



The Council of  
Independent Colleges

# NetVUE

Network for Vocation  
in Undergraduate Education  
[cic.edu/netvue](http://cic.edu/netvue)

# Teaching Vocational Exploration

## A SEMINAR FOR NETVUE FACULTY MEMBERS • JUNE 7–11, 2027

The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) is pleased to offer a multidisciplinary seminar, Teaching Vocational Exploration, for full-time faculty members at the assistant or associate professor level in all fields, at colleges and universities that are members of CIC's Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE). Participants will learn to strengthen the teaching of vocational exploration by probing a variety of understandings of vocation and their importance in educating undergraduates, by developing new courses or course materials or redesigning existing courses, and by establishing a broader network of faculty members committed to teaching vocational exploration.



### DATES AND DEADLINES

Nomination open  
**APRIL 2026**

Nomination deadline  
**OCTOBER 2, 2026**

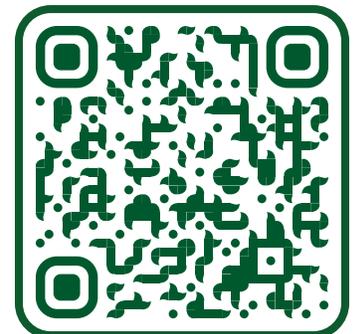
Seminar Gathering  
**JUNE 7–11, 2027**

Seminar Location  
**THE ALEXANDER HOTEL  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN**

**One of the most promising ways that faculty members can** serve their students is to introduce them to the subject of vocation. Faculty members have the opportunity to guide students in the exploration of their respective callings and to help them probe questions of meaning, purpose, and identity, as well as consider contributions that they can make to society. This work can expand, deepen, and enrich faculty members' understanding of the privilege and responsibility of their own callings as teachers.

This seminar aims to strengthen the teaching of vocational exploration by examining different meanings of vocation and their importance for undergraduate education, by considering content and teaching methods for courses that focus on vocational exploration, and by reflecting on the shape and experience of the academic vocation. In the academic year

following the seminar, participants will be expected to develop a new course or course materials or to redesign an existing course with greater focus on vocational exploration.



[www.cic.edu/TeachingVocation](http://www.cic.edu/TeachingVocation)

## SEMINAR LEADERS



**PAUL J. WADELL** is professor emeritus of theology and religious studies at St. Norbert College, where he also served as coordinator for faculty and staff development of St. Norbert's Faith, Learning, and Vocation program. He is the co-author of *Living Vocationally: The Journey of the Called Life* (2021) and the author of *Happiness and the Christian Moral Life* (2007), *Becoming Friends* (2002), and *Friendship and the Moral Life* (1989).

**DARBY KATHLEEN RAY** is Donald W. and Ann M. Harward Professor of Civic Engagement at Bates College, where she also is professor of religious studies and director of the Harward Center for Community Partnerships. She previously served as founding director of the Millsaps Faith and Work Initiative at Millsaps College. Ray is the author of *Working* (2011), *Incarnation and Imagination: A Christian Ethic of Ingenuity* (2008), and *Theology That Matters: Ecology, Economy, and God* (2006).

## NOMINATION PROCESS

NetVUE member colleges and universities may nominate one full-time faculty member—in any discipline or department—at the rank of assistant or associate professor or the equivalent.

- CIC will select up to 16 participants by competitive nomination. Chief academic officers may nominate one individual for the seminar; interested faculty members should provide a statement of interest to the CAO at their institution.
- A nomination form and additional seminar information is available at [www.cic.edu/TeachingVocation](http://www.cic.edu/TeachingVocation)

## CONTACT

For questions about the seminar or the nomination process, contact Rachael Baker, NetVUE associate director, at (616) 632-1060 or [rbaker@cic.edu](mailto:rbaker@cic.edu).

“At the NetVUE faculty seminar, participants arrive as strangers but depart as friends.”

—PAUL J. WADELL