

Foundation for Theological Education in Southeast Asia (FTESEA)
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Foundation for Theological Education in Southeast Asia (FTESEA) names Wati Longchar as the next Executive Director

The Board of the Foundation for Theological Education in Southeast Asia (FTESEA) met today and elected the Rev. Dr. Wati Longchar as the next Executive Director. Dr. Longchar will take office on January 1, 2023. He will succeed the Rev. Dr. Henry (H.S.) Wilson who will retire at the end of 2022. Dr. Wilson has served as Executive Director for sixteen years.

As expressed by the search committee: “Our strong recommendation of Dr. Longchar comes from our appreciation for his extensive experience with FTESEA and FTESEA’s ecumenical associates and for the depth of his understanding of the complexity of theological education in Asia. This understanding comes from his many years as a faculty member and administrator in theological education in different parts of Asia. He has been deeply engaged in ecumenical work, for years as a consultant on theological education as well as in other leadership capacities, and so brings genuine understanding of the issues and the related ecumenical programs. The extent of his knowledge can be seen in his very long list of publications on Asian theological education and the Asian context. Dr. Longchar has both the depth of relevant experience and the range of qualifications and skills we are seeking in the next Executive Director.” The Board was unanimous in affirming the report of the committee and electing Dr. Longchar as Executive Director.

Dr. Longchar holds the Bachelor of Divinity from Serampore College, the Master of Divinity from United Theological College in Bangalore, and the Doctor of Theology from the South Asia Theological Research Institute of the Senate of Serampore College (University), where his area of specialization was systematic theology and Asian contextual theologies. Dr. Longchar is an ordained minister of the Baptist Church in Nagaland.

Dr. Longchar will take up his duties on January 1, 2023 at the new FTESEA office located in Chicago.



The Foundation for Theological Education in Southeast Asia supports Christian theological education in China and Southeast Asia through grants to institutions and projects, scholarships, consultations, and publications.