

A Concluding Report from the Presidential Search Committee to the Seminary Community and to the Church at Large

Jan. 22, 2021

On the afternoon of Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021, the Presidential Search Committee (PSC; comprised of four members of the Board of Regents and seven members of the faculty) presented the electors its recommended list of nominees for the next president of Concordia Seminary and a final report on the search process. The list and the report are the culmination of a search that began in the fall of 2019. Each of the 35 original nominees was carefully reviewed in light of the necessary and desired qualifications expressed by the Seminary community and the wider church for Concordia Seminary's next president and on the basis of his Pastor's Information Form (PIF), Self-Evaluation Tool (SET), curriculum vitae, references and inventories. After much discussion and prayer, the list of nominees was reduced to the seven nominees regarded as most promising. The seven nominees were then additionally evaluated on the basis of interviews (with the PSC and with the Seminary community) and psychological assessments. Throughout the search, the PSC has prayerfully and deliberately listened to a wide variety of voices in the church. They have considered it an honor to serve the church in this way and have sought to be faithful to the Lord in their work.

In accordance with the 2019 Synodical Handbook bylaw 3.10.5.6.2.g: *The search committee shall prepare a list of at least five candidates that it recommends to the electors as the list from which the election slate is prepared*, the PSC recommends the following candidates to be qualified and suited to meet the needs of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis by serving as its president.

Dr. Gerhard H. Bode Jr.
Dr. Phillip L. Brandt
Dr. Joel C. Elowsky
Dr. Benjamin D. Haupt
Dr. Joel D. Lehenbauer
Dr. David W. Loy
Dr. Gregory P. Seltz

Where are we at in the process?

Open forums are conducted (3.10.5.6.2 f) – Nov. 8, 2019.

Search committee reports needs of the Seminary and the required and desired qualifications of the nominees (3.10.5.6.2 d) – Feb. 9, 2020.

Nominations were opened on (3.10.5.6.2 a) - July 2, 2020.

Nominations were closed on – Aug. 31, 2020.

Official list published (3.10.5.6.2 b) – Sept. 9, 2020.

Recommendations or objections filed with Board of Regents (3.10.5.6.2 c) - Open to Feb. 6, 2021: the date of the election.

Search committee reports on evaluation of and credentials of nominees (3.10.5.6.2 e) – Oct. 28, 2020.

Search committee submits a list of recommended nominees from which the election slate is to be prepared (3.10.5.6.2 g) – Jan. 19, 2021.

Electors with Board of Regents voting individually add or delete names to finalize the slate (3.10.5.6.2 i.3) – Jan. 23, 2021.

Added names enter the interview process (3.10.5.6.2.i.4) – Jan. 23, 2021.

Electors consider the recommendations and evaluations of the candidates on the slate (3.10.5.6.2 j) – Jan. 23, 2021.

Election and Call of the president (3.10.5.6.2 k) – Feb. 6, 2021.