Media Resources
Columbia International University

real impact

Educating people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.
Athletics; Athletics as Ministry
Kim Abbott, athletics director at Columbia International University, began her professional career in athletics as a women’s golf coach, first at Dartmouth College, and then at the University of South Carolina’s (USC) main campus in Columbia. She also held administrative positions in the athletics department at USC, before becoming the athletics director at the University of South Carolina Beaufort. Having a Christian witness in athletics is important to Abbott. She has been involved in the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) for several years, and currently serves on the executive board of the Midlands FCA in Columbia, S.C.

Business & Organizational Leadership; Management of Charitable Organizations and Humanitarian Projects
Dr. Benjamin Dean is the director of the Business & Organizational Leadership program at CIU. He has extensive organizational leadership experience with not-for-profit and for-profit organizations, experience as an attorney in the private and public sector, and experience in ministry outreach including humanitarian and charitable projects. In the U.S. Army, Dean achieved the rank of lieutenant colonel where he was assigned to the Pentagon and a multinational NATO unit in Europe. Dean also served President George H.W. Bush as assistant counsel to the president.

Chaplaincy
Dr. Michael Langston, professor of Chaplain Ministries, served as a United States Navy chaplain for 23 years, including a tour of duty in the Iraq War, and ending his career as the commanding officer of the Naval Chaplaincy School and Center at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C. He can address all areas of chaplaincy including military, corporate, healthcare, public safety, institutional, sports, educational and disaster relief.

Communication; Technology, Media, Social Media
Dr. Dan Delozier, director of the Communication Program at CIU is ready to discuss emerging media, media and technology in today’s culture, social media and its impact on young people, the future of current technology, and the church’s embrace of media.

Counseling; Christian Counseling, Behavioral Disorder/Developmental Delays in Children
Dr. Harvey Payne is the dean of the CIU College of Counseling. He specializes in the evaluation and treatment of children for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, autism, learning disabilities, social-emotional and behavioral disorders, developmental delays, and medical-related issues (e.g., pain management, adjustment to chronic illness or acquired injury). He also provides agency and staff consultation, program development and staff training for various local agencies, residential facilities and schools.

Education; Christian Schools, Early Childhood Development
Dr. Milt Uecker is the director of the Lowrie Center for Christian School Education at CIU. He specializes in the areas of educational philosophy, early childhood education, and curriculum. Uecker is also a national and international conference speaker and a contributor to the Christian Early Education and Christian School Education journals for the Association of Christian Schools International (ASCI).
Islam
Dr. Warren Larson is professor emeritus in CIU Seminary & School of Ministry. Because of his understanding of Islam, he has been quoted widely in both Christian and secular media. He travels extensively, addressing diverse audiences around the world on how to communicate to Muslims with love and understanding. From 1968 – 1991 Larson was a cross-cultural missionary in Pakistan where he developed a small church, operated a reading room for inter-faith discussions, and started a school for Pakistanis to study the Bible through correspondence courses.

Dr. Jerry Rankin is the director of the Zwemer Center for Muslim Studies at CIU. Rankin is also the president emeritus of the Southern Baptist International Mission Board (IMB). He served with the IMB for 40 years, the last 17 years as president. Prior to becoming president of the IMB, Dr. Rankin and his wife Bobbye served for 23 years in Asia, initially as missionaries in Indonesia, the largest Muslim country in the world.

Dr. Ed Smither served for 14 years in intercultural ministry working primarily among Muslims in France, North Africa, and the United States.

Linguistics
Professor Joe LeTexier, who is fluent in Spanish, is the coordinator of CIU’s TEFL (Teaching English as a Foreign Language) program. He can discuss the art/craft of effective language learning and teaching.

Marketplace Ministry
Mr. Jeff Wheeler is the CIU ministry coordinator, acting as a liaison with the business community and civic leaders. His 30-year career spans both the public and private sectors. Wheeler heads JB Wheeler & Company, which specializes in growth and strategic planning for businesses and faith-based organizations. He also served for five years as the minister of education and administration at Shandon Baptist Church, one of the largest Baptist churches in South Carolina. While at Shandon, Wheeler introduced several new ministries and was involved in a major capital campaign. He has also served on numerous civic and community boards.

