

Volume 7, No. 1

Connection

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Center of Influence

CIU Makes an Impact across the River and Around the World



Cover Story

CIU begins Prison Initiative
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Spring 2007

Columbia International University



Letter from the President



Dr. George W. Murray

Center of Influence

Dear friend of CIU,

As I continue to serve as CIU's president, my stated vision is that "Columbia International University, by reputation and reality, will be a world center for biblical, transformational, Great Commission training and impact." This issue of the *Connection* magazine will give you a glimpse of how God is using CIU and its graduates to be a center of influence in our state, our country, and throughout the world.

In the area of primary and secondary Christian education, both private and public, CIU is exerting a significant influence. You'll want to read about CIU's new Center for Christian School Education, about our impact on Christian school education in the Dominican Republic, and how one of our graduates is making a huge difference as a leader in the South Carolina public schools.

You'll want to read about our Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies and how one of our CIU grads is quietly and courageously bridging gaps to the Muslim world in Central Asia.

Is CIU having an influence on the state of South Carolina? You better believe it! CIU has established a Bible degree program within the South Carolina state prison system, training inmates who will become chaplain's assistants and lay missionaries, influencing the lives of men and women with the message of Christ's love in prisons across the state. And don't forget the quiet but pervasive influence of our two radio stations which, through their programming and off-the-air activities and outreaches, touch the lives of a quarter-million people weekly (even overseas!).

I am especially thankful for our amazing CIU faculty. Talk about a bunch of influencers! You'll want to read about their impact on the world of Christian scholarship, not to mention their amazing influence through their extra-curricular activities across our globe. And don't skip the article about our awesome CIU Youth Ministries faculty and program which are training a future generation of effective youth leaders.

Lastly, let me say a word about our exciting "Five Prayer and Faith Goals." These goals will take a ton of hard work, prayer and faith, and money! Will you join us in whatever way you can to see those goals accomplished? Thanks for helping CIU to be and become a center of influence for God's redemptive purposes throughout the world.

Yours for His glory,

George W. Murray
President



"The Point" at CIU overlooks the prison where the CIU Prison Initiative has been established.

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- Bob Holmes
Connection Editor

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New at CIU: The Provost and the Logo

The new provost and senior vice president is a long-time professor of evangelism and missions at CIU.

The Provost

The new provost and senior vice president is a long-time professor of evangelism and missions at CIU.

Dr. William (Bill) Jones was named to the position by CIU President Dr. George Murray at the recommendation of a CIU Provost Search Committee. In the position Jones will serve as CIU's chief educational officer, giving oversight and leadership to the areas of academic affairs, spiritual life formation,

and ministry skills development. He has been serving as interim provost since May of last year and has been a member of the CIU faculty since 1990. Murray says Jones will provide godly leadership to CIU's students, faculty and staff.

"Bill has been serving here faithfully for nearly 17 years and understands the Christian distinctives of the school. He is well-known and loved by the faculty and is gifted with visionary leadership to take us into the future," Murray said.

Jones graduated summa cum laude from Georgia Institute of Technology and has doctorates from both The Seminary & School of Missions at CIU and Gordon Conwell Seminary. He is also the co-founder and president of Crossover Communications International, a church-planting missions agency with its U.S. office based in Columbia. A passionate communicator, Jones has trained thousands of people all around the world to effectively share Christ's love and forgiveness using the *John 3:16 One Verse Method*. He has also authored several books including *The Daring Disciple Series: Knowing God, Discovering Your Identity, and Walking in the Spirit*. His most recent book is *Putting Together the Puzzle of the Old Testament*. (See Page 23.)

Jones says as provost he'll work to empower the deans, faculty and staff to achieve CIU's mission. "I want to see CIU continue its historic mandate of glorifying God by inspiring, developing and equipping our students for lifelong pursuit of God and servant leadership in His global cause," Jones said.

The Logo

The new identity was presented to the CIU student body during a chapel service by CIU Director of Marketing Matt Daugherty.

The logo is based on a very familiar structure at CIU — The Victory Prayer Towers. Daugherty says the prayer towers represent CIU's past, present and future. The prayer towers were designed to resemble the towers of the old Colonia Hotel in downtown Columbia where CIU, then Columbia Bible College, was located over 80 years ago.

The new logo also includes CIU's longstanding motto "To know Him and to make Him known."



Provost Bill Jones

R.C. McQuilkin Leadership Scholarship Recipient Announced

The winner of the 2007 R.C. McQuilkin Leadership Scholarship is an academic achiever, a ministry leader in her church, and has a passion to use the media to spread the gospel.

Regan Kramer, 18, of Davie, Fla. was chosen for the full tuition scholarship to attend Columbia International University following a weekend competition Nov. 30 – Dec. 1 on the CIU campus. A total of 39 students from 12 states took part in the event which included participation in a class, interviews with school officials, group discussions and other group activities. The scholarship is presented to a student of high academic ability who best embodies the motto of CIU: To know Him and to make Him known.

Kramer first learned about CIU at Teen Missions International Boot Camp 2006, where she heard CIU President Dr. George Murray speak. It was during the same summer, doing missions work in Ethiopia, that the fire fanned by Dr. Murray's message became a steady passion for missions worldwide.

Regan trusted Christ when she was five years old, but increased in her understanding of the gospel as she grew older. Through daily Bible reading, involvement at church, and discipleship by mentors, she drew closer to God.

"I made choices to spend time with Him and the more I got to know Him, the more I wanted to know Him even better," Regan said. Prayer and the reading of God's Word continue to be her daily practice.

Regan attends Pembroke Pines Charter High School and currently holds a 4.51 GPA with an SAT score of 1290. She is the leader of First Priority, a Christian club at her school, and is involved in various ministries within her church, First Baptist at Weston. Using her love for creativity and interest in video production, Regan wants to share the hope of Christ to those who have never heard the gospel.



Regan Kramer



Construction Update: Pamplin Auditorium and The Fitness Center

Pamplin

It wasn't planned. But it seemed fitting. The first prayer offered up in the newly renovated Pamplin Auditorium was in Turkish. After all, "International" is our middle name.

As the result of many generous donations from alumni, classes are being taught once again in Columbia International University's Pamplin Auditorium.

Gone is the old orange colored theatre-style seating that was showing its 30+ years of age. In its place is high tech lap-top ready tables and desk chairs along with new carpeting and recently painted walls. The cost of renovation was about \$100,000.

The first group of students to use the auditorium was an Evangelism class taught by CIU Provost Bill Jones. When he asked someone to open the session in prayer, an international student who spoke Turkish volunteered.

While Pamplin is primarily used by Graduate and Seminary students, Jones' freshmen were delighted to know they were making a little CIU history.

"What do you think?" Jones shouted to a student walking in. "I like it," was the reply.

"I'm impressed," said another student, Elizabeth Head. "Looks great. Very high tech."

When Jones found out he would be the first professor to teach in the new and improved Pamplin, he joked that as provost he'd make sure his classes would be the only ones to use it. Noting the unmistakable scent of new carpet, Jones said he is in awe of the new facility.

"This is first class," he said. "I am truly grateful to those who made donations and had the vision to see our future needs."



