CONNECT: Transform Your Passions for a Purpose

March 7, 2007
William E. and Ernest L. Boyer
Common Day of Learning
Azusa Pacific University

901 E. Alosta Ave.
Azusa, CA 91702
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WELCOME

Welcome to Azusa Pacific University’s 15th Annual William E. and Ernest L. Boyer Common Day of Learning (CDL). APU started CDL in 1993 to bring together faculty, staff, and students to learn about critical issues facing the campus and society at large. This one-day symposium affords a unique opportunity for the community to gather for a time of exploration and creative learning experiences.

This year’s theme is “Connect: Transform Your Passions for a Purpose.” Living in the Information Age, a person can literally access volumes of knowledge using a keyboard and a mouse. Ironically, people use that same technology to form virtual communities in cyberspace. No matter how much computers simplify – or complicate – human life, people still yearn to relate to their peers.

Passion is the factor that unites online communities. People “blog” or “chat” about mass media or current events or a myriad of other topics. As a university of Christ-followers, APU is uniquely positioned to help members of its community hone their passions. After all, God is the One Who instills those passions within the hearts of His children. “We have different gifts, according to the grace given us.” –Romans 12:6a

This year, faculty, staff, students, and a few esteemed guests will conduct more than two-dozen workshops on a variety of issues relating to the theme. These offerings range across the disciplines offered by APU’s seven schools and college. Please show your support for your friends, classmates, and colleagues by attending.

British writer E. M. Forster perhaps said it best in his novel Howard’s End: “Only connect! That was the whole of her sermon. Only connect the prose and the passion, and both will be exalted, and human love will be seen at its height. Live in fragments no longer. Only connect. . .”

May your day be filled with connections.

Sincerely,

Thomas Parham, Ph.D.
CDL Faculty Director

Chadwick Trentham
CDL Undergraduate Intern

SCHEDULE

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

9:30-10:45 a.m. COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
Darling Plaza, West Campus

9:30-10:45 a.m. SESSION ONE

11 a.m.-12 p.m. COMMUNITY CHAPEL
Richard and Vivian Felix Event Center, West Campus

12-1:15 p.m. LUNCH
Hall of Champions, West Campus

12-1:15 p.m. BOOK SIGNING WITH PHIL VISCHER
University Bookstore

12-4 p.m. COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
Darling Plaza, West Campus

1:15-2:30 p.m. SESSION TWO

2:45-4 p.m. SESSION THREE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Phil Vischer

Phil Vischer is the founder of Jellyfish Labs, a creative shop that develops new faith-based projects for children and families. Prior to launching Jellyfish, he founded Big Idea Productions and led the team that brought VeggieTales to life. Joined by a close-knit group of Big Idea veterans, Phil is applying the lessons learned from Big Idea and VeggieTales to produce family-oriented books, films, and videos.

In January, Nelson Books published his autobiography Me, Myself, & Bob: A True Story about God, Dreams, & Talking Vegetables, which received a positive review from Publishers Weekly. Phil’s first children’s book, Sidney & Norman, is available in bookstores. His next, 47 Beavers on the Big Blue Sea, will be released later this year. In addition, he is working on the next VeggieTales movie The Pirates Who Don’t Do Anything.
FOCUS GROUPS

SESSION 1
9:30-10:45 a.m.

GRADUATE SCHOOL: COULD THIS BE A WAY TO PURSUE YOUR PASSIONS?
Joseph Bentz, Ph.D.; Brian Eck, Ph.D.; Dan Palm, Ph.D.; and current grad student
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Duke 127
Many undergraduate students who are passionate about fields as diverse as
psychology, medicine, theology, law, nursing, and others will want to supplement
their APU degrees with graduate education in order to pursue their academic goals.
This session, sponsored by the Pew College Society, will answer questions such as:
Is graduate school necessary for me? If so, how soon should I go? How do I
choose a school? How do I get in? The panel will be composed of the Pew College
Society director, other professors in key graduate-school-related fields, a current
graduate student, and career services experts.

SESSION 2
1:15-2:30 p.m.

LEADING FROM YOUR STRENGTHS:
TRANSFORMING PASSIONS INTO PEAK PERFORMANCE
Karen Longman, Ph.D.; and Eileen Hulme, Ph.D.
Department of Higher Education and Organizational Leadership
Duke 520
“Leadership” has been defined as the ability to make a difference by influencing
others. What are the passions of your heart? How has God uniquely “wired” you to
make a difference in those areas? This session will be a “Strengths 401” approach
to building on the results of your Gallup Strengths Finder in order to provide effective
leadership on issues that matter to you.

