



*Minutes of the
First Annual Meeting of
Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Alumni*

Monday, September 17, 2007, 11:00 a.m.

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Chapel

WLS Alumni chairman Daniel Balge welcomed returning alumni to the first meeting of WLS Alumni at 11 a.m. He then conducted the opening devotion based on 2 Timothy 2:1-15. The assembly sang “God of the Prophets,” # 543, CW.

Seminary President Paul Wendland greeted participants to the historic first meeting of WLS Alumni. He pointed out that while former seminary students may have many good reasons to reassemble at their alma mater and to lend it their continuing support, they are especially motivated to do so because of “their hope for a future with God as announced through the Gospel.”

Acting WLS Alumni chairman Balge circulated a roster book to serve as a permanent record of all who attended the historic first and subsequent meetings of WLS Alumni.

Chairman Balge introduced the members of the WLS Alumni Ad Hoc Committee as well as those who were elected by an electronic ballot to serve as the first WLS Alumni officers. WLS Alumni officers are: President: Daniel Balge ('85); Vice-President: Earle Treptow ('93); Secretary: Carl Ziemer ('73); Treasurer: Aaron Christie ('97).

Pastor Earle Treptow called for a motion to ratify the constitution that was prepared by the WLS Alumni ad hoc committee. ***A motion to approve the proposed constitution passed unanimously.***

A motion to ratify the slate of WLS Alumni committee appointments also passed without dissent. They include:

1. Auditing Committee:
 - a. Pastor Dan Voigt (92) (4 - year term) – to serve as committee chairman
 - b. Pastor Ben Kuerth (06) (3 - year term)
 - c. Pastor Chris Doerr (00) (2 - year term)
2. Nominating Committee:
 - a. Pastor Robert Hoepner (4 - year term)
 - b. Pastor Martin Petermann (3 - year term)
 - c. Pastor Chris Doerr (2 - year term)
3. Membership Committee: (*WLS Alumni Vice-president, Earle Treptow serves as chairman*)
 - a. Pastor Ken Brokmeier (88) (4 - year term)
 - b. Pastor John Brenner (77) (3 - year term)
 - c. Pastor Dan Heiderich (98) (2 - year term)

4. Investment and Grants Committee (*WLS Alumni Treasurer, Aaron Christie, serves as chairman*)
 - a. Pastor Jonathan Schroeder ('99) (4 - year term)
 - b. Pastor Kenneth Fisher ('93) (3 - year term)
 - c. Pastor Douglas Tomhave ('98) (2 - year term)

Pastor Aaron Christie explained the rationale for the WLS Alumni support circles as presented on an insert in the meeting folder (copy attached). He pointed out that each circle builds on the preceding one. Since people like all sorts of options, the fourth circle allows the widest variety of giving options. A participant suggested that one or more of the circles should encourage deferred gifts as well. Christie explained that deferred gifts will be encouraged through the WLS Endowment fund as it is further developed. Another participant asked Christie to explain what “continuing ministerial education,” as mentioned in a support circle explanation, might entail. Christie offered several examples.

A motion unanimously passed to adopt the support circles projects as outlined in the folder for 2007-2008.

Chairman Balge then shared alumnus Joel Pless’ suggestion to the executive committee that WLS Alumni consider publishing a commemorative book for the 150th anniversary of Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (2013). He suggested that it be similar to that authored by Northwestern College Professor E. Kowalke, “*NWC Centennial*”. Balge introduced Pastor Joel Pless to further elaborate on his ideas regarding the proposed book. After some discussion, ***a motion passed to direct the WLS Alumni Executive Committee to form a committee to develop a book to celebrate the 150th anniversary.***

Chairman Balge then invited those in attendance to fill out and return the survey included in the meeting folder. Since the number in attendance far exceeded the number of meeting folders and surveys prepared, Balge announced that additional surveys would be provided for those who did not receive a survey.

After announcing that the next WLS Alumni meeting is scheduled for September 15, 2008, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. A light sandwich lunch was provided by the WLS Development office following the meeting.

Respectfully,

Pastor Carl W. Ziemer, WLS Alumni Secretary