

3/5/87

A number of factors indicate that it might be wise for us to speak in some way to the Board of Control concerning the Chapel Organ Project.

- 1. the severe budget problems
- 2. the resolution to proceed came from the faculty
- 3. the Board seems to be having problems with the balance of Seminary projects

We seem to have 4 courses to suggest:

- 1. Proceed with plans as we have recommended them
  - aa. sign a contract with an organ builder so that the organ is in place for the anniversary celebration
  - bb. cover expenditures with Seminary funds
  - cc. repay Seminary funds with monies offered via an anniversary thankoffering

**PROS:**

- aa. the organ will be in place as the anniversary celebration begins and may be used for a series of services at which offerings for the organ will be gathered
- bb. the series of articles planned for WLQ may proceed as planned (the Arts in worship; Worship Training at the Sem; the Organ in Lutheranism)
- cc. We speak a message about the importance of worship in the lives of believers

**CONS:**

- aa. interference with a possible second Synodical offering (spring 1988)
  - bb. bad public relations with the synod constituency
    - graduates unplaced, yet building pipe organ
    - budget deficits, yet building pipe organ
  - cc. possible failure of offering
  - dd. tying up Seminary funds for a number of years, thus limiting other important projects
  - ee. the remodeling of the old gym becomes impossible if synod cannot find funds to carry its share of the project; the organ project makes our ability to cover synod's half impossible; therefore the project fails
- (but wait perhaps until 1988)*
- 2. Proceed with the offering, but wait until it is gathered before we sign a contract with the organ builder

**PROS:**

- aa. a distance is created between this year's special offering and our thankoffering
- bb. no "in the dark" commitment of Seminary funds
- cc. budget problems may be solved (or at least in better shape) by 1988

**CONS:**

- aa. Possible interference with 1988 special synod offering
- bb. organ would not be in place during the anniversary year for special services. It is not as likely that a series of services could revolve just around a new organ
- cc. cost increases approaching 20% (\$30,000)



dd. If we face several years of unassigned graduates and/or budget deficits, we face the same PR problem with both the offering and the organ

3. Proceed with the anniversary offering, but change its designation to Synod

**PROS:**

aa. eliminate PR consequences

**CONS:**

aa. indefinite loss of chapel organ or at least the loss until Seminary funds can replace the present instrument on their own (with organ fund).

bb. possible interference with a synodical offering

cc. replacing the anniversary thankoffering for a special synodical offering seems to be using the Seminary's popularity to help all areas of synod's work...is there a certain gimmickry in this?

4. Cancel the thankoffering and its projects

**PROS:**

This solves all the problems

**CONS:**

This eliminates all the possibilities

JPT  
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