



# Letter from the President



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## CIU's Vision In Action!

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Dear friend of CIU,

**T**he presence of CIU was *pervasive* at the largest-ever Urbana Conference which was held in St. Louis this past December. Let me tell you why.

CIU's vision is that "Columbia International University will be, by reputation and reality, a world center for biblical, transformational Great Commission training and impact." In other words, *we exist to train men and women to understand and apply the Bible, to live supernatural transformed lives, and to have God's Great Commission heart for all the peoples of the world, especially those who are still waiting to hear the gospel for the first time.* Today, CIU grads are serving in 130 countries worldwide. Some are ministering in the marketplace. Some are ministering in full-time Christian service in North America. And some are ministering on the front lines of missionary service, often among some of the world's least-reached peoples.

At the Urbana Conference, 20,000 undergrad and graduate students gathered to gain a better understanding of God's heart for a lost world. We sent a large team of CIU students, faculty and staff to

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Urbana to recruit future students. One of our team members decided to have 200 buttons made with the CIU logo and "Columbia International University Alumni" in big letters. On the first day of the conference, our CIU team went to the scores of organizational display locations to see how many CIU alumni were among the representatives. They easily found 200, and all 200 agreed to wear a CIU Alumni button during the entire conference, and to direct inquirers to the CIU display booth.

It was a tangible demonstration of CIU's vision in action! Think of it. Among the many Great Commission organizations at the Urbana conference who were there to recruit young adults to work with them – in the Muslim world, in the Buddhist world, in the Hindu world, in the tribal world, in the communist world, in the huge inner cities, among the street children, in prisons, in hospitals, among the homeless – was the pervasive presence of CIU alumni! *Not only are CIU alumni doing the work of the Lord around the world, but they are recruiting, mobilizing and training others to do the same!* Yes, this is truly CIU's vision in action!

Last month I gave diplomas to this year's CIU graduating class of nearly 350. More workers for the harvest! I wish you could meet them and hear their testimonies about all that they have learned at CIU and their future plans.

By now you will have read about our exciting leadership transition plans here at CIU. As Dr. Bill Jones, CIU's new president, and I, as CIU's new chancellor, work together to make CIU more effective than ever, *we need your prayers and gifts as never before.* As we come

to the close of our fiscal year on June 30, we are trusting the Lord that many friends of CIU will be excited about CIU's worldwide vision and invest financially in it.

*Will you be one of them?* We need \$492,200 to meet our 2006/07

budget, and much more than that to fund the bold initiatives we have for the future. For daily updates on the CIU Annual Fund, please visit [www.ciu.edu/donors](http://www.ciu.edu/donors). Thank you so much for your prayers and for your partnership with us.

Yours for His glory,



George W. Murray  
President



Dr. Bill Jones and Dr. George Murray



**Columbia International University**

*"To know Him and to make Him known"*