Celebrating Legacy
Moving Forward in Faith

Plus, Remembering Larkin and Hulbert
90 Years of FAITH and the Future of CIU

You might think an institution celebrating its 90th anniversary would be able to rest on its accomplishments and good name and coast into its centennial year. While we express gratitude for God’s faithfulness toward Columbia International University over the last nine decades, and have had a great time commemorating our anniversary this school year, we won’t rest on the past. The future lies before us.

This edition of “Connection” magazine focuses on the future of higher education, especially as it relates to CIU and our purpose to educate people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ. The heart of this purpose did not rise out of a board room meeting or a brain-storming session. It did not result from focus group consensus or the latest polling data. Our purpose comes from the very Word of God. Before Jesus left the earth, he left instructions: “make disciples of all the nations.”

And so with that mandate, we educate. And by His guidance, we plan. In the pages that follow, you’ll read the details regarding our three-year strategic plan called F.A.I.T.H. This blueprint for the future focuses on Everyone, Everywhere and Every Opportunity. In other words, it works toward the goal of an affordable CIU education for all qualifying students, no matter where they live, giving them every opportunity to follow God’s call on their life.

The F.A.I.T.H. initiative contains ambitious goals. So how will we pay for it? That also involves faith — moving “Forward in Faith.” That’s the title of our five-year, $36 million fundraising campaign that focuses on growth in gift income for financial aid, more academic programs and modernized facilities. The article on Forward in Faith introduces you to CIU students who benefit from the generosity of CIU donors, and as one student plainly states, she studies at CIU today only because of the gifts that fund CIU scholarships.

Meanwhile, to stay competitive in higher education, we have to keep track of the latest trends. CIU Provost Dr. James Lanpher does an incredible job of doing just that day by day and outlines his findings in the pages ahead. I think you’ll especially find our cost-comparison chart encouraging, showing the affordability of a quality CIU education when matched with other universities and colleges.

I’m also excited about the plans for growth at CIU’s campus in Korntal, Germany. The expanding student body there has resulted in an ever-increasing number of programs that assist graduates in sharing the gospel in a multicultural world.

Ben Lippen School also looks to the future. Our Pre-K to 12th grade Christian school will celebrate its 75th anniversary next year and Headmaster Chip Jones discusses a bright future at a school where the students’ SAT scores are above the national average, and where many of them become National Merit finalists.

Ever wonder about the future of Christian radio? Joe Paulo, the director of CIU’s radio stations in Columbia and Charlotte considers that question often. With a crowded radio dial and multiple choices for music, information, and inspiration, Joe has his finger on the pulse of the industry and discusses how WMHK and New Life 91.9 meet the challenges and stay relevant in today’s world.

As CIU begins the march toward 100 years of impact, we’ve mapped out some aggressive plans, calling our attention to our core value of Prayer & Faith. We cannot do it without God.

Meanwhile, we celebrate legacy as we remember Dr. Terry Hulbert and Dr. Bill Larkin, beloved CIU professors who passed away within days of each other in late February. Together they represent nearly eight decades of impact on thousands of CIU students. We remember their contributions and thank God for the foundation of faith they laid at CIU.

As you enjoy this edition of “Connection,” please bathe each page in prayer and ask God to give us guidance as we continue to educate people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.

Yours for His glory,

William H. Jones
President
Columbia International University students gathered at the end of the fall semester to celebrate God’s faithfulness in their various off-campus ministries. Student Mission Connection (SMC) hosted a Christmas cookie social for the students to fellowship and share testimonies of what God had done through them.

“We’re here to celebrate,” SMC member and junior Matthew Dunavant announced. “God has done great things this semester, and that’s exciting.”

SMC is a student organization that connects CIU students with ministry opportunities in Columbia. Students form ministry teams to reach out to various segments of the community, including the homeless, internationals, victims of sex trafficking, and many others.

“I joined the international ministry this semester,” junior Whitney Spradley said. “There’s an international Bible study every Friday. It’s so exciting to eat a meal and open the Word of God with these people.”

Students also shared testimonies of how God is moving in the Muslim ministry. In the fall of 2012, some SMC members prayed for opportunities to befriend Muslims in Columbia. A year later, the ministry is thriving.

“I didn’t realize how much God had moved until I sat down and thought about it,” Muslim ministry leader and sophomore Amy Hollinger said. “God has opened so many doors, and we’re excited to see what He’s going to do.”

Keith Stokeld Appointed

Keith Stokeld is CIU’s first chief financial officer. He has been at CIU since 2009 overseeing budgeting and financial reporting. In his new role as CFO, Stokeld assesses the financial aspects of plans under consideration, determines the allocation of financial resources to support the institutional strategy, provides thorough financial accountability, and addresses financial resource needs.

Stokeld holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the University of Texas-Austin and is a licensed CPA. He also has a Master of Theology degree in Cross-Cultural Church Planting from Dallas Theological Seminary. Prior to coming to CIU, Stokeld served overseas for 14 years as a marketplace professional and as a church-planting strategist/team leader.

Day of Hope at New Life 91.9

New Life 91.9 in Charlotte declared Jan. 8 a “Day of Hope” by showing how Jesus is the answer no matter what. On-air conversations with local pastors and guests, including CIU Professor of Systematic Theology Larry Dixon, urged listeners to be honest in dealing with real life faith issues.

Topics included forgiveness, heaven, following Jesus, our identity in Christ, reliability of the Bible, and hope in suffering.

Listeners phoned the station to receive prayer and encouragement from volunteers and staff. More than 160 calls were answered, an average of 23 per hour. Callers received a follow-up email with links to resources and were offered the book “Not a Fan” by Kyle Idleman, which answers the question, “Are you a follower of Jesus?”
Transformation of CIU Bookstore Underway

The Columbia International University bookstore is undergoing a major change this spring semester. Books are out, while coffee and conversation are in.

Until recently, students could purchase their textbooks from the on-campus bookstore in the Rossi Student Center. However, with more students purchasing their textbooks online, the CIU administration decided it was time to switch to an online provider for textbooks, as well.