The "New" Pamplin (above) and Fitness Center Construction.

Fitness Center

After breaking ground last May, the construction of CIU's \$3 million Fitness Center is right on schedule. The completion date is expected to be this spring.

Dean of

Students Rick Swift says the Center will include everything from free weights and jump ropes to a climbing wall. A lounge area inside the Center will serve as a place for students to just hang out. The gymnasium in the Fitness Center will open up the potential for inter-collegiate sports in the future.

Swift says members of the CIU community are excited and grateful that "CIU is concerned about meeting the physical fitness needs of its students."

The Fitness Center is being built on a hill next to the McQuilkin Seminary Building.



Josh McDowell's Bold Truth Tour Touches Hearts in Columbia

About 1,000 people, mostly teenagers, packed the auditorium of the new Ben Lippen School-Northwest campus in Columbia on Nov. 4 to hear a powerful message from author and Christian apologist Josh McDowell. The event was a stop on McDowell's nationwide Bold Truth Tour.

Using a combination of live drama, motion picture, lights, sound, and music, McDowell challenged the youth with gripping questions such as: "What are you searching for?"; "What is the most valued treasure in life?"; and "Where are you trying to find it?"

McDowell is a former agnostic who is best known for his book on Christian apologetics *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*. He presented compelling evidence for the deity of Christ, establishing beyond a reasonable doubt that Christ is who he claimed to be.

That message penetrated hearts as 61 people came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and 49 others made commitments to follow after Him more closely.

The Columbia Bold Truth Tour was sponsored by Columbia International University, Ben Lippen School, the Columbia Metro Baptist Association, the Lexington Baptist Association and Columbia area churches.

(continued on page 6)

Ben Lippen School: Settling in to Two New Elementary School Facilities

St. Andrews Road

The air was filled with excitement as elementary aged children filed through double doors to release balloons into the sky, signaling the dedication of the new Ben Lippen Elementary School facility in Northwest Columbia.

During a grand opening celebration in January (classes began there in August), Ben Lippen School dedicated the recently purchased building for God's use in the life of K4-fifth grade children. Ben Lippen means "Mountain of Trust" and in the past year the institution put a great deal of trust in God as school officials searched for a new site. They were interested in the property of Riverland Hills Baptist Church which was relocating, but unfortunately the school did not have the money to place a bid — that is, until a timely donation of \$1 million was given to the school.

Columbia International University Vice President of Christian School Education, Mickey Bowdon said the money allowed the school to make a bid to buy the property.

"I think what we're most grateful for is a facility that was designed to be a church but functions so well as a school," Bowdon said. "We only had to do minor modifications, but it has transformed into a school facility and it fits all our needs."

Ben Lippen Headmaster Brian Modarelli noted the building is also home to Seacoast Community Church as well as Child Evangelism Fellowship.

"Ben Lippen is proud to share the facility with a multitude of other



The first day of school at the new Monticello Road location.

ministries who share the same goal of advancing the kingdom," Modarelli said.

In between open house festivities of playing basketball and eating cotton candy, a few students took the time to share their favorite part about attending Ben Lippen School. One second grader said that she, "Liked to be able to worship Jesus," and another young man said he "liked the cool Bible stories." But as with any group of elementary school students, most decided that recess was their favorite part of the school day.

Monticello Road

Monday Sept. 11 was an exciting day for 140 youngsters at Ben Lippen Elementary School's Monticello Road location. They attended their first day of class in a new \$2.3 million facility located on the campus of Columbia International University.

The familiar and unfamiliar greeted the K4-5th grade students at the door of the 21,000 square foot building. Elementary School Principal Beverly Bandy offered a reassuring smile as the students were introduced to bright new classrooms, brand new playground equipment and the smell of fresh paint.

Unexpected construction delays meant the students, who mostly live in the Northeast section of Columbia, attended the first few weeks of class alongside students from Northwest Columbia at Ben Lippen School's St. Andrews Road location.

CIU's Radio Stations Team up for Missions Trip

This summer, 89.7 WMHK in Columbia and New Life 91.9 in Charlotte will be leading a team of their listeners to Curitiba, Brazil to assist two local churches in evangelism, a Vacation Bible School, door to door visitation, teaching English, sports evangelism, assisting at a construction site and many other ministries. Curitiba is in the state of Parana in the southern part of Brazil. The trip is being planned in conjunction with the Columbia-based missions organization Crossover Communications International. Teaming up for a summer missions trip is an annual event for the radio stations and a chance for listeners from the two Carolinas to meet for ministry.



Radio listeners will be ministering in remote villages of Brazil.

Remembering Dr. Donald Hoke

The plaque outside Hoke Auditorium on the campus of Columbia International University describes Donald Hoke as “missionary statesman, educator, pastor, author.” The students who occupy the chairs in that auditorium are the benefactors of a man whose heart resonated with the motto of CIU, “To know Him and to make Him known.”

Dr. Donald Hoke passed into presence of the Lord in Fort Myers, Fla. on Nov. 15, 2006 after suffering a major stroke one week prior.



Donald and Martha Hoke

After graduating from Wheaton College, Hoke served at CIU as assistant to the president and as a professor in the late 1940s and early 1950s. He would later serve on CIU’s Board of Trustees from 1987 to 1996.

As a missionary statesman, Hoke was the director of the Lausanne Congress for World Evangelism in the 1970s and also founded the Lausanne Evangelical Church. At the request of Billy Graham, Hoke became the director of the new Billy Graham Center for Evangelism at Wheaton College in 1975. He also served on the boards for HCJB Radio in Quito, Ecuador, World Radio in Texas and the John Guest Evangelistic Association.

In addition to his work in education at CIU, Hoke founded Tokyo Christian College and was co-founder of an interdenominational seminary in Japan. He also served on the boards of Word of Life Press, High School Born Again Club (HiBA), and Christ’s College in Taiwan.

Among the churches where Hoke served as pastor or interim pastor, is Cedar Springs Presbyterian Church in Knoxville, Tenn. He led the congregation for 12 years,

developing a program that gave over \$1 million a year to missions.

He was the author of three books on missions and wrote over 100 articles for various Christian magazines.

Donald Hoke is survived by his wife Martha, for whom Hoke Auditorium is also named.

CIU Alumnus Recognized at the White House

It’s an honor few Americans experience. A handshake and a thank you from the President of the United States. Columbia International University alumnus Brian Bohlman recently met with President George W. Bush at the White House in recognition of Bohlman’s support for the military through his organization Operation Thank You. Operation Thank You is working toward sending 150,000 thank-you and get-well cards to deployed and wounded troops.

Bohlman, a chaplain in the Air National Guard says Bush recognizes that support of U.S. troops is important to their morale.

“Recognition of this magnitude fuels our passion to let service members across the world know how much America supports them and to continue providing ways the American people can show their support,” Bohlman said.

Bohlman is a 2000 graduate of the Seminary & School of Missions at CIU.



Wedding at CIU Post Office “A Blessing”

It’s not every day that that CIU Postmaster J.W. Hayes performs a wedding — especially at the CIU Post Office window. Amid students standing in line to buy stamps or pick up packages, Hayes performed a wedding for graduate student Sara Tak Lai So and Information Technology Department employee Matthew Mollenkof in November.

