



EPC

A Global Movement of Evangelical Presbyterian Churches

COMMITTEE REPORT

**World Outreach Executive Director
Search Committee**

Report to the 41st General Assembly



Robert Liddon
Chairman

Summary of Work, 2020-2021:

The EPC's National Leadership Team, with authority given it as representative of EPC to appoint executive employees of World Outreach, formed a Search Committee to conduct a broad-ranging search for the next Executive Director of World Outreach. The Search Committee, consisting of nine members from nine Presbyteries, began meeting (virtually due to the pandemic) in September 2020—working on position description and application packet, and above all praying for the Holy Spirit's leading to the person God would have us call to the position.

Recommendations to the 2021 General Assembly:

None

Work of the Committee in 2020-2021:

The application packet was posted in late 2020, and efforts were made to get the word out through channels deemed most likely to reach persons with interests and experience in global ministry. By the end of February when applications were due, the Search Committee had received applications from a large number of candidates, all of godly character and impressive backgrounds in Kingdom ministry. The Search Committee began interviews first by video conference and subsequently in person. After much prayer and discussion, the nine-member Search Committee unanimously concluded Gabriel de Guia to be best situated to lead World Outreach into the second quarter of this century as its Executive Director, and with authorization from the National Leadership Team engaged him in that capacity.



Gabriel de Guia comes to us after a 26-year career with Cru, an Orlando-based international ministry formerly known as Campus Crusade for Christ. His most recent position, which he has held since 2012, was Senior Aide of Development to the Executive Director for the Jesus Film Project. His other responsibilities have included Advancement (Major Gifts) Officer for the Jesus Film Project, Writer in the Global Communications Office, and Assistant to the President. He also served as College Campus Minister at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, and Indiana State University in Terre Haute, Indiana, from 1996-2002.

He has led or helped lead short-term evangelistic teams to Africa, Asia, Central America, and multiple locations in the United States. In addition, he has provided direct member care to more than 30 Cru missionary families in East Asia; equipped numerous teenaged children of overseas workers in lifestyle evangelism; coached Cru staff in support raising; and served as lead liaison between Cru's mission partners, field directors, and major donors, raising significant funds for multiple global outreach initiatives.

He and his wife, Rachel, have been married since 2007, have three children, and are members of First Presbyterian Church in Orlando, Florida.

A native of Cincinnati, de Guia's parents emigrated to Minnesota from the Philippines in the 1960s and later moved to Ohio. "I'm overwhelmed to be selected to lead EPC World Outreach," de Guia said. "I feel like I'm coming full circle in ministry, as my grandparents

came to faith in Christ through the work of Presbyterian missionaries in the Philippines in the 1920s. And now, I just have a grand sense of God ushering us into this great adventure. It wasn't something I was planning on or dreaming of, but that makes it all the more confirming that this is something God is calling us to. That brings about a ton of excitement."

Representative comments from members of the Search Committee include:

- "We were all greatly encouraged by Gabriel's personal commitment to prayer and evangelism. His passion for the Great Commission flows from his deep personal relationship with Jesus."

TE Dean Weaver, EPC Stated Clerk-elect

- "Going through this process allowed our search committee the opportunity to absolutely find the right person for this role for this time in World Outreach and for our denomination as whole. Gabriel brings superb organizational expertise and excellent interpersonal and organizational communication skills. His experience with technology to advance the gospel will be a huge asset as we continue to grow and expand the outreach capabilities of World Outreach to share the gospel to the most unreached peoples around the world."

RE Johnny Long, Hope Church, Cordova, TN, and World Outreach Committee member

- "As the search committee met to seek out whom God has anointed to lead the EPC World Outreach as the new Executive Director, we came to a unanimous decision that it was Gabriel. I think we all felt that the Holy Spirit truly led us through this lengthy decision-making process, to come to the same mind and decision."

Iris, World Outreach global worker

- "I was impressed with Gabe's humble, prayerful, and Spirit-led approach. My hope is that he will bring fresh eyes to help World Outreach to see in new ways that we may continue building upon the great foundation passed down from our former outstanding Directors."

TE Kevin Cauley, Darlington, SC, and former World Outreach Committee Chairman

Please join me and the Search Committee in welcoming Gabriel, Rachel, and their family to EPC World Outreach.


Committee Members:

Iris, Presbytery of the East
TE Kevin Cauley, Presbytery of the Mid-Atlantic
RE Brad Gill, Presbytery of Midwest
TE Julie Hawkins, Presbytery of the Pacific Northwest
RE Tami Kaiser, Presbytery of Florida and the Caribbean
RE Robert Liddon (Chairman), Presbytery of the Central South
RE Johnny Long, Presbytery of the West
Piers, Presbytery of the Southeast
TE Dean Weaver, Presbytery of the Alleghenies

Committee Meeting Dates:

September 30, 2020: Video Conference
October 21, 2020: Video Conference
November 17, 2020: Video Conference
December 10, 2020: Video Conference
January 11, 2021: Video Conference
February 11, 2021: Video Conference
March 31, 2021: Video Conference
April 21-22, 2021: Orlando, FL
April 26, 2021: Video Conference

Respectfully submitted,


Robert Liddon, Chairman

June 2021