental costs, living expenses, transportation and travel costs, miscellaneous and discretionary expenditures. Supporters will then be encouraged to give to the bursaries of the various scholars.

**Identification of scholars**

There are three means by which scholars may be identified for proposal to the selection committee:

- (1) Scholars may be identified by an individual, church or organization which has had contact with or some knowledge of the scholar in question.
- (2) Scholars may be nominated by a French-speaking African faculty of theology.
- (3) Scholars may have already been chosen as beneficiary of the Langham Partnership International (John Stott Ministries in the USA) which has its own selection process but only gives partial scholarships in most cases. However, recipients of a JSM/Langham Partnership scholarship, must not think that they are automatically entitled to the Barnabas Venture scholarship.

### **Application process**

First-time applicants will have copies of the following items sent to the Director of the Barnabas Venture:

- (1) Copies of recent transcripts or report cards.
- (2) Two letters of references which can vouch for the academic ability of the candidate and to the Christian character of the candidate.
- (3) The applicant will send a statement of purpose and long term goals, explaining the strategic importance and necessity of the PhD.
- (4) A copy of the student's budget (a statement of total need) and existing sources of funding. The deficit in this budget will help the Barnabas Venture determine the funding target for the student's scholarship.

### **Renewal Process**

Doctoral students wishing to renew will have sent to the Director of the Barnabas Venture the following (before Sept. 1):

- (1) A copy of recent transcript or report card.
- (2) A brief letter of reference from doctoral supervisor indicating that the student is in good standing and making progress in doctoral studies.
- (3) A revised budget indicating adjusted expenses and new sources of funding.

### **Selection Committee**

The selection committee will be composed of the director of the Barnabas Venture, and a minimum of two other scholars at arms-length who are of evangelical and orthodox Christian faith. These scholars would ideally also have the following qualifications (though exceptions may be made): a theological doctorate (or a doctoral candidate); ability in the French language; an interest in missions. Quorum will consist of the director and two other members of the committee. The selection committee will evaluate applicants to determine whether they meet the eligibility requirements as stated above. It will also determine the level of financial aid which the Barnabas Venture will (1) promise to the student or (2) attempt to raise for the student.

### **Agreement**

Each recipient of a Barnabas Venture doctoral scholarship will agree to return to French-speaking Africa to teach in a theological faculty for a minimum of ten years.