

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PUBLICATIONS OF THE CHRISTIAN BUSINESS FACULTY ASSOCIATION

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ABSTRACT: The Christian Business Faculty Association currently publishes two journals. *The Journal of Biblical Integration in Business* was created in 1995 and will publish its 24th issue in 2016. *The Christian Business Academy Review* was created in 2006 and will publish its 11th issue in 2016. The purpose of this essay is to document the creation and development of each journal.

INTRODUCTION

The Christian Business Faculty Association (CBFA) traces its roots to a 1980 meeting sponsored by the Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (then known as the Christian College Coalition). Over the years the CBFA has sponsored newsletters, forums, position announcements, journal publications, and annual conferences. In 2015, the CBFA celebrated its 35th Anniversary conference at Regent University with a program that included speakers, papers, panels, workshops, best-practice presentations, poster sessions, and business-related tours. The CBFA has grown in depth and breadth of membership. One of the primary benefits of membership in the CBFA is the subscription to its sponsored journals. The focus of this essay is to document the development of the CBFA journals.

The Journal of Biblical Integration in Business (JBIB) became the flagship journal of the CBFA in 1995. Johnson (1995) discusses the creation of the first issue of the *JBIB* stating:

The *JBIB* is an idea that has been discussed for some time. CBFA members and officers have felt the need to create channels of communication for sharing and shaping ideas about biblical integration in business. The *JBIB* was formally authorized at the October 1994 CBFA meeting. The issue you hold in your hands is the first of what we hope will initially become a bi-annual journal (p. 4).

It was not until after the first issue was published that a decision was made to publish the *JBIB* on an annual rather than a bi-annual basis. However, as we head into 2016, the CBFA is poised to reach a steady state of the original intent of publishing two journals per year. Volume 11 of the *Christian Business Academy Review (CBAR)* will be

published in the spring, and volume 19 of the *JBIB* will be published in the fall.

***JBIB*-THE JOHNSON ERA: 1995-2005**

Sharon Johnson was the founding editor of the *JBIB* and was responsible for editing twelve separate issues of the *JBIB*. Beginning with volume 2, 1996 and lasting through volume 11(3), 2006, the statement of purpose in the opening pages of each issue of the *JBIB* was:

to serve as a refereed forum for discussing faith-learning-life links in business. It is committed to the proposition that “All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work” (II Timothy 3:16-17). Faculty and business practitioners are encouraged to share their perspectives on how to best equip college students to live out their Christian faith in the workplace.

The *JBIB* has published articles, book reviews, best practices, cases and special sections. The primary distinguishing feature of the *JBIB* in the Johnson era was the publication of dialogues. Volume 3, 1997, published the first dialogue where multiple authors provide their perspective on a specific idea in somewhat of a point counterpoint fashion. Generally, the *JBIB* issues of the Johnson era reflected the character of available manuscripts rather than specific categories or types of articles. Table 1 below provides a summary of the 131 articles written by over 100 different authors and co-authors that were published in the *JBIB* from volume 1, 1995 to volume 11(1), 2005.

Johnson (2005) summarized the first 11 years of the *JBIB*'s history as the pursuit of balance. The

Table 1: Article Distribution of the *JBIB* from Volume 1, 1995 to Volume 11(1), 2005

	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	V7	V8	V9	V10	V11(1)	Total
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
Editor's Perspective	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	11
Articles	4	5	3	1	1	2	1	5	2	4	3	31
Dialogues	0	0	5	6	13	8	8	2	3	9	5	59
Special Section	0	0	0	7	7	0	0	0	0	0	6	20
Cases/Best Practices/Book Reviews	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	3	0	2	10
	5	6	9	15	22	12	14	8	9	14	17	131

JBIB sought to maintain balance between scholarship and application, between ideas and concrete application, and between different faith traditions. Johnson identifies the “center point of all our efforts has been the intersection of two great roads on which Christian Business Faculty Association members journey: the path of business practice and perspectives and the path of biblical insight and instruction” (p. 114).

