

The Church And The College

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The title of the address is "The Church and the College." What I am going to talk about is St. Andrews as a church related college. I am not sure this is a topic I would have picked for myself, and it is just remotely possible that it would not have been your number one choice. It is assigned to me by Dean Crossley because it is his conviction and intention that one of the tasks of the college for this year will be a consideration of the implications and import of the fact that St. Andrews is a church related college. Since Dean Crossley and I taught together for almost 8 years, he knew better than to ask me to provide definitive solutions to the problems surrounding this issue. He knew that was beyond my capability. Instead, he asked me to launch the subject. That seems like a less difficult task than giving definitive answers and something I ought to be able to do. But it is not as insignificant a task as you might at first think because launch means get you into the water and since Dean Crossley is an ordained Baptist minister he believes that getting into the water is pretty significant indeed. So what I am going to do may not be definitive; possibly it will be significant.

What I want to do is make 7 informal observations about St. Andrews as a church related college so you will have some objective points to react to in any way you see fit.

No. I. "Church related" college is a strange way to try to say something and many have historically taken this to mean a secular college which happens to be owned and operated by a church denomination. This way of interpreting the phrase "church related college" is, fortunately or unfortunately, not open to St. Andrews. It is clear from every major founding document of St. Andrews that all of those involved in its beginning twenty years ago and much of its subsequent history meant for it to be not just a college operated by the church, but a Christian college, owned and operated by the church. Let me lay just three quotes on you. The authors' of the Chapel Hill Report—written by a distinguished panel of educators from all over the country who drew the blueprint for the curriculum and pattern of the college. It said, "We think that there is a distinctively Christian motive for collegiate education and that the Christian faith offers distinctive insights for ordering the curriculum, the architecture and the total community life of a college. Our prayer each day (of our work of planning the college) was that our college may manifest this motive and these insights with clarity and

faithfulness." The second quote is from the Charter of the college granted by the State of North Carolina. It says in unhesitating terms, and I quote, "Article III. The objects for which this corporation is formed are as follows: to establish, maintain, and operate in North Carolina a four-year co-educational college for the Christian education and development of young men and women.

"The coordinated college of the Synod of N.C. Presbyterian Church, U.S. shall exist in perpetuity for the purposes of nurturing and strengthening faith in Christ as Savior and Lord, of promoting Christian education, and of extending the influence of liberal education of high quality. To this end it will ever maintain an emphasis upon Christian living and scholarship in an academic community made up of persons dedicated to the promulgation and practice of Christian ideals in all areas of life." Then the real kicker: "The foregoing provision shall not be modified without the consent of the Synod of North Carolina." And finally, as late as 9 years ago, when we prepared our self-study for the Southern Association, a statement adopted by the faculty and the Board of Trustees said: "It is avowedly Christian." These statements were not written in the quaint words and thought forms of the 17th century and can therefore be winked at by a more enlightened age, but in living memory of those from whom the college is expecting to get the lion's share of the \$8,000,000 it is now seeking. That is good ole scare tactics, isn't it? Well, I mention it because I knew it would be on your mind and to give me the opportunity to say that I think the college does too many things for public relations reasons and to make the point that though public relations may be one reason for considering this matter, the real and most important reason is institutional integrity. Colleges, like fair young damsels who are always afraid someone will violate their virtue, are afraid someone—the trustees, the big givers, etc.—will violate their integrity. The observation I would put to this community this evening is, "The violation of your integrity by another is pitiable; the self-motivation of ones own integrity is reprehensible."

No. II. It is O.K., acceptable, even respectable, to be a Church related Christian College. Most of us have been somewhat embarrassed by that designation. It makes you a second class citizen, not quite respectable. There are a number of reasons it has been embarrassing in the past which really are still operative in our psyches and they ought to be looked at to see if they weigh as much as we thought they did.

a) There are always some colleges around for whom Christian Church related means fundamentalist and obscurantist—but that doesn't mean that such a college must necessarily be that way.

b) There are many colleges which were founded as Christian Church related colleges and during the enlightenment they disengaged themselves with

scorn and disdain. They are still fighting those long dead battles and providing the models for the rest of us to emulate. Their whole position should at least be questioned as to its relevance.

c) Many of us got frozen in the enlightenment period of our lives. In many ways the modern university movement is an enlightenment movement and we share many of its insights, but also many of its ridiculous prejudices, for all of us are so brainwashed by our University graduate experiences that we never completely get over them.

d) Many of us in our own personal, private lives had traumatic religious experiences—somewhat similar to parental child abuse—that have left scars we have difficulty dealing with. Nevertheless as we mature as adults, or try to, we should recognize these traumas for what they are.

