

**AMBS BOARD STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT
SERVICE OF LAMENT, CONFESSION AND COMMITMENT, MARCH 22, 2015**

On behalf of the AMBS Board of Directors, we are here to speak this word of lament and humble, yet forthright commitment.

The AMBS Board laments the terrible abuse many women suffered from John Howard Yoder. We lament our institutional failure, both as board and president, to intervene effectively to protect AMBS students and to publicly hold Yoder accountable.

We lament our institutional lack of transparency and even disinterest to know the full story until these recent years.

We acknowledge that institutions are quick to protect ourselves and our reputations and to silence or marginalize voices we'd rather not heed or believe.

The AMBS board is committed to do all that is within our power to ensure that sexual abuse, failure to intervene effectively, lack of transparency, and institutional self-protection at the expense of any person does not happen again.

We will do all that is within our power to ensure that policies are in place and adhered to in order to assure that AMBS is a safe place for everyone. We hold the President, the Ad Cabinet and all faculty and staff accountable to our Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures as well as any legal requirements related to sexual misconduct. We will take appropriate and strong measures if these policies miscarry, including, if necessary, calling on law enforcement. We will continually review these policies to ensure that they remain effective in assuring everyone's safety.

We commit to listen carefully to those who speak up about things that are wrong or incomplete in AMBS's policies or their implementation.

The AMBS Board commits to doing everything within our power to ensure that any person who experiences abuse at the hands of anyone at AMBS is listened to and that appropriate action is immediately taken to stop the abuse.

We will discern with the President and Academic Dean how AMBS as a theological school will critically teach and represent John Howard Yoder's written corpus in ways that are sensitive to the reality of his widespread violation and abuse of women in particular.

As a Board, we humbly acknowledge that we are human and that AMBS is a human institution. We therefore commit to rely on God's Holy Spirit to guide us and correct us when we may get it wrong. We commit to pray for wisdom and courage to ensure the safety of all associated with the AMBS learning community.