

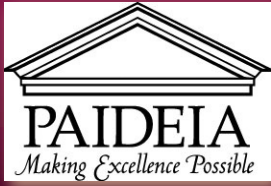
ABHE FLAGSHIP PRESIDENTS GATHERING 2017



The Association for
Biblical Higher Education

“MISSION FOCUS vs. MISSION DRIFT”

The Cove June 3, 2017



ABHE

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**Copy of this PowerPoint available
for the asking or by email.**

What does *Paideia* mean?

- ❑ The Greek word for **education** in content and character
- ❑ Plato quotes Socrates: “If you ask what is the good of *paideia*, the answer is easy. *Paideia* makes good men, and good men act nobly.”

St. Paul...

- ❑ Knew that *paideia* alone is not sufficient
- ❑ Called for parents to “bring up your children in the *paideia* of the Lord”
(Ephesians 6:4)

- ❑ St. Paul also knew the custom of the *paidagogos* (adult male slave) who accompanied his master's son to school and carried a whip with which to administer *nouthesia*.



Paideia or Nouthesia?

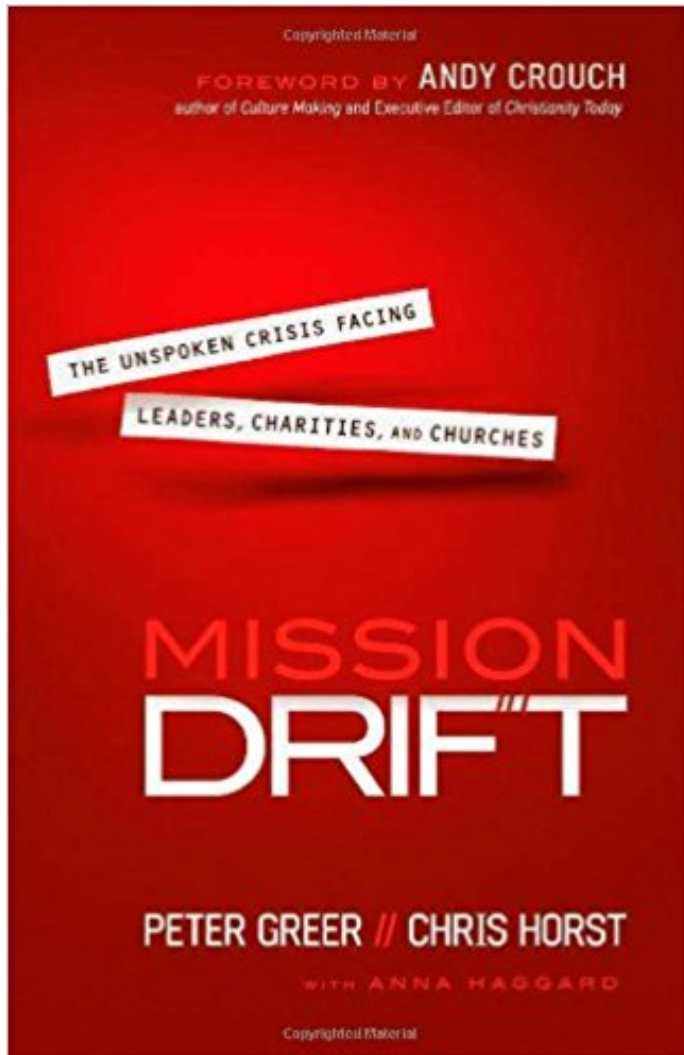
**Sometimes it's necessary to
administer *nouthesia* along with
paideia to those who need a dose
of admonition!**

But aren't you glad . . . ?