I believe that if we look with some dispassion at these reasons for our embarrassment, some or all of them can be seen to be no longer relevant for our lives. When you also combine this thought with the observation that this is the age of minority rights and with the observation that this is an age when most anything is O.K., an age of relativity, I believe it is reasonable to conclude that it is really O.K. to be a part of and to advocate a Christian Church related College. It need not be a cause for embarrassment.

No. III. If we wish to be a liberal arts college, it should at least be put forth as a claim that a Christian Church Related College is the single most supportive framework for attaining the aims of a liberal arts college. I know this is a complicated issue and a much disputed and argued point, but I think it is a claim that should be made and then explored to check out its validity and fruitfulness. If a liberal arts college has as three of its aims: the effort to see the world and see it whole; to explore the glory and isosyry of man; and to insist upon the valuing dimension of all learning, then a Christian church related college seems to provide an imminently compatible framework for such aims.

No. IV. If you are trying with integrity to face up to your obligation and commitment to be a Christian Church Related College, the first thing to do is to examine what you have got now—and it is not inconsiderable and shouldn't be discounted. Most educational reforms are like the English professor who wrote an essay in which he claims that young people can't write because they weren't taught and allowed to express their feelings and if they were just taught that, they could learn to write with facility. But what goes unnoticed is that his essay is totally convincing because he himself had spent years mastering vocabulary, syntax, sentence and paragraph structure and these equipped him to write a superb essay. What he should have said was that in addition to all the things he was taught, the students should

Guest Editorial

St. Andrews Junior In Intensive Care

St. Andrews junior Teresa Staley is presently in the Intensive Care Unit of the Moses Cone Hospital in Greensboro, NC, due to trapped phlegm in her lungs and chest cavities. She has been in the hospital since October 13; her condition has been listed as critical for over a week.

Staley's illness began with a cold that she contracted shortly before Fall Break. Because she has a neuro-muscular disease closely related to muscular dystrophy, she was too weak to cough up the phlegm, allowing the congestion to build up. Continued coughing only served to wear her out and deplete her blood's oxygen supply. Finally, doctors had no course left except to sedate her, put her on a respirator and direct a tube to her chest cavity in an attempt to draw out some of the phlegm.

Although Staley's condition has not improved much, doctors have removed the tube and respirator to determine if she has regained enough of her strength to subsist with less intensive care. Staley is still in pain due to lying in one position all the time to aid drainage. However, Staley's spirit was boosted by once again being able to talk after the tube was removed.

Staley's absence is particularly felt at St. Andrews now when preparations are in full swing for St. Andrews' second Annual Carnival against Muscular Dystrophy. Both this year and last, Teresa had been one of the major coordinators of the Carnival. This years Carnival chairpersons, Joey Sherr and Terri Jones, have decided to dedicate the Carnival to Staley in hope that it will improve her spirit enough to shake off the cold.

Staley's mother sends her thanks to all the St. Andrews students who have sent cards, called to wish encouragement, or tried to visit her. Staley's mother feels that this show of concern has done much to help her daughter. "There have been so many ups and downs that I have trouble getting encouraged over good news for fear of the let down should something bad happen again. However, Teresa Staley is putting up quite a fight and we're hopeful she can pull out of this thing."

NOTICE: CAMPING EQUIPMENT

Encounter in the wilderness is in the process of replacing some of its equipment which has been used for the past several years. Most of this equipment is in usable condition, but we may not be able to depend on it for extended (3 wk) winter term activities. Some may require several minutes on a sewing machine to repair.

The following items will be sold on a first-come basis, beginning on Oct. 26.

10 SLEEPING BAGS \$25-\$35
10 ENSOLITE PADS \$2
7 SVEA-STOVES \$6-\$10
8 BACK PACKS \$20-\$35

Misc. ponchos, mess kits, fuel bottles. If you are interested, contact Tom Jones, MJ129.

Election Results

The following are the official results of the most recent election:

Vice-President of the College Union Board		
Carol McLain		217
Judicial Board		
George Anderson		152*
Mary Bowman		132*
W. Knight		74
Curtis Leonard		117
David Zipperer		43
Constitutional Amendment (for Highlands Dormitory)		
Yes		226*
No		36
Vice-President Mecklenburg		
Hal Bailey		34
Social Chairman Concord		
Patty Perkins		39
Social Chairman Granville		
Harvie Jordan		35
Vice-President Winston-Salem		
Mike Cestrono		27
Off Campus President		
Steve Fox		10
Off Campus Vice-President	Campus	Vice-President
Key		4*
Shapiro		3
Black		3