

# CIU

## TODAY

### CIU NURSING

#### A Call To Compassion

- + 2021-2022 Campus Theme:  
"Declare the Word"
- + Record Enrollment at CIU and Ben Lippen
- + Rankings: CIU Outpacing SC Christian Universities
- + Rams Win the World Series!

FALL 2021  
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## TODAY

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**Cover Photo:** Nursing Program Director Dr. Jill McElheny in CIU's new Simulation Center.

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#DiscoverCIU

"TO KNOW HIM AND TO



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MAKE HIM KNOWN"



**Bob Holmes**  
Editor-in-Chief

## The Choice: The Authority of Me or The Authority of Scripture

I've been around here a really long time; 30 years to be exact. I was amazed one day when I realized I have served under four of CIU's seven presidents (Johnny Miller, George Murray, Bill Jones and Mark Smith) and had the privilege to know Robertson McQuilkin who was

an encourager to me until he passed away in 2016. After studying the nearly 100-year history of CIU, I even feel like I know the first two presidents, R.C. McQuilkin and G. Allen Fleece.

Beginning with my first day on the job at the formerly CIU-owned WMHK Radio, something I have always appreciated is the commitment to CIU's core values, especially the Authority of Scripture. It's the foundation stone in which the other core values rest.

Authority has become an unpopular word in our culture. I remember interrupting regular programming on WMHK on June 11, 2001, to announce the execution of Oklahoma City Bomber Timothy McVeigh. His act of domestic terrorism killed 168 people in 1995. His final words brought an audible on-the-air gasp from my morning co-hosts as I read them. McVeigh chose the William Ernest Henley poem "Invictus" written in 1875, which ends with:

It matters not how strait the gate,  
How charged with punishments the scroll,  
I am the master of my fate:  
I am the captain of my soul.

Sadly, McVeigh was an authority unto himself.

The prophet Hosea recognized a similar attitude among Israel in his day, and warned that attitude was about to bring judgment.

Put the trumpet to your lips!  
Like an eagle *the enemy* comes against the house of the Lord,  
Because they have violated My covenant  
And rebelled against My Law. (Hosea 8:1)

Violated. Rebelled. To rebel against God's Word was to rebel against God Himself and His authority.

But the good news is that Scripture and its authoritative nature is for God's glory, and our benefit. It is there we are faced with the reality of our rebellious nature, but also the grace that saves us from it. When we rest in the Authority of Scripture, this life and eternity fall into place.

At CIU, the Authority of Scripture is defined as the Bible having "functional authority for everything we do as a university — what we believe, what we do, how we live, how we go about the process of education, and our other core values."

It has been that way for nearly 100 years under seven presidents. May it ever be so.

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."  
-Jesus (John 14:15) ■

**Bob Holmes**  
Editor-in-Chief

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To rebel  
against God's  
Word was to  
rebel against  
God Himself  
and His  
authority.

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**Keep  
in touch!**

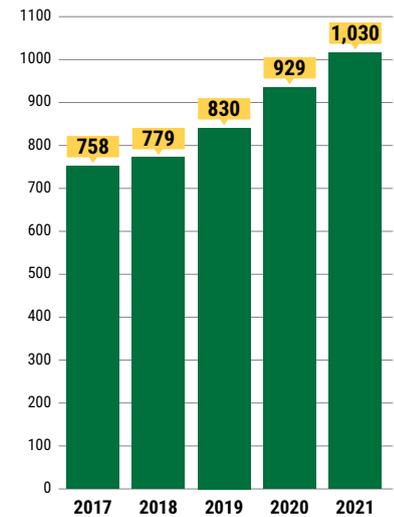
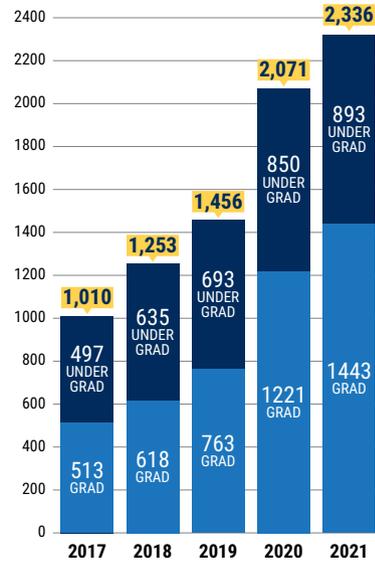
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## Five Years Straight! Record Enrollments Continue at CIU and Ben Lippen

