



The Council of
Independent Colleges

NetVUE

Network for Vocation
in Undergraduate Education
cic.edu/netvue

Vocation Across Campus

A SEMINAR FOR STAFF AT NETVUE INSTITUTIONS • JUNE 22–26, 2026



The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) is pleased to continue to offer Vocation Across Campus: Supporting Students' Search for Meaning, a summer seminar for full-time staff in all campus offices and divisions at colleges and universities that are members of CIC's Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE). The five-day seminar will take place June 22–26, 2026 at the Central Station Hotel in Memphis, TN. Thanks to a generous grant from Lilly Endowment Inc., CIC will cover most costs of participation (including travel) for those faculty members who are selected.

One of the most promising ways that staff can serve their students is to guide them into an exploration of their many callings in life. Staff who are committed to supporting students' vocational exploration and discernment can help them discover what might constitute a truly good, meaningful, and purposeful life—one that would lead to flourishing for themselves and others. Participating staff members will reflect on their personal vocation journeys, explore the language of vocation and its alignment with their mission and work, and have time to design or revise programming or initiatives for students that incorporate vocational reflection.



Discussions and case studies will also focus on understanding the characteristics of emerging adults, as well as considering how social, cultural, and institutional dynamics can both facilitate and hinder exploring and living out one's vocation. The seminar also includes substantial dedicated social time, designed to help form a cohort of mutual support. Participants will be expected, in the academic year following the seminar, to develop or revise programming to add a deeper focus on vocational exploration.

DATES AND DEADLINES

Nomination open
APRIL 2025

Nomination deadline
NOVEMBER 21, 2025

Seminar Gathering
JUNE 22–26, 2026

Seminar Location
**CENTRAL STATION HOTEL
MEMPHIS, TN**

SEMINAR LEADERS



JULIE MASSEY served most recently as the chief of staff at St. Norbert College, a role she assumed in the summer of 2021. Her previous roles included staff positions in ministry, mission, and student affairs. She directed St. Norbert's Lilly-funded vocational exploration program for over a decade, has served as a NetVUE consultant, and is a current member of the NetVUE Advisory Council. She holds an MDiv from Loyola University Chicago and an Executive EdD in higher education from Boston College. After decades of working alongside ministry and student affairs colleagues, she deeply respects the contributions made by staff in higher education and looks forward to the good work (and fun) that are sure to be part of this seminar.

RICHARD SÉVÈRE is associate dean of the college of arts and sciences at Valparaiso University. He led the implementation of the Bloom Scholars Program, the University's permanent four-year bridge program, which is designed to prepare a cohort of newly admitted historically-excluded students for life at college and beyond—with attention to their academic, social, and cultural development. In addition to his administrative duties, Richard is a NetVUE Faculty Fellow, has led workshops on vocation at other university campuses, and has appeared on NetVUE's Callings podcast. Richard is passionate about mentoring and is excited to co-lead this inaugural seminar for the dedicated staff at NetVUE colleges and universities, who play a central role in helping students search for meaning and explore their many callings in life.



NOMINATION PROCESS

All staff who direct campus programs or serve in other long term administrative capacities are eligible for the seminar. Staff members must be nominated for this opportunity by a cabinet-level supervisor. The nominator's letter must include an affirmation that the staff member will be released from all campus obligations during the week-long seminar and will not be required to take annual leave or otherwise compensate the institution for this absence. *Please note: staff who also hold a regular faculty appointment are not eligible to be nominated. They are instead encouraged to seek nomination for one of NetVUE's two faculty seminars.*

- The nomination portal for the seminar is now open.
- Up to 20 participants will be notified of their selection in January 2026.
- Additional seminar information is available at <http://www.cic.edu/VocationAcrossCampus>

CONTACT

For questions about the seminar or the nomination process, contact Rachael Baker, NetVUE director of professional development, at (616) 526-7939 or rbaker@cic.edu.