

# **ACLE 2013: Abstract for Workshop**

## **EXCELLENCE: Worthy goal or dangerous desire?**

Is excellence a destination or a journey or an attitude?

In a world and a society where the expectation is for achievement, success and winning, what should be a Lutheran school's approach to pursuing excellence?

Is excellence about achieving and surpassing standards? Or is it about the process of teaching and learning to the best of one's ability? Or is there another perspective – one where excellence is not only a goal and a process but also a way of being?!!

Does pursuing excellence focus us predominately on success? Should we equally be focussed on preparing for and dealing with failure?

Do schools that focus on success fail their students by not helping to inoculate them against the challenges of dealing with failure?

Is there a Christian theology that gives clarity to these questions?

This workshop will challenge participants to reflect on their personal philosophy associated with excellence and success. Participants will then be guided to compare their philosophy with their school's attitudes and practices about excellence, success and failure. An interactive and practical approach will be used during this workshop.

This workshop links to theme of 'What shapes quality education in a Lutheran School?'

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