



CONCORDIA SEMINARY
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI
AUGUST 11-12, 2022

Thursday, August 11, 2022

Board Members present: Rev. Dr. Tyler Arnold, Rev. Joel Brondos, 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.

Board Members Absent: *Rev. Dr. John Wille, excused for Concordia Wisconsin board meeting.*

Staff Present: President Thomas Egger, Provost Ronald Mudge, Mr. Michael Louis, Mr. Chad Cattoor. Mrs. Vicki Biggs joined the meeting for the morning session only.

Chairman Mons called the meeting to order at 8 a.m

Devotion. President Egger opened the meeting with a devotion from 1 Thessalonians, including 1 Thessalonians 2:8, the verse used as the theme for the coming academic year “sharing the Gospel, sharing our lives”.

Minutes and Agenda. Chairman Mons reviewed the agenda.

MOTION: Dr. Edmon moved to approve the minutes from the May 19-20, 2022 meeting (regular sessions); the motion [22-36] was seconded and carried.

MOTION: Dr. Staub moved to adopt the agenda as amended; the motion [22-37] was seconded and carried.

MOTION: Mr. Hegland moved to approve the consent agenda; the motion was seconded and carried. This approved the following action items:

- [22-38]: Addition of Two Subsections to BOR Policy 4.2
- [22-39]: Revision of Faculty Handbook Retirement Policy
- [22-40]: Modification of Housing Allowance for Dr. Seifrid
- [22-41]: Modification of Housing Allowance for Dr. Thompson

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

The Board entered executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION, including adoption of Action Items 22-42, 22-43, and 22-44]

The Board exited executive session.

The Board recessed for Chapel at 9:25 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:30 a.m. in the President's Room with faculty and guest present for discussion of the drafts of sections of the proposed strategic plan. Guests included Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan, faculty members Professors Abjar Bahkou, Joel Biermann, Kent Burreson, Kevin Golden, Erik Herrmann, Rick Marrs, Glenn Nielsen, Joel Okamoto, David Peter, Ely Prieto, Paul Robinson, Douglas Rutt, Tim Saleska, David Schmitt, Bruce Schuchard, Mart Thompson, Jon Vieker, and Deaconess Gillian Bond.

Overview of Strategic Plan Process. President Egger delivered an introduction and overview of the strategic planning process. Chairman Mons introduced the chairmen of the related Board committees (Academics, Finance, Enrollment, and Governance & Audit), who will facilitate the discussion groups, and dismissed the groups for their conversations.

Following the group conversations, the Board recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m. Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan was present for the afternoon session.

Strategic Plan Process, continued. The Board discussed its conversations with faculty and their input on the strategic plan draft.

Dr. Egger stated that the goal for the meeting is to reach consensus on the best draft to put together for review and approval at the November meeting. Overall, the document is to be used both for internal prioritization, as well as to assist the Board in its oversight of the Seminary operations with regular reporting on progress toward the defined targets. It also communicates goals and aspirations to the Church at large. Conciseness is important. It was noted that it would be helpful to assign elements to the Board committees to allow for ongoing monitoring of our progress toward the targets. We should also assess, in retrospect, the successes, partial successes, and failures from the most recently completed previous strategic plan.

Discussion continued regarding Priority 1, Faithful & Full-Person Formation.

Governance and Audit Committee. Chairman Mons led a discussion regarding governance provisions in the Board Manual. The Board Committee chairmen will funnel information requests to appropriate staff.

Strategic Plan Process, continued. Discussion continued regarding Priority 2, Commitment to Community & Collaboration.

Board Appointments. Mr. Stern moved to enter executive session of the eligible voting members of the Board; the motion was seconded and carried

The Board entered executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION, including adoption of Action Item 22-45]

The Board exited executive session.

It was reported that Rev. W. Max Mons was re-appointed to a six-year board-appointed term from 2022–2028.

The Board recessed at 5:20 p.m.

Friday, August 12, 2022

Board Members present: Rev. Dr. Tyler Arnold, Rev. Joel Brondos, 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 Ronald Mudge, Associate Provost Benjamin Haupt, Mr. Michael Louis, Mr. Chad Cattoor.

Guest Present: Rev. Dr. Lee Hagan.

Chairman Mons called the meeting to order at 8 a.m.

Devotion. Rev. Keseman opened the meeting with a devotion from Luke 12.

Mission and Vision Discussion. President Egger introduced a discussion on potential updates to the mission and vision statement. He presented the current statements and some proposed edits to the vision statement; he recommends that the current mission statement be retained.

