

CIU

TODAY



The Mark Smith Era Begins
Inauguration Nov. 3

Plus:

From CIU to the Pentagon

*Dr. Bill Jones Honored
with Key to the City*

FALL 2017
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CIU

TODAY

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New CIU President Dr. Mark A. Smith

CIU | Columbia International University

Educating from a Biblical Worldview



#DiscoverCIU

Eclipse Watch

CIU students join a friend to take in a total solar eclipse on Aug. 21. The start of classes was delayed by a day as the CIU family gathered on Sessions Field for a watch party featuring burgers, Pelican's SnoBalls, and games, while songs with sun and moon themes played in the background.



DEPARTMENTS

- 20** **Academics**
CIU Adds Online Business Degrees; Answering a Phone Call and God's Call: Meet the 2017 McQuilkin Scholarship Winner
- 22** **Athletics**
The Ministry of Basketball: "Pure Life" in Costa Rica; Ministry in the Dominican Republic
- 24** **Campus Life**
The House of Dignitas awarded the House Cup; Making Dignity Fashionable
- 26** **Development**
The John R. Cook Jr. Business and Entrepreneurship Center Opening; CIU Fund Goal Met
- 29** **Alumni**
CIU's First Chancellor "Retires"; Homecoming 2017 Preview; Recent Alumni Recognition Awards; Class Notes

FEATURES



10 Key to the City



12 From CIU to the Pentagon



14 Protestant Reformation 500th Anniversary



16 Meet Dr. Mark A. Smith

THE FIRST WORD

My 25th Anniversary at CIU

I said I would never work anywhere more than a few years. I always wanted to be moving forward in my career, always wanted to be one step ahead. Then I became employed by Columbia International University. That was 1992. I've been here ever since.



▲ Recognized for 25 years of service by Diane Mull, director of Alumni and Development.

In April I was recognized for my quarter century of service at the annual Recognition Day Chapel. But the honor has been mine to remain with such a great ministry.

The first half of my 25 years was at WMHK radio, the station formerly owned by CIU where I was a

news anchor/reporter, and eventually, the news director. I was credentialed with a front row seat to the world. What memories.

With South Carolina an early presidential primary state, opportunities abounded for news coverage. So one morning in 2000, live on the air, I peppered candidate George W. Bush with questions including: "Would an openly-known homosexual be a part of a Bush Administration?" These days we would say my question, and his response ("I would not ask that question, I would ask if you are a conservative."), "went viral." News outlets such as Time magazine quoted from the interview.

But since 2005, I've had a front row seat to the higher education side of CIU as the university's communications manager. In many ways, I'm still reporting the news.

On a Saturday morning in 2010, my mobile phone awakened me at about 6:30. It was a CIU vice president informing me there had been a fire in the CIU library and I needed to get to campus ASAP to deal with the media. As I stumbled to the closet, my wife asked me what was going on. "What do you wear to a fire?" was my reply. I hurried down I-20 to meet a sleepy-eyed TV news videographer already on the scene.

Perhaps the best part of my current position is rubbing shoulders with, and befriending, some of the greatest minds among evangelicals, who are also some of the most humble people I have known. Many of them are now with the Lord.

Perhaps the best part of my current position is rubbing shoulders with, and befriending, some of the greatest minds among evangelicals, who are also some of the most humble people I have known.

Professor Dr. Bill Larkin lived in my neighborhood and I often times gave him a ride to campus. In our conversations, my brain could not keep up with his. In his days of semi-retirement, Professor Dr. Terry Hulbert kept an office down the hall from mine. I miss him showing up at my door and encouraging me in my work. While I had known President Emeritus Robertson McQuilkin since my days at WMHK, when I came over to the higher education side, he enlightened me further on CIU's great heritage. What a privilege to have known him personally. An historic figure in evangelicalism.

It has been a privilege to serve under presidents Dr. Johnny Miller, Dr. George Murray and Dr. Bill Jones. I thank them for their example of servant leadership and personal encouragements over these 25 years.

I said I'd never stay more than a few years. It has been God's will for me to hang around and learn from people such as these.

And now it's time to meet our new president, Dr. Mark Smith. I hope you'll read my article on page 16 and get to know the "Bible-centered entrepreneur," who God has brought to CIU as we move toward the university's 100th anniversary in just six years.

Stay tuned. More news to come.

Bob Holmes
CIU Today
Editor-in-Chief

Letters to the Editor are welcome. Correspondence must include your name, address and phone number. The editor reserves the right to determine the suitability of letters for publication and to edit for clarity and length. There is no guarantee your letter will be published, nor will letters be returned. Write to:

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CIU News

Artist Honors Robertson McQuilkin with Portrait

Like a lot of parents who hope their child will sit still in church, Judee Dickinson's mom and dad used to let her draw pictures during the service. But instead of the doodles of a lot of children, Dickinson drew the faces of the people around her. It became her life's passion.

Decades later, she is known professionally as Judith Dickinson, an award-winning artist who owns and teaches at the Art Academy of Colorado near Denver. Some of her recent portraits include Christian leaders who have had an influence on her life including Bible professor Dr. Howard Hendricks, author Elisabeth Elliot and the late Columbia International University President Robertson McQuilkin. That portrait, Dickinson's gift to CIU, now hangs in the entryway to the McQuilkin Building at CIU.

Dickinson said she wanted to honor McQuilkin for a number of reasons, including his book, "A Promise Kept," describing his decision to resign as CIU's third president in 1990 to care for his wife Muriel who suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

"It was so touching to me in my early marriage," Dickinson explained. "It meant so much to me."

But there are other connections between Dickinson and McQuilkin. Her great-grandfather founded America's Keswick ministry in New Jersey, the center of the Victorious Christian Life movement in the United States, and a founding CIU core value. Also, her grandfather was a close friend of R.C. McQuilkin, Robertson McQuilkin's father, who served as CIU's first president.

She recalls hearing Robertson McQuilkin speak at America's Keswick.

"As a teenager, I was just mesmerized by what he said and his commitment to missions," Dickinson said.

She recalls a particular week when Robertson McQuilkin challenged those at Keswick to consider their part in world evangelization.

"I remember that was a time I recommitted my life to whatever the Lord wanted in the future."

In addition, Dickinson is a 1968 graduate of Ben Lippen School, CIU's Pre-K to 12th grade Christian school in Columbia. She was a Ben Lippen student when the school was located in Asheville, North Carolina, and its former headmaster Robertson McQuilkin was a frequent speaker. ■



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CIU News



Summer of Campus Improvements New coffee shop, upgrades and beautifications

It was a busy summer for landscapers and construction crews on the Columbia International University campus with upgrades and beautification projects bringing more of what new CIU President Dr. Mark Smith calls "the wow factor."

Some of the work has been general maintenance such as new roofs to the Student Center and Fisher Classroom Building, improved landscaping including irrigation systems, and resurfacing of some parking lots and the outdoor basketball courts and tennis courts.

More noticeable "Wow" improvements include the lobby of the Administration Building where the university



▲ Timeline

receptionist greets visitors from a new front desk that faces the front door. In addition is a new large CIU logo above the receptionist, new carpeting, furniture and chandelier. Two lobby walls are lined with an updated timeline featuring highlights of CIU's nearly 100-year history.

But probably the biggest "Wow" for students is the new coffee shop in the Student Center.

It's operated by Grace Coffee Company founded by CIU alumni couple Matt and Brooke Beyer, both of whom graduated in 1999. The Beyers have a long association with CIU. Matt's father is Dr. Bryan Beyer, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. Matt was in the third grade in 1985 when his parents moved to Columbia and his father took a position as a CIU professor.



The Beyers headquarter their business out of mobile unit stationed along Main Street in the north Columbia suburb of Blythewood. Matt Beyer says the menu consists of brewed coffee, cold brew nitro coffee, lattes, espresso, frappes, tea, and more. Want something else?



▲ Grace Coffee owner Matt Beyer

"Our baristas can serve just about anything you can dream up," Beyer said.

There's another CIU alumni connection to Grace Coffee Company. Their fair trade organic coffee is locally roasted on a weekly basis by Beach Loveland, a 2009 CIU graduate. Loveland operates his own coffee kiosk in Irmo, just northwest of Columbia. ■

Donor Appreciation Luncheon Sets Record

The 2017 Columbia International University Donor Appreciation Luncheon that brought together CIU scholarship donors and student recipients was the largest in CIU history with 180 people in attendance. The April event gave CIU students the opportunity to meet the people who are helping to make their education possible.

Dozens of CIU students lined up at a microphone to thank the donors.

The scholarship donors said they are impressed with the students they are assisting. Among the donors were The Rev. Rick Trott and his wife Joyce who made the trip to the luncheon from Charlotte, North Carolina. Both are CIU graduates from the 1960s.

"I think it's exciting to see the outcome of what the Lord is doing with the students — their energy and excitement about going forward to minister the Word and to share what they have learned and bring others along," said Mrs. Trott.

Find out how you can become a CIU scholarship donor at community.ciu.edu/scholarships. Contact the CIU Development Office at development@ciu.edu or call (803) 807-5500. ■



Student Joseph Knight (right) introduces himself to scholarship donor Dick Franklin ('97) of Mount Pleasant, South Carolina.



▲ The cast of "Seussical the Musical."

Horton Hears a Who in Hoke Auditorium

Columbia International University's Hoke Auditorium was transformed into the world of Dr. Seuss as the CIU players performed "Seussical the Musical." The spring performance brought to life favorite Seuss characters including Horton the Elephant, The Cat in the Hat, Gertrude McFuzz, lazy Mayzie and the Whos of Whoville.

Directed by Henslee Chastain and Jordan Hobbs, The Cat in the Hat tells the imaginative story of Horton, an elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing the Whos. One particular Who, Jojo, is sent off to military school for thinking too many "thinks." While Horton is trying to save the Whos, he is also left with the protection of Mayzie's egg. Despite ridicule, kidnapping and a trial, Horton's neighbor, Gertrude McFuzz never loses faith in him.

