

CIU

TODAY



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TODAY

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Cover Photo

Aimee Lindstrom of Longwood, Florida celebrates her Master of Arts in Teaching degree at the December 2014 CIU commencement. *Read her story on page 14.*

CIU Columbia International University
Educating from a Biblical Worldview



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*





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THE FIRST WORD



Bob Holmes, Editor-in-Chief

Letters to the Editor are welcome. Correspondence must include your name, address and phone number. The editor reserves the right to determine the suitability of letters for publication and to edit for clarity and length. There is no guarantee your letter will be published, nor will letters be returned. Write to:

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From the Editor

I appreciate the kind feedback received from readers of "CIU Today" after our premiere edition last October.

I have some great assistance in publishing this magazine. First of all, graphic designer Seth Berry, who has his office down the hall from me, does a fantastic job with the layout and graphics. He is one of the most talented graphic designers in the Columbia area, and is responsible for CIU's new look including our logos such as the CIU Ram. Others in the CIU Office of Marketing & Communications contribute to the magazine, as well.

Also contributing to the magazine are CIU students. You'll note some of the articles and photos are attributed to CIU students, whom I consider a part of my staff. They are talented writers and photographers. But I am impressed with them for a more important reason: their character.

I've watched them doing their job when they didn't realize I was looking. There is a maturity about them that is beyond their years. Do they make mistakes? Oh yes. I do a lot of editing. I've rejected photos that were not up to standard. Sometimes I have to extend their deadlines. But they humbly accept my feedback and learn from it.

This maturity is something I've noticed about many CIU students, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and not just the ones who work for me. Now, don't get me wrong. They know how to have college fun. Just attend a CIU Rams athletic event. This is a loud, fun-loving, zany, bunch of young adults. (Exhibit A: The guys who bought a live Ram on Craig's List and brought it to a soccer game to show their school spirit.)

But I go back to that word, character. Christian scholar Noah Webster defined character this way in his original 1828 dictionary:

The peculiar qualities, impressed by nature or habit on a person, which distinguish him from others.

What peculiar qualities distinguish CIU students? Psalm 15 comes to mind. It speaks of one who "walks with integrity" and "works righteousness" and "speaks truth in his heart."

Of course, as a staff member, I generally don't have to encounter the students when it comes to their struggles of everyday college life like their professors, deans, or roommates do. But I believe many of them are distinguished from other young people because of the maturity and character that comes from the Incomparable One who the Apostle Paul described to the Colossians as "Christ in you, the hope of glory." (Col. 1:27)

So, it is a privilege to work among, and with these students of character and observe another generation carrying out with integrity the CIU motto: "To know Him and to make Him known."

Bob Holmes
CIU Today
Editor-in-Chief

CIU News

CIU Sells Radio Stations; Boosts Endowment for Scholarships

Columbia International University sold its three Christian radio stations, WMHK 89.7 in Columbia, South Carolina, WRCM 91.9 in Wingate, North Carolina and WRZM 88.3 in Boiling Springs, North Carolina to Educational Media Foundation (EMF), which operates the K-LOVE Radio Network. The sale was announced in early October and K-LOVE began broadcasting from the stations' signals Dec. 18.

CIU President Dr. Bill Jones says transferring the ministry assists CIU and K-LOVE in fulfilling their missions.

"CIU will be in a stronger position to focus on its core purpose of educating students from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ," Jones said. "Meanwhile, the radio stations will become part of an expanded outreach in the Carolinas with an owner who can continue their growth in the rapidly changing broadcast environment."

Jones says the proceeds from the \$10.5 million sale are going toward CIU's endowment, creating scholarships and new programs for students.

"Hundreds of students who might not have been able to come to CIU will receive financial aid each year for all four years of their education," Jones said.

K-LOVE is a dominant Christian music network heard over 450 stations and translators throughout the United States. K-LOVE officials say the purchase of the three stations increases their influence in reaching as many people as possible with the life-changing reality of Jesus Christ. ■



Harry Dent (left) and Betty Dent (right) flank President H.W. Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush

CIU Receives \$1 Million Gift

Columbia International University received a gift of \$1 million from a life insurance policy funded by Harry S. Dent Jr. and the late Harry Dent Sr. and Betty Dent.

Harry Dent Sr. and Betty Dent were respected members of the Columbia area known for their involvement in civic affairs and their ministry efforts, including their love for CIU.

Harry graduated from CIU Seminary & School of Ministry in 1982 and was named CIU Distinguished Alumnus in 2001. He passed away in 2007. Betty was a former member of the CIU Board of Trustees. The announcement of the \$1 million gift came at her memorial service held at CIU on Nov. 15.

Harry served in numerous leadership positions in state and federal government, including service in the White House under President Richard Nixon and as an advisor to Presidents Gerald Ford and George H.W. Bush.

In the mid-1970s, Betty served on the S.C. Mental Health Advisory Board and was recognized as one of the Ten Most Outstanding Women in Columbia.

Together the Dents founded Laity Alive and Serving in 1985, through which they coordinated mission trips around the world, especially to Romania. Betty also coordinated Market Place Bible Studies and assisted Harry when he was chairman of the Billy Graham Crusade in Columbia.

CIU President Dr. Bill Jones says the \$1 million gift from the Dents provides \$250,000 for a building fund and \$750,000 for a scholarship Fund.

"It is with much gratefulness to the Lord and to the Dents that we establish this scholarship fund," Jones said. "We pray that this fund will enable scores of CIU students in the future to be trained from a biblical worldview to then go into the marketplace, into church ministry, and into missionary service to impact the nations with the message of Jesus Christ." ■

CIU News

Introducing the 2014 McQuilkin Scholarship Winner



Abigail Cotton

Abigail Cotton of Hickory, North Carolina was checking her voice messages when she let out a scream and started crying. Her mother thought the worst – who died? Her father rushed to her side. The only words Abigail could muster through her tears were, “President Jones.” Immediately her parents realized Abigail’s tears were tears of happiness. While Abigail was celebrating her 18th birthday on a hike with her friends and out of cell phone range, Columbia International University President Bill Jones had left her a message congratulating her on being named the 2014 R.C. McQuilkin Scholarship winner – a full-tuition scholarship to CIU.

Abigail, who is homeschooled, participated in the R.C. McQuilkin Scholarship Weekend competition Nov. 13-15 on the CIU campus. She was joined by 60 other high school seniors from 10 states, plus one from Japan and one from Ukraine. They took part in intense interview sessions, fun group activities and social events.

Abigail, who relates to others with an outgoing and bubbly personality, thanks the Lord for winning the competition, but was planning on enrolling at CIU regardless of the outcome.

“It was a double confirmation of what God has for me, and I accept it as a gift from Him,” Abigail said in a phone interview.

Abigail says she will likely major in Intercultural Studies, but is also interested in CIU’s new Honor’s Program, English and would even like to stick around for a graduate degree in TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language). Her long-term goal after graduation is reaching Muslims with the gospel, a leading from the Lord she received after taking trips with her family to Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

“When people ask me (about my future plans) I just say I left my heart in the desert,” Abigail explains. ■

Certificate Programs Added

Columbia International University has added two certificate programs designed to enhance the ministry of people serving in cross-cultural environments and can be earned completely online. The Intercultural Studies Certificate and the Muslim Studies Certificate can also be used as building blocks toward completing a Master of Arts degree.

The Intercultural Studies Certificate provides students with an essential understanding of the mission of God, culture, worldview and ethnography while the Muslim Studies Certificate prepares students for effective life and work in Muslim contexts.

CIU Intercultural Studies professor Dr. Ed Smither says he hopes students earning the certificates will gain “the skills to understanding the mission of God from Scripture and to effectively minister across cultures in a diverse world.” ■

Honors



Marvin Schuster

Longtime Columbia International University board member and supporter Marvin Schuster and his wife Ruth were

presented with the Servant Leadership Award from the Pastoral Institute in their hometown of Columbus, Georgia. The honor is presented to “an extraordinary couple who has passion and desire for serving others.”

Marvin Schuster owns and operates Burger King Restaurants throughout the Southeast, but says teaching the Bible for 35 to 40 years has been one of the most meaningful experiences of his life. Ruth Schuster has delivered Meals on Wheels to the homeless for more than 28 years, while both have been involved with their local United Way. The Schusters, who have been married for more than 28 years, were also recognized for their love of community, commitment to their faith and devotion to family qualities.

The Schuster building on the CIU campus is named for Marvin and Ruth Schuster.



Don Sarazen

A 1992 alumnus of Columbia International University found himself shaking hands with President Barak Obama

recently when he was congratulated as a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics. Don Sarazen, who graduated from CIU with a master’s degree in Teaching and a Certificate in Biblical Studies, was among 102 mathematics and science teachers from all 50 states honored by the president at a White House reception.