Missions; Cross-Cultural Ministry, Church Planting
Dr. Mike Barnett is the dean of the CIU College of Intercultural Studies. He specializes in church planting movements, business as missions, and the history of global Christianity.

Dr. David Cashin served in Bangladesh for nine years as a church planter, educator and development worker. He is fluent in Bengali and Swedish and has extensive knowledge of seven other languages. Cashin can address multi-cultural church and missionary issues.

Dr. Christopher R. Little has over 18 years of cross-cultural missionary experience on four continents with five different mission organizations. He can discuss holistic ministries and the pitfalls of creating unhealthy financial dependencies by missionaries.

New Testament and Greek
Dr. William Larkin is professor of Greek and New Testament in CIU Seminary & School of Ministry. He has written articles and reviews for various periodicals and was a translation editor for the book of “Acts” in the New Living Translation of the Bible. He has authored five books and co-edited a sixth. An ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church in America, Larkin has an active ministry in adult Christian education, particularly Bible teaching.

Old Testament and Hebrew
Dr. Bryan Beyer is CIU’s associate provost and dean of CIU School of Arts & Sciences. He is the author of “Encountering the Book of Isaiah: An Historical and Theological Survey” and is the co-author of the textbook “Encountering the Old Testament: A Christian Survey.” Since 1997, Dr. Beyer has served as chair of the Associated Schools for Jerusalem University College, and since 2003, as general Bible/Old Testament book review editor for the “Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society” (JETS). He is also a recipient of the Founder’s Medallion from his alma mater, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Cincinnati.
Pastoral Ministries
Dr. Andre Rogers is the director of the Pastoral Ministries Program. He specializes in the areas of Bible doctrine and theology, and has a passion for preaching and teaching, focusing on Old Testament figures Samuel, David and Solomon, and the books of Joshua, Judges and Ruth.

Philosophy and Ethics
Dr. Glenn Gentry is a philosopher and theologian, teaching apologetics, philosophy, logic and ethics. Before joining the CIU faculty, he served for five years in Botswana, Africa developing leaders for the church.

Theology
Dr. Larry Dixon is a professor of theology in CIU Seminary & School of Ministry. He is well-known for his sense of humor and is the author of several books that focus on making theology lively and practical. Among his books are “When Temptation Strikes,” “Heaven,” and “Farewell, Rob Bell.”

Youth
Dr. David Olshine is the director of the Youth Ministry Program. He is a much sought-after speaker for youth and church youth worker events and conducts a parent seminar “Riding the Adolescent Wave.”

Ben Lippen School Media Resources
Ben Lippen School is a Christian, college preparatory school of 800 students in grades Pre-K through 12, and is a ministry of Columbia International University. Ben Lippen School includes a boarding program of over 100 high school students from the United States and around the world, in on-campus housing and in Columbia area homes. www.BenLippen.com

Mr. Mickey Bowdon is headmaster of Ben Lippen School. He is recognized for his development of three models for Christian schools. His Strategic Planning Model, Strategic Funding Model, and Advancement Model have been implemented in Christian schools across the United States and Canada, making him a frequent speaker at Christian school conventions.

Mr. Dale Angstadt teaches Genesis, The Life of Christ, and Philosophy & Ethics. He guides youth as they grapple with contemporary issues.

Mr. David McVicker is the director of instructional technology at Ben Lippen School. He facilitates the most effective use of technology in the classroom, including the use of the iPad, while staying abreast of new and emerging trends in K-12 technology.

Mr. Emery Nickerson is the director of the boarding program at Ben Lippen School. He can discuss the unique and rewarding experiences of hosting international students in the United States.

Broadcasting Media Resources
Broadcasting includes 89.7 WMHK radio in Columbia, S.C. and New Life 91.9 in Charlotte, N.C., family-friendly radio stations featuring Contemporary Christian Music and heard online at www.wmhk.com and www.newlife91.9.com. Both stations have been recognized with numerous awards, including the Marconi Award from the National Association of Broadcasters.

Joe Paulo is the director of broadcasting at CIU. He can address the issues of radio station management, programming and trends in Christian radio.

John Owens is the operations manager of 89.7 WMHK. He has also been a program director and morning show host. Owens can address issues on radio station programming and trends in Christian music.

To arrange an interview with a CIU Media Resource listed, or for other inquiries, contact
CIU Communications Manager Bob Holmes
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