

Dr. Lambuth's "*Mastery for Service*"

Ruth M. Grubel

As you may already know, we are celebrating the 100th anniversary of our school motto, *Mastery for Service* this year. It was in 1912 that Dr. C.J.L. Bates proposed this motto for the newly established College Department, which had two courses, commercial and literary. Although Dr. Bates was the one who introduced this motto, many others have demonstrated through their lives and actions, what the meaning of *Mastery for Service* is.

In my opinion, one person who truly embodied the spirit of *Mastery for Service* was our school's founder, Dr. Walter R. Lambuth. He was no longer at Kwansai Gakuin when Dr. Bates arrived from Canada, but throughout his life, Dr. Lambuth worked hard to be a better servant for others. Some examples found in his biography by W.W. Pinson demonstrate this attitude.

Since childhood, Walter Lambuth wanted to be a missionary, but he decided that in order to meet the needs of people in China and other places in the world, he should study medicine as well as theology. He graduated at the top of his class at Vanderbilt University, and continued to study medicine whenever he could, in order to use the most recent medical knowledge for his patients. He believed that all people, including the poorest, deserved his best care.

After working in China for nine years, Dr. Lambuth arrived in Japan, where he was not able to practice much medicine, but in order to work as a minister and educator, he needed to be able to communicate. Having grown up in China, his Chinese language ability must have been excellent, but he had to begin from zero to learn Japanese. According to one of his Japanese friends, Dr. Lambuth did not waste any time before studying the language. At every opportunity, such as during travel, or between meetings, he would study vocabulary, and asked many questions of his friends. He wanted to be able to speak in public in Japanese as soon as possible. Although he may not have "mastered" the language during

the four years he was in Japan, Dr. Lambuth tried his best to communicate his concern and the good news of the Bible to the people in their own language.

Eventually, Dr. Lambuth became a Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South with responsibilities for world missions. Among the principles that guided him was the firm belief that the “best, ablest, and most broadly cultured men specially trained for the work,” should be sent as missionaries. In other words, to serve the needs of people around the world, the Church should select and train people who were “masters” in their fields.

As members of the Kwansei Gakuin community, we are inspired to become the best we can, morally and intellectually. Let's take our founder's example to encourage us on our own journey.

(Chancellor)

「建学の精神」はあなたにも必要？

井 上 琢 智

1889年に神戸原田の森に生まれた関西学院は、創立者を南メソヂスト監督教会の宣教師 W.R.ランバスとし、神学部と普通学部（後に中学部と改称）とからなる小さな私塾のような学校であったことから分かるように、その「建学の精神」を「キリスト教主義 ‘Principles of Christianity’」におきました。この原語が示すように、「主義」とは「原理」のことであり、その原理も複数であることは、今なお注目しておく必要があります。そこにはキリスト教を基礎とするものの、「寛大さ ‘magnanimity’」（ベーツ第4代院長のことば）が重視されています。ただ、その「寛大さ」は「よい意味での家族主義的な暖かい雰囲気」や「相手の人格を認めて干渉しないという消極的」なものではなく、さらに進んで「相手を自分自身に対する根本的な問いとして真摯に受け止めるような能動的」なものではなくてはなりません。

さらにこの「建学の精神」は、「常にその時々のでのわかれの具体的な現実の中で問い直され、具体化される努力が払われるのでなければ、死語」となります。まさ