

## **Missional Learnign Commons (Jan. 8-9, 2010):** **Discussion on Missional Approaches to Theological Education**

*25 people, the majority male, were in attendance. Almost everyone in attendance held or was in the process of achieving an advanced theological degree.*

### **1) What are the skills necessary for missional leadership that are different than those needed for Christendom pastoral roles?**

- pastors need other jobs because churches may not be able to support them
- skills transference, an emphasis on teaching someone else to teach someone else (in-house leadership development)
- intuitional vs. institutional skills
- increased ability to convey facilitate the integration of theology into life (in the current paradigm of theological education, theological study is often separated from ministry training)
- answering the questions of today rather than those of an America that no longer exists (ie. increasing globalization, multiculturalism, and theological pluralism)
- learning to lead, teach, and counsel from the margins rather than from positions of power
- leaning to listen & ask questions well rather than being a holder of truth
- beyond civic training (marriage, funeral, hospital visits, etc.)
- reversing the expert mentality
- character formation

### **2) Currently, what are the most important resources that seminaries have to offer for the equipping of missional leaders/communities?**

- some sort of recognition or credentialing
- access to written materials & resources (libraries)
- participation in a focused & guided community of learning
- the provision of the time, space, and community which frees people up for concentrated study and reflection
- access to certain experts in a given field
- a way to get outside of your own church/context
- exposure to the diversity of the church

### **3) What resources for the formation of missional leaders/communities are offered through other avenues?**

- escalating training to be a house church leader through mentoring and skill transference
- in-house creation of media resources

**This survey conducted by JR Rozko as part of ongoing research. Please contact the author for permission to reproduce and use – jrrozko@gmail.com**

- virtual resources
- pulling in of outside media resources (TEE)
- denominational correspondence material

**4) To whatever extent I feel prepared to live or lead missionally, the thing which has equipped me most in that regard is...**

- parents
- formative experiences
- ministry of a pastor
- cross-cultural experience
- broadening of perspectives
- interaction w/ people of diversity
- freedom to fail

These questions grew out of a personal writing project in the form of blog posts ([lifeasmission.com](http://lifeasmission.com)) that was an attempt to begin articulating the implications of a missional ecclesiology for theological education.

You can access this project through the original blogposts:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| - <a href="#"><u>1) Preliminary Thoughts</u></a>     | - <a href="#"><u>6) Character Formation</u></a> |
| - <a href="#"><u>2) The Root of the Problem</u></a>  | - <a href="#"><u>7) Conviction Shaping</u></a>  |
| - <a href="#"><u>3) The Fruit of the Problem</u></a> | - <a href="#"><u>8) Contextual Training</u></a> |
| <a href="#"><u>4) New Soil</u></a>                   | <a href="#"><u>9) Cultural Pioneering</u></a>   |
| <a href="#"><u>5) Community Rootedness</u></a>       |   |

Or by way of a pdf inclusive of all the posts:

[Toward a Missional Vision of Theological Education](#)