Workplace Spirituality Definitions

IMESO
Spirituality in the Workplace Definitions
(Eleanor Marschke, et. al. 2009)

Definitions of Spirituality

“That which involves ultimate and personal truths.”

“How the individual lives meaningfully with ultimacy in his or her response to the deepest truths of the universe.”

Wong (1998), p. 364

Bregman and Thierman (1995), p. 149
Definition of Spirituality

“Our response to a deep and mysterious human yearning for self-transcendence and surrender, a yearning to find our place.”

Benner (1989), p. 20
Definition of Spirituality

“A way of being and experiencing that comes about through awareness of a transcendent dimension and that is characterized by certain identifiable values in regard to self, life and whatever one considers to be the ultimate.”

Elkins et al. (1988), p. 10
Definition of Spirituality

“A transcendent dimension within human experience . . . discovered in moments in which the individual questions the meaning of personal existence and attempts to place the self within a broader ontological context.”

Shafranske and Gorsuch (1984), p. 231
Definition of Spirituality

“A subjective experience of the sacred.”
Vaughn (1991), p. 105
Definitions of Spirituality

“A personal life principle which animates a transcendent quality of relationship with God.”
Emplen.” (1992), p. 45

“That vast realm of human potential dealing with ultimate purposes, with higher entities, with God, with life, with compassion, with purpose.”
Tart (1975), p. 4
Definitions of Spirituality

“That human striving for the transforming power present in life; it is that attraction and movement of the human person toward the divine.”

“Pertaining to the innate capacity to, and tendency to seek to, transcend one’s current focus of centricity, which with transcendence involves increased knowledge and love.”
Chandler and Holden (1992)
Definition of Spirituality

“The animating force that inspires one toward purposes that are beyond one’s self and that give one’s life meaning and direction.”

McKnight (1984)


• Shafranske, E. and Gorsuch, E. (1084). Factors associated with the perception of spirituality in psychology.
