

Northwest Argue^{meants}

Pastor's Communiqué
from President Don Argue
Northwest College

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Why are we establishing a School of Ministry?

For 65 years, training for vocational ministry (Pastors, Evangelists, Missionaries, Youth Ministries, Teachers, etc.) has been the heart of Northwest College. Today graduates are ministering effectively in churches, missions, evangelism and para-church ministries throughout the world. Establishing the School of Ministry is a sharpening of our focus, with a renewed emphasis on **linking & connecting the curriculum with the local church**. The new program will place emphasis on:

Mentoring

Early in the student's program a mentor will be assigned to assist the student in developing spiritually, academically and in practics. Pastors and teachers who meet the mentoring criteria will be identified. These mentoring pastors will receive special training in the developing of the future minister. Specific attention will be given to **the development of character and personal integrity** in all aspects of the ministry candidate's life.

THIS ISSUE'S FOCUS:

School of Ministry

Ministry grows out of a relationship with God and then to others. Students are encouraged and evaluated regarding spiritual progress and maturity. An increased amount of time will be allotted to allow students to be **in the field** throughout the mentoring process.

Admission to Major

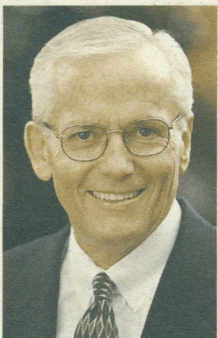
A student can declare a ministry/missions major during the freshman year. A personal program of study, combining **classroom instruction, practics and personal development**, is designed and implemented. During the second semester of the sophomore year the student can apply for admission to a major. Once the student is admitted to a major, **an intense program involving ministry, academics and mentoring** is followed. When the student graduates, entry into ministry will be a continuation – on a full time basis, – of the practical ministry started while a student in the School of Ministry.

Faculty

Ministering scholars will provide the classroom experience for the students. Dr. Jack Rozell has been named Dean of the School of Ministry. Dr. Rozell has served as a successful pastor, mentor, counselor and missionary. He brings a combination of practics and scholarship that will provide outstanding direction for the School of Ministry.

Training for full-time vocational ministry is in clear focus at Northwest College. The graduate of the School of Ministry will be equipped to enter a life of effective ministry.

Pastors, I urge you to preach on the call of God. Your people are ready to respond and commit their lives to future ministry. The call is being sensed by young people and second-career adults. Direct your potential ministry students to the outstanding School of Ministry at Northwest College. I believe they will graduate ready to touch the world for Jesus.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jack Rozell'.

POINTS of Argue^{meant}

My selections this month are specifically designed for pastoral ministry. These selections fit precisely with our commitment to the Northwest College School of Ministry. Read them and be blessed!

The Dynamics of Pastoral Care by David W. Wiersby. What is the appropriate model for a minister in the 21st Century? Administrator? Business Manager? High-powered CEO? David Wiersby suggests that the true biblical paradigm for a pastor is the *Shepherd*. Whether a guide for new pastors or a review for the experienced pastor, *The Dynamics of Pastoral Care* offers helpful insight for those wanting to provide quality shepherding care for God's people.

Escape From the Church, Inc. (The Return of Pastoral Care) by E. Glen Wagner. This book is written for pastors who care about their sheep and for church leaders who care about their pastor! God doesn't need more executives in the pulpit; he wants more shepherds with a heart for their flock. This book was born out of a passion for the church – and for you, one of its pastors. If you struggle with burnout and disillusionment; if something within you keeps insisting, "This isn't what it is suppose to be about!" then Pastor Wagner offers a model for pastoring that can radically reshape how you relate to your congregation.

Jesus the Pastor—Leading Others in the Character and the Power of Christ by John W. Frye. *Jesus The Pastor* may be the book that transforms your ministry. Read it if you are ready to admit that your toolbox of personal resources is limited. Prepare for one of the most wonderful surprises of your life. There are times when the best training, the wisest principles, and the most effective procedures break down in the face of the realities of pastoring. How often have you wished not for a method, but a mentor?

