

2009 Conference Theme

**Renewing Minds: Serving Church and Society . . .**

*We live in a time of unprecedented change. . . .*

The growth of human knowledge is incessant and, *somehow*, accelerating. The application of science staggers the capacity of our imaginations. Technology seems near-omnipotent, but its every quantum leap becomes immediately, yet inexplicably, obsolete. This is the new reality for Christian Educators— *our world as scholar-practitioners*.

The 2009 NAPCE Annual Conference is designed to encourage and edify Christian educators. This year's theme, "**Renewing Minds: Serving Church and Society through Christian Higher Education**," is the title of a recent book by **Dr. David Dockery**, our keynote speaker. Every current NAPCE member has been sent a copy of the book, thanks to the generosity of the publisher, Broadman & Holman Academic.

Dr. Dockery is a charming and thought-provoking speaker. He serves as Chairman of the Board for the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, Board Member and Contributing Editor for Christianity Today, and President of Union University in Jackson, Tennessee. Union University has been a leader in the integration of faith with learning throughout his tenure as president.



In addition, the tremendous opportunity to refuel and regroup will include numerous exciting changes in this year's schedule. You will find new program elements and new scheduling strategies among other developments. All this in the Southern Comfort of **Louisville, Kentucky, at the historic [Brown Hotel](#), October 15-17, 2009**. My, are you going to love the character and elegance of this property—and we cannot wait to see you. Make plans to come now by saving the date!

- *Freddy Cardoza, V.P. 2009*

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2009 Conference

**Call for Papers**

Please consider sharing your research projects or special studies at this year's conference. We invite proposals that address the conference theme and its strands, but also other topics of general interest to NAPCE members. The research can be empirical in nature or fit more of a historical/theological model. A high quality of research workmanship is expected. Questions may be directed to: Jonathan Kim, Ph.D., Associate Professor of CE, Talbot School of Theology, Biola University, 13800 Biola Avenue, La Mirada, CA 90639. Phone: [562] 903-4818 ext. 5519. Email: [Jonathan.Kim@Biola.edu](mailto:Jonathan.Kim@Biola.edu); [CEPraxis@Gmail.com](mailto:CEPraxis@Gmail.com).

Submit your proposals via email to [Jonathan.Kim@Biola.edu](mailto:Jonathan.Kim@Biola.edu) and [CEPraxis@Gmail.com](mailto:CEPraxis@Gmail.com) no later than **August 15th, 2009**. Proposals should be **200 words or less** and include the author's name, email address, and place of employment or college/seminary/university. Notification of acceptance will be emailed to authors by September 15th, 2009.

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**Michael Anthony**

President's Perspective

**Cost-cutting Efforts at NAPCE**

In January the NAPCE board gathered for a weekend Louisville, KY to discuss plans for the 2009 conference. We have a great line up of speakers and seminar leaders and we are confident that the investment you make in attending this year's conference will be well worth the cost and effort.

As a board we have been working on ways to trim some costs from the conference so as to make it more accessible to our members. Ideas have been discussed and brainstormed in a

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**Scenes from the 2008 NAPCE Conference**



**Making Connections**



**"Mapping C.E." Report**



make it more accessible to our members. Ideas have been discussed and brainstormed in a variety of areas such as trimming the numbers of meals we provide, attending a retreat center instead of hotel, shortening the number of days we attend, or finding additional revenue streams to offset the expenses incurred. Like so many non-profit organizations these days, cost cutting is an essential part of the board's responsibilities. We take those duties seriously and we've invested a good deal of time trying to make our conference feasible to all.

One of the ways we have offset the costs associated with our conferences is by asking our publishers to pay an increasing share of the costs by sponsoring meals. Some meals at a hotel (when you include tax and tip) run over \$60.00 per plate. In addition, the hotel requires us to have a minimum number of meals so they cover their costs as well. It's a business for them and we understand that. However, it's a ministry for us and we have an obligation to negotiate as reasonable as price as possible.

