

## Year-Round Mentoring for Academics 2021-2022

With Dr. Charles White and Dr. Daryl McCarthy

### Leaders

**Dr. Charles White** is Professor of Christian Thought & History at Spring Arbor University in Michigan, USA. He is the director of the European Leadership Forum's Year-Round Mentoring for Academics. He graduated from Harvard with his bachelor's degree and his M.Div. at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He began a PhD in church history at Cambridge and finished it at Boston University. He has published a popular commentary, academic articles, and been involved in Bible translation in seven different languages. He is the father of four grown children.



**Daryl McCarthy** serves as Vice President of Academic Programs and Strategy at Forum of Christian Leaders (FOCL). He is Director of the ELF Academic Network and the Cambridge Scholars Network. He mentors Christian professors and ministry leaders in Europe, and has been speaking globally for more than 30 years. He served as President of Global Scholars from 1988 until 2014. Daryl earned a D.Min. from Fuller Theological Seminary, M.Div. from Nazarene Theological Seminary, M.A. in Philosophy of Religion from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and B.Th. from Kansas Christian College. Daryl and his wife Dr. Teri McCarthy lived and taught in Lithuania from 2010 until 2015, where they both taught at Lithuania University of Educational Sciences in Vilnius. Their son and daughter are both married and have blessed them with five grandchildren.



### Overview

**GOAL:** To mentor Christian academics with foundational knowledge, encouragement, relationships, and training to enable them to effectively serve Christ in higher education.

**PLAN:** A Pre-Forum seminar on-line on Thursday, May 13, 2021 from 13:00 GMT to 16:00 GMT (with a break in the middle); four two-hour webinars with webinar assignments; a three-day retreat in Athens, January 12-15, 2022; and a Pre-Forum Conference at the 2022 Forum in Wisla on May 20-21, 2022.

**PARTICIPANTS:** Ten to twelve Christian academicians who are willing to commit to be part of a learning community for one year.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** All participants will be actively involved in higher education, either in teaching, research, or administration, and be a spiritually mature Christian. Participants should have completed at least one post-graduate degree and preferably finished or are working on their doctorate.

**COMMITMENTS:** In order to be accepted as a participant, you must submit an application and must commit to:

1. Thoroughly review the pre-assigned materials before each webinar. These assignments will consist of reading selections of books or academic articles, including the list of books and articles indicated for each webinar.
2. Attend all sessions, including an online Pre-Forum seminar at the 2021 Forum, a three-day retreat in Athens in January 2022, four webinars, and a Pre-Forum Conference at the 2022 Forum in Wisla, Poland.
3. The assigned readings will be made available to you online.
4. Pay the necessary fees.
  - *January 2022 Athens Retreat:* 150 Euros / 100 Euros for scholarship recipients.
  - *2022 Pre-Forum Conference:* 70 Euros for a Double Room and 90 Euros for a Single Room / 40 Euros for scholarship recipients.
5. In order to be accepted to next years' European Leadership Forum all Year-Round Mentoring participants will need to nominate two other leaders for the following year Year-Round Mentoring which includes personally contacting and recruiting them by email.

#### **SESSIONS:**

**Launching Session on-line.** Because of the coronavirus, the 2021 ELF will be online. Consequently, our first session to launch the Academic Year-Round Mentoring program will be online Thursday, May 13, 13:00 GMT to 16:00 GMT with a break midway.

#### **Four Webinar Sessions:**

1. September 10, 2021, 16.00-18:00 GMT
2. October 29, 2021, 16.00-18:00 GMT
3. February 11, 2022, 16.00-18:00 GMT
4. April 1, 2022, 16.00-18:00 GMT

#### **Two Face-to-Face Meetings (if travel is permitted):**

1. **Retreat in Athens:** All Academic participants will meet in Athens (covid travel restrictions permitting) for a three-day retreat, from 13:00 (Athens time) on January 12 until 10:00 (Athens time) on January 15, 2022. *Please make sure you reserve this time in your schedule and allow for travel time.*
2. **2022 Pre-Forum Conference Session:** All Academic YRM participants will meet in Wisla, Poland, on May 20-21, 2022, starting with dinner on the 20<sup>th</sup>.