Sarazen has been a public school elementary teacher for 20 years, mostly in the Columbia, South Carolina area. He also serves as the president of the CIU Alumni Association Leadership Council (AALC). ■

Benefactor Walks 98 Miles

A 71-year-old retired pastor who attended Columbia International University in the 1960s, walked 98 miles in seven days to raise funds and greet CIU students who are benefiting from his ministry.

Ron Jackson, who attended CIU from 1965-1967, is the founder of Parson's Pantry that provides financial assistance to needy pastors, widows of pastors and married ministerial students. He walked 98.2 miles from Gaffney in South Carolina's Upstate, to the state capitol building in Columbia to raise funds for his ministry.

Waiting for Jackson at the Statehouse were five students enrolled in CIU Seminary & School of Ministry who have benefitted from Parson's Pantry, including Dong Li from China.

"This kind of help reminds us that God is with us and supporting us," Li said as he waited to meet Jackson.

Student Jacqueline McLauren from Tennessee said she wanted to thank Jackson in person for the help his ministry provided her and her husband.

"We were not expecting any kind of financial support, and we were going through a really hard time and (his gift) literally moved me to tears," McLauren said. "It just wasn't expected. It just brought on praise to God."

"What a blessing it was to meet those (CIU) students," Jackson said after being welcomed at the Statehouse. "That just thrilled my heart beyond measure that we could have a part in their lives as they prepare to go out in ministry full time." ■



The Rev. Ron Jackson meets CIU students at the South Carolina Statehouse (left to right) Josh Guo, CIU Dean of Married Students Brion Burns, Rev. Jackson, Jacqueline McLauren, Emma Zhang and her husband Eddy Zhang.



Teveye played by Jeremy Reasoner, brother of Director Courtney Reasoner.

"Fiddler" a Hit at CIU

The CIU Players captivated the Columbia area community with three riveting performances of the popular musical "Fiddler on the Roof."

Directed by junior Courtney Reasoner the cast consisted of 26 actors and actresses and two behind-the-scenes set members, in addition to a pianist, and a light technician.

"Directing it was humongous and really intimidating because everyone at CIU knows Fiddler and they have expectations in their mind," Reasoner said.

Reasoner also said she had never seen so many people on the stage of Hoke Auditorium.

"That aspect was scary but incredibly fun to overcome."

And not only was Reasoner the director, she was a part of the cast.

"Being in it was a challenge, but it was really exciting. I wasn't just sitting in the audience telling them what to do, I was one of them. We were all like part of a family."

More than 700 people attended the musical, and were impressed.

"It was probably the best musical that the Players have put on during my time at CIU," junior Nik Ellison said. "It was a lot of fun, there was a lot of good emotion, and I loved it. I saw all three shows and I loved every night." ■



SAMSON'S PROMISE

CIU MEN STRIVE FOR
SEXUAL PURITY

For some men, this is the first time they have ever had honest and open conversations regarding this topic in their entire lives.

Editor's note: Pinned to the bulletin boards around campus are simple 8 ½ x 11 sheets of paper featuring a silhouette of a muscular man with long hair and the words, "The Incredible Samson." The post goes on to describe the Old Testament judge who "succumbed to the temptations of promiscuity and pride," but "in the end...returned to God through prayer and was redeemed." That's followed by a challenge to men struggling to maintain sexual purity to do something about it. At the bottom of the page are tear-off strips with contact information so an individual can discreetly join the "Samson's Promise" weekly fellowship group who "strive for sexual purity in God's design." Below is the experience of one member of the group who wishes to remain anonymous.

The first time I was introduced to pornography, I was about 10 years old. My story is not abnormal. There is some dispute about the average age a child is first exposed to pornography. Some say 11, some say later. But it is undisputed that the majority of males and a surprisingly large percentage of females have viewed pornography before graduating from high school. When youth stumble upon porn for the first time it is usually an innocent encounter. But it often becomes an addictive attraction. The experience of viewing pornography is similar to the experience of taking a drug. Chemicals are released in the brain. The heart rate increases and your adrenaline spikes. Pornography is a plague that spreads quickly and thoroughly.

When I enrolled in CIU in the fall of 2010, I heard about this group called Samson's Promise advertised during a single men's chapel. Samson's Promise is a group that is devoted to helping men find victory over sexual sin. I have been

a member since that fall semester; and I still am an active member even though I have already graduated. I stay involved because it provides me with very valuable accountability, fellowship, and encouragement. And it also provides me with a great opportunity to be a blessing in my fellow brothers' lives.

Samson's Promise has been in existence for about a decade now, and while the leadership has changed and the structure has sometimes evolved, the meetings have always had the same basic elements: fellowship, teaching, sharing, confessing, and praying. We read a book that addresses our challenges. This year we are working through a very well-known Christian book dealing with victory over sexual sin: "Every Man's Battle" by Stephen Arterburn and Fred Stoeker. We read a section of the book and then we come together once a week as our leader guides us through questions based on that chapter. The questions are designed to spark lots of open and honest discussion.

The key to a successful accountability group is a commitment to openness and honesty. Without openness the group would be pointless. Sometimes it can be hard to foster an environment where this can naturally occur. In our group each member is committed to hold everything that is shared within the group as confidential. This provides a sense of security that enables us to share. For some men, this is the first time they have ever had honest and open conversations regarding this topic in their entire lives. It can be a very daunting and scary ordeal. But it is so worth it. It helps to be in a group with other men who all totally understand the struggle.

My experience with Samson's Promise has been a great one. It encourages men to be intentional in developing relationships of accountability with other believing men. You need to know that you are not alone, and you need to be aggressive in this battle for control of your life. ■



OUTSIDE *the* TEXTBOOK

COUNSELING, TEACHING & BIBLICAL PREACHING

By Bob Holmes

The lecture and the textbook have been joined by high-tech teaching methods in higher education. Some Columbia International University professors even post real-time Tweets from their students on a screen during a lecture to stimulate thought and questions that invite other curious Twitter users see what's being discussed.

But some CIU academic programs require more than absorbing the material for a test or hours in the library and online to research a paper. Some require performance. Training a counselor requires sitting across from a real client with real problems. Teacher education requires understanding how to engage a classroom full of wiggly kids, and preaching requires thorough preparation and a passionate delivery, critiqued by a room full of your peers.

"CIU Today" visited a counseling session, a Columbia-area fourth grade classroom and the preaching lab to find out what it's like for CIU students to master a discipline "Outside the Textbook."



COUNSELING

Joshua is a freshman who is having trouble adjusting to college life. But it seems his problems run deeper than that.

"I come here, I take the classes, I sit in them. What's the point? I'm just not connecting with the material. I stink at it anyway," Joshua says in a low and discouraged voice while slightly slumping in his chair.

Sitting directly across from him is his counselor Rachel, who occasionally nods her head, and affirms a listening ear with a quiet, "Ah-huh."

Rachel asks questions, but mostly just lets Joshua keep talking. He reveals more of what's behind his discouragement and how he reacts to it. His parents are divorced. He has been cutting.

Rachel is calm throughout the session and shows no particular anxiety toward Joshua's confessed behaviors and thought processes. But she is tracking with him through questions.

"So, Josh, is this something you're willing to work on, or is this something you're not willing to work on? The work is up to you, but I'm here to encourage you," Rachel said in a straightforward, yet understanding sort of way.

"I feel too tired to try," Joshua quietly responds. "But maybe there is something we can work on together."

The counseling session is not real. But it is not unrealistic. It is a mock counseling session involving two CIU College of Counseling graduate students, Rachel Denlinger and Joshua Wilkowski as they make practical application of what they learn in their Counseling Techniques class.

"One of the things I always listen for are the underlying themes," said Denlinger explaining her counseling approach in an interview after the session. "When Josh talked about his parents' divorce, a lot of times that is a theme. That is a huge event that is really behind his lack of purpose."

Denlinger and Wilkowski agree that their professors "do a great job" of modeling for them how to ask good questions to get to those themes. One of those professors is Cathy Warn, the director of Training and Internship in the CIU College of Counseling who will often pair the students into dyads to practice and videotape role-playing the techniques she is teaching.

"I will sometimes role-play for the class to demonstrate the more difficult techniques," Warn said. "Outside of class, students work in dyads role-playing the techniques and skills they are learning in class and through their reading."

As he played the role of the client, Wilkowski admits that he brought up some heavy issues with divorce and cutting, and even led Denlinger toward thinking he was struggling with depression. But he didn't want to soft-peddle because CIU counseling students have been taught in the classroom about what to expect.

“Counselor competency cannot be acquired through knowledge alone; it must be practiced.”

–Professor Cathy Warn

“They do that to you in the program,” Denlinger said. “You talk about everything that is wrong with humanity. You hear about all kinds of stuff, from sexual abuse and child abuse. Just horrible things.”

