

May 6, 2009

CONTACT [Aubrey Streit](#), (785) 227-3311, ext. 8274

BETHANY BOARD MAKES COMMITMENT TO FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

LINDSBORG, Kan.—During its meeting on campus May 1-2, the Bethany College Board of Directors approved the college's 2009-2010 operating budget with the expectation that Bethany will achieve a balanced budget for its next fiscal year. The planned operating budget demonstrates the college's commitment to fiscal sustainability.

To date, Bethany has been able to address budgetary challenges while preserving the student experience, preserving take-home pay for employees and preserving jobs. A series of Budget Summits have involved constituents from the entire college community in the decision-making process, and more than 60 percent of Bethany employees have contributed to the college's Fund for the Future.

The board of directors also moved to change its policy regarding the endowment spending base, moving to a 36-month rolling average to help insulate the spending base from fluctuations in the market. Finally, the board approved a 2009-10 capital budget, with the expectation that cash generated during the year will be reinvested in Bethany's emerging technology plan and deferred maintenance.

The board re-elected current members Don Anderson, Cathy Simmelink, Sidney Stolz and Evelyn Wilson, and elected new member N. Nelson Newcomer.

Newcomer is executive vice president of D.H. Pace Company, Inc., in North Kansas City, Mo. He also serves as president of the board of directors of E.E. Newcomer Enterprises, Inc., and chairman of the board of directors of the Catholic Education Foundation. Newcomer holds a B.A. from Kansas State College of Pittsburg and an M.P.A. from the University of Pittsburgh in Pennsylvania.

In actions regarding the academic life of the college, the board approved a list of candidates for graduation on May 24 and approved changes to the faculty handbook that bring the handbook into line with current governance policy and practice.

The board approved a list of naming opportunities for Bethany's planned Pearson Chapel and Welcome Center. The board was also updated on progress on the Pearson Challenge, which now stands at \$680,000 of the \$1 million challenge to be met by June 2010.

A variety of board committees convened for discussion, including committees on the student experience; advancement; audit & risk management; facilities & technology; business & finance; recruitment & marketing; and board development.

Board members participated in a lunch discussion with 2009 Pearson Professor Jimmy Sjöblom, an international expert in sustainability who has been in residence at Bethany this spring.

The board will next meet in August for their annual retreat.

Bethany College, established by Swedish Lutheran immigrants in 1881, is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The mission of Bethany College is to educate, develop, and challenge individuals to reach for truth and excellence as they lead lives of faith, learning and service.

Bethany College is on the Web at www.bethanylb.edu.