

Special points of interest:

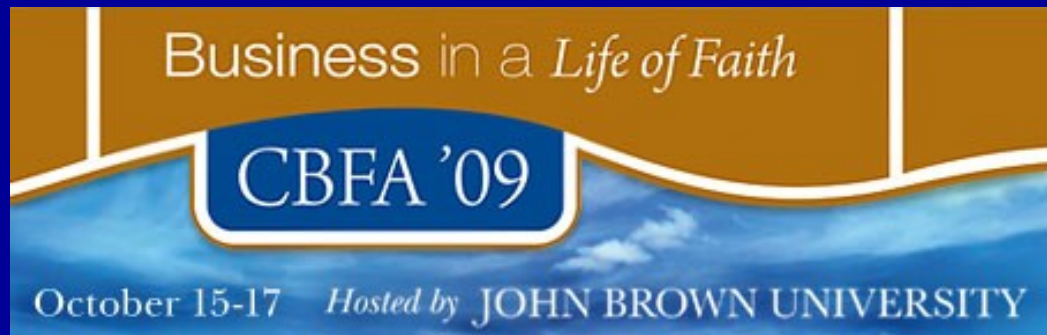
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Volume IX, Number 1

February 2009



The 2009 CBFA conference will be held on October 15-17 at the Embassy Suites Hotel and John Q. Hammons Conference Center in Rogers, Arkansas. The conference theme is:

Engaging the Head, Heart, and Hand: Business in a Life of Faith

The conference will include some fascinating excursions, including the Great Passion Play in Eureka Springs and a tour of various Wal-Mart facilities. The conference also occurs in conjunction with the War Eagle Craft Fair (which Joe Walenciak says will be a great diversion for attendees). For more information, [visit the conference website](#).

The call for papers and proposals will be distributed electronically under separate cover.

Call for Reviewers

I need your help! CBFA is anticipating the submission of a large number of papers and proposals for this year's conference.

Many of you have graciously served as reviewers in the past and I hope you will be willing to continue your services for this coming year. I also encourage others who have not reviewed before to consider this opportunity. Serving as a reviewer helps to assure that the quality of the submissions to the conference remains high. It is necessary to have multiple reviews of each submission and the more who participate in the process the more complete the process

will be. The more who are willing to help, the less work everyone will need to do.

Papers and proposals will be distributed to reviewers around June 9th and I will need replies by July 9th. Ideally, each reviewer will have about 6 submissions to review. You can estimate about 20 minutes to review each proposal and one hour to review each paper, and about four hours of total time. There will be a short objective based review scoring sheet to complete for each paper or proposal. Submissions will be sent electronically and reviewer comments can be returned electronically as well.

I will also do my best to match submissions to each reviewer in your area of interest or expertise.

If you are interested in serving as a reviewer please send an e-mail to [Tim Redmer](#) by March 2, 2009. Include in your message, your name, school, e-mail address, telephone contact, and your three preferred areas of interest or expertise.

Thank you for your support and assistance.

Tim Redmer
Program Chair

“Award for Teaching Excellence” Endowment Fund

“Addition of the Teaching Excellence Award means that the CBFA will recognize teaching, service (Barnabas Award), scholarship (Johnson Award) and overall contributions (Chewing Award)”

At the 2008 annual meeting, the CBFA Board announced the creation of the CBFA Award for Teaching Excellence. This annual award will recognize Christian business faculty members for teaching excellence. Criteria for this award are currently being developed by the CBFA Awards Committee.

Addition of the teaching excellence award means that the CBFA will recognize teaching, service (Barnabas Award), scholarship (Johnson Award), and overall contributions (Chewing Award).

The CBFA Board is asking members to fund the endowment for this award. Each

board member has contributed or pledged to this fund. Contributions are tax deductible. Checks should be made out to the CBFA and mailed to:

Dr. Jim Dalton, CBFA Treasurer
School of Business
Mount Vernon Nazarene University
800 Martinsburg Rd
Mount Vernon, OH 43050-9500

2008 CBFA Award Recipients



2008 Richard C. Chewing Award Recipient
Dr. Steven L. Bovee
Roberts Wesleyan College

At the closing banquet of the 2008 CBFA conference in Indianapolis, three individuals were recognized as recipients of the 2008 CBFA awards.

The Barnabas Award, which recognizes individuals who have joyfully and enthusiastically served the CBFA and contributed to its effectiveness and *esprit de corps*, was awarded to Dr. Larry Rottmeyer of Taylor University.

The Sharon G. Johnson Award, which recognizes God-honoring intellectual contributions by individuals who incorporate learning, business and faith into a dynamic process to promote Christian faith integration in business championed by its first recipient, Sharon Johnson, was presented to Dr. Brian E. Porter of Hope College.