Many of the publishing companies that attend go to great expense to ship and display their materials. In addition, they pay the airfare and hotel expenses for those who serve as their representatives. To ask them to cover additional expenses by sponsoring a meal is not an easy request to make. Our Executive Administer, Dr. Dennis Williams, has made these requests on our behalf for years - and usually with great success. The costs of attending NAPCE continues to rise but they would already be much higher if it were not for his efforts on our behalf.

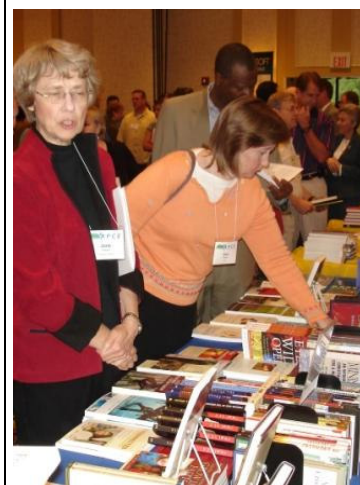
Another way we can offset the costs associated with attending NAPCE is to invite additional colleagues. Many of the expenses are fixed costs so once we make our minimum number of attendees (usually around 175) then anyone who attends over that amount allows us to lower our costs of doing business. So if you want lower NAPCE costs, invite a colleague and do what you can to come as a group. Every little bit helps in a big way!!

Thank you for your partnership in NAPCE. I haven't missed a conference in 25 years and like many of you, I look forward to the intellectual stimulation, the networking with friends and colleagues, and the special times of learning from one another's research findings. NAPCE is an association made up of special people who care very deeply for the things of Christ and His church. Let's continue to support the mission and purpose of NAPCE and maintain it's viability for many years to come. See you in Louisville in October!

- Michael Anthony



Stimulating Sessions



Exploring Resources

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## 2008 Conference Reflections

### The Changing Face of the 21st Century Family

A trio of keynote speakers provided stimulating perspectives on the family of the 21st century at the 2008 NAPCE Conference. [Dr. Jim Burns](#) spoke about changes in the family. [Dr. Clarence Schuler](#) challenged us to consider cultural dimensions of family, especially in urban settings. [Dr. Michelle Anthony](#) described an approach to ministry with children and families based on changing realities and solid research.

One of the important events of the conference in 2008 was the report of the "Mapping Christian Education Preparation Programs" research project by [Kevin Lawson](#) and his research team. If you missed this, you'll want to contact him for information.

Conference attendees enjoyed many opportunities for connecting with colleagues from across North America (and even beyond), experienced professional growth, and received free books from exhibiting publishers and a free working copy of [PC Study Bible](#) from *Bible Soft*.

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## Administrator Notes

### Bargains, Conference Sites, and Financial Report

#### ANNUAL CONFERENCE, AN EXCEPTIONAL VALUE

Those who attended the 2008 conference in Atlanta received a great deal more than they paid for with their registration fee. Of course, the program was outstanding with insightful speakers and seminar presentations. The time of fellowship with others in the field is something I always look forward to, as it gives opportunity to catch up with friends I see only once a year.

In addition, the exhibitors gave out nearly \$200 in books and resources, and offered our members the opportunity to receive free desk copies of texts. *Bible Soft* gave out a free [PC Study Bible](#) which is valued at close to \$800! I think I'm beginning to sound like an offensive TV infomercial, but there is MORE. The meals and refreshments provided during the



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[www.napce.org](http://www.napce.org)



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conference amounted to \$140 per person. For the conference and all these extras, students paid only \$105 for their registration while regular members paid \$210. In today's economy, the NAPCE annual conference was a real bargain!

## SITE SELECTION PROCESS

The NAPCE Board of Directors tries to move around the country for the location of our annual conference. In 2007 we were in the West in Denver and in 2008 we were in the Southeast in Atlanta. We will be in the Midwest in [Louisville](#) in 2009. For 2010 the Board had decided on the East coast for the conference but with the economic conditions we felt that we needed a central location near schools so members could take a direct flight or even drive to the conference. Because of this we will go to Chicago for 2010, rather than the East coast.

