



THE SOUTHERN THEOLOGICAL
EDUCATION AND TRAINING SCHEME



SARUM
COLLEGE

learning to nourish the human spirit

PRESS INFORMATION
For immediate release

3 October 2014

Sarum and STETS Step Closer to Unity

The Trustees of Sarum College and those of the Southern Theological Education and Training Scheme (STETS) have this week decided to seek to merge. This step would integrate the ordination training of STETS and Sarum College's Christian research and study programmes to offer a broad spectrum of innovative theological education and training.

"Our organisations have always worked alongside one another in a complementary way," says Canon Keith Lamdin, Sarum College Principal. "We share an ecumenical history with roots in Anglican ministerial training. Together we offer programmes for lay and ordained people to learn together in a community that mirrors the nature of the emerging church where collaboration and welcome are fundamental."

While a merger would give the opportunity to develop new educational programmes, throughout the discussions, STETS and Sarum courses will carry on in the same way as before, sharing library resources and accommodation in Sarum College.

"This is an exciting new chapter in our shared history," says the Revd Dr Anne Claar Thomasson-Rosingh, STETS Acting Principal. "We look forward to bringing together the excellent theological and educational resources of STETS and Sarum to serve the church in growing disciples, in mission, in ministerial training and in rural ministry."

The news has been welcomed by the Bishops of Salisbury and Bath and Wells, who are foundation governors at Sarum and major sponsoring bishops for STETS.

"This is good news for all concerned," says The Rt Revd Nicholas Holtam, Bishop of Salisbury. "Sarum College and STETS are unique in providing theological education set in a cathedral close with access to a cathedral's daily life of worship as one of the bases for formation. Their combined expertise will bring to bear greater excellence in formation and discipleship at regional, national and international levels."

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Editors' Notes

1. Sarum College

Founded in 1995, Sarum College is an ecumenical study, conference and research centre in historic grade 1-listed buildings in Salisbury's Cathedral Close.

Sarum's educational programme includes a variety of courses within our five specialist areas of Christian Spirituality, Leadership and Ministry, Liturgy and Worship, Theology, Imagination and Culture and The Arts. There are four postgraduate programmes validated by the University of Winchester which can lead to a postgraduate certificate, postgraduate diploma or an MA degree.

Sarum also hosts a number of special events throughout the year, including lectures, Biblical Study breaks, conferences, art exhibitions and lunchtime concerts. When not used for our education programmes, guest bedroom and meeting rooms can be hired by the public.

2. Southern Theological Training and Education Scheme (STETS)

Founded in 1997, STETS evolved from an initiative to offer part-time training for ordained ministry and was the first ministerial formation programme in Salisbury Diocese to include women. Today it provides flexible training for public ministry (ordained and lay) in the church through integrated, content-focussed placements and learning in community.

STETS creates opportunities for all to learn, to think, to speak and to act with greater theological confidence. From 2014, courses are validated by Durham University and students can choose full-time, or part-time study and practice-based training.

Contact

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