## Webinars

### Webinar One: Why is scholarship and education important for the Church?

September 10, 2021, 16.00-18:00 GMT

- I. The first 15 minutes of the meeting will be devoted to answering questions you may have about the assignments.
- II. Reading, Listening, and Reflection Assignments
  - A. Listen to:
    1. Dirk Jongkind, “Christians in Higher Education: Living Worthy of the Calling.” ELF 2016, <http://foclonline.org/talk/christians-higher-education-living-worthy-calling>
  - B. Read the following:
    1. Stott, John. *Your Mind Matters*. Downers Grove: IVP Press, 2006. Chapters 2-3
    2. Daryl McCarthy, “The Problems Christians Have with Higher Education.”
    3. Daryl McCarthy, “Why We Need Christians in Higher Education.”
    4. Malik, Charles Habib. *The Two Tasks*. Westchester, Illinois: Cornerstone Books, 1980. Chapters 2-3
    5. Willard, Dallas. “Jesus the Logician,” *Christian Scholars Review*, 1999, XXVIII:4, 605-614.
    6. Lewis, C. S. “Learning in War-Time,” in *The Weight of Glory and Other Addresses*, pp. 41–52. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1975.
  - C. Please reflect on the following questions. Please be prepared to explain your answers.
    1. Why is scholarship an important part of God’s work in the world?
    2. What are some of the key issues facing your community, your city, or your nation which need to be addressed from a Christian perspective and how might you address them?
    3. How can you help your church create an environment where new believers, young people, and others as well feel free to ask questions and develop a deeper understanding of Christian truth while maintaining faithful adherence to biblical teaching and doctrine?

### Webinar Two: How do I develop a Christian worldview and let it shape my life, my research, and my teaching?

October 29, 2021, 16.00-18:00 GMT

- I. The first 15 minutes of the meeting will be devoted to answering questions you may have about the assignments.
- II. Reading, Listening, and Reflection Assignments
  - A. Listen to the following:

1. Daryl McCarthy, “Curing Worldview Myopia: How Christian Academics Can Develop a Clear Christ-Centered Worldview.” ELF 2018. You can watch this on <https://foclonline.org/talk/curing-worldview-myopia-how-christian-academics-can-develop-christ-centered-worldview>
2. Dirk Jongkind, “How to Think Biblically About Computer Science – and Every Other Academic Discipline as Well.” ELF 2018. You can watch this on <https://foclonline.org/talk/how-think-biblically-about-any-academic-discipline>

B. Read the following:

1. Wolters, Albert M. *Creation Regained: Biblical Basics for a Reformational Worldview*. Second edition. Grand Rapids, Mich.: W.B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2005. Chapters 2, 3, and 4.
2. Blamires, Harry. “Its Supernatural Orientation,” pp. 67–85, *The Christian Mind: How Should a Christian Think?* First American Edition. Ann Arbor: Servant, 1978.
3. Noll, Mark A. *Jesus Christ and the Life of the Mind*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011. Chapter 2, “Jesus Christ: Motives for Serious Learning,” pp. 23-42.
4. Williams, Peter J., “How to Approach Any Intellectual Discipline from a Christian Worldview.”
5. Naugle, David, “Renewing Integrity: A Christian Worldview and Educational Practice.”

C. Reflect on the following questions. Please be prepared to explain your answers.

1. How did these readings change your thinking about a Christian worldview and what insights did you find most helpful?
2. What are some of the implications of the fact that Christ is redeeming, restoring, and renewing His original creation?
3. Explain why the sacred/secular dichotomy which is common among evangelicals is unbiblical.

D. If you want to read more on this area, we recommend the following:

1. Plantinga, Cornelius. *Engaging God’s World—A Christian Vision of Faith, Learning, and Living*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002. 150 pp.
2. Naugle, David, “A Vision of the Heart--A Biblical Worldview and Christian Higher Education.”

**Webinar Three: What does it mean to faithfully serve Christ and others in the academy and beyond?**

February 11, 2022, 16.00-18:00 GMT

- I. The first 15 minutes of the meeting will be devoted to answering questions you may have about the assignments.
- II. Reading, Listening, and Writing Assignments

- A. Listen to the following:
1. Daniel Hill, “Serving Christ in Academia.” ELF 2016  
<http://foclonline.org/talk/serving-christ-academia>.
- B. Read the following:
1. Plantinga, Alvin. “Advice to Christian Philosophers.” *Faith and Philosophy: Journal of the Society of Christian Philosophers*, Vol. 1. 18 pp.
  2. Plantinga, Alvin. “Reformed Thinking: Christian Scholarship” and “The Twin Pillars of Christian Scholarship,” in *Seeking Understanding: The Stob Lectures, 1986-1998*, pp. 121-161. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001.
  3. Pritchard, Greg, “How PhD Students Are Sociologically Seduced by Their Education.” 27 pp.
- C. Please reflect on the following questions. Please be prepared to explain your answers.
1. In what ways do you need to display more integrity, courage, faith, and independence from secular thinking in your academic work?
  2. How can we live up to Plantinga’s challenge that our primary responsibility is to the Church?
  3. Based on Plantinga’s advice, how might you, in your particular field of study, respond to naturalism, humanism, and relativism?
  4. How do you think the socialization you have experienced in your education may have affected or changed you? How has it affected others you know?
- D. If you want to read more on this area, we recommend the following:
1. Moreland, J. P. *Kingdom Triangle: Recover the Christian Mind, Renovate the Soul, Restore the Spirit's Power*. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Zondervan, 2007
  2. Lennox, John. *Against the Flow: The Inspiration of Daniel in an Age of Relativism*. Oxford: Monarch, 2015.