God has blessed Columbia International University and Ben Lippen School with a record number of students for the 2021-2022 school year — the fifth year in a row of increased enrollment for both schools.

A total of 2,336 students are attending CIU this year. That includes residential and online undergraduate and graduate students.

At Ben Lippen, 101 more Pre-K-12 grade students are enrolled this year over last year for a total of 1,030 students, marking the first time enrollment has been over 1,000 students in the school's 81-year history. ■



## CIU Shows Strong Improvement in 2022 U.S. News & World Report Ranking

The 2022 U.S. News & World Report rankings show Columbia International University moving up among Regional Universities South, **advancing four positions to #38** from the 2021 survey and outpacing several other South Carolina Christian schools.

Meanwhile, **CIU is #10 for Social Mobility** among Regional Universities South. The Social Mobility ranking is important for students who are economically disadvantaged and less likely to finish college. The survey indicates CIU is among the best in making sure these students succeed.

CIU is also ranked a **Best Value for Regional Universities South at #11**. This calculation considers a school's academic quality and the net cost of attendance for a student who received the average level of need-based financial aid. The higher the quality of the program and the lower the cost, the better the deal! ■

## Honoring Keith Marion's Four Decades of Service

As longtime friend and colleague Marion Davis reminisced about his personal and professional relationship with CIU Vice President Keith Marion, the CIU board member attempted to list his friend's numerous roles over the years at Ben Lippen School and CIU. He concluded humorously, "I think he even took out the garbage."



Marion, a CIU alumnus, retired from the CIU ministry at the end of 2020 after 40 years of service and was honored first at a faculty/staff Christmas celebration, and then by the CIU Board of Directors in June.

Marion received a plaque commending him as a "steady and wise administrator who was faithful in his multiple roles in accounting, stewardship, business management, marketing, operations and development.

As a senior vice president, CIU leadership depended on Keith for his depth of knowledge and steady hand as he leaned on the Lord for daily wisdom.

Keith Marion's influence will be felt for decades to come." ■

## A Biblical Defense on the Divinity of Jesus

The shocking news was first released by "Relevant" magazine in a September 2020 article titled: "Report: A Third of American Evangelicals Don't Believe Jesus Was God."



Dr. George W. Murray

This news was based on a nationwide study from Ligonier Ministries in partnership with LifeWay Research published at [stateoftheology.com](http://stateoftheology.com). Upon hearing this news, the leaders of William Carey Publishing contacted former CIU president Dr. George W. Murray, who has written and preached biblically, extensively and persuasively about the divinity of Jesus Christ for decades. The result is the publication of a

32-page booklet written by Murray titled "Remembering Jesus."

"We must remember Jesus," writes D.G. Wynn, the director of publishing for William Carey Publishers in the forward to the book. "That is why we are bringing you this winsome narrative by George W. Murray, who skillfully weaves story, Scripture, and hope into a tapestry of truth for evangelicals in America and everywhere else."

Large and small churches alike across the United States have purchased large quantities of this powerful booklet to distribute to their congregations, and can be ordered online at [missionbooks.org](http://missionbooks.org).

Dr. George W. Murray served as CIU's fifth president from 2000-2007. ■



Dr. Ralph Enlow

## Alumnus Receives Accolades from Europe

Columbia International University alumnus and former CIU administrator Dr. Ralph Enlow is the recipient of a lifetime achievement award from AWM-European School of Culture and Theology (ESCT), CIU's campus in Korntal, Germany.

