

Editor's Introduction: Reflecting on Our Journey

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Welcome to Volume 2 of the *Journal of Faith in the Academic Profession*!

As a faith-based university, California Baptist University was committed to preparing students for a variety of professions with a strong faith foundation. Part of realizing that mission was the training of faculty to bring faith into the classroom in real and authentic ways. Much of the wisdom gained through experience was passed down over coffee, during brief chats in the hallways, or through fellowship at mealtimes. Recognizing the need to capture this wisdom in a more concrete manner, some faculty envisioned a local repository of essays that could be shared with new faculty as they joined the institution. Unsure of what that repository should look like, a group of Faith Integration Fellows suggested the idea of an online journal. One year and hours of work later, the first issue of this journal published on July 27, 2022.

The articles of that first issue were downloaded more than 800 times in six months! To God be the glory, great things He is doing. The wisdom shared in the first issue has reached far beyond our local context and has touched professors all across the country. Just this week the journal was officially registered with the Library of Congress. Now that we have an ISSN, the articles from our journal will be available in library databases, which will continue to expand the readership of the journal. The editorial team wishes to thank our editorial board, reviewers, and readers for engaging with us and for your continued support!

I am very excited to share this second issue with you. These articles touch on a range of important topics that you will find both relevant and timely. Sophia Mun and Russ Bermejo applied a Psy-FI measure of student perceptions of faith integration, noting changes from the beginning of the semester to the end of the semester. There are important implications here for continued research in studying the impact of faith integration efforts on students. Daryl Neipp explores the task of cultivating an online presence, and the significance of that presence as a faith integration experience. Kelly Hildebrand discusses the challenges associated with teaching apologetics in a non-Western context, which sheds an important light on international education and faith-based learning.

This issue contains an important pairing of articles as well. DawnEllen Jacobs and Kristen White explain the Kingdom Professional Model, arguing for an understanding of faith, learning, and service that goes beyond the simple to transform students into Kingdom-oriented professionals. In a subsequent article, Tracy Ward shares how she used the Kingdom Professional Model to connect the importance of learning, personal development, and service learning meaningfully for students who served in an international context.

The editors invited Scott Key, emeritus professor of philosophy at California Baptist University, to share his reflections of his time working the Seminar on Faith in the Academic Profession (SOFAP) at CBU. Readers who benefitted from SOFAP will be inspired by these reflections. Readers who are new to the idea may find a roadmap of sorts to bring a program like this to their own institutions.

The issue is rounded out with two book reviews on current, relevant topics. Cammy Purper shares her thoughts on a book about teaching online with a faith-based approach. Jacob Slagill reviewed Perry Glanzer's latest book, Identity in Action.

On a personal note, I am grateful for the opportunity to be the founding editor of the Journal of Faith in the Academic Profession. The development of the journal from repository of essays to registered, online journal has been incredible to watch. The journal is ready to move into the next chapter, and I am thrilled to announce that Dr. Ken Nehrbass, the current associate editor, will take the reins of the journal after this issue. Beyond being a kind, godly man, he is an accomplished scholar and thought leader in faith integration. I am honored to support him and this journal as the associate editor for our future issues.

As we continue the conversation about faith and the academic profession, let us be mindful to always seek first the Lord and His kingdom, knowing He will provide all that we need.