Mr. Hegland moved to approve the revisions to the vision statement, and the motion was seconded. After discussion, Dr. Edmon moved to amend the motion to approve the vision statement revisions and form a committee to revise the mission statement and report to the November board meeting; the motion was

seconded. The motion was ruled a substitute motion; the motion failed on a show of hands. The original motion carried on voice vote [22-46].

Enrollment Report. Dr. Haupt directed the Board to his written report. He reported that our incoming MDiv class for the fall will be 41, and that we are grateful to the Lord that He sent 41 men to our campus to study for the Office of the Holy Ministry. Discussion continued regarding changes in approach to recruitment methods and strategies.

Advisory Delegate Designation. Chairman Mons noted that the Board needs to designate its advisory delegate and alternate advisory delegate for the 2023 Synod Convention. The floor was opened for nominations. Dr. Lang, Rev. Mons, and Dr. Staub were nominated. A motion to close nominations was seconded and carried. Upon paper ballot, no one received a majority and Dr. Staub's name was eliminated. Upon a second paper ballot, Rev. Mons was elected as the Board's advisory delegate [22-47].

The floor was opened for nominations for alternate delegate. Dr. Lang and Dr. Staub were nominated. A motion to close nominations was seconded and carried. Upon paper ballot, Dr. Lang was elected as the Board's alternate advisory delegate [22-48].

District Convention Report. Secretary Stern distributed copies of a summary of district convention resolutions from the 2021 and 2022 district conventions that address the seminaries and/or routes to ministry. A brief discussion followed. Secretary Stern also distributed a draft of an overture responsive to the mandate of 2019 Convention Res. 6-03A, which requires "That the joint boards of regents prepare an overture to the Synod on the timing of vicarage and ordination for the SMP program for consideration in convention in 2022". The draft overture would leave the timing of ordination after the second year of the program, as it currently is, consistent with prior Synod convention actions. The draft will be shared with Concordia Theological Seminary and placed on the agenda for the November 2022 joint board meeting.

The Board recessed for Chapel at 9:25 a.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:30 a.m.

Strategic Plan Process, continued. Discussion continued regarding Priority 3, Strong Recruitment & Enrollment.

Mr. Hegland moved to enter executive session with Dr. Egger and guest present; the motion was seconded and carried.

The Board entered executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

The Board exited executive session.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Finance Committee. The Board welcomed Mrs. Vicki Biggs to this session, and she directed the Board to her written report. She reported very successful results in multiple areas of giving. Discussion followed. The Board thanked Mrs. Biggs and her team for their efforts, with gratitude to the Lord for His provision in all things.

Mr. Cattoor presented the financial statements for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, and noted the work of the accounting office in facilitating timely and accurate statements. He stated that gifts were up, with a record year of giving, but financial markets were down, resulting in a decrease in overall net assets. It was noted that the endowment is managed such that our annual withdrawal rate is applied against a three-year quarterly rolling average of endowment balances, to smooth out the peaks and valleys in portfolio performance.

Mr. Cattoor noted that the field work for the annual audit will begin next week, and the audited financials will be submitted to the Board at the November meeting for review and approval. He reported that bids for the Seminary's insurance package have been requested from several providers, and a recommendation will come before the Board in November.

A motion to enter executive session with Dr. Egger and guest present was seconded and carried.

The Board entered executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION]

The Board exited executive session.

Strategic Plan Process, continued. Discussion continued regarding Priority 4, Lutheran Resources & Reach.

District Convention Report, continued. The Board reviewed the proposed draft overture relating to the timing of vicarage and ordination for the SMP program, and agreed that the Secretary will transmit it to the Concordia Theological Seminary Board of Regents, and to the Pastoral Formation Committee, for their respective input.

Discussion continued regarding the synopsis of district convention resolutions from the 2021 and 2022 district conventions that address the seminaries and/or routes to ministry. It was noted that the Seminary

ought to formulate arguments for (1) the value of residential pastoral formation and (2) pastoral formation at seminaries of our Synod rather than non-Lutheran seminaries. The Academic Committee will prepare heads of overtures for discussion.

Board Manual. Dr. Wille led the Board in a discussion of the Board Manual sections dealing with the Seminary president. It was noted that a lunch meeting should be scheduled with the Student Association leadership at one of the 2023 board meetings, consistent with the provisions of the Board Manual providing for appropriate communications in that respect.

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

The Board entered executive session.

[EXECUTIVE SESSION, including adoption of Action Item 22-49]

The Board exited executive session.

Mr. Hegland moved to adjourn; the motion was seconded and carried, and the Board adjourned at 4:32 p.m. with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark O. Stern, Board Secretary