“The school decided it would be better for the students, since the trend is to order [textbooks] online,” store manager Kathy Weathersby explained.

Beginning with the removal of bookshelves, the bookstore began the transformation to a campus store and café where students can buy a snack, study in a relaxed atmosphere or fellowship over a cup of coffee.

“I like the idea of having a coffee shop right in the student center,” sophomore Hannah Jones said. “It’s easily accessible and is a great hangout spot to either get stuff done, or chill with friends.”

While the initial changes are modest — additional seating, cappuccinos, and fresh-baked cookies — there are plans for major renovations in the near future.

“If God provides the funds, we plan on doing a total remodel in the summer and reopen in the fall, with an expanded food selection and improved seating,” Weathersby said. “We hope to offer evening pizza, a grill, something that’s open when the cafeteria is closed.”

In addition to offering a broader selection of food, the store stocks school supplies and CIU-embossed clothing and CIU Rams spirit wear.

As the campus store and café begins to take shape, the management will be surveying students for improvements, including a name for the location.

“This is for the students,” Weathersby said. “We want to provide what they want to see.”

Athletes Excel

The Rams are excelling on the field and in the classroom. The CIU intercollegiate athletics program is just over two years old, but already 13 athletes have been recognized by the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA).

Five CIU athletes were named NCCAA All-Scholars. They include David Druin from the men’s soccer team, Jeremy Gilbert and Jack Lewis from the men’s cross country team and Laurel Dorman and Melissa Turlington from the women’s cross country team. NCCAA All-Scholars must be a junior or senior and have a grade point average of at least 3.4.

Three athletes from the men’s soccer team were named to the NCCAA All-Region 2nd Team. They are Daniel Mallard, Daniel Miele and Tyler Smith. They were selected by a committee of coaches as top performers in the South Region.

In cross country, five athletes were named NCCAA All-Region Performer after finishing in the top 15 in the South Region meet. They include from the men’s team: Drew Lindman, Jack Lewis and Scott Swier. All-Region Performer women are Alexis Zwilling and Dianna Gentry.
Congratulations to CIU Alumni

President Obama Honors Don Sarazen
A 1992 alumnus of CIU is a recipient of the prestigious Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. Don Sarazen, a math teacher who graduated with a master’s degree in Teaching and a Certificate in Biblical Studies, is among mathematics and science teachers from all 50 states to be recognized. The annual award honors outstanding K-12 science and mathematics teachers who are selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians and educators following an initial selection process at the state level. Winners receive a $10,000 award from the National Science Foundation.

Sarazen has been a public school elementary teacher for 20 years, mostly in the Columbia, S.C. area. In addition, he taught for two years in Chengdu, China, with International Schools of China.

Sarazen, who teaches with the belief that if no learning has occurred, then no teaching has taken place, says he is humbled and honored to receive the Presidential Award. “It serves as a reminder to me that God and others are responsible for the achievements in my life,” Sarazen said. “So, in a larger sense I represent the educators I have worked with and students I have taught. This award encourages me to teach with renewed purpose, to accept new challenges, and to serve my colleagues to the best of my ability.”

Sarazen also serves his alma mater as the president of the CIU Alumni Association Leadership Council (AALC).

Brent McHugh is Christar’s New International Director
The new international director of the Christian nonprofit organization Christar is a CIU graduate who will focus on bringing the gospel to people who have had little or no exposure to Christianity.

Brent McHugh, who graduated from CIU with a Master of Arts in 2003, was installed to his new position on Jan. 17 at a celebration banquet at the Christar headquarters in Richardson, Texas. The speaker was CIU president Dr. Bill Jones.

David Emerson Named CEO of Fifth Largest Red Cross Chapter
CIU alumnus David Emerson is the new chief executive officer of The American Red Cross Grand Canyon Chapter located in Phoenix. It is the fifth largest Red Cross chapter in the United States, serving more than five million people in Arizona. It has 30 staff members, 500 adult volunteers and 400 youth volunteers.

Emerson graduated with a Master of Arts degree from CIU in 2000.

City of Columbia Honors Pete Cannon
The city of Columbia memorialized CIU alumnus Pete Cannon with the dedication of a city center parking deck in his honor.

Cannon, who passed away in 2010, graduated from CIU Seminary & School of Ministry in 1982. Cannon, a businessman with heart for ministry, was known in Columbia for his influence on economic development and for founding HIS International in 1991 — an outreach to the many international students who attend the University of South Carolina in Columbia. Today, HIS also has ministries on campuses in Charlotte, N.C. (University of North Carolina), and Blacksburg, Va. (Virginia Tech), as well as a volunteer service group in Boca Raton, Fla. (Florida Atlantic University).

Winner of Full-Tuition Scholarship is from Florida
The winner of the 2013 R.C. McQuilkin Leadership Scholarship is a leader at his church, high school and in his community. Andrew Hampshire of Orlando, Fla. was awarded the full-tuition scholarship following a weekend of competition on the CIU campus, Nov. 14-16.

The Ninth Annual R.C McQuilkin Scholarship Weekend included 47 high school seniors representing 11 states, with one student travelling from the country of Hungary. The weekend featured intense interviews, interactive group activities, panel discussions and just plain fun.

Andrew learned that he was the winner of the scholarship on the Monday following the competition when he received a congratulatory phone call from CIU president Dr. Bill Jones.

“I was very surprised,” Andrew said. “I guess I was kind of shocked.”

Andrew was very familiar with CIU long before the competition. His father and mother, John and Cindy Hampshire, graduated from CIU in the 1980s and his sister Kristy in 2012. Andrew was born and lived the first 10 years of his life in Nairobi, Kenya where his parents served as Wycliffe Bible Translators, influencing
Andrew Hampshire

his decision to major in Intercultural Studies at CIU so he can also be prepared for missionary work after graduation.

“I’ve always loved mission trips, and I love meeting new people,” Andrew said. “It just seems like that is where God is leading me.”

