

## From the Editor

This issue takes as its starting point the theme of our 1986 Annual Meeting: "The Hope of Our Calling." Because our own vocation is not highly traditional and because its rewards are not always self-evident, we as campus ministers spend more time than most people trying to explain our vocation to others and to ourselves. From the outside we appear at times to be an adolescent profession intent on asserting our autonomy; from the inside we sometimes look like a profession in midlife crisis, reevaluating our general direction. The Atlanta meeting was permeated by a sense of pride and being comfortable with ourselves which revealed an almost surprising confidence in our calling. I was glad to see it.

Bill Clemmons of Southeastern Seminary presented the keynote address at the meeting which focuses on the "Mary and Martha" tension between activism and spirituality. His diagram of "Models of Campus Ministry" is well worth the price of this issue. In the present climate these models might be seen as dividing us into two schools of thought, but Clemmons' purpose is to integrate all the models by moving toward his Deep Center.

Peter Rhea Jones gave the banquet address in Atlanta. I hope the celebrative and almost affectionate tone of his remarks comes through in print. His three challenges—the youth group alumni, the seekers, and MBA mania—are worth our attention. Bobby Waddail's article is less celebration and more challenge. Is our vocation in Southern Baptist Campus ministry really a profession? Waddail leans hard toward No, but he is not without hope for us. Twenty years after Phillip Hammond's work he cites, we still have a long way to go. David Roland makes use of an important new study of careerism among college students to point out the campus minister's role and opportunities in dealing with the vocational struggles of college students (or the lack thereof). His summary of a new typology of students will be useful to all of us.

Steve Thompson presents — as promised in the fall issue — the results of the 1985 survey of pastors, church staff, and campus ministers regarding attitudes toward campus ministry and church ministry to students. This information was made available by special arrangement with National Student Ministries and Art Herron, with permission granted by the Research Services Department of the Sunday School Board.