"The future of theology in the changing landscapes of universities in Europe and beyond"

WCC-Report from an International Conference in Oslo, 6-8 June, 2012

DIETRICH WERNER*

Content:

- 1. An important moment in a new international debate on the role of Christian theology for higher education institutions
- 2. Similarities and differences in the situation of theology and theological education in Europe and beyond
- 3. A plea for a more self-confident, public and ecumenical role of Christian theology the WCC General secretary on theology and unity in the changing landscape of World Christianity
- 4. Signs of crisis Marginalization of theology and neglect of humanities in business-driven university policies
- 5. Signs of hope common convictions on the public, scientific and critical role of Christian theology
- 6. The relationship between confessional theology, religious studies and the universities issues for continued reflection
- 7. A need for European and global initiatives to strengthen the role and visibility of theology and theological research/education recommendations for next steps

Always being ready to give an account for the hope that is within you (1.Peter 3,15)

1. An important moment in a new international debate on the role of Christian theology for higher education institutions

Some 45 leading representatives of theological faculties, schools of theology and associations of theological schools from Europe, Africa, Latin America and Asia came together for a three days consultation in Granavollen, Norway, to discuss on the role and relevance of Christian theology for higher education institutions, public and private universities as well as in church related theological seminaries in Europe and beyond. The consultation

Dietrich Werner, WCC international programme coordinator for Ecumenical Theological Education