

## A New Partnership with FEBInternational

We are pleased to announce a new effort to better service our churches. FEBInternational (our Fellowship Foreign Mission agency) and Northwest Baptist Seminary have partnered together to create the position of **Coordinator for International Leadership Development (CILD)**. Mark Naylor has agreed to serve in this position. His responsibilities include:

- Coordinating the professional development of Fellowship missionaries on the field
- Assisting in the development of a new internship/mentoring training program for those desiring to serve cross-culturally
- Stimulating and recruiting people for potential missions involvement, particularly those studying at Northwest@ACTS and Trinity Western University
- Involvement in some teaching on an adjunct basis
- Providing seminars on missions in our churches, particularly addressing recent trends in missions, the challenge of missions, and perspectives on Islam and the rise of Muslim fundamentalism.

We consider Mark uniquely prepared for this role, as he served along with Karen, his wife, in Pakistan among the Sindhi Muslim people for ten years, doing evangelism and church planting. He continues with his responsibilities as the supervisor and primary exegete for the Sindhi Old Testament translation project. This initiative will enable us to apply the learning resources of our extended Fellowship community for the further development of our cross-cultural ministry leaders.

You can connect with Mark in his new role as Coordinator for International Leadership Development through the following means:

**Email:** mark.naylor@twu.ca or mnk5naylor@pacificcoast.net  
**Office Phone:** 604-888-7592 **Home Phone:** 250-652-6226.



Mark and Karen Naylor and family

## Facts and Figures

As this new semester begins we rejoice at another record enrolment in Northwest@ACTS. 348 people are registered in various programs. This means that we have met or exceeded our enrolment goals for this fiscal year (ending April 2003). Our target of a balanced budget should be reached once again this year. We anticipate a record graduating class of eighty (80) people this April.

We also thank God for the generous response to our appeal for financial gifts at Christmas. Your support has put us on target to achieve our goal of \$65,000 by April 2003.

## Northwest@ACTS Coming Events

<i>Living and Dying with Dignity</i> —TWU/ACTS Institute for Apologetics with Mark Pickup	February 15, 2003
Spring 1-week Modular Courses	February 24-28, 2003
Pastors' & Mentors' Day— <i>The Postmodern Church</i> with Dr. Stanley Grenz, Dr. Kent Anderson and Dr. Ken Radant	February 26, 2003
ACTS Graduation	April 21, 2003
OMI 621—Transitional Pastoral Ministry (2 credits)	May 12-16, 2003
OMI 667—Creating a Healthy, Evangelistic Church: Evangelism Explosion (3 credits)	at ACTS Seminaries
FEBBC/Y Convention 2003—Faith Baptist Church, Vancouver	May 27-29, 2003
FEBCAST Convention 2003—Drumheller	May 30-June 1, 2003

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Northwest depends on the gracious gifts of its friends, both churches and individuals



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# Northwest News

Northwest Baptist Seminary@ACTS

...recruiting, training and sustaining the next generation of ministry leaders.

## Northwest People

Various communities contribute to the training and nurturing of ministry leaders. Family, vocational settings, seminary processes, churches, spouses and children, ministry responsibilities, faith mentors, combine in diverse ways to form the crucible within which leaders develop. We wanted to explore more fully how these personal networks affect leadership development and so we gathered a group of students and alumni to dialogue with our faculty about this concept. We are sharing some of the key ideas that emerged.



Foot washing as a symbol of community

### What does the Bible suggest about the role of community in developing Christian leaders?

**GS:** Peter and the other apostles are good examples of this. We see them involved in a progression of communities as we trace leadership development – their families and businesses, Jesus and the disciples, the early church community, the larger Jewish community. Each one shaped and enabled them to express leadership in new ways. God sets them in specific community experiences.

## Developing Ministry Leaders ...a community project



Students and faculty discussing leadership development in community

**BR:** John the Baptist was key to the development of a community out of which several of the disciples emerged (John 1), thereby playing a part in the further development and proclamation of the Gospel.

**KA:** Leadership often is understood as a spiritual gift. Are

communities required to shape leaders or does God call and create leaders? Biblically both elements are important.