Professor Warn says confronting this type of real life cannot be gleaned from a textbook.

“What is learned in a textbook are concepts and methods but even if students grasp these well, it does not necessarily translate into well-executed counseling skills,” Warn said. “The person of the therapist and the client are variables that have a profound influence on how effective that particular session is, or even the client’s overall counseling experience over time. Counselor competency cannot be acquired through knowledge alone; it must be practiced.”

Wilkowski says his professors have fully prepared him for what’s to come when real counseling sessions begin by having the students first look within.

“They force you in this program to really process yourself and where you’ve come from, and process the relationships you have had and your experiences, so you can empathize and connect,” Wilkowski said. “To recognize what’s going on in your heart. Even if you’ve gone through one thing and your client has gone through another, you can draw from the anxiety or the fear or the anger you felt. That’s a big part of the training here. The personal processing.”

Warn says Counseling students begin to meet actual clients during their advanced counseling techniques and practicum course.



Rachel Denlinger and Joshua Wilkowski in a mock counseling session.

“Between practicum and internship, students undergo a program candidacy and internship interview process to measure and inform us of their readiness to move on to internship,” Warn said. “For internship experiences, students are placed at various sites off campus according to their interest and skill level. Internship is completed over two semesters and students are receiving on- and off-campus supervision and feedback throughout their experiences.”

As for their future plans, Denlinger would like to be a member care counselor to missionaries and third culture kids, of which she is one. Wilkowski would like to be a family counselor in private practice. Both “highly recommend” the CIU Counseling program because of its integration of a biblical worldview, professors who are caring, practicing counselors themselves, and the practical experience incorporated into the program.

“Most of the program is practical experience,” Wilkowski said. “There are the textbooks; there are the techniques, but most of all it is learning to be a counselor and to live it.” ■

CIU FAST FACTS

94%

Over the last two years, the overall pass rate on the clinical counseling exam for graduates from the Master of Arts in Counseling program is 94 percent.

TEACHING



Alexander walked up to the visitor in his fourth grade class at Red Bank Elementary School and asked for assistance in untangling the wires on the headset he was using to listen to a computer during an individual study session. The visitor asked what he was learning from his teacher Miss Lindstrom.

"Landforms and compasses," Alexander replied.

"What about landforms?"

"There is urban and rural and SUB urban," he answered confidently, distinctly separating his syllables. "I live in SUB urban. I got a lot of neighborhoods where I live."

OK, not landforms in the topographical sense, but the visitor got the idea.

"Miss Lindstrom is a very good teacher," Alexander voluntarily added.

Alexander was one of 17 children in the SUB urban school just west of Columbia where Columbia International University student teacher Aimee Lindstrom was logging her 16 weeks of student teaching last fall, a key element to her Master of Arts in Teaching degree. It's a four year undergraduate program that adds a fifth year of graduate work.

"The clinical or student teaching experience is the capstone experience allowing a student teacher to analyze, implement, and test theory learned from textbooks," said CIU Professor Linda Murdaugh, director of Professional Education Field Experiences. "It allows them to put theory into practice and to reflect daily upon the successes and sometimes failures experienced in the classroom which become stepping stones for the next stage of learning."

In an interview later, Lindstrom remembers her first day of student teaching as "exhausting and chaotic, but also enjoyable."

“Student teachers learn how to prepare for the unique learning challenges found in their class.”

—Professor Linda Murdaugh, Director of Professional Education Field Experiences

“I was slightly nervous, but not too nervous because I had been told what to expect,” Lindstrom recalls. “Although I had been told what to expect, it still took me awhile to adjust to the schedule and learn everyone’s name.”

This day Lindstrom has command of the classroom and the children are excited to participate in an exercise where she flashes photos of Red Bank on a screen as the children identify what type of area each represents. When the photo of a newly built shopping center in a field appears on the screen one child answers, “rural” and another, “suburban.” Most raise their hands to participate.

“One major thing that I have learned from being in the classroom is how to implement classroom management,” Lindstrom said. “While it is something we read in a textbook, I would not have known how to go about introducing these techniques in the classroom. It was very beneficial for me to see my cooperating teacher introduce them so that I could have an example to see.”

Murdaugh explains the student teacher is mentored by a cooperating teacher at the school and supported by a CIU supervisor, who in Lindstrom’s case is Murdaugh.

“The part of my position which I love is to play matchmaker,” Murdaugh said.

“Prayerfully, I work with school administrators to match student teachers to a school and mentor teacher in a mutually beneficial partnership,” Murdaugh says. “It is so encouraging to see how God uses these relationships. Some stay in touch after student teaching.”

Meanwhile, the supervisor offers verbal and written feedback through observations, conferences and informal meetings.

“These are an important and regular part of the student teacher’s experience to strengthen skills and dispositions,” Murdaugh added.

Lindstrom continues her class by reading the children’s classic, “The Little House,” a story about urban sprawl, although those exact words aren’t used. The house experiences living in rural, suburban and urban areas before being moved back to the country. The kids are into it as they note the changing landscape illustrated in the book.

“Classrooms consist of a living body of diverse children each with unique personalities and abilities,” Murdaugh explains. “Textbooks (on teaching) offer the foundational knowledge and understanding about children, teaching and classroom environment, (but) student teachers learn how to prepare for the unique learning challenges found in their class. Here they apply their textbook learning to create effective learning communities for the 20 to 30 children under their supervision.”

As Lindstrom finishes reading the book, she directs the students to worktables to draw pictures of one of the various “landforms” they are learning about. She visits the tables, and stoops down to eye-level and talks with each student. She has developed a relationship with them.

But teaching was not always the goal for Lindstrom. She enrolled at CIU as a Communication major and changed to teaching after becoming involved in the Crane Creek after school tutoring program (see page 25).



Amy Lindstrom gets eye-to-eye with a student to answer her questions.

“That’s when I discovered that I did want to be a teacher,” she explains.

And while CIU student teachers get their experience in public schools where openly sharing their faith in front of the class is forbidden, they still represent Christ. Murdaugh advises her student teachers to, “ask God daily to make you effective and useful for His purposes in your teaching situation.”

“Reflect Christ in your work ethic and speech,” Murdaugh continues. “You will be amazed at the lives you will touch and influence for Christ if you remain a clean, usable vessel for Him.” ■

CIU FAST FACTS

▲ 45%

Enrollment in the undergraduate Teacher Education program has increased by 45 percent over the last two years.

“When we preach it should always be about the power of Christ.”

–Dr. Andre Rogers



Chris Platt preaches to his “congregation” of peers.

BIBLICAL PREACHING

As Professor Dr. Andre Rogers set up a video camera in the back of the Preaching Lab, a student dryly quipped, “Why record a train wreck?”

That broke the tension a little bit. Nervous laughter and a few half-smiles appeared on the faces of the nine students in the 8 a.m. seminary-level “Foundations for Biblical Preaching” class. It’s described in the CIU course catalog as introducing “you to the theology and practice of preaching with an emphasis on structural variety, clear biblical exposition, and suitable application. You will preach, will be evaluated by your peers, and will evaluate your own recorded sermons.”

Today is one of those days for peer evaluation. Not the best day to be caught in a traffic jam on the interstate and you’re the first one scheduled to preach. But that’s what happened to Chris Platt who entered the classroom a couple minutes late and a little winded. But Platt, who has served as the pastor at Dixiana Baptist Church near Columbia for 18 years, was ready to preach.

Professor Rogers opened in prayer and asked God to give the students “calm

nerves” and “preaching power.” After the prayer he reminded the students that they will each have 20 minutes for their sermon and that he would cue them when they had only a few minutes left.

Platt preached from 1 Peter 2:1-3, as he encouraged his “congregation” of peers to “feed on the Word of God,” frequently punctuating the message with “Amen!” and sometimes, “Amen?” hoping to get the class to respond.

All the while each member of the “congregation” was writing comments on a “Students’ Sermon Evaluation” sheet, grading their preaching classmate from 1-10 in areas such as Sermon Structure, Supporting Material and Body Language.

When the sermon was over and Platt sat down, most of the class said Platt, who is working on a Master of Divinity degree in Bible Exposition, delivered a great message, but needs to slow down when he is preaching.

“To be honest, it’s a little intimidating,” Platt said later. “To preach to a classroom is so different from preaching to a congregation. There is also the fact that your peers are grading you, looking down

at their papers listening with a critical ear."

There is also the time element, to have only 20 minutes is difficult," Platt continued. "I have been used to about 30 to 35 minutes for a long time. You also realize that your professor is watching, grading you as he listens."

Professor Rogers says the students are graded on sermon preparation and delivery, and are responsible for three sermon methods during the semester: Keyword Method, Analytical Method, and Textual Method. But he says what he prayed at the beginning of class, "preaching power" is very important.

