

MaineJobs SPOTLIGHT:

Bangor Theological Seminary

Adrea Jaehnig, Director of Admissions



The diverse students are her favorite part of the job, says Adrea Jaehnig, Director of Admissions at Bangor Theological Seminary. (Photo by Merry Farnum)

How did you get started?

During college, I was involved in a number of student leadership positions, including serving as a resident advisor, co-captaining the track and field team and leading a maintenance and repair crew in the residence halls. After graduating from college I became a residence hall director and went on to graduate school in higher education and student affairs administration. Working in admissions is new and exciting.

What training did you have?

I have a master's degree in education

from the University of Vermont and more than 20 years' experience at colleges and universities, all of which helped me understand the positive role higher education plays in our society. My background also allows me to appreciate the diversity of students accessing higher education today.

What is a typical day on the job like?

There is quite a bit of variety, but generally I spend my days in communication with prospective students, planning for future outreach events, and enhancing our recruitment

efforts to get the word out about our fabulous seminary and its full curriculum in both Portland and Bangor.

What skills are essential for your job?

Strong organizational skills, communication skills, and interpersonal skills, as well as flexibility and initiative.

What is your favorite part of the job?

The students – very interesting, compassionate, and motivated individuals who want to help others and make a difference in their church

or professional communities. Our students are diverse, from those in their 20s and at the beginning of their careers to those in their 40s, 50s, and 60's who are pursuing second careers. They are people preparing for traditional and non-traditional ministries in the service of justice, love, and compassion.

What is the greatest challenge?

Identifying strategic priorities for a growing organization in a changing society.

Who succeeds in the job?

Someone who can build strong relationships with others, see past temporary obstacles and stay focused on goals, and willing to work hard. And someone who can promote the school. (BTS is offering awesome summer courses starting in June!)

What advice would you offer to someone interested in a job in this field?

Pay attention to the little things, like remembering people's names, where they are from, what is important to them. Develop a strong network of support both within your school and outside it. Review your goals and progress frequently, and take care of your health, both physical and emotional.

For more information,
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www.bts.edu

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