The Richard C. Chewing Award, which was established to perpetuate the passion and commitment toward integration of personal faith and business as modeled by its first recipient, Dr. Richard C. Chewing, was awarded to Dr. Steven L. Bovee of Roberts Wesleyan College.

Journal of Biblical Integration in Business—Editor Search



Senior Editor
Dr. Sharon Johnson
Charleston Southern University

Dr. Sharon Johnson, Senior Editor and the CBFA Board are seeking applications for Editor of the *Journal of Biblical Integration in Business (JBIB)*. The *JBIB* has been published since 1995, and has been established as a leading journal for serious discussion of the intersection of business/economic concerns and biblical perspectives.

The *JBIB* Editor will work in cooperation with the Senior Editor. The Editor is responsible for the content of the *JBIB*. Technical issues related to layout, publishing, and mailings

are handled by the Senior Editor, through the generous support of Charleston Southern University.

Candidates for the editorial position must be current CBFA members in good standing, and should be able to demonstrate:

- A strong personal history of academic publishing and presentations
- Experience in the academic manuscript review process
- A strong personal commitment to developing a

journal which reflects the core beliefs shared by CBFA members

- Experience in electronic communications
- Strong organizational and follow-up skills

If you are interested, please [download the search announcement](#) and submit your application to the [Senior Editor](#).

Letter from Dr. Jeff Fawcett, CBFA Chair

It seems to me like the months of November and December just fly by every year. In 2008, November started with a wonderful CBFA conference in Indianapolis sponsored by Anderson University. I always leave the conferences so full of thanks for the CBFA and its membership. What an encouragement it is to spend time with you! If you haven't already, take some time to thank the folks at Anderson's Falls School of Business for serving us so well and reminding us to be Salt and Light as we share the story of God's grace in our lives.

December is always a blur with finals, grading and Christmas

celebrations. Now, with all of the treats eaten and the decorations stowed for another year, we find ourselves facing another year with anticipation of fresh beginnings and new challenges to serve our Savior.

I am excited about what the year holds for the CBFA as we make our mission come alive for all of our members. The new board met briefly before we left Indy and set a course that will help strengthen our identity as an organization and begin to explore new ways to add value for you. Pray for wisdom as the board makes decisions and dreams for the future of the CBFA. Thank you for allowing us to serve you in

this manner.

As this new year progresses, make a point of praying for the CBFA and how you can be involved. We are an all volunteer organization and it takes many of us to make things happen. It is never too early to mark your calendar for October 15-17, 2009 and begin planning your involvement in the next conference at John Brown University. I am certain that you will be **encouraged** through the fellowship and better **equipped to engage** our students. After all, that's what the CBFA is all about!



Dr. Jeff Fawcett
CBFA Chair
Cedarville University

Reflections by Past Chair, Dr. Bruce Schooling

One of the realities of life is that we should look back in order to see what we should be doing in the future. This should ensure that we don't continue to make the same mistakes over and over again. As I look back at the past year, I am struck by the speed at which it went by. I never dreamed it could happen so quickly. The best-laid plans disappeared in the tick of a clock. From Seattle Pacific to Anderson was a split second in time. I cannot express my thankfulness to the faculty and staff at Anderson for their performance in pulling together a great conference. All of a sudden we were there and it happened—and happened well. Saying “thank you” doesn't really convey my appreciation for all their hard work. Thanks also to the board for their hard work. Again, the time flew by and the board members worked independently to accomplish moving the organization forward.

The past should inform the future, and since I'm looking back for lessons about tomorrow I want to take this opportunity to make a suggestion to all of us—myself first. Since time goes quickly and we are all very busy at our assign-

ments, perhaps it would be well if we only took on one challenge for CBFA. There is much to do, so if each of us takes on one challenge, none of us will be overwhelmed by the enormity of it all.

My challenge to each of us is two-fold—first, find someone internal to your institution and seek ways to encourage, equip, and engage the individual in the spirit of CBFA. The greatest value of CBFA for me is the journey with other faculty who are attempting to provide, for students and other stakeholders, a business education that integrates biblical truth with sound business practices and advances the field. If that is true of the conference, then I believe I should make it my business as a member of CBFA to find someone at my institution to invite to journey with me through the year.

Second, I want to challenge each of us to reach out past Christian colleges and universities to the Christian faculty member who is working diligently to bring some sense of God's truth to a secular campus. They also need our encouragement, equipping, and engagement as they labor. And we

don't know how to find them. But each of us knows someone that we went to school with, who taught in a Christian setting with us, or perhaps who we met at a discipline-specific conference. They are teaching in a secular setting and perhaps struggling with issues about integration and faith, but under much more constrained conditions than we are. Reach out to that person and do for them what CBFA has done for you. I really like the “encourage, equip, and engage” phrase. Not only does it capture what we are about, but it provides a foundation for me to extend CBFA past the conference and into my speeding world. It is something I can do both internally in and externally to my current position.