Our administrator attends a meeting planning conference and makes contact with possible locations and properties. We have some unique needs and if these are addressed, we move ahead and check out the properties. We must have a good room rate, reasonable banquet prices; free meeting space and affordable transportation because our members come from all over the country and from Canada. We want to be certain that the hotel will be able to deliver what it promises as far as service and accommodations.

Publishers over the years have provided wonderful meals for our people, but this is rapidly changing. We continue to receive contributions from the publishers, but sponsoring an entire meal for 200 people no longer happens. Because of this, we also need to find a location that has convenient area restaurants. For the 2009 conference we hope to provide two meals, and of course, this depends on the amount of support we receive from exhibitors. Since we will meet in downtown Louisville there will be many restaurant opportunities.

The good news is that the hotel market is feeling the economic downturn as well and this helps us in our negotiations. As soon as the location and property has been determined for 2010 we will let you know through the *Newsletter* and on our website.

## 2008 Financial Report

Balance 1/1/08	\$35,912.36
Deposits	<u>\$61,120.82</u>
Total	\$97,033.18
Disbursements	\$64,802.35
Balance 12/31/08	\$32,230.83

Any questions on this report can be addressed to the administrator or to any board member.

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## NAPCE Board

### Welcome to New Board Members

Every other year, NAPCE members elect new people to the Board of Directors. At our 2008 Conference, the following were elected:

**Wes Black** - Acting Dean, School of Educational Ministries; Associate Dean for PhD Studies; Professor of Student Ministry (Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary). Research interests include: youth ministry, ministry with parents of teens, lasting faith in adolescents and young adults.

**Stan Hamm** - Interim Dean, Associate Professor of Education and Student Development (Providence Theological Seminary). Currently developing a Teacher Training Manual for leaders in Eastern Europe (former USSR).

**Christy Hill** - Associate Professor of Spiritual Formation and Women's Ministry (Grace College and Seminary). Research interests in relationality and spiritual formation.

**Mark Maddix** - Associate Professor of Christian Education and Dean of the School of Theology & Christian Ministries (Northwest Nazarene University). Research interests include: Faith & Congregational Formation; Moral Development; Online Education; Postmodernism; Wesleyan Theology.

We also take this opportunity to express appreciation to departing board members for their excellent service the past four years: **Elaine Becker**, **Paul Bramer**, **Robert Drovda**, and **Rick Yount**.

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## Children's Spirituality Conference: Christian Perspectives

### Scholars and Leaders Invited

Christian leaders and researchers from across North America concerned with the spiritual life and nurture of children will be gathering June 14-17, 2009, for a conference

hosted at the Concordia University campus in River Forest, IL.

Speakers at the 2009 conference include: Marcia Bunge (The Child in Christian Thought, The Child in the Bible), La Verne Tolbert (Teaching like Jesus), William P. Brown (Character and Scripture), Karen-Marie Yust (Real Kids, Real Faith), Phyllis Kilbourn (Children in Crisis, Street Children), and Gene Roehlpepartain (VP, Search Institute, co-director of the Center for Spiritual Development in Childhood and Adolescence). In addition, approximately 60 seminars and workshops will be offered regarding current theological and social science research on the spiritual life of children and innovative ministry and educational approaches to fostering spiritual formation. Proposals for presentations are invited.

Conference attendance is currently limited to around 400. Those desiring to register, and/or present at the conference, should access the conference website at [www.childspirituality.org](http://www.childspirituality.org) for details.

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### Opportunity for Publication

## Call for Papers

A journal, [Christian Higher Education](#), has issued a call for papers by Christian faculty from all Christian traditions. For more information, contact Barry Lumsden at [Barry.Lumsden@unt.edu](mailto:Barry.Lumsden@unt.edu).

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