

REPORT TO THE FELLOWSHIP COUNCIL OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF GRACE BRETHREN CHURCHES FROM GRACE COLLEGE AND SEMINARY

**Prepared by Ronald E. Manahan
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The report is presented at the request of the Fellowship Council and provides a summary of the institution's (Grace College and Grace Theological Seminary) educational work that "interacts with and supports the priorities of our commitment [i.e. that of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches (FGBC)] to common ministry: Church Planting, Leadership Development, and Integrated Ministry." While Grace is not owned by the FGBC and defines the relationship as a voluntary association with the FGBC, the institution is happy to comply with the Fellowship Council's request for this report. Grace is committed to the vision of the FGBC insofar as that vision corresponds to Grace's incorporated activities as an accredited Christian higher education institution and to its stated mission: "Grace is an evangelical Christian community of higher education which applies biblical values in strengthening character, sharpening competence, and preparing for service."

This report focuses briefly on the institution's 2010-2011 operations and initiatives that relate to the commitment to common ministry.

Current Profile of Institutional Operations

Enrollment Profile. The fall semester 2010 headcount enrollment (total for all six schools: Adult and Community Education, Arts and Sciences, Behavioral Sciences, Business, Education, and Ministry Studies) was 1,773 (up 8.0% from 1641 in fall 2009). This represented a record enrollment for the institution. The institution's total enrollment has more than doubled since 1995 (817 in 1995 to 1,773 in 2010). In 2010 Grace awarded 419 degrees (352 undergraduate; 16 graduate-counseling; and 51 graduate-seminary). In addition another 17 students completed a nursing degree through a joint Grace College-Bethel College program. Grace's total enrollment in fall 2010 included 1,013 males and 760 females. Diversity at Grace breaks down as follows: 81.7% White; 10.0% African American; 2.3% Latino; .9% Asian; .7% Native American; and 1.9% International.

Impact of Economy on Grace. The affordability, accountability, and transparency of higher education are on the minds of government, the general public, students, and their parents. The regional, national, and global economies continue suffering. Grace is certainly aware of these challenges. This year 77% of Grace students come from the states of Indiana (58%), Ohio (10%), Michigan (6%), and Illinois (3%). These states have been especially hard hit by unemployment, and job loss has reached into the families of our current and prospective students. Most every student attending Grace applies for financial assistance (undergraduate and graduate).

To help address the thirst for financial aid Grace gave \$10,700,000 of institutional aid out of its own 2009-2010 operating budget. Grace began the "Onward Campaign" in August 2009 to raise \$4 million for student financial aid by 31 December 2012 to help students continue their education. To date \$1.3 million of the \$4 million has been raised. As a note of interest, the total gifts from FGBC churches to Grace in 2010 was \$74,000.

Grace has taken further steps to control price by downsizing its employee pool, outsourcing certain of its campus services (physical plant, food service, and publications and marketing as examples), and eliminating pay increases for the last one and one-half years. On the proactive side Grace has launched or is launching new programs some of which are noted in the following text. These efforts have helped reposition the institution better for the longer term economic realities surrounding Christian higher education.

Current Institutional Initiatives

Three-Year Degree Option Addresses Affordability and Experiential Learning. Starting in November 2009 Grace began developing a three-year baccalaureate program option. The Grace Board of Trustees approved this new initiative during the spring of 2010. This major piece of work is driven by six institutional core commitments and seven principles for guiding the redesign of the Grace undergraduate educational experience.

Six Core Commitments: Biblical authority, transformative education, community, affordability, high quality, and practical/applied experience.

Seven Guiding Principles: Required practical field experience, flexible delivery modality, new calendar-accelerated approach, new faculty load schedule, evaluated pricing model, competency driven curriculum, and biblical integration.

The three-year degree option will be offered for the first time in the fall 2011 semester. The option helps reduce the cost of education significantly and incorporates required credit hours of experiential learning. The latter requires students to practice classroom learning in real life settings.

Opportunities for Ministry and Intercultural Experiences. Students and employees are active in ministry within and beyond the United States. During the 2010-2011 academic year students will invest more than 6500 hours of ministry and service to those in the region around the campus. In addition all Grace undergraduate students must have completed an intercultural experience before they graduate. During the 2010-2011 year faculty, staff, and students will travel internationally to Dominican Republic, England, Fiji, France, Germany, Haiti, India, Israel, Italy, South Korea, Turkey, and others. Within the United States students are studying in Atlanta, Philadelphia, and southern cities particularly associated with the civil rights movement (Montgomery, Memphis, etc.).

New Exchange Program with Handong Global University. This institution of about 4,000 students is a well-known Christian university in Pohang, Korea. The agreement was finalized in December 2010. The program provides opportunities for both student and faculty exchanges. These further provide global opportunities for students.

