

# COPY

## International Fellowship of Christian Businessmen, USA

3402 Roosevelt Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902-1559 • (Residence) 509-575-7913 • (Fax) 509-575-7913

Director  
Don E. Skidmore

May 12, 1993

Northwest College  
P. O. Box 579  
Kirkland, WA 98083-0579

Attention: Richard R. Rose, Vice-President - College Advancement

Dear Mr. Rose:

Re: Northwest College Lay Council

You asked me to give you some of the history and background of the Lay Council at Northwest College.

For background: I was appointed to the Lay Council of Evangel College, Springfield, MO, in 1960 and attended with my wife their Lay Council Meetings in the Fall of the next several years. At one time I was Vice-President and my wife was at one time Treasurer of the Women's Auxiliary. In that Evangel College was a Liberal Arts College, the first in Assembly of God, the inception of a Lay Council was a new departure from the norm. Therefore, much groundwork was done there for the other Lay Councils subsequently established in A of G schools across the country.

In going back through my records I found that 1964 was the least complete and, of course, this was the year when it all began for Northwest College. To the best of my memory and with the help of my wife the first contact was made by Bro. Herb Crowder and Dr. Butterfield in late summer or early fall of 1964. They came to Yakima and we had lunch together and discussed the philosophy of Lay Councils, their benefits, etc. It is possible, although I am not certain of this and perhaps Herb Crowder can verify it, that I had talked with Herb previously sharing some of our experiences at Evangel, having known Herb since the late 30's.

My next recollection and I do have a record of the date, November 28, 1964, Bro. Butterfield invited a number of lay men from across the District to a "Get Acquainted" meeting in the Cafeteria on the Campus of Northwest College. As I recall 50 to 75 men came and to them was presented the idea of a Lay Council for the College. There was good interest and it was decided to go ahead with such an action. Due to my previous experience at Evangel, Dr. Butterfield appointed me as President Pro Tem.

I then put together a Constitution and By-Laws (proposed) and met with the Board to get their approval at their January-February meeting. Wouldn't you know it I cannot locate my memo books for 1965 and 1966. Upon their approval - and I believe if you can go back to the minutes of that meeting you may find not only a reference to their action but perhaps even the proposed Constitution and By-Laws. Upon their approval went to work to plan and organize the first Lay Council for Northwest College held probably in May of 1965.

*Men On The Move . . . . .*

Northwest College - Attention: Richard R. Rose  
May 12, 1993

Page 2

I forgot to mention that Herb Crowder became and continued over the years to serve as the Executive Vice-President of the Lay Council and was the liaison between the Lay Council and the College Administration and the Board. Later on the President of the Lay Council became a member of the Board of Directors by virtue of his office, thus tying the Lay Council more closely into the Administration of the College.

At that first Lay Council Meeting the Constitution and By-Laws were approved and officers elected. Wish I had my old files about now. I was elected President for a three (?) year term along with Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The ladies met separately at some point and organized and elected officers including my wife as President.

The invited speaker for the first Council was Grant Wacker who had been the Executive Secretary for the Lay Council at Evangel. He was a great help in getting this one off the ground and gave an inspirational talk at the Banquet initiating the Council as a fund-raising medium. As I recall something over \$4,000.00 was given or pledged and you must remember that this was in 1965.


The Lay Council became the launching platform for many fund-raising projects for Northwest College and in each case give the initial funds for the project. The early Councils included a spiritual emphasis as well as a financial.

The early Councils were for about two days and later a day and a half starting Friday afternoon, to the best of my recollection.

The second President was Art Stewart and I served again as the third President. I would think that Art can give you some additional information on those early days.

With the above and by conferring with Herb Crowder and Art Stewart and Stan Beckman and others that you would know of, I believe you can get a fair idea of those early days. Should there be some specific question you would like to ask, feel free to call or write or FAX.

Yours in Christ,

  
Don E. Skidmore