

Prayer and F.A.I.T.H. at CIU

Dear friend of CIU,

Columbia International University celebrates a milestone this year. Ninety years ago God answered the prayers of a group of six women who asked the Lord for a Bible college for Christians who desired to evangelize and disciple mill workers in Columbia.



Undergraduate
Graduate School
Seminary & School of Ministry
Ben Lippen School
89.7 WMHK
New Life 91.9

7435 Monticello Road
P.O. Box 3122
Columbia, SC 29230-3122
803.754.4100
800.777.2227
803.786.4209 Fax

www.ciu.edu



Dr. Bill Jones

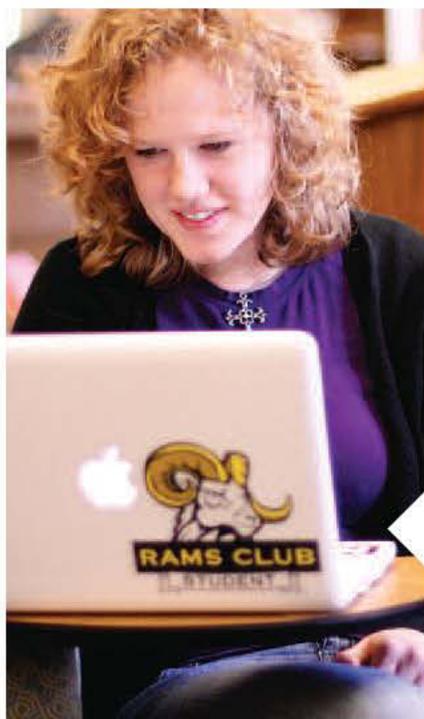
While we trace the founding of CIU to those women, our purpose goes back much further. It goes back to a day when Jesus traveled from village to village proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom. The gospel writer Matthew tells us:

Seeing the people, He felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dispirited like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest." (Matthew 9:36-38)

Sending workers into His harvest — a driving force at our founding that continues today as we increase our efforts to fulfill our purpose:

CIU educates people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.

I recently shared with our faculty, staff and students our strategic plan for the next three years, a plan centered on the CIU core value of Prayer & Faith. The F.A.I.T.H. strategic plan can be summarized in the phrase, "everyone, everywhere, every opportunity."



Funding for Student Scholarships

Whether or not a student enrolls at CIU often comes down to the availability of scholarships. Typically, each semester, 30 to 40 students cannot enroll at CIU because they fall short by \$2,500 or less. Our plan calls for increased funding of existing student scholarships and the creation of new scholarships for students who qualify. Finances should not be a determining factor for enrollment at CIU. Everyone should have the opportunity.

Accessibility through Online Degrees

Some students now earn a degree from CIU from the convenience of their laptop. Working professionals and those in ministry, especially

over, please

those serving overseas, find this an ideal way to enhance their careers. Online programs include: an undergraduate General Studies degree, Master of Arts (Intercultural Studies), Master of Arts (Muslim Studies), Master of Arts (Theological Studies), a Master of Education, and three certificates. We will add an online master's degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) in 2014, and in 2015, a master's degree in counseling that is a hybrid of online learning and on-campus courses. We want to make a CIU education possible everywhere on earth to English-speaking people. By the fall of 2015 we also plan to launch the "Chinese Initiative," translating CIU courses into Chinese and making them available for credit to the growing Chinese church around the world.

Initiatives for Academic Programs

This may be the boldest part of the F.A.I.T.H. plan, as we expand the programs of study, especially for students who desire to make their impact in the marketplace. Already, five new academic programs become available to students this fall. They include undergraduate majors in Digital Media & Cinema, Media Arts, English, and Church Ministry as well as a master's degree in Youth Ministry Leadership. Other programs we will add over the next three years include undergraduate majors in Educational Studies, Sports Leadership, and Human Services.

In addition, the College of Counseling continues to enhance its reputation by seeking accreditation with the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP), which will attract highly qualified students.

Transformation of Campus Facilities

As I write, work crews are renovating two residence halls, completing three summers of improvements to undergraduate housing. But much work remains. The F.A.I.T.H. plan includes adding up to three buildings to Pine View Apartments, renovating the Fisher Building and Shortess Chapel, and completing the athletic fields to make way for intercollegiate baseball and softball programs.

Harvesters for World Impact

The first four letters of the F.A.I.T.H. strategic plan focus on the first part of our purpose statement — educating people from a biblical worldview. The last part focuses on sending out more well-prepared professionals into the harvest fields of local church ministry, the mission field and the marketplace, as graduates impact the nations with the message of Christ.

How will we meet such ambitious goals? By faith.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. (Heb. 11:1)

Please join us in our new F.A.I.T.H. strategic plan. Through your prayers and financial support given in faith, you partner in preparing laborers for the harvest by making a CIU education available to everyone, everywhere.

Won't you join us?

Yours for His glory,



Bill Jones,
President

