

The
MACSA

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Mid-Atlantic Christian Schools Association

Serving Schools That Serve the Savior

Fall 2006

Seriousness of Purpose

"This article originally appeared in the Spring 2006 edition of PBU Today, the quarterly magazine of Philadelphia Biblical University, and is reprinted with permission. The author, Dr. W. Sherrill Babb, is President of the University."

Some years ago, authors Manning M. Pattillo, Jr. and Donald M. MacKenzie, with funding from a Danforth Foundation grant, researched Christian higher education and concluded that there are several attributes of a good college or university. The first and most significant attribute mentioned was seriousness of purpose.

The writers stressed that a college or university ought to know its reason for existence, and this aim should be widely communicated throughout the institution. Equally important, the mission should be evident in the daily lives of the students, faculty, staff, and administration.

In an educational setting, this purpose for existence is referred to as the mission of an institution. It is the school's mission which drives its curriculum, academic programs, and activities. A properly crafted and disseminated mission statement also assists a college or university in recruiting appropriate faculty, staff, and students. Above all else, a mission statement articulates to everyone what a school aspires to accomplish in the lives of its students.

During its 93-year history, PBU has functioned with essentially the same mission that its founders set forth nearly a century ago. Although the mission's wording has been altered for clarity at various times, it continues to reflect what was originally agreed upon by W. W. Rugh and C. I. Scofield when they and their respective governing boards began what was to become Philadelphia Biblical University.

Planning for PBU's centennial celebration in 2013 has presented an opportune occasion for review of the institution's mission statement and other key documents, and development of a Centennial Vision has already begun. This has included asking the pointed question of whether the University's mission could be stated more simply in order to communicate PBU's aim as effectively as possible.

After receiving input from PBU staff, faculty, and administrators, the Board of Trustees at its November 2005 meeting unanimously approved the following mission statement and objectives for Philadelphia Biblical University.

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Mission

Philadelphia Biblical University exists to educate students to serve Christ in the church, society, and the world as biblically minded, well-educated, and professionally competent men and women of character.

Institutional Objectives

1. As an academic institution committed to intellectual development, the idea that all truth is God's truth, and the biblical truth that the fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom, the University purposes to impart to its students a knowledge of God, themselves, and the world in which they live.
2. As an academic institution committed to spiritual maturation, the University purposes to develop the character of its students according to the teaching and example of the Lord Jesus Christ, as set forth in Holy Scripture.
3. As an academic institution committed to Christian ministry, the University purposes to prepare students to the highest degree of professional competency and to instill in them a commitment to an intentional and obedient life of service to Christ in the church, society, and the world.

Vision Statement

A broad vision statement for the University was considered and also unanimously adopted by the trustees at their February 2006 meeting as follows:

The vision of Philadelphia Biblical University is to be a premier institution of Christian higher education that is distinctly and intentionally biblical in its approach.

This vision declares both what PBU is and what it seeks to become. The emphasis is on preserving the distinct biblical character of the school. By inserting the concept of being a premier institution, the University acknowledges its intent to excel, by God's grace and enablement, for the glory of God and His Son, Jesus Christ.

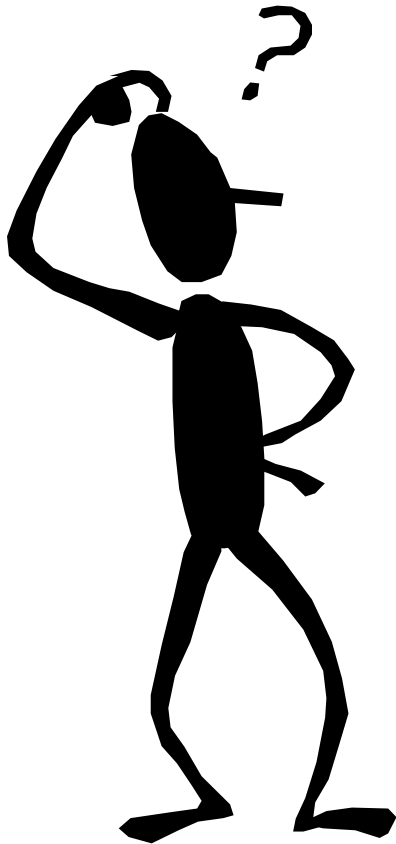
This is an exciting time for Philadelphia Biblical University. I praise our Lord for our dedicated trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends who have been faithful to the distinctive purpose and high calling of PBU as we approach our centennial. Through your prayers and active involvement in the University, our Savior will continue to bless PBU until He returns.



The best teachers teach from the heart, not from the book.

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

Colossians 3:23-24 (NIV)



You've heard the questions? Do you know the answers?

- ◆ Does God's Word tell me how to educate my child?
- ◆ I think my child has a Christian teacher this year in the public system. Does that fulfill my responsibility of making sure my child is instructed and trained in the Lord?
- ◆ Many of my friends say they want their children to be "salt and light" in the public school. Shouldn't I do that?
- ◆ Will I be sheltering my children from the "real world" if I send them to a Christian school?
- ◆ Private schools are expensive. How could I ever afford it?
- ◆ I went to public school and I turned out fine. If it's good enough for me it's good enough for my kids, right?

The answers are just a click away at



For questions or comments regarding www.DiscoverChristianSchools.com, please visit the booth at the MACSA Convention or call Harold Naylor at 1-610-872-7600.

MACSA Activities and Events 2006-2007

Registration information will be mailed to member schools
and posted on the MACSA website.

www.macsaonline.org

Principals and Administrators

December Principals' Luncheon

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Lancaster Bible College

Spring Principals' Luncheon

Thursday, April 26, 2007

Open Door Christian Academy

Fort Washington, PA

Summer Development Institute

Friday & Saturday, July 20 & 21, 2007

Lancaster Bible College

Teachers

MACSA Art Day

PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE!

Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Open Door Christian Academy

Ft. Washington, PA

MACSA Technology Day

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Cumberland Christian School

Vineland, NJ

Teachers' Convention

November 7-9, 2007

Lancaster Host, PA

Students

Bible Quizzing

January 13

Cumberland Christian School (Vineland, NJ)

January 27

Calvary Church (Lancaster, PA)

February 8

Black Rock (Quarryville, PA) or

Woodlyn (PA)

February 22

Calvary Church (Lancaster, PA)

March 7-9

Black Rock (Quarryville, PA)

Spelling Bee (Grades 5-8)

March 22

Mt. Calvary Christian School

Leadership Challenge

TBD

Track Meets

May 8 - Junior High @ Messiah College

May 9 - Senior High @ Messiah College

The MACSA Bridge ~ Fall 2006

Please reproduce and distribute to your faculty, staff and board.

Questions or comments should be directed to:

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