Andrew’s love for God and for people led him into a busy life of outreach during his high school years. He has served at his public high school as the leader of the on-campus chapter of CRU (the former Campus Crusade for Christ), in a variety of settings in his community, and most importantly to Andrew, at his church. There he says he “hangs out” with middle school-age youth and spends time with them “having conversations about God and where they are spiritually.”

The R.C. McQuilkin Leadership Scholarship is named after CIU’s first president who believed in strong Christian character and academic excellence.

Attention Overseas “Connection” Readers

In our efforts to be good stewards of God’s resources to us, “Connection” magazine will no longer be mailed to addresses outside of the United States beginning with the fall 2014 edition. This is due to the increasing cost of postage. But the good news is, “Connection,” as well as other CIU publications, are always available to you online at www.ciu.edu/publications. At that page you have the option of printing a pdf version of the magazine. “Connection” is published in April and November each year.

Thank you for your understanding,
- Bob Holmes, “Connection” editor

Yee-Haw!

Columbia International University undergraduate students got into the spirit of autumn with an ol’ fashioned hoedown under the picnic pavilion at the CIU Lake. Students put on their cowboy hats and pulled on their boots for square dancing, a wood chopin’ contest and a pie eating competition.

Fun in the Snow!

Caleb Hamilton slides down a hill on a CIU snow day in January. Classes were cancelled for two days when Columbia received a rare snowfall of just over two inches. An ice storm in February cancelled classes for three days.

Flashback Friday at Ben Lippen School

Ben Lippen School welcomed more than 150 high school alumni athletes, coaches, and alumni parents to campus to celebrate a quarter century of Ben Lippen athletics in Columbia. Championship coaches and teams from the past 25 years were recognized during halftime of a basketball game against East Dayton Christian from Ohio, coached by Stephen Noel, a former Ben Lippen basketball coach. Fans were encouraged to participate in “Flashback Friday” by wearing old letter jackets, jerseys, and athletic shirts.

Among those recognized were Ben Lippen’s most decorated male and female athletes: cross country runner Graham Tribble (2006) and swimmer Katie Shoemaker (2012).
They also have a set of goals to carry out the dream. The three-year strategic plan which was launched in July 2013 is called F.A.I.T.H.

“When looking at what lies before us, I began thinking, ‘we need to trust God as never before.’” Jones told a CIU Chapel as he presented the plan, explaining that he named it F.A.I.T.H. “because that puts our focus where it belongs.” He then outlined the meaning of the plan’s acrostic:

F- Funding for Student Scholarships
A- Accessibility through Online Degrees
I- Initiatives for Academic Programs
T- Transformation of Campus Facilities
H- Harvesters for World Impact

As Jones articulates it, the plan focuses on Everyone, (funding for student scholarships), Everywhere (accessibility through online degrees) and Every Opportunity (initiatives for academic programs).

The F.A.I.T.H. Strategic Plan follows the successful completion of the three-year F.O.R.W.A.R.D. Strategic Plan that focused on facilities and infrastructure improvement, an increase in online degrees, the initiation of the athletics program, maximizing the use of technology to improve productivity, the expansion of academic programs, and more strategic efforts in student recruitment and development growth.

Everyone

In outlining the new F.A.I.T.H. priorities, Jones was passionate about increasing student scholarships saying that dozens of students cannot enroll each semester because they don’t have the money — often falling short by only a few thousand dollars.

“We never want to have to turn away anyone who is qualified academically and in character who desires to serve the Lord in ministry, missions or the marketplace.” - President Bill Jones

Everywhere

Not only does Jones want to make a CIU education more affordable, but also more accessible, or in another words — everywhere.

“We took seriously the challenge over six years ago to make sure our
courses are available everywhere English is spoken,” Jones said noting that nearly a dozen CIU master’s degrees or certificates can already be earned completely online or as a hybrid, with more online programs under development.

Also in the fall of 2014, the Chinese Initiative will launch offering people who speak Chinese, for-credit courses from CIU. Jones says it’s time to think beyond the boundaries of CIU’s main campus.

“Our purpose to educate people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ cannot be limited by Monticello Road and the Broad River,” Jones said. “So regardless of where you are living in the world, you can study at CIU.”

Every Opportunity

Jones says a rapidly changing world means adding academic programs over the next few years to equip CIU students for their calling. Among the programs to be added in the fall of 2014 are undergraduate majors in teacher education and three new interdisciplinary majors in intercultural studies that combine intercultural studies with business, communication, or community development. A unique undergraduate minor in chaplaincy will also be introduced.

“In the fall of 2015 we hope to add a Sports Leadership major, opening up an exciting new avenue of ministry for our students,” Jones said. “We’re also actively considering a variety of other program additions that would contribute to enhancing every opportunity for CIU graduates.”

Harvesters for World Impact

Finally, Jones said that if the first four points of the F.A.I.T.H. plan are carried out, then the first half of the CIU purpose statement is accomplished: CIU educates people from a biblical worldview. But if the last point, Harvesters for World Impact is missed, then the second part of the purpose statement remains unfulfilled: to impact the nations with the message of Christ.

“You are the workers, you are the next generation to evangelize the world,” Jones concluded, “and we want to give you the best education possible.”

Senior Kris Stikeleather, an Intercultural Studies major learns international community development skills in a CIU partnership with the h.e.a.r.t program (Hunger Education and Resource Training) in Lake Wales, Fla. (photo courtesy: Kris Stikeleather)

Completed the renovation of all undergraduate residence halls. And while no specific timeline has been finalized, renovation of the Fisher Building and Shortess Chapel are in the plan as well as the completion of the athletic fields to make way for intercollegiate baseball and softball.

“Ambitious? No, we are just trusting God for big things,” Jones said.

36 Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. 38 Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest.”

“You are the workers, you are the next generation to evangelize the world,” Jones concluded, “and we want to give you the best education possible.”
Forward in FAITH

By Bob Holmes

Ricki Blakeney was valedictorian of her high school class, student body president and active in her community. She had offers to attend several colleges and universities, all with generous financial aid packages. But Blakeney says, “no matter how much they were paying, none of the colleges and universities that I had to choose from was able to train me biblically and vocationally.”

