Columbia International University

Preparing World Christians To Know Him And To Make Him Known

Where Do CIU Graduates Go?

November 2004

Dear friends of CIU,

Did you know that nearly 18,000 students have received training at Columbia International University since we started in 1923? And, CIU graduates are serving (or have served) the Lord in over 130 countries around the world. We know this because we ask all of our graduating students their vocational intentions and then we stay in touch with them through our alumni association.

Our records indicate that since 1923, one-fourth of all CIU graduates are in missionary service around the world. Another 25% are in full-time Christian ministry here in North America. The remaining 50% occupy marketplace roles and are active for the Lord in their local churches.

"Our graduates tell me how thankful they are for the whole-life ministry training they received at CIU."

As I write you today, I have specific CIU graduates in my mind's eye. One is currently leading a major thrust for the Lord into Tibet, and one is leading a church-planting movement among unreached peoples in the Asiatic republics of the former Soviet Union. A CIU grad in Canada is pastoring a church that is a major force for world evangelization, and its Sunday services are simultaneously translated into nine different languages to accommodate the congregation. Another CIU grad has consistently and by choice pastored small rural churches that cannot afford a full-time pastor's salary, while his wife has joyfully worked the night shift at a local hospital for 20 years to enable her husband to pastor these churches. One of our CIU grads has become a very successful businessman and has provided huge amounts of money for the Lord's work, and one CIU grad who has purposefully taken a modest-paying secular job moved into a lower-class neighborhood in order to reach the needy families there for the Lord. These few examples could be multiplied many times over!

President's Letter

7435 Monticello Road | PO Box 3122 | Columbia, SC 29230-3122

803 754 4100 | 803 786 4209 Fax

www.ciu.edu

Wherever I meet these graduates, and others around the world, they tell me how thankful they are for the whole-life ministry training they received at CIU. What an encouragement that is to me, and I hope to you also.

What about our more recent graduates? Our "exit" surveys over the past three years (2001-2004) reveal that 46% of CIU graduates were headed into full-time missionary service, 38% planned to enter full-time Christian ministry here in North America, 13% planned on marketplace roles, and 3% were undecided. It is obvious from these statistics that the large majority of our recent CIU graduates leave our school with a "ministry mindset," even those taking jobs in the marketplace. In fact, some of our most spiritually effective graduates are those in marketplace roles where they consistently bear a strong Christian testimony and are active leaders in their local churches. Praise the Lord! This fulfills the CIU mission and motto!

Happy Thanksgiving!

We have so much to be thankful for at this Thanksgiving season:

- Dedicated faculty and staff
- Eager students
- Alumni serving the Lord world-wide
- Faithful prayer partners
- Our Annual Fund progress (see insert)

One last statistic: *85% of our current CIU students are dependent on some form of financial aid in order to get their training at CIU.* Much of that financial aid comes from your contributions to CIU, so thank you for your prayers and your gifts. Please pray that CIU will maintain its strong focus on world evangelization and that our graduates will continue to be godly Great Commission Christians who minister for the Lord wherever they go.

Yours for His glory,

George W. Murray
President