**PZ:** Moses shows, perhaps, how these two elements are related. He is called by God at the burning bush, but his leadership becomes real as the Israelites follow him and affirm him as leader.

### What biblical metaphors might explain this process of leadership development?

**LP:** Paul uses the body system to show how the faith community forms the necessary context for leadership training and expression. God sets people in the body of Christ and gifts them to contribute to the body.

**BR:** The metaphor of the spark being fanned into flame is one that is helpful. Someone needs to fan the spark into flame. If the spark is the gift, then the community often is used by God to affirm, mentor, and give expression to that gift.



Students sharpening each other's discernment skills

(Continued on page 2)

**BJ:** Leaders are developed by other leaders. This is one way the body metaphor helps us. We are given opportunities to explore and practice leadership. Early in my Christian experience my pastor gave me opportunity to lead the College and Career Group. This proved to be very significant in stimulating me towards ministry leadership.

**What metaphors did Jesus use to help his followers understand this?**



Dr. Brian Rapske explaining his community experience

**LP:** One that comes to mind is the metaphor of family – kinship relationships.

**KA:** The shepherd motif is certainly strong with Jesus. And what is a shepherd without sheep?

**GS:** I find helpful the metaphor of the fruit tree as it progresses from the seed, with planting and watering, so that it grows and produces new fruit. The Seminary is like a tree nursery, where the tree gains strength, is pruned, and nurtured towards fruit-bearing, along with many other maturing trees.

**MD:** Jesus uses the metaphor of fishermen, to fish for people. He takes peoples' skills and re-develops them for Kingdom purposes. Jesus promises to give them the necessary skills for this task – whether inherent or acquired.

**What are the various groups in your community of relationships that have and continue to shape your development? How would you identify them.**

**KS:** I think of my pastoral leader who showed me a good example. When he discerned that God was calling him into another field of ministry, he trained someone else to take on the leadership responsibilities. His followers now have become leaders like him, demonstrating a similar example to their followers.

**BJ:** Sometimes the large, social group contributes some key things, but then there is usually a smaller, more intimate group that has a special, bigger impact in your life. We need both kinds of community networks to shape us well.

**AS:** As I reflect on those who have influenced me, it was my seminary experience that shaped me more than anything. There were little communities within the larger community that developed and modeled my leadership style.

**Can we express more precisely the ways in which communities do shape leaders? What specific contributions have people made?**

**PZ:** Definitely the example of people who persevered

through trials and difficulties is important to me. I think of a guys' Bible study that was led by a man who modeled a godly example of a husband and father. He would drive two hours every Monday to come and lead our Bible study. Throughout this time we knew he struggled with constant pain, but he persevered. We were stunned by his persistence. This example of commitment and perseverance sticks with me.

**MD:** A leader is known by his or her followers. Communities who accept you as leader are giving you a trust. With the trust comes the responsibility to care for them more than you care for yourself. My father impressed upon me that you must always take care of those whom God has placed in your care.

**KA:** The community gives permission to the leader to lead. Their satisfaction in our leadership will be demonstrated by their faithful following.

**BJ:** The community needs to grant us opportunities to learn how to lead. This requires them to place a great deal of trust in emerging leaders so that they are willing to let this happen. We have opportunity to test out our ideas and gifts. Our integrity and willingness to be reliable are important.

**How does the Seminary community contribute to our leadership development?**

**BR:** Faculty in the Seminary community keep each one accountable. There is a mutual shepherding. We want to be sure that we embrace our theological traditions with integrity, model our spiritual commitments, and keep the truth of God's word as carefully as possible.

We nurture students' aspirations for ministry, yet recognize the complexities of our world and how important it is to try and equip people to lead well.

**PZ:** I speak passionately about the need for Seminary faculty to challenge the students to deal with character issues, matters of skill development, etc.

**GS:** To me the Seminary is like the tree nursery. Daily or weekly students are given the nutrients for personal growth, but also the pruning, removing those things that will harm. So, when we are transplanted into a new setting, our roots are trained to work deep into the soil so that growth continues.