The award called "Lebens.Werk" in German, honors individuals who have contributed throughout their professional life in an exemplary way to missions and theological education around the world, including ESCT. The German word WERK translates to the sum total of a person's life and ministry as it "gels" and creates a cohesive lifetime achievement on multiple levels.

The presentation was made over Zoom from Germany with Enlow and his wife Valerie in the United States, but surrounded by friends and colleagues from around the world on the individual Zoom screen squares.

Enlow received his CIU undergraduate degree in 1972 and CIU graduate degree in 1982. He served for 28 years as an educational leader at CIU, culminating in his role as senior vice president and provost, and was named CIU's Alumnus of the Year in 2017. Enlow has also served as the president of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE), an academic accrediting agency. ■

## CIU Professor Appointed to Influential Board

Intercultural Studies Professor Dr. Michelle Raven is a new board member at Missio Nexus, the largest association of Great Commission churches and organizations in North



Dr. Michelle Raven

America. Its mission is to catalyze relationships, collaboration, and ideas within the Great Commission community, including institutions of higher education. Raven believes that CIU's core value of Evangelical Unity perfectly aligns with Missio Nexus.

"We are so delighted to have Dr. Raven join the Missio Nexus team, an already prolific panel of missiologists, mission administrators, teachers, and pastors," said The Rev. Ron Nelson, the first African American board chairman of Missio Nexus. ■



## Gov. Scott Walker to CIU Graduates: "Defend our faith and our freedoms"

Former Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker delivered the commencement address to the 375 members of the CIU class of 2021. Walker, who is today the president of Young America's Foundation, challenged the graduates with a message of "Don't Be Afraid."

"We're counting on you," Walker said. "We need leaders like you to stand up for our values —leaders who can stand up and defend our faith and our freedoms."

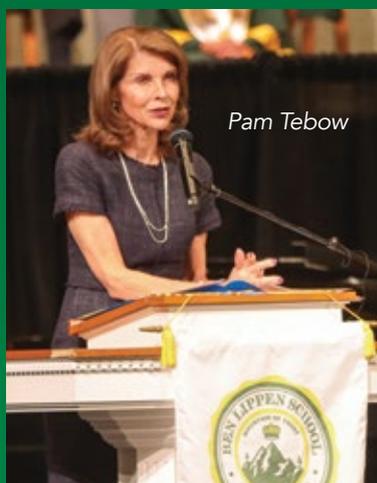
Walker was given the honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree for his commitment to public service. Walker served as governor of Wisconsin from 2011-2019. In 2012, he became the first governor in U.S. history to successfully defeat a recall effort. ■



## Ben Lippen School is the Best

Ben Lippen School has been named the **Best Private School in Columbia** by the Free Times, a local Columbia newspaper. The annual "Best of Columbia" picks are nominated by, and then voted on, by Free Times readers. The Free Times wrote:

The Ben Lippen School extends their educational programs beyond the typical academic standards and includes larger life skills, like biblical understanding, artistic expression and sportsmanship. It's a holistic approach, which they pair with a multicultural learning environment. ■



Pam Tebow

## Tim Tebow's Mom Addresses Ben Lippen Graduates, Local Media

The mother of college football Heisman Trophy winner Tim Tebow delivered the commencement address to the 85 members of the Ben Lippen School Class of 2021. Pam Tebow, a missionary who operates an orphanage in the Philippines along with her husband Bob, reminded the graduates to put God first in their future endeavors. Afterward, she met with the

local media telling them her son's continued efforts to play professional sports is an inspiration to others to follow their dreams.

"You have to go for what you want to do in life, and I think that's what he is demonstrating to all those young people who look up to him — try out for what you really want in life," Mrs. Tebow told Columbia reporters. ■

## Setting Sail at Ben Lippen

A sport not often found in high school is growing at Ben Lippen. The Sailing Club sails on nearby Lake Murray and is led by volunteer Jason Blackwell of the local Young Life chapter. Nearly 20 students have participated in the club that is training for competitive regattas.