Then she heard about Columbia International University and she says she “knew within my heart of hearts that God wanted me at CIU!”

While academic and outside scholarships covered her freshman year, she had concerns about financing her sophomore year. But CIU donor scholarships provided the opportunity for her to return to CIU another year without taking out any loans. And it is donor scholarships that allowed her to do the same thing her junior year.

“It’s amazing when God commands one of His children to go somewhere even if the road has not yet been paved,” Blakeney said. “It’s even more amazing when you see that God told another one of His children, a scholarship donor, to pave that road for you!”

More Students to Make an Impact

President Bill Jones says CIU’s five-year, $36 million Forward in Faith fundraising campaign is designed to enroll and support more students just like Blakeney. While the major focus is on growth in gift income for financial aid and the endowment, academic programs and modernized facilities are also included making it possible for CIU to enhance its mission of educating more students from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.

“Currently, almost 1,200 undergraduate and graduate-level students attend CIU each year, but to make an impact on the world through more biblically-educated graduates, we have an aggressive goal of increasing our enrollment to over 1,500 students over the next five years,” Jones said.
Financial Aid is Vital

Jeff Wheeler, CIU senior vice president for institutional advancement says that for students such as Ricki Blakeney — and future CIU students — an increase of $13 million in financial aid and scholarships is a key component to Forward in Faith.

“CIU is adding new academic programs that pique the interest of prospective students, so it is essential that financial aid is available to them,” Wheeler said. “Without it, many simply won’t be able to enroll or they won’t have the finances to complete their degree.”

Expanding Market-Driven Programs

New academic programs are equipping CIU students for the challenges of the 21st century. Recent additions to CIU’s choice of majors include English, Media Arts, Church Ministry and a Youth Ministry Leadership master’s degree. But senior Eric Rios is especially grateful for the addition of the Digital Media & Cinema major.

“I love video and photography, and I would like digital media to be my profession,” Rios said. “God has placed in my heart the desire to help ministries produce promotional videos. This is my call, this is my mission, to proclaim God’s salvation plan through media, even in countries or places where preaching the gospel is prohibited.”

Meanwhile, Vice President Wheeler points to another recently added market-driven major for the new century: Business & Organizational Leadership.

“Laying a foundation for sustained success of these new programs with top professors and classroom resources, and promoting them through aggressive marketing requires additional funding over the next five years,” Wheeler said. “Donor support expands the options for prospective students as they discover God’s road of marketplace or ministry service for Him.”

Operational Support

Infrastructure development and enrollment growth are becoming inextricably linked to success in higher education including up-to-date IT services and innovative Web support. Higher education consultant Noel-Levitz reports over 30 percent of all students start their college search on the Web. Consequently, Wheeler says a strong Web presence is crucial to enrollment growth at CIU.

“Reaching the goal of 1,500 students over the next five years requires funding to upgrade our Web presence and maintain a solid technological infrastructure for both students and faculty,” Wheeler said. Meanwhile, Wheeler notes that an increase in enrollment will go a long way in helping to sustain the daily obligations of salaries, utilities and other maintenance.

Facility Enhancement

Daniel Mallard says that playing intercollegiate soccer at CIU and being educated and equipped for his future career is “a dream come true.” Mallard, the first player to sign with the Rams prior to CIU’s inaugural season in intercollegiate athletics, desires to be a teacher and soccer coach in Brazil. But his dreams would be on the shelf without the CIU athletic facilities. Mallard says he is “very grateful for the quality of the soccer field and how well it is maintained,” and is hopeful that additional athletics facilities will be added in the near future.

Wheeler understands. He says it is vital to have up-to-date facilities that enhance CIU’s new athletics program and other facilities and activities.

“Financial Aid is our number one priority for the campaign,” Wheeler said. “But should God bless Forward in Faith above the initial goal, facility expansion and improvements would be undertaken in the completion of athletic fields and the renovation of the Rossi Student Center, Shortess Chapel and the Fisher Classroom Building.”

A Final Word from Ricki

Meanwhile, Ricki Blakeney encourages “any and everyone to be a blessing to a prospective student by giving financially.”

“Sometimes it is the lack of funds that keep people from being able to attend CIU to be better trained to impact the nations with the message of Christ,” Blakeney said. “I thank God for the obedience of the donors. Without their obedience, I would very likely not be at CIU today.”

Establishing an Endowment at CIU

Endowments provide immediate and future funding of student scholarships. With a gift of at least $10,000 you can make an impact for generations to come. For example, with the power of an endowment, a $25,000 gift, over the next 25 years will:

$ Generate student scholarships totaling $35,500
$ Have a market value of approximately $48,500
(estimate based on an 8% ROI, 5% scholarship annually)

In the coming school year, CIU endowments will generate $578,150 in student scholarship assistance while maintaining the integrity of the original gifts used to establish the endowments.

Here are two examples of recently established endowments:

The Delaine Price Blackwell Bible Teaching Endowment honors Delaine Blackwell who served on the Ben Lippen Board of Directors for 24 years and the CIU Board of Trustees for 18 years. The endowment makes scholarships available for women God has called to study, live and teach His Word.

Dr. Henry Ludwig “Rick” Milne III is honored through the establishment of an endowment generating scholarships for students who demonstrate a heart for missions and plan on a career as a foreign missionary. Dr. Milne displayed kindness, faith, wisdom, generosity and love as he served his Lord and Savior and people.
A new buzzword in the media is “disruption.” It refers to the belief among many industries that new realities don’t just evolve, but that they are happening so rapidly and in so many ways, that they need revolutionary change just to keep up. Whether it counts as disruption or not, higher education is changing quickly and I’d like to highlight several of the trends that we’re seeing.

One of the main areas of change is technology and the development of online courses, including massively open online courses (MOOCs) that enroll thousands or tens of thousands of students. We are also approaching a time when virtually all students will have some mix of online and face-to-face course experiences. At CIU, we’ve invested in online course development and several of our graduate programs are available completely online. This provides flexibility for students and is enabling people to benefit from a CIU education who would not have been able to do so in the past.

