11/16/12

Dear WBC/CBS Student,

Thanks for your prayers for WBC and CBS to survive the challenges of this year and recent years. God has answered.

The Board of Directors of Washington Bible College and Capital Bible Seminary, Lanham, Maryland, took the courageous step on October 20, 2012 of voting to join the innovative efforts of Lancaster Bible College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania, to deliver premier biblical higher education to ministry leaders.

As Lancaster Bible College (LBC) takes the lead in this new venture, our collaboration emerges from more than 150 years of combined history between our two institutions. This blending of mutually respected heritage is coupled with our renewed commitment to the future and a resolve to educate Christian students to think and live a biblical worldview and to proclaim Christ by serving Him in the Church and society.

Driven by a common vision, we believe moving forward as one organizational entity creates better synergy in seamless education opportunities and cost effective use of resources, directly benefitting our students. This endeavor values collaboration over competition and minimizes duplication of resources in the mid-Atlantic region.

Having chosen to preserve the core essence of our missions, visions and statements of faith, the congruence of our identities made the consideration of such an endeavor possible. The willingness to ask "what will not change" in the midst of "what must change" made the initiative probable. The candor and courageous decisions of the Boards of both institutions made it a reality.

The details are being approved through appropriate government and accrediting agencies. The oversight of all academic programs will transition to Lancaster Bible College by January 2013, pending approval from the state of Maryland. Lancaster Bible College is currently working closely with WBC/CBS to ensure that priority care is given to current students as well as prospective students of Washington Bible College and Capital Bible Seminary.

Here is what you, as a student of WBC/CBS, can expect in the coming weeks.

1. So you don't experience any delay in the processing of your financial aid, the entire WBC/CBS student population will become part of the LBC student population. That means starting in January 2013, you will be classified as an LBC student. If you have completed 75% of your program, you will have the option of receiving your degree from WBC/CBS.
2. The Spring 2013 offering of courses stands as distributed earlier this month. Please register as you typically would for your courses this spring. As course sections fill up, LBC may make some changes to course titles and delivery method, however, for the most part, the semester will be offered as advertised.
3. The LBC and WBC/CBS staff will be available beginning the week of December 3 to meet one-on-one with each student to begin the dialogue of transitioning to LBC. We know there will be many questions about curricular transfer, financial aid, student services, etc. Our desire is that you will have a "best path to completion" in order by mid-December.
4. In order to keep you up-to-date on this transition, a special landing page for WBC/CBS students will be available at www.bible.edu/bestpath by Tuesday, November 20, 2012. On this page, you will also find out how to schedule an advising session.

Together, we are committed to serving you on the best path to the completion of your academic program.

Humbly and gratefully,

George Harton, Th.D.
President
Washington Bible College and Capital Bible Seminary

Peter W. Teague, Ed.D.
President
Lancaster Bible College