"'Preaching power' can be defined as the power that raised Christ from the dead and is available to you as you preach His Word," Rogers said later. "When we preach it should always be about the power of Christ."

Also delivering a sermon to be graded was Joshua Albins, a chaplain with Richland County, South Carolina Sheriff's Department who is working on a Master of Divinity in Chaplaincy and has a long-term goal of becoming a military chaplain. Albins began his sermon with a gripping, true story about a crime scene he was called to, describing in detail a dirty, gruesome and bloody house where a stabbing had taken place. He found everything about the house, "disgusting." Then, the female suspect noticed his chaplain's badge and asked, "Will God forgive me? I've just been baptized. This means I'm forgiven, right? How can God love me?" Albins said the house was full of crusty police investigators who stopped what they were doing to hear his answer. He admits he was embarrassed by the situation.

Albins' sermon then centered on having the courage to say what needs to be



As Chris Platt preaches, he is videotaped and evaluated by his classmates. "To be honest, it's a little intimidating," Platt says.

said despite what others may think. He concluded by saying that he got at eye-level with the woman and "in love, I tried to see her as God loves her, not as I judged her."

The classroom fell silent after the sermon until Professor Rogers looked Albins' way and boomed out, "Did you say earlier you are boring? Where does that come from? I want to say that you commanded this room!"

Albins appreciates the feedback.

"You cannot 'learn' experience," Albins said later. "You need the experience of standing before peers and delivering a well-thought out message to critical review. Preaching in front of my peers is a rewarding experience, as long as you can handle constructive criticism."

But Professor Rogers wants to make sure that his students understand there is something much deeper going in his class than learning to make a good



Donna Jackson critiques her classmates.

presentation. Yes, he wants to see good structure, but he also hopes the students come away with "a love for God's people and a love for preaching."

"Preaching is a gift from God," Rogers tells his students. "Don't ever open the Bible unless you expect lives to be changed!" ■

A Promise



Kept

The Documentary

The love story of Robertson and Muriel McQuilkin premieres at Homecoming

By Melissa McCutchan, CIU Student Writer

As the third president of Columbia International University (then Columbia Bible College), J. Robertson McQuilkin earned a reputation for being a man of commitment. He dedicated 22 years of his life to leading CIU. However, when his wife, Muriel, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, he found himself torn between two commitments: leading CIU, and caring for his wife.

McQuilkin resigned from the presidency in 1990 to be Muriel's full-time caretaker, and he said the decision to do so was an easy one. He had vowed to love his wife in sickness and in health, and he would not go back on his word.

Robertson and Muriel McQuilkin's love story is brought to life in the powerful documentary "A Promise Kept," produced by communication professor Ken Rife, which premiered at

Homecoming 2014 during the alumni banquet and at a separate showing for current students.

Rife tells the story through interviews with 12 individuals who were connected to the McQuilkins, including their children, colleagues, and family friends who laughed as they shared their memories of Muriel. She was described as "a flurry of energy and activity." As the "first lady" of CIU, she helped students in financial need, entertained campus guests, and participated in speaking engagements around the world.

"She was such a bubbly person," friend and retired CIU faculty member Jack Layman recalled.

Those who knew Muriel loved her for her silliness, energy, and spontaneity. With a few tears, those interviewed

also recalled the first warning signs of her illness, the day of her official diagnosis, and her gradual decline in health. Though he continued to serve as president for years after Muriel's diagnosis, Robertson intended to resign when Muriel needed his full-time care.

"We decided to trust the Lord to work a miracle in Muriel if He so desired, or to work a miracle in me if He did not," Robertson said in the film.

In the years between Muriel's diagnosis and Robertson's resignation, Muriel made every effort to be with Robertson as often as she could, even if it meant walking from their home on CIU's campus to his office multiple times per day.

"I thought, 'She needs me full-time, and this school needs a full-time president,'" Robertson said. "This school can get

"I hope it will help strengthen families and marriages."

—"A Promise Kept" producer Ken Rife

another president, but she can't get another me."

Then came the day when Robertson addressed a CIU Chapel service.

"It's the only fair thing," Robertson said in his resignation speech. "She sacrificed for me for 40 years to make my life possible, so if I cared for her for 40 years, I'd still be in debt...She is a delight, and it's a great honor to care for such a wonderful person."

In 2003, more than 20 years after her diagnosis, Muriel went home to be with the Lord. Her story was later published into the book "A Promise Kept," which became the basis for the documentary.

There were few dry eyes at the premiere. Alumni, students, faculty and staff were touched by the strength of the McQuilkins' marriage, and many were challenged in their own relationships.

Bill Almack ('66) says the he and his wife Marge were glad to have the opportunity to be at Homecoming and see the tribute to the McQuilkins.

"I was impressed with Robertson's quiet humility in caring for his beloved wife," Almack said. "He is a role model of being a faithful caregiver during those many years. I appreciated his obedience to the Lord in putting his wife's need before anything else. The Lord gave him much grace as he persevered in loving devotion and care for his wife."

Hannah Erickson ('08) said she was "brought to tears" as she learned about the deep love and commitment between Robertson and Muriel.

"I was touched by the extent to which Robertson demonstrated his sacrificial love and commitment to Muriel day in and out for so many years," Erickson said. "It was truly a beautiful expression of how much Christ loves us. I pray for this depth of love and commitment between my own husband and me, no matter what the Lord may ask of us."

Current CIU students, who munched on popcorn during their viewing of the documentary, were also touched.

"I was very encouraged by the amount of love between Dr. and Mrs. McQuilkin," sophomore Daniel Bowden said. "I see it as a great example of a marriage based on sacrificial love."

As Rife conducted the interviews used in the film, he was able to see the strength of the McQuilkins' marriage and the beauty of Christ-centered relationships even in the midst of difficult circumstances.

"I'd get home [from conducting interviews] and I was a basket case, just worn out, tired," Rife said. "It was very draining, and I felt convicted sometimes, laughed sometimes. It was a great story, and we had great people to tell it."

As Rife continued to work on the film, along with the help of many of his colleagues and students, he knew the McQuilkins' story would be a blessing to those who saw the film.

"It was a situation where I felt like that message needed to go to the world, really, especially in our culture where there are so many divorces," Rife said. "I hope it will help strengthen families and marriages."

Many of those who attended the premiere had never heard the story before in detail, especially the current students.



A photo of Muriel McQuilkin on the screen during the premier viewing of "A Promise Kept" at the Homecoming 2014 banquet.

"I had heard of how notable Dr. McQuilkin's story was, but had never heard it in its entirety," senior Timothy Wolff said. "I always wanted to better understand why he was so revered, and through this I gained such a better understanding of his commitment."

Just before the movie rolled at the premiere, Robertson McQuilkin offered a few simple words about the documentary.

"My prayer is that God will be glorified through this story around the world."

Visit fund.ciu.edu for information on obtaining "A Promise Kept" on DVD. ■



ACADEMICS

Online and Personal

Online student impressed with high touch through high tech
By Bob Holmes

Columbia International University professors are often seen one-on-one in the CIU dining hall with a student who is seeking advice and counsel. One professor took that approach to the next level with an online student.

Last summer, Professor Dr. Debbie Moore drove 70 miles from Columbia to a McDonald's in Augusta, Georgia to advise online student Tanya Marshall, and make sure her schedule of classes would allow her to graduate in 2016.

"That really touched my heart," Marshall told "CIU Today" in a phone interview. "I thought, 'Wow, you're willing to drive all the way here to Augusta from Columbia?' That blessed me a lot."

Marshall is in CIU's Master of Education (M.Ed.) program specializing in Curriculum and Instruction. She is a fourth grade teacher at Heritage Academy in Augusta, a private Christian school of 200 students in kindergarten to eighth grade, with an intentional mission to the children of low-income families.

As a working mom, Marshall says CIU's online M.Ed. program is perfect for her, but she says she is especially blessed by the relationships she has developed with her professors via email, SKYPE and other high-tech touches, and their responsiveness to her needs.

Marshall says because she works during the day as a teacher and spends the afternoon and evenings with her son, she is not able to start her school work until she gets her son to bed after 8 p.m.

"I'm usually up late at night doing school work, so I email (my professors) and most of the time they email me right back, even if it's 10 o'clock at night, which is impressive," Marshall said.

Marshall also enjoys collaborating with her online "classmates" around the world for group projects. She cites her Educational Research course as an example.

"My partner lives in Spain," Marshall said with a laugh. "We SKYPE, talk on the phone or email each other. We use Google Docs."

For some classes, she meets other students through online forums and gains insight from them regarding the course material.

"It's just so encouraging," Marshall said. "I'm getting more ideas."

"I'm usually up late at night doing school work, so I email (my professors) and most of the time they email me right back, even if it's 10 o'clock at night, which is impressive."
—Tanya Marshall



Plus, she is making friends.

