Koinonia

R. A. Rollins
R. Hestenes
Deb Lacey

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AZUSA 1988

"Shared Faith-Shared Vision" brought 270 ACSD members to Azusa Pacific University, Azusa, CA, June 6-9. Many traveled from the east coast of the United States and Canada to attend. The weather was ideal, the San Gabriel mountains were phenomenal, and the Azusa Campus was beautiful. John Wallace and the Student Development staff at Azusa Pacific assembled and coordinated a superb program of two preconference workshops, four nationally known keynote speakers and 40 different program sessions. In addition, the food and sight-seeing excursions were greatly enjoyed by all.

The conference began with a welcome from Dr. Sago, the President of Azusa Pacific University. Dr. Sago stated that student development at most institutions carries a major part of the responsibility for the students' physical, social, and spiritual development. As a result of the misconception of religious and political figures over the past 15 years, higher education has an increasing role in discipline with forward-looking consequences that teach that wrong behavior is nonproductive. The other analogy is

BALANCING LOVE AND DISCIPLINE, Forgiveness and Consequence

by R. A. Rollins

As the Dean of Students at our Christian college, I received a call from an angry parent whose son had just been expelled for disciplinary reasons. "I thought this was a CHRISTIAN college; don't you know anything about grace and forgiveness?" As we discussed this issue, we wrestled with how to balance the need for discipline with the obligation to love and forgive. Here are some thoughts in that direction.

Are the concepts of love and forgiveness in some way antithetical to the concept of discipline? I have often heard Student Development professionals agonize over the difficulty of being the one-who-loves as well as the one-who-disciplines, and some have tried to separate those roles ("Allright, I'll be the bad guy, you RA's be the relational caregivers"). I believe strongly that those roles are not antithetical, and, as a matter of fact, there are at least two good analogies where that tension is resolved by the good and the godly.

One obvious analogy is that of the parent. I am not, at this point, looking for movement back to the "in loco parentis" model of student development in its restrictive "we've got to control these irresponsible kids with the wild hormones" sense. But it is true that a good parent is one who is loving, caring, and supportive, yet also has the responsibility to discipline with forward-looking consequences that teach that wrong behavior is nonproductive. The other analogy is

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Balancing Love...
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the God of all grace, who has forgiven those who turn to Him in faith, but still disciplines His children for their good. If we intend to be godly (like God) student development professionals, we need to be like God in our philosophy of discipline.

So how does this work itself out in a practical sense? What about the student who is expelled -- is there any sense in which that is an expression of "godliness"? Yes, I believe there is. I often explain to my kids as I hand out creative consequences, "if I didn't care about you, I would let you do whatever you please. Since I care about you deeply, I will consistently consequate wrong behavior so that you will learn not to do that." (Not necessarily in those words). Clever children (and students - and student development professionals, for that matter), with the depravity we inherited from Adam, who find that "forgiveness" replaces consequences for wrong behavior, have a minimized motivation for correcting that behavior.

Let me at this point stop to correct some potential misconceptions. It is possible to be harsh, restrictive, unflexible, and legalistic with this philosophy. It is possible to be a poor parent and an ungodly administrator. The Pharisees are the template for those who err by taking a good thing (the Law) to a bad extreme. Let's by all means avoid that. But there is an important principle behind this philosophy of discipline: a "rule of law" is preferable to a "rule of men". A campus governed by a set of policies and principles (hopefully a godly set) is better than a campus ruled by people. People change their minds. People have hidden agendas and personal preferences. People play favorites. People are inconsistent in their enforcement of policy. Unfairness results. "Laws" rule fairly: no matter who parks in the no-parking zone, a freshman student or the president of the school, they get a just consequence. This is the principle that is supposed to rule our Democracy -- justice is blind. But the temptation of every godly student development professional is to peek under the blindfold, to somehow look deeply into that student's life to see if you can see a repentant heart, or some reason to make an exception to the rule in this case. "We'll forgive you this time, but don't you dare do it again."

Is there never a time to withdraw or withhold the consequence? Tough question. King David deserved death for his sins, but did not receive that consequence. Other discipline molded his future behavior, but he did not receive that which he justly deserved. At this point I plead for room to struggle, and permission to introduce another principle: wisdom. There are times that I believe wisdom says "withhold", but I'm not sure I can define the criteria for that decision. I used to think it was "repentance", but who can really see into another person's heart? I still think the criteria is repentance (that's what it was for David) -- but I think incredible wisdom and insight is required at that point which can only come from God. So let's trust Him for wisdom, and the development of real godliness for ourselves and those with whom we work. And let's be sure that our foundational philosophy of discipline is based on secure, godly principles.

