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by Christian Century staff in the July 3, 2019 issue



David M. Mellott. Photo courtesy of of Christian Theological Seminary.

David M. Mellott begins his tenure as president of Christian Theological Seminary on July 1.

Mellott brings a multidenominational background to the ecumenical school in Indianapolis affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). An ordained minister with the United Church of Christ, he was previously a Roman Catholic priest.

Prior to this role at CTS, Mellott was vice president for academic affairs, dean, and professor of theological formation at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania.

Bill Kincaid, interim president and professor of leadership and ministry studies at CTS, said in a statement that he sees Mellott's "teaching interests, advocacy efforts and passion for social justice initiatives" as a good fit for the school, as well as his "temperament for the opportunities and challenges before us."

The school noted that Mellott has conducted research and written on a wide range of topics, including liberation for gay clergy and ethnography as a theological practice.

"Christian Theological Seminary's commitment to racial and gender justice is now, as much as ever, essential to being faithful, authentic, and engaged," Mellott said.