Surrounded by friends with cameras and curious post office patrons, Matthew and Sara exchanged vows under the authority of Hayes, who, as postmaster, also has status as a public notary. According to South Carolina state law, any notary has the authority to officiate weddings. Matthew and Sara, who desired to be officially married before holding a more formal ceremony in Sara’s native country in Asia, took advantage of this law in a way that created a great deal of fun, excitement, and joy.

In his 12 years as a notary this was the first time Hayes was asked to officiate a wedding.

“I’m a recovered alcoholic, and I’ve been in some bad places, but it’s so neat to see where God has brought me now. Getting to perform the wedding for them was a blessing to me,” Hayes said.

Hayes continues his day to day work, and doesn’t foresee performing many weddings in the future.



Photo courtesy of Paul Brown

CIU Postmaster J.W. Hayes (left) with newlyweds Sara and Matthew Mollenkof showing the marriage license.



From Transactional to Transformational Giving

By Frank Bedell
Director of Development

I have a confession to make.

It isn't a deep dark secret but it is something important. This may sound strange coming from the director of development but, my motivation to support CIU is not about her needs. More importantly, *it's about her mission and vision*. Don't get me wrong, needs are a part of every day life — but vision is something I can get excited, motivated about. But doesn't my

job exist for the sole purpose of inspiring and motivating alumni and friends to give to CIU?

If needs fail to motivated me — how can I expect you to be motivated? Needs are more about transactional and less about transformational giving.

I support the ministry of CIU *because my motivation is her cause — or more accurately, the cause of Christ*. CIU is the conduit through which my giving passes. So, my giving is less about needs and more about ministry! What motivates me to give are the vision and the tangible results of her work.

CIU, by reputation and reality, will be a world center for biblical, transformational, Great Commission training and impact.

This vision inspires and motivates me to exercise my God given responsibility as a steward to support CIU. I hope it does the same for you. Inside this edition of *Connection* magazine, are specific ways this vision is being carried out.

What then is my job? Development is creating opportunities to connect God's people with God's work. *When I am successful at my job — you become a transformational donor.*

Transformational giving supports a ministry that is making an impact on the lives of men and women around the world.

I want to be a transformational steward and that is why I am motivated to support the ministries of CIU. I hope you will join me. ■

I support the ministry of CIU because my motivation is her cause — or more accurately, the cause of Christ.



CIU student Grace Dye makes an impact as she prays with her Bible Club.

Five Prayer and Faith Goals

By Roy King
 Director of Alumni Ministries

One of our Five Core Values at Columbia International University is Prayer and Faith. Throughout the 84-year history of the school, the leadership of CIU has called on its students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends to pray for the various needs of the institution and for its future.

Our two Executive Vice Presidents, Keith Marion and Bill Jones, have been charged by President George Murray, and affirmed by the Board and Faculty to lead us by prayer and faith in achieving five initiatives engaging CIU in God's global mission. I want to introduce you to these FIVE PRAYER & FAITH GOALS. We



will need the powerful hand of our God to help us accomplish these by September 2008.

1) **We will enhance the campus life experience for our students.** This will include additions and improvements to housing and additional athletic and community activities contributing to lifelong friendships and life changing discipleship.

2) **We will form new strategies for the development of the personal spiritual life of every student.** We are trusting God for innovative creative approaches to life-on-life mentoring and discipleship that engages our hearts in a lifelong pursuit of knowing Christ. This means using some new methods to accomplish the heart transformation that has been a consistent strength of our school.

3) **We will strengthen kingdom-impacting academic programs.** We are launching an undergraduate double major in Business & Organizational Leadership coupled with a Bible Major. We are also planning a Center for Christian School Education that brings together Ben Lippen School with our undergraduate and graduate programs in training the next generation of Great Commission Christian Educators.

4) **We will expand the access of our training.** Our M.Ed. and M.A. Missions degrees will be offered around the world as online transformational education. We will also begin offering courses in Atlanta, Ga.

5) **We will enroll 800 new students over the next two years.** Through the involvement of our alumni and long-term partners, we will enroll at least 800 new students for service in the cause of Christ.

To accomplish these initiatives we are trusting God to provide \$1 million in gift income above our normal Annual Fund need of approximately \$2 million.

Will you please tear out this page and put it in your prayer journal and begin to stand with us in prayer and faith? We long for God to provide us with strength and resources to accomplish these five goals in the next 18 months. We will provide updates on our progress so your prayers will remain specific. ***The harvest is abundant; the workers are needed!*** ■

By Bob Holmes, *Connection* Editor

CIU Goes to Prison

The CIU Prison Initiative Trains Inmates to Reach Other Inmates for Christ

Who said the following?

“Some of my concern is the church today and how it doesn’t line up with the Bible. A lot of things have been watered down to the point that Christianity is no different from the world. So I think we need to work on this to bring people back to what God expects of you.”

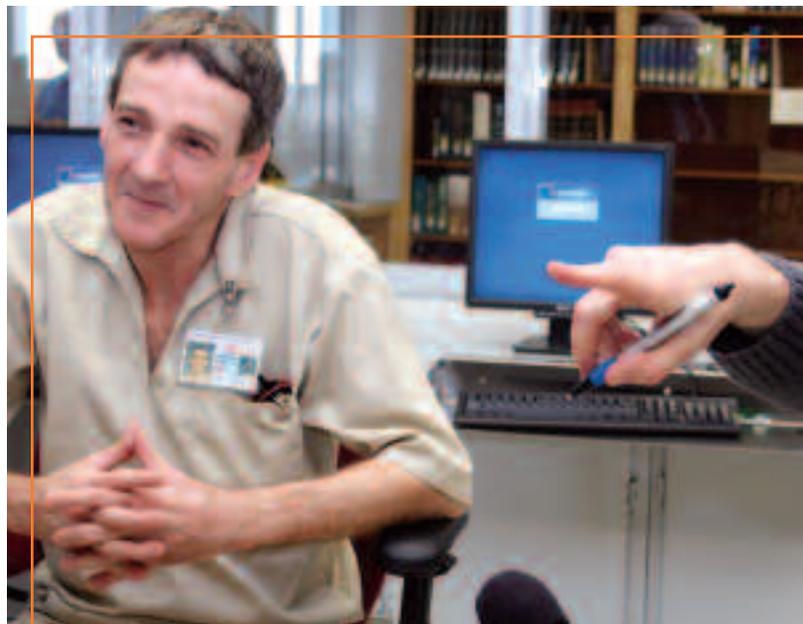
A globe-trotting evangelist? A best-selling Christian author? A seminary Ph.D.? An inmate who has been doing time in the South Carolina prison system since 1979?

Believe it or not, it’s the latter. His name is Terry Lee Jackson and he is working on an accredited Associate in Arts degree from Columbia International University. And no, he’s not attending CIU while out on parole. Instead, CIU has come to him and to his 14 fellow student inmates. They’re the first class in the Columbia International University Prison Initiative which brings CIU behind the razor wire and walls of the Kirkland Correctional facility, part of the sprawling prison grounds directly across the Broad River from CIU.

