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Pazmiño Works Available in Korean

Two of Robert Pazmino's books have been translated into Korean and are available through Timothy Publishing House, Kwan-Ak P. O. Box 16, Seoul, Korea. The works currently available include *By What Authority Do We Teach?* and *Foundational Issues in Christian Education*. For reprints of his other English titles and some Spanish translations contact Wipf & Stock Publishers, 150 W. Broadway, Eugene OR 97401, Tel. 541-344-1528, E-mail WSBPub@academicbooks.com.

NAPCE 2003 - Boston, October 23-25

Which Way From Here?

Gary A. Parrret, Vice President

The theme for NAPCE 2003 is *Christian Education at the Crossroads: Guiding Educational Ministries in an Age of Specialization*. In the last NAPCE Newsletter, I offered a basic overview of the conference and a rationale for the theme. As the conference, to be held October 23-25 in Quincy, Massachusetts draws near, I would like to offer a bit more detail regarding the elements of our time together. One way of framing the chief question for the conference is thus: *In this age of such diverse needs, is there yet a central concern or task that must drive those engaged in educational ministries? If so, what is that task? If not, where must we go from here?* These basic issues will be addressed by a large number of speakers, most of them from the NAPCE membership.

We will begin on Thursday evening with a consideration of the cultural phenomenon of specialization that so challenges the Church and our schools today. Our speakers for the evening are two special guests. Andy Crouch, editor of *RE: Generation Quarterly* and regular contributor to *Christianity Today* magazine, and Paul Lim, Assistant Professor of Theology at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, will probe the socio-cultural and theological aspects of the cultural trends around us. This will help to set the stage for the rest of the conference.

Friday and Saturday mornings will each begin with breakout sessions. These will include presentations of current research, professional development workshops and theme-related seminars. The seminars will be our first chance to hear from NAPCE members on issues related to our conference theme. This will continue throughout the day. During the plenary sessions on Friday morning and evening, we will hear several perspectives on our central question. Kevin Lawson will remind us of the 20th century developments in Christian education that have helped bring us to where we stand today. Linda Cannell will challenge us toward

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a more global vision in faithful response to current needs. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier will help us consider the diverse needs of the real communities we are called to serve. Two presenters will offer proposals for reframing and/or renaming our central task: Brad Waggoner will present a case for *Leadership*; Judy Ten Elshof will argue for *Spiritual Formation*. Steve Kang will argue for an integrationist, rather than a specialist, approach to the discipline. On Friday afternoon, we will also have an opportunity for all of us to listen in to a panel of presenters—NAPCE members whose books have been influential in our discipline—offer their takes on the current and future shape of the discipline.

During the final plenary session, on Saturday morning, we will attempt to consider some of the implications of our conversation for NAPCE as an organization. NAPCE president Eileen Starr will offer an overview of the history of NAPCE. Then, as conference planner and one who has wrestled with our chief question for several years, I will attempt both a response to what has been said by the various presenters and a proposal of my own in a talk entitled, *NAPCE: Whence, Whither or Wither?* I hope this will be both provocative and encouraging. We will then conclude the conference with a time of worship and prayer together.

Other opportunities during this year's conference will include significant time for networking with friends and colleagues, and optional tour of historic Boston on Saturday afternoon and evening, and for the bravest of heart, the return of NAPCE Basketball during the later hours of Saturday afternoon (be sure to bring your shoes!).

Please pray for our time together in Quincy this year. ■

What Are We Doing?

Eileen Starr, NAPCE President

What has been referred to as Christian Education in churches and colleges and seminaries has many names today: spiritual formation, Christian ministries, youth ministries, children's ministries, discipleship, equipping ministries, family ministries, etc. Is this merely semantics, or is it substantive change? Do the name changes represent positive change?

Historically, our schools have developed Christian education departments to prepare people to minister in the evangelical church. We wanted our philosophy of education, our curriculum, and our approaches to be distinctly Christian. Over the years, CE departments have struggled for academic prestige and respect. The emphasis on research and writing increased. Yet today, we struggle to find the appropriate approaches for stimulating spiritual growth in people in a changing world. We can label our discipline in various ways, but the question remains, do we know how to do it in today's world. Are our graduates prepared for leadership roles in our changing church and world?

We face exciting challenges: a constantly changing culture, information and technology explosion, globalization, etc. Can we prepare leaders who will continue to learn and adapt to the changes? How do we prepare culturally sensitive, godly, leaders who will be able to find theologically and philosophically sound approaches for reaching people and stimulating spiritual growth in them in the context of the church.

It is important that our students learn to *think* about ways to relate to people in the context of their culture, while drawing them to Christ and His church. We cannot give our students all they will need in ministry in our changing world. We must teach them to think critically and create new ways of building the church of Christ. Research and writing are foundational to our task. Our practice should be soundly grounded in quality research, theory, and theology.

There are many things to consider. But we must keep our focus on our task – preparing leaders who can effectively reach people for Christ



Eileen Starr

and help them grow spiritually. We need a close tie with the church. When we understand the needs of the church and how to stimulate the church to effective ministry in our world, we will be more effective in preparing leaders for the church. What we call our discipline or what we want to focus on in our schools may differ. But we must be effective in preparing leaders for the task of Christian education – bringing people to Christ and helping them grow spiritually.

