

Dear Alumni,

If I am so bold as to say, spring is finally here! It seems as though winter wanted to hold out as long as it could for graduation but with the 2017/2018 school year the school is again a quieter place. With that being said, there are still those who represent NBC that I would remind you to pray for as outreach teams are reaching the Prairies and later in the summer the Bible camp team will be serving in their ministry too. On top of all the teams, there is also a short term mission trip that several students are taking over seas. With different teams going out, along with different retreats that will happen on campus, I would encourage you to keep those off campus as well as those left on campus in your prayers. Along the same lines, students will be eager to hit the work field if they haven't found summer jobs already.

At this point I usually ramble on about all the events that are happening, and fill this letter with dates, times and facts. However, I am going to veer away from that this spring letter and talk about a much more critical topic. NBC is a small college in retro-specs and with that comes a community that can become more intimate and comfortable than those with larger campus'. NBC has been blessed to have a consistent faculty return rate for the last decade, to which it is about to change as both Lindsay Anderson and Adam Yadlowsky will not be returning next year on faculty. On top of that the NBC Board is now in the process of doing a 3rd presidential search within the last 4 years. I'm sure for at least some a question about NBC arises, "How healthy is NBC right now?" I think that is a fair and responsible question to which I would like to try and give some answers to.

The college first started in 1934, and over the last 84 years the doctrine of NBC has remained almost unchanged. NBC is denominationally unaffiliated, yet still holds on to a set of core values and doctrinal statement which has been there for decades before my time ever started at NBC. I would encourage anyone who is wanting to see where NBC stands to visit the college website at www.nipawin.org to which they can find vital information about the college. Now with the change in staff, it reminds me of 1 Corinthians 12:14, "For the body is not one member, but many." Just as the Church is many, so NBC is more than each individual staff member. Through out the last 84 years the college has had many volunteers, teachers, presidents and board members each serving faithfully, and in the future we will see many more fill each of those positions. I have been encouraged by many things over the last 4 years serving as the alumni president. The heart to serve and the unity that I witness from the NBC board every time I attend a board meeting as the alumni representative is something I never imaged as a student. As scary as change can be, it has been encouraging to hear of countless people reaching out to the college when hearing that Lance would not be returning, wondering how they could help NBC during this time of transition. The search to fill the different faculty and President roles are tedious but already underway as the college continues in it's ministry.

On top of all this, I am optimistic that this will be the first time in many years that one or more people are eager to have their name stand for Alumni President this coming fall as my second term will end. Over the last 84 years the Lord has blessed this college and it is he who we look to for holding this college up. NBC has a great community that it resides in, with Alumni who are eager to see the college thrive and is financially strong. The board and faculty continue

on with the mission statement of the college of *developing passionate followers of Jesus Christ with a heart to serve*. Though change will come and the culture of life on campus might be different as students and faculty come and go, NBC is rooted deep in its mission, and I believe the college is only going to get stronger.