The purpose of the Prison Initiative is to train inmates “to live in accordance with biblical principles and equip them for the unique ministry opportunities afforded by their incarceration.” Once they graduate, the inmates will be planted as chaplain’s assistants and lay missionaries in prisons around the state. The program is offered only to inmates who meet and maintain high standards of personal conduct and CIU’s standards for academic achievement. The curriculum consists of 63 undergraduate hours. Funding for the program is provided by churches, businesses and individuals, and includes a small library with donated books and computers.

The first class was held on Jan. 16 of this year.

But the genesis of the program goes back to 2004 when Jon Ozmint, director of the South Carolina Department of Corrections, approached CIU about offering a Christian education to inmates with the goal of training them to be a positive influence in the prison system. He had already



studied a similar successful program at Louisiana’s Angola Prison. Ozmint says there are differences between the Louisiana and South Carolina programs, but he calls the potential spiritual impact “undeniable.”

“What is also undeniable is the positive impact that serious faith-based program participation has on individual inmates and on the system as a whole. The long-term and proven results of the privately-funded program will be safer prisons and lower recidivism.” Ozmint said.

The purpose of the Prison Initiative is to train inmates “to live in accordance with biblical principles and equip them for the unique ministry opportunities afforded by their incarceration.”

Inmate Terry Lee Jackson agrees with Ozmint on the impact of the program and is already hoping it continues and expands.

“A lot of us come from dysfunctional families and backgrounds. We have no idea what life should look like.

This would be one of the biggest things for the state," Jackson said.

Jackson, a short, wiry, soft-spoken white man with a thick southern accent is especially excited about the evangelism training that is a part of the course.

"It will help me grow. I've come to an age where I'm trying to give back, reach out. You can drive people away and do more damage if (evangelism) is not done properly. This is a way to help me grow first, do the work for the Lord and share it with others, and be able to do it in a professional, constructive manner," Jackson said.

was asked to direct the program. The first day of class behind the prison walls made the three years of planning and preparation worthwhile.

"(The inmates) listen. They respond. They ask good questions," Osterlund notes. "It's a joy to see it happen. I love to see good teaching. I love to see guys who are excited about learning."

He stresses that the student inmates are a cohort because they are studying together and living together in the same dormitory space.

"As a cohort they are responsible for themselves and the needs of their fellow students. They are holding each



What is the most important lesson Jackson has learned so far?

"Don't shoot the computer," he says with a wry smile. For men who have been behind bars as long as Jackson, computers are a Rip Van Winkle wake-up call. It's the first time they've used one.

"Some of us older fellas are very intimidated by these things. I've been aware there are computers. But getting them to do things – they don't want to cooperate with me too well. I keep hitting buttons and they go into warp drive."

But setting the inmates at ease are CIU professors who are committed to the cause. Among them is New Testament Survey Professor Mike Thompson who becomes teary-eyed when he talks about his role.

"I feel very privileged to be doing this. I'm humbled that the Lord allowed me to do this because it's a great opportunity. It's a great ministry."

The CIU professor who has had the biggest hand in making the Prison Initiative happen is Dr. David Osterlund. He was thinking about retirement when he

other accountable and we are expecting that."

Inmate student Robert Ashford says he's been up past midnight studying with the cohort. "It's no big thing because all the guys are excited about it. We enjoy it."

Ashford, a solidly built black man with a laid back style says he's in the prison initiative program because he's called to minister the gospel to lost souls.

"It's not about me all the time. It's about other people and their needs. God just gave me a desire and a burden for (the gospel). I just love it. It's what I'm called to do. That's why God called me into this program. I'm grateful for it. I truly intend to use it for that purpose, for the kingdom and glory of God." ■

(l-r) Inmate Terry Lee Jackson during an interview with Connection Editor Bob Holmes.

*Inmate Robert Ashford: "Called to minister to lost souls."
CIU Prison Initiative Director David Osterlund.*

Discoveries in Bridging Gaps

Missionary to Muslims Finds Ways to Communicate Christ

Editor's Note: The author is a CIU graduate working as a nurse among Muslims in Central Asia. Her name and country of ministry have been withheld for security reasons.

In a remote village one evening, we were huddling under blankets trying to stay warm in the home of some dear local friends as it thundered and poured rain and hail outside. This family has blessed me with amazing hospitality, and as I have grown to love them, the longing in my heart has grown to see them become a part of God's family. This night one of the little boys was struggling to memorize a portion of the Quran, in the original language which he could not even understand.

Seeking to understand more of their thinking spiritually, I asked the ladies in the room if they were able to quote parts of the Quran. Two of them had learned some of it as little girls, but said they had forgotten it all. None of them knew how to read. "What do you do when you want to know more about God?" I asked them. They shrugged and said it doesn't really matter to them. I desperately cried out to God to please reveal Himself, somehow, in some way, to these ladies and show me how to be His vessel among them. I was left with this impression in my heart, "Love them."

Another night, as we were talking, one of the ladies of this family was telling me about her physical pains. I

told her there is a place where there is no pain, sorrow, sickness, death, and that Jesus Christ is preparing that place. I told her what Jesus told his disciples when they asked how they could get to this place — that He is the way. She looked at me and asked, "So where is this place?" That was the first time that she had actually asked me a question about a spiritual matter like this!



I told her it is the place where God is. There is no pain because it is a totally holy place with no sin. So how can we go to this holy place of God when we are full of sin? I asked. She nodded. She was tracking. I explained that though

The women the author ministers to often travel by camel. They cover their bodies from head to toe according to Muslim custom.

the people in her country sacrifice animals to seek to gain forgiveness from sin, God has provided the perfect sacrifice in Jesus, so that we can be made holy and go to this perfect place with God. I rejoiced at this first glimmer of understanding and interest that she was showing in His love and truth!

I'm learning that sharing His love means lots of time just listening and empathizing and sharing the hope He offers. In addition, as I listened to their stories, another theme kept coming up — stories of taking their sick loved ones to a "prayer man" and paying him a good sum of money to pray. They often described how they believed this was the reason their loved one got better, when the medicine from the doctor did not work. Praying for the sick. I can do that!

One instance when I was given the privilege of seeing God's hand in prayer occurred when my local co-worker was struggling with back pain.

I prayed for her in the name of Jesus. She got better without any treatment. As I told her that I had been praying for her, her face lit up as if something clicked. Later that evening, as we were visiting with some of the ladies in the village, we met another lady with back pain. My co-worker said to me, "So why don't you pray for her right now?" My heart jumped for joy to see what seemed to be a glimmer of faith in the power of Jesus growing in my co-worker's heart!

I have been given the opportunity to use my skills as a nurse in remote villages to care for those suffering with the disease of tuberculosis and to share the Good News of Jesus with those who have NEVER heard!! The gap between me — a single, middle class American woman with a master's degree who has no husband or children — and the poor, illiterate women of these

One of the Central Asian villages the author travels to as a nurse.



villages whose lives mainly consists of raising children and keeping their husbands happy is huge. How can I relate to them?

