Revised Rubric Proposal for STH DMin Project Proposals – 4/18/19

1. Creates a title that succinctly condenses the main idea of the thesis

2. Identifies a problem and puts it in context
   • Expresses the issue in ways that make it relevant to a broad audience
   • Applies secondary literature to explain the extent of the problem
   • Funnels the big issue into the student’s particular context
   • Describes how the problem manifests itself in the student’s place of ministry, giving attention to factors that exacerbate the challenge, such as demographic, theological, sociological, or organizational patterns.

3. Provides a normative ideal and justifies its use
   • Roots a vision of a better future in rich theological soil
   • Analyzes biblical, theological, and/or social scientific sources to illuminate the ideal
   • Demonstrates that the ideal is coherent and compelling within the context and tradition wherein the student is situated

4. Explains what process will be used to begin to bridge the gap between the current situation and the ideal
   • Develops specific and concrete actions that can be employed to narrow the gap in one year
   • Bases the proposed methodology on an appropriate theoretical foundation
   • Clarifies why the theoretical foundation is relevant and useful in the student’s context

5. Proposes how to assess the outcome
   • Indicates explicitly what will be evaluated
   • Chooses fitting means to appraise the outcome
   • Determines what will be signs of improvement
   • Sets a time, or several times, to evaluate the transformation

6. Constructs a chapter outline, or its equivalent, that shows that the argument can be developed in a thoughtful and convincing manner

7. Compiles a sufficient bibliography to start the proposed work on the problem and its context, the ideal, the methodology, and the assessment

8. Writes clearly and effectively, using proper grammar, spelling, punctuation, and formatting