Clergy Scholarship Application

Name: Catherine Chang

Church: N/A -- Presbyterian World Mission

Amount church provides for Study Leave/Professional Development:

Up to $1500 could be available from Presbyterian World Mission

Other funding available:

Seeking funds from Midland-Memorial Presbyterian Church (still waiting for response) and might explore limited pool of potential donors

Name of event or type of experience: Doctor of Philosophy Program in Peacebuilding

Sponsoring organization: Payap University, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Name(s) of leaders/teachers:

Dr. Le Ngoc Bich Ly, Acting Head, Department of Peacebuilding

Location for event: Online courses with occasional visits to join in-person classes

Note: Prior to enrolling in this program, Dr. Ly and I discussed alternative arrangements. I do not intend to relocate to Thailand, since my husband Juan and I have committed to a term of service Presbyterian World Mission until October 2023. I intend to join in-person classes during and post-covid. I will try to participate through in-person visits during each semester, as much as my work schedule allows.

Dates of event:

Semester 1 began in August 2021 and will continue for 4-year program – please see attached for full course outline and program outcomes

Costs of Event

Note: Please refer to attached spreadsheet for more detailed explanation of these expenses.

Expense	Budget	Notes
Registration or tuition	$2550	Based on 3 courses for Semester 2: Jan-May 2022
Travel Expenses	$1500	Airfare and ground transportation, plus required RT-PCR tests
Housing Expenses	$1300	Quarantine hotel upon arrival in Thailand; housing during Chiang Mai; and quarantine hotel upon return to the Philippines
Food Expenses	$650	During Chiang Mai visit and quarantine hotel upon return to the Philippines

Materials or Books	$560	
Total	$6560	

Covid-19 notes: At the moment, COVID-19 cases are still restricting full activity in the Philippines. According to Presbyterian World Mission guidelines, I am also still restricted to working from home. Looking forward to sometime in early 2022, I look forward to travel between the Philippines and Thailand. My budget is based on more openings this November 2021, when Thailand will be open to tourists. I consider myself as a tourist because of my short-term visits and will abide by different covid-19 protocols for both countries. This second semester's costs are higher than usual because of these additional protocols.

Amount requested from Presbytery of Lake Huron: $3400

Applicant Signature: 

Clerk of Session Signature: N/A

1. **How will this time of Study Leave/Professional Development nurture your growth as a pastor and as an individual?**

As a pastor who is commissioned as a mission co-worker, I envision that this doctoral program will enhance my pastoral accompaniment with migrants and their families, and human trafficking survivors. This program will sharpen my appreciation for localized community peacebuilding. As an individual, this program will also help me to cultivate relationships through deeper interpersonal and intercultural awareness.

2. **How will this time of Study Leave/Professional Development nurture and strengthen the congregations that you are serving?**

This doctoral program will help me to support congregations, and their respective communities where they are situated as "zones for peace." Together we can become peacebuilders.

By way of background, my work impacts several congregations. I work in the national offices of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP), supporting the complete denomination as a PC(USA) global partner. I also support colleagues and their migrant-related programs, as they support member churches of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines (NCCP), another PC(USA) global partner. I have participated in activities of the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) which include members churches and member councils from Asia and the Pacific. My family and I are also active supporters of the local church where we worship on Sundays, the National City United Church. Supported by a vast network of US Presbyterian churches, our family can continue to equip, inspire and connect these different Asian churches with US ones.

3. Other information that the COM should have to evaluate this application.

Resume

Acceptance letter including tuition fee (for first semester) – similar fee for more semesters

Ph.D course outline and outcomes