Demographics
Another trend we see is in the demographics of future students. A report in “The Chronicle of Higher Education” shows that nationally the number of students reaching college age will decline 5.3 percent between now and 2028. The good news is that in South Carolina, from which we recruit the largest portion of our undergraduate students, the number reaching college age will actually increase by 0.5 percent. While the overall decline will challenge all schools, CIU will face a much better reality than schools in the Midwest and Northeast where many states will experience double digit declines in the number of potential students.

Societal Trends
We also see disturbing societal trends, especially in the areas of sexual ethics and marriage. Our society no longer recognizes that the only valid marriage is between a man and a woman and the word “marriage” now needs an adjective before it to describe what type is under discussion. The confusion about marriage comes from our society’s inclination to normalize all sexual relationships as long as they involve consenting adults. This is the ideology now promoted in our public schools, in our courts, by (most of) our political leaders, by the media, in secular higher education and even in some “Christian” churches and schools. Those who hold this ideology do not just seek to advance it; they also seek to delegitimize any opposition to it as bigoted and hateful. Of course, CIU will not compromise on moral issues, but this is the environment out of which our students will be coming to us in the years to come.

CIU has one of the lowest undergraduate tuition rates that a family can find in a private university.
The Cost of College

There has also been a wave of commentary about the cost of a college education. But what rarely gets reported is that the rate of increase in the cost of tuition is actually declining. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in 2003 a college education was increasing 10 percent a year, but by the end of 2013 the rate of increase was under 4 percent. In other words, over time higher education is responding to the concerns about costs. The problem is that higher education is under increasing pressure from accreditation requirements and government regulations. For example, when CIU underwent a financial aid program review by the U.S. Department of Education, they provided us with a 39 page list of items we are required to disclose on our website or elsewhere for the public. I’m not saying this is bad; just that meeting the expectations has a cost and this can cause a conflict with the goal of keeping costs down.

Even with the pressures on costs, CIU has tried to keep our tuition as low as possible because we understand that many of our graduates are going into careers that are not high paying. Since 2009, our tuition has gone up under 3 percent after accounting for inflation. In fact, CIU has one of the lowest undergraduate tuition rates that a family can find in a private university. When this is combined with the quality of a CIU education, we believe this puts us in a sound position as families become more and more cost conscious.

The value of a college education has also been called into question by those who say that employers just aren’t willing to pay more for a college graduate. But this argument does not match up with reality. For example, a Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland study demonstrates that the “college wage premium” (the amount a college graduate earns in excess of a non-college graduate) exists and that it is increasing over time. Common sense suggests that employers are expecting more from employees, not less and that they are raising standards, not lowering them. Employers are seeking workers who can communicate clearly and think critically. Based on where CIU graduates are finding jobs, and that they score higher than the national average on standardized tests that measure critical thinking and writing skills, we’re confident we’re preparing students well for the world of work.

Changes in technology, changing demographics, trends in societal norms and perceptions of the cost and value of a college education are just a few of the dynamics that CIU is facing. Whether or not they can be considered "disruptive" when taken all together, they certainly make this an exciting time to be involved in higher education and constantly make us aware of the need to seek wisdom from God as we navigate CIU into the future.

CIU will not compromise on moral issues
Building for the future in Korntal, Germany

By Renata Hanscamp, Korntal Admissions Officer

An expanding middle is not always a bad thing. In the case of Columbia International University’s European presence in Korntal, Germany, it is actually a very good thing! Known in Germany as the European School of Culture and Theology (ESCT), its buildings in the middle of the campus of the Academy for World Missions (AWM) have reached capacity because of an expanding student body enrolling in an ever increasing number of programs designed with the mission of CIU in mind.

It was just over 25 years ago that CIU and AWM shook hands on a partnership to offer higher education options for missionaries and other cross-cultural workers. AWM’s mission fits well with CIU. Grounded in a distinctively biblical worldview, AWM equips Christians to reach their God-given potential by becoming lifelong learners and enabling them:

- to engage people of other backgrounds and cultures with sensitivity and respect
- to practice critical reflection in various contexts
- to develop theological and professional competencies for effective ministry
- to strive for a deeper walk with Christ.

Expanding with Age!

Above: Working on the new Korntal website are Romanian technicians Alex Stanciu and Lucian Stefan of www.business-plus.ro, and German team leader Bernhard Weichel
The success of the partnership and the aging of the buildings mean it’s time to renovate. However, we do not wish to build or renovate just for the sake of having something new. Our vision in Korntal is also expanding and we are excited to share our goals for construction and academic programs over the next three years with you.

Construction

AWM-Mitte/"Middle" – Fundraising for the start of the first of three phases of construction

The AWM has laid out, in faith, a three-phase construction plan of 2.7 million Euros ($3.7 million). The first phase will expand the library, currently made up of 14 former dormitory rooms, into one comfortably-open space. Large windows and strategically placed study carrels will also contribute to a welcoming place to study!

The new "middle," – center of the building - the second phase, is to take the place of a current corridor which leads from one building to the next at two levels. This entire area is to become an expanded, open, light-flooded auditorium in which we can meet for chapels and seminars, and where churches and mission organizations can hold events. Two new seminar rooms on the lower level extend the capacity for expanding classes and a larger dining hall also allows for “expanding middles” with good German food!

The third phase will transform present reception and office areas.

Programs

European School of Culture and Theology (ESCT)

This self-supporting school associated with CIU, seeks to win 101 new students across our academic programs:

- B.A. with a focus in Intercultural Studies
- M.A. (Culture and Theology)
- M.A. (Intercultural Leadership)
- M.A. and M.Div. in Global Studies
- D.Min. (International Theological Education or Intercultural Leadership)
- Ed.D. (Leadership in International Theological Education).

With visiting professors from CIU and experts in various fields of ministry, we offer a mission-minded and mission-practicing community – an enriching atmosphere in which to pursue a CIU degree.