"We really hope we were able to make the imaginative world of Dr. Seuss come alive for our audience," Hobbs said. ■

CIU News

History: First Women's Softball Coach Named at CIU



The first women's softball coach in the history of Columbia International University has a decade of NCAA coaching and playing experience.

Coach Sara Allen comes to CIU from Montana State University Billings (NCAA II) where she served as assistant softball coach. She has also served as an assistant softball coach at Weber State University (NCAA I) in Ogden, Utah and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (NCAA II).

Allen played collegiate softball at the University of San Diego where she was a three time all-PCSC (Pacific Coast Softball Conference) honoree and a three time University of San Diego offensive player of the year with a career batting average of .302. During her senior season, Allen racked up two awards: the 2006 PCSC Scholar Athlete of the Year and a 2006 ESPN CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) Academic All-American.

CIU Athletics Director James Whitaker says Allen has the ability to connect and challenge young women entering a new program.

"Sara brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise in softball and she has an extreme passion for coaching," Whitaker said.

With the first season of CIU Rams women's softball scheduled for the 2018-2019 academic year, one of Allen's first priorities is recruiting.

"More than anything I'm excited for the young ladies who will be CIU's first softball team," Allen said. "I'm also excited to start all the traditions and develop the culture that will characterize Rams softball. Softball is growing like crazy around the country, so I am really looking forward to leading CIU into competition on the ball field." ■



▲ Construction of the softball field is underway.

Junior Varsity Men's Basketball Added

Junior varsity men's basketball makes its debut at CIU this semester. Men's Basketball Assistant Coach Danny Reese leads the team. Reese has been an assistant coach with the Rams for the past three seasons.

Head Coach Marshall Tague says the JV squad is made up of "committed student athletes who desire to be a part of something special" and he is recruiting more athletes for the future.

"If you are looking for a chance to develop and an opportunity to grow, the JV team might be a perfect fit for you," Tague said. ■



Junior varsity men's basketball coach, Danny Reese ▲



▲ The CIU Sports Ministry Award was received by (l-r) Men's Basketball Coach Marshall Tague, Athletics Director James Whitaker, Cross Country Coach Jud Brooker.

CIU Athletics Recognized for Ministry

The Columbia International University Rams were honored for their efforts beyond the field of competition with the Sports Ministries Award from the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA).

The Sports Ministries Award recognizes member institutions for "having significant spiritual outreach through the unitization of athletic ministries."

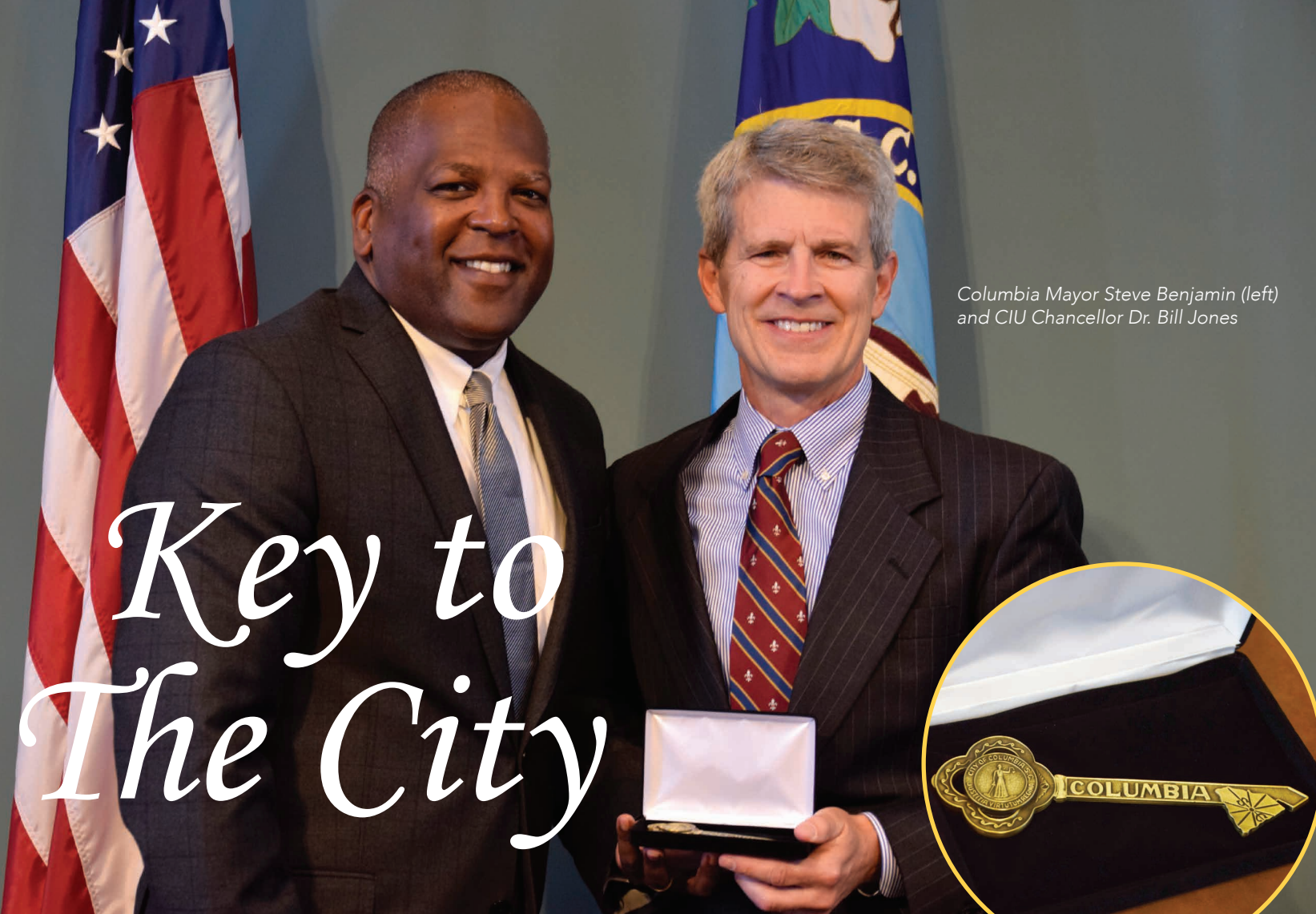
Ministry outreach by the Rams has included gospel-centered overseas missions trips, community sports outreach, sports clinics and meeting humanitarian needs.

Meanwhile, CIU Athletics Director James Whitaker was recognized for his service to the NCCAA with the Meritorious Service Award. Whitaker has served as NCCAA South Region coordinator for the past five years.

The awards were presented June 1 at the NCCAA's Hall of Fame Banquet in Louisville, Kentucky.

See pages 22-23 for reports on summer mission trips by CIU basketball teams. ■

If you would like to be a CIU Ram call (800) 777-2227, or email yesciu@ciu.edu.



Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin (left) and CIU Chancellor Dr. Bill Jones

Key to The City

CIU Chancellor, Dr. Bill Jones, Honored with Key to the City

By Jean Wilund

Gracious Father, may it unlock new doors," CIU professor Dr. Andre Rogers prayed after Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin presented CIU Chancellor Dr. Bill Jones with the Key to the City.

Friends, family, and colleagues filled City Council Chambers on July 14 to show their continued support and appreciation for a man many call a mentor, friend, teammate and inspiration.

New CIU President Dr. Mark A. Smith said, "This is a tremendous honor for Dr. Bill Jones to receive the Key to the City in a place where he's served so aptly and exceptionally."

Jones may be best known for leading CIU for 10 years as president, but many are quick to point out his other important contributions to the community. Tobin Cassels, president of Southeastern Freightlines, and a CIU board member said, "We've thought of Bill Jones as the president of CIU, but he's also been leading Bible studies for men in downtown Columbia for 16 years."

"He's been a game changer," Rogers, the CIU professor said. "He has infused leadership, vision, church planting, and Bible study efforts among different people groups, really targeting the leadership of Columbia, and it filters down to each and every aspect of our city."

Two prominent South Carolinians claim Jones as a spiritual mentor. One is Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott who said Jones, "has always been there for me." And South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson added, "Without his friendship, I don't think I'd be the person I am."



▲ Dozens gathered at Columbia City Hall to see their friend Bill Jones receive the Key to the City. (Photo courtesy of the City of Columbia)

Michael Crapps, president and CEO of First Community Bank referred to Jones as a man of integrity saying, "If (Dr. Jones) has a motive, it's to serve God and bring glory to God by serving men."

Mayor Benjamin thanked Jones for his service to others, comparing him to the prophet Isaiah who trembled with fear before a holy and just God. Benjamin noted that when the Lord said, "Whom shall I send?" Isaiah answered. "Here am I. Send me!"

The loving smile of Jones' wife Debby, the affectionate hugs of his granddaughter Aubrey, and the warm handshakes of each man and woman in attendance attested to these sentiments. In the words of Starbucks District Manager Solon Flowers, "He's one the most genuine men I've ever known. You realize after forming a relationship with Dr. Jones, that it's truly who he is every day."

While words of appreciation poured out for Jones, he had plenty of his own to give.

"This morning I was reading in I Thessalonians 5:11, and the verse jumped off the page. 'Encourage one another and build up one another just as you also are doing.' I want to thank each and every one of you for encouraging me and building me up, for which I'm very grateful," Jones said.

"And Mr. Mayor, this [Key to the City] is icing on the cake." ■

"He has infused leadership, vision, church planting, and Bible study efforts among different people groups, really targeting the leadership of Columbia, and it filters down to each and every aspect of our city. "

– CIU Professor Dr. Andre Rogers, friend of Dr. Bill Jones

Dr. Bill Jones and his wife Debby bow their heads as CIU Professor Dr. Andre Rogers leads in Prayer.

