

Editor's Perspective: A Decade of the *Christian Business Academy Review*

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ABSTRACT: The *Christian Business Academy Review* began in spring 2006 with the publication of pedagogically based articles related to curriculum development, creative instruction, professional issues, and research in business education. The *Christian Business Academy Review* is the second journal published by the Christian Business Faculty Association in addition to the *Journal of Biblical Integration in Business*. This article summarizes the purpose and contribution of the *CBAR* over the first 10 years of its existence and provides suggestions for the future.

INTRODUCTION

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old is gone, the new is here!" (2 Corinthians 5:17, NIV).

The first issue of the *Christian Business Academy Review* (*CBAR*) was published in 2006. The *CBAR* is a blind peer-reviewed spring publication of the Christian Business Faculty Association (CBFA) and is devoted to promoting Christian business education through publication of faith-based articles that focus on creative instruction (cases, innovations in pedagogy, materials, and methods for teaching undergraduate and graduate business students), curriculum development (book reviews, ideas for and experience with the creation of new courses, and programs of study), professional issues (the role of business programs and faculty in assessment, accreditation, compensation, teaching loads, and professional development), and research in business education (original empirical studies and surveys dealing with the evaluation of teaching methods, learning attitudes, and assessment techniques).

The *CBAR* has published manuscripts that add to the body of knowledge representing both good scholarship and

good pedagogical thinking. The aim has been to publish the combination of scholarly skills (literature reviews, informed thinking, building on previous research, etc.) and pedagogical exploration (new ways of teaching — or thinking about — the subjects and materials in which *CBAR* readers are most interested).

ARTICLES AND OUTSTANDING AUTHORS

Over the past 10 years the *CBAR* has published 97 articles (see Table 1). Creative instruction is the most common type of article averaging over four articles per year with a total of 44 over the past decade. In addition to the four standing categories, the *CBAR* has published special sections in 2011, 2013, and 2015. These special sections considered "Rookie-Year Readiness" in 2011, "Christian Business Education in the 21st Century" in 2013, and "Developing and Teaching Biblical Integration Theory" in 2015.

The 97 articles published in the *CBAR* have been written by more than 100 different authors and co-authors. Two authors are worthy of special recognition: Tim Redmer and Yvonne Smith. Tim Redmer has currently published eight articles in the *CBAR*. Redmer first published a piece

co-authored with Claire Rundle (Redmer & Rundle, 2006) in the inaugural issue and then went on to publish six sole-authored case studies (Redmer 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2013) and one co-authored case study (Redmer & Roberts, 2012).

Whereas, Redmer developed a specialty in case writing, Yvonne Smith has published all over the Christian Business Academy landscape. Smith has published in the creative instruction category with a sole-authored manuscript (Smith 2008) and as a co-author (Black, Smith, & Keels, 2014). Smith published in the Curriculum Development category with a book review (Smith 2014) and published in the "Special Section: Christian Business Education in the 21st Century" (Smith and Saunders, 2013). In the professional issues category, Smith has published on writing integration papers (Black & Smith, 2009), the Protestant work ethic (Smith & Smith, 2011), koinonia and research (Smith, Burns, & Starcher, 2013), and adjuncts and mission (Burns, Smith, & Starcher, 2015).

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Given the relatively low number of publications in the area of research in business education and the preponderance of high-quality articles in the areas of creative instruction and curriculum development reported in Table 1, it is the opinion of this author that there should be a concentrated effort to write and publish more articles in the area of research in business education. Empirical studies that evaluate creative teaching methods and assessment techniques are needed. There should be more pre- and post-testing and more test-control group comparisons that document

whether or not specific methods lead to a higher level of learning in the cognitive domain (Bloom, Engelhart, Furst, Hill & Krathwohl, 1956) and/or a greater appreciation of the subject matter in the affective domain (Krathwohl, Bloom, & Masia, 1964).

CONCLUSION AND NEW DIRECTION

After a decade of service as editor of the *CBAR* it is with great pleasure and anticipation that I turn over the editorial responsibilities to Kevin Brown of Asbury University. Kevin has a unique educational background that includes an MBA, an MLitt in theology, and a PhD in political philosophy and economics. Brown is interested in the interplay between economic efficiency, sound business practice, human arrangements, human flourishing, and virtue. In his application for the editor's position, Brown described his vision for the CBFA as follows:

My vision for the CBFA is to grow in size, strength, and commitment. Equally important, I am utterly convinced that faith-based schools in Christian higher education will need to not only stand up to meet the demands being placed before them in today's marketplace, but to play an active role in shaping the conversation as it relates to the value of a Christian degree. These days, questions of value in the realm of post-secondary education certainly aren't new. With the rising costs of higher education, the technological expansion in educational institutions, and only a half-decade removed from a market recession, it is little surprise that education's value has been called into

Table 1: Article Distribution of the CBAR from 2006 to 2015

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Total
Creative Instruction	4	5	3	2	7	5	6	3	6	3	44
Curriculum Development	5	4	3	3	1	1	2	1	1	3	24
Research in Business Education	1	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	7
Professional Issues	3	1	1	1	0	1	1	3	3	2	16
Special Section	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	6
	13	10	8	7	9	9	10	9	11	11	97

question by nearly all sectors of society — right up to the White House (e.g., “College Scorecard”). I think that to survive and thrive in the future, faith-based schools need to proactively declare that there is more to mere dollars and cents as it relates to their value (i.e., we are in the business of shaping human character, not simply educating minds). Moreover, I think that the business schools are poised in many ways to lead this charge. Mobilizing such a coordinated and careful effort under CBFA seems both appropriate and exciting.

It has been an honor to serve as the *CBAR* editor. I am excited to see what develops and grows within the CBFA and the publication of the *CBAR* under the leadership of Kevin Brown. I pray for many blessings in the future.

“For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago” (Ephesians 2:10, NLT).

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