Let's come together at the NAPCE conference in October and dialogue about these critical issues. ■



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION JOURNAL MOVES TO TALBOT

Series 3 Begins

Kevin Lawson and Klaus Issler

The *Christian Education Journal* is about to make a move. In 1995, when Scripture Press Ministries ceased publication of the journal, Perry Downs, at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, graciously took on the role of editor and the journal has been published by TEDS for the last seven years. This past year Perry approached the faculty at Talbot School of Theology, Biola University, about taking on this task. With the backing of the University and support of its publications office, this has been approved. Kevin Lawson will now be moving into the role of editor for the journal, and Klaus Issler will take on the role of book review editor. The fall 2003 and spring 2004 issues will be transitional ones with special focuses on:

Fall 2003: In light of the 100th anniversary of the Religious Education Association, this issue will focus on evangelical Christian education leaders of the past 100 years and book reviews on recent and new texts on the history of Christian education.

Spring 2004: Reflections on the future of Christian education and where the discipline is going, especially within the evangelical movement.

By fall 2004 the journal will be fully into its new series and format.

As we work through the transition of leadership for the journal, there are some changes that we hope will be beneficial to members of NAPCE. Here are some of the things we are seeking NAPCE members' help to develop:

1. *Reestablishment of a peer-review system for evaluating articles submitted to the journal.* We intend to recruit people from within NAPCE to serve as "masked" reviewers for articles submitted for publication. This process will assist in maintaining high standards for the journal and should help those for whom publication in a peer-reviewed journal is important for their vocational advancement. It will also allow more people to be involved in the development of the journal.
2. *Expansion of the book review section of the journal, with book reviews from a wide range of NAPCE members.* We intend to expand the journal as a whole, and especially in the area of book reviews. We want the journal to become *the* place to find information on new books in the field of Christian education. To do this we will need to recruit Book Review Area Editors who will take responsibility for identifying new noteworthy books, recruiting reviewers, screening the reviews, and ensuring that they are submitted in a timely fashion.
3. *Inauguration of a "Notes" section and "Book Symposiums" in the journal.* "Notes" are brief discussions of focused issues in the field of Christian education of interest to our readers and may be more personal, responsive, or reflective than regular research articles. Responses to previously published articles in *Christian Education Journal* are published in this section. "Book Symposiums" will allow several people to respond to a major new book in the field and have interaction with the author. Both of these initiatives should help promote dialogue among journal readers.

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NAPCE's Board Members

Class of 2006

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4. *Inclusion of dissertation abstracts from doctoral program graduates in the field of Christian education.* This will allow us all to keep up on some of the new research being done in the field of Christian education that may benefit our teaching or ministry efforts.
5. *Pursuit of a number of purposes through the journal that should help strengthen the educational ministry of the church.*
 - Encouraging reflection on the foundations of Christian education and implications for ministry practice
 - Exploring the integration and application of social science theory and research to educational ministry concerns
 - Fostering improved teaching in the field of Christian education at colleges and seminaries, equipping people for leadership in this field
 - Promoting the assessment of our changing cultural context and of contemporary educational ministry needs, models, and trends
 - Providing reviews of new books in the field of Christian education and other related disciplines that impact educational ministry

To accomplish all of these things will take time and the contributions of many people. The price of the journal will be increasing a little to help support these initiatives, but we feel that the end result will be more than worth it. We hope that the inauguration of this “third series” will help support the efforts of NAPCE members, students in Christian education programs, and thoughtful educational ministry leaders who desire to grow in their understanding of what makes for faithful and effective educational ministry.

***Invitation to Contribute to the Journal:
E-Mail Now!***

We invite NAPCE members with an interest in contributing their efforts to the development of the “third series” of the *Christian Education Journal* to send a vita and responses to the following questions by email to Kevin Lawson, the new editor, at: kevin.lawson@biola.edu

1. What areas have been the focus of your ministry/training/teaching? What areas within Christian education are you best equipped to assist with article reviews and book reviews? What previous work have you done that demonstrates your expertise in these areas?
2. What are you most interested in assisting with and why?
 - a. Book Review Area Editor (Editorial Board position)– in what areas?

- b. Peer-review of articles submitted to the journal – in what areas?
- c. Writing book reviews – in what areas?

Please understand that we cannot promise that all who desire a particular role will get it, but we do invite all NAPCE members to consider if there is a way they might contribute to the development and support of the journal.

CEJ and the NAPCE Convention

We appreciate the strong support that the NAPCE Board has given to us as we have considered taking on this responsibility. We are making arrangements to hold two seminars at the NAPCE conference in Boston this coming October. One will deal with writing articles for the journal. The other will address serving as a peer-reviewer or book reviewer for the journal. In addition, we will be inviting a number of people to serve on the editorial board for the journal and to attend an initial meeting sometime before, during, or after the conference. Plans are still being formed at this time. We ask for your prayers as we take on this new responsibility. ■

2003 Conference Schedule at a Glance

Thursday, October 23

- 3:00-5:30 Registration
- 5:30-6:00 Opening Reception
- 6:00-7:00 Dinner
- 7:00-9:15 Plenary 1

Friday, October 24

- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast
- 8:30-9:45 Seminars
- 9:45-10:00 Break
- 10:00-12:15 Plenary 2
- 12:15-1:15 Lunch
- 1:30-2:45 General Session: Panel Discussion
- 2:45-5:30 Networking Opportunities & Personal Time
- 5:30-7:00 Dinner
- 7:00-9:15 Plenary 3

Saturday, October 25

- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast
- 8:30-9:45 Seminars
- 9:45-10:00 Break
- 10:00-10:30 Opportunity for Hotel Check-out
- 10:30-12:15 Plenary 4
- 12:15-1:15 Lunch
- 1:30-7:00 Optional Tour of Boston (reg. fee \$20)

See NAPCE website for complete and up-to-date conference details and registration information.