Dr. Bill Jones Honored at Chapel Service

Applause thundered in Shortess Chapel on April 18 as students, faculty, friends and family gathered to honor and thank outgoing CIU President Dr. Bill Jones for his leadership, vision and service to CIU over the last 10 years.

Resolutions honoring Jones were presented by representatives of South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities (SCICU) and the South Carolina General Assembly.

"We will miss the advice and counsel of a fellow board member, counsellor and friend," said Mike LeFever, president of SCICU. "We are glad you're not going far."

State Sen. Darrell Jackson, a CIU alumnus, said he has "never met a leader like Bill Jones anywhere, not even at the White House."

Jones served five years as chairman of the board at Ben Lippen School, the Pre-K to 12th grade ministry of CIU. Ben Lippen Board member Renee Brooks thanked Jones for his service

"His leadership style can be summed up in one word: relationships," Brooks said. "We have been unified as a board under his leadership and are grateful for his past support and commitment to us, as well as his future support."

The CIU student body also thanked Jones, an avid hunter, with an elk knife as a token of appreciation.

"President Jones always remembers everyone's name on campus," junior Heather Hoopes said. "He has always challenged, encouraged and inspired me." ■



▲ The grandchildren of Dr. Bill Jones play under the podium as Jones addresses the student body, family and friends.



From CIU to THE PENTAGON

Lt. Col. Larry Dabeck

CIU alumnus “taking care of those who take care of soldiers”

By Bob Holmes

Army Chaplain Larry Dabeck ('89,'98) saw the Iraqi rocket fire whizz just over his head and hit the next group of U.S. soldiers beside him. As he made his way to minister to the 14 seriously wounded men, he discovered among them was Staff Sgt. Roger Turner, a fellow Christian he knew well.

“Sgt. Turner was mortally wounded and died in my arms while I held him and prayed for him,” Dabeck said. “I got to be with him as he passed from this life to join the Lord. That is one of the greatest privileges of my life to be there with my brother as he died.”

To minister to others in the middle of a war was far from Dabeck's mind as he received his Master of Divinity degree from Columbia International University in 1998. He joined the Army at age 37 after God closed the door to the more traditional mission field. On the suggestion of his brother-in-law, an Army helicopter pilot, Dabeck explored military chaplaincy.

“A year later I was signing into my first duty station as a tank battalion chaplain in the year 2000,” Dabeck recalled. “It was really interesting as we talked to people at CIU and my pastor, it really became obvious this was how God was leading and how everything my wife and I had been doing up to that point was not for the mission field, but was for this ministry, and God just keeps confirming that every step of the way.”

THE CALL TO WASHINGTON

Since June 2016, God has seen fit to use Dabeck in an even more influential way. He is Lt. Col. Dabeck and deputy joint staff chaplain, the number two chaplain for the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon, overseeing about 3,000 military chaplains who are serving one million active duty service members.

“There are only two chaplains that serve the Chairman of The Joint Chiefs, that's me and my boss” Dabeck explained in a phone interview from his office at The Pentagon “That makes

me the action officer for all religious matters on the Joint staff."

Dabeck had what he calls "a pretty cool job" serving in another joint position as senior chaplain in Afghanistan for all U.S. and NATO special operations, when he got the call to move to Washington.

"I was pretty excited and honored that our chief of chaplains thought well enough of my faithfulness to be able to take this position," Dabeck said.

He describes his current job as "a lot more planning and strategizing for how you take care of soldiers, enabling and

"Every day when I put on this uniform, I'm reminded that I serve a living Savior."

training those below you to be the boots on the ground" and sums it up with, "We're taking care of those who take care of soldiers."

STILL A PERSONAL MINISTRY

And even though he now has a desk job far from battle lines, personal ministry continues. Sometimes that includes performing weddings or delivering an invocation at a promotion or retirement ceremony.

"Almost every other day, I have a Joint Staff officer come in for counseling about their marriage, about their career or their family." Dabeck adds.

At a time when the United States is culturally more secular, Dabeck says the chaplain is still an honored and

important person to the men and women in uniform. He says he is respected and greeted by those he meets as he walks the halls of the Pentagon with a silver cross pinned to his shirt.

"Every day when I put on this uniform, I'm reminded that I serve a living Savior," Dabeck said. "Service members love their chaplains because they know we take care of them, we take care of their families, and we're with them every step of the way no matter where they go."

CIU VALUES

Dabeck says the education and spiritual formation that he received at CIU prepared him for his responsibilities at the Pentagon.

"CIU gave me a love for my Savior, a love for His word, and a love for His world," Dabeck said. "Every day I live based off of those values in my marriage, in my family, in my job."

And that is something Dabeck passed along to others. Not only did Dabeck earn his bachelor's and seminary degree at CIU, he served as CIU director of recruitment from 1990-2000, a job he apparently did well even at home. His son John is a CIU student in the Five Year Master of Divinity program.

"I would tell prospective students your walk with Christ is central and essential," Dabeck said. "There is no substitute. My son reaffirms that is still the spirit of the school – the vitality of your relationship with Jesus Christ.

"The professors genuinely lived that out each day," Dabeck continued, his voice rising with excitement. "That's what I loved most. The professors loved the Lord and they set the environment for the rest of us as students, to follow them as they follow Christ."

CENTER OF GOD'S WILL

Just like his professors, Dabeck is also leaving a godly impression on others. In the summer of 2015, one of his former commanders, Col. David Snodgrass, passed away unexpectedly at age 49.

While Snodgrass and Dabeck were close friends, Dabeck didn't know that Snodgrass' military records directed that Dabeck perform his friend's funeral in Tennessee, and his interment at Arlington National Cemetery.

"That's the great part about this job is being used by the Lord to take care of His people, from before deployment to after deployment to the end of their career," Dabeck concluded.

"I love it. I absolutely love it. This is what God had been preparing our family for all along. It's a delight to be in the center of God's will."

Discover where a Master of Divinity in Chaplaincy may take you. Contact CIU at yesciu@ciu.edu or (800) 777-2227. ■

CIU Alumnus Develops Course for New Army Chaplains



(Photo: U.S. Army)

Applying classroom training to realistic environments

Chaplain (Maj.) Andrew K. Arrington is concerned that new Army chaplains are ready to minister to the troops beginning with their first assignment. That's why the CIU alumnus has assisted in the restructuring of the Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course (CHBOLC), an intensive outcomes-based, entry-level training process for new chaplains and chaplain candidates who apply classroom training to realistic environments.

Arrington graduated from CIU in 2005 with a Master of Divinity degree. Today, he works out of the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina. ■

Commemorating the 500th Anniversary

On Oct. 31, 1517, a priest named Martin Luther nailed to the Wittenberg, Germany church door, a list of questions and propositions for theological debate known as the 95 theses. This act, challenging the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, led to the greatest transformation of Western society since the apostles. His action provoked a debate that culminated in what we call the Protestant Reformation.

On this 500th anniversary of the Reformation, two Columbia International University professors bring together the Reformation principle of “*sola Scriptura*” — Scripture alone — and CIU’s core value of the Authority of Scripture.

Searching for Authority: Martin Luther and *sola Scriptura*

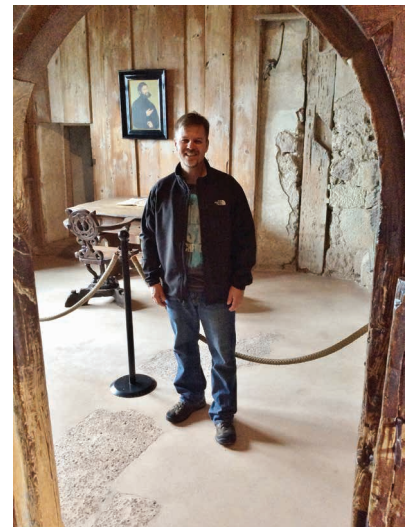
By Dr. Edward L. Smither, Dean of the CIU College of Intercultural Studies

When Martin Luther (1483-1546) nailed his famous 95 theses to the door of Wittenberg Cathedral on Oct. 31, 1517, he was making a statement about the authority for Christian belief. Though the key topic within the 95 statements was indulgences — certificates purchased to reduce time in purgatory — Luther was challenging the underlying foundation of this teaching. In thesis 53, he declared that “they are the enemies of Christ ... who forbid altogether the preaching of the Word of God in some churches in order that indulgences may be preached in others.” For Luther, the sale of indulgences and the doctrine of purgatory were aberrant teachings because they could not be supported from Scripture. When ordered by the Holy Roman Emperor to recant of his teachings at the Diet of Worms in 1521, Luther refused on the basis that his “conscience [was] a prisoner of God’s Word.” Scripture was a higher authority than the teachings of the pope or the Roman Catholic Church.

Luther’s ideas were not really new. In the fifth century, the North African Bishop, Augustine of Hippo (354-430), made a similar argument for the authority of Scripture. In 14th century England, John Wycliffe (1330-1384) generally questioned the basis for authority in society, and as a result, he produced one of the first translations of Scripture in English. Finally, urging the church to return to the sources of the church fathers and Scripture, Desiderius Erasmus (1466-1536) produced a critical edition of the Greek New Testament. He drew from a body of ancient manuscripts, seeking to show the most accurate rendering of the original text. It became a key starting point for Bible translation.

Building on the work and thoughts of these earlier theologians, Luther advanced the Reformation idea of *sola Scriptura* — Scripture alone is the final authority for belief and practice within the church. Luther demonstrated this conviction very practically by spending the autumn of 1522 (while in hiding) translating the New Testament into colloquial German. Thanks to the advanced technology of the printing press, he ordered 3,000 copies of the New Testament, which sold out almost immediately. Luther’s work in Bible translation set the stage for other similar projects in Europe in the 16th and 17th centuries. As Protestants began to seriously engage in global mission in the late 18th and 19th centuries, Bible translation also became a central strategy. The task of preaching the gospel and making disciples of all peoples could not be sustained without providing Scripture in the heart languages of the nations.