Participation in Community Development. The campus continues building ongoing relationships with the community through partnership opportunities. These examples illustrate the diversity of community efforts: (1) Grace has developed a growing number of relationships with our home county's many lake associations as well as regional and state environmental leaders within Indiana and beyond. The partnership collaboration, Kosciusko Lakes and Streams (KLAS), is centered at Grace. The program focuses on monitoring improvement in the nearly 100 lakes in the county through the institution's new environmental science program. KLAS allows ongoing interaction with environmental groups, lake associations, county fourth graders and high school

students, state organizations, and Indiana University. In addition Grace is a participant with the University of Michigan, University of Toledo, and Heidelberg University doing research related to the Great Lakes Watershed through a National Science Foundation grant.

(2) Another effort to help the community is led by a Grace professor who received a two-year foundation research grant to study the impact of behavioral health interventions in the primary care setting with Type II diabetes patients. 250 area patients are involved in the research. A first look at the research findings are promising, indicating that behavioral intervention with diabetic patients is helpful in improving the quality of life while moderating medical costs. A further research grant is being sought to expand the study.

(3) In October 2010 Grace received startup funding through OrthoWorx to offer a graduate program in orthopedic regulatory and clinical affairs through the OrthoWorx Center of Excellence in Orthopedic Regulatory and Clinical Affairs at Grace College. It is the only program of its kind to be developed by orthopedic regulatory and clinical affairs leaders. There has already been an unexpectedly high interest in the program, and the program is structured to be offered beyond Indiana. The program is especially important to the region of the campus because three of the five largest orthopedic companies in the world are located within five miles of the campus.

Institutional Commitment to Common Mission

Church Planting

Seminary's Korean Program Enriched and Expanded by ATS Accreditation. In 2010 Grace Theological Seminary received its Association of Theological Schools (ATS) accreditation. This accreditation is very important to students in the seminary's expanding Korean Studies programs offered through the Grace Theological Seminary Center for Korean Studies (CKS) established in 2008. The CKS offers the Doctor of Ministry and the Doctor of Missiology degrees. Throughout 2010 there were 150 Korean applicants to the program, but a number of these applicants were scattered across a number of countries and could not come to Winona Lake for classes. This has led to seeking further accreditation approval to offer courses in up to eight additional locations: California and Hawaii as well as Australia, Belgium, Cambodia, France, Thailand, and Turkey. These sites are strategically located to best meet the needs of students applying to the program. Once accreditation issues are handled there are good reasons for projecting enrolling 16 students in each of 24 modules during the 2013-2014 year. This projected growth is tied directly to the work of church planting through global missions. Missionaries from one of the most significant mission groups in South Korea are part of this CKS program, and one of the leaders from within that mission group is Grace's Korean Program Director. This large mission organization, Global Mission Society (GMS), has approximately 2,200 missionaries of whom approximately 75% are in church planting. Grace's program is suited for providing intercultural help to many of these missionaries.

Leadership Development

Seminary/GBIM Leadership Initiative in CAR. The purpose of this joint venture is to offer a contextualized approach to graduate education. Carefully selected ministry leaders of both high character and significant experience will be admitted into the program in order to explore and develop appropriate African solutions to the opportunities and challenges faced in their ministry context. Each course will require a one month commitment, during which the pre-course, course and post-course work will be completed. A heavy emphasis

will be placed upon 'learning in community,' which is consistent with African learning styles. Participants will move through their educational experience as a cohort. Francois Ngoumape, Augustin Hibaile, and Mark Sims (Program Director) are very committed to this program. The intent is to offer this program in the CAR as a program accredited by both the Higher Learning Commission and the Association of Theological Schools. Jeff Gill, dean of the seminary, completed a pre- accreditation visit to the CAR in December 2010.

Grace's Online Ministry Studies Program. The institution received approval from the Higher Learning Commission to offer three entirely online programs which are a B.S. in Management, an M.B.A., and an M.A. in Ministry Studies. The latter online program is especially welcomed because it allows education in ministry work well beyond the campus, reaching globally. The 36-semester hour program is especially designed for those who are in supporting ministry positions or are seeking those positions but cannot afford to leave their job and move to campus.

School of Ministry Studies (College and Seminary) Growth. This school has been growing and in fall 2010 enrolled 243 students (counting both college and seminary students but not Korean students). The students enrolled are in the school's programs are focused on education that enhances preparation for leadership in some aspect of ministry.

Integrated Ministries

Water as Component of Ministry Project. One example of the campus participating in an integrated ministry began during May 2010 when a group of Grace students and employees joined in ministry with Students International in Fiji. During the time there ministry was done among native Fijians, as well as Hindus. Availability of good water was needed by people in the western part of the main Fijian island. While there the Grace team worked to install a very low-tech, \$25.00 well pump as a demonstration project to provide a learning tool for people needing water in the surrounding region. The demonstration pump was a success. In May 2011 another Grace team of students and faculty are going back to expand on this integrated ministry in such a way that relationship building and ministry opportunity with the native population can be built through the tool of using a low-tech pumps that supply water for people so much in need of it.

Requesting Prayer Help

The challenges of nurturing spiritual growth in students, stimulating them to be learners, keeping education affordable, and especially serving the church through education and ministry preparation and leadership are absolutely important reasons to pray with passion, patience, and persistence. God' help is absolutely necessary if we are to meet these challenges in a God honoring way. Please pray.