



Letter from the President



Dr. Bill Jones

Moving Forward – Building on the Past

September 2007

Dear friend of CIU,

As CIU's new president, the board of trustees has charged me with the task of guiding Columbia International University into the future. But no institution can move ahead successfully without resting on the solid foundations of its past – especially an institution built on biblical foundations.

Two historic movements converging in 1923 helped birth Columbia Bible Institute which we know today as Columbia International University. The first movement was the *Faith Missions* movement. Hudson Taylor, in 1865, spearheaded this work of God when he broke from the prevalent denominational approach to missions of his day and launched an interdenominational missions agency consisting of workers from a variety of church backgrounds. Taylor's innovation, known as the China Inland Mission, sparked the formation of many other similar organizations. The first CIU president planned to serve on the mission field himself until God providentially sank the ship which was to carry him

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to Africa. Though Dr. Robert C. McQuilkin never left for the mission field, he planted his heart for the nations deep inside CIU's DNA. By the 1900s, the *Faith Missions* movement had thousands of missionaries wanting Bible training, something CIU has provided for 84 years.

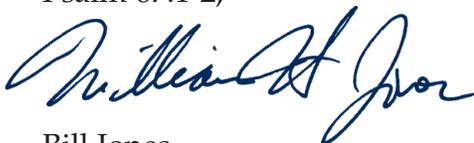
The second historical movement that helped birth CIU was the *Victorious Christian Life* movement. This movement proclaimed that Christians could overcome sin's temptation if they appropriated by faith the Spirit's power. Dr. McQuilkin served as a conference speaker for this movement. He traveled the nation speaking with great authority and credibility on the message of the Victorious Christian Life. When he became president of CIU, he also planted this message of "Christ in you, the hope of glory" deep inside the DNA of the school. Again, for 84 years, CIU has faithfully proclaimed this message.

To that end, the historic movements that birthed our university will continue to guide us as we seek to develop the most effective programs to prepare our students to impact the world. Whether God calls them to cross-cultural missions, church ministry, or exerting an influence for Christ in the marketplace, we want to provide our future graduates with an outstanding education known not only for its academic excellence,

but also for its emphasis on fostering spiritual formation and imparting ministry skills.

For CIU to make the same impact in the future as we have in the past requires the contribution of everyone – alumni, students, faculty, staff, and friends all around the world. We can make a world of difference if we all focus on educating people from a biblical worldview so that we can impact the nations with the message of victorious Christian living. I suspect that *difference* would very much please our first president. I am certain, however, it will please our Heavenly Father.

Psalm 67:1-2,



Bill Jones,
President



Dr. Robert C. McQuilkin



Columbia International University

"To know Him and to make Him known"