Dick Rollins, Director, Adonai Counseling and Christian Resource Center (former Dean of Students, Western Bible College)
Timothy Arens and the Moody staff update the ACSD Executive Committee on plans for the 1989 ACSD conference at Moody.

Azusa Pacific was a beautiful location for the 1988 ACSD convention. The weather was ideal and the scenery was spectacular. Plan now to be with us in Chicago next year.

Meeting other Christian student development workers and sharing ideas are the primary activities at an ACSD convention.

This fellow was right at home at the ACSD conference. It seemed like we were always eating.

Joe Lloyd (Messiah) found someone he could relate to on one of the afternoon excursions.

At the opening banquet John Wallace and President Sago welcomed ACSD to Azusa Pacific.
AIDS UPDATE
Calvin College and Seminary

Calvin College has approached the writing of an AIDS policy in a creative way. They determined that not only did they need an AIDS policy, but that they needed to develop a policy for all communicable diseases. They began by forming a task force that included representation from the faculty of the College and Seminary, College Chaplancy, Student Affairs, Health Center, and student body.

The task force first developed a comprehensive overview of communicable diseases that posed a risk to the Calvin College and Seminary community. The list of communicable diseases ranged from AIDS to measles/mumps/chickenpox. The task force identified the campus activities that presented the greatest opportunity for risk.

The task force then developed a Communicable Disease Policy that will guide the Calvin community in responding to a person with a communicable disease. The policy applies to both students and employees of the college and seminary. The Communicable Disease Policy was then reviewed and approved by the County Health Department and legal counsel for the institution. The policy was then sent to the Board of Trustees for adoption.

The task force also delineated a "Pastoral Statement" that outlines some of the Biblical responses a community will need to demonstrate when it is faced with AIDS and its victims.

For more information on the process and a copy of Calvin's Comprehensive Disease Policy, contact the Office of Student Affairs at Calvin College.

AIDS Information Resources:
1) AIDS On The College Campus
2) AIDS And What Everyone Should Know
   Both may be obtained from: American College Health Association, 15879 Crabbs Branchway, Rockville, Maryland 20855

Video Tapes:
"Beyond Fear" - American Red Cross (contact your local chapter)
"Letter to Bryan" - American Red Cross
AIDS in the Work Place - American Red Cross

Lessons on Leadership from the Trenches
Dr. R. Hestenes

After completing nine months as president of Eastern College, Dr. Hestenes had the following observations concerning leadership.

"What particularly confounds most new managers is the high variety of people issues that take up so much of their time and attention....In time they will come to realize that this is what management is all about" (Andy Grove, One to One). People need someone to listen to them, respond to them and help them work together. "People function best when the environment in which they function incorporates the values of love - affirmation; dignity - appreciation; and respect - recognition. We need others to affirm our presence, appreciate the fruits of our labor, and recognize and respond to the contribution we make" (Wayne Alderson). Christians are often naive enough to believe that the above concepts are not needed in a Christian organization.

Dr. Hestenes recommended the book of II Corinthians, particularly Chapter 4, to new managers. In Chapter 4, Paul encouraged the leadership in Corinth not to lose heart, even though they were tempted to do so. Like the Corinthians, we are sometimes tempted to give up because of 1) criticism from the Christian community; 2) the erroneous thought that if you do everything right it will always turn out right; 3) a lack of results or 4) the sense of failure we feel when we don't live up to the expectations of others.

Dr. Hestenes reminded us that we do have a treasure (v7), but that the treasure is not us. It is the power of Jesus Christ within us. We are to be God's tools and instruments. When we are tempted to be discouraged, we must focus on the treasure.

As leaders in Christian higher education we are not to give our students a superficial exposure to the Bible. We need to teach the Lordship of Christ and model obedience to Jesus Christ. The college must aggressively and actively plan for the spiritual development of students. Student development programs are of vital importance to this planning. In our materialistic society students must realize that everything they own will someday break or decay, but that the ministry they have with people will last for eternity.

Dr. Hestenes is President of Eastern College.

AIDS and Adolescents-Threat Greater Than Statistics Indicate

Suicide was not a major concern on most Christian college campuses ten years ago, but today it is one of the primary concerns of most student affairs offices. Today AIDS is still relatively distant to our campuses but has the potential of becoming a significant problem. The following quotes from Guidepost (July 7, 1988) illustrate the magnitude of this potential problem among adolescents and young adults.

L. Hamelton, a health educator at East High School in West Chester, Pa. stated, "Three-quarters of my students have been left alone for a weekend, yet most of their parents would deny that their kids are sexually active. What do they think the kids are doing? I don't believe that some parents ever see their child as being at risk for anything," J. Hunter, the director of social services for the Hetrick Institute (formerly the Institute for the Protection of Lesbian and Gay Youth) in New York City says, "I think we're now in the same place with adolescents that we were with gay men in 1980 or 81. We haven't seen many cases in this group, so we're not paying much attention to risk factors involved." Hunter cautioned that this attitude will be short lived. "I

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think that as more figures come out the numbers are going scare people. Currently teens are not seeing their peers dying of AIDS, but I'm afraid that's going to change."