I took all kinds of classes to prepare for this work — cultural anthropology, incarnational ministry among the poor, folk religion, etc. And yes, these were helpful, but I am discovering that the only way to learn to relate to these ladies with His love is a desperate clinging, abiding in my Father, so I can hear His voice and know

His power and love made perfect through me when I find myself feeling so inadequate to relate. As 2 Cor. 4:6 describes, we have been blessed with the incredible privilege of the knowledge of Jesus and the privilege of sharing it with others. "But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us." (2 Cor. 4:7) It is all

I was left with this impression in my heart, "Love them."



Pray that God will be glorified in Central Asia.

about learning to abide in Him so He can help us cross cultural gaps and shine His love through us! ■

CIU as a Center of Influence in Scholarship

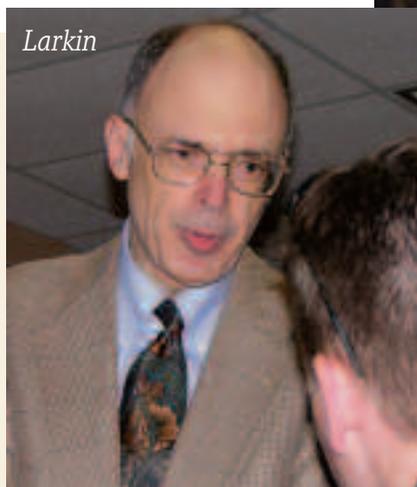
Undergraduate, Graduate and Seminary Professors Make Impact

Quietly, but effectively, CIU faculty, administration and alumni contribute to the world of scholarship. Guided by the school's core values: Biblical Authority, Victorious Christian Living, World Evangelization, Prayer & Faith,

and Evangelical Unity, their scholarly work is implementing President George Murray's vision that "by reputation and reality CIU will be a world center for biblical, transformational, and Great Commission training and impact." Here are a few highlights.

Biblically

In celebration of CIU's 75th anniversary in 1997, Seminary & School of Missions Professor William Larkin and undergraduate Professor Joel Williams edited *Mission in the New Testament: An Evangelical Approach* (Orbis Books, 1998). All contributors were either CIU faculty or alumni, including present faculty, Clifford Bedell, John Harvey, Don Howell, Larkin, and Williams. The book was named one of Fifteen Outstanding Books of 1998 for Mission Studies by the editors of the *International Bulletin of Missionary Research* and is now in its seventh printing, 2003. Other examples of how CIU Biblical Studies teachers have integrated their discipline with missions are articles by Harvey, Howell and Larkin in various volumes of the *Evangelical*



Larkin

Missiological Society Monograph series and/or the *Evangelical Dictionary of World Missions* (Baker, 2000).

Other individual scholarly activities include Seminary & School of Missions professor Bryan Beyer's service as Old Testament Book Review editor for the *Journal of*



Brown

the Evangelical Theological Society (JETS) and his co-authorship of the well received standard college level Old Testament survey, *Encountering the Old Testament* (Baker, 1999).

His colleague, Alex Luc, is the Old Testament editor for the CRM Chinese Study Bible. Undergraduate professor John Crutchfield works in Psalms studies. In New Testament, Joel Williams is the JETS New Testament Book Review editor and consistently writes in Markan studies. William Larkin is author of two commentaries on Acts (IVP NTC [1995]; *Cornerstone Biblical Commentary* [Tyndale House Publishers, 2007]).

Transformationally

The writings of President Emeritus Robertson McQuilkin have made the scholarly case for Victorious Christian Living (see his chapter in *Five Views of Sanctification* [Zondervan, reissue 1996]); *Introduction to Biblical Ethics* (Tyndale House Pub., 2nd ed., 1995); editor, *Free and Fulfilled: Victorious Christian Living in the Twenty-first Century*, (Thomas Nelson, 1997). Don Howell's *Servants of the Servant: A Biblical Theology of Leadership* (Wipf & Stock, 2003) and John Harvey's forthcoming *Anointed with the Spirit and Power: A Biblical Theology of Holy Spirit Empowerment* (P&R

Publishing) further develop Victorious Christian Living themes.

Through their speaking and writing, undergraduate professor Jack Layman and Graduate School professors, Gordon Brown, Milton Uecker, and James Watson, have had a formative influence on the Christian School movement. Brown's *Guiding Faculty to Excellence: Instructional Supervision in the Christian School* (Purposeful Design Publications, 2002) is but one example of CIU scholarly undergirding for transformation in the classroom.

Missiologically

Seminary & School of Missions church planting professor Mike Barnett provides leadership in the Evangelical Missiological Society by having chaired its Southeast region and co-editing and writing in two volumes of the EMS monograph series (*The Centrality of Christ in*



Williams

Contemporary Missions [William Carey Library, 2005]; *Business as Mission: From Impoverished to Empowered* [William Carey Library, 2006]). His colleague David Cashin's course "Understanding Cultures and Worldviews" was a finalist in the "Faith as a Way of Life Project" at the Yale Center for Faith & Culture (2005). As a result he participated in a Collaborative Workshop at Yale University Divinity School on Theological Education Renewal for promoting Faith as a Way of Life. Warren Larson, director of the Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies at CIU, consistently brings his expertise in Islamics to bear on contemporary issues for church and mission through his articles and book reviews in such publications as *Evangelical Missions Quarterly* and *Christianity Today*. The center will launch *Understanding*



Cashin



Crutchfield



Larson

Muslims: Journal of the Zwemer Center in 2007. Undergrad Intercultural Studies professor Chris Little has weighed in on evangelical missiological discussion concerning the nature of the gospel and mission — holistic or spiritually prioritist — in his *Mission in the Way of Paul: Biblical Mission in the Twenty-first Century* (Peter Lang, 2005) and in other writings.

Extending the Reach through Alumni

CIU is a center of influence in scholarship biblically, transformationally, and missiologically through alumni, some of whom are now teaching more recent alumni at the doctoral level. Andreas Koestenberger

(M.DIV. 1988; Ph.D. New Testament - Trinity Evangelical Divinity School) is editor of the *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society* and leads Ph.D. studies at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary. Matt Fisher (M.DIV. 1994) completed a Ph.D. under Andreas and now serves in theological education for the Christian & Missionary Alliance overseas.

Robert Priest (B.A. 1979; Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley) heads the Ph.D. Intercultural Studies program at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, where one of his doctoral students is Ron Barber (M.Div. 1985).

In all these ways and more, CIU faculty, administration and alumni are demonstrating that CIU is a center of influence in evangelical scholarship in the service of church and missions. ■

Broadcasting

By Jerry Grimes, WMHK General Manager
With Joe Paulo, WRCM General Manager

The Stories behind the Numbers

CIU Radio Stations Touch Lives

Numbers. They are cold, hard, and often impersonal. But when the numbers being reported represent the lives of people, the story gets far more interesting. Such is the case with the impact of New Life 91.9 WRCM in Charlotte, N.C. and 89.7 WMHK in Columbia, the radio ministries of Columbia International University.

Their performance is measured in numbers. A company called Arbitron places hundreds of diaries in Charlotte and Columbia, asking listeners to record their radio listening habits for a week. The result is the "ratings" we so often hear about. A rating is merely a percentage of the total possible listening audience that a given radio station is estimated to have.

