

The George Fox University
Congregational Discernment
Project announces its *Discernment Leadership Initiative Program*.

Within this program, 15 grants will be awarded in 2009 to Christian leaders (five each for teachers, pastors, and denominational leaders) who have a strong theoretical and practical grasp of how to facilitate corporate discernment and who can guide other pastoral leaders in implementing consensus-based approaches to congregational discernment in spiritual unity.

The program's goal is to help Christian leaders gain a vision of how important decisions in the church can be approached spiritually and non-divisively by means of helping others attend, discern, and mind the leadership of Christ through the Holy Spirit in the church. Awardees will receive trips (all-expenses paid) to two conferences in Oregon, a grant of \$1,000 for arranging local pastoral discussions, and up to an additional \$700 for leadership initiatives taken.

Paul Anderson, Director
The George Fox University
Congregational Discernment Project

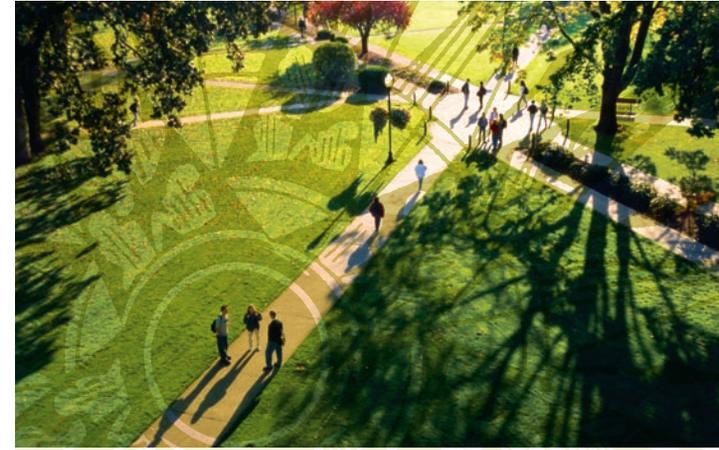
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The Congregational Discernment Project
414 N. Meridian St., Newberg, OR 97132



Announcing
**The Discernment
Leadership Initiative
Program**



Sponsored by
*The Congregational
Discernment Project*



**GEORGE FOX
UNIVERSITY**

THE DISCERNMENT LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE PROGRAM

Award Benefits

- All-expenses paid to attend the *Spiritual Discernment As Christian Leadership Conference* at George Fox University, in Newberg, Ore., May 31 through June 3, 2009, including participation in a panel discussion on how one seeks to further corporate discernment within Christian community as a teacher, pastor, or denominational leader.
- Each awardee will receive a *Local Pastoral Leadership Discernment Exploration Grant* of \$1,000 for the gathering of local pastoral leaders, supporting a series of meal or coffee meetings in order to facilitate the exploration of congregational discernment within local churches and other settings.
- All expenses will be paid for attending a *final consultation* on the Oregon Coast (Oct. 18-20, 2009), for sharing how pastors' understandings of facilitating congregational discernment are emerging locally.
- In addition, up to a total of \$700 will be awarded to each participant for leadership initiatives, including setting up a series of local pastoral conversations, attending the conference, sending in a final report, and submitting something for publication to a journal or newsletter of one's choice.
- Applicants receiving honorable-mention awards will receive a \$50 discount off the conference fee, as well as an invitation to contribute a poster presentation of their work at one of the evening receptions.
- For more information and an online application form, see: georgefox.edu/discernment.

Application

Five awards will be given in each of three categories: pastoral leaders, educational leaders, and denominational leaders. In each case, awardees should be conversant with corporate discernment as a means of facilitating consensus decision making in the church, drawing upon biblical, traditional, and practical resources where applicable. Successful applicants will be expected to submit an application including the following elements:

- A brief description of how he or she understands, practices, and teaches corporate discernment as a means of furthering consensus in church decision making (300 words or less)
- A brief narrative of how one has become interested in the topic (300 words or less)
- A brief listing of resources that are most useful on the topic (up to 10)
- A description of how he or she would gather pastors locally for facilitating six months of discussion around the topic of congregational discernment (with a bud-

get of \$1,000, including which books or resources might be supplied for each participant). Also, one should include names and titles of up to 16 local pastors and Christian leaders who might be prospective participants in such a group.

- A recommendation of a church leader and an educational leader in support of one's application
- Applications due March 1, 2009; recipients announced March 15

Send inquiries and non-online applications on paper or via e-mail to:

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