



NetVUE

Network for Vocation
in Undergraduate Education
cic.edu/netvue

The purpose of the Network for Vocation in Undergraduate Education (NetVUE) is to increase the capacity of independent colleges and universities to support their undergraduate students as they explore and discern their many callings in life.

The process of vocational reflection is an interdisciplinary endeavor, bringing together theological, philosophical, ethical, historical, and affective approaches, and implementing the theoretical reflections of these fields in vocation-related practices. Campuses are encouraged to support students in this work through a variety of academic departments, pre-professional programs, and campus offices (variously including career services, student success centers, advising programs, offices of religious or spiritual life, and many more). NetVUE is governed by a principle of subsidiarity: individual member institutions are encouraged to shape their work related to vocation and calling—including the vocabularies that they use to describe this work—in ways that are best suited to their own missions, teaching philosophies, student demographics, and other matters best known to those who lead and guide this work on campus.

Financial support of NetVUE comes from a combination of membership dues and generous support from Lilly Endowment Inc.



Participants of the 2024 NetVUE “Big Read” Launch at Loras College listen to Mara Dana Hinton, president of Hollins University, deliver the event’s plenary address.

NetVUE Programs and Services

- A large national conference held every other year (next in spring 2026 in Kansas City, MO; details on the following page);
- Regional gatherings and multi-campus collaborations on specific topics, conducted primarily in non-conference years (Fall 2025 schedule on the following page);
- Grants to member institutions to support further development of vocational exploration programming for students and professional development opportunities for staff and faculty members;
- Annual seminars for which individuals at member institutions may be nominated;
- A wide variety of professional development opportunities, many of which can take place at member institutions, for no additional cost;
- Print and digital resources for vocational exploration, including four decks of “conversation cards” and four books published by Oxford University Press—most recently *Called Beyond Our Selves: Vocation and the Common Good*;
- An online community for the exchange of resources and ideas among member institutions;
- A wide variety of virtual events and resources, including webinars, podcasts, and a blog; and
- A small NetVUE staff, based at Aquinas College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, to support the network.



The Council of
Independent Colleges

The Network for Vocation in
Undergraduate Education (NetVUE)
currently has 335 member colleges and
universities (as of September 2025).

The 2026 NetVUE Conference

Vocation: An Itinerary of Hope for Higher Education

March 19–21 at the Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at
Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri



Norman Wirzba, Gilbert T. Rowe
Distinguished Professor of Christian
Theology at Duke University, will offer
the opening keynote address, “*Vocatio*:
Called to Transformative Encounter.”



Almeda Wright, Associate Professor
of Religious Education at Yale Divinity
School, will deliver the closing plenary
address, “Teaching to Live: Reclaiming
the Sometimes-Revolutionary Calling
to Teach and Lead.”

Quarter-Plenary Sessions

• Advocacy and Vocation in Troubled Times

Geoffrey Bateman, Regis University (CO)

Joanna Gregson, Pacific Lutheran University (WA)

Richard M. Smith, McDaniel College (MD)

• Implementing Vocation-Infused Advising

Diane C. LeBlanc, St. Olaf College (MN)

Michael T. Matraia, Assumption University (MA)

Sarah Summers, Franklin College (IN)

• Navigating Vocation in an AI World

Gerald D. Griffin, Hope College (MI)

Caryn D. Riswold, Wartburg College (IA)

Gregor Thuswaldner, La Roche University (PA)

• The Purposeful Student Athlete

Tim Clydesdale, The College of New Jersey

Michael B. Mitchell, The College of New Jersey

Angela R. (Angie) Morenz, Blackburn College (IL)

NetVUE Regional Gatherings

• The Purposeful University

October 2–4, 2025

Bushnell University, Eugene, OR

• Scriptural Reasoning and/as Vocational Discernment *Preceding the AAR/SBL Annual Meeting*

November 16–17, 2025

Sheraton Boston Hotel, Boston, MA

2026 NetVUE Grant Opportunities

- Grants to Individuals for Vocational Exploration provide \$5,000 to \$25,000 for use over a semester, summer, or one academic year. There are two possible submission deadlines: October 3, 2025 and March 11, 2026.
- Program Development Grants offer up to \$100,000 for use over two years. Proposals are due November 21, 2025.
- Grants for Fostering Leadership for Communities of Faith provide up to \$60,000 to be used over a two-year period; proposals are due December 19, 2025.
- Professional Development Awards are smaller, one-year grants to begin conversations on campus that provide up to \$20,000. Proposals will be due April 10, 2026.
- Vocation Across the Academy Grants provide up to \$210,000 in CIC and third-party funds to be used over a three-year period. Proposals will be due March 27, 2026.
- Grants for Reframing the Institutional Saga are multi-year grants that provide up to \$60,000. Proposals will be due in late summer 2026.

For additional information about these events and
opportunities, visit www.cic.edu/NetVUE.

Not yet a member of NetVUE?

CIC welcomes the participation of independent colleges and universities in NetVUE. Membership information, an application to join NetVUE, and details on all programs and services are available at www.cic.edu/NetVUE. For more information, please contact David S. Cunningham, executive director of NetVUE, at david.cunningham@cic.edu or (616) 632-1060.