"A friendship, a camaraderie, it comes naturally even if it is online."

But Marshall says what she is gleaning the most professionally and spiritually from her online classes is something that every CIU student experiences, on campus or online: biblical integration into the curriculum.

"I knew the importance of the Word of God, but I never knew how that applied to Language Arts or Social Studies," Marshall said. "(I've learned) to integrate the Word of God with other content areas. That helps me grow as a believer and as a teacher because if I'm going to teach the Word of God, I have to know the Word of God."

Professor Debbie Moore drove 70 miles to advise Tanya Marshall on her class schedule.



Plus, she notes that every time she sits down to do her homework, she first reads a devotional her professor has prepared for her to dwell on, assisting in Marshall's personal spiritual growth.

"I'm always bragging about that when I talk to my colleagues who are also getting their master's (elsewhere)," Marshall concludes.

"I really, really love that part of it. That is the one thing that blows me away." ■

Credo ut Intelligam

CIU students believe so they may understand
By Bob Holmes

CIU senior Dan Dellinger is not afraid to tackle the tough issues. In the latest edition of the student publication "Credo," the Psychology major expounds on "An Applied Examination of Cognitive Behavior Therapy and Existential Phenomenological Psychotherapy." His mission in the next 13 pages is to "demonstrate how these two models can be integrated into an effective framework of psychotherapy from a distinctly Christian perspective."

"Credo" is an outlet for CIU's many deep thinkers.

Published twice each year for the last nine years, the full name of the 8" x 5" booklet is "Credo ut intelligam," Latin for "I believe so that I may understand" and is a maxim of Anselm of Canterbury, one of the most important Christian thinkers of the 11th century.

"The motto of the Medievals and one the 'Credo' adopted early on is that we do not understand in order to believe; rather we believe in order to have a foundation for understanding," says CIU professor of Philosophy and "Credo" faculty advisor Dr. Glenn Gentry. "So the 'Credo' aims to cultivate a serious community with ideas within the framework of Christian belief."

"Credo" is published by a student staff. The editor-in-chief this school year is senior Rebekah Thomas, a Humanities major who had the task of settling on five articles for the 72-page Fall 2014 edition. She says over 50 articles were submitted with her staff choosing the ones they consider the best-written and most interesting to CIU's community.

"For instance, Sam McDonald's article received particular interest because it compared Plato's 'Republic' to Lois Lowry's 'The Giver,' and as 'The Giver' has just recently been made into a motion-picture, interest in his article is high," Thomas explained.

Genres in the Fall 2014 edition include creative writing, argument-driven articles and academic papers.

Professor Gentry hopes that "Credo" contributes to the CIU community "by cultivating a community with rich ideas... and that the broader campus community is learning to think carefully, write well, and engage a rich community of ideas."

"Not every idea published in the 'Credo' is endorsed by all or even some of the 'Credo' staff, the school, or me," Gentry said. "It is a place to learn to publish well-articulated ideas and to engage an exploration of them."

For more information on "Credo" or to request past editions, email thecredo@gmail.com. ■

RESOURCES

New Books by CIU Professors



Studies on the Go: James, 1-2 Peter, and 1-3 John

By Dr. David Olshine
Professor of Youth Ministry, Family, and Culture

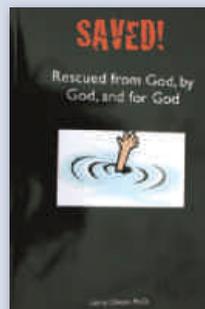
Youth workers often lack the time or ability to lead a quality Bible study. But in this new volume of the Studies on the Go Series, David Olshine provides small group leaders with ready-made, creative, and engaging Bible studies that will challenge students to think deeply, talk openly, and apply what they are learning to their lives. Published by Zondervan.



Single Mission: Thriving As a Single Person in Cross-Cultural Ministry

Edited by Dr. Debbie Hawker & Rev. Tim Herbert

CIU Professor of Missionary Care, Dr. Rhonda Pruitt contributed to four chapters in this book designed to encourage and equip mission personnel who are single, and to help them be strong in their faith, effective in their ministry, and resilient and content with their lifestyle. Published by Condeo Press.



Saved! Rescued from God, by God, and for God

By Dr. Larry Dixon
Professor of Systematic Theology

What does it mean to be "saved?" The Bible makes it clear that God is holy and we aren't – and we're in a lot of trouble. "Saved!" looks at the Bible's teaching on salvation from seven different perspectives. Published by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

CIU FAST FACTS

TOP 5

Undergraduate programs for Fall 2014

1. Psychology
2. Teacher Education
3. Intercultural Studies
4. Business & Organizational Leadership
5. Youth Ministry, Family, & Culture

ATHLETICS

The "Captain" of Encouragement

By Brittany Bradley, CIU Student Writer

In the fall of 2013, Makeda DeSouza embarked on the journey from Jamaica, Queens, New York to Columbia International University in hopes of being part of CIU's first ever intercollegiate women's basketball team. Her plans were soon in jeopardy when an injury threatened her dream.



Before transferring to CIU, DeSouza was playing for Suffolk Community College in New York when she was contacted by CIU Women's Basketball Coach Tammy Holder about the possibility of coming to play ball at CIU. Intrigued by the proposition, DeSouza began the application process and was amazed when she realized that CIU is a Christian School, offering her field of study.

"Thank you, Lord! I was so excited," DeSouza said in an interview. "And then to hear that [CIU] had a psychology program was also a plus. It made me want to come even more."

Everything was falling into place. Then one day, while playing defense at Suffolk, DeSouza felt a pain in her knee. The results were heartbreaking. She had partially torn her ACL, a ligament in the knee, and she was sure that her hopes of coming to CIU were ruined.

"I started to cry, not because of the injury, but because I was afraid it would interfere with me coming to CIU. The next day, I told Coach Holder. She said 'I'm praying for you. Don't worry about it. I still want you to come.'"

DeSouza signed with the CIU Rams and began practicing in the fall. As the season was approaching, and with two scrimmages under their belt, the team had one more practice before their first official game. In the middle of practice, DeSouza came down hard on her knee and felt a pain, but pushed through and thought everything was OK.

"I woke up in the middle of the night and I couldn't move my entire leg at all," DeSouza recalls. "I was in a lot of pain and I was worried."

An MRI revealed that she had torn her ACL and some of her meniscus, a disc that cushions the knee. She was sidelined for the season before the season even began. And yet, she attended every practice and every game, supporting her team from the bench and giving advice when asked.

"I was a support in my time of injury, but they were a help to

me as well, praying for me and encouraging me that I'd be out there soon," DeSouza said.

DeSouza was not in despair, but instead she remained firmly rooted and established in the Lord.

"Sometimes we have plans and God has other plans," DeSouza said. "He tells us to wait, not just to discipline us, but to show us that He's in control and through our times of struggle, that's when we learn to trust Him and to sit back and see what He has for us. Sometimes we're on our own pace and we move too fast and sometimes God just wants to slow us down. So I learned patience and I learned to have faith and trust in Him through my time of suffering and struggles."

Another theme that DeSouza embodied through this trial was that of gratefulness. The irony in her attitude of thankfulness is that she was actually in the hospital on Thanksgiving Day.

"I was thankful for my mom, she came and sat by my side," DeSouza said. "It could have been worse. As I looked at other patients, I thought, this is minor compared to what they're going through."

DeSouza has made a full recovery and is leading the Rams this season as one of the team captains.

"Her teammates really respect her," Coach Holder says. "To not have played at all last season and then be chosen as a captain is amazing. Her teammates listen when she speaks."

DeSouza was both surprised and honored by the position.

"I wasn't planning on being captain one bit, but to see that the girls look up to me was such a blessing. I'm grateful for the position."

DeSouza sported number 22 in the Rams' first home game of the season, quietly but consistently leading her team on defense. It was a close game vs. Warren Wilson, but the ladies fought hard and won 73-67, DeSouza scoring nine points.

"Makeda has impacted me in a lot of ways," Coach Holder shares. "Number one, in just who she is as a person. Her core values and attitude make her a great fit for CIU, and she represents the Lord well as a player and as a person."

Through her injury and comeback, DeSouza is making an impact at CIU. Her advice to others facing discouragement is this:

"While you're waiting, don't complain, don't be aggravated, don't question God. Just be thankful that you're here. Put your full trust in Him." ■

*"Her core values and attitude make her a great fit for CIU, and she represents the Lord well as a player and as a person."
—Coach Tammy Holder*

*Makeda DeSouza
Leads the Rams*

BY EXAMPLE

CAMPUS LIFE

CIU Wives Connect and Encourage

By Melissa McCutchan, CIU Student Writer

As the wife of a CIU staff member, Rosie Putnam feels it's important to stay close to other women with a CIU connection. That's why she spends one evening a month at CIU's Wives Fellowship, where married CIU female students and the wives of CIU students, faculty, and staff gather for fellowship, teaching, and plenty of fun. Their purpose? To help wives strengthen their relationships with Christ, support one another, and to grow in their marriages.