**Webinar Four: How can I articulate a clear biblically-grounded philosophy of education which will guide my academic work?**

April 1, 2022, 16.00-18:00 GMT

- I. The first 15 minutes of the meeting will be devoted to answering questions you may have about the assignments.
  - II. Reading, Listening, and Writing Assignments
- A. Listen to the following:

1. Amy Orr-Ewing, “How to Be a Scholar and an Evangelist at the Same Time.” ELF 2018

2. “Evangelicals in Academia,” Greg Pritchard Interview with Dirk Jongkind.  
<http://foclonline.org/interview/evangelicals-academia>.

B. Read the following:

1. Noll, Mark A. *Jesus Christ and the Life of the Mind*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2011. Chapter 3, “Jesus Christ: Guidance for Serious Learning,” pp. 43-64.
2. Marsden, George. *The Outrageous Idea of Christian Scholarship*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1998. Chapter 3: “Christian Scholarship and the Rules of the Academic Game,” pp.44-58.
3. Romanowski, Michael H., and Teri McCarthy. *Teaching in a Distant Classroom: Crossing Borders for Global Transformation*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2009. Chapter 3, “Philosophy of Education 101,” pp. 56-77
4. Romanowski, Michael H., and Teri McCarthy. *Teaching in a Distant Classroom: Crossing Borders for Global Transformation*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2009. Chapter 7, “Qualities of Excellent Teachers: Competencies for Effective Teaching,” pp. 127-144.
5. Elzinga, Ken, “The Academy and Jesus,” in Hove, Rick and Heather Holleman, ed. *A Grand Story: An Invitation to Christian Professors*. 2017, pp. 73-85.

C. Please reflect on the following question. Please be prepared to explain your answer.

1. In what ways does Jesus provide “guidance for serious learning,” as Noll phrases it?
2. Write out your philosophy of education, using the template in *Teaching in a Distant Classroom*, p 75-76. (You may use 500-1,000 words.)

D. If you want to read more on this area, we recommend the following:

1. Burge, Gary M. *Mapping Your Academic Career: Charting the Course of a Professor's Life*. Kindle ed. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2015. 144 pp.
2. Lawson, Michael S. *The Professor's Puzzle: Teaching in Christian Academics*. Nashville: B&H Publishing, 2015. 296 pp.
3. Guinness, Os. *Impossible People: Christian Courage and the Struggle for the Soul of Civilization*. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Books, 2016.
4. Guinness, Os. *Renaissance: The Power of the Gospel However Dark the Times*. Kindle ed. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2014.
5. Köstenberger, Andreas J. *Excellence: The Character of God and the Pursuit of Scholarly Virtue*. Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway, 2011.

6. Newman, Randy. *Questioning Evangelism: Engaging People's Hearts the Way Jesus Did*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Kregel Publications, 2004.
7. Hove, Rick and Heather Holleman. *A Grand Story: An Invitation to Christian Professors*. 2017.

## Pre-Forum Conference

### Pre-Forum Conference Session May 20-21, 2022

Please bring a written response to the following questions:

1. How do your beliefs affect your teaching in the following areas:
  - a. Classroom management
  - b. Instructional strategies
  - c. Teacher/student relationships
  - d. Assessment/grading
2. In what ways has this year-round mentoring program changed the way you approach your academic work?
3. What are areas in which you feel better equipped as a Christian academician?
4. What are areas and questions you wish we would have covered?

## Application Process

1. Fill out an online application [here](#). Please be sure to fill out every field.
2. You will also need to ask a pastor or spiritual mentor to complete a [reference](#) on your behalf.
3. Once we receive your application form and reference, your application will be considered complete.
4. After a review of your completed application, you will be interviewed by Skype.
5. We will let you know if you are accepted into the program within five weeks after the completion of your application.

*If you have questions, contact us at [initiatives@euroleadership.org](mailto:initiatives@euroleadership.org).*