SESSION 3
2:45-4 p.m.

WHEN TWITCHY MEETS BOB: A CONVERSATION WITH PHIL VISCHER
Mary Hill Theater
Writer/Director Cory Edwards (Hoodwinked, Escape from Planet Earth) will host a
lively, freewheeling discussion with keynote speaker Phil Vischer. Topics will include
lessons God has taught Phil during his tenure at Big Idea Productions and Jellyfish
Labs, as well as the state of Christian art and the world marketplace.

Cory has been making movies since his childhood “Super 8mm” days. After col-
lege, he worked at a Tulsa production company directing music videos and com-
mercials. In 1995, he launched Blue Yonder Films with his brother, Todd, and a few
partners. Cory produced and acted in Todd’s directorial debut Chillicothe, an official
selection for the 1999 Sundance Film Festival. After moving to L.A., the Edwards
brothers found an investor to fund an independent computer-animated feature. The
result was Hoodwinked, which was distributed by The Weinstein Company and be-
came one of 2006’s surprise hits.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT
9:30-10:45 a.m.; 12-4 p.m.

KNIT TOGETHER: CONNECTING YOUR PASSIONS FOR A PURPOSE
Led by Adrien Lowery, Ph.D.
Department of English
Darling Plaza
You can make a difference in the life of a homeless person in just 30 minutes of
knitting. In the “Warm-Up America” tradition, students, faculty, and staff can help
homeless people in our community stay warm this winter. Attendees will learn how
to make a small, knitted square that will become part of a homemade afghan
for a homeless person. Information will also be provided about other outreach
opportunities to help people in need.

BOOK SIGNING
12-1:15 p.m.
University Bookstore
Keynote speaker Phil Vischer will sign copies of his new book, Me, Myself, & Bob:
A True Story about God, Dreams, and Talking Vegetables. “[A] story of spiritual
inspiration and heartbreak, Vischer draws lessons from his experience for anyone
who has ever lost a dream.” —Publishers Weekly
(One autograph per customer, please.)
SESSION 1
9:30-10:45 a.m.

FROM TACTICAL TO PRACTICAL: 
MAKING COLLEGE THE ULTIMATE APPRENTICESHIP
Ilene Bezjian, DBA, dean, School of Business and Management; 
Brittany Fjugstad, James Bezjian, Zachary Vance, and Capree Bell
Duke 106

Many students plan their schedules and lives around convenience and wait until 
their senior year to make important career and life decisions. If students are given 
guidance during their freshman year to choose practical options that will enhance 
their college experience, they could graduate having experienced the ultimate 
apprenticeship.

CONFLUENCE – CONVERGING LITERATURE AND WORLD VIEWS
Sigma Tau Delta
Department of English
Duke 113

Each year students from Sigma Tau Delta, the English Honors Society of Azusa 
Pacific University, attend an academic conference to share critical essays, short 
stories, and poetry. This year’s conference is entitled Confluence – a place where 
things converge. Students’ critical works will seek to meet, connect, and transform 
awareness of the world around them, and prompt responses that are God-honoring.

TOWARD SIMPLE PERFECTION: METABOLISM AND LIFE’S ORIGINS
Stephen M. Contakes, Ph.D.
Department of Biology and Chemistry
Duke 114

This lecture will explore how frontier systems biology approaches to the analysis of 
metabolic pathways might impact the current landscape of the creation-evolution 
controversy. In particular, chemical, biochemical, and metabolic models for explaining 
the origin and development of life on earth will be discussed with a particular focus 
on recent attempts to analyze the evolutionary origin of the complex biochemical 
reaction networks involved in metabolism. The session will conclude with a discussion 
of how we can approach these new developments honestly and critically, yet remain 
faithful to our Christian calling.

DREAMCATCHER: DESIGNING A PATH TO FULFILL YOUR DREAMS
Dave McIntire, Ed.D.; Paul Kaak, Ph.D.; and Peggy Hunker, M.A.
Department of Higher Education and Organizational Leadership
Duke 116

This session is designed to provide practical suggestions to make one’s dreams 
become reality. Participants will learn specific ways to personalize their life paths 
through personal management skills. Suggestions will be given relative to the 
application of incremental first steps, stepping stones, and stumbling blocks, as 
well as seasons of life in order to provide a mixture of hope and reality in achieving 
one’s dreams.

