

**Resolution 15**

**INTEGRITY IN EDUCATIONAL ATTRIBUTION**

1 WHEREAS, At the 2007 General Council, the Integrity in Educational Credentials Resolution 9  
2 was adopted; and

3 WHEREAS, That resolution entered the following statement as contained in Bylaws Article IX, B,  
4 Section 13. Accountability in Educational Attribution, page 125, which reads:

5 **Section 13. Accountability in Educational Attribution**

6 **a. Attribution.** In order to maintain our testimony of quality and integrity in  
7 educational credentials before the Church and the world, and to minimize the  
8 possibility of our ministers and churches being victimized by, or supporting, or  
9 perpetrating frauds in education or credentialing, we maintain certain standards  
10 for the attribution of degrees, certifications, and titles.

11 (1) *Attribution by ministers.* Our ministers shall refrain from listing,  
12 promoting, or attributing to themselves or others any degrees or titles  
13 conferred by institutions or organizations having, at the time of conferral, a  
14 formal accreditation status less than that of our appropriately corresponding  
15 Assemblies of God institutions (whether our institute, regional university, or  
16 seminary levels).

17 (2) *Attribution by the General Council.* No media, ministry, department,  
18 arm, or employee of the General Council shall list, attribute, or promote for  
19 any person, any degree or title conferred by an institution or organization  
20 having, at the time of conferral, a formal accreditations status less than that of  
21 our appropriately corresponding Assemblies of God institutions (whether our  
22 institute, regional university, or seminary levels).

23 (3) *Attribution by local churches.* We strongly encourage our ministers,  
24 boards, and churches to take great care to ensure that all ministers and church  
25 employees have actually earned the legitimately accredited education,  
26 training, and certification, as defined above, which they claim by their titles  
27 or degrees (such as counselor, therapist, doctor, and so on).

28 **b. Intentional failure to comply.** Intentional refusal to comply with this  
29 ethical standard for educational credentials constitutes perpetrating a fraud upon

1 the church and the world, personally and in the good name of the Assemblies of  
2 God, and the General Council disapproves of such practices;

3 And

4 WHEREAS, The sponsor stated, at that time, the resolution did not address any degrees earned or  
5 conferred in the past from any institution whatsoever, and that all such degrees from  
6 the past would be fully accepted and grandfathered in. And that the resolution if  
7 adopted would be from the time of adoption forward; and

8 WHEREAS, To ensure that the degrees received by the multitude of ministers in our Fellowship  
9 are accepted and grandfathered in, in the years to come; prior to the adoption of  
10 Resolution 9 in 2007, a statement should be added to the bylaws to affirm the vocal  
11 statement given by the sponsor and understood by the voting body in attendance in  
12 2007; therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED, That General Council Bylaws, Article IX. DOCTRINES AND PRACTICES  
14 DISAPPROVED, B. List of Doctrines and Practices Disapproved, Section 13.  
15 Accountability in Educational Attribution, paragraph a. Attribution, page 125, be  
16 amended by the addition of a new paragraph (4) to read as follows:

17 (4) Attribution accepted. All previously earned or conferred degrees prior to  
18 August 2007, from any institution whatsoever shall be fully accepted and  
19 grandfathered in.

Sponsor: Robert L. Downen  
Perry M. Fruscella  
Wallace C. Phillips  
Joseph N. Roberts

Presented \_\_\_\_\_  
Amended \_\_\_\_\_  
Referred \_\_\_\_\_  
Adopted \_\_\_\_\_  
Lost \_\_\_\_\_