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Koinonia

Deb Lacey

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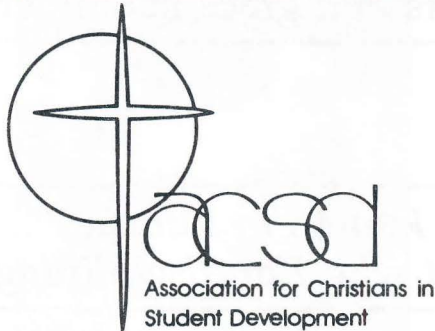
Koinonia

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FELLOWSHIP

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JOB PLACEMENT:
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The Wounded Dreamer

by Deb Lacey,
Associate Dean of Students,
George Fox College

In every institution, there are students who appear to be living on the edge of the college community. You know who they are—the ones we have in our offices as a result of incidents of rebellion on campus, the ones we are required to “discipline.” These are the students I have described as “wounded dreamers.”

These are the students that I believe to be highly creative people who have been called to live a unique kind of life, different from that of the mainstream. They are the ones who have dreams, and the ones who often have visions for themselves and for the world. They have the rare gift of insight, an unrecognized sensitivity to humanity, and the calling of God to become leaders in our communities.

However, our communities are not drawing these students in from the edge, or utilizing their special giftedness. They remain on the fringes with their dreams and visions hidden because of deep inner wounds that have never been healed.

I believe that we in this profession are called to become *pain absorbers* and

grace abounders to enter into their healing. What is needed is a solid grounding in God's grace, initiated by someone who is willing to invest time and energy to facilitate this.

We must go beyond the discipline process itself and integrate a discipleship relationship with these students. We must actively seek to identify where the pain is coming from and assist the student in cleaning it out so that the healing can begin. When the infection is purged and the healing has begun, the wounded dreamers are enabled to become whole again and to be restored not only to the community, but to themselves.

In every institution, there are students who appear to be living on the edge of the college community.

The foundation for this perspective on the discipline/discipleship process comes not in the form of a program, but in the shape of a person who is willing to be vulnerable and open, honestly sharing who he is, asking first of all, “Do the students know I'm human?” and secondly, “Do I love the student who I'm disciplining?”

I believe that if we are called into this profession, we are called to be grace-abounding healers in these students' lives. It's my concern that because of

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our own personal intimidation or hidden insecurities, we as administrators are incapable of becoming healers for these wounded dreamers as they come through our discipline systems.

I've grown to strongly affirm in my own life that salvation in itself is healing and that we cannot understand what it means to enter into a right relationship with God until we experience His healing grace in our own lives. It seems that healing precedes grounding in the Christian life.

Will you be challenged with me to seek out the wounded dreamers on your campus? Invite them into the mainstream of your community! Let's not let these students go ignored any longer. They are our future leaders! God has given them vision. He has given us the responsibility to love them through His grace. "A new commandment I give unto you, that you love one another; as I have loved you that you also love one another. By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another." (John 13:33-34)

I believe that we in this profession are called to become pain absorbers and grace abounders.

***"Do the students know I'm human?"
"Do I love the student who I'm disciplining?"***

Let's not let these students go ignored any longer. They are our future leaders!

Central Regional Conference

The Central Regional Conference was held February 13-14 at MO-KAN Conference Center in Kansas City, Missouri. Its theme was Positive Relationships: Enhancement of the Christian Student's Learning Experience. Guest speakers were Dr. J.B. Hulst, the President of Dordt College, and Mr. Randy Alexander, the Director of Student Housing at Wichita State University.

Regional Directors

NORTHWEST

Greg Hamann, now at Whitworth College, is now the Regional Director for the Northwest region.

MOUNTAIN

We are still looking for someone to head up the Mountain Region. If you or someone you know is interested, contact Scott Makin at Marion College.

Promotion

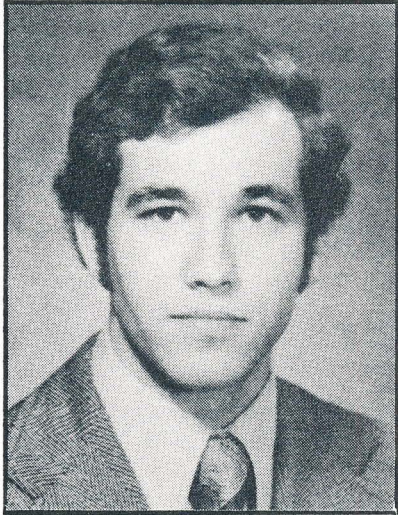
Dr. Tom Barnard, Dean of Students of Eastern Nazarene College, to Vice President.

Tom has served as Dean of Students at Eastern Nazarene since 1982. He will continue to serve as Chief Student Personnel Officer of the college. In addition, his new duties will include involvement in the college's shared development concept.

Congratulations!

Meet the ACSD Nominees

Vice President



Bill Katip

Bill Katip is the Dean of Students at Grand Rapids Baptist College. Prior to coming to Grand Rapids in 1983, he ministered for 9 years at Grace College in Winona Lake, Indiana. While at Grace, he worked in admissions and financial aid, taught psychology, and served his last two years there as Associate Dean of Students. Bill is a 1974 graduate of Grace College with majors in psychology and Bible, and a 1977 graduate of Purdue University with an M.S. in clinical psychology.

Bill is married and has two sons. He is a sometimes jogger and thoroughly enjoys water skiing, bowling and woodworking.

