

described in Chapter 4, and do not imply or describe the creation of partnerships, co-ventures, agencies, or other legal relationships recognized in civil law.

8.30. Relationship with Institutions and Agencies

8.31. Seminaries. This church shall sponsor, support, and provide for oversight of seminaries for the preparation of persons for the ordained and other ministries and for continuing study on the part of ordained ministers and laypersons.

8.31.01. Each seminary ~~shall be a seminary of this church; shall be separately incorporated, and or, if unincorporated, shall be a school, department or unit of a college or university of this church.~~ Whether separately incorporated or not, seminaries of this church shall be governed by its board of directors consistent with policies established by the Church Council upon recommendation of the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization. Seminaries may be organized into groupings, known as clusters, for the purposes of cooperation, interaction and support.

8.31.02. Amendments to the governing documents of each separately incorporated seminary and each seminary cluster shall be submitted, upon recommendation of the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization, to the Church Council for approval. Amendments to the governing documents of a college or university of this church that affect the authority or integrity of an unincorporated seminary of this church associated with that college or university shall be submitted, upon recommendation of the appropriate unit of the churchwide organization, to the Church Council for approval.

8.31.0203. The board of directors of each separately incorporated seminary shall be nominated and elected to terms as specified in the governing documents of the respective seminaries, and shall consist of ~~20~~12 to 30 members, as follows:

- a. At least one-fifth nominated, in consultation with the seminaries, by the appropriate churchwide unit and elected by the Church Council;
- b. Two members elected by the bishops of the supporting synods from among their number; and
- c. The remaining members elected by the supporting synods, in consultation with the seminaries, with the number to be elected by each synod set forth in the governing documents of the seminary.

Elections shall be so arranged that the terms of all directors of any given seminary elected in any year shall commence simultaneously.

8.31.0304. Each unincorporated seminary shall have an advisory council or governing board distinct from the board of directors of the college or university of which the seminary is a school, department or unit. The seminary advisory council or governing board shall relate to the Church Council through the appropriate churchwide unit. The members of the unincorporated seminary's advisory council or governing board shall be elected as specified in the governing documents of the related college or university, and shall consist of 12 to 30 members, as follows:

- a. At least one-fifth nominated by the Church Council upon recommendation of the appropriate churchwide unit after consultation with the seminary's advisory council or governing board;
- b. Two members nominated by the bishops of the supporting synods from among their number;
- c. One member, who shall serve as chair of the advisory council or governing board and as a voting member of the board of directors of the college or university, nominated by the Church Council, upon recommendation of the appropriate churchwide unit after consultation with the seminary's advisory council or governing board; and
- d. The remaining members to be from the supporting synods, nominated by the seminary's advisory council or governing board in consultation with the supporting synods.

8.31.05. In accordance with the governing documents of each separately incorporated seminary, the board of directors shall elect the president of the seminary in consultation with the presiding bishop of this church and the appropriate churchwide unit ~~of the churchwide organization as designated by the Church Council, elect and retain faculty and administrative officers, and approve educational policies and programs for persons preparing for public ministry.~~ The board shall exercise all other normal governance functions, including the ~~granting of degrees, holding title to and managing all seminary property and assets, receiving gifts and bequests, establishing salaries for faculty and administrative officers, providing for the financial resources and fiscal contracts required to operate the seminary, appointment of tenured faculty,~~ and shall have authority to recruit students throughout this church.

8.31.0406. Each unincorporated seminary shall have a chief administrative officer, such as an academic dean, seminary provost, or vice president, who is on the roster of ordained ministers of this church. In the appointment or election of the chief administrative officer of the seminary, the college or university

shall consult with the seminary advisory council or governing board, the presiding bishop of this church, and the appropriate churchwide unit. The college or university board shall exercise all other normal governance functions, including the appointment of tenured faculty, in consultation with the seminary's advisory council or governing board, and shall have authority to recruit students throughout this church.

8.31.07. The seminaries shall receive churchwide and synodical financial support. The amount of such support shall be determined through a consultation process involving seminaries, synods, and the appropriate churchwide unit of the churchwide organization as designated by the Church Council. ~~¶8.31.05:~~ To implement financial support by this church, synods shall be assigned to specific seminaries in such manner as to attain equitable distribution of synods. Normally, all synods in a given region will be assigned to one seminary. Churchwide funds shall be distributed according to a formula developed by the appropriate churchwide unit and approved by the Church Council. ~~¶8.31.06:~~ Seminaries shall provide for their remaining financial requirements through tuition, fees, endowment income, and fund-raising programs. Fund-raising in the congregations of supporting synods, however, shall be conducted only upon approval of the synods.

8.31.0708. Aid to students preparing for the ministries of this church shall be administered by the seminaries under guidelines developed by the appropriate churchwide units in consultation with the presidents of the seminaries and adopted by the Church Council.

8.32. Colleges and Universities. This church shall express its responsibility for higher education through its colleges and universities, the appropriate churchwide unit as determined by the Church Council, and its synods. While variation is possible in college or university relationships across this church, this church recognizes the desirability of some degree of uniformity of relationship for colleges and universities within the same region.

8.32.01. The relationship of this church to its colleges and universities shall be guided by policies fostering educational institutions dedicated to the Lutheran tradition wherein such institutions are an essential part of God's mission in the world; faithful to the will of God as institutions providing quality instruction in religion and a lively ministry of worship, outreach, and service; diligent in their preparation of leaders committed to truth, excellence, and ethical values; and pledged to the well-being of students in the development of mind, body, and spirit.

8.32.02. Colleges and universities of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America may relate to this church in various ways, including relationship with the Churchwide Assembly, a synodical assembly, or a corporation whose voting members are, or have been elected by, synodical assemblies, other organizational units (conferences, clusters, etc.), or congregations. Subject to approval by the appropriate synods, a college or university may be owned by a not-for-profit corporation (1) that has voting members, at least 90 percent of whom shall consist of members of the biennial Churchwide Assembly, and (2) that shall hold the biennial meeting of such a corporation in conjunction with the Churchwide Assembly for the purpose of electing or ratifying members of the governing board and approving amendments to the governing documents. At least 60 percent of the members of the governing boards of the corporations that meet in conjunction with the Churchwide Assembly shall be members of this church.

8.32.03. Primary responsibility for recruiting members for its board belongs to each college or university of this church. This responsibility is best exercised when appropriate structures of this church are substantially involved. The college or university and the appropriate synods shall determine how many of the college or university board members are to be elected or ratified by the approved form of relationship as provided in 8.32.02.

8.32.04. The responsibility for initiating changes in constitutional documents rests with each college or university of this church. Each college or university will reach agreement with the appropriate structures of this church as identified in 8.32.02. regarding changes in constitutional documents. This church's participation may range from prior consultation to final approval.

8.32.05. Representation of members of this church on college or university boards, limitation of terms for board members, whether or not college or university presidents shall be members of this church, and representation of bishops of synods on college or university boards shall be determined by each institution and the appropriate synods.

8.32.06. In addition to and consistent with the above provision 8.32. and bylaws 8.32.01. through 8.32.05., colleges and universities of this church where a school, department or unit of that institution is a seminary of this church must comply with all requirements, policies, procedures and standards specified in provision 8.31. and bylaws 8.31.01. through 8.31.08.