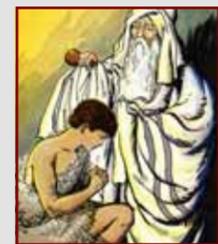
**KA:** The word 'seminary' emerges from the idea of a 'seedbed'.



Paul Zalinko and Kug Hi Seo participating in the discussion

# President's Page

Often in western culture hero-leaders seem to be 'self-made'. We forget, ignore, or fail to recognize how their communities have contributed significantly to their emergence and effectiveness as leaders. More recently we are rediscovering how critical the leader's community network is to his or her development. Being aware of this reality helps us encourage and nurture new and current leaders more effectively.



Samuel anoints David

Consider how leaders are discerned within the church. Scripture has stories about God's call to individuals, who are then thrust into leadership. What experiences did God use to prepare such people for these roles? In the case of David we discern how his family experience shaped him, giving him responsibility to guard and shepherd his father's sheep. And then we note his initial involvement in the larger Israelite community as God enables him to slay the Philistine champion, Goliath, and secure a great victory of his people. Saul and Jonathan influence him negatively and positively in his journey to kingship. His loyal force of mighty men give him opportunity to hone his leadership skills – in battle, in governance, in spiritual matters in personal relations, in vision and strategy, in teamwork. As his own family emerges a whole new set of experiences compel him to reflect more keenly on his leadership style, particularly his relationship with Absalom and his moral failure with Bathsheba. David's leadership, gifted and empowered by God, is mightily shaped by the community in which he lives – family, faith community, society in general, specific mentors, and accepted roles.

Is it any different today? I am sure the same kinds of factors are involved continuously in the development of ministry leaders. As I reflect upon my own experience, I realize more and more how the mentoring of my father and mother, the opportunities my church provided me as a young person to discern my gifts, the educational experiences of university, the community of Northwest as a context for academic leadership, my roles as husband and father, the opportunities to exercise pastoral leadership in various congregations – these all mix and mingle together as critical contexts contributing to my leadership development. These communities form the crucible within which Christian leadership develops.

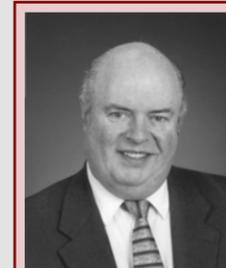
In my role as Northwest's President my primary responsibility focuses upon the achievement of our mission – recruiting, training and sustaining the next generation of ministry leaders. If leaders are the product of their communities, then our mission will only be achieved as we

understand how an individual's leadership is shaped within their community and plan our training processes collaboratively. What does this mean in practical terms?

- ◆ The local church plays a critical role in the discernment and encouragement of emerging, ministry leaders.
- ◆ Initial opportunities to test ministry leadership ability often occur as people participate in local church programs and ministry teams.
- ◆ The Seminary shapes ministry leaders as they deepen their biblical and theological understanding, develop their leadership skills and processes, and reflect carefully on their character and walk with God. The Seminary serves as a coordinating agency for the encouragement of ministry leadership development among our churches.
- ◆ The influence of spouses, parents, respected mentors in the lives of ministry leaders remains immense.
- ◆ Effective ministry leadership training will occur as these various communities recognize their contribution to leadership development and learn how to work collaboratively to foster this process.

Communities develop leaders. Our local churches, denominational agencies and seminary must discover how to work cooperatively and intentionally so that we discern, encourage and train a new generation of ministry leaders. Only in this way will we continue to nurture healthy, vital, caring churches. May God help us all to learn to do this well.

Larry Perkins, Ph. D.



Pastor Ian Bowie, a member of the Northwest Board, passed away on December 31, 2002. Ian's work with Northwest spans many years in the diverse roles of teaching as an adjunct faculty member, mentoring students, and providing wisdom and counsel to the Board. He brought an immense understanding of our Fellowship history, ethos and vision to our Board, as well as a vital concern that our Seminary provide our churches with the very best ministry training. We will miss greatly his wise and discerning leadership. Continue to be in prayer for Ian's family.