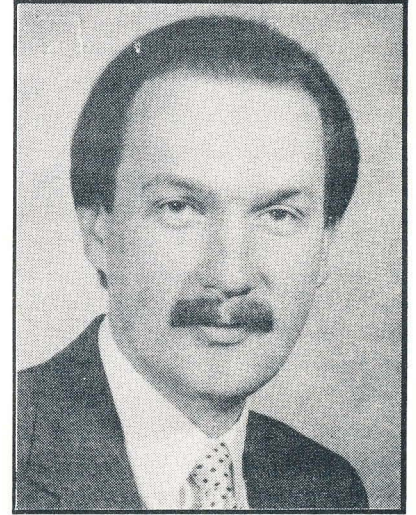


Nancy Cicero

Nancy currently serves as Vice President of ACSD. She recently took the Dean of Students position at Gordon College in the summer of 1984. Prior to coming to Gordon, she served as Dean of Students at Wheelock College, Associate Dean of Students at Taylor University, and Residence Hall Director at both Taylor and Gordon College.

Professional involvement includes membership in NASPA, ACSD, and Massachusetts Association for Women Deans, Administrators and Counselors. She has also presented several workshops for ACSD in Resident Assistant Training, Staff Communication, and Christian Perspective on Student Affairs.

Treasurer



Lowell Haines

Lowell Haines has been a member of the Taylor University faculty and administrative team since 1977, when he was appointed as a Residence Hall Director. Three years later he was named Director of Student Programs, a position which allowed him to further develop the student leadership program at the university. While in that position, he was responsible for coordinating the restructuring of the university's student government, creating the new Taylor Student Organization and founding the National Student Leadership Conference for Christian Colleges. The conference, now in its fifth year, annually attracts student leaders from 35-40 Christian colleges.

In 1983, Lowell was appointed Dean of Students and was responsible for managing the day-to-day operations of the university's Student Development program. Recently, in October of 1985, he was named Vice President for Student Development. He is now responsible for the overall leadership and direction of the university's programs in residence life, student leadership, student activities, career

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EDITORIAL

Did any of you think that the worlds of Student Personnel and Law would ever be as related as they are today? Few of us have had specific training in the area of law, yet many of us have become involved with law through student discipline and due process, liability claims, contractual agreements, or other areas within education that dovetail the area of the law. As private institutions of higher learning, we are viewed somewhat differently than secular institutions, and yet we need to be cognizant of legal decisions that have been made which could affect our institutions.

Recently, I've been looking into our philosophy and policies of student discipline and trying to determine if our current policies are designed with the legal dimension in mind. If your school is like mine, there are several things that need to be better articulated in this area, especially in the area of due process. We are also looking at the whole concept of "contractualization" between students and their schools. This concept is a fairly recent phenomenon. Catalogues in many schools are reflecting this idea in the way they are worded. Court decisions such as *Steinberg v. Chicago Medical School (1977)* and *Lai v. Board of Trustees of East Carolina University (1971)* have greatly impacted student personnel decisions in the area of contracts.

Another area that causes us tension is that of liability problems from co- or extracurricular activities. Do we understand the current environment in the courts and the actual coverage of our insurance coverage? We need to be aware of details in this area to make sure that disclaimers are properly designed and that with each activity we carefully scrutinize it and determine if proper supervision is in place.

Virtually every oral or written agreement between the student and administration becomes a contractual obligation. With this in mind there are several things we should do to prevent litigation:

- Consider a periodic and careful review of all printed materials.
- Include appropriate disclaimers in these materials. Make sure that requirements or policies are not so specific as to preclude the reasonable exercise of good faith.
- Clarify the academic or administrative level at which final discretion will be exercised.
- Be sensitive to the fact that a potential litigant will often go from office to office seeking a sympathetic ear, support, or a slip of the tongue. Insist that students follow proper administrative chain of command.

Now, please don't all of you leave your jobs and enroll in the nearest law program; simply take some time to read some of the literature in the area of law in higher education, or take the time to discuss certain matters with legal counsel. Have a great semester.

Read for Growth

Alexander, J. *Managing Our Work.* Downers Grove, Illinois: Intervariety Press, 1969.

A practical guide to managing our personal and professional time and work, setting realistic objectives, goals and standards.

Wheat, E. & Wheat, G. *Intended for Pleasure.* Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1977.

So often we find ourselves counseling marrieds or those soon to be. This book is written for persons who are searching for a medically accurate presentation of sex in marriage within the framework of the Bible's teaching. Excellent resource book for your personal library.

DeCoster, D.A. & Mable, P., Eds. *Student Development and Education in College Residence Halls.* Washington, D.C.: American College Personnel Association, 1974.

This book is of value in presenting information in the areas of: philosophy of student development, interpersonal environments and human relationships, residence hall personnel training, and a glimpse into the future of student personnel work.

Barr, J.B., Ed. *Student Affairs and the Law.* San Francisco: New Directions for Student Services Series #22, Jorsey-Bass, 1983.

An excellent, concise work that provides an overview of the court decisions in higher education with special emphasis on those decisions related to student affairs.

A must for every member of ACSD:

Touching— **Life to Life**

June 2-5, 1986
Annual ACSD Conference
Wheaton College
Wheaton, Illinois

Program Tracks:

- Touching Life to Life/Relational Issues
- Professional Issues: Career Development, Placement, Student Ministries, Admissions, Computerization
- Critical Issues: Standards of Conduct, Legal Issues, Counseling

Conference Highlights:

- Pre-Conference Workshops
- Task Force Interest Groups
- Cubs Game
- Film Festival
- Placement Opportunities
- Excellent Fellowship

Don't Miss It!

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