Johnson did not wish to see the CBFA publications become a one man show, and at the October 2001 meeting of the Board of Directors, he laid the groundwork for the creation of the *CBAR* when he introduced the idea of a new spring publication devoted to teaching as a way to expand the reach of the CBFA (CBFA 2001). In the following year, at the October 2002 CBFA Board meeting, Johnson noted that the 10th edition of the *JBIB* would be coming out in two years and that would be a good time to consider a new editor (CBFA 2002).

At the October 2003 CBFA Board meeting, Don Daake moved and Joe Walenciak seconded a motion to establish a second reviewed journal (CBFA 2003). It was noted that a second journal would generate a “bigger footprint” for CBFA and inspire more people to write. Present at the October 2004 CBFA Board meeting were Joe Walenciak, Chair; Steven Bovee; Rebecca Havens; David Houghton; Mary Ann Meiners; Tim Redmer; Yvonne Smith; and Ron Walker (CBFA 2004). At this meeting the proposal to create a new publication and expand the CBFA editorial staff was discussed. The two journals (*JBIB* and *CBAR*) were to have separate editors, and it was agreed that the *JBIB* would address the more philosophical side of the integration of scripture

and the business disciplines, and the *CBAR* would address the more practical issues facing the Christian business academy including pedagogy and professional issues.

CBAR-THE SAUNDERS ERA: 2006-2015

At the March 2005 CBFA Board meeting Sharon Johnson recommended to the Board that Kent Sanders be appointed Editor of the *CBAR*, and with that motion the *CBAR* was born (CBFA 2005). The CBFA membership enthusiastically responded to the creation of the *CBAR*. The inaugural issue in 2006 published thirteen articles from 25 submissions and featured CBFA stalwarts Dick Chewning and Lisa Surdyk.

The *CBAR* has served as a blind peer-reviewed spring publication of the CBFA for the past 10 years (Saunders, 2015). The *CBAR* has been 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). Table 2 below provides a summary of all 97 articles written by over 100 different authors and co-authors that were published in the *CBAR* between 2006 and 2015.

Table 2: Article Distribution of the *CBAR* from Volume 1, 2006 to Volume 10, 2015

	V1	V2	V3	V4	V5	V6	V7	V8	V9	V10	Total
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
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

After a decade of service as editor of the *CBAR*, Saunders is turning over the editorial responsibilities to Kevin Brown of Asbury University. Brown has a unique educational background that includes an MBA, a 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. Brown is the editor of the volume 11, 2016 issue of the *CBAR*.

***JBIB*-TRANSITIONAL PERIOD: 2006-2009/11**

Volume 11(1), 2005 of the *JBIB* seems like a natural closure to the Johnson era. Tom Buckles served as the issue editor for volume 11(2), 2005 which was a special issue devoted to cases. However, after the special case issue, the publication of the *JBIB* ran into some challenges. It turned out to be difficult to replace the founding editor. At the March 2005 CBFA Board meeting, Sharon Johnson noted that no candidates had applied for the editorship of the *JBIB* (CBFA

2005). Articles continued to be written and reviewed during this period, but, it was proving to be difficult to bring them to publication. Rick Martinez edited volume 11(3), 2006, and Sharon Johnson served as a special editor for volume 13, 2011 which was made up of articles that had been delayed in publication and a few reprints. Table 3 below provides a summary of the articles published during the transitional period.