Blackwell says there are life lessons to be learned from the teamwork involved in sailing and communication is key:

"When you catch the wind and find that line where you know that you and your teammate are getting the most out of the boat, which often times means you're hanging off the side of it, it's pretty captivating," Blackwell said. "I think that feeling is akin to when we maximize a God-given opportunity in life." ■



WELCOME TO MILLER FIELD

# Baseball Field Dedicated to Former President

## Anybody got a radar gun?

That's what Columbia International University Baseball Coach Jonathan Johnson joked as he assumed the catcher's position and received a strike right down the middle from former CIU President Dr. Johnny Miller in a ceremonial first pitch under some unusual circumstances.

Miller threw the ball from his seat in the CIU Dining Hall as Johnson crouched in an aisle between tables. The lunch crowd loved it. At least they were dry.

These were alternative rainy day plans for the official dedication of the CIU baseball field, now named for Dr. Johnny Miller and his wife Jeanne.

Miller, a former sports reporter and columnist for the Arizona Republic and Phoenix Gazette newspapers, served as CIU's fourth president from 1991 to 1999. The dedication was also a celebration of CIU's "Turn on the Lights" campaign to install lights on the field with the \$500,000 goal being met that day.

"I feel a real sense of joy and privilege to be a part of this," Miller said.

A special guest seated next to Miller was baseball great Bobby Richardson who played for the New York Yankees from 1955 through 1966. Three of his children are CIU alumni; two are pastors and one served on the mission field. ■



Dr. Johnny Miller



**Rams win the World Series!**

See page 22.

## Darryl Strawberry Shares Powerful Testimony

One of Major League Baseball's legendary power hitters says "baseball is just a game. It will pass. But one thing I do know, God's Word is going to be here forever."

Darryl Strawberry, who played with four Major League teams over 17 years in the 1980s and '90s, shared his Christian testimony in Columbia International University's Shortess Chapel as part of a John Maxwell Leadership Forum.

Referring to himself as a former womanizer with drug and alcohol addictions, who also did jail time and faced bankruptcy, says God has transformed him to bring a message for God's glory as an evangelist.

"If I had not gone through struggles, I probably would have made another \$70 million playing baseball and I would have never met Jesus," Strawberry told local reporters after the event. ■





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# 100th Anniversary Celebration

## CIU at the Forefront of Global Missions

100th Anniversary to focus on World Evangelization



By Dr. Ed Smither  
Dean of the College  
of Intercultural Studies

**A**s we kick off CIU's 100th anniversary celebration, we begin with a missions conference (Nov. 2-5, 2022) where we wrestle with challenges and critical issues of World

**Evangelization, a CIU core value. We're calling it "The Future of Global Missions."**

Believing that God is a missionary God, we strive to join Him in that work, proclaiming the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord to the ends of the earth. For nearly 100 years, CIU graduates have taken the Great Commission seriously. Our graduates have planted churches in cultural groups with no known believers,

of "knowing Him and making Him known," we pause, remember, reflect, and give thanks to God for these faithful ones.

But this is not enough. We want to learn from the past so we can press on in mission for the rest of the 21st century and beyond.

While the value of world evangelization remains the same, the context of mission in the 21st century has changed. Our world has become more complex and there are real problems to solve as we think about mission. How do we approach mission in an increasingly globalized and digitized world? What does mission look like in a world where 1 in 97 people are displaced or are refugees? How do we answer the spiritual questions of Muslims, Hindus, Buddhists, or religious nones?

For our conference plenary sessions, we've invited international experts such as Robert Priest (missionary anthropology), Robin Harris (ethnodoxology), Steve

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Our world has become more complex and there are real problems to solve as we think about mission.

