

ATS seeks director of leadership development

By CHRIS MEINZER

The Association of Theological Schools (ATS) is seeking a Director of Leadership Development to join its staff. The anticipated start date for this position is February 1, 2022.

ATS is a membership organization of more than 270 graduate schools of theology in the United States and Canada whose mission is to promote the improvement and enhancement of theological schools to the benefit of communities of faith and the broader public.

In the past, one director oversaw both the work of leadership education and the diversity initiatives of the Committee on Race and Ethnicity (CORE) and Women in Leadership (WIL). Because these areas of work have expanded and have important trajectories for the future of theological schools, ATS will be separating the work of leadership education and the work with diversity initiatives into two different positions.

The leadership development role, which ATS is presently seeking to fill, will continue to design educational experiences that will enhance the leadership capacities of individuals and schools in this time of accelerated and profound change. The work of CORE and WIL will continue and will include additional initiatives that focus on the increasingly global nature of theological education and the many diversities present within ATS member schools. This work will be incorporated into a new position that ATS will be filling sometime in the new year.



Responsibilities

The director will design, plan, organize, and implement comprehensive and cohesive learning for the ATS membership that (1) supports the growth of current and future leadership, (2) builds both individual and institutional capacities, (3) incorporates different models of adult learning and professional development, and (4) uses various forms of educational technologies (online, face-to-face, hybrid) to achieve learning goals. In addition, the director will help other ATS staff think more broadly about learning processes and organizational leadership throughout the work of ATS.

The director will design opportunities to incorporate learning from ATS accreditation, data, design lab, initiatives, and research that will be shared with administrators, faculty, board members, and other stakeholders within a theological school using a variety of learning modalities. The director will also gather findings about and integrate shifts within theological education and higher education, knowledge from ecology partners and advisory committees, and changes in professional

expectations of school administrators, faculty, and others.

Skills, experience, and education

The director must understand, respect, and work with the contextual nature of leadership within the diversities of ATS member schools and the constituencies they serve. The director must be able to articulate a vision for what types of leadership might be needed to lead theological education into the future while working among these diverse contexts.

The director shall normally possess a relevant combination of education and experience consistent with the duties and responsibilities of the position. Education would normally include a graduate degree in higher education administration, theological education, organizational leadership, or another appropriate field. Experience would normally include designing systems of adult

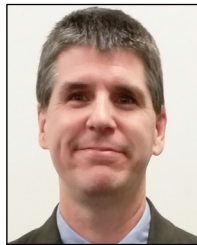
learning and professional development that support individual and institutional capacity-building.

Application process

Review of applications will begin November 15, 2021, and will continue until the position is filled. Applications should include (1) a letter of interest demonstrating how the candidate meets the desired qualifications, abilities, and experience, (2) a curriculum vitae, and (3) contact information for three references. Application materials should be emailed to meinzer@ats.edu. Submissions in one PDF file are preferred.

The Director of Leadership Development is a full-time position with competitive salary and benefits. Please email [Chris Meinzer](mailto:Chris.Meinzer@ats.edu), ATS senior director and COO, with any questions.

ATS is an equal opportunity employer.



Chris Meinzer is Senior Director and COO at The Association of Theological Schools in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.