Ratings for WMHK and WRCM are quite good, especially for stations with a Christian format. Together, the radio ministries of CIU impact the lives of nearly a quar-

ter-million people. Ratings do fluctuate. There are highs and lows, but the performance of our two stations is historically and consistently high.

In fact, both stations have received national attention for their audience size and for overall excellence in broadcasting. At one point last

summer, WMHK was

actually the most listened to out of

more than 1,400 non-commercial religious stations in the country.

WRCM had a record Arbitron rating in the fall of 2006.

Their weekly audience is now estimated to be

over 146,000 people, 11,000 more than their previous high.



But the impact of CIU's Broadcast Ministry is even broader than what is heard over the airwaves. There is also an amazing story to tell on the Internet. WMHK.COM garners more than 280,000 page views a month, and has users in some 50 countries, including places like China, Croatia, Iraq, India, Sengal, Turkey and the Ukraine. Missionaries, including many CIU alumni, depend on WMHK.COM daily for encouragement and companionship. Soldiers, who discovered WMHK while stationed at Columbia's Fort Jackson, now listen while deployed, sometimes even on the battlefield.

"You have no idea what your station means to us over here," said Sgt. Danny Kirkland, who was deployed to Baghdad to train Iraqi police officers trying to thwart the spread of sectarian violence. "We gather around my computer and listen to your music and encouragement. It helps us keep going. I don't know what we would do without WMHK."



WRCM has a similar story to tell about www.newlife919.com. The McClung family fell in love with New Life 91.9 while home on furlough from the mission field. Now that they are back in Berlin, they write, "We are very thankful for the wonderful, anointed music you are sending out over the Internet. All of our friends here love New Life 91.9 and, in fact, we play your station for the guests in our coffee house. You are a blessing to Germany!"

Back at home, WRCM and WMHK are changing countless lives everyday. The stations have begun a focused effort in local evangelism in the past two years that is starting to bear fruit.

WRCM led the way with its "Free Gas Giveaway" event. Hundreds of people lined up as the WRCM staff pumped 91.9 seconds of gasoline for free,



treated total strangers to free soft drinks and handed out packets that included books, a DVD of the Jesus Film and more, all to share the love of Christ in a practical way.

Joe Paulo, WRCM's General Manager points to the

dual purpose of this outreach. "Not only does this serve as an excellent marketing effort to attract more listeners to the station through the media coverage we receive, but the more important aspect is the eternal one. We are demonstrating, in a very tangible way, that a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ is free for the taking." More than 300 people were touched for Christ at this event.

Left to right:

Thousands attend the Winter Jam concert sponsored by 89.7 WMHK.

Sgt. Danny Kirkland shows his support for 89.7 WMHK in Baghdad.

The cars line up in Charlotte for a free gas give away sponsored by New Life 91.9.

Together, the radio ministries of CIU impact the lives of nearly a quarter-million people.

WMHK serves local pastors with a clergy appreciation event every fall. This past November, the station rented out "Frankie's Fun Park" and treated more than 90 pastors and their families to an evening of go-kart riding, miniature golf, games, hot dogs and hamburgers — all free.

Likewise, no strings were attached to the free pastor's luncheon in November hosted by WRCM in Charlotte. One pastor commented, "We usually get invited to events in order to be asked to do something else. It was refreshing just to get re-energized today. Thank you!"

Since both WRCM and WMHK are mostly music stations, concerts are an important way of introducing new listeners to the format. Together, CIU's radio stations draw more than 150,000 people a year to concerts and events they promote. But it's not all about the music.

Because some people will come to a concert who would never come to church, real ministry often takes place in ways you could never have imagined. We've seen hundreds of people come forward to receive Christ at the South Carolina State Fair. We've seen men come to Christ after a comedy night. It never ceases to amaze me what God can do and how he can use a station event.

Concerts, on-air, community service. When you take the time to look beyond the numbers, the impact CIU's stations are making on people's lives is pretty impressive.

But no matter how many people are in our audience, there is only one listener who really matters. The Lord Jesus. If we can say in our hearts that He is pleased with us, we are doing our job. ■



Ben Lippen School

By Mickey Bowdon
CIU Vice President for Christian School Education

Ben Lippen School Becoming a Center to Influence

In the spring of 1985, as Columbia International University took steps of action to move the Ben Lippen School from Asheville, N.C. to Columbia, CIU President Robertson McQuilkin envisioned CIU becoming a center to influence Christian school education nationally and internationally. He also envisioned CIU becoming a leading institution for training the next generation of Christian school teachers and administrators and the Ben Lippen School as a place where the principles learned at the university were put into practice. Dr. George Murray, CIU's current president, is a strong advocate of Dr. McQuilkin's vision, and is leading the univer-

sity to become, by reputation and reality, a center to influence and a center of influence for Christian school education.

Building on the foundation of teacher education programs initiated in the 1980s, CIU has added a Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT), a Master of Education (MED) Program and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership (EdD) program. World renowned educator Dr. Milt Uecker was appointed dean of Education in 1999 to provide leadership and direction to CIU's commitment to Christian school education. Dr. Connie

I like to tell people, "If you want to study Christian school education, CIU is the place to go. If you want to see what CIU teaches in action, come to Ben Lippen."



Mitchell joined the team in 2000 as assistant dean of Education. Dr. Gordon Brown came to CIU in 2003 as director of the Doctorate in Educational Leadership program.

The unique relationship between Columbia International University and the Ben Lippen School, a Christian school with grades K-12 located on the university campus, has resulted in an excellent program of teacher and administrative training. I like to tell people, "If you want to study Christian school education, CIU is the place to go. If you want to see what CIU teaches in action, come to Ben Lippen."

CIU hosts the International Institute for Christian School Educators each July. This confer-

ence attracts approximately 300 Christian school leaders from around the world. CIU's growing reputation for excellence in teacher and administrator training has made the university a major influence in the field of Christian school education. President Murray is committed to building on this reputation to assure that CIU continues to be not only a center of influence, but an ongoing center to influence the future of Christian school education.

Additionally, The CIU Board of Trustees has recently endorsed an initiative to develop a Center for Christian School Education at CIU to focus on research, planning, and training the next generation of Christian school educators. This Center will be a "think tank" to identify strategic initiatives in Christian schooling, will provide professional development services to Christian schools, and develop creative solutions to problems Christian schools face. ■

CIU's Worldwide Influence on Christian School Education

CIU Instrumental in Establishment of Christian Education in Dominican Republic

CIU's graduate professional education faculty is at the forefront of developing and articulating a philosophy of Christian school education around the world. Last year alone education faculty traveled to Cameroon, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Mexico and the Dominican Republic. Each summer we also host The International Institute for Christian School Educators on the CIU campus.



Logos Christian School in the Dominican Republic.

We put forth this effort because schools, regardless of location, have a need to train teachers, both new and experienced, in ways to meet today's high educational standards AND be used of God in the spiritual transformation of students.