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they've translated the Bible into languages that previously had no Scripture, and they've shared the gospel in very hard places. Some have died as martyrs because of their commitment to the gospel. Like the heroes of the faith in Hebrews 11, "the world was not worthy of them" (Hebrews 11:38). As CIU begins to celebrate 100 years

Richardson (reaching unreached peoples), and Bekele Shenko (mission and transformation). In addition, we've invited another 30 workshop presenters who will lead discussions on topics such as multicultural church planting, best practices in refugee ministry, lessons learned in Bible translation among tribal peoples, mission

# 100 Years of Making Him Known

mobilization from the non-western world, best practices in short-term and long-term medical mission, and many others. Our goal is to have representatives from all 150 countries where CIU graduates have served — including national believers and international workers. Ample time will be given for networking to encourage strategic collaboration between mission organizations, churches and participants.

What do we hope to accomplish in this gathering? We want to remember God's faithfulness and give praise to our missionary God. We want to have meaningful conversations that will result in fruitful, biblically sound mission practice. Out of this conference, we pray that many current CIU students will give their lives to global mission through service, prayer, financial support and advocating for God's mission among all peoples.

God is still a missionary God and continues to call His church to be on mission.

**Won't you join us? ■**

## Adopt a Country for the Conference on Nov. 2-5, 2022!

The Future of Global Mission Conference will highlight all 150 nations where CIU alumni are serving, and you can be a part of making it happen by sponsoring a country.

Albania	Eswatini (fmr. "Swaziland")	North Macedonia
Algeria	Fiji	Norway
Angola	Finland	Oman
Argentina	France	Palau
Armenia	Gambia	Palestine State
Australia	Germany	Panama
Azerbaijan	Greece	Papua New Guinea
Bahamas	Grenada	Paraguay
Bahrain	Hong Kong	Poland
Bangladesh	Hungary	Portugal
Belarus	India	Russia
Belgium	Iran	Rwanda
Belize	Iraq	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Benin	Ireland	Saudi Arabia
Bhutan	Israel	Senegal
Bolivia	Jamaica	Serbia
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Jordan	Singapore
Brazil	Kazakhstan	Slovakia
Bulgaria	Kosovo	Slovenia
Burkina Faso	Kuwait	Somalia
Cambodia	Kyrgyzstan	South Korea
Cameroon	Laos	South Sudan
Canada	Latvia	Spain
Central African Republic	Lesotho	Sri Lanka
Chad	Liberia	Sudan
Chile	Lithuania	Suriname
China	Malaysia	Sweden
Colombia	Maldives	Syria
Congo (Congo-Brazzaville)	Mali	Taiwan
Costa Rica	Mauritania	Tanzania
Croatia	Mexico	Thailand
Cuba	Micronesia (Guam)	Trinidad and Tobago
Cyprus	Moldova	Turkey
Czechia (Czech Republic)	Morocco	Uganda
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Mozambique	United Kingdom
Denmark	Myanmar (fmr. Burma)	Uruguay
Dominican Republic	Namibia	Uzbekistan
Ecuador	Nepal	Vanuatu
Egypt	Netherlands	Venezuela
El Salvador	New Zealand	Yemen
Eritrea	Nicaragua	Zambia
Estonia	Niger	Zimbabwe
	Nigeria	

**Get more information and sponsor a country at [ciu.edu/150](http://ciu.edu/150), or use the envelope enclosed with this magazine.**

# Reaching Hindus with Hospitality

By Jennifer Jordan

**D**r. Thilak Pappu and his wife, Liny, have been ministering to the Hindu community in Haryana, just outside of New Dehli, for 25 years. Their labor begins each Tuesday morning with a 6:00 a.m. prayer meeting. From then until Sunday evening, it's a marathon of caring for visitors in their home, community outreach, and Ping Pong.

"People can come any time of day to our home," Thilak said during a recent visit to the United States. "You cannot plan so much. You never know what's going to happen."

He describes mission work in India as people oriented, instead of time oriented, as is typical in Western culture.

"If someone is coming over for a cup of tea and to talk, you know it's not going to be one cup," adds Liny, "It's going to be five cups!"

