



Transition Discernment Team Profiles

Learn more about the members of the team leading the search for the next president of Fuller Seminary.



Transition Discernment Team

Who are the people seeking the next president of Fuller?



SANTIAGO "JIMMY" MELLADO – Trustee (Team Chair)

Santiago is Compassion International's president and CEO. Prior to joining Compassion in June of 2013, he was president of the Willow Creek Association (now the Global Leadership Network). During his 20-year tenure, worldwide ministry income grew from \$2 million to more than \$30 million and membership grew from 860 churches to peak at over 12,800 churches globally. He earned his degree in mechanical engineering from Southern Methodist University and his MBA from Harvard Business School.



JODY DEPREE VANDERWEL – Trustee

Jody DePree Vanderwel is one of the managing partners of the Michigan Capital Network Venture Funds II and III and the former president of Grand Angels. She worked for several years in private law practice before joining Herman Miller as corporate counsel and then vice president for corporate giving. Jody is a member of the Baker Publishing Group Board, the Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services Board, and serves on the advisory boards of the Michigan Accelerator Fund I, Northern Trust for West Michigan, and Plymouth Growth Partners Fund III. She holds a BA from the University of Colorado and a JD from Washington University in St. Louis.



NICHOLAS PEARCE – Trustee

Nicholas Pearce is the founder and chief executive officer of The Vocati Group, a boutique global executive advisory consultancy; an award-winning clinical professor of management and organizations at the Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management; and assistant pastor of Chicago's historic Apostolic Church of God. He is also the author of *The Purpose Path: A Guide to Pursuing Your Authentic Life's Work*. He is an alum of Fuller, where he earned his MAT, and he holds an MS and a PhD from Northwestern.



MERRITT SAWYER – Trustee

Meritt Sawyer is the executive pastor of Peninsula Covenant Church in Redwood City, California. She has given executive leadership to internationally focused nonprofit organizations for more than 40 years, serving in roles such as the international program director for Langham Partnership International, and vice president of John Stott Ministries. She is also a board member of *Christianity Today*, Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, Able Works, and Scholar Leaders International. She holds an MAT from Fuller and an MA from Bowling Green State University.



TOM LIN – Trustee

Tom Lin is the eighth president of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA and the first full president to be chosen from InterVarsity staff. He also serves on the boards of the Crowell Trust and the Lausanne Movement. From 2002 to 2006, Tom helped establish an evangelical student movement in Mongolia and served as the country director for the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students in Mongolia. He holds a BA in Economics from Harvard University and an MA in Global Leadership from Fuller.



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JOEY FUNG – Faculty

Joey Fung is the director of the Travis Research Institute and associate professor of psychology. Dr. Fung's research interests lie in parenting, parent-child relations, mindfulness, and culture and child psychopathology. Together with her students and colleagues, she is conducting research on school-based prevention intervention for ethnic minority youths, spirituality and mindfulness meditation, and identifying nontraditional delivery systems of mental health care in international settings.



NANCY FRIGAARD – Faculty

Nancy Frigaard is the director of Fuller's Arizona MFT Program and an instructor in the practice of marriage and family therapy. She is a Fuller alum and a graduate of the inaugural cohort of the MFT program in Phoenix. While in the program, she developed her clinical expertise as a child and adolescent therapist, building on her first career as a high school teacher. Nancy is the author of *Restoration Therapy for Kids: Playing Their Way from Pain to Peace* (Routledge, forthcoming). Additionally, she founded Freedom Family Counseling.



KARA E. POWELL – Faculty

Kara Powell is the chief of leadership formation, executive director of the Fuller Youth Institute, and associate professor of youth and family ministry. She is a sought after speaker and writer and was named by Christianity Today as one of "50 Women to Watch." Dr. Powell serves as an advisor to Youth Specialties and also speaks regularly at the Youth Specialties National Youth Workers Convention, the Orange Conference, the Simply Youth Ministry Conference.