RECONNECTING: A GROUNDED THEORY STUDY OF HOMELESS MOTHERS
Pamela Cone, Ph.D., RN, CNS
School of Nursing
Duke 122

Homelessness adversely affects the spirit, mind, and body, and homeless mothers 
are the fastest growing segment among the itinerant. This grounded theory study 
explored the experiences and discovered the process whereby these women 
navigated the pitfalls of homelessness and got “off the streets” into stable housing.

ADDRESSING RESISTANCE TO CHANGE IN TRANSFORMATIONAL COMMUNITIES
Dick Pritchard, D.Min.; Steve Gerali, Ph.D.; Rev. Mark Sanford, M.Div. – School of Theology 
David Brokaw, Ph.D., ABPP; and Joy Bustrum, Psy.D. – Department of Psychology
Duke 125

This workshop will address why individuals and communities resist necessary 
change inherent in the movement of God in life and Scripture, and how we might 
give in ways that facilitate the transforming life of God among us.

CONNECTING TO THE COMMUNITY
Matt Visser, M.Ed., interim director, Office of Ministry and Service
Duke 507

The Office of Ministry and Service provides various opportunities for students to 
impact the local community. The session leader will be joined by students who will 
share how their service changed their own lives.
THE SPIRITUALITY OF SPORT
Cindy McKnight, Ph.D.; and Sharon Lehman, Ed.D.
Department of Exercise and Sport Science
Duke 513
Sport can be used for many purposes including the original Greek intent of the complete blending of mind, body, and spirit (arête). But is it truly “spiritual”? Can competition in the modern world be a spiritual endeavor? Can we find a balance between body and soul that does not diminish excellence in competition but enhances it? If these are possible, then sport can become a more positive influence on individual lives and society as a whole.

IMMIGRATION REFORM:
COMPARING THE PROPOSED HOUSE AND SENATE BILLS
Sally Alonzo Bell, Ph.D., LCSW
Department of Social Work
Duke 515
People become very passionate when the issue arises as to the treatment of undocumented workers. The manner in which Christians approach the topic of immigration reform will transform all of our lives. The pertinent question, though, is how do we want our lives transformed?

THE ROLE OF HOPE, MEANING, AND PURPOSE IN MENTAL HEALTH
Joey Sagawa, M.A.
University Counseling Center
Duke 517
This session provides rationale for considering the role spirituality plays in mental health. Specifically, the underlying assumptions of the medical model will be critiqued and an alternative perspective to mental health will be proposed. Particular emphasis will be placed on the role of hope, meaning, and purpose in the promotion of human flourishing.

SESSION 2
1:15-2:30 p.m.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY OF AZUSA
Stuart Strother, Ph.D.; Megan Klingensmith; and Elisabeth Lavertu
School of Business and Management
Duke 106
This session describes research conducted by APU business students in two service learning classes in cooperation with the Azusa Chamber of Commerce and the City of Azusa Economic Development Committee. The project includes an economic development policy analysis and two retail analyses. Attendees will learn about the current state of the local economy, the impact of APU on the local economy, and the radical transformation the city of Azusa will experience in the very near future.

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THE RAUNCH REVOLUTION AND THE FEMALE IDENTITY
Karen Sorensen, M.A.; Alaia Williams; and Nicole Chin
Department of Communication Studies
Duke 114
This session will focus on the problem of “raunch culture,” which is now being perpetuated by women against themselves. Current cultural problems connected to the female identity will be discussed alongside the related impacts of how women value themselves and behave and interact with each other as well as men. Attendees will brainstorm about how to start a “positive epidemic” among women in order to promote better understanding of gender identity.

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ANGER MANAGEMENT… AS GOD DOES IT
Cathie Gray, M.A.
University Counseling Center
Duke 513
Anger is a God-given passion – easily misused and easily turned to sin – that may drive a godly calling if managed in a godly way. This session will focus on the notion of anger “regulation” and will consider vital strategies for anger management drawn from Biblical examples of how God “manages” His anger.

TRANSFORM TO PERFORM: IMPROVISATIONAL COMEDY WORKSHOP
Host: Rachel Tracie, Ph.D.; Guest Artist: Joel McCrary; and Claire Sera
Department of Theater, Film, and Television
Mary Hill Theater
Writer-performers Joel McCrary and Claire Sera are veterans of the improv revue The Houseful of Honkies. Joel’s film credits include American Beauty, Cheaper by the Dozen, and The Princess Diaries 1 and 2, as well as episodes of Cold Case, Las Vegas, and The Wayne Brady Show. He co-wrote Fellowship!, a musical Lord of the Rings parody, which received two LA Weekly Theatre Awards. Clare served on the writing team for Universal Pictures’ animated feature Curious George, has worked as a script consultant on several feature films, and has developed screenplays for DreamWorks Feature Animation. Prior to embarking on her screenwriting career, she wrote and performed on several sketch comedy shows for ABC and NBC, and five of her stage plays were produced.

