



CONCORDIA SEMINARY
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI
NOVEMBER 4-5, 2021

Thursday, November 4, 2021

Board Members present: Rev. Dr. Tyler Arnold, Dr. Paul Edmon, Mr. Paul Hegland, Rev. Bruce Keseman, Dr. John Lang, Rev. Peter Lange, Rev. W. Maximillian Mons, Mr. Bruce Paradis, Dr. Michael Staub, Mr. Mark Stern, Rev. Dr. John Wille.

Board Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: President Thomas Egger, Provost Douglas Rutt, Mr. Michael Louis, Mr. Chad Cattoor, Associate Provost Benjamin Haupt.

Guest Present: President Matthew Harrison.

Chairman Mons called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. President Harrison was present for this session only.

Devotion. Mr. Hegland opened the meeting with a devotion from Matthew 5.

Minutes and Agenda. Chairman Mons reviewed the agenda.

MOTION: Dr. Edmon moved to approve the minutes from the August 12-13, 2021 meeting as presented; the motion [21-50] was seconded and carried.

MOTION: Mr. Hegland moved to adopt the agenda as presented; the motion [21-51] was seconded and carried.

Governance and Audit Committee. Vice Chairman Arnold reported that the mission and vision update process has begun with administrative discussions. He also reported that Chairman Mons is working on a process for board self-evaluation.

A meeting to discuss the Campus Master Plan was held last week including faculty members, Board members, and staff, to obtain additional input.

The Joint Seminary Advisory Committee (the executive committees for both seminaries) will meet for lunch today, to discuss various items.

Mr. Cattoor presented the audited financial statements for discussion. He reported that there were no adjustments to the financial statements as a result of the audit, and no findings. This year's audit included an A-133 Single audit which found no internal control issues. On behalf of the Committee, Dr. Arnold moved that the Board accept and issue the audited financial statements. It was noted that federal funds are not material to the Seminary's financial statement. After discussion, the motion [21-52] carried.

On behalf of the Committee, Dr. Arnold moved that the Board affirm the conflict of interest policy and that all Board members sign an acknowledgment thereof; the motion [21-53] carried. Mr. Cattoor distributed copies of the conflict of interest policy acknowledgment and each Board member signed a copy.

Dr. Wille led the Board in a review and discussion of sections of the Board Manual. Chairman Mons recommended that the Board establish a process for the annual review of the President, whereby the Governance and Audit Committee will complete the annual review of the President prior to the Board meeting in August; at the August meeting, the Committee would present the results of its review, and the President would present his goals and the Seminary's theme for the forthcoming academic year. The same timeline would be followed for the five-year renewal review, which will include a more detailed 360 review.

President's Report. President Egger directed the Board to his written report. He informed the Board of the successful process to launch livestreams of daily chapel. He is continuing to encourage regular chapel attendance by faculty and students.

There is significant demand for Seminary training from partner churches; the administration is working on a policy for international arrangements, including a financial assistance policy for students from abroad, to be presented to the Board for approval at a future meeting. Faculty availability is also a constraint; it was noted that faculty workload is being studied by the Academic Committee. Program prioritization will help with evaluation of various opportunities. It was also noted that the Seminary should inform and coordinate with appropriate Synod personnel in the Office of International Mission with respect to all such international activities.

President Egger is working with staff to launch the next capital campaign in 2023, which will be coordinated with the master planning process.

The search for the next provost is under way in light of Dr. Rutt's impending retirement. The updated position description will be presented to the Academic Committee for review. Candidates are to be received by November 24. The review process will include interviews and on-campus visits. Depending on timing, a special meeting may be called for interviews.

It was noted that for future discussion, it would be helpful for the Board to have an organizational chart showing which administrators are responsible for oversight of various activities and publications on campus.

Discussion continued regarding opportunities for informal Board-faculty dialogue.

The Board recessed for Chapel at 9:40 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 11:00 a.m.

The Board noted that today marks the 26th anniversary of the death of former CSL faculty member and CTS President Dr. Robert Preus, and gave thanks to God for the gift of Dr. Preus's service to the Church.

Academic Committee. Dr. Edmon directed the Board to the written report on the site visit to Concordia University Irvine. The report indicates that there are concerns with the CMC program that need to be addressed. He reported that the Committee has asked the administration to report to the Committee prior to the February meeting with a plan quantifying in detail what would be required for CSL to oversee and supervise the Cross Cultural Ministry Center in the manner we would wish for a program of CSL, in terms of staff time, assigned individuals, process, and cost. The administration was also asked to consult with the Pastoral Formation Committee of the Synod. Discussion followed. Dr. Egger stated that in his view, any alternate route program must have (1) a clearly defined purpose and demonstration that the students in it need to be enrolled in that particular program as opposed to the normal residential MDiv, (2) theological depth, and (3) connection/acclimation to Synod at large.

Dr. Rutt directed the Board to his written report, and discussed the accreditation requirements as they relate to Board responsibilities.

Dr. Edmon moved to enter executive session with the President and Provost present; the motion was seconded and carried.

The board entered executive session at 11:33 a.m.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION, including adoption of Action Items 21-54 through 21-56 and Motions 21-57 through 21-58]

The board exited executive session at 11:39 a.m.

