

## Skills and Qualities Profile

*written by Mona Denton, member, CCS Human Resources Committee*

The new principal of the Centre for Christian Studies will need to possess a strong vision of what education for ministry for the diaconate will need to look like in the twenty-first century. Rooted in the diaconal tradition and perspective, strategic in their thinking, the principal will be coming to serve the Centre in a time when the future direction of ministry is experiencing transition and flux.

A deep faith, a strong understanding of social justice and its place at the Centre, the ability to team and build bridges ecumenically would all be an asset.

The new principal needs a real sense of what diaconal ministry is – head, heart and action. The breadth of this position requires someone who is able to act and reflect, guided by the strong community that is the Centre for Christian Studies in all its facets.

When students, faculty, stakeholders and the Central Council were surveyed, the following were the top twelve skills and qualities desired in a principal:

1. Visionary and transformational leadership
2. Commitment to the Anglican Church of Canada and The United Church of Canada
3. Public speaking
4. Business acumen
5. Knowledge of United Church and Anglican Church processes and theology
6. Knowledge of academic process
7. Academic background: graduate work in theology; diaconal training
8. Entrepreneurial spirit
9. Visible and active in United Church and Anglican Church community
10. Development/fundraising expertise
11. Adaptability and flexibility re transitions in denominations
12. Openness to creative ways of teaching, including online

The observation was made in our survey that the smaller the institution, the broader range of competencies needed. This applies to the Centre.

A person who loves the broad range of skills that education for ministry schools require, while valuing a small and intimate circle for learning, justice and outreach, will find the Centre for Christian Studies to be a wonderful, enlivening place; a place to bring their faith, their passion for learning, their commitment to diaconal ministry, and their desire to be a transformational leader,

“Educating leaders for justice, compassion and transformation.” (CCS Mission)