

Episcopal Divinity School dean to step down

by [Sarah Pulliam Bailey](#) in the [February 18, 2015](#) issue

Katherine Hancock Ragsdale will not continue as dean and president of Episcopal Divinity School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, after her contract expires at the end of June.

Ragsdale said she had asked EDS trustees “if possible, to expedite the process of naming a successor so that I may explore new opportunities. Of course I will do everything I can to ensure a smooth transition.”

Ragsdale became dean in 2009 after the institution sold off \$33 million in property to resolve some of its financial challenges, including outstanding debt.

In a statement, trustees praised Ragsdale for honoring “our tradition of being a respected and progressive center for study and spiritual formation for lay and ordained leaders.”

In 2013, Ragsdale received a vote of “no confidence” by faculty after she proposed changes to the traditional residential seminary model. —Religion News Service