DBL's Introduction and "Creds"

- ❑ **Lasting gratitude to parents for Scripture memorization and the great hymns**
- ❑ **Significance of Bible college leaders and students / my uncle John Honeyman**
- ❑ **My joy at accepting the honor of an appointment at Lancaster Bible College**

“MISSION FOCUS VS. MISSION DRIFT”



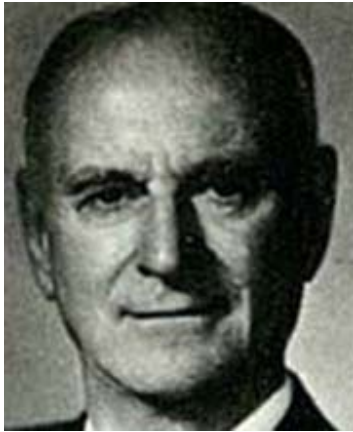
1. Historical distinctives of Bible college movement
2. Making the case for Bible college in higher ed
3. Telling signs of serious mission drift

WHERE ARE WE NOW?

- ❑ 135 years after A. B. Simpson's school?
- ❑ What needs can we predict and project as goals for institutional strategic planning?
- ❑ How do we sustain with integrity the biblical intentions of our founders?



MAKING A HISTORICAL COMPARISON



Who was Frank E. Gaebelein?

**Education pioneer-philosopher/athlete/
mountaineer/pianist /author/Bible editor/**

preacher/co-chair NYC BGEA 1957/

mentor Long Island newsman/

new US senator/DBL & others/

devoted to racial righteousness

BIBLE COLLEGE ADVOCATE !





What connects D. L. Moody and The Stony Brook School?

1879/1881 Moody founds

**Northfield/Mt. Hermon Schools and the
Northfield Summer institutes follow**

1899 last sermon 5th Ave Presby Church

Son Will succeeds as Northfield CEO

Apostasy overtakes within a decade

NMHS calls its founder “a 19th century social reformer whose son leavened his father’s evangelical thrust”

1906-09 colleague’s experience at MHS

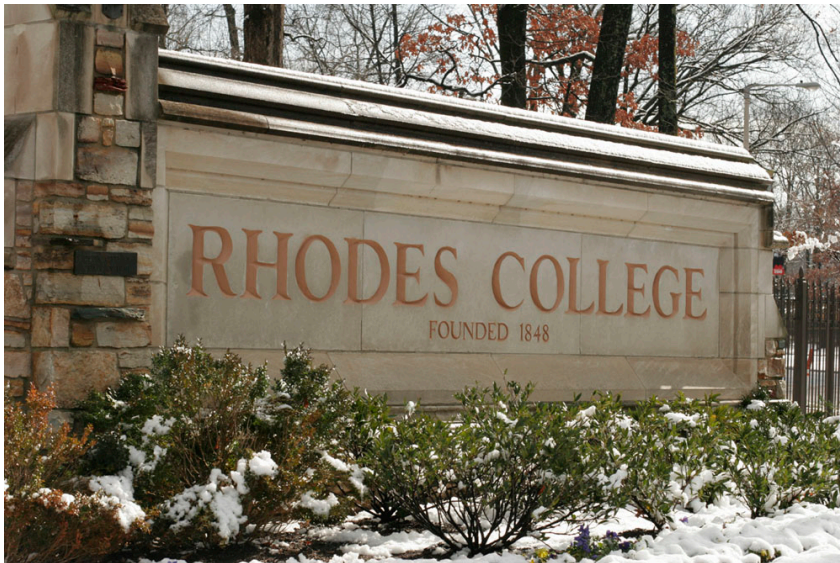
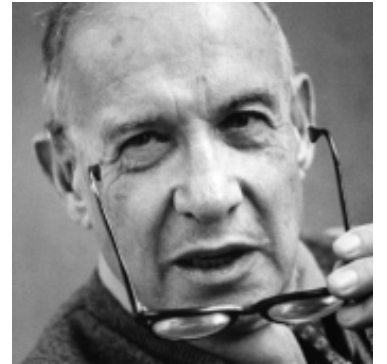
Pastors decline to send SS teachers / The



**Stony Brook Assembly
founded 1909 / School
in 1921 / opened 1922**

MISSION AND VISION

- ❑ Peter F. Drucker applies corporate mission to not-for-profit institutions
- ❑ James Daughdrill at Rhodes College



“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old[er], he will not depart from it.”