Luther’s complaint about the sale of indulgences and teachings on purgatory in the 95 theses raised a deeper issue. What is correct Christian belief? And what is the basis for Christian belief and practice? These questions are just as relevant to us in the 21st century as they were to Luther in the 16th. Luther found his answer in the Old and New Testament Scriptures. Through the Scriptures, the gospel was clarified and Christian doctrine was faithfully constructed. What can the church today learn from Luther’s journey? ■



▲ Professor Dr. Ed Smither in the Luther Room in Wartburg Castle where Martin Luther translated the New Testament into German.

of the Protestant Reformation

Our Highest Authority

By Dr. David Croteau, CIU Professor of New Testament and Greek

The Reformation cry of *Sola scriptura* holds a special place in my heart, and is central to what we believe and do at CIU. But it is misunderstood by some well-meaning Christians.

Sola scriptura means that the Bible, and the Bible alone, is our highest authority in spiritual matters, issues related to our faith and practice. This is why I appreciate that one of CIU's core values is the "authority of Scripture." This value that we place in Scripture is reflected in several ways at CIU. We have embedded into our curriculum, both at the undergraduate level and in the seminary, a required class on interpreting Scripture. It's one thing to say that Scripture is the authority, but the ability to interpret and apply it accurately is essential if we want to functionally live under the authority of Scripture.

*At CIU, we resolutely
hold to the Reformation
belief in sola scriptura.*

There is a passage in Scripture that coincides with this idea of the authority of Scripture, but it has been obscured by some Bible translations and common interpretations that misunderstand it: 1 Thessalonians 5:22. Both the KJV and the 1984 NIV had ambiguous, if not misleading, translations of this verse. However, the new NIV translates it with clarity and precision, and, as always, looking at the verse in context is extremely important: "20 Do not treat prophecies with contempt 21 but test them all; hold on to what is good, 22 reject every kind of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:20–22, NIV).

Paul begins by prohibiting the Thessalonians from viewing spiritual instruction as unworthy of consideration. Then he contrasts ("but") that idea with the phrase "test them all." All what? All spiritual instruction. So rather than being contemptuous toward spiritual instruction, we should "test" it. This is very similar to how Luke described the Bereans in Acts 17, concluding that the Bereans "received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true" (Acts 17:11b, NIV). It is important not to believe everything we are taught. Some people twist Scripture when they teach it. Paul wants us to examine everything we are taught to make sure it is true. Now, what are we supposed to do if we discover the teaching is true?

The NIV includes a semicolon in the middle of verse 21 to communicate that the two thoughts are closely connected. Once the spiritual instruction has been examined, if it is true, then "hold on to what is good" (1 Thessalonians 5:21b, NIV). The phrase "hold on to" refers to clinging to the truth in such a way that it impacts our behavior so that we live according to that truth. When we "hold on to what is good," there will be a change, there will be fruit. However, what are we supposed to do if the instruction is bad?

This leads us to verse 22. The comma the NIV places after verse 21 functions to express a contrast between verses 21 and 22. If the spiritual instruction is good, cling to it, but if it's bad, reject it. Verse 22 isn't discussing evil in a generic way, it's referring to bad spiritual instruction. We are to avoid and reject spiritual instruction that does not line up with Scripture.

And that brings us back to the authority of Scripture. The reason we are to reject spiritual instruction that contradicts Scripture (or goes beyond Scripture) is that Scripture, and Scripture alone, is our authority. At CIU, we resolutely hold to the Reformation belief in *sola scriptura*.

Editor's note: For a more detailed analysis of 1 Thessalonians 5:22, see Dr. David Croteau's book, "Urban Legends of the New Testament: 40 Common Misconceptions," published by Broadman and Holman. ■



MEET

Dr. Mark A. Smith

CIU's Seventh President Takes the Reins

By Bob Holmes

"I like to grow things."

That's how Dr. Mark A. Smith introduced himself at a luncheon for CIU scholarship donors last spring, one of his first opportunities to shake hands with CIU alumni and friends. And Smith's track record shows that when he follows his passion, things happen.

Smith, 51, comes to CIU from Ohio Christian University (OCU) where he served as president for 11 years, increasing enrollment from 400 to approximately 4,600 students during his tenure. In addition, under Smith the university opened 14 sites in rural areas for student learning and began offering online educational programs. Smith also directed \$30 million in capital construction projects and the increase of university personnel from 50 to approximately 800 employees.

Prior to coming to OCU, Smith served as vice president for adult and graduate studies at Indiana Wesleyan University where he oversaw the doubling of enrollment from approximately 5,000 to 10,000 students in four years.

quickly understood that it was important for me to stay true to what I felt God had called me to do, and that is preparing a new generation of ministers, missionaries and ministering professionals for the day that we live in."

"Christ Spoke to my Heart"

Smith was raised on a farm in Southwestern Virginia near the town of Galax. His parents faithfully took him to church, including a fall revival meeting that changed his life when he was 10 years old.

"Christ spoke to my heart. I was convicted of my sin and couldn't wait until the preacher got done to go forward and give my life to Jesus Christ," Smith fondly recalls. "I've certainly not been perfect in any manner, but I gave Christ my life then and have followed Christ since that time."

Smith says he was called to ministry early in his college career after initially planning to be a veterinarian. While he was ready

"I will give everything to CIU and try to learn and try to understand and try to be faithful to what God has called you and me to do with regard to Christ and the nations."

Smith says his assignment from the CIU Board of Trustees is to grow enrollment at CIU.

"We'll try our best, but only if God is the builder will it grow," Smith said at the luncheon. "It will be as God leads and directs our lives. As the Holy Spirit shows us the right place to invest. But it will be bathed in prayer as we focus on getting as many people as we can to go to the nations to reach the world for Jesus Christ."

In an interview with CIU Today, Smith said it is CIU's nearly 100-year-old reputation for Bible-centered learning and world evangelization that drew him to the school.

"I'm a Bible college guy," Smith began. "My whole life has been about being involved in ministry and missions. As I began to explore opportunities that were coming to me, I

to study for eight years in college to prepare to be a vet, he sensed the Lord asking if he would be willing to instead use eight years of education to prepare for ministry, specifically to become a Bible college administrator.

"I realized we were heading toward a day in which accreditation was going to require a much higher level of education to run a Bible college or university," Smith said. "So I began to prepare myself for that at the age of 20."

Through prayer Smith set some ambitious goals: a bachelor's degree by age 22, a master's degree by 25, a doctorate by 30, author a book and pastor a church by 35, and gain administrative experience by 40. He was just tad ahead of schedule.

"All of those happened, and at 39, I was named the president of Ohio Christian University," Smith said.

“Flat on My Back”

As Smith moved along in his education and career goals, God would slow him down a bit at age 30. A head-on collision taught him things about God and himself. As Smith puts it, “I was flat on my back for several months.” The doctors told his wife that he may not walk again.

“It made me the most determined man you’ll ever meet,” Smith said. “I had to learn to walk again. Every day, three hours per day — sweat, tears — lots of tears. It was a fight every day to get up and go to therapy, and fight through the pain to make muscles work that didn’t want to work.”

He says the experience also made him “a man of prayer and faith.”

“If you look at my life and all the growth that has occurred, my unwavering belief is, that as a result of that accident, our God is able and willing and excited to respond to challenges and opportunities.”

Smith says it was also a time that God impressed on him that his life is about taking Christ to the nations.

“Those are key lessons that I’ve learned from (the accident),” Smith said. “It has shaped who I am today as a leader. I don’t take ‘no’ for an answer from our team. We will figure it out. We’re focused. We’re determined. We’re going to win. We are going to accomplish. Not for anything for ourselves, but for God and taking the message of God around the world.”



▲ The Smiths celebrate the marriage of their son last spring (left to right: Dr. Mark Smith, his wife Debbie, daughter-in-law Kierston, son Douglas, and son Micah).



DR. MARK A. SMITH

Family

Wife: Debbie; married 31 years
Children: 22-year-old Douglas who was married in May to Kierston; 12-year-old Micah in eighth grade at Ben Lippen School

Education

Harvard University
Institute of Educational Management for Executive Management (Seminar)

West Virginia University
Ed.D., Higher Education Administration

Northeastern State University
M.S., College Teaching

Hobe Sound Bible College
B.A., Religious Studies

Professional Experience

Ohio Christian University; Circleville, Ohio
President

Indiana Wesleyan University; Marion, Indiana
Vice President for Adult and Graduate Studies
Assistant Dean of Faculty/Graduate Faculty

Management Resources Inc., Hopemont Hospital; Terra Alta, West Virginia
Administrator

Terra Alta Wesleyan Church
Pastor

Bible Fellowship Christian School
Tulsa, Oklahoma
Principal

Life Verse

Because of a serious head-on auto collision, Smith has 20 surgically-inserted screws in his body and daily pain. But it has led him to his life verse:

I will bless the Lord at all times, His praise shall continually be in my mouth. (Psalm 34:1)

“That has become the theme of my life; to be a blessing and to thank the Lord every day of my life. It’s a joy to be blessed by God.”

Fun Fact

As a senior in high school, Smith was Virginia Future Farmers of America State Crops Judging Champion.

“You have to be fully involved” – Mr. Smith goes to Town Hall

Smith’s extensive resume includes a long list of community involvement — serving on various corporate boards, holding numerous professional memberships, and even holding political office. In 2003, Smith took on a three-term incumbent to win a seat on the Marion, Indiana City Council.

“Everybody said I couldn’t do it,” Smith said with a laugh. “But God had a different plan.”

While president of Ohio Christian University, Smith was appointed to the Ohio State Board of Education by the governor.

“You have to be fully involved in every way, and I have to lead by example as president,” Smith explained. “If CIU is not used to being involved in community service, get ready. I’m going to ask everyone to be involved on some board — their church board, their school board, their community board, whatever. I want people involved in the community. If we can’t impact locally, how will we take Him to the nations?”