PASSION FOR THE IPOD
Paul A. Creasman, Ph.D.; Jordan Dykstra; and Joshua Dent
Department of Communication Studies
Duke 116
Apple, Inc. has sold more than 70 million iPods since the devices were introduced in 2001. People love their iPods but probably never consider that using them might have serious ramifications. This session will examine the cultural impact and implications of everyone’s favorite portable music player.

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL WORK: OXYMORON OR NATURAL EXPRESSION OF FAITH?
Kathleen Tangenberg, Ph.D.
Department of Social Work
Duke 122
This session will focus on areas of tension and compatibility between professional social work and certain Christian worldviews. It will also explore distinctions between professional social work, social service ministry, and missionary activity.

APPLICATION AND UNDERSTANDING HOW TO TEACH ABOUT RELIGION
Steven Wentland, Ed.D.
Department of Teacher Education
Duke 125
Christian educators need to know how to incorporate religious themes and Judeo-Christian values, discuss controversial topics, and place key historical issues in context with conservative religious philosophy. This session will help educators to equip students so they can learn and grow in moral judgment, discover critical thought processes, and realize that doing the right thing will always be good for themselves and others.

CONNECTING THROUGH CONVERSATION:
HOW TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY
Jennifer Utley, M.A
University Counseling Center
Duke 507
Many people struggle to express themselves and communicate effectively. Sometimes these challenges interfere with the ability to meaningfully connect in relationships with others. This presentation will detail basic techniques for effective communication that can strengthen relationships and interpersonal connections.
INTEGRATING SPIRITUALITY INTO THE CAREER PLANNING PROCESS: HELPING STUDENTS OWN THEIR STRENGTHS AND LIVE THEIR VALUES
Sharyn Slavin Miller, Ph.D.; and M.Ed. Candidates Corrie Creasman and Beth Hampson
Department of Higher Education and Organizational Leadership
Duke 127
The topic of career decision is on the minds of many students. As they prepare to graduate, many of them face the prospect of choosing a career and are at a loss as to going about this process. This session will help identify ways they can recognize their passions and incorporate their strengths, values, and spirituality into the career search.

HOW TO TRANSFORM GOD’S PASSION AND PURPOSE INTO YOUR OWN PASSION AND PURPOSE
Matt Browning, Ed.D., executive director, International Programs Division
Duke 507
This session will lay out a compelling case to show God’s passion for every tribe, tongue, and nation, and how that passion creates a simple and profound purpose for all of His followers.

MEN, WOMEN, AND MEDIA: REACTION TO INFLUENCES ON BODY IMAGE
David Quagliana, M.A.; and Heather Lewis Quagliana, M.A.
University Counseling Center
Duke 513
Men and women play different roles in the causes and solutions to body image issues and eating disorders. This forum is designed to facilitate knowledge, discussion, and action by both genders to make a positive impact.

CONNECTING THROUGH DISCUSSION
Amy Jung, M.A.; and the APU Forensics Team
Department of Communication Studies
Duke 515
Do Christians need to turn off their brains to respect each other? When Christ-followers disagree on issues, the solution is not to ignore the differences but to discuss them in a respectful, intelligent, and passionate manner. This session will demonstrate a discussion on a hot-button issue that impacts Christianity.
RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN APOPTOSIS AND OXIDATIVE STRESS IN COS-7 CELLS

Student Presenter: Carolyn Rumpeltes
Faculty Mentor: Timothy Kline, Ph.D., Department of Biology and Chemistry

Reactive oxygen species affect cells morphologically, and they are potentially associated with apoptosis. To assess the relationship between reactive oxygen species and apoptosis, the researchers used varying concentrations of hydrogen peroxide on cos-7 cells. The cells were then stained with a manufactured casapse staining kit. The staining revealed apoptosis. However, it was not localized as expected for bulk perturbations. The goal of further research will be to identify the location of stress in the cells using a BioGEE molecular probe and microfluidics, which will help localize stress in a cell.
MISSION STATEMENT

Common Day of Learning gathers the community of Azusa Pacific University to examine the role of Christian scholarship and explore what it means to love God with our minds through creative learning experiences, in order to obey the call to live as followers of Christ in this world.