Proverbs 22:6

MISSION: *temporal academic purpose*

ethical professional institutional duty

VISION: *eternal spiritual purpose*

prayerful hope and aspiration

NOW: *“Train up a child” every day*

LATER: *“when he is older” eventually*

BUT WHICH COMES FIRST? Now or Then?

MISSION: Our temporal academic purpose to be fulfilled NOW by every teacher to every student in every class with every lesson every day. It is our ethical obligation and moral duty.

Our mission belongs to our board and cannot be abridged or edited at will.

VISION: Our eternal spiritual purpose for whose fulfillment in LATER life we work, hope, and pray as our students mature and shape their lives according to God's will.

This vision is what keeps us going!

As President and Chief Executive Officer of your college, how well do you know/declare/share with others the *mission* and *vision* of your college? What are consequences of failing to do so effectively?

“NOTHING GOLD CAN STAY”



**So Eden sank
to grief ...**

Robert Frost

- ☐ **Are Greer/Horst pessimists / mere realists?**
- ☐ **Must we expect spiritual entropy?**
- ☐ **Can your college be an exception to “the rule”?**

Founders' intentions ignored:

- ❑ **1642 Harvard Rules for Students**
- ❑ **1701 Yale because of apostasy**
- ❑ **1797 Hartwick College (upstate NY)**
- ❑ **1829 Illinois College (Beechers)**
- ❑ **1851 Northwestern seal**
- ❑ **1890 Chicago “Baptist Univ in America”**
- ❑ **Alumnus David Brooks sums it up**

Current Politician's Story:

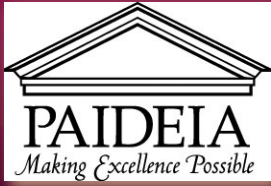
- ❑ **Hillary Rodham, Methodist teen, goes to Wellesley College (Boston)**
- ❑ **President of Republican Club, a “Goldwater Girl” in 1964**
- ❑ **Henry Fowle Durant and wife Pauline, friends of D. L. Moody, founds the college**
- ❑ **Bible in the cornerstone (1871)**



“This building is humbly dedicated to our Heavenly Father with the hope and prayer that He may always be first in everything in this institution; that His word may be faithfully taught here, and that He will use it as a means of leading precious souls to the Lord Jesus Christ.”

**Pauline Durant, August 1871
Dedication Wellesley College**





PBS DOCUMENTARY

- ❑ November 1994 PBS film on Wellesley College's Class of 1969
- ❑ No reference to historic Christian heritage or motto *Non ministrari sed ministrare* (Matthew 20:28)
- ❑ “Not to be passive but to be active.”
- ❑ “Oh, today we regard this mostly as an embarrassment.”
- ❑ My challenge to current President / her reply

WARNING SIGNS—AND HOW TO AVOID THEIR CALAMITOUS FULFILLMENT

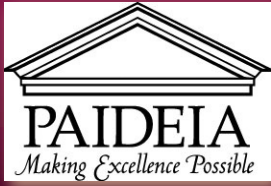
- ❑ Desire for “academic respectability” at any and all cost**
- ❑ “Me-too” at some CCCU members**
- ❑ General decline in biblical knowledge**

- ❑ **Reliance on surrogate credentials**
- ❑ **Tempting slide to Laodicean default to spiritual apathy**
- ❑ **Curriculum diminishes Bible courses**

**BUT BIBLE COLLEGES MUST PROVIDE
MORE THAN MINIMAL INSTRUCTION IN
ARTS AND SCIENCES + TECHNOLOGY**

WHAT MUST ABHE COLLEGES DO?

- ❑ **Ensure enduring place of Bible as text in class**
- ❑ **Recognize impossibility of achieving integration/worldview without biblical knowledge, application, service**
- ❑ **Terms of employment / consequences for failure to implement effectively**



GAEBELEIN'S MODEL FOR US

“ . . . a skilled teacher of English ... born of long familiarity with their works. ... There is another book in which he lives [because] **the Bible has literally formed his mind. His teaching of a so-called secular subject is enriched because he comes to it with a genuinely Christian worldview flowing from a mind and personality **steeped in the Bible.**”**