

WITH GRATEFUL APPRECIATION
FOR OUR CONFERENCE SPONSOR



STUDENT DEVELOPMENT LEADERS CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 12-13, 2024

CONFERENCE OVERVIEW: By definition, student development leaders bear point responsibility for campus life. Effective leadership of campus life invites wise and creative initiative. It includes prudent understanding of our current generation of students and tapping the potential of broad campus leadership engagement. It always includes effective shepherding of campus morale, especially in times when campus life experiences trauma. Join this invigorating journey with distinguished campus leaders and enhance your effectiveness for leading healthy and vibrant campus life.

DAY 1 TUESDAY | NOVEMBER 12, 2024

9:00 – 9:15 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS — DAVID MEDDERS, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT | ABHE

9:15 – 10:00 SESSION 1: GIVING EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP FOR CAMPUS MORALE

PRESENTER: BETHANY THOMAS, SR. VP OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT | SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY (FL)

OVERVIEW: Every student development leader has some level of oversight for the morale of campus. It's obviously a team effort but invites wise stewardship of this vital leadership responsibility and opportunity. Regardless of the institution's size, relational and spiritual morale is the result of intentionality and creative initiative. Think through the wide range of related issues with a veteran SDO about how you can give more effective leadership to your campus morale. The results can be huge.

- ▶ Understanding the vital elements of campus morale — a working matrix
- ▶ Mobilizing the team for morale cultivation — tapping team synergy
- ▶ Preparing for and responding to morale shocks — the shepherd's wisdom
- ▶ Making communications (social media) your friend — staying ahead of the curve

10:00 – 10:30 Q & A DISCUSSION

10:30 – 10:45 REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:45 – 11:30 SESSION 2: SPIRITUAL TRANSFORMATION — FROM STUDENT TO DISCIPLE

PRESENTER: LISA STEWART, SPIRITUAL LIFE OFFICER | COLLEGE OF BIBLICAL STUDIES-HOUSTON (TX)

OVERVIEW: When a student attends an institution of biblical higher education, there is an assumption that spiritual growth and maturation is part of the journey toward life-long discipleship. That makes cultivation of campus spiritual vibrancy for student transformation a major focus for campus life. Consider insights from a passionate campus spiritual life leader how she engages her campus for this vital area of discipleship.

- ▶ Embracing a culture of discipleship — a community marker
- ▶ Organizing for transformation — creating a practical plan
- ▶ Moving from plan to execution — campus engagement
- ▶ Assessing authentic transformation — practical measure

11:30 – 12:00 Q & A DISCUSSION

12:00 – 12:15 A WORD FROM OUR SPONSOR — STOREHOUSE WELLNESS — HEATHER KING

12:15 – 1:00 LUNCH — CATERED AT THE ABHE DINING ROOM

1:00 – 1:45 SESSION 3: LEADERSHIP SYNERGY WITH CAMPUS LEADERS

PRESENTER: KIRK SABINE, VP FOR CAMPUS LIFE | KINGSWOOD UNIVERSITY (NB)

OVERVIEW: Effective leadership of student life includes effective engagement with other campus leaders including the president, executive team, faculty, and student life staff. It's a team effort and demands good vertical and lateral engagement. But it's not always easy overcoming natural silos in the academy. Explore creative ways to cultivate leadership synergy with all of your campus leaders with a distinguished SDO.

- ▶ Identifying the breadth of your campus leadership network — intentionality
- ▶ Knowing important principles of relationship cultivation — wisdom
- ▶ Building relationships through effective communications — choosing the right channels
- ▶ Tapping into the power of synergy — everyone embracing student life

1:45 – 2:15 Q & A DISCUSSION

2:15 – 2:30 REFRESHMENT BREAK



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DAY 1 CONT'D

2:30 – 3:15 SESSION 4: SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY OF STRENGTHS-BASED LEADERSHIP

PRESENTER: BRIAN JAWORSKI, VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT LIFE | CORBAN UNIVERSITY (OR)

OVERVIEW: Are you leading from the strengths God has given you? Are you developing leaders around you to do the same? What could or should this look like? Dig into this leadership approach with a veteran SDO with a passion for growing strengths in leaders you influence.

- ▶ Knowing your strengths along with your weaknesses — a reality check
- ▶ Leading through your strengths — with wisdom and balance
- ▶ Developing other leaders through a strengths lens — a fresh perspective

3:15 – 3:45 Q & A DISCUSSION

3:45 – 4:00 WRAP-UP

5:00 DINNER OFF-SITE

DAY 2 WEDNESDAY | NOVEMBER 13, 2024

9:00 – 9:15 INSIGHTS FROM THE WORD — DAVID MEDDERS

9:15 – 10:00 SESSION 5: GEN Z — UNDERSTAND, ENGAGE, AND DISCIPLE THE NEXT GENERATION

PRESENTER: LUKE JONES, PARTNER LIAISON | RECLAIM TODAY; OUR DAILY BREAD MINISTRIES (MI)

OVERVIEW: Every generation has been uniquely shaped and formed by culture and its leading influences. As spiritual leaders tending the hearts of this next generation, it is crucial to not only understand your students but to meet them where they are, while still leading them toward spiritual depth and personal character. As those shepherding a spiritual movement on campus, let's refresh and consider our approach to guiding the students in our care. In this session, we will consider how relevant research stands as a foundation for understanding, engaging, and disciplining Gen Z.

- ▶ What is happening in the minds and hearts of Gen Z
- ▶ How understanding student personas equips better engagement
- ▶ Learn and apply relevant research insight to your student body
- ▶ Understanding the path towards spiritual growth and resilient faith

10:00 – 10:30 Q & A DISCUSSION

10:30 – 10:45 REFRESHMENT BREAK

10:45 – 11:30 SESSION 6: ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

OVERVIEW: Discuss the most pressing student development issues you are facing with both the panel of presenters and attendee affinity groups. Create a draft of your *Personal Action Plan* based on the most significant and urgent issues you should address following the conference.

11:30 – 12:00 Q & A DISCUSSION AND WRAP-UP

12:00 – 1:00 CLOSING LUNCH



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