

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD SCHOOLS

CONSOLIDATION

UPDATE



Standards for Good Faith Consolidation

March, 2012

The Steering Committee for the consolidation adopted the standards to guide the work of this effort.

As educational communities, Spirit empowered and committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ, we have entered into a consolidation covenant for the sole purpose of bringing glory to God. Our institutions are autonomous, representing diverse historical developments and educational philosophies. Our commonality is defined by membership in the Assemblies of God and having complementary statements of mission. Therefore, having the unanimous authorization of the Steering Committee for the consolidation, we covenant to uphold and model the following standards of action.



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Consolidation Website Launched

A website featuring all the latest and archived news concerning the consolidation progress of AG Theological Seminary, Central Bible College and Evangel University has been launched.

The site already includes the downloadable consolidation plan, a map with the proposed structure for the consolidated university, a pair of video messages from General Superintendent George Wood, links to the three schools involved in the consolidation and a collection of articles concerning the consolidation process.

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Prayer List

- Pray for those who are compiling the consolidation application to the Higher Learning Committee that God will give them wisdom as they do this

[Click here for full prayer list >>](#)

Standards for Good Faith Consolidation

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The Nature of Consolidation

We are committed to a formal process of consolidation that involves three institutions that will collapse into one enhanced comprehensive university known as Evangel University. The General Council of the Assemblies of God has authorized the consolidation plan, including its statement of mission, structure, governance system and bylaws. In consolidating, we are recognizing diverse institutional strengths and not institutions that are equal in size or programmatic strengths. We have identified the current Evangel University as the lead institutional framework (academic and operational) to guide the consolidating process, with focused attention to the formation of the School of Theology and Church Ministries.

Explanation: Evangel University provides the foundational infrastructure and framework for the consolidation. Being the “lead” institution means Evangel is the THRESHOLD that will guide the consolidation process with the university also incorporating the strengths of the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary and Central Bible College.

The Nature of Trust

We are committed to creating and enjoying a culture of trust. We will demonstrate trust through listening to each other with respect for differences in opinions and points of view. Our culture of trust will be modeled through our fulfilling promised processes and actions, our effective work, and our trustful relationships, believing that each is trustworthy. By committing to the plan for consolidation, we will seek to nurture trust, recognizing that trust is earned. We will become a trustable community of schools.

Explanation: “Culture (of trust)” is a standard of expected behavior. The more we work together, the more we will respect the differences that exist among us and the more trust is created.

The Nature of the Common Good

We identify ourselves as people of good will, having differences of opinion. We believe that these differences do not negate our common good, therefore we will work out our differences in a honorable manner, believing in the good in each institution and in the Assemblies of God Fellowship.

Explanation: There are many points of view in this effort. We will respect the fact there are varied opinions and will strive to reach decisions that acknowledge those differences. We are unified in the fact that Jesus is Lord. Therefore we will treat others with respect and honor our differences.

The Nature of Educational Quality

We are committed to the highest levels of educational quality as represented by our association with the Higher

Learning Commission and with various professional associations of accreditation, the highest levels of faculty qualifications, student admission standards, learning assessments, efficient and effective operational systems. Quality matters to us as we seek to serve in a competitive world. We submit ourselves to all measures of quality assurance, demonstrating how we excel in order to clarify our market position and service impact.

The Nature of a Common Language

We are committed to speaking the same language that unites our communities dedicated to the purpose of glorifying God. We believe that this common language grows out of our clear vision of a university future that is jointly owned. Our actions will define our words and language. A common language will enhance our capacity for positive dialogue in a culture of trust. We will “walk the talk!” A language of words with precise meanings will include the following terms:

Consolidation: Three educational institutions collapsed into one enhanced comprehensive university, with the name of Evangel University, having an enhanced mission and scale of operation, housing multiple schools, reflecting a diversity of degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Shared Governance: The unique process we have designed to build and maintain the comprehensive university and to balance the legitimate interests of the authority structures (Board of Trustees, Administration, Faculty and the General Council of the Assemblies of God) toward mission fulfillment with economic sustainability.

Enrollment Management: A system that influences the size, shape and characteristics of a student body by directing institutional efforts in marketing, recruitment, and admissions as an integrated effort to provide for a “whole-person” education, leading to greater institutional health and vitality.

Lead Institution: The consolidation process requires an organizational framework and accompanying processes from which the consolidated university can emerge. The breadth of the current Evangel University provides a substantial resource from which our work can proceed and therefore allows for focused attention on stewarding all three institution’s unique strengths.

Student Development: The campus wide effort to serve student’s learning and living needs in support of the educational and spiritual goals of the university. Such services include, counseling, retention activities, career planning, residence life, campus security and safety, student government, commuter services, multi-cultural affairs, student handbook, Wellness Center and student publications.

Advancement: The primary work of institutional advancement is within the scope of presidential responsibility, but the focused work of external and internal communications, public relations, fund-raising and development belong to a special staff of professionals whose responsibilities are interdependent, integral to other institutional governance systems, and having concern for internal morale and continuous effort for the nurturing of resources and relationships for the University.

Annual Fund: A formal, active program of fund-raising for which there are clear guidelines and patterns for maximizing gifts of crucially needed annual budget dollars to provide operating support, supplementing the tuition and fees revenue streams.

Institutional Structure: The structure of an institution that defines hierarchical, managerial, and adminis-

trative services; and, the professional, technical and collegial systems, thereby guiding the core work processes of the institution in a context of a “dualism of control.”

School: A school is a constituent part of the University with a grouping of faculty organized on academic lines encompassing wide-ranging programs of study offering undergraduate and graduate degrees yet having subordinate administrative status under the University Provost.

Distance Education: A formal planned teaching and learning experience that uses a wide spectrum of technologies to reach learners at a distance and is designed to encourage learner interaction and formalization of learning.

Vocational Ministry: Professional education that is focused upon the mission of the Church and serves to develop those who lead the Church, equipping them to diligently communicate the truth of God’s Word with faithfulness, relevance, and clarity.

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“Much like the consolidation efforts, the site is a work in progress,” states Juleen Turnage, Communications director for the Assemblies of God. “However, it will soon also include a FAQ section and later this month, a video round table with the three school presidents and Dr. Wood will be created and placed on the site.”

Turnage says that as more information becomes available, the site will be populated with it. “The archived articles and videos on the site already provide a wealth of information, but soon the site will be the place to get nearly all the answers to questions a person may have about the consolidation efforts. And even then, we still offer an email address to send inquiries to.”

To explore the new consolidation website, [click here!](#)

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Things you can pray for:

- Pray for those who are compiling the consolidation application to the Higher Learning Committee that God will give them wisdom as they do this.
- Pray for God's direction in establishing the ministry and Bible curriculum that this will raise up 21st century Pentecostal leaders.
- Pray for workable arrangements relative to student housing and transportation as dormitory accommodations are addressed.
- Pray for God's favor and help with all the myriad tasks that must be accomplished to see the consolidated university come to fruition.

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