"The goal is connections and realizing you're not on your own in this journey, and I think that's the value of coming together as wives," coordinator and CIU staff member Lisa Lanpher said. "I think the people who come back consistently are feeling encouraged, supported, [and are] making those connections."

The meetings include prayer and teaching with topics ranging from becoming a new creation in Christ, to having a growing prayer life. Through it all, women are encouraged as wives and mothers.

"It's so special to have an evening with other ladies, to be encouraged and refreshed," Putnam said.



Debby Jones, wife of CIU President Bill Jones, mingles with other wives.

Members of Wives Fellowship are in no way passive participants. The group consists of several committees, each of which is responsible for a different aspect of the meeting, such as decorations or refreshments.

"We have student wives who lead all the different committees," said Debby Jones, who assists in coordinating Wives Fellowship, and is the wife of CIU President

Bill Jones. "There's a hostess committee that greets, a creative team that does music and worship."

Because many wives are working or raising children while their husbands pursue degrees at CIU, Wives Fellowship connects these women with their husband's CIU experience.

"We are interested in marriages being strengthened, and we don't feel like it is very good for a wife to alienate herself from what her husband is doing," Jones said. "(Wives Fellowship) is very edifying, and it's very much an opportunity for them to meet people."

"It's so special to have an evening with other ladies, to be encouraged and refreshed." –Rosie Putnam, wife of CIU staff member



A "SIT by your ZIP" meeting, where the women are seated next to others in their zip code. Jeanne Miller (left), wife of former CIU President Johnny Miller, is one of the longest attending members of Wives Fellowship. She is talking with one of the newest student wives, Julia Nutter.



Rebekah Hodgson (left) and Bonnie Batson Lee. Lee is finishing her internship for the Pastoral Counseling major and her husband is finishing the Clinical Counseling program internship. Lee plans the special music at Wives Fellowship and Hodgson, a mother of five, assists her.

Wives Fellowship provides the same things CIU provides for its students: biblical teaching in the context of rich community.

"Wives Fellowship has allowed me to be involved with wonderful, godly women," Putnam said. "It's a blessing to walk through life with them through this ministry." ■



CIU Students Play “Duck, Duck, Goose” (And other more important things)

By Melissa McCutcheon, CIU Student Writer

On a sunny October afternoon, CIU senior Chris Collins found himself in a dizzying game of “Duck, Duck, Goose.” As he and a child circled the rest of the players seated on the grassy church grounds, Collins couldn’t help but smile. For him, it was just another Tuesday afternoon with his elementary school-aged friends.

Collins leads the Crane Creek tutoring program, an after-school ministry to the elementary school students in neighborhoods near the CIU campus. The program is led entirely by CIU students who gather twice a week at Temple Zion Baptist Church a mile from the CIU campus.

A visitor can see that the children love to be tutored, and the CIU tutors love the children. From the minute the children arrive to the minute they go home, the tutors are leading the children in games, taking them on piggy back rides, and helping them with their math or reading homework.

“I like the tutors, and the games, but mostly the tutors!” said Aaron, age 7.

The tutoring ministry began in 2010 when two CIU students took the initiative

to begin an after-school program for elementary-aged children. Four years later, CIU students are still reaching out to the community.

Collins took leadership of the group in spring 2013 and his love for the children and for the ministry is evident.

“My favorite part about tutoring is seeing God work in a way I didn’t expect,” Collins said. “Every day is a new experience and opportunity to help minister to the kids in my sphere of influence in one way or another.”

Collins says the goal of the ministry isn’t just fun or academic enrichment. The children, some of them unchurched, are learning to trust and serve God, both through Bible lessons and through the examples of their tutors.

“[The goal] is to give kids the opportunity and teach them to know, love, and obey God, thereby growing each day in their walk with Christ,” Collins said. “I really, really, really want them to learn to stand on His promises. And when times get tough, and they’re sitting in a puddle of tears, [they can] go back to a truth from Scripture that we taught them, and [they can] hold on to it.”

The Rev. Andre Melvin, the pastor of Temple Zion Baptist Church and a CIU alumnus, is happy to have his church host the program and support the CIU students’ ministry.

“I am grateful for the students who are investing their time and talents to minister to these precious children in the Crane Creek Community,” Melvin said. “I consider the CIU students as my co-laborers in the ministry as we here at Temple Zion Baptist Church seek to be a voice for Christ in this community.”

Meanwhile, Collins ponders who is benefiting the most from the ministry.

“At Crane Creek, we aren’t just touching [the children’s] hearts,” Collins said. “They’re touching our hearts and changing us as we do our best to change them.” ■

CIU FAST FACTS

During the 2013-14 academic year, CIU students completed **more than 12,200 hours** of service through the Christian Service Learning (CSL) program.

DEVELOPMENT

The CIU Tower Fund

The CIU Alma Mater references the towers of CIU with the lyrics: "Thy towers are pointing upward," those stately pillars that rose above the Colonia Hotel, the first home of CIU. The towers are remembered on the current campus with their finials displayed outside the administration building, and in the architecture of the Prayer Towers.

Towers are symbols of strength, endurance and safety. "For you have been my refuge, a strong tower against the foe (Psalm 61:3). A tower can provide protection from the elements (wind, rain or fire) as well as a place of refuge from enemies. The tower is strong when it is built on a solid foundation with quality material and will endure.

The CIU Tower fund provides the same qualities for those who wish to establish a legacy of giving and support for CIU student scholarships. Just like a physical tower is made of many bricks, the CIU Tower fund is made up of many individual funds, firmly established by numerous people. The CIU Tower fund is a fund for anyone and everyone who wants to create a lasting legacy, make an immediate impact on student scholarships, and build a fund over time that will endure.

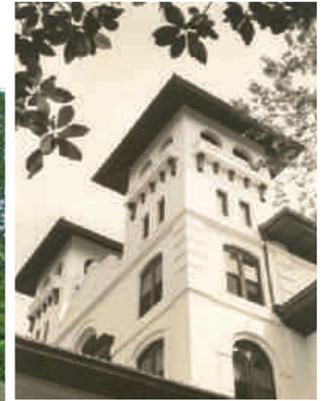
Most named scholarships or endowments at CIU require a minimum donation of \$10,000. A tower fund is established with a minimum gift of \$25 (or more) with a commitment to future support (monthly, quarterly, semiannually or annually). Your gift – and your future gifts, will accumulate toward a \$10,000 goal (plus earnings or losses from investment). But, just like the bricks of a tower, your gift will combine with other gifts to create the CIU Tower Fund and will have an immediate effect on student scholarships.

In fact, the CIU Tower fund has already made a student scholarship distribution of \$650 for the current school year and will make a similar distribution next year, all without touching the principal amount. With your participation, this tower fund will grow into a mighty fortress that will bless future generations of students.

To establish your Tower scholarship, simply include the word "Tower" on your check or electronic donation. If you would like more information, or if you would just like to chat about the Tower Fund, please contact me by phone or email. I look forward to hearing from you. ■

Frank Bedell

Director of Development
fbedell@ciu.edu
(803) 807-5001 (direct)
(800) 777-2227, ext. 5001





The 1,000 for \$1,000 Goal Together, we can make it happen!



Sometimes reaching for a distant goal can seem daunting. You feel like the kids in the back seat on their way to a faraway summer vacation destination asking, "Are we there yet?"

But here is a goal that is very achievable and very easy to get excited about. And you can be a big part of it. We're looking for 1,000 CIU alumni who will each pledge \$1,000 in 2015 or just \$83.33 per month, providing 50 CIU students with full, four-year scholarships.

For many hard-working students who struggle with the cost of an education, this kind of financial aid is a huge blessing, keeping them out of financial debt after graduation and spurring them on more quickly into their ministry or career.

With 18,000 living CIU alumni, the goal is not far away. In return for your gift to the CIU Fund by March 25 for student scholarships, you will receive a DVD copy of the documentary "A Promise Kept," the unforgettable love story of Robertson and Muriel McQuilkin that premiered at Homecoming 2014 (see page 18). As you probably know, Robertson McQuilkin resigned from his role as president of Columbia International University in 1990 to care for his wife, Muriel, who was suffering from Alzheimer's disease. The story of faithfulness and enduring love reverberated across the Christian world, and still touches people deeply today.

So are we there yet? Not quite. Not without you. Consider being a part of the 1,000 for \$1,000 goal. Visit www.ciu.edu and click on the "Donate Now" button for the CIU Fund. Or contact Alumni Relations by phone at (803) 807-5500, by email at alumni@ciu.edu or through the postal service at 7434 Monticello Road, Columbia, SC 29203. ■



THE INSIDE WORD



Check Out the Fun on CIU's Flickr Page!