Cross-Cultural – Germany’s pluralistic society includes migrants from all over the world. The increasing number of migrant churches and organizations provide fantastic opportunities to communicate Christ without leaving the country! We value the diversity and encourage building cross-cultural relationships. To this end, the new European Institute for Migration, Integration and Islam Studies (EIMI) has been established. It promotes enduring integration in Christian communities and has a voice in the political arena. A certificate program for Integration Advisors – those who help immigrants adjust to and integrate in their new country - has already begun.

Partnering – New partnerships with other academic schools both within Germany and in neighbouring countries, most recently with Institut Biblique de Nogent in Paris, France, open doors for strengthening missionary ties and encouraging cross-European exchange.

Non-Academic Degree Program Development

Intercultural Coach: Certified training for those wanting to accompany and encourage people of other cultures.

Human Resource Leadership: Christian values are important for leaders with personnel responsibilities. Along with reflecting on one’s personal practice of professionalism, this training seeks to develop leadership for Human Resource Management.

Business as Mission: Offers practical knowledge and skills on how to combine career and calling in another culture.

Developing quality IT – In a cross-European initiative, working in three languages, our IT team from Germany and Romania has been able to launch our new website: www.awm-korntal.eu. The site is available in German and English. We encourage you to visit the site and view our course catalog – maybe you can combine a trip to Europe with a course in Korntal!

Direct questions to: rhanscamp@awm-korntal.de.

Our vision is expansive, but we live and plan in the knowledge that we serve a God who gives expansively. Thank you for praying with us as we pursue this vision at the CIU campus in Korntal, Germany.
Amy Murdaugh has been a student at Ben Lippen School since kindergarten. Now a senior and preparing to receive her diploma this spring, the student leader and math lover has been recognized as a National Merit finalist.

Reflecting on the impact Ben Lippen has had on her life, Amy points to the biblical worldview that permeates the campus culture as well as the care and attention shown by her teachers. Amy recently told “Columbia Metropolitan Magazine”: “Teachers genuinely care about each student and seek to build into my life, both in and out of the classroom.”

That’s why Headmaster Chip Jones is committed to the Ben Lippen mission of preparing Christian scholars, something CIU’s Pre-K to 12 grade Christian school has been doing for nearly 75 years.

Jones has reviewed the data from recent graduating classes, and says he has no doubts that Ben Lippen students are receiving a top-notch education that is preparing them for further education and for life.

“Virtually 100 percent of our graduates go on to a broad spectrum of colleges and universities, and receive millions of dollars in scholarship aid,” Jones said. “Our students’ SAT scores are well above the national average, plus we have as many or more National Merit finalists as the other independent schools in the Columbia area,” Jones said.

Plus, Jones says a Ben Lippen education is future-oriented.

“Through our integrated use of instructional technology and our emphasis on what we call the ‘4 C’s,’ critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and communication, Ben Lippen students are part of a new paradigm of education and will be much better equipped to learn and work in today’s world,” Jones said.

But as Christian scholars such as Amy Murdaugh point out, it’s the biblical worldview that makes a Ben Lippen education unique.

“God is using Ben Lippen’s programs and people to make a significant spiritual impact on our students,” Jones said. “I have heard story after story of the ways that lives have been changed and futures have been impacted because the seed of the good news of Jesus Christ has been planted into the lives of our students.”

But Jones says this year is likely a turning point for Ben Lippen as administrators and the board of directors develop a strategic plan on how to improve every aspect of the school.

“In the classroom, in facilities and in performance, we are asking ourselves, ‘What can we do to take our curricular and co-curricular programs to the next level?’” Jones said. “Our goal is to not only make the classroom experience the best, but for all our athletic and fine arts programs to be top-notch and upper-tier, so that our students have the best opportunity to further develop and showcase their God-given talents and abilities.”

That will ensure that future students will be able to fulfill their dreams, just like Amy Murdaugh.

“I’ve loved the beauty, organization, and precision of math as long as I can remember, and I am planning on majoring in applied mathematics in college,” Amy said.
CIU Broadcasting Rising above the Communication Clutter

Radio Stations Working Harder and Smarter

By Joe Paulo
Director of Broadcasting

Somehow life seemed simpler when I was a kid. After school, I’d get home and listen to my two favorite programs on the local Christian radio station. My mom stuck the casserole in the oven and my family would enjoy a quiet evening at home after dinner. We’d even sit down in front of the television at the appointed time to catch our favorite show.

Even though my wife and I work hard to keep our family life simple, things just seem more hectic these days. We’re not alone, of course. People are running here and there, talking on their cell phones, setting their DVRs to catch their favorite shows when they have time to sit down and watch, dropping kids off here, picking them up there, swinging through the drive-thru for dinner, and perhaps hearing their favorite songs for a few minutes on the radio while they’re in their car.

89.7 WMHK-Columbia and WRCM-Charlotte (“New Life 91.9”) are working hard to reach busy people right where they are with the life-changing reality of Jesus Christ. In the “old days” you could just build a radio tower and people would immediately tune in. They’d even remember to catch the radio station at certain times to hear specific things. Now, radio stations are the ones trying to catch the listeners.

As we continue into the future, WRCM and WMHK are less about radio knobs and more about providing meaningful content that people need and want. How will we do this? Well, we’ve already started. The radio ministries attract as many people as possible so that we can influence them not only with what comes out of the radio speakers, but with deeper and more personal content. For example, our stations:

• Invite listeners to participate in an online devotional study that features video content and PDF study guides that accompany a Bible-centered book (most recently with author/speaker/pastor Derwin Gray)
• Present, in conjunction with Family Life Today, The Art of Marriage video conference to offer help and support to struggling marriages
• Produce a “Parenting on Purpose” seminar so listeners are strengthened as parents and families become more godly

The “Parenting on Purpose” seminar strengthened parents and families to become more godly.

S Use modern technology to connect with our listeners anytime and anywhere – over the radio, online around the world, through smartphone apps, and even with a digital magazine for tablet devices
S Expand our audience by adding a third station this spring. We recently purchased 88.3 FM in Boiling Springs, N.C. serving areas west of Charlotte, south to Spartanburg, S.C.