I pray that as the next year speeds by, you will reach out to those whom God has provided for us and touch them, as we have been touched. Thanks for allowing me the opportunity to serve for a year and for surrounding me with very capable people who worked very hard to make the year a success. Please pray for Jeff, the board, and John Brown University as they work for tomorrow.

Recent Position Announcements

[Director, MBA Program](#)
Charleston Southern Univ.

[Finance Faculty](#)
Houston Baptist University

[Business Faculty](#)
Southeastern University

[Finance Faculty](#)
Bethel University

[Finance—Tenure Track](#)
Taylor University

[Accounting Faculty](#)
Charleston Southern Univ.

[Personal Finance Faculty](#)
Trinity Western University

[Marketing, Finance, Entrepreneurship, Accounting](#)
Anderson University

[Business Faculty](#)
Belhaven College

[Business Faculty](#)
Indiana Wesleyan University

[Management Faculty](#)
Montreat College

[Marketing Faculty](#)
Point Loma Nazarene Univ.

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Dr. Joe Walenciak
John Brown University

www.cbfa.org

CBFA
Christian Business Faculty Association
encourage • equip • engage

Devotional: Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing

Don't Perfect the Irrelevant!

I think each of us can relate to this, both personally and professionally. How much time do we spend on things that aren't part of our core mission? It seems we are challenged to accomplish so much in such a small amount of time. One of the easiest ways for us to fall short is to simply work hard on the good things, while the great things are ignored.

How easy it is for the best to be sacrificed on the altar of the good!

If the leader fails to maintain his/her FOCUS (and thus the workgroup's focus), the team lacks direction and clarity. Confusion and complexity increase. So what is the main thing in your organization? You have to determine that for you and your team. All of your energy and attention should be directed on keeping the main thing the main thing!

You might say, "I know what the main thing is around here." That's good. Now let's test the waters and see if everyone on your team shares that knowledge. Ask each of your employees to identify your organization's "main thing." Get ready for a surprise.

Consider these principles for reflection:

- Have a clear personal and corporate Vision of what is important and how your mission efforts fit into that Vision. This is the main thing!
- Be sure your organizational structures encourage and not thwart your ability to keep the main thing the main thing.
- Within this framework, do what you do best. Let go of the rest.

- You must set your priorities. You must decide what is important and what is a detail. Then, simple as it sounds, the success of your endeavor depends on remembering what is important and what is a detail.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "concentration is the secret of strengths in politics, in war, in trade, in short in all management of human affairs." And Abraham Zaleznik taught, "keep focused on the substantive issues. To make a decision means having to go through one door and closing all others."

You will face distractions (almost daily) that will want to pull you from the main thing. Be resolute in maintaining a laser-like focus on accomplishing goals built around the main thing.

Now from a biblical point of view, what would Jesus say is "the main thing?"

Luke 10:27 And he answered and said, You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.

Love God. Love people.

Sounds simple. Difficult to apply.

I've tried to bring these two thoughts into focus each morning as I awake by remembering what the late Robert A. Cook used to say as he closed his radio broadcasts: "Walk with the King today and be a blessing."

As the world distracts each of us every day, may God provide us with the wisdom to recognize and the discipline to pursue "the main thing."

Dr. Keith Starcher, CBFA Vice-Chair

Important Announcements

2009 Dues: If you have not paid your 2009 CBFA dues, you should have received an electronic invoice; if not, please [contact Dr. Bob Roller](#), CBFA Secretary. If you registered for the 2008 conference, your 2009 dues were included. We are in the process of updating our membership files, so if you wish to retain your membership and haven't yet paid your dues, please send them to [Dr. Jim Dalton](#), CBFA Treasurer.

2008 Annual Meeting: [Minutes of the 2008 business meeting](#) and the [Treasurer's Report](#) are posted on the CBFA website.

Marketing Prof's Corner: Dr. Keith Starcher has created a BlackBoard community for marketing professors. Participants post syllabi from marketing courses and use the discussion board for topics associated with becoming more effective marketing professors. If you would like to participate, [email Keith](#).

CBFA Prayer Subcommittee: Dr. Keith Starcher has created a prayer list which is updated regularly and sent to anyone who has volunteered to be a member of the Prayer Subcommittee. If you have a prayer need, [click here](#). If you have an interest in praying for the needs of the CBFA and the institutions within the CBFA, [click here](#), and you will be added to the Prayer Subcommittee.