

### **Elaboration of Northwest Christian University values:**

**Academic excellence:** This value is reflected in academic programs characterized by breadth and depth, rigor, significant student engagement, documented and strong evidence of student learning, and the highest quality achievable in the general education program, the majors, the curriculum as a whole, the faculty, facilities, classroom technology, and classroom instruction.

**Faith commitment:** This value is reflected in a campus environment that nurtures, through growth in one's faith, a deeper understanding of what one is called by God to do in life and where one is called to do it. This value is ultimately evidenced when one develops a deeper relationship with Christ and, as a result, translates his or her faith into action in service to Christ and humanity. Faith commitment flows from spiritual formation – the process of being conformed to the image of Christ. Spiritual formation is inspired by the Holy Spirit and is grounded in Scripture and a faith community.

**Ethical leadership:** This value is reflected in curricular and co-curricular efforts to develop ethical leaders -- leaders who determine the right course of action (according to the individual's value system and the organization's value system) and then act on that determination. Ethical leaders take action that reflects the right thing to do, not what is merely self-serving. Ethical leaders take action that serves and benefits others, does not harm others, and is fair and honest. Ethical leaders take action that is compassionate and caring.

**Character development:** This value is reflected in campus programs and efforts to foster Christ-like actions characterized by respect for others, honesty, fairness, personal responsibility, and servant leadership.

**Caring community:** This value is reflected by a campus community that is welcoming, diverse, inclusive, respectful of all people, compassionate, kind, concerned about justice, and dedicated to serving others.

**Global engagement:** This value is reflected by evidence of a commitment to internationalization of the University's educational environment.

Specific examples of how the University attempts to nurture each value so that the values are lived out and represented in our collective campus life:

Academic excellence:

- Vision statement for University includes reference to "excellent academic programs"
- We seek to be "one of America's great Christian liberal arts universities"
- President's Award for Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership
- High percentage of full-time faculty with doctorates/terminal degrees (terminal degree requirement for all new, regular full-time faculty appointments)
- Emphasis on teacher-scholar model for all faculty members

- Both faculty and student scholarship encouraged
- Regional accreditation
- IACBE accreditation for business and management programs
- Oregon TSPC accreditation of teacher education and school counseling programs
- Resolution of Commitment to Excellence and the Assessment of Institutional Effectiveness
- Sigma Beta Delta, honor society in business
- Residence life programs emphasizing academic excellence
- Honors courses
- Financial aid program that rewards academic excellence
- Effective system of academic program review
- Strong library (OPALL & UofO library agreements)
- Rigorous, challenging curriculum
- Significant student engagement both in and out of the classroom

Faith commitment:

- Vision statement for University includes reference to “a foundation in the Christian faith”
- Hiring of a campus pastor
- Strong campus ministries program centered on Embracing the Lord, Embracing the Body, Embracing the City, and Embracing Nations
- Mission trips to such locations as Mozambique, Bosnia, Haiti, New Orleans – faith commitment translated into action, into service
- Launching of a new School of Christian Ministry in the Fall of 2008
- Centrality of Bible in our curriculum
- Integration of faith and learning throughout our curriculum
- Hosting Global Day of Prayer
- Stone-Campbell Symposium to lift up and strengthen understanding of and commitment to our church heritage

- Rice-Siefke Institute of Preaching, et al.
- Hosting Interfaith Breakfast on campus
- Attendance at the Interfaith Breakfast and the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast
- Chapel services held three times a week
- Opportunities to grow in faith through both the curriculum (integration of faith and learning) and through such out-of-class experiences as worship, Bible study groups, mission work, service projects, etc.
- Course offering titled "All are gifted, all are called"
- Strong music program that is ministry-driven
- Commitment to the construction of a Center for Christian Ministry and the Arts
- Residence life programs emphasizing faith commitment
- Ministry Club
- Student-athlete chaplain program

#### Ethical leadership:

- Vision statement includes reference to "a focus on teaching leadership and ethics"
- A mission statement that focuses on competent, ethical leadership
- Annual Leadership Summit
- Tagline: "Developing Ethical Leaders for a Changing World"
- Center for Leadership and Ethics
- Trustee Lecture Series on Leadership and Ethics
- Opportunities for employees to grow in their leadership skills
- Leadership and ethics throughout the curriculum (internships and/or practica in every major)
- Residence life programs emphasizing ethical leadership
- Financial aid program that rewards ethical leadership record
- Opportunities to develop leadership skills through student organizations, including ASNCU

#### Character development:

- Champions of Character initiative within the NAIA and thus NCU athletics: focus on respect, responsibility, integrity, leadership, and sportsmanship
- Strong service commitment in curricular and co-curricular programs
- Leadership development programs like the Leadership Summit
- Residence life programs emphasizing character development
- Commitment to being an institution of integrity as stated in the institutional goals
- Ethics across the curriculum; academic integrity (e.g., academic honesty); learning about ethics as applied to one's major
- Ethical practices in hiring and recruitment of faculty and staff
- Center for Leadership and Ethics and Trustee Lecture Series on Leadership and Ethics
- Student development: service projects, mission trips, etc.
- Student code of conduct

#### Caring community:

- Development of a statement we call "Our Commitment as a Campus Community"
- Nondiscrimination policy
- Sponsorship and hosting the Lane County MLK, Jr. Celebration on our campus
- Many service projects such as Habitat for Humanity
- Residence life programs emphasizing caring community
- Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) anti-racism training event held on campus
- Diversity committee on campus
- Christmas and spring concerts held at local churches as gifts to community

#### Global engagement:

- Launching of a pilot MBA program in Hong Kong
- Studies abroad coordinator position
- New Studies Abroad Seminar

- Now allowing up to three students each year to use institutional aid to support their semester abroad experience
- Enhanced focus on study abroad opportunities: students have studied in England and other locations and have done mission work in such places as Mozambique, Haiti, and Bosnia
- Several students have participated in an archaeological excavation in Israel
- New efforts to recruit international students
- Hiring of a director of international programs
- Many faculty and staff with international experience in higher education
- New focus on developing missions program for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
- Residence life programs emphasizing global engagement