Growing up in India, Thilak visited the local Hindu temple each morning and evening. Because the temple leader couldn't answer his questions, Thilak was taken to a Hindu monastery where he studied under a guru for 13 years.



Thilak Pappu joins with family in celebrating his doctorate from CIU in May 2021. (Left to right): Darshan Pappu (son), Sabina Pappu (daughter), Liny Pappu (wife), Thilak, Arpit Pappu (son, CIU alumnus), Christina (daughter-in-law), Abhishek Pappu (son, CIU alumnus).

## *CIU gave me the tools to stay in the mission field without wavering.*

But through a Christian ministry in New Dehli, he surrendered his life to Christ at age 22, and was called to ministry while listening to evangelist Billy Graham at the Urbana '87 missions conference. Soon after, he enrolled in CIU's Columbia Biblical Seminary (CBS). Thilak says it was the only school he could find where the heartbeat for evangelism and church planting matched his own.

As a grad student, Thilak enjoyed visiting the Prayer Towers – praying alone and with friends, and he never missed a Chapel. But he could also often be found in the student center playing Ping Pong. He played so regularly that CIU President Dr.

Johnny Miller would tease that Thilak was "majoring in Ping Pong and minoring in missions!"

After earning his Master of Divinity from CBS in '96, Thilak led his family back to India where he says people are willing to "accept" Christ as one of the many gods they worship. But they don't like to hear that Jesus is the only way to heaven. Ministering to the

Hindu people involves patiently building relationships, serving the community and being faithful in prayer.

"CIU gave me the tools to stay in the mission field without wavering," Thilak says, recounting the privilege of studying under "great men" at CBS.

Twenty-five years later, the Pappus have been used by God to plant four churches. They have also started a tailoring ministry for women to learn a vocation, opened a school for underprivileged children, and established a clinic for those who cannot afford healthcare.

And every Thursday Thilak leads a Bible study in his home, where people come to learn the truth. They bring their Bibles. And their Ping Pong paddles. ■

# CIU Students Serve Cola City

By Bob Holmes

**C**olumbia International University athlete Josh Ford says he averages about 15,000 steps each day. But on the morning of CIU's Serving Cola City project, he had already hit 10,000 steps by 10:30 as his 15-member clean-up team worked along Monticello Road, picking up litter and clearing overgrown sections of the sidewalk.

"This is a road that leads to our school and we should take pride in keeping our community nice looking," Ford said.

Ford was one of hundreds from the student body who fanned out across Columbia (often abbreviated as Cola City) on a beautiful spring morning for various projects designed to improve blighted areas or assist churches, ministries and charities with light duty work at their properties. Some of the projects included painting, household repairs, building a wheelchair ramp and landscaping.

As birds chirped in the nearby trees, Bible major Eli Snead and his crew were freshening up the yard and garden of a home located a couple miles from campus in the Crane Creek area.

"We are the body of Christ. He uses our hands and our feet to glorify Him so that at the end of the day everybody will call Him Lord," Snead said of the work.

Meanwhile, the CIU women's softball team gathered at Hope Church on the other side of the Broad River, collecting several bags of litter from Seminole Road



***"We are the body of Christ. He uses our hands and our feet to glorify Him..."***

where the church is located. They also spruced up the portion of the church

grounds that used to belong to a strip club before it was purchased by the church.

"The pastor shared the story of what this land used to be," said Head Softball Coach Sara Allen who noted her team was excited to be a part of Serving Cola City. "I think when you see the Kingdom purposes and the community purposes, it's really easy to buy into what you're doing out here."

Serving Cola City drew the attention of Columbia area media outlets. WIS TV included the event in a live portion of their noon hour newscast, and ABC Columbia also reported on the day. The Richland County Sheriff's Department tweeted that the CIU students were assisting in the Sheriff's Department's Project Hope.

