

## Northwest University President's Report 2012

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Sociologists refer to the Pacific Northwest as “the None Zone” because so many in our region check the “None” box when filling out surveys on their religious affiliation. It is true that Christianity has never been as strong here as in other parts of the country, but it is also true that God is at work here.

God is definitely working at Northwest University! We can see it in the increasing student population, as this year we reached an all-time high of 1,558 in total student headcount. Almost all categories of enrollment were up, up, up—including an increase of almost 100 in traditional undergraduates at the Kirkland Campus. Our Salem Campus also showed growth, with 51 students enrolled last fall.

God's favor continues to be on us, as U.S. News and World Report ranked us #9 in the West among Baccalaureate Universities. Our academic quality is illustrated by things like our 100% first-time pass rate on the national nursing licensure exam and by the acceptance of our students into top graduate programs around the nation. All of our sports teams made the conference playoffs this year, and our Men's Basketball team (25-3) was the Cascade Collegiate Conference Co-Champion, along with the Oregon Institute of Technology. We thank God for the rigorous efforts of our people to achieve excellence in all they do.

Not only are our numbers and reputation increasing, we are seeing a deep level of commitment to Christ in our students. As I write, senior nursing students are doing their foreign clinical rotations in Bethel, Alaska; the Mercy Ships on the coast of Africa; Kazakhstan, India, and Taiwan, sending back powerful testimonies of God's work among them. On the Kirkland campus, some 300 students are engaged in the “Live Dead Challenge,” fasting and praying for the advance of God's Mission in the world. At chapel last Monday, virtually every student in both services came toward the altar to seek greater anointing from God's Spirit as a missionary from El Salvador stirred their hearts with faith to receive. Pursuit services on Monday night continue to draw hundreds of students each week, including students from secular universities in our area. Four student teams are preparing for summer missions trips around the world.

We may live in “the None Zone,” but we also know that several revivals in American Church history have been launched from here. We continue to train for the day—not long from now—when a new generation of Christian leaders will rejoice in a fresh flame of Awakening in the Pacific Northwest.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph L. Castleberry, Ed. D.  
President