The future is brighter than ever as CIU’s radio stations work harder and smarter to help educate people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.
CIU Student Aims to Set Up Christian Counseling Office in China

In January, Dr. Harvey Payne, the dean of the CIU College of Counseling, travelled to China with CIU student Shang Ji, a native of China, who will graduate from CIU with a Masters of Arts in Counseling degree in May. They were “testing the waters” to see if Shang Ji could do something rare in China — open a counseling practice.

Above, Dr. Harvey Payne and graduate student Shang Ji eating a traditional Chongqing meal called Hotpot; a simmering pot of various meats, vegetables, mushrooms, and wonton that includes spicy ingredients such as Sichuan pepper.
Describe the purpose of your trip to China.

Shang Ji was exploring the possibility of opening a counseling practice in her hometown of Chongqing, a major city in central China. We conducted a parenting seminar with nearly 300 people, including executives of banking and business and top administrators of private schools. The parenting seminar exposed some of the fallacies of the popular Western cultural view of parenting and offered a balanced (biblical) model. A key part of the presentation was on how fundamental a positive marriage is for development of healthy children.

How did your presence in China assist Shang Ji in opening a counseling practice?

On one level, we were testing the waters to see how individuals, and especially individuals with influence, would respond to counseling, and counseling based on a biblical worldview without necessarily making that foundation explicit. In many countries, even in those countries that are very critical of the United States, an American professional often provides credibility and standing to the organization they are working with. We found a very positive and encouraging response. I do want to note that in our interviews we were clear about our faith in God and His work in our lives.

How common is counseling from a biblical perspective in China? / Is it permitted?

Counseling in general in mainland China is a recent development. Current estimates are one mental health professional per 100,000 individuals in mainland China. In addition, while there is a growing awareness of mental health needs, counseling is still not widely accepted as a socially acceptable way to receive help. At the same time China is undergoing rapid change with a significant increase in mental health issues including depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and family and marital problems exacerbated in families and children given the One-Child Policy and highly competitive access to limited educational opportunities.

Outside of Hong Kong, counseling from a biblical worldview would be very rare. In some larger urban areas there is more religious freedom and therefore the expression of personal beliefs is more accepted. Just as medical missionary work provided a bridge to the gospel through competent and compassionate care, the College of Counseling believes that mental health “missionary” work is one of the new waves to bring the gospel to the nations.

What kind of challenges does Shang face in setting up a counseling office after graduation?

The lack of widespread acceptance of counseling as a method to help individuals suffering with mental health issues. This includes issues with shame in getting this type of help, and the current medical model in China, similar to the United States, of simply offering medication as the solution to these types of problems.

The fee-for-service model of medical care in China that limits the accessibility of medical and mental health care. There is no centralized government provision of medical care, nor private insurance.

Financial cost of establishing an office. The population of greater Chongqing is about 34-36 million people with land and office space costs comparable to New York City.

Currently the political climate for Chongqing is conducive for the development of counseling with more freedom for religious expression. But there is no guarantee for the future.

Anything else you would like for the readers to know?

Continue to pray for Shang and our other graduates as God guides them in their life vocation after graduation.

Counseling Abroad

CIU Signs Agreement in Hong Kong

CIU and Hong Kong Institute of Christian Counselors (HKICC) signed an agreement to offer CIU extension courses in marriage and family counseling in Hong Kong. As a joint program with Olivet Nazarene University, HKICC offers a Master of Arts degree in Professional Counseling. The CIU agreement adds marriage and family counseling training for their students.
It was a typical South Carolina summer afternoon. Hot, humid and scattered late afternoon thunderstorms were developing over the Columbia area. Columbia International University cross country coach Jud Brooker was driving into his neighborhood in the northwest suburbs of Columbia when he saw smoke. As he drove further, he could see that the smoke was coming from his cul-de-sac. Because the fire department was already on the scene, he had to park a block away and walk toward his house. That’s when he met a neighbor who gave him the news – the fire was at Jud’s house – a lightning bolt had struck a vent on the roof. The house was now engulfed in flames.

“I was stunned, and just sat there for awhile in unbelief,” Jud recalls.

He eventually had the presence of mind to text Nicole – his wife of three months, and an admissions counselor at CIU. The text read, “Come home now, house burnt down.”

“At first I thought it was a joke. Jud is a jokester,” Nicole said. So she called him and found out it was no joke. That’s when she started shaking, and says she “ran out of the office to come home.”

So began a six-month journey of a different kind of wedding shower — a shower of love.

“[At first], it was chaos,” Jud said. “We had a lot of phone calls to the insurance companies, fire restoration people. We had to board up the house that night to make sure no one went through and rummaged through whatever wasn’t burned.”

The CIU community was quickly by the Brookers’ side. The Athletics Department came to the site of the fire to provide assistance and pray over the Brookers, as did CIU President Bill Jones. Meanwhile, the Admissions Department purchased some basic necessities for the Brookers and secured a place for them to stay at CIU’s Pine View Apartments.

“You see how when crisis strikes, people come together,” Nicole said. “It really built community.”

The following months were a challenge for the Brookers. In addition to their full-time jobs at CIU, there were countless phone calls regarding financial...
Athletics Update

CIU Athletics Director Kim Abbott doesn’t try to sugar-coat the challenges that come with starting an intercollegiate athletics program from scratch. Two years into the program, Abbott says there have been ups and downs, but through it all God has been faithful.

“One thing we have learned is that there’s a world of difference in the first year and the second year of adding athletics,” Abbott said.

CIU’s first two sports, soccer and cross country saw significant improvements in their second seasons. Men’s soccer finished with a record of 10-8-1, while men’s and women’s cross country made strong showings at the NCCAA National Championships. Next school year, the runners will compete in outdoor track, racing the 400 meters up to the 10,000 meters.

With two years of experience, the teams are beginning to take a more outward focus. Both have hosted camps for the community, and the men’s soccer team is planning a mission trip to Guatemala this August.

Meanwhile, the men’s and women’s basketball programs experienced the excitement of their inaugural seasons bringing sometimes ear-piercing fan excitement to the gym at the Moore Fitness Center. Abbott is delighted with the response by the student body.

