

Mastery for Service

Hints from Bates Sensei as We Live Through COVID-19

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Origins of “Mastery for Service”

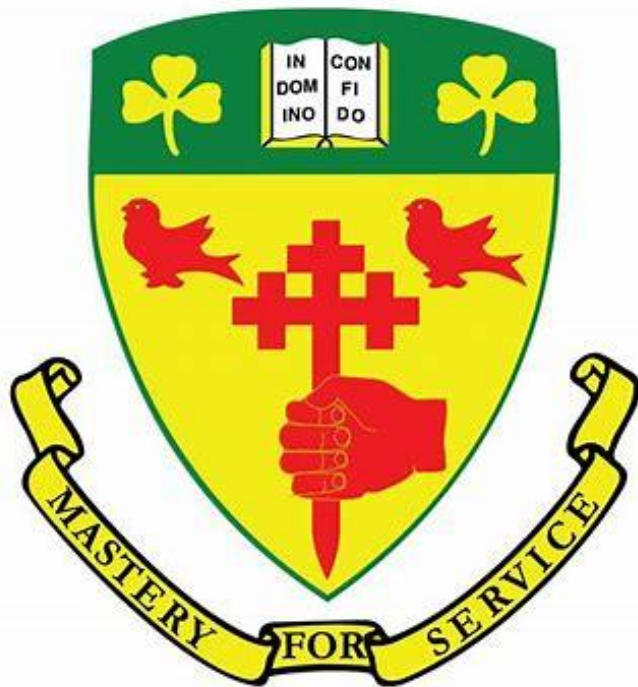
「Mastery for Service」の起源

- In 1908, a Methodist minister in Montreal named Thomas Jones preached a sermon titled, “Mastery for Service,” and Sir W. Macdonald, an education philanthropist, asked him if he could use those words for a new college motto.
- McGill University in Montreal was establishing a new agricultural school funded and planned by Macdonald, and “Mastery for Service” was chosen for its motto.
- Before beginning work at Kwansei Gakuin in 1910, C.J.L. Bates visited his *alma mater*, McGill University, and may have heard about the new Macdonald College.
- In 1912, when Bates became the first Dean of KG’s College Department (初代高等学部長), he proposed this motto to reflect the school’s ideals.

The motto at two colleges

ふたつの大学のスクールモットー

Macdonald Campus
McGill University



Kwansei Gakuin
University



Dr. Bates' s explained his understanding of “Mastery for Service”

ベーツ先生による「Mastery for Service」の理解について

- In a speech titled, “Our College Motto, ‘Mastery for Service,’ ” Dr. Bates gave details of his philosophy.
- The human ideals of self-culture and self-sacrifice must be pursued together.
- We should strive to become masters of knowledge, opportunity, and ourselves (our desires, ambitions, appetites, and possessions).
- The purpose of this mastery must be service to humanity, not self-enrichment.

“Mastery for Service” today

現代における「Mastery for Service」

- The motto, “Mastery for Service” is rarely used at Macdonald College anymore, and the campus has its own motto in Latin, which means, “By hard work, all things increase and grow.”
- However, the Mastery for Service Award is given, once every five years to a member of the Macdonald College community, who reflects these ideals.
- At Kwansai Gakuin, the motto given to the College Department in 1912 has been adopted and loved by all in its community, including the alumni.

After more than a century, is “Mastery for Service” still meaningful in our lives?

「Mastery for Service」は今でも我々の人生に意味を持つのか？

- Why has this motto continued to be used so widely by Kwansei Gakuin?
- Maybe it appeals, in every generation, to the highest level of our human needs, which Maslow called “self-actualization.”
- But, in times like today, how can we focus on becoming our “best selves,” when a pandemic is threatening our health, an economic crisis is making the future uncertain, and society seems to be in chaos?
- I believe that Bates Sensei has some hints to guide us.

