



## The Role of Academics in Faith, Life and Learning

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Since we have been describing our emphasis at LAPU on Faith, Life, and Learning, let me explain how I view this emphasis in connection to my role as a faculty member and to academics in general.

The primary purpose of LAPU is to create for students a new hope for the future. For me personally, the basis for my hope emerges from my Christian Faith. This hope is based on the belief we are created by a loving God who desires a relationship with us--a God who created us with unique strengths and has a purpose for our lives. It is my Christian faith that provides the motivation and capacity to demonstrate the core values of our university; relating to students in a manner that is exemplary, caring, and having a nurturing approach to learning. Jesus' summary of all God's Commandments is to love God and to love others as oneself (Matthew 22:35-40).

My Christian faith influences my view that teaching is not merely providing academic and professional knowledge, but practical wisdom for life. Jesus said, "I have come that they may have

life and have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). As people whose lives have been transformed by our Christian faith, LAPU faculty desire that your educational journey not only prepares you for a rewarding career but a life that flourishes in all areas! One of our roles is presenting God's story as described in the Bible and helping you connect your story to God's story.

We approach learning from a Christian worldview. We welcome diverse worldviews and it is our hope learning from a Christian worldview enriches yours. Learning from such a perspective has the potential to impact your professional conduct, relationships with others, and responding to the needs of individuals and communities.

It is the desire of LAPU faculty to walk with you through your academic journey through the areas of Faith, Life, and Learning – creating in you hope for the future!

*Hope*