He notes that the employees at Ohio Christian University combine to serve on over 100 boards.

“Bible-Centered Entrepreneur”

Smith says technology — namely, online learning — must be expanded at CIU, an area where he observes “CIU is actually behind.” So, over the summer, even before Smith was officially in office, CIU was already marketing new fully online undergraduate and graduate degrees in Business.

“I clearly understand that I’ve been hired to grow enrollment and take Christ to the nations through the means of technology,” Smith said. “Online learning opens up so many opportunities to take

the Word around the world. We will have a fraction of the ministry opportunities that we do now if we don’t get into online education. It’s something that is here to stay and something that is growing rapidly.”

It is largely through online learning that enrollment exploded at Ohio Christian University and Indiana Wesleyan under Smith’s leadership.

“I’m a Bible-centered entrepreneur who has trained for 20 years to lead a university,” Smith said.

“I realize God has to be at the center of everything we do, but I’m a creative guy. I think of new ways to take the gospel and to disciple.”

And while Smith brings “new ways” to CIU, there is one thing he wants to make clear.

“I’m not interested in changing mission (at CIU). I’m interested in looking at methodology.”

“Tremendously Honored”

Smith’s inauguration marks the first time a CIU president has been hired from outside the ministry. The first president, R.C. McQuilkin, was personally known by “The Praying Ladies” who founded the school. Each president since then has been either a CIU administrator, professor, board member, alumnus, or some combination of all four.

But after the February decision by the CIU Board of Trustees to hire Smith, board Chairman Doug Rutt said, “There was a very strong sense among us that God was providing a man who loves what we love at CIU.”

“(Dr. Smith) is uniquely gifted and experienced in ways that will benefit our institution greatly



▲ Smith greets Deb McQuilkin ('82), the widow of CIU's third president Robertson McQuilkin, at a donor luncheon last spring.

while being in step with us missionally,” Rutt added.

As for Smith, he “is tremendously honored to follow the great (CIU) heritage.”

“I will always honor every single person who has gone before me,” Smith said.

Speaking particularly to alumni Smith added: “I will give everything to CIU and try to learn and try to understand and try to be faithful to what God has called you and me to do with regard to Christ and the nations. And we will move forward in God’s unity.” ■

The Inauguration of

Dr. Mark A. Smith

**During Homecoming 2017
Friday, November 3**

Inauguration: 11 a.m.
Shortess Chapel

Inaugural Reception: Noon
The Quad

Register at: ciu.edu/hc17

ACADEMICS

CIU Adds Online Business Degrees

Joe has been working at the big home improvement store for years. Lately he has been feeling a twinge in his back when doing the heavy lifting. And he's not getting any younger. How long can he stay on this job? Will he ever get promoted to one of those office positions with more pay and less stress on the body? His wife keeps asking him if he'll move on to a more stable career. But he knows his resume is short on the kind of business education he needs to see any change, and quitting his job to go back to college to get an advanced degree is out of the question.

It's for people like Joe that Columbia International University is now offering three business degrees entirely online including a Master of Business Administration (MBA), the first graduate degree to be offered by the CIU College of Arts & Sciences.

The other two online degree programs are Associate of Arts in Business and the Bachelor of Science in Business. These degrees are the first undergraduate programs offered entirely online by CIU.

Associate Provost for Online Studies, Dr. Brian Simmons, says CIU is making an affordable business degree available to people who are looking for upward mobility in their careers.

"We have a robust online set of business options for adults regardless of their current educational backgrounds," Simmons said. "For a lot of people what is holding them back in

"We offer quality programs that are a good value taught by people who are experienced and outstanding in their fields, as well as devoted followers of Jesus Christ."

*—Dr. Brian Simmons
Associate Provost for Online Studies*

advancement of their careers is a degree."

The Master of Business Administration (MBA) is a 36-hour online graduate degree that can be completed in as little as 18 months. The Associate of Arts (AA) with a concentration in business is a 60-hour online undergraduate degree that can be completed in 30 months, and the Bachelor of Science (BS) with a business major is a 120-hour online undergraduate degree, which after successful completion of the AA degree, can be completed in an additional 24 months.

Simmons says in addition to the programs being taught with excellence at an affordable cost, they align with CIU's mission to educate from a biblical worldview.

"We offer quality programs that are a good value taught by people who are experienced and outstanding in their fields, as well as devoted followers of Jesus Christ," Simmons said. "We also look at the learning objectives within every course, making sure they align with our values as a university and are consistent with principles found in the Bible."

Simmons adds that people in a variety of professions benefit from the new online business degrees because of the leadership and life skills taught in a business program.

"Virtually everything in our world revolves around business," Simmons said. "I can't think of an area where business principles are not important."

So whether your name is Joe or Jane, and you need to advance in your career, CIU has an expanding list of online degrees to fit your needs. See ciu.edu for details. Or contact the Admissions Office at (800) 777-2227, yesciu@ciu.edu.

New CIU president, Dr. Mark Smith, is unveiling numerous new initiatives to increase the enrollment and mission impact of CIU. He is excited these new business programs will expand the CIU footprint.

"With God's help, this is the beginning of great days ahead," Smith said. ■





Answering a Phone Call and God's Call: Meet the 2017 McQuilkin Scholarship Winner

By Bob Holmes

Sometimes Erin Gobbi doesn't answer her mobile phone when the incoming call reads "Unknown." But one day last February, she decided to answer. She's glad she did. The caller was Dr. Bill Jones, who was then the president of Columbia International University.

"I just sat there. 'Is this what I think it is?'" Erin said to herself.

It was.

Jones congratulated Erin of Lexington, South Carolina on being named the winner of the 12th Annual R.C. McQuilkin Scholarship Event. She is now a CIU freshman with a full-tuition scholarship.

"I just cried," Erin said. "In that moment, when you see how God provides for you, it's just incredible."

The 2017 R.C. McQuilkin Scholarship Event included 37 qualifying students from eight states. They were judged as they took part in intense interview sessions, social scenarios and fun group activities, which included detective work as they interacted with current CIU students in a live version of the board game Clue.

"I think everyone has a moment in their life when they feel they

belong. And for me that's CIU," Erin said regarding the two-day McQuilkin Event. "Being at the place that I know I am called to, was very heartwarming. I got to meet professors who were so open to talking to me. That was really welcoming and great."

Erin was introduced to CIU during her freshman year in high school through her former youth minister Travis McLeod, a 2008 CIU graduate. She then began researching the school.

"Everyone I talked to about CIU was amazed at how incredible it is."

"Everyone I talked to about CIU was amazed at how incredible it is," Erin said. "Every time I heard someone talk about it, it was all positive things."

It was also McLeod who led Erin to Christ at a youth group summer camp when she was in middle school, an event that has led her to choose CIU's Youth Ministry, Family & Culture program as her major.

"Having that person who was there to talk to – to lean on, that I could trust, that helped teach me about Christ, and what it means to be a Christian – was so important to me," Erin said. "I want to be that person for other people."

For information on the 2018 McQuilkin Scholarship competition contact the CIU Admissions Office at (800) 777-2227 or yesciu@ciu.edu. ■

ATHLETICS

The Ministry of Basketball

Basketball at Columbia International University is about more than points, assists and rebounds. It's also about ministry. As soon as summer break began, the men's and women's basketball teams were on their way to the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica to meet human needs, and as the CIU alma mater lyrics state: "To sow the precious seed." Here is how two CIU Rams basketball players were impacted by their short-term mission trips.

"Pure Life" in Costa Rica Lady Rams learn to be thankful on missions trip

By Erica Hightower, CIU Women's Basketball

God, missions, and basketball – three of the things I love were combined into one unforgettable week in Costa Rica. The CIU Lady Rams basketball team could see God's hand leading and guiding us during the weeklong missions trip in May.

While we enjoyed playing basketball against national teams, some of the most unforgettable moments happened off the court.

We assisted a local pastor who feeds needy children. After we assisted in distributing food, the children introduced us to their songs and we danced with them. I will never forget the story of the pastor's wife who says she was abused as a child and how she was able to forgive her abuser once becoming a Christian. Now, she ministers to children who come from similar backgrounds, offering them hope. The joy on those kids' faces, spending time with them, and the power of forgiveness made an impact on us.

Meanwhile, we met another pastor with a ministry to women and Nicaraguan refugee families. Some of the women have been abused, raped, and suffer psychological challenges because of it. Our team was able to bless this man with financial assistance toward a needed surgery for his wife. We also distributed food to some of the women and families. I have never actually walked through an impoverished village before. It was an honor to enter these ladies houses, give them food, and pray for them. The experience truly humbled me.



A common term for the Costa Ricans we met is *Pura Vida* meaning Pure Life. The deep meaning of this term is no matter what circumstances one may face, choose to be thankful. Choose to be happy. Choose to dwell on the good things. While in Costa Rica, we encountered people with various challenges, but were still grateful. Many of us on the team openly stated that we take much for granted and need to live with a more grateful attitude.

Personally, my time in Costa Rica taught me that no matter what I face, look for the good and look for how God is working in the midst of it. I am so glad to have experienced this missions trip with my teammates. ■



Photos: CIU Athletics

Ministry in the Dominican Republic "An amazing opportunity"

By Tyrone Dantzer, CIU Men's Basketball

A one-week mission trip to the Dominican Republic was truly an eye-opening experience. Because it's a third-world country, it's nothing like I am used to. I was not very comfortable. For one, the primary language is Spanish which made me wish I paid a little more attention in my high school Spanish classes. Also, the driving could possibly give the average American a panic attack. The whole week, I only saw one stop sign and not a single speed limit sign.

