



The Christian University at Its Best: *Worksheet*¹

Ted Ward

Assumptions

A *university education*, at its best, is an integration and energizing of spiritual, mental, social, emotional, and physical processes in a learner, toward the purpose of fulfilling the God-given potentialities invested by the Creator.

A *university*, at its best, is more than a collection of departments.

A *faculty*, at its best, is a team (not just a collection of entrepreneurial teachers and researchers).

Professors, at their best, are inquirers into truth; their personalities, social skills, and value systems are dedicated to effectively guiding learners into responsible maturity.

A *Christian university*, at its best, is a community of scholars dedicated to the fulfillment of personal and corporate godliness through the interaction with each other, informed by scholarly inquiry and the enlightenment of God's Holy Spirit through the explicit guidance of his Word.

Tabletop Discussions

First Theme: Matters of encouragement and institutional accomplishment

1. During the academic year just completed, identify several things that were matters of widespread acclamation and encouragement to this faculty and student body. What do these suggest about the priorities for this institution?
2. What distinguishes this Christian university from its former status as a Christian college?
3. What distinguishes this university in terms of its being a *Christian* university?

Second Theme: Matters of objective evidence

4. How do you know that this university is doing a good job? What objective evidences can you point to?

¹ Ted Ward. The Christian University at its Best: Worksheet. Faculty Workshop, Azusa Pacific University, May 1999

5. In what ways are the educational values of the university reflected in the behaviors and qualities of the students?

Third Theme: Matters of change and development

6. In what ways could this university better fulfill its mission?

7. In what ways should the mission of this university be enlarged without stretching its resources inappropriately?