Northwest
COLLEGE

A New Look for The School of Ministry

Plans are not final, but well underway, to give the Northwest College School of Ministry a new look. We value your input, so please contact us with any ideas.

Realizing that this is a new millennium, presenting tough challenges for ministry, the faculty has spent long hours in prayer and deliberation to bring the School of Ministry to an even higher standard. Our concern is that our ministerial students not only begin well, but that we teach them how to finish well in life and ministry.

“Mentoring will be a very important factor in the learning process. Our desire is that every ministerial student will have a mentor.”

Mission Statement:

The Mission Statement for the School of Ministry is to prepare men and women for vocational Christian ministry and to facilitate their placement in service and leadership.

Mentoring

In order to fulfill our mission, we envision a fresh approach in several areas, such as “cohorts” and “modules.” Mentoring will also be a very important factor in the learning process. Our desire is that every ministerial student will have a mentor. This process is already underway, as mentoring opportunities are being presented to pastors through workshops and seminars, with the idea that selected pastors will, with their churches, step forward to “reproduce” their ministries through Northwest Students.

The goal for mentoring is that it does not stop when a student graduates, but that it continues throughout his or her ministry through a “ministry walk” with the continued interaction of key people.

The Vision

In keeping with the Northwest College theme, we envision our graduates will have:

- **Hearts** ~ pure and full of the Holy Spirit.
- **Heads** ~ full of knowledge to meet the demands of a changing society.
- **Hands** ~ reaching out with Godly compassion to a lost and hurting world.

A New Profile

In order to truly prepare students for vocational ministry, there must be an intense focus on the whole person. Another fresh approach now being researched is that the Ministerial Studies Program be “field oriented” just as many professional programs are, such as in the field of medicine. It could be possible that students in their Junior and Senior year would spend a significant percent of that year in the field applying what they have learned, and that the church the student is working with could help defray the costs of schooling.

The new profile of the School of Ministry would look something like the following:

Creative ~ We desire to seek creative ways of teaching and ministry, such as in the **field of technology and church planting.**

Whole Person ~ Spiritual, emotional, and physical health as a lifestyle in order to pursue a **lifetime of ministry.**

Quality ~ Continual emphasis on **character development and personal integrity.**

Relationship ~ Building lasting relationships through **mentoring and role models which inspire greatness.**

Broad In Scope ~ Preparing men and women for **ministry in a post-modern culture** as pastors, teachers, missionaries and evangelists, para-church workers and leaders.

Obviously, much work is yet to be done before the “launching” of the “new look” for the school of ministry. However, the School of Ministry faculty and staff continue to dream big dreams in order to fill the need for ministry in this new millennium.

A New Methodology

The faculty has been seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit as they creatively pursue and implement the vision that God has given them. The program will include:

Cohorts ~ building relationships and creating examples of teamwork.

Creative scheduling ~ flexible scheduling to meet the demands of a fast paced culture.

Field oriented training ~ more **participation** balanced with **observation** in the “How’s” and the “Why’s” of pastoral ministry.

Debt reduction for service beyond graduation ~ freedom **from debt** means freedom **to follow** God’s calling wherever He leads.

Partnership with the School of Ministry

Yes, there is much work to be done before the inauguration of the School of Ministry. There are significant needs that must be met. Pastor, here's how you and your church can help.

Become a prayer partner. Our desire is to have someone praying for each School of Ministry student and each faculty member. Are you willing to be a prayer partner?

Become a mentor. Pray about whether you could be used as a mentor. We need pastors and leaders – men and women – to mentor students and walk with them into ministry. We need leaders from churches small, and large, inner city works, urban and rural, new church plants and traditional churches. Would you be a mentor?