Most importantly, the vast need for the love of God to be shared was ever so present. I enjoyed my time there with my fellow teammates and coaches as we endeavored to show the love of Christ both on and off the basketball court. There was a noticeable impact on the people we encountered, and significant growth within our team. We were able to bond as brothers while realizing that life is beyond us. Because this was my first mission trip, not to mention my first time out of the country, I brought home many memories and a mindset to help others.

On the first day, we played basketball against a Dominican Republic Junior National Team, but the highlight of the day was our ministry at an orphanage-type home for girls. It was truly a blessing to see how God worked through our team. We played volleyball and limbo with the girls, and danced and sang with them. But, more importantly, we shared the gospel with them. They sang to us and gave us hugs as we left.

"In all honesty, my favorite part of the trip was not playing basketball, but instead sharing the love of God through our actions and watching our team affected in a positive manner."

On another day, we visited a village to minister to the poor. We purchased food bags that feed a family for a week, and delivered them to a daycare. We played with the kids and gathered with the parents to share our relationship with Jesus. I prayed with some of the parents. It was great to provide for families while sharing the gospel of Christ.

In all honesty, my favorite part of the trip was not playing basketball, but instead sharing the love of God through our actions and watching our team affected in a positive manner. Traveling with your teammates in a different culture is not easy. We struggled with each other's differences, but settled them through the love of God. And it showed on the basketball court where the team chemistry was great. More importantly, our display of God's love was awesome. The other teams saw



The author of this article, Tyrone Dantzer, plays with Dominican children.

that we could love one another as well as them, no matter the circumstances.

Each day presented new opportunities to do God's work. We visited more villages while fellowshiping with kids. Even though we didn't always understand what the Dominican people were saying, sharing Jesus has no language barriers. All we needed to do was smile, play a sport and show God's love to people. My heart goes out to those in poverty, children with no parents, and those with no knowledge of Christ.

This mission trip was an amazing opportunity. Playing basketball for God's glory was awesome, and ministering to many kids and families helped me to realize that there are always people who have life worse than me. I saw that the love of God really needs to be shared, not only in the Dominican Republic, but in our world. The trip will have a lasting effect on my heart and in my memory. It gave me motivation to do God's work, brought me closer to my teammates, and gave me the opportunity experience a new culture.

To God be the glory! ■



CAMPUS LIFE

And the Winner is... The House of Dignitas awarded the House Cup

By Michael A. Lanier, CIU Student Writer

Excitement and drama filled the air on campus in April just ahead of the first annual "House Summit" when the winner of the "House Cup" would be named. The trophy goes to the residence hall scoring the most points in a series of friendly competitions, community service (see page 25) and displays of school spirit throughout the school year.

The House Summit is part of the new House Collective, integrating freshmen with upperclassmen in residence halls or "Houses" named for Latin virtues. The House Summit included times of worship and fellowship including



volleyball and, despite a chill in the air, an outdoor movie on The Quad. It ended with a gathering in Hoke Auditorium where Residence Life Director David Blanchard announced the winner: The House of Dignitas.

The ladies of Dignitas exploded into cheers and rushed the stage waving their House flag. As their reward, the residents enjoyed a day at the Carowinds Amusement Park near Charlotte, North Carolina at the end of last school year. Also, the Dignitas crest on their building, (Founders Residence Hall), is now encircled with a set of golden laurels and will remain there for the duration of this school year.

"I feel like the girls in our house really grasped the idea of the House Collective and just ran with it!" said junior McKenzie Sutton, a Dignitas resident. "We have



▲ The House of Dignitas celebrates after winning the inaugural House Cup. The women are symbolizing a crown with their fingers.

loved living together, learning and growing together, and winning together."

Although the excitement of the award was energizing, the women of Dignitas were happier with how their hall bonded and grew over the school year.

"Together we built a house, a community, a family, and a sisterhood," said sophomore Regan Galloway. "Dignitas is a house full of ladies who love the Lord and love each other. Being a part of the House of Dignitas has been both rewarding and life-changing."

The House of Dignitas is The House Victorious.

Learn more about campus life as a CIU student by calling (800) 777-2227, or email yesciu@ciu.edu. ■

**"Dignitas is a house full of ladies who love
the Lord and love each other."
– Regan Galloway, resident of the House of Dignitas**



◀ Residents of the House of Dignitas pose outside Fashion & Compassion headquarters wearing necklaces made by artisans overcoming lives of poverty. (Photo by Eryn Marburger)

Karie Davis said dignity is one of the highest values to the ministry.

“The value is based off of Genesis 1:27,” Davis said. “It’s important because it shows God created all of us and that makes each of us valued and loved.”

Davis says that by employing people in vulnerable situations, Fashion & Compassion gives its employees dignity and self-respect.

“We want our employees to be proud of what they’re doing,” Davis said. “We want them to see that they don’t have to make compromising decisions in order to make money. Our company gives them dignity through economic empowerment.”

As an example, Davis said that in Ethiopia, employees turn bullets into jewelry to sell.

During a visit to the ministry, The House of Dignitas women spent an afternoon browsing through the Charlotte retail store looking at the jewelry and getting acquainted with employees.

“We were able to hear the stories behind each jewelry collection and the products made in each country,” Marburger said. “At the end of the day, we prayed with Celeste for the women they employ in Charlotte, for the organization, and for the people they reach around the world.”

Each student was given a necklace to remember their time there.

“I was really encouraged by their ministry and the way they seek to impact the lives of women locally and globally by giving them a sense of dignity through their work,” said senior Mackenzie Sutton.

The women of the House of Dignitas plan to return to Fashion & Compassion in the coming years and strengthen the relationship.

“Fashion and Compassion is using business as mission to reach people worldwide with the gospel and provide sustainable jobs to create change in communities,” Marburger said. “It’s really beautiful and something we want be part of long-term.”

Editor’s note: The House of Dignitas’ relationship with Fashion & Compassion helped the residents win The House Cup (see page 24). ■



Making Dignity Fashionable

Women’s residence hall lays foundation for partnership

By Janai Tedder, CIU Student Writer

The women of CIU’s House of Dignitas are working to spread dignity around the world.

After members of the House leadership attended a women’s conference where they learned how they can have a godly influence on others, the women of the Dignitas residence hall determined to not just be hearers of the Word, but doers. The answer to that mission was also at the conference, when they were introduced to an international ministry called Fashion & Compassion headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina. The ladies of Dignitas are now partnering with the ministry because it values dignity just as they do.



“We were trying to figure out creative ways to immerse our girls in what dignity is, and how they could be a part of cultivating dignity in the lives of others,” senior and RA Eryn Marburger said. “After hearing (Fashion & Compassion) co-founder Celeste Bundy share the organization’s mission, ‘connecting communities with beauty and dignity,’ we knew we needed to connect with this amazing organization.”

Established in 2012, Fashion & Compassion employs men and women who are overcoming poverty and injustice, in making jewelry and accessories. All profits go back into the ministry to help even more people.

Fashion & Compassion Brand and Communications Manager



CIU's John R. Cook Jr. Business and Entrepreneurship Center Opening

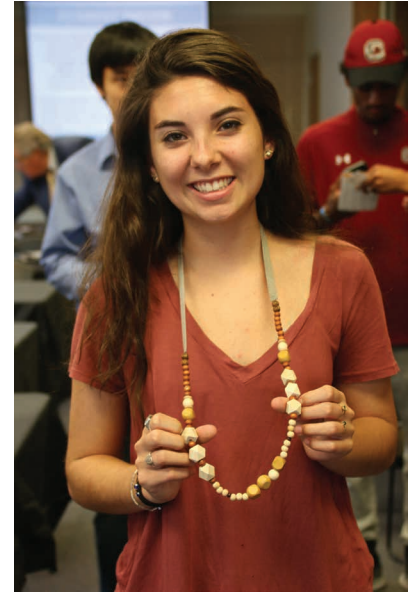
CIU's efforts to impact the marketplace is getting a big boost with the opening of the John R. Cook Jr. Business and Entrepreneurship Center. The Center was made possible through a generous donation by CIU Trustee Lynn Cook in honor of her husband's innumerable contributions to his family and business, Cook's Pest Control of Decatur, Alabama.

The Center will feature "Launch," a cutting edge resource facility that brings together CIU and area businesses and ministries, taking student vocational training beyond the classroom. Launch will house an on-campus business incubator, a video-equipped interview skills training room, conference rooms for seminars and workshops, and internship and job placement opportunities. Space is also available for students to collaborate with local businesses and ministries on projects that will benefit both the organizations and the students. To find out more, visit ciu.edu/Launchpartners. ■

CIU Hosts "Grow Your Business"

CIU has already been assisting entrepreneurs in the Columbia area even before the Business and Entrepreneurship Center opens. At the free "Grow Your Business" event last spring hosted by CIU's Business & Organizational Leadership program, entrepreneurs attended seminars on topics such as targeting a customer base and how to get a business website top rankings in a Google search.

Among the attendees was Columbia resident Grace Whitbeck who makes and sells what she calls an eclectic line of jewelry "with an unpolished look." Her business is called Alabaster and she has a dream to make enough money in her business to help fund ministries that assist victims caught in the human trafficking trade.



"It was great," Whitbeck said as the event concluded. "This was really helpful and has given me a vision for what I need to do for my website and what I should include on it and where best to use my time."

"We're excited to bring Columbia area businesses and entrepreneurs to CIU," said Dr. Scott Adams, director of CIU's Business & Organizational Leadership program. "It's our hope to assist the business community in their success, as together we make the Midlands of South Carolina a center for strong commerce." ■

THANK YOU

Your Gifts. His Mission.

A special thanks to alumni, friends and parents. Because of your gifts to the CIU Fund, the 2016-2017 fiscal year goal of \$3.2 million was reached!

The CIU Fund supports the annual operating budget making it possible for CIU to educate students from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.

You're Invited

Join former CIU President Dr. George Murray ('67) and Vice President of Estate and Gift Planning Keith Marion ('79, '93) at Homecoming 2017 for a time of reflection and understanding as they present how CIU continues to live by Prayer & Faith.