The Dominican Republic exemplifies the process. Evangelical Christian schooling began in the Dominican Republic in the mid-1980s. As the vision for a Christian school matured, Dominican Christians sought help from educators who could assist them during their infancy. Newly created Logos Christian School, through an adopted sister school in Mansfield,

Ohio, was introduced to the International Institute. Top administrators of the school attended the Institute prior to opening Logos, and have attended every year since then.

Today there is a strong Christian school system in the Dominican Republic. Logos is now the headquarters for the Association for Christian Schools International (ACSI) in the Caribbean. The school hosts its own annual Institute with over 400 in attendance and CIU faculty regularly serve as speakers. Meanwhile, the delegation from the D.R. to CIU in the summer has grown to nine, with two students from Logos currently enrolled in the CIU Master of Education program.

Through a partnership with Universidad FLET, an accredited university in Florida, the CIU faculty is teaching a complete master's degree curriculum in the Dominican Republic. Each course is being recorded and translated for future use not only in the D.R. but throughout Latin America. Currently over 30 teachers attend these courses and will graduate with a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in Christian school education. CIU faculty members Gordon Brown and Mark McCann joined me in teaching graduate courses last year, and Jim Watson, Elaine Lindsey, Steve Auld and Shirl Schiffman will follow this year.

Carl Key, who is a visionary for Christian education in the D.R. says "there is no question that the Institute and CIU have directly impacted Logos and the overall quality of the Christian school movement in the Dominican Republic."

With opportunity comes responsibility. As professional education at CIU expands its influence, the faculty must continue to develop courses and programs that represent best educational practices, culturally responsive teaching, biblically integrated thinking, and a thorough understanding of how teachers can be used by God in transforming the lives of students. ■

Public School Influence

By Mark McCann
MAT Program Director

Dell Brabham graduated from CIU in 1995 with her master's degree in teaching and began her public school "ministry" teaching fifth grade. She quickly learned that it is OK to let your



Dell Brabham

light shine at school. As Brabham observes, "If you are a child of God people are going to recognize that."

Four and a half years later the Lord set the stage for Brabham to move into school administration. She found that the Lord could use her to touch the lives of 640 children. Such an extension in shaping lives led to her current role as assistant principal at Round Top Elementary in Columbia, where her ministry reaches not only to her students and faculty, but to their families and the community.

Is there ministry in public schools? Brabham says, "Being in the public school is my true ministry because of the opportunity to share the blessings of my faith with people." She says it is the daily and yet profound experiences of life that open the door to talk about Christ. The home-going of her mother last year, sitting with a co-worker in the hospital as her friend's husband fought cancer, or the reassuring smile that causes people to ask what she has to smile about – all lead to those opportunities to glorify God.

By Dr. David Olshine
Youth Ministry Chairman

What Makes CIU Youth Ministry Distinctively Different?

Providential Meetings Lead to Dynamic Team

What do Tulsa, Okla., Wilmore, Ky. and Modesto, Calif. have to do with one another? As a youth pastor in 1992 in Tulsa, I was invited to speak at Asbury Seminary's outdoor Christian festival called Ichthus. It was there that I met another youth worker named Hule Goddard from Kentucky. Years later I would read an article written by a female youth worker in California by the name of Karen Grant.

Little did I know when I established the newly formed Youth Ministry major at Columbia International University, I would be able to hire two of the best youth leaders in the country, Hule and Karen, to serve on this phenomenal team.

When asked, "Why should I send my student to study Youth Ministry at Columbia International University?" we typically have four common responses.

1. The Incredible Youth Ministry Faculty

Maybe I am biased, but our team brings over 60 years of experience in the local church. Whereas many Christian universities have Youth Ministry with one faculty member, at CIU we have three full-time faculty members.

2. We mentor our students

In a day of "fast" discipleship through information, we have committed ourselves to mentoring with "slow and intentional pacing." Several years ago, Enrique Coreano came to CIU as a transfer student. He heard that our faculty is committed to discipleship. Upon graduation, Enrique left CIU for over-

seas mission work. In our closing Spring Chapel when seniors share, Enrique said, "I never really planned to do youth ministry. But I wanted some older men like Olshine and Hule to mentor me. I would not trade that experience for anything. It has been life changing."

3. We have fun in and outside the classroom

Laura, one of our students said, "Youth Min classes make learning enjoyable." We get together several times each semester outside of the classroom with overnights, prayer times and building of relationships. When I asked several students to describe our classes, these were the words they used:

"experiential ... fun ... discussions are welcome ... engaging ... thought-provoking ... creative ... practical ... transforming."

4. Missions Oriented

Years ago, when faced with curricular choices, we opted to make sure our classes embody CIU's ethos of reaching the world. So every year, Youth Ministry majors head to the Dominican Republic for an eight day trip for class credit.

5. We offer a practical curriculum

Here are a few practical expressions of what students do in various courses:

- Our "Strategies" class requires students to lead the annual Columbia Spring Conference for middle and high school students held on the CIU campus.
- Our "Counseling" class requires a team presentation on a youth issue such as teenage pregnancy, cutting, or drugs and alcohol, and how to counsel a student and family.
- "Applied Leadership" course heads to Pisgah National Forest for a weekend of intensive outdoor leadership experiences that include safety training and skills for survival in the woods.

A committed faculty, mentoring, missions, practical curriculum and just plain fun. This is Youth Ministry at Columbia International University as we seek to be a center of influence to the next generation. ■



Youth Ministries Professor Hule Goddard enjoys teaching his classes outside.

By Dr. Patrick Blewett
Undergraduate Dean

Extra-Curricular Activity

A Center of Influence Off Campus

Call it extra-curricular influence. Many people are not aware that our Undergraduate instructors are centers of influence – each making a substantive contribution outside of CIU as well as inside.

Let me highlight a few folks that impact ministry far beyond the CIU campus.

Dr. Larry Shackley from our music department is an accomplished composer and arranger of

choral and instrumental music for church worship. He has published over 100 pieces of music and 20 books of keyboard arrangements (totaling over a quarter of a million copies sold), and serves as the Sacred Keyboard Editor for Lorenz Corp.

Dr. Rod Lewis from our music department has a special niche within the Emerging Church Movement addressing contemporary worship. In addition to teaching our students and leading



Lewis

worship in a local church, he maintains a regular "blog site" on worship averaging some 2,000 "hits" each month. (<http://rodsrants.blogspot.com>) By the way, a number of the local musicians

consider Rod to be the best guitarist in South Carolina!

Professor Andre Rogers from our Pastoral Studies program is a preacher with a growing reputation around the country as well as a strategist for church planting

in South Carolina for the South Carolina Baptist Convention. How good a preacher? Well, Dallas Seminary has him commuting about once a month to

teach preaching. How many church plants? He has been involved with seven church plants, and is a coach to a dozen church planters.

Dr. Mark Olander from our Field Education Office not only works with our practical ministry skills development on campus, he provides instruction at his former Bible college in Kenya. He is also a speaker for a Theological Education Conference in South Africa sponsored by AIM and SIM. Mark also traveled and taught a graduate course in Kenya in late November on "Philosophy of Education" at one of the key training facilities in eastern Africa. He is influencing theological education on another continent!

