

Job Description, Principal, Presbyterian Theological College, Melbourne

The Presbyterian Theological College [PTC], the ministry training college of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, is seeking a new principal. The PTC is a reformed and evangelical institution which has a vital role in developing, disseminating and supporting faithful gospel ministry in Melbourne, regional Victoria and beyond in the coming years. The assembly, through the Theological Education Committee [TEC], the body entrusted with the oversight of the College by the Victorian Assembly, is looking for a faithful Christian, academically able and with experience in pastoral ministry, who can give direction to the development of the college, be a model of integrity and faithful Bible teaching to the students, support and encourage the work of his colleagues, and encourage the work of the gospel in parishes throughout the State. The Assembly believes that the College is in a unique position to have a significant role in promoting the work of the gospel in the State of Victoria both within and beyond the bounds of the denomination and is looking for a person of energy and determination who can see the opportunities and lead the College in making its contribution through the training of faithful gospel ministers.

2. Responsibilities

2.1. The principal is responsible for the day to day work of the College, co-ordinating the delivery of high quality courses to prepare men and women for gospel ministry in the Presbyterian Church of Victoria and beyond.

As such the Principal must

- Give academic, educational and pastoral leadership to the Faculty, encouraging them in the fulfilment of their own teaching, pastoral and research responsibilities
- Oversee the administration of the college
- Set an example in life and ministry to the students and be responsible for their pastoral support while they study
- Maintain the well being of the college community
- Be involved in and represent the College's interests in the life of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

These tasks will involve teaching in his own discipline, presiding at faculty meetings, participation in Australian College of Theology meetings, interviewing new students and meeting with continuing students, participation in Presbytery and Assembly, having a seat on the TEC, supervision of office staff, meeting with relevant student bodies, and having awareness of the financial management of the College.

2.2. The principal is responsible for giving direction to the development of the College.

The principal will need to engage in

- Considering the need for innovation in the delivery of the College's courses
- Anticipating regulatory requirements
- Giving guidance to the TEC in relation to the resources needed to maintain and develop the College property

- Consideration of further opportunities for gospel ministry and anticipated needs for gospel ministers in the PCV and wider Victorian community.

2.3. The principal is responsible for promoting the college in the denomination and beyond.

As such the principal will be involved, where invited, in preaching in Presbyterian congregations throughout the state, in speaking to university groups, and taking part in appropriate interdenominational meetings.

3. Attributes

- Able to meet the qualifications of an elder as described in 1 Timothy 3 and Titus 1, i.e. demonstrating a mature Christian character.
- Prayerful
- Fully committed to the Bible as the Word of God
- A capacity to communicate a clear vision and translate his vision into a program of implementation
- Ability to relate to people of diverse cultural backgrounds

4. Selection Criteria

Qualifications

Essential

- Qualified in one of the major theological disciplines at Research Masters level or above.
- A minister in full standing with the Presbyterian church of Australia or willing to satisfy the requirements of the rules of the General Assembly of Australia relative to the reception of ministers from other churches
- Pastoral experience

Achievements and Capabilities

- Demonstrated ability to lead teaching and learning in his discipline, with experience in curriculum design and assessment.
- Educational qualifications or experience with an awareness of different modes of delivery of courses.
- Demonstrated innovation and creativity in the fields of communication or education
- Understanding of the Australian Higher Educational context, especially of the expectations of the Australian College of Theology.
- A doctorate in his field
- An ability to sustain a public platform ministry
- Involvement in discipling and training others in ministry skills
- Demonstrated capacity to work in and with a team
- Administrative experience with an ability to coordinate day to day operations of an educational institution
- Experience in the activities of Presbytery and Assembly