Finance Committee. On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Paradis moved approval of the Procurement Policy; the motion was seconded. Mr. Cattoor led a discussion on the reason for implementation; due to receipt of federal funding relating to COVID, a procurement policy is required in the event federal funding is obtained for non-financial aid purposes. The motion carried [21-59].

On behalf of the Committee, Mr. Paradis moved approval of the schedule of Tuition and Fees for the 2022-2023 Academic Year. Mr. Stern moved to amend the fee schedule to clarify that the annual vicarage fee applies to CMC students on vicarage, in each year of vicarage; the motion to amend was seconded. After discussion, Dr. Edmon moved the previous question; the motion carried. On a voice vote, the amendment was not adopted. Dr. Edmon moved the previous question; the motion carried. The main motion carried [21-60].

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:56 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:10 p.m.

Recruitment and Enrollment. Rev. Keseman directed board to the written recruitment and enrollment report. Dr. Haupt discussed new hires in the recruitment area, including the call of Rev. Tom Schlund for recruitment in the western half of the U.S. A position remains posted for the eastern part of the U.S. Dr. Haupt has been visiting CUS schools and meeting with CUS theological faculty and pre-seminary staff. Discussion followed.

Dr. Edmon moved to enter executive session with staff present; the motion was seconded and carried.

The board entered executive session at 1:36 p.m.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION, including adoption of Action Item **21-58**]

The board exited executive session at 5:09 p.m.

Mr. Hegland moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded and carried, and the Board adjourned at 5:09 p.m. with the benediction.

Friday, November 5, 2021

Concordia Seminary Board Members present: Rev. Dr. Tyler Arnold, Dr. Paul Edmon, Mr. Paul Hegland, Rev. Bruce Keseman, Dr. John Lang, Rev. Peter Lange Rev. W. Maximillian Mons, Mr. Bruce Paradis, Dr. Michael Staub, Mr. Mark Stern, Rev. Dr. John Wille.

Concordia Seminary Board Members Absent: None.

Concordia Theological Seminary Board Members present: Mr. David Daniels, Mr. Mark Meehl, Rev. Dr. Scott Murray, Rev. Roger Paavola, Mr. John Powers, Mr. Jack Schumacher, Dr. Bradd Stucky, Dr. Beverly Yahnke.

Concordia Theological Seminary Board Members Absent: Rev. William Cwirla, Rev. Dr. Korey Maas.

Concordia Seminary Staff Present: President Thomas Egger, Provost Douglas Rutt, Mr. Michael Louis, Mr. Chad Cattoor, and Associate Provost Benjamin Haupt.

Concordia Theological Seminary Staff Present: President Lawrence R. Rast, Jr., Mr. Lance Hoffman.

Guests Present: Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, Rev. Dr. James Baneck.

Dr. Murray called the meeting to order at 8 a.m.

Devotion. President Rast opened the meeting with a Responsive Prayer 2 and a devotion from Ephesians 1.

State of the Seminaries. Dr. Egger presented an update on the state of Concordia Seminary, and his 20-year vision for the Seminary. Discussion followed.

Dr. Rast presented an update on the state of Concordia Theological Seminary at 175 years, and noted the recent 10 year renewal of accreditation of CTS by the Higher Learning Commission and the Association of Theological Schools. Discussion followed regarding challenges facing seminary education.

President Harrison shared his thoughts regarding the current state of the seminaries, and his appreciation of current seminary leadership (both the seminary presidents and the boards of regents). He also noted the importance of providing the best possible theological training for our pastors.

The Boards recessed for Chapel at 9:58, and reconvened at 11:00.

Dr. James Baneck provided a report from the Pastoral Formation Committee (PFC, consisting of the two seminary president, Synod Chief Mission Officer Rev. Kevin Robson, and Dr. Baneck as an advisory member), which operates pursuant to Bylaw 3.10.4. The PFC is responsible for recommending any new routes to ministry and reviewing current routes. It also works on assignments from Synod convention resolutions. It is currently dealing with 2019 Res. 6-02 “To Promote Residential Seminary Education as the Preferred Option for the Preparation of Men for Pastoral Ministry” and Res. 6-03A, “To Enhance the Specific Ministry Pastor (SMP) Program”. Dr. Baneck outlined work done by the PFC in relation to these resolutions.

Discussion continued on the PFC’s evaluation of the SMP program. It was noted that the special circumstances requiring SMPs may commend leaving ordination at its current timeline after two years (versus four) so as to put them in the field more quickly.

The Boards thanked Dr. Baneck for his insights.

The Boards recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m., and reconvened at 1:00 p.m. Rev. Dr. Charles Gieschen joined the Boards as a guest for the afternoon session.

Future of Pastoral Formation. Dr. Rast presented his thoughts regarding the future of pastoral formation in the LCMS, and led the Boards in discussion.

Future Meeting Scheduling. The 2022 joint meeting will be held in St. Louis; November 3-4, 2022 were agreed for the dates. The 2023 joint meeting will be held in Fort Wayne on November 9-10, 2023.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS, NOVEMBER 4-5, 2021

Mr. Hegland moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded and carried, and the Board adjourned at 2:25 p.m. with the benediction.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark O. Stern, Board Secretary