

Assessing Undergraduate Business Internships—How Do We Know They Actually Deliver Faith-Learning-Living Integration?

Panel Discussion Abstract CBFA Annual Conference October 2006

Panelists:

Robert Eames
Associate Professor of
Business
Calvin College
rhe2@calvin.edu

Steve VanderVeen
Professor of Management
Hope College
vanderveen@hope.edu

Scott Morter
Assistant Professor of
Business
Cornerstone University
scott_d_morter@cornerstone.
edu

While business internships are popular among students, employers and academic institutions alike there is an opportunity to improve upon the programs currently being offered by doing what business professionals do—measuring and documenting results. In addition to the benefits internships provide to students and employers in terms of developing and enhancing students technical and professional skills, this panel seeks to further the exploration of faith-learning-living integration in internship programs through assessment.

This session has three main objectives:

- 1) Present brief overviews of what internship programs at the panelist's three institutions do: objectives, pedagogical strategies, methods, and lessons learned.
- 2) Present ideas for quantifying whether these internship programs actually meet their objectives
- 3) Initiate a dialogue to help frame a research agenda for improving the effectiveness of undergraduate business internships in Christian colleges and universities, as well improving the effectiveness of assessing internships.

Each participant will make a brief presentation on their program. Handouts will be provided which include the outline of the presentations, sample syllabi, course descriptions, etc. In addition, the panel would like to encourage attendees to bring copies of their materials to the conference to share with others.