See photo albums from recent CIU events and other happenings.
www.flickr.com/photos/ciuimpact



FIND CIU ON:



ALUMNI

Homecoming: Blending Past and Present

By Melissa McCutchan, CIU Student Writer

Columbia International University alumni, students, faculty, and staff gathered to celebrate another year of God's faithfulness during Homecoming weekend, Oct. 30-Nov. 1. Campus was a blend of past and present as current students enjoyed getting to know the more than 600 alumni who returned to CIU.

The weekend kicked off with a chapel service featuring CIU's Alumnus of the Year, Bill Harding III ('50), who graduated when CIU was known as Columbia Bible College. Harding and his family served as missionaries in Ethiopia, where they began clean water projects, built schools and orphanages, and helped with the treatment of the AIDS epidemic. In 2013, he and his family dedicated the Harding Bible School in Yirgacheffe, Ethiopia, which serves to develop national church leaders.

"It is truly by God's love and faithfulness that I have come this far," Harding said. "I'll always be thankful for my years at [Columbia Bible College]."

The celebration continued that evening with the third annual "speed meeting," in which current students were matched with alumni for five minutes at a time and asked to reminisce about favorite CIU memories, including favorite professors and pranks pulled on roommates.

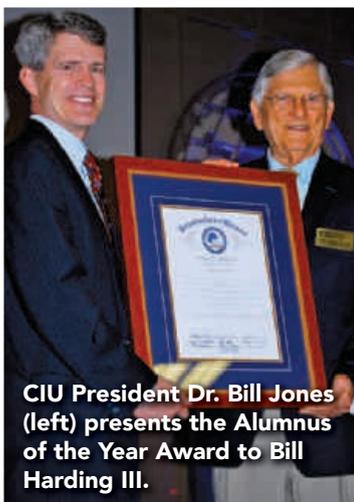
Friday's festivities included class reunions, a faculty forum led by the College of Intercultural Studies, as well as a presidential luncheon featuring Daniel Blomberg ('03), who served as legal counsel for the craft store Hobby Lobby in the famous Hobby Lobby v. Burwell Supreme Court case that ruled in favor of Hobby Lobby last year. At issue was a mandate from the U.S.

Department of Health and Human Services that would have required Hobby Lobby to supply employee health insurance coverage for potentially life-terminating contraceptives or pay fines to the IRS.

"Like many Christians nationwide, I did not want to see our nation forcing businesses to provide contraceptives to employees," Blomberg said. "If the court had chosen otherwise, Christian leaders would have to choose between their beliefs and their businesses."

Friday also included the premiere of the documentary "A Promise Kept," which tells the love story of President Emeritus Robertson McQuilkin and his wife, Muriel, during her 23-year battle with Alzheimer's disease. (See page 18.)

Most of Saturday's Homecoming activities were canceled or rescheduled due to weather conditions including the earliest recorded snow in the history of Columbia that morning. No snow accumulated on the CIU campus. Students and alumni were still able to fellowship indoors on a rainy afternoon, and alumni were grateful for their time back at CIU. ■



CIU President Dr. Bill Jones (left) presents the Alumnus of the Year Award to Bill Harding III.



Current students and alumni get to know each other in five minute intervals during a speed-meeting in the Student Center.



Fireworks over the soccer field capped off Friday's events.

ALUMNI

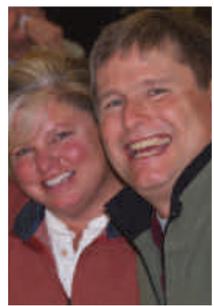
Homecoming 2014

"A huge thank you to all who made Homecoming and our 50th class reunion so very enjoyable, memorable and spiritually uplifting. How reassuring to see our alma mater holding to the same core principles it did when we were there...even to having them engraved on the rocks around the campus! To God be the Glory!" **-Mary Anne (Stauffacher) Harris ('64)**

"I found Homecoming to be a wonderful experience of reconnecting and of learning. Not only were the "Class Reunion Sessions" rich, but the general program for the weekend was special. For me, one of the "Break-out Groups" on Friday presenting questions for doing evangelism was particularly insightful and gave me something I've been looking for, for years." **-David Langford ('64)**

"I'm still walking around in the glow of it." **-Eleanor "Buzzy" Rupp ('64)**

"Homecoming was a wonderful time for me and I appreciate deeply all of the hard work and abundant time you invested to make it great." **-Angela Dowling Towler ('94)**



Homecoming Class Reunions



Want to see who they are? Visit www.ciu.edu/alumni or scan the QR code to see their names!



SAVE THE DATE
HOMEcoming 2015
November 5-7



Check out upcoming events and the speaking schedules of President Bill Jones and Chancellor George Murray @ ciu.me/ciuevents

ALUMNI Class Notes

Grover ('53) and Nancy DeVault say they have so much to be thankful for. They continue to minister to their daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren, and work with Cadence International, an evangelical mission agency dedicated to reaching military communities in the United States and around the world. revggd@verizon.net

James ('54) and Alice Vargo are retired after working with several ministries in the United States and abroad, including Joni and Friends. They collected 60 wheelchairs for international distribution and Russian Ministries, and assembled 75,000 gospel bracelets for delivery to Ukraine and Siberia. After being out of touch with CIU because of their many moves, they passed along their contact information to Alumni Relations and encourage other alumni to do so as well. Contact James and Alice at: gospelcolors@gmail.com

Elsie Maxwell ('58) is a speaker for European Leadership Forum. Elsie has extensive experience in the world of Islam, serving with Arab World Ministries since 1958 and for 27 years in Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco. Since 1984 she has been working among Arabs in London while teaching Islamic courses at the London Bible College. elsie.maxwell@outlook.com



Ted ('64) and Graci Haas lived in an isolated bush community in the Arctic Circle as missionaries with the Northern Canada Evangelical Mission for 10 years. While there, Ted produced a Christian radio program for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. They have since moved to southern Canada and transitioned into pastoral responsibilities.

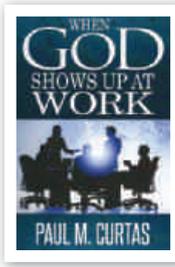
They look back with satisfaction, gratitude and a sense of fulfillment. ted.haas.215@gmail.com

Bill ('68) and Lois Zeeb served the Lord for 40 years in Brazil and are currently semi-retired. They are involved with various ministries in their local church, and recently started a small group for fellowship and Bible study with four couples made up of American men married to Brazilian women. They deeply appreciate the opportunity to encourage these younger couples in their walk with the Lord. bill.zeeb@crossworld.org

Samuel "Boosh" ('74) and Chandra Thomas continue to serve the Lord in the United States and India, and are very grateful to God for all His blessings and ministry opportunities. They have three children: Rebecca, Joseph and Deborah. boosh.chandra@gmail.com

Rick Hines ('85) has returned to his hometown of Huntington, Indiana after being away for 30 years. After working in the Arctic Circle, and for G.E. in Fort Wayne, Indiana, Rick

followed God's leading to CIU where he met and married his wife, Margaret McDonald ('85). After seminary Rick served in churches in Indiana, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin where he earned a Doctor of Ministry degree and a master's degree in bio-ethics. Rick is excited to be the new lead pastor at Union Church and is looking forward to a long and fruitful ministry. Rickhines57@gmail.com



Paul Curtas ('87) is the executive director of The Fellowship of Christian Airline Personnel based in Georgia, ministering in airline workplaces around the world. He recently published a book, "When God Shows Up At Work." paul@fcap.org

Doug Pollock ('90) Doug's ministry with Athletes in Action has taken him to 29 countries, six continents, and throughout most of the United States to share God's message. In addition he is a YMCA chaplain, author, and speaker. He and his wife Martha have two boys, David and Jonathan. Doug.Pollock@AthletesinAction.org

Daniel Situka ('90) is president and founder of Sovereign Wings of Hope, a ministry that cares for terminally-ill patients in Uganda. As a chaplain, Daniel has served with VITAS Hospice for over 15 years, and has been a pastor and assistant pastor at churches in the United States and Uganda. More recently, he opened Wings of Hope Christian Academy. daniel@swoh.org



Doug ('92) and Tricia ('93) Stoner live in Vienna as area leaders for Pioneers in Central Europe equipping and empowering church planters. They have two children, Ryan (21) and Megan (18). Pray for the Lord to continue to send more workers to Europe, for the churches there to multiply, and for laborers to go once again from Europe. dtstoner@gmail.com