DWIGHT A. RADCLIFF JR. – Faculty

Dwight Radcliff is academic dean for the William E. Pannell Center for Black Church Studies and assistant professor of mission, theology, and culture. While completing his MDiv in Fuller's School of Theology, he was recognized with several awards and scholarships, including the prestigious Parish Pulpit Fellowship graduation prize and the Hooper/Keefe Preaching Award. Dr. Radcliff lectures in seminaries, universities, and conferences on topics ranging from urban church planting, culture, theology, preaching, justice, millennials, and evangelism.



MAGDOLEEN MELEKA – Staff

Magdoleen Meleka is director of the Fuller Careers and Personal Development, where she is a collaborative leader with an ability to see multiple pathways to complex problems. In the past 15 years, she has worked in the elementary school system, nonprofit field, church, and marketplace, and has been working within higher education since 2014. In every context, she is deeply committed to offering hope to others by articulating a vision of what is not yet seen or experienced.



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CHRISTY CHIA – Student

Christy Chia is a third-year student in Fuller's Master of Divinity program. She is one of Christian's for Biblical Equality's 2020 AMMS recipients. She is passionate about creating safe spaces for building community and empowering women and people of color in the church. She currently serves with Fuller's Center for Asian American Theology and Ministry, Fuller's Diversity Council, and as a representative on the Fuller Student Council.



GENE HEAD – Executive Search Consultant

Gene Head is the managing director of ZRG, a leading executive search firm, and specializes in strategic leadership for higher education and economic development. He has led 200+ searches (chancellors, presidents, VP's, deans) for clients including the University of California System, the University of Alabama System, the University of Texas at Austin, the United Nations, the International Justice Mission, Compassion International, and the Berkeley National Laboratory. An expert in sustainable transformation, his client work focuses on building high-performing, strategically aligned executive teams in higher education and global nonprofits. Gene received a BS in Management from the Brock School of Business at Samford University, where he now serves on the advisory board. He enjoys serving on several nonprofit boards including one focused on missions and economic development within Zambia, Zimbabwe, and Malawi.



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EX-OFFICIO TEAM MEMBERS

By virtue of their governance roles and experience, the following persons are available as consultants to the Transition Discernment Team. They will not take part in the team's routine work, but will be available for advice as the chair requests.



DANIEL DOMINICK MEYER – Board Chair

Dan Meyer is lead pastor of Christ Church of Oak Brook, a 6,000 member nondenominational multisite church with campuses in the western suburbs of Chicago. Dan holds a BA from Yale University, an MDiv from Princeton Theological Seminary, and a DMin from Fuller. He is the recipient of the John C. Schroeder Prize for Leadership (Yale), the Long-Grier Prize for Preaching (Princeton), and four Emmy Awards for his work as host of the television show Life Focus. Dan is a frequent contributor to Preaching Today, and is the author of Discovering God, Witness Essentials, and Leadership Essentials (with Greg Ogden).



MARY VERMEER ANDRINGA – Board Vice Chair

Mary Vermeer Andringa is chair emeritus at Vermeer Corporation, a global industrial and agricultural equipment company headquartered in Pella, Iowa. Mary's influence is sought after as associations and businesses work together to make an impact in economic development. After receiving her bachelor's degree from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, she taught in public and private education. Mary's passion for education led her to serve as co-chair of the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council, and she was named one of the Top 100 CEOs in STEM by STEMconnector.®



DAVID L. BERÈ – Former Presidential Search Chair

Dave is Chairman of the Board of Stir Foods, a leading custom manufacturer of sauces, dressings, soups, and fresh salsas that serve the retail and foodservice market. Previously Dave was Chair of Nonni's Foods, a branded manufacturer of specialty snacks, where he also served as CEO from 2011- 2014. From 2006-2010, he was President of Dollar General Corporation, a leading discount retailer. Prior to Dollar General he held a variety of roles in the food industry, including CEO of Bakery Chef and President of the Breakfast Division of Quaker Oats. In 1983, Berè served as White House Fellow in the Reagan administration.