With their many years of CIU experience and financial knowledge, they will bear witness to God's continued faithfulness to CIU and answer questions such as:

- Do students still attend CIU by prayer and faith?
- Does CIU still have prayer days?
- Do CIU students still have "mailbox experiences?"
- Can I leave my estate to my children AND to CIU?
- What do I need to know about estate tax?
- How can I help CIU students avoid post-education debt?
- How do I receive life income on a charitable gift?

When: CIU Homecoming 2017
Friday, Nov. 3
3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Where: McKey Dining Room

Admission is free, but seating is limited.

Registration: ciu.edu/hc17

Email: development@ciu.edu



▲ Keith Marion ('79, '93), CIU vice president of estate and gift planning

**Make a Gift,
Make an Impact**

Give online at give.ciu.edu

Call us at (803) 807-5006

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Dr. George Murray and his wife Annette Murray.

CIU's First Chancellor "Retires"

Dr. George W. Murray ('67) and his wife, Annette ('69), have a rich history with CIU. Upon the announcement of his "retirement" this year, Murray granted the following interview.

CIU Today: When did you first become associated with CIU?

My history with CIU, (then called Columbia Bible College – CBC) goes back 54 years when I enrolled as a freshman right out of high school. Since then, I have earned two CIU degrees, served as Robertson McQuilkin's administrative assistant during the first year of his presidency, taught twice as an adjunct professor, served 16 years on the CIU Board of Trustees, then seven years as president, and 10 years as chancellor. Each "chapter" in my CIU history has been a privilege and blessing.

CIU Today: We know from what you've transparently shared in some of your Chapel messages that you had a somewhat "rocky start" at CBC.

Yes. Not only was I admitted as a freshman on "academic probation" (poor high school grades), but I was almost expelled that same year for cheating and lying about it.

CIU Today: How has CIU contributed to your life and service for the Lord?

Wow, in so many ways. Through clear, godly teaching, I was set free from the guilt of past sin (justification by faith), I learned the wonderful truth of "Christ in you," and God put His hand on me for missionary service. I also learned to trust the Lord to supply all my needs. And, to top off all the above, at CIU I met and married my godly wife and lifelong partner in ministry, Annette.

CIU Today: You graduated from CIU in 1967, and didn't return full time until 2000 when you became president. What did you do professionally in those intervening 33 years?

Besides several years of graduate studies, we were directly involved in missionary work, church planting by teamwork in Italy for 13 years, leading the Bible Christian Union (330 missionaries in 14 countries of Europe) for 11 years, and leading TEAM (1,100 missionaries worldwide) for six years. I have also had the privilege of being an itinerant Bible preacher and teacher throughout the United States and in 78 other countries.

CIU Today: As a "retiree," how do you envision your future?

Annette and I plan to remain in the Columbia area, I will maintain an office on campus, teach some classes and speak occasionally in Chapel, and travel/preach on behalf of CIU both domestically and internationally. My CIU-related "on the road" speaking schedule is already booked through April of 2019. Of course, we also hope to pour our lives more fully into the lives of our four children and their spouses, and into the lives of our nine grandchildren.

CIU Today: Do you have any words of advice for CIU's new leadership?

My prayer is that CIU will continue to train and send out professional ministers and ministering professionals until every man, woman, boy or girl on the face of the earth has a chance to hear, understand and respond to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

CIU Today: Because you graduated in 1967, this year must be your 50th class reunion.

Yep, and I am hoping for a great turnout of the CBC Class of 1967 when we gather on campus for Homecoming on November third and fourth. Y'all come!! ■

CIU Homecoming

NOVEMBER 3-4

'17

Moore Fitness Center
FRIDAY, NOV. 3

President's Banquet honoring
Alumnus of the Year Ralph
Enlow ('72/'82)
6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOV. 4
Men's Basketball Game
Rams vs. Montreat College
3:00 p.m.

**Family Fun
on the Quad!**
SATURDAY, NOV. 4

- Carnival Lunch
- Recent Alumni Reunion
- Bouncy House
- Obstacle Course
- Face Painting
- Balloon Creations

The Quad
FRIDAY, NOV. 3
Inaugural Reception
12 Noon - 2:00 p.m.

The Boulevard
SATURDAY, NOV. 4
The Ram Run
11:15 a.m.




"It's such a treat to see so many former students and to reconnect with classmates and friends from my CBC days." – Mary Faith Phillips, ('54)

"Being in Chapel, renewing friendships, recounting God's faithfulness through the years, praying together and enjoying the fellowship are all highlights." – Kathryn Poteat ('65)

"It's great seeing all my old friends at the CIU homecoming. Hearing everyone's stories and reminiscing about going to class in PJs is priceless." – Christina Gunn ('06)

"Homecoming is always a great time to encourage others and be encouraged."
– Kevin McWilliams ('85)

"It will be a time for celebrating all of God's goodness, and a time to meet and greet Dr. Mark Smith, CIU's new president." – Dr. Ralph Enlow ('72/'82)



Sessions Soccer Field
SATURDAY, NOV. 4
FIREWORKS!
8:30 p.m.



Shortess Chapel
FRIDAY, NOV. 3
Inauguration of
Dr. Mark Smith as CIU's
Seventh President
11:00 a.m.



**Pine View
Community Center**
SATURDAY, NOV. 4
Meet & Greet with
Dr. Ralph Enlow
10:00 a.m.

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RECENT ALUMNI

Recognition Award

This issue of CIU Today spotlights six recent alumni who have graduated within the last 12 years. They are honored for their distinguished accomplishments in living out CIU's five core values on the mission field, in church ministry and in the marketplace.



Jonathan Oh ('15)

Jonathan graduated in 2015 with a Master of Divinity in Academic Ministries. He lives and works in Tokyo, Japan as a meteorologist for NHK, Japan Broadcasting Corporation. Jonathan also serves as a teaching elder with the Korean Southeastern Presbyterian Church.

"I was reading an article in Operation World that said less than one percent of Japanese believe in Christ. That's the second most unreached people group in the world. At that time I knew that God had called me to Japan."



Marcella Wilson ('11)

Marcella graduated in 2011 with Master of Arts in Pastoral Counseling. These days, she owns and operates Marcella's Old Skool Cookies & Loaves in Columbia, South Carolina,

delivering her products to over 60 businesses each week, in addition to fulfilling call-in orders.

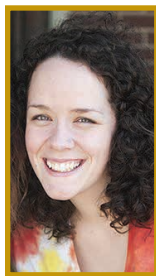
"CIU grew me as a Christian, it changed my perspective of who I am, where I am, where I worship. It helped me to learn to see the world through the lens of Christ, and not my own."



Drew Arrington ('05)

Drew graduated in 2005 with a Master of Divinity in Pastoral Counseling. He serves as an army chaplain at Fort Jackson in Columbia, South Carolina where he developed the Chaplain Basic Officer Leader Course. (See page 13.)

"A professor once asked me, 'Do you love Jesus?' I'm learning and I'm realizing, that's it. That's what drives obedience, that's what drives faithfulness. That's what faith is all about."



Sarah Nixon ('10)

Sarah Graduated in 2010 with a Master of Arts in Bible Teaching, and today serves as a Bible teacher for First Presbyterian Day School in Macon, Georgia.

"I love teaching. It's one of my passions in life. I get the opportunity to make my class not just about the information being communicated, but about the students' lives. (It's) the intersection of what I'm teaching and what they need to know for now and later."

To see the other six recognized Recent Alumni spotlighted in the Spring 2017 edition of CIU Today, visit ciu.edu/rara.



Ian Otto ('07)

Ian graduated in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in General Studies. Today he is a business partner in four companies in Jacksonville, Florida, including a marketing company and a pediatric practice.

"Dorm life was probably the most critical and important part of my time at CIU, even as an older student. That was more like church to me than I've ever felt, with the body of Christ ministering together, eating together, living together, having fun together. It was a great time."



Beach Loveland ('09)

Beach graduated in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science in Family & Church Education. He and his wife Jessica (Hughes) Loveland, a 2002 CIU graduate, own Loveland Coffee. They started with a drive-thru

kiosk in Irmo, South Carolina and recently expanded to include a roastery.

"The biggest lesson I learned during my time at CIU was to boast in my weaknesses. I had to learn how to look outside myself and rely on God, because that's what God honors and that's what gives Him the most glory." ■

Is there someone you would like to nominate? Contact the Alumni Office at (803) 807-5500 or alumni@ciu.edu

ALUMNI Class Notes



Miriam Wheeler ('47) went to France after graduation under the European Evangelical Crusade. For the next 36 years she was loaned to the French mission, Scripture Union, where she served at summer camps and evangelism meetings throughout Europe. In all, she visited 55 countries. When she retired to Canada, she taught Bible in home groups. Now, at age 95, she is living in a seniors' residence. mgwheeler@sasktel.net

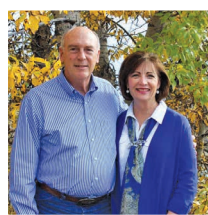
Dick and Ruth (McDaniel) ('57) Heldenbrand live in a retirement village in Indiana after serving in France for 25 years. They encourage and witness to other seniors in their village, as well as residents of independent living condos and assisted living facilities. rrheldenbrand@frontier.com



Herb ('67) and Carolyn (Van Kampen) ('67) Samworth served in Peru for 23 years. They now reside in Tennessee where Herb is the dean of the seminary at Crown College and teaches both seminary classes and an undergraduate class. Carolyn is his teaching assistant for the undergraduate class and has a home embroidery and sewing business. She also tutors students in Spanish and leads a neighborhood Bible study. hlsamworth@gmail.com

Joel ('67) and Nancy (Duncan) ('71) Martinez have retired to the Atlanta area after serving as missionary church planters in Spain for 37 years. They are actively involved in family counseling with the Hispanic ministry Renacer. joelmartinezsunflower@gmail.com