Open your church as a “teaching church”. There is a need for churches to be willing to serve as sponsors and on-the-field centers for training. Talk with your board and your pastoral team. Would your church be willing to be a “teaching church” for Northwest College ministry students?

Financially support the School of Ministry and Northwest College. As you know, new ideas and plans are costly to implement. Your support is needed and

appreciated. Do you presently support the college? Does your church support the college? If not, please pray about becoming a financial supporter. If you presently support the college, please consider raising the level of giving. As always, we want to say, “Thank you.”

“...students in their Junior and Senior year would spend a significant percent of that year in the field applying what they have learned...”

Above all – PRAY. We desire Godly wisdom, His guidance and His purpose to direct all that we do in the School of Ministry. These vocational ministry students are the future leaders of our churches and of **your church.** Pray about the way in which God wants to use you and your church.

Jack Rozell is the Dean of the School of Ministry and Professor of Pastoral Ministry. He holds a B.A., Whitworth College; M.A., Seattle University; and M.Div. and D.Min., Fuller Seminary. Jack has a wide variety of ministry experiences including pastor, counselor, college professor, and missionary. Dr. Rozell can be reached at 425.889.5253, jack.rozell@ncag.edu, or visit our website and the link to the School of Ministry.



Evangelicals Respond to Attacks on Ashcroft – January 2001

“On one hand we say *In God We Trust*, on the other we attack a man because of his religion,” says Dr. Don Argue, president of Northwest College (Kirkland, WA) and former president of the National Association of Evangelicals (representing over 27 million Evangelicals in the U.S.). Argue, who has served as a counselor to President Clinton and former President Bush, is among Evangelicals who are rising to the defense of John Ashcroft.

Argue is especially troubled with the sloppy and inaccurate use of terms. “For example, Ashcroft’s church, the Assemblies of God, is being characterized as a fringe, fundamentalist sect of Christianity. The Assemblies of God is more accurately described as a Pentecostal, Evangelical, or Bible believing, world-wide movement of Christians.” Some 35 million people worship every week in Assemblies of God churches around the world, making it one of the world’s largest denominations.

Ashcroft has also been mischaracterized as holding fundamentalist views. “Scholars, as well as the press, have used *fundamentalism* as a theological smear-word for years. They use it to represent Christians as suffering from *hardening-of-the-categories*. *Evangelical* is a better term in that it most adequately represents the central concern of the *evangel* – the good news of God which has been made known and made possible in Jesus Christ,” says Argue. “Rather than a shrill, critical voice, Evangelicals really speak with a morally based, loyal voice, as they serve in all walks of life, including government.”

Argue is no stranger to Ashcroft or the nation’s capital. Ashcroft and Argue are long-time personal friends dating back to days in Missouri when Argue served as a college administrator under Ashcroft’s father, then president of Evangel University (Springfield, MO).

Managing Editors Note:

Paul’s instruction to Timothy makes it clear that believers have a **responsibility to pray for, and will benefit by**, prayers for those in positions of civil and spiritual authority.

Therefore, we encourage continual and fervent prayers for President and Mrs. Bush, Vice President and Mrs. Cheney, and their families, the new Cabinet, the House and the Senate, the Supreme Court and the Nation.

“...I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings, be made on behalf of all men, for kings and all who are in authority, in order that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.”

1 Tim 2:1,2

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"Don't broaden your ministry, deepen your message."

John Wesley

"If you want men to come alongside you in ministry, you need to equip them."

John Maxwell

"...ministry in the twenty-first century has more in common with the first century than with the modern world that is collapsing all around us."

Leonard Sweet

Post-Modern Pilgrims

"...we must rekindle our passion for God, recapture a sense of urgency about ministry, and respond strategically to the challenges before us."

George Barna

The Second Coming of the Church

Rob Vatter, Director for Church Relations, is

available to respond to questions and needs related to the local church. He is available to represent Northwest College to churches, missions conventions, and conferences. You can reach him at 425.889.5205 or rob.vatter@ncag.edu



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