

Saint Paul School of Theology
July 2020 Summer Board Meeting Minutes
July 28-9, 2021
Zoom

July 8-9, 2021

Board Meeting
Zoom

Board members present: Tex Sample, Lee Myane, James Tindall, Amy Hogan, Mark Faulkner, Dustin Petz, Linda Shipman, David Wiggs, Sharon Cleaver, Jennifer Ahrens-Simms, Arden Borden, Andy Bryan, Rogers Strickland

Guests: Leanna Walkowiak, Jeanne Hoeft, Neil Blair, Fritz Mooty, Anne Walker, Israel Kamudzandu, Shannon Handcock, Jennifer Smith, Matt Mills, Sharon ??? Guest with Lily Foundation, Richard Liantonio, Jack Gregory, Jay Simmons,

Call to Order: 1:02pm by Tex Sample
Devotional by Bishop Tindall

Lily Grant Update by Jay Simmons
Introduction of Sharon Tan as grant writer. Sharon gave update on Lily Foundation Plan Proposal

Trust and Callaboration Task Force Update by Anne Walker
VPAAD Search Update by Amy Hogan
Ads will come out soon in the search to replace Jeanne. Possible candidate by March 2022

Guest Speaker: Jeanne Hoeft: Jeanne presented her personal story to the board and guests.

ATS Self Study presentation by Jeanne Hoeft.

We have as, Saint Paul School of Theology, accreditations from ATS and HLC. ATS comprehensive Evaluation is September 27-30 on site. ATS is every 10 years. Board issues to be addressed include. Governance: has the board seen itself as having oversight? Financially: Has the board addressed financial concerns from ATS in 2018. Planning: Are we making decisions based on solid planning and following through. Are plans coordinated for the whole institution?

Jeanne believes we have addressed all the concerns. As board members we need to be familiar with Standards 2, 9 and 10. SPST meets these standards and continues to improve. Financial trends are positive and need to keep trending upward. Board needs to continue strategic planning and follow through. Board needs to continue the trend of responsible governance. We also need to continue the culture of assessment and improvement.

Recommendations:

1. Integrated Plan for Institutional Effectiveness
2. Support for Global Engagement
3. Expand Diversity and Increase Enrollment
4. Maintain Financial Equilibrium and Quality Education.

There will be an August Board meeting to prepare for ATS visit.

Conclusion Jeane's Report. Full report to be posted on Moodle.

Board Conversation regarding Vision/Dreams for Saint Paul's future, guided by Tex

This was a free flowing conversation that began slowly. Discussion of what the church will look like after Covid. The reality is different for each unique context. Suggestion to watch for trends and the break those down for analysis. People from outside there are visiting online. SPST is attracting people in different ways. Pastors have the opportunity to attend worship in other places. Potential doctoral studies around why pastors leave or retire. Church will look completely different post covid. African churches have not yet opened back up. People are still afraid. Transition to worship at home for many families, extended summer break. Church has become production vs activities which is very evident with children and youth.

Small Group breakouts produced other comments:

Churches are adapting to new delivery systems. How do we deliver good content? Sustainability of Certificate Programs. Need qualified voices in teaching. Practical learning: pastoral care, finances, what is the mechanism to have these trainings. Do we market SPST as a seminary to help the local church.

Are all congregations sustainable? SPST as a resource for the local church. How do we unite church and seminary.

Digital Ministry. The church is now a digital space. How to be effective in digital ministry? Ongoing LGBTQ issues. How do we have difficult conversations? Can we be a stronger voice for inclusion.

Whole Group Discussions:

Tex requested a short sentence or statement to describe the Ethos of SPST

Comments: Inclusion in motion, Capacious Freedom, Adaptive tooling, Innovation for needs of tomorrow, Innovative leaders in charge, Brand identity, Brand archetypes

Dustin presented his understanding of Brand Identity or Brand Archetypes: sage, hero, drummer, cartaker...

Tex shared as a pastor you continually get presented with things. "The future is coming at us." So Tex asked the question, "What is coming at us?"

Comments: Faith loyalty is coming at us. Partnerships in conversation need external support. Board needs to send students. We need resources. Faculty retirement. Staff support.

Dismissal and Prayer by David Wiggs.

Summer Meeting Day 2 July 9, 2021

Zoom

Board members and guests present: Neil Blair, Tex Sample, Lee Myane, Leanna Walkowiak, Jeanne Hoeft, Amy Hogan, Matt Mills, Fritz Mutti, Linda Shipman, Anne Walker, Shannan Handcock, Dustin Petz, Sharon Cleaver, Jack Gregory, Linda Louderback, Richard Liantonio, Mark Faulkner, Arden Borgen, Jennifer Ahrens-Simms, David Wiggs, Andy Bryan

Call to Order: 8:02am by Tex Sample

Jeanne Hoeft: Prayer

***Motion to approve minutes from Spring Meeting by Linda, second by Lee**

Discussion of days and dates for fall meeting: two day meetings seem to be the preference. Fall meeting to be Thursday and Friday. Spring 2022 meeting to be Friday and Saturday with Celebration Dinner.

Vote to approve minutes and future schedule approved.

Presidents Report:

Neil updated board on Executive Leadership Team.
Anne Walker will be leaving July 22 to take a position at Phillips in Tulsa
Jeanne and Tex are conferring on how to fill Anne's position.

OKC Report from Anne Walker:

New technology and furniture upgrades are coming. Welcoming Rev. Kellog as new chapel coordinator.
OKCU has new president and provost. Anne gave a personal note of appreciation to SPST.

Admissions and Communications Update by Shannon Handcock:

Just shy of enrollment goal. Should reach the goal by July 15. Inquiry pool is increasing, up 50% for OKC
Admission is an institution wide mission. Hybrid model is popular.

Back to actual Presidents Report by Neil Blair

Board requested a transcript of Neil's report. Neil talked about unprecedented opportunities, renewed vision and approach in the covid age. Time to build and innovate. Neil acknowledged a change in approach to leadership: What, how, why. He is gathering invites and analyzing growth. Steps to implement: meet with trustees in small groups, listen, utilize comments to establish a plan to share with constituents. Points of emphasis: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Neil will work with communications coach to know our words make a difference.

Board comments were affirmative of Neils report.

Academic Committee: Lee Myane

ATS Report presented for approval. Complaints Policy for Faculty Handbook presented for approval.
Discussion: Andy inquired about an changes to Board Handbook. Changes only apply to Faculty Handbook.
Both reports were voted on to be accepted.

Governance Committee: Mark Faulkner

Officers and Committee assignments on hold

Presentation from Emmanuel Clever II

Governance Committee: Mark Faulkner

Governance committee presented slate of officers for 2022. Passed unanimously
Governance committee presented committee chairs and members. Passed unanimously.
Motion to approve at-large members passed unanimously.

Resource Committee: Linda Shipman

No motions to come before the board. Matt Mills gave a description of the dashboard report. June 30 is the end of the physical year. Every category surpassed budget

Strategic Planning and Evaluation Committee: Amy Hogan/Dustin Petz

Provided executive summary and a budgeted planning cycle

Executive Committee: No report

Closing prayer and meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Lee B. Myane
Board Secretary