James Menzies ('94) received his Ph.D. from Salve Regina University in Newport, Rhode Island. His newly released book is based on his doctoral dissertation "True Myth: C.S. Lewis and Joseph Campbell on the Veracity of Christianity." It addresses the question "What does it mean to be human?" by exploring myth and religion in the thinking of mythologist Joseph Campbell and Oxford don C.S. Lewis. Menziespbc@aol.com

Uche Ekeh ('94) recently published "The Mystery and Miracle of New Birth," a book for believers who desire to know and practice sound biblical doctrine. Uche is in ordained ministry with Goodnews Community International Victory Center in Columbia, South Carolina. He and his wife, Joyce, have three daughters and one son. caniceaku@yahoo.com

Tom ('00) and Pavitra (Anna) Spainhour have been in Siliguri, India for a year serving with several ministries to the Nepali/Bengali communities. They have two sons, Luke and Levi. Spainhour@gmail.com



Justin Griffin ('03) is the pastor at Memorial Presbyterian Church in San Augustine, Texas. As a blind person, Justin learned how to live in constant communication with God, similar to what the Apostle Paul said to do in I Thessalonians 5:17: "Pray continually." He recently wrote "A Little Book on Prayer," answering many questions

people have about prayer. Justin and his wife Joanna have two girls: Justina and Jessy. jjjjgriff@gmail.com

Bill Porter ('06) has been teaching English for 12 years at a vocational college in China where students learn practical job skills. wkp@prontopost.org



Aimee (Tipton) ('07) & Jonathan Reeves welcomed baby girl Serenity Aileen, their first child, on July 10, 2014. aimersreeves@gmail.com

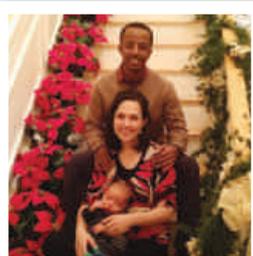
Merry Anna (Greene) ('08) and Thomas Staub serve as English teachers at a school in Southeast Asia. Pray for them as they learn the language so they can develop friendships and have opportunity to present the gospel. MerryA718@gmail.com



Matt ('09) and Joy Burke have been training pastors in Uganda using oral Bible methods and community health empowerment. In addition, they share Bible stories with refugees living in Kampala, and disciple and mobilize university students into greater involvement in God's mission. They have two children, Judah and Lily. joyandmatt.burke@gmail.com



Abeneazer Urga ('14) and Jessie Udall ('13) welcomed Daniel to their family on Nov. 12, 2014. They will soon relocate to Addis Ababa to join in the work of equipping Ethiopians as cross-cultural workers to reach the unreached. equippingethiopians@gmail.com ■



With The Lord

James Davison Philips ('37) – September 2014
Dorothy Ross ('38) – October 2014
Clara Austin Robeson ('43) – September 2014
Agnes McMahan Morgan ('44) – August 2014
Dorothy Stoddard ('47) – August 2014
Mildred Clark ('48) – October 2014
Louise Mitchell Holbrook ('50) – January 2015
Chester Polasky ('50) – May 2014
Thomas Wilson ('50) – November 2014
Betty Rosenberger ('51) – September 2014
Stanley Barthold ('52) – November 2012
Kathleen Omaye Yamada ('54) – December 2014
James Ellis ('55) – July 2014
Jeanette Turnquist ('55) – September 2014
Gordon Case ('56) – April 2014
Dorothy Johnson ('56) – November 2014
Alice Lathrop Voorhees ('58) – December 2014
Evelyn Baillie Janzen ('59) – November 2014
Hugo Lehmann ('59) – November 2014
Phillip Lam ('61) – January 2015
Carlin Weinbauer ('64) – April 2014
Phillis Gilley O'Farrell ('68) – December 2014
Rhonda Worrell ('76) – December 2014
David McComb ('89) – September 2014
Steven Ryan Powell ('12) – September 2014
Truett Cathy – Honorary Doctorate – September 2014
Alan Rehn – Former Staff – September 2014



Betty Dent, a former member of the CIU Board of Trustees, passed away in West Columbia, South Carolina on Nov. 10, 2014. She was 82. Betty supported her husband, the late Harry Dent Sr. as he served in numerous leadership positions in state and federal government, including service to three U.S. presidents. In the mid-1970s, Betty served on the S.C. Mental Health Advisory Board and was recognized as one of the Ten Most Outstanding Women in Columbia.



George William "Bill" Supplee, longtime CIU music director, died peacefully on Oct. 30, 2014 in Camden, South Carolina. He was 90 years old. In 1949, Supplee became CIU's director of music and the Ambassador Choir and served for the next 40 years.



The **Rev. Dr. Donald James Trouten**, a former dean of CIU passed away on Dec. 2, 2014. He was 88. Trouten became dean in 1977, and taught at CIU until his retirement in 1995. He also served as assistant dean for three years in what is now CIU Seminary & School of Ministry. Following his retirement, Trouten returned to CIU on a part-time basis until 2002. He was named dean emeritus of the Bible College of CIU in 2001.



Update your alumni profile
 @ ciu.me/alumniprofile

ALUMNI



Who among your family and friends is looking into college or a graduate/seminary degree?

Be sure to let them know about upcoming Columbia International University events designed just for them.

Open House

February 26 | 6-8 p.m.

An informal time to have questions answered and take a tour of CIU's beautiful campus. No set schedule. Just stop by and chat with Admissions staff, Financial Aid, professors and current CIU students. Prospective undergraduate, graduate and seminary students are welcome.

Graduate and Seminary Online Open House

March 12 | 7-8 p.m.

Earn select CIU degrees completely online. Meet online and on-campus CIU students who share your vision and goals for ministry. Representatives from Admissions and Financial Aid will be on hand to explain the application and enrollment process.

Graduate and Seminary Preview Day

March 27 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Hear from current students, meet professors, connect with admissions, career services, academic services and financial aid experts. Find out how a graduate or seminary degree from CIU can advance your career or ministry.

Open House/Transfer Day

April 11 | 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Prospective undergraduate, graduate and seminary students are welcome to drop in and have their questions answered in an informal atmosphere. Plus, transfer students may also bring their transcripts for on-the-spot evaluation.

Undergraduate Preview Days

April 23-24

Experience college with an overnight in the residence halls, hang out with current students, meet professors, attend a class, eat in the dining hall, and participate in campus activities. Find out where your passion can lead you after graduation.

They can learn more or register at:

www.ciu.edu/visit
 (800) 777-2227, 5024
yesciu@ciu.edu

THE FINAL WORD

A CIU Education: Anytime, Anywhere

At Columbia International University, commitment to our mission includes making a biblically-based education available to qualified students anytime, anywhere in the world, not just at our campus at 7435 Monticello Road in Columbia. So when I saw a recent survey by Aslanian Market Research showing that 44 percent of students enrolled or planning to enroll in an online program did not even consider classroom-based programs when searching for a college, it caught my attention. Our expansion and improvement of online degree programs play a central role in CIU's strategic plans for the future.

Online courses have been available at CIU for many years, mostly as an option to our on-campus students, and select degrees can be earned entirely online. But the increasingly rapid growth of the Internet opens up even more possibilities for people around the world to benefit from a CIU online education.

CIU recently entered into a partnership with Capital Education (CapEd), a full-service provider of online learning programs, who will support CIU in a new approach to online learning. CapEd assists in the online program development process, from program assessment to student recruitment and support. With the help of CapEd's extensive experience and expertise, a CIU education becomes available to an entirely new and expanded market of prospective students worldwide. The course content and campus culture will remain uniquely CIU – it is a true virtual campus!

The survey by Aslanian Market Research also shows that an overwhelming majority of students prefer academic terms shorter than traditional 15-week semesters. With that in mind, CIU plans to roll out several of our existing graduate-level programs in new eight-week fully-online formats starting in late spring, and adding more in summer, with full online implementation of our graduate-level programs in fall 2015. Undergraduate programs will be added online in the future.

Be assured of this: CIU online programs consist of more than just a convenient platform for a graduate-level degree. Online programs reflect all aspects of CIU's mission, including spiritual formation, caring personal relationships and a sense of true community within the university as online students connect with each other and the faculty through the virtual classroom and online forums.

CIU educates students from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ. That impact increases as we continue to branch out from Monticello Road to the world by taking advantage of, and embracing new ways of delivering online education. Please remember CIU in prayer as we embark on this ambitious endeavor.

Yours for His glory,



William H. Jones
President

Our expansion and improvement of online degree programs play a central role in CIU's strategic plans for the future.



CIU **TODAY**



CONGRATULATIONS

CIU Men's Soccer **Coach James Whitaker** and Soccer Standout **Tyler Smith** Have Been Recognized Nationally.

Coach Whitaker is the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) South Region Coach of the Year.

Tyler Smith is being honored by the National Soccer Coaches Association (NSCAA) and the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) as a 2nd Team All-American. The prestigious award is the first by a CIU student-athlete.