A TIME AND A PLACE
by Deb Lacey

Professional women are searching for a "safe" place to fellowship with other Christian women. They seek a place of silence where they walk and witness. They seek a place of silence where the inner ear can hear, a place of beauty where the eyes can take in color, and a place of peace where the body can relax as the inward person reaches upward to hear the Spirit speak. Women are in need of connecting with other women of like hearts and minds in Jesus Christ.

For one weekend in February, 20 Christian women from professions in higher education gathered at Camp Tilikum (Newburg, OR) for a retreat hosted by the Student Life staff of George Fox College. Women came from as far away as Houghton College in New York state and Biola University in California. The second annual retreat was sponsored by the Association for Christians in Student Development. Four goals shaped the focus for the weekend:

1) To provide an avenue for addressing personal and professional issues,
2) To provide a time and place to rest our souls,
3) To build and strengthen our walk and witness,
4) To create a place and time that allows for personal healing.

The kindred spirit and strong unity which developed during the retreat was a clear sign that a retreat in this nature does make a difference in the lives of professional women in leadership.

The next retreat is scheduled for February 3-5, 1989. For more information see the advertisement in this issue of the Koinonia.

"To make known to the sons of men Thy mighty acts, and the glory of the majesty of Thy kingdom."
Psalm 145:12

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ACSD

Introducing the new / reelected ACSD officers.
- Vice President - Don Mortenson, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, WI
- Treasurer and Membership Chairman - Tim Herrmann, Taylor University, Upland, IN
- Editor - Dr. Darrel Shaver, Columbia Bible College and Seminary, Columbia, SC

Job Changes
Ken Hadley from Grove City College to Associate Dean for Student Development at Bethel College
Don Mortenson from Bethel College to University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Future Conference Sites
1989 Moody Bible Institute, Chicago, IL
1990 Calvin College, Grand Rapids, MI
1991 Montreat-Anderson College, Montreat, NC

Elections 1989 ACSD Executive Committee

Elections
Are you interested in serving on the ACSD Executive Committee? Do you know someone who might be? If so send his/her name to Don Boender, Azusa Pacific University, Alosta and Citrus, Azusa, CA 91702.

Nominations for the following offices are now open:
President-Elect: The president-elect shall be elected for a two year term in preparation for succeeding the president. It shall be the primary duty of the president-elect to assist the president as delegated in the ongoing leadership of the organization.

Secretary: The secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the association and the Executive Committee, be responsible for general correspondence, and serve as archivist.

Executive Committee of the ACSD

Don Boender, President, Dean of Men, Calvin College Grand Rapids, MI 49506 619-957-8114

Deb Lacey, President-Elect, Dean of Students, George Fox College, Newberg, OR 97132 503-538-8383

Don Mortenson, Vice President University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, WI

Scott Makin, Secretary, Associate Dean of Students, Indiana Wesleyan University 4201 South Washington, Marion, IN 46953 317-674-6901

Darrel G. Shaver, Editor Dean of Men, Columbia Bible College Box 3122, Columbia, SC 29230 803-754-4100

Tim Herrmann, Treasurer and Membership Chairman Associate Dean of Students, Taylor University Upland, IN 46989 317-998-5344

Hosting the 1992 ACSD Conference

Open invitation to all colleges in the midwest to host the 1992 ACSD conference. If you are interested write to Don Boender, Azusa Pacific University, Alosta and Citrus, Azusa, CA 91702.

Student Activities Resources

Are you interested in networking with other Christians involved in student activity programming? If so, Small College Activities Resource Gathering Organization "S" CARGO is a newly formed student activities support group. They are publishing a quarterly newsletter that features leadership training and student activity ideas. If interested write to "S" CARGO, Huntington College, Huntington, IN 46750.
"Atlanta '88 promises to be a hallmark event having impact on the Christian mental health field well into the decade of the ninety's. Participants from throughout the country and beyond will benefit from the exchange of ideas regarding practical, philosophical and theological issues related to Christian counseling. For the first time in history, a diverse group of National Professional Fellowships, Mental Health Corporations and Academic Institutions have joined forces for the exchange of ideas on therapy, training, research, supervision and ministry. You will have the unprecedented opportunity to learn, fellowship with outstanding leaders and make contributions toward the growth of Christian counseling." - Dr. Gary R. Collins

Lake Regional Conference
Nov. 4 & 5, 1988
Redeemer College
Ontario, CA.
Contact Jerry Davis
(219) 356-6000