



# NALS

North American Lutheran Seminary

## POSITION DESCRIPTION FOR SEMINARY PRESIDENT

### **Preamble**

The North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) is the sole seminary of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC). The primary purpose of the seminary is to train and equip pastors and other leaders to fulfill the mission, values and priorities of the North American Lutheran Church. It will reflect the core values of the NALC—*Christ Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, and Congregationally Focused*.

### **Position Title**

Seminary President

### **Supervision**

The Seminary President is the chief academic and executive officer of the North American Lutheran Seminary (NALS) and reports directly to the Board of Regents regarding the all aspects of the daily life and administration of the Seminary, The Board of Regents, in turn, is responsible to the Bishop and the North American Lutheran Church (NALC) Executive Council. The Seminary President, along with the Chair of the Board of Regents, provides an annual report to the NALC annual convocation.

### **Role**

The President provides spiritual, theological/academic and organizational leadership to NALS seminarians, faculty, and staff. Working collaboratively with the Board of Regents and the leadership of the NALC, the President is a primary figure in the incarnate shaping of the Seminary's vision and mission and their implementation. The President serves as an ambassador for the NALS both within the NALC and to the wider church.

### **Qualifications**

- Have proven organizational leadership experience—including abilities in institutional management and growth
- Experience in leading strategic planning processes and their implementation
- Keen understanding and background in development and fundraising
- Possess excellent written and verbal competencies

- Engage others with humility, integrity, trustworthiness, and reliability
- Be a leader among Lutheran constituencies
- Have a minimum of five years of parish experience
- Earned Ph.D. in a theological or educational discipline (preferred, not required)
- If ordained, candidate must be certified and in good standing as a NALC pastor; if not ordained, candidate must be a member of a NALC congregation

### **Position Description/Responsibilities**

A strong commitment to the mission, growth, and outreach of the gospel in accordance with the Great Commission

### **Spiritual Leadership**

- In the office of NALS President, proclaim the Lordship of Jesus Christ and his desire for all people to know his love for them
- As the NALS President, be the voice of spiritual leadership of the seminary
- Lead a life worthy of the calling to which one has been called
- Be faithful to the Holy Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions
- Encourage, love, and care for students, faculty, staff, Regents, and alumni/ae of the Seminary as a pastor, mentor, colleague, and friend
- If ordained, administer the Sacraments in accord with the Lutheran Confessions and the constitution of the NALC

### **Theological and Academic Leadership**

- Build a culture around our core values that welcomes students to academic excellence, spiritual discipline, and compassion for the neighbor
- Articulate a compelling vision for theological education that will aid student recruitment, engage those potential students, as well as NALC congregations
- Be aware of and able to assess trends in theological study, recommending new directions and applications as needed
- Support and stimulate the faculty in adapting the curriculum for effective teaching and learning
- Develop venues to engage with students on a regular basis via lectures, workshops, events, etc.
- Be available to teach for the NALC in Mission District and national settings
- Oversee how the NALS operates under host institution's accreditation, evaluating the schedule for the NALS to work toward its own accreditation

### **Organizational Leadership**

- Shape and collaboratively develop a vision for the future of the Seminary that can be translated into planning, action, and policies in conjunction with the faculty and the Board of Regents
- In conjunction with the Board of Regents and development consultants, direct the formative structure and expansion of an effective fund-raising program

- Direct the planning and implementation of Houses of Studies and Extension Centers and manage relationship with host institutions
- Work on budget development in cooperation with the Board of Regents to explore revenue streams such as tuition reimbursements, grants, NALC and congregational support, and investment opportunities
- Together with the Board of Regents and the NALC Director of Communications, develop strategies to increase awareness among critical internal and external audiences—with specific attention to student recruitment
- Serve as primary spokesperson and advocate for all NALC, NALS, and external audiences.
- Create a working environment in which the NALS faculty can continually grow and learn
- Oversee the regular evaluation of faculty and staff at Houses of Studies and Extension Centers
- Evaluate curricula addressing discipleship, mission, and evangelism needs of the NALC.
- Work with the Board of Regents to develop and assess policies and job descriptions
- Report regularly to the Board of Regents and annually to the NALC Convocation
- Provide consultation to the NALC Candidacy committee regarding curriculum
- Present the mission of the NALS with clarity, passion, elegance, and grace

### **Compensation**

The NALC will compensate the Seminary president with a full-time status package including salary and benefits. The NALS Seminary President will be called to this position by action of the NALC Executive Council at the recommendation of the NALS Board of Regents.