Mastery for Service: Hints for us today from C.J.L. Bates 今日の私たちに ベーツ先生が与えてくれるヒント

- Bates Sensei also lived during turbulent times
- But, his life reflected the motto he had chosen for Kwansei Gakuin
- Can we benefit from his example today?
- Cornelius John Lighthall Bates (1877 – 1963)
- At Kwansei Gakuin from 1910 to 1940
- Let's look at a few aspects of his character



Lessons from Bates Sensei's life

ベーツ先生の人生から学ぶべきこと

- **Openness** to others with different cultures, positions, and perspectives 異なった文化、地位、そして視点を持つ他者を受け入れる心の広さを持つこと
 - – Churches from different denominations worked together in his Canadian hometown, and this was a big influence in his life.
 - Dr. Bates was involved in ecumenical (multi-religious) programs such as with the Koya-San Buddhist community.
 - He was delighted that the Kwansei Gakuin campus was so multinational.
 - After the campus moved to Uegahara, he is to have said, “We have no fences.”
 - He was a proud Canadian, but had great love and respect for Japan.

Lessons from Bates Sensei's life

ベーツ先生の人生から学ぶべきこと

- **Faithfulness to God, family, friends, and ideals** 神、家族、友達、そして自らの理念に忠義を尽くすこと
 - – When his wife, Hattie, was paralyzed in 1934, he cared for her the rest of her life.
 - – During his visit to Japan in 1959, he made a point of visiting many of his friends, including William Vories and Kagawa Toyohiko.
 - – He called his students “friends,” and listened to their requests, such as to establish a self-governing union, and university status for Kwansei Gakuin College
 - – In spite of all the changes at Kwansei Gakuin during his time there, he continued to believe in the school's mission to nurture people of excellent character who could make valuable contributions to society.



Lessons from Bates Sensei's life

ベーツ先生の人生から学ぶべきこと

- **Enjoyment** of nature and hobbies such as gardening and **painting**
庭仕事や絵を描くことなど、自然や趣味を楽しむこと
- – This is one of his water color paintings of Matsushima islands.
- – He enjoyed gardening, and was proud of his flowers at House Number 1 on Uegahara Campus



In conclusion... 結び

- Dr. Bates experienced many challenges during his life:
 - Personal tragedies, such his own grave illnesses, his wife's paralysis, his brother's untimely death, and so on.
 - Difficulties related to his work, such as financial problems, legal restrictions, differences in opinion, and lack of support as Japan became more involved in war.
 - National and international crises such as wars, disasters, severe economic depression, and social movements.

In conclusion... 結び

- Dr. Bates responded to the challenges of his life by
 - Continuing to study theology, deepen his faith, and seek wisdom
 - Being open to serving in new roles, depending on the need (pastor, professor, administrator, caregiver, diplomat)
 - Being open to different perspectives and appreciating diversity. He gave a radio lecture, “Understanding Japan,” to help Americans see that there were Japanese people with different perspectives during the Pacific War.
 - Cultivating strong relationships with loyalty, affection, and humility
 - Seeing beauty in the world
 - Taking time to care for himself

and finally...

Words of wisdom related to Bates Sensei

ベーツ先生に関連する引用や金言

- **One of his favorite Bible passages:** Those of steadfast mind, you (God) keep in peace – In peace because they trust in you. Trust in the Lord forever, for in the Lord God you have an everlasting rock. (Isaiah 26:3–4)
- **From his speech, “Our College Motto, ‘Mastery for Service:’”** “This then is our college ideal, to become strong, effective men, not weak incompetents; men who will be recognized as masters. But having become masters we desire not to inflate, and enrich ourselves for our own sake, but to render some useful service to humanity in order that the world may be better for our having lived in it.”
- **From his essay, “Understanding Japan:”** “One of the essential conditions of living together as good neighbours, whether as individuals or as nations, is that we should try to understand and appreciate one another.”
- **From his essay, “These Sixty Years in the Ministry:”** “Knowledge is power but only wisdom is liberty. Only through the exercise of good will among men may lasting peace be realized.”