

SEMINARY DEAN AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR CHURCH RELATIONS

Department: North Park Theological Seminary

Reports To: University President

Position Summary: The Seminary Dean is the senior administrative officer of the Seminary charged with the responsibility of assuring fulfillment of mission, effective student learning, advancement of faculty scholarship, and responsible stewardship of financial resources for the Seminary. In collaboration with the University President, the Seminary Dean assures that the Seminary is an effective and integrated component of North Park University, that it appropriately addresses the preparation of students for ministry in the Evangelical Covenant Church and other churches, and that it faithfully maintains the University Mission and advances the University's core identity. The Seminary Dean oversees the work of, and collaborates with, the Seminary's Dean of Faculty, the Seminary's Dean of Students, and selective other individuals within the Seminary's administrative organization.

Essential Responsibilities:

- Serves as a member of the University's Senior Leadership Team and collaborates with the University President and other members of the Leadership Team to advance the mission, identity, educational programs, and administrative operations of the University.
- Provides leadership of the Seminary, consistent with the expectations of the University and in support of the ministerial requirements and needs of the Evangelical Covenant Church (ECC), in collaboration with the University's Senior Leadership Team and in concert with the University President.
- Serves as the primary liaison between the Seminary and the ECC in areas related to the education of ministerial candidates and serves on appropriate Boards and Commissions within the ECC.
- Working with the University President, guides development and implementation of a strategic vision and direction for the seminary to assure an active, engaged, and dynamic place of learning.
- Serves as the University's liaison to the Association of Theological Schools.
- Serves as the liaison of the University President to the Seminary Committee of the North Park University Board of Trustees.
- Provides oversight and leadership of the administrative, management, budget, and organizational requirements of the Seminary, consistent with expectations of the University's Board of Trustees, the University President, and the Senior Leadership Team.
- Supports and promotes excellence in faculty teaching, scholarship, and engagement with the church and community at large.
- Collaborates with the University President and the Vice President for Advancement and Alumni Relations in assuring a robust fund-raising program for the Seminary; assumes an active role in identifying individuals, foundations, and other granting groups with interest in seminary education; collaborates with the Office of Development and the University President in approaching these sources of potential gifts.
- Serves as liaison to the ECC's Council of Administrators, Council of Superintendents, Executive Committee of the Ministerium, and Board of the Ordered Ministry.
- Represents the University to the ECC, local churches, and other organizations; speaks and/or preaches regularly in local ECC and non-ECC churches building relationships with churches and congregants.

Essential Qualifications:

- A graduate degree from an accredited seminary.
- An earned PhD from an accredited seminary or university is strongly preferred.
- Ministerial credentials in the Evangelical Covenant Church.
- Teaching, pastoral, and administrative experience in both church and educational contexts.
- An ability to form and articulate a dynamic and innovative vision to further deepen the mission and core values of the Seminary.
- An understanding of, and support for, church ministry in multiple cultural and ethnic communities.
- A personal faith in and commitment to Jesus Christ, consistent with the expectations of North Park University and the Evangelical Covenant Church.
- A personal commitment to the mission, vision, and core institutional identity of North Park University and the mission of North Park Theological Seminary.

About North Park

North Park Theological Seminary is the only seminary of the Evangelical Covenant Church and an embedded, parallel institution of North Park University. Located for over 130 years on the land of the Miami and Potawatomi tribes in what is today Chicago's northside, North Park University is committed to serving diverse racial and ethnic populations and has recently been designated a Hispanic Serving Institution. It is committed to excellence in both ministerial and academic formation and is accredited by the Association of Theological Schools and the Higher Learning Commission. It is a member of the Association of Chicago Theological Schools, a twelve-member consortium of schools from a variety of denominational backgrounds. North Park Theological Seminary offers the following degrees: Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Theological Studies, Master of Arts in Christian Ministry, Master of Arts in Christian Formation, Doctor of Ministry in Preaching, and Doctor of Ministry in Urban Ministry Leadership. The Seminary offers dual degrees with North Park University's School of Business and Nonprofit Management. North Park Theological Seminary offers some degrees through denominational conference cohort formats. It also runs a degree program in restorative justice ministry serving over 100 students incarcerated at Stateville Correctional Center (a men's prison outside of Chicago) and Logan Correctional Center (a women's facility).

North Park Theological Seminary values diversity among its faculty and is committed to building a racially and culturally diverse intellectual community, and strongly encourages the nomination and candidacies of persons who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color regardless of gender.

NOTE: Nothing in this job description restricts the supervisor's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this job at any time.