Dr. Jack Layman

served on the Association of Christian Schools International board of directors for 20 years. Today he travels the world equipping Christian school teachers. This past summer, he provided instruction to teachers in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan

(in Central Asia) and then on to Thailand. He also made a quick trip to the Dominican Republic to teach philosophy of education.

Dr. Steve Farra from our Psychology program was a key presenter this past fall at the Society of Christian Psychology. His presentation was a fresh perspective and model on how Christians uphold a high view of Scripture and understand empirical



Farra

research in the social sciences. His understanding of a biblically consistent accountability model for psychology is being discussed in Christian

academic counselor training settings across North America.

Dr. Glenn Gentry from our General Education division is a philosopher and a theologian. Not only does he help our

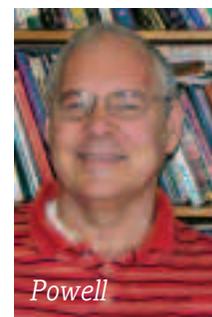


Gentry

students learn how to think critically, philosophically, and biblically, he is a presenter at various academic conferences. In May, Glenn will host the Society of Christian

Philosophers regional conference at CIU. About 100 Christian philosophers from throughout the eastern United States will be on our campus because of the influence of Dr. Gentry.

Dr. Terry Powell from our Christian Education (Family and Church Education) program has been teaching outside the United States every year for over 20 years. This past summer, he traveled to Kenya; and during the winter break, he was in the Caribbean (St. Vincent) teaching and equipping the saints on how to handle God's Word so that they can "teach others also" (II Timothy 2:2).



Powell

In my opinion, the Undergraduate School at CIU has one of the best higher education faculties in the entire world. They teach our students well, and they influence the world for Christ! If you are looking for a school where students are trained to make a difference for Christ's Kingdom, wouldn't you want them trained by men and women whose lifestyles of influence read like this list of CIU faculty? ■

The Vision of the Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies

Equipping Missionaries to Reach Muslims



Samuel Zwemer

The Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies will play a significant role in equipping Christian workers to plant churches in Muslim settings.

The Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies has come a long way – from an idea among concerned Christian scholars in California in 1977 to its current home at Columbia International University. It was founded to undertake much-needed research on Muslims, and then explore and experiment with new initiatives to present them with the gospel.

It was named after Samuel Zwemer who lived and traveled in North Africa and the Middle East in the 1880s and into the next century. He mobilized students for missions, founded and edited the *Moslem World*, taught at Princeton Theological Seminary, and wrote approximately 50 books about Muslims and the religion of Islam. He also wrote tracts in Arabic for evangelistic purposes.

The Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies came to CIU in 2003 because CIU's mission, core values, Great Commission vision, reputation, educational programs, and achievements in Muslim Studies represented an ideal platform for preserving and extending the legacy of Samuel Zwemer.

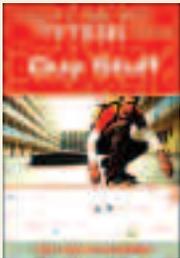
The Center is under the direction of Dr. Warren Larson. He and his wife Carol served as missionaries among Muslims in Pakistan for 23 years. After being forced to leave Pakistan

under false charges, the Lord led them to CIU, where Dr. Larson has taught Muslim studies since 1996.

Today, Larson and his Muslim Studies colleagues are busy teaching and travelling. For example, Larson recently taught a two-week graduate course "The Spirit World of Islam" at the CIU campus in Korntal, Germany. On CIU's main campus more students are signing up for courses on Islam and more are being offered. Muslim Studies are especially popular during the summer. This July there will be four Muslim Studies courses, and in summer 2008, a new course titled "Tentmaking Strategies for Planting Churches in the 10/40 Window" will be offered. This spring, one week of CIU chapels is being devoted to reaching Muslims for Christ. Among the speakers is a former Muslim who has endured much persecution. Also this spring, CIU professors will be key speakers at a strategic conference in Southeast Asia where conferees will discuss how to have a church planting team among every Muslim people group on earth by the year 2025.

With God's blessing and provision, over the next 10-20 years, The Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies will play a significant role in equipping Christian workers to plant churches in Muslim settings. ■

New Books by CIU Professors



Any parent who has had a teenage boy knows about those uncomfortable conversations. The kind that makes a parent's hands get a little sweaty and their 13-year-old squirm. It's those discussions about pornography, promiscuity and respecting the opposite sex. But Dr. David Olshine, the director of Youth Ministry at Columbia International University says those chats don't have to be difficult. As a matter of fact, he's just written a book of full of tips and advice that will make those important moments with your teen meaningful and God-centered. *I Want to Talk With my Teen About Guy Stuff* offers clear, concise information about what it means to be male and a man of faith and courage in this changing world. Published by Standard Publishing.



Salvation is to all the nations. That's the message of the just-released *Cornerstone Biblical Commentary on the Book of Acts* by Dr. William J. Larkin. Larkin is professor of New Testament and Greek at Columbia International University's Seminary & School of Missions and an ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in America. Larkin shows that the momentum of the salvation message in Acts is ever outward, not only geographically, but also ethnically – from Jews to Samaritans and from God fearers to pagan Gentiles. The commentary also helps the reader to think through the literary and theological issues in the text and provides an easy to use word study. It is an excellent resource for teachers, Bible study leaders, pastors, and growing Christians. Published by Tyndale.



Do you ever feel intimidated, overwhelmed or totally confused by the Old Testament? With hundreds of pages of names like Melchizedek, Mephibosheth, Meshelemiah, and Michmethath, who wouldn't? CIU Provost Bill Jones offers help in his new book, *Putting Together the Puzzle of the Old Testament*. Jones compares the Old Testament to a jigsaw puzzle with chapters providing the puzzle's box cover, corners, and straight-edged pieces so you can understand the whole picture of what you are assembling. Armed with these advantages, when you read or study Old Testament stories, you will discover how the pieces fit together. Published by STL/Authentic. ■

"Check Out" New CIU Library Blogs

With the rapidly growing popularity of blogging, Columbia International University's G. Allen Fleece Library has two of its own blogs to assist students and pastors.

Library director JoAnn Rhodes has a blog called *The Book Cover* which can be accessed at www.fleecelibrary.blogspot.com. The blog contains updates on library news and interesting library factoids, such as popular book lists and national library news. One post detailed Rhodes' excitement over plans for a new computer system for the CIU library named Innovative Interfaces. She calls it the "Cadillac of library systems."

Another library blog is the *Fleece Theological Forum* available at www.fleecetheologicalforum.blogspot.com.

Managed by CIU Professor and Theological Research Associate Dr. Igou Hodges, the blog contains information on books and resources useful to pastors. Hodges hopes the blog will encourage local ministers to use CIU's library and research issues of concern in today's churches. The site offers bibliographies on specific topics, and lists titles that are available at CIU.

Hodges says the goal of the blog is consistent with the roots of CIU that began with local women who prayed for a Bible school in Columbia.

"The goal of the women who started praying for this school was to serve South Carolina, and if we help pastors we can serve the community and hopefully get more people to use what's available here," Hodges said.



JoAnn Rhodes



Dr. Igou Hodges

LEAD

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