“I’m exceedingly pleased with the CIU students, how much they’ve tried to adapt, grow, and change with the new culture of sports at CIU, and maintaining the discipline of a Christian campus,” Abbott said.
Remembering Dr. Terry Hulbert and Dr. Bill Larkin

By Bob Holmes

Legacy: anything handed down from the past, as from an ancestor or predecessor.

As CIU moves Forward in Faith toward its 100th anniversary, any future endeavors will be built on the foundation stones of the past; handed down by forerunners such as Dr. Terry Hulbert and Dr. Bill Larkin.

On the afternoon of Feb. 22, many in the CIU family gathered for the funeral of Dr. Bill Larkin at The First Presbyterian Church in Columbia to remember Dr. Larkin's 38 years in the classroom. That evening we learned that Dr. Terry Hulbert, who served at CIU for 40 years as an administrator and professor, had also gone to be with Jesus. Between the two professors were nearly eight decades of impact on students and evangelical scholarship.

Dr. Terry Hulbert passed away on Feb. 22, 2014. He was 89 years old.

Dr. Hulbert came to CIU in 1972 as dean of the seminary, a position he held for 16 years. He then served CIU as provost and vice president for academic affairs from 1988 until 1994. During the 1990-91 school year he also served as interim president.

Following his retirement from administration in 1994, Hulbert returned to the classroom full time where his teaching centered around a full range of geographically-based PowerPoint slides that encouraged his students to “walk in the sandals” of the people they met in the Bible. This passionate approach to learning led Hulbert to publish a ground-breaking set of CDs in the mid-1990s titled “Walking in Their Sandals,” that included satellite maps, videos, photos and other graphics that assist in a better understanding of the geography and culture of biblical times.

“He embraced technology; he was ahead of his peers,” John Davidson, a former CIU vice president said at Hulbert’s funeral. “He wanted all the enhancement there could be to God’s Word and to people receiving it and understanding it.”

Emeritus Professor Dr. Bill Larkin passed away on Feb. 18, 2014 following a battle with cancer. He was 68 years old.

Larkin taught for 38 years at CIU until his retirement in 2013. His life included a long list of accomplishments. He was an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in America and joined the faculty of CIU after a year of pastoral ministry in Philadelphia and the completion of graduate studies in England. He authored or co-authored several books, including Bible commentaries.

At his funeral, CIU Seminary & School of Ministry Dean, Dr. John Harvey said students called Larkin “The Crusher” for his tough instructional style, yet he had the heart of a shepherd. Harvey recalled an academic paper that Larkin wrote on the six roles of a professor: instructor, scholar, advisor, pastor, administrator, and churchman. Harvey said that Larkin lived up to all those roles.

“He was as demanding on his students as he was on himself,” Harvey said. “He invested in studying God’s Word as deeply as possible, so he could teach as accurately as possible.”

At the same time, Harvey said Larkin considered his advisees the flock God had entrusted to his care.

“But not just his students, but also his colleagues,” Harvey remembered. “Anyone, anytime, you just knocked on his door, and he would put aside whatever he was working on and hear what was on your heart. I guarantee you; you would not get out of his office without him praying for you, because he was a pastor.”
New Books by CIU Professors

Serve Strong
Biblical Encouragement to Sustain God’s Servants
By Dr. Terry Powell
Professor of Church Ministry
Serve the Lord long enough and discouragement or some form of opposition is inevitable. Joy-sapping workloads, feelings of inadequacy, lack of fruitfulness, or battle fatigue from spiritual warfare often spur God’s servants to quit or sabotage their passion. “Serve Strong” is designed to infuse you with biblical perspectives that buoy flagging spirits, boost motivation, and cultivate endurance. Published by Leafwood Publishers.

Rethinking Constantine
History, Theology and Legacy
Edited by Dr. Ed Smither
Professor of Intercultural Studies
What happens to the church when the emperor becomes a Christian? Seventeen hundred years after Constantine, scholars continue to debate the life and impact of the Roman emperor who converted to Christianity and gave peace to the church. This book joins that conversation and examines afresh the historical sources that inform our picture of Constantine, the theological developments that occurred in the wake of his rise to power, and the aspects of Constantine’s legacy that have shaped church history. Published by PICKWICK Publications.

Polemic Missiology for the 21st Century:
In Memoriam of Roland Allen
By Dr. Christopher R. Little
Professor of Intercultural Studies
Christopher R. Little adopts the polemic style of Roland Allen, the missionary theorist of the early 20th century as he addresses issues which all those interested in the healthy, cross-cultural transfer of the Christian faith should be aware of and concerned about. Specifically, he directs his readers’ attention to: 1) the contours of Christian mission; 2) foreign subsidy; and 3) business as mission. Little cautions the church to avoid unnecessary pitfalls in discipling the nations. Published on Amazon Kindle.
Let's Get Acquainted

To fully experience all that Columbia International University has to offer, we recommend that you visit us in Columbia. Even if you are considering taking many of your courses online, God will often use a campus visit to guide you in your next step in following your passion.

Take advantage of Graduate Preview Days or a CIU Open House. But if these special days don't fit into your calendar, we'll get acquainted on your time. Let us know when you'd like to come and we will tailor your visit to your interests.

**Preview Days**

At CIU Preview Days you'll tour the campus, enjoy extended conversations with CIU professors, and interact with current students. Keep an eye on our website www.ciu.edu for the dates of CIU Preview Days.

**Open House**

We schedule a CIU Open House in the evening making it easy for you to drop in on your schedule. You'll have the opportunity to meet with professors, tour our beautiful campus, and connect with our admissions and financial aid experts — in a relaxed atmosphere.

**Personal Visit**

Schedule a visit on a day that works best for you (Monday-Friday). Please notify us a week before you visit. We'll make arrangements for you to meet with the admissions team, attend Chapel (Monday-Thursday), sit in on a class, meet with the Financial Aid Office, and have lunch with a professor in the dining hall.

Schedule your visit today!

(800) 777-2227, ext. 5058  visit@ciu.edu  www.ciu.edu/visit