***JBIB*-THE SMITH ERA: 2010-2015**

At the March 2009 CBFA Board meeting, Yvonne Smith was selected as the new editor of the *JBIB* (CBFA 2009). Beginning with volume 12, 2010 the *JBIB* began its new distinctive focus. Smith (2006) reframed the vision of the *JBIB* with a new purpose statement and logo (p. 129):

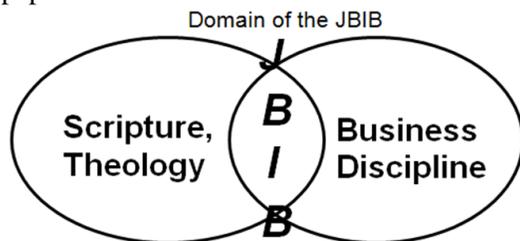
The mission of *The Journal of Biblical Integration in Business (JBIB)* is to publish theoretical and empirical papers that integrate biblical principles and truths into the business disciplines. The journal is a broad, double-blind peer review forum that

Table 3: Article Distribution of the *JBIB* during the Transitional Period

	V11(2)	V11(3)	V13	Total
	2005	2006	2011	
Editor's Perspective	Buckles, Johnson	Martinez	Johnson	4
Articles	0	7	13	20
Living Integration	0	0	1	1
Cases	11	0	0	11
Book Reviews	0	4	0	4
	13	12	15	40

aims to publish manuscripts that add to the body of knowledge. Such manuscripts will be:

- Scholarly in design, tone, and depth, reflecting accurately the literature in the business discipline concerned.
- Directly related to biblical presuppositions, passages and perspectives throughout the paper.



Smith used a combination of regular annual publication of the *JBIB* and special issues to more than compensate for the lack of published issues during the transitional period. Over the six year period from 2010 to 2015, Smith oversaw the publication of six regular issues and three special issues of the *JBIB*. Margaret Edgell served as the editor for volume 15(1), 2012 on the theme of organizational hybridization. Julia Underwood served as the editor for volume 16(1), 2013 on the theme of gender. Kent Seibert served as the editor for volume 18(1), 2015 on the theme of the Sabbath. In addition to special issues, a hallmark of the Smith era was the publication of book and media reviews and the creation of the new theme area “Living Integration.” The purpose of the “Living Integration” section is to provide real life examples of people who have applied Scripture in

their business discipline. Table 4 provides a summary of the articles published during the Smith era.

With this issue, Smith concludes her service as *JBIB* editor, completing the six most productive years of journal publication in CBFA history. Beginning in the fall of 2016, with volume 19, Michael Cafferky of Southern Adventist University will take over the reins of the *JBIB*. Cafferky is the 2013 CBFA Johnson Award winner, former CBFA Board member, and author of multiple peer-reviewed manuscripts and textbooks. The future of the *JBIB* looks to be in good hands.

CONCLUSION

The *JBIB* was created in 1995 in order to “create channels of communication for sharing and shaping ideas about biblical integration in business” (Johnson, 1995, p. 4). The original CBFA goal of biannual publication of both philosophical and practical integration of scripture with the business disciplines has been realized. Over the years a sizeable amount of scholarship has been published in the *JBIB* and the *CBAR*. Past issues of the *JBIB* are archived and searchable at <http://cbfa-jbib.org/>. Past issues of the *CBAR* are archived and searchable at <http://cbfa-cbar.org/>. The ideas and explorations of pioneers such as Chewing, Surdyk, Johnson, Redmer and Smith are now a matter of historical record that can benefit Christian scholars both now and into the future.

Table 4: Article Distribution of the *JBIB* during the Smith Era

	V12 2010	V14 2011	V15(1) 2012	V15(2) 2012	V16(1) 2013	V16(2) 2013	V17 2014	V18(1) 2015	V18(2) 2015	Total
Editor's Perspective	Smith-2	Smith	Edgell	Smith	Underwood	Smith	Smith	Seibert	Smith	10
Articles	3	5	9	5	3	3	7	4	3	42
Dialogues	2	0	0	6	3	0	0	0	3	14
Living Integration	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	7
Book & Media Reviews	6	6	4	3	2	3	2	6	2	34
Special Sections/Cases	2	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	6	11
	18	13	14	15	10	10	10	13	15	118

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