



I attended the U. of Guelph Do So Much Conference last year where you gave a talk about spirituality without religion. I just wanted to let you know that it has had a profound positive impact on my life. Ever since you gave that talk, I've had a different outlook on life. I just want to say thank you for helping guide me to a much better mindset!

U of Guelph student

I really appreciated the ideas we shared yesterday. Thank you for hosting the group (Exploring Progressive Christianity)!

U. of Waterloo student

Thanks for the opportunity (to be on the Faith and Science panel). It was well organized and very thoughtful. Your arrival on campus has certainly stimulated discussions on spirituality. I am sure it will grow on many of us.

U. of Guelph professor

I think your chaplaincy on campus is extremely valuable and relevant to today. I believe people want to be spiritual in the way you describe: good and compassionate, but not necessarily religious.

Your final comments in your invocation were the best note to end on. You advised students to be good, at what they do and in their lives. This is the bottom line when it comes to living life as a human in a world composed of living and non-living ecosystems. Thanks very much for that summary.

Mother of a graduate at U. of G. Convocation

SPECTRUM

SPECTRUM Artistic and Educational Media Association is a non-profit, registered charity promoting media arts in education. *Our mission is to provide schools and registered charities with artistic and educational media that foster life-enhancing values.*

Spectrum's history can be divided into 3 chapters. **Chapter 1**, during the 1980s, focused on **Exploring Values and Beliefs**. Under IVCF, Spectrum produced and presented two 3-screen, 9-projector multimedia presentations. One of these, *In Search of a Sun: An Inquiry into Values*, was presented 500 times to nearly 100,000 people in all 10 provinces. Whenever possible it was shown with its sequel, first *Between Reflections*, then *Say It Isn't True: An Inquiry into Faith*.

Chapter 2, in the 1990s, saw Spectrum become an independent artistic and educational media resource with an expanded mandate, **Probing Values, Beliefs and Social Concerns**. We further described our work as 'Fostering a civil, just and caring society.' Our media format shifted to 3-projector, wide-screen presentations followed by audience interaction and response. From 1990 to 2001, Spectrum produced and gave 900 presentations of *Take It Back* (Caring for Planet Earth), *Dear God* (Barriers and Bridges to Faith), and *No More Turning Away* (From Hunger, Poverty and Injustice) to 220,000 students and adults in 8 provinces.

Chapter 3 began in 2002 with the goal of 'Fostering Social Responsibility and Spiritual Awareness.' In 2009, concerned that some people might interpret 'spiritual' as 'religious' or think we were promoting

New Age spirituality, we revised our goal to **Fostering Values That Enhance Life**. Our initial focus was on providing opportunities for conversation around media (books, music and movies) that explore a progressive or metaphorical understanding of life and spirituality. With **Inspiring Students To Care**, a program in partnership with Rotary Clubs of District 6330 and Zone 24, we updated and transferred *No More Turning Away* and *Take It Back* to DVD, placing 1100 DVDs in 42 school boards in 6 provinces across Canada. In 2014 we produced *Seismic Shift: Spirituality for the Rest of Us*, a multimedia resource for exploring spirituality with university students and adults.

Since 2014 Spectrum has sponsored me as a nonreligious chaplain at U. of Waterloo and U. of Guelph, expanding Spectrum's presence on the university campus.

Spectrum's Board in 2015-16 consisted of Bev Garinger, Bill McKenzie and Daryl Wark. Bev is the manager of Wiarton Video The Source and is a member of The Rotary Club of Wiarton. Bill and Daryl are members of St. John's United Church in Wiarton, which is sponsoring Keith as a nonreligious chaplain. Bill has retired from his business, McKenzie Pharmacy, and is also a member of Rotary. Daryl is an Employment and Training Consultant with the provincial government and has two sons in university.

Spectrum's Advisory Council includes Paul Bruer, Isobel McGregor, and Malcolm Rust. Paul is a retired professor and progressive Christian living in Owen Sound. Isobel is a retired chaplain at U. of Waterloo and active with both Parkminster United Church in Waterloo and Grand River Unitarian Church in Kitchener. Malcolm is a retired minister in St. Thomas. Isobel, Larry Kelly, and Tui Torre are members of Keith's **Chaplaincy Support Team** in Waterloo.



Spectrum's Board of Directors 2015-16

SEISMIC SHIFT



In 2013 I published a book called *Seismic Shift: From God to Goodness*. Subtitled 'A journey of loss and discovery,' it describes my journey from belief in God as a higher Being to God as a higher Ideal, especially the ideal of Goodness.

In 2014 Spectrum produced a companion multimedia presentation entitled *Seismic Shift: Spirituality for the Rest of Us*. It explores a progressive alternative to traditional faith, New Age spirituality, and atheism.

This past year Seismic Shift was shown twice at the U. of Waterloo (to the Waterloo Atheists and Secular Humanists club and the Exploring Progressive Christianity group) and twice at the U. of Guelph (to a member of the Multi-Faith Resource Team as a preview, and to students at a campus showing in the Grad Lounge).

Here are a few responses to the presentations:

"Interesting journey. Questions worth asking. Powerful music choices."

"Probed and hinted at questions without being overbearing."

"Interesting, insightful, learned about Keith's personal journey and his struggles to reconcile the concept of 'God' with the harsh realities of this world."

"Very moving and effective. If this could be produced with a higher budget and shown to other faith and educational communities across the English world, that would be amazing. It speaks to some really deep questions of our time. Excellent musical pieces chosen. Authentic, relevant, highly recommended."

SPIRITUAL BUT NOT RELIGIOUS CHAPLAINCY

In September 2014 I became a nonreligious chaplain at U. of Waterloo and U. of Guelph. When it comes to religious identity, "no religious affiliation" or "none" is the fastest growing segment among students and adults. I am a chaplain for the "nones," especially students who are, or want to be, spiritual but not necessarily religious. My goal is to point students to universal, life-enhancing values like goodness and compassion rather than a particular set of beliefs.

I am a member of the U. of Waterloo Chaplaincy Association and the U. of Guelph Multi-Faith Resource Team, sponsored by Spectrum A&E Media and St. John's United Church in Wiarton.

In my second year I was on each campus at least one day a week, sometimes two. Besides office hours, I had a Spiritual But Not Religious display table twice a month in the Student Life Centre and the University Centre. I continued a weekly group for students

called "With or Without God: Where spirituality is about values, not beliefs." And in January I offered Exploring Progressive Christianity, as an example of progressive spirituality, on each campus. Larry Kelly coled the group at U. of Waterloo.

Seismic Shift the multimedia production was shown four times on the 2 campuses, with a panel discussion after the Grad Lounge showing involving the Director of Guelph Hiller (one of the Jewish groups on campus), a Christian staff worker with Guelph Campus Ministry (a Christian group), and a member of the Guelph Secular Humanist Society.

A 5 page Spiritual But Not Religious Chaplaincy Report, with 20 appendixes and 19 pages of photos, is available on request. If you would like to be part of my work on campus, your financial support (through Spectrum or St. John's United Church)



Seismic Shift panel (photo by Bella Harris)

would be a real encouragement, enabling me to continue encouraging students to live by life-enhancing values.

Spectrum ended the year with a deficit of \$2,962, bringing our overall debt while we look for new support to \$11,944. An 11 page financial statement and review engagement by BDO Canada, or a 2 page financial summary by Spectrum, is available on request.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Martin, Director

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