



New Theological Seminary of the West

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Issue Seven

Board Chair Announcement

David Tomlinson, chair of the Board of Trustees of the New Theological Seminary of the West, is excited to announce – on behalf of the Board – the election of the seminary’s first president. After a search process that lasted more than a year-and-a-half, the Board unanimously and with great enthusiasm has elected the **Rev. Dr. John A. D’Elia** to be president of NTSWest effective May 1, 2016. The board feels that it has found a nearly perfect candidate for this position. John has training and experience in the academy, in pastoral ministry and in fund raising. It is exactly that balance of skills and gifts that is needed to propel the New Seminary into the next years of its growth and development.



NTSWest: A Perspective

John D’Elia will head a new and innovative seminary project. NTSWest focuses on practical, experience-based training for church leaders, both ordained and lay. All members of the faculty are both scholars and seasoned ministers, bringing together the best of theological training and real-life pastoral depth. More than 175 students have taken course work with the seminary and it is positioned for dramatic growth over the next five years.

John D’Elia’s Background

D’Elia is an experienced pastor, historian, and non-profit leader. He has served at the Presbyterian Foundation, the Union Rescue Mission in Los Angeles, and Fuller Theological Seminary. Prior to coming back to Southern California, he served more than eight years as the pastor of the American International Church in London. He studied at UCLA

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Seminary Gathering
Saturday, May 14

11:30am - 2:00pm

La Cañada
Presbyterian Church

Mark your calendar now, pass the word to others, and plan not to miss this important “Gathering” of the NTSW community.

The Rev. John A. D’Elia, NTSWest first president, will be the featured speaker.

Please RSVP by May 11 at info@ntswest.org (so we can get a count for lunch) or call the seminary office at (626) 765-9500 for more information.

New Theological Seminary of the West welcomes our community of students, faculty, board members, friends and anyone interested in knowing what NTSW is all about.

and Fuller Seminary, and earned his Ph.D. in History at the University of Stirling in Scotland. His dissertation project, a biography of evangelical New Testament scholar George Eldon Ladd, was completed under the supervision of noted historian David Bebbington, and published by Oxford University Press as *A Place at the Table: George Eldon Ladd and the Rehabilitation of Evangelical Scholarship in America* (2008).

Statement from the Search Committee

John D’Elia and his particular set of skills and personal qualities being available just at the point at which we are searching seems to be providential for our new venture. We found him altogether personable and engaging, and there is no question that he has more direct fund raising background than we may have found in many other candidates. We might have mounted a longer search, pursued numerous candidates, but in the end not found anybody seemingly as fitting for this role as John. He savors the idea of a start-up, and he is eager to take on the challenges of further enlivening NTSW. We think that he presents the real possibility for NTSW to achieve lift off.

Statement from the President

“I’m thrilled to be a part of this exciting project. God is working to use the deep knowledge and broad experience of our faculty to raise up a new generation of Christian leaders. Our goal is to provide practical ministry training with a solid theological foundation, at a price point and flexibility that opens up seminary education to people who might never have considered this kind of training.”

Watch your mail over the next week for a personal introductory letter from President D’Elia with a copy of this newsletter. Also, please feel free to share this newsletter with others.

Doctor of Ministry Informational Lunch Sessions

Join us for lunch and conversation to learn more about our Doctor of Ministry degree program in Transformational Leadership, Culture and Ministry. Luncheons will be hosted in Encino, San Marino, Westwood, Anaheim, and Riverside. Contact Brian Gaeta-Symonds, Director of Admissions at (562) 674-8407 or email to bsymonds@ntswest.org for more information and to RSVP.

