

Lutheran Educational Conference of North America (LECNA)
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For Immediate Release:

Hamm named LECNA President

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William E. Hamm has been named president of the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America (LECNA). He will begin his service to LECNA on July 1, 2010.

Formed in 1910, LECNA is the oldest existing inter-Lutheran organization representing 41 Lutheran colleges and universities in the United States and Canada. LECNA encourages, assists, and promotes cooperation among its member colleges. For 100 years, LECNA has connected students to Lutheran colleges and universities and championed the causes of the consortium and faith-based higher education. LECNA's groundbreaking research of Lutheran college and university alumni quantified the compelling values of the undergraduate experiences provided by Lutheran colleges and universities.

Hamm has served Lutheran higher education in a variety of roles: as admissions counselor and associate director of admissions at Wartburg College; as vice president for university relations and admissions at California Lutheran University; as president of Waldorf College in Forest City; and most recently, at Wartburg College as Interim President. He served from 1999 to 2008 as president of the Foundation for Independent Higher Education in Washington, D.C., working with a national network of 34 state and regional associations to secure resources and develop collaborative programs within its network of 650 private colleges and universities.

At LECNA, Hamm will replace Dr. Ralph Wagoner, who is retiring. Wagoner became LECNA president in 2000, following his retirement as president of Augustana College, Sioux Falls, S.D. "Dr. Ralph Wagoner is an outstanding educator who has provided a vision and direction for LECNA during years of great change for church-related higher education. Wagoner's passion for connecting Lutherans with their colleges has made a huge difference for the colleges and this association. I'm committed to the kind of cooperative endeavor LECNA seeks to engender," Hamm stated.

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