Sharon (Rathe) Kemp ('68) has lived and worked in Delaware, Wisconsin, Maryland, Iowa and Texas. In 1983, she married Cal Kemp, and they have been blessed with two sons. Throughout most of Sharon's career she served deaf and hard-of-hearing students. After 40 years of teaching, she retired in 2008. In 2011, the Kemps moved to Oviedo, Florida. Besides being active in their church, they enjoy Bible study groups and weather free of frigid winters and icy roads. skkemp11@gmail.com



Larrie and Carol (Goodrich) ('77) Bunyan have served as church planters on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Montana since 1985. They have three children. ltb@3rivers.net

Rod Culbertson ('80) recently published a book titled *The "Disciple Investing" Life*. The book is a practical guide for any Christian who wants to help another believer or group of believers grow in their relationship with Christ. rculbertson@rts.edu

Steve ('84) and Joy ('81) Myers continue to serve in Pennsylvania at Immanuel Leidy's Church. They have been married 35 years. JMyers36@msn.com



Debbie Maxwell Allen ('87) serves as an editor and project manager for Good Catch Publishing, creating books of testimonies for individual churches to use as an evangelistic tool. She published a biography of a wheelchair-bound Rwandan pastor in 2015, titled "Unlimited: Conquering On My Knees." Debbie also writes young adult fiction, teaches at several writing conferences each year, and is a freelance editor. Her husband, Matt ('93), has worked as a teacher for over 30 years, much of that in special education. They have five children and live in the mountains outside of Colorado Springs, Colorado. dallenco@gmail.com



Tom Rea ('87) is an ordained minister with the Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA). Following graduation from CIU, Tom and his wife Diana served for 12 years as missionaries to France with the EFCA. From 2000-2015, they planted a new EFCA church in Hermann, Missouri. In 2013, Diana went to be with the Lord following a six-year battle with cancer. Today, Tom is replanting Crossroads Community Church

in southwestern Missouri. He has eight children and two grandsons. tomrea15@att.net

Keith Clayton ('97) has 11 children (five biological, three adopted and three step-children), seven grandchildren, and three more on the way this year! He will turn 50 this year! Keith started DOT Painting in January 2000 after the Lord closed the door to missions. DOT stands for "Dreaming of Orphanages in Thailand." He has used the resources from DOT Painting to aid an orphanage in Guatemala where he has also personally worked, and from where he adopted three children. Resources from the business have also helped missionaries in Cambodia, Thailand and Ethiopia. After Keith's first wife Debi died in 2003, he married Crystal in 2005. His daughter Karis is a current CIU student! dotpainting@aol.com

David ('01) and Ksenija Simmons have two children and live in Irmo, South Carolina. For seven years David has owned and operated Soccer Shots, a national franchise introducing soccer to young children, and developing their soccer skills and character. He was drawn to Soccer Shots because of his love of the game and his desire to positively impact children through the sport. David and Ksenija thank God for the opportunity to impact so many children in the Columbia, South Carolina area. demateo11@gmail.com



ALUMNI Class Notes

Terrace Crawford ('02) is excited about his new endeavor, ministryleaders.com, a resource hub for Christian Ministry leaders. terracerawford@gmail.com

Nick ('07) and Stefanie ('06) Hauser opened Indah Coffee Shop in the historic Cottontown neighborhood of Columbia, South Carolina. nick@indahcoffee.com

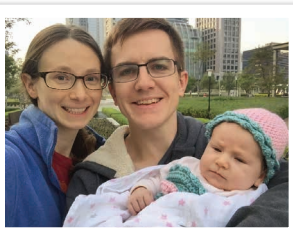
Marshall and Amy (Young) ('06) Childers serve with Greater Europe Mission alongside their church planting field leader in the Midlands of England. Their family uses hospitality, practical help and discipling huddles to minister to the British. fivechilders@icloud.com

Daniel McGregor ('06) released his new book "Holy Dark Places." He explores the biblical foundation for the concept that Christians routinely experience periods referred to as a dark night of the soul. He also provides a historical survey of Christian theologians and authors who examine these themes and experiences. danielmcgregor76@yahoo.com

Nick Cunningham ('06) is the adult discipleship director at Mt. Horeb United Methodist Church in Lexington, South Carolina. He and his wife Lindsey have three children: Rowan, Gwen, and Selma. Nick is pursuing a Master of Divinity degree at United Theological Seminary, and has published a new book, "Forward: A Small Group Journey Toward a Full Life in Christ." nicholas.charles1010@gmail.com



Anna Weddle ('14) serves as the youth ministry director for Rocky Mountain Church in Estes Park, Colorado. She is also a public high school volleyball head coach, providing a connection with the public school system, opportunities to build relationships with students, and share Christ with the athletes. annakweddle@gmail.com



Nelson ('15) and Cheryl Buchanan live in Taichung, Taiwan with their daughter Ava, working as missionaries with SYME, an English teaching discipleship center. For two months, students live in the dorms and are immersed in English, the Bible, and are surrounded by missionaries who love them and

counsel them. Nelson serves as the director of the school, using his CIU master's degree in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) to maintain a high English standard at the school. nelsonbuchanan@gmail.com ■

In Memoriam



H. Wilbert Norton ('39)
February 2017

Christianity Today magazine described H. Wilbert Norton as the man whose leadership "brought a missions focus to Christian higher education." He passed away at age 102.

Norton received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from CIU in 2012 for his ministry in the Belgian Congo and Nigeria where he founded a seminary and Bible institute. Norton was also instrumental in the founding of the triennial Urbana Missionary Conference.



Elizabeth Rikard Sessions ('43)
February 2017

Elizabeth Rikard Sessions assisted in the founding of Rikard Nursing Homes in Lexington County, South Carolina where she served the elderly for 28 years. She also served on the CIU Board of Trustees for 17 years, and received several honors from CIU

including the dedication of Rikard Dining Room, Alumna of the Year in 1999 and an honorary doctorate in 2010.

In 2012, her generosity made the CIU soccer field a reality. It was dedicated Sessions Field in November 2017.

Harold Legant ('49) – June 2017

Irma Graves Peterson ('49) – March 2017

Marjorie Martindale ('50) – January 2017

Sylvia Cook ('51) – May 2017

Eloise Cranford ('52) – August 2016

Josephine Manning ('52) – March 2017

Dorothy Ligtvoet Weeber ('52) – May 2017

Barbara Harper ('53) – February 2017

Jean Strawbridge Palmer ('54) – February 2017

Wilbur Newton ('56) – March 2017

Richard Courtney ('57) – January 2017

Phillip Griffin ('57) – December 2016

Bob Briley ('61) – July 2017

Faye Bragg Holsten ('62) – May 2017

John Fasold ('66) – November 2016

John A. Kelly ('67) – June 2017

Janet Adams Courtney ('69) – April 2017

Richard Kelso ('68) – August 2016

Jochen Stahl ('73) – June 2017

Linda Hayman Costello ('80) – April 2017

Paul Frisch ('83) – June 2016

Darcy Osterlund, wife of Dr. David Osterlund (Faculty)
– May 2017

Harold Burchett (Former Faculty) – February 2017

Update your alumni profile @ ciu.me/alumniprofile

THE FINAL WORD

CIU: Bible-Centered, Prayer-Centered, Missions-Centered

I appreciate the outpouring of kindness from the faculty and staff, the students, and CIU alumni who have made me feel at home as I accept the awesome responsibility of leading a highly-respected institution known for taking the gospel to the ends of the earth for nearly 100 years.

I'm tremendously honored to build on the great legacy of those who have come before me. As the school's seventh president, I am mindful of the heritage set forth beginning with President R.C. McQuilkin in 1923 to the sixth president Dr. Bill Jones, who now serves as CIU chancellor and my co-worker in the Lord.

As we labor together, I assure you we will not compromise on CIU's core value of the Authority of Scripture, and continue to have Bible in CIU's curriculum. After all, I have just completed a term as chair of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) and worked with its president, CIU's 2017 Alumnus of the Year, Dr. Ralph Enlow, to further the cause of biblical higher education. What President R.C. McQuilkin wrote in CIU's first brochure is still relevant today, if not more so:

"To know Bible doctrines in a systematic and thorough way is the safeguard against being swept by every 'wind of doctrine' and 'the wiles of error.'"

At the same time, God has equipped me to grow His kingdom; however, I know that He is the builder and any endeavor must be for His glory. So, I also commit that future plans will be bathed in prayer and faith. In his book, "Lord Teach Us to Pray," R.C. McQuilkin wrote:

"To pray aright is to live aright. Not that all prayer is a substitute for doing anything else that needs to be done. But true prayer will make possible the doing of everything that needs to be done in the most effective and victorious way."

The history of CIU is marked by times of fervent prayer. Now is one of those times. I'm praying, "Lord, give us vision for this season."

Pray with me as we develop online education, programs for working adults, and high school online postsecondary programs. We also need to develop and expand majors such as Business, Education and Nursing — each fully integrated with biblical wisdom. As Dr. Jones has often stated, CIU develops "professional ministers and ministering professionals" — and I embrace that terminology. We need CIU graduates who will make an impact in all spheres of influence.

We have a mission to fulfill, and with God's help, Columbia International University will continue to be used by Him in mighty ways. Again, it was President R.C. McQuilkin who wrote at the founding of the school:

"What a mighty power for missions and for soul-winning evangelism the school may be!"

Indeed it is, and by God's grace, it shall remain.

As we approach CIU's 100th anniversary, let us together commit to strengthen CIU's mission to educate people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.



Dr. Mark A. Smith
President





Celebrate the Inauguration of
CIU's Seventh President

Dr. Mark A. Smith

Join us at Homecoming 2017, Friday Nov. 3

Inauguration at 11 a.m.
Inaugural Reception at 12 noon

Register at: ciu.edu/hc17 or call (803) 807-5500