Serving Cola City was a part of the commemoration of Evangelical Unity Week, one of CIU's core values. ■

# CIU Makes Impact at SC Earth Day Celebration

Columbia International University doctoral student Tom Mullikin is developing what he calls “a theology of ecology.” His concern for God’s creation led him to conceive and direct POWERPLANTSC, designed to raise awareness about the importance of trees to human and environmental health, not the least of which is the mitigation of disastrous flooding.

On Earth Day outside the South Carolina Governor’s Mansion, Mullikin, who serves as the S.C. Floodwater Commission chairman, kicked-off a history-making effort to plant a record 3.3-plus million loblolly pine tree seeds across South Carolina. Gov. Henry McMaster called it the “largest single-day tree-planting in United States history.”

“We’ve seen the Lord’s hand in all of this, and it has been a tremendous blessing to work with so many wonderful people,” Mullikin said. “What you see coming together is the nexus of the strong economy and a strong ecology.”

**“The Lord put man in the garden to work and to protect it, and that’s what I’m trying to do...Bring that message of Jesus Christ back into the environment.”**  
—CIU Ph.D. student Tom Mullikin

After the event, Mullikin, who is enrolled in CIU’s Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership program, said he has “learned so much about the theology of ecology” in his studies, adding that evangelicals have largely been left out of the ecology discussion.

“Politics has really hijacked the environment in so many ways on both sides of the aisle,” Mullikin said. “What we’re trying to do is bring it back to what God intended. It starts in the second chapter of Genesis, verse 15, the Lord put man in the garden to work and to protect it, and that’s what I’m trying to do, I’m trying to drive that

message. Bring that message of Jesus Christ back into the environment.”

The ceremony opened with prayer by CIU President Dr. Mark Smith and included CIU Chaplaincy Professor Dr. Mike Langston delivering the “blessing to the trees” with prayer as he symbolically sprinkled water over a new tree being planted in the Governor’s Mansion garden.

In June, Smith and others from CIU joined Mullikin on a 20-mile hike along the South Carolina coast just ahead of World Ocean Day as Mullikin organized beach clean-ups in his role as president of the nonprofit Global Eco Adventures. ■



◀ CIU Ph.D. student Tom Mullikin speaking at the Governor’s Mansion.

▲ CIU Chaplaincy Professor Dr. Mike Langston offers the “blessing to the trees.”



▲ *The “Cathedral of Trees.”  
Outdoor worship at the new  
amphitheater.*

## Celebrating the God of All Creation at New Amphitheater

It was a perfect day to have the first “Cathedral of Trees” Chapel. That’s what CIU Associate Dean of Spiritual Life Formation Dan Coy likes to call the new amphitheater built in a wooded valley near the pond behind the Prayer Towers. It’s strategically situated for worshipers to sit on the grassy hillside above the stage.

As the worship band led in familiar songs, dragon flies danced among the student body who soaked in the sun on a cloudless, cool, 56-degree morning.

God’s creation was not lost on a band member who prayed, “You are our maker — the Creator of what is all around us.” That was followed with songs “How Great is our God,” and “How Great Thou Art.”

Coy says the amphitheater is just one of the improvements on the acreage behind CIU’s landmark Prayer Towers. Also new are what he calls “coves” or “circles.”

“Circles where we have put benches ... one is a study area or you can eat there,” Coy explains. “Then there is one that has a fire pit that can seat 60. Then there are some other places we’re developing further with more coves.”

Coy says the purpose for the improvements is simply more ways students can draw closer to God in prayer, harkening back to CIU’s roots and the circle of “Praying Ladies” who asked God to bring a Bible school to Columbia nearly 100 years ago.

“As we come to the heart of our campus, we’re refreshed in Him as we spend time in prayer at the Towers, remembering who He is, and how we started,” Coy said.

The Prayer Towers were built to resemble the towers of the Colonia Hotel in downtown Columbia, one of CIU’s first locations after its founding in 1923. ■

**“You are our  
maker — the  
Creator of what is  
all around us.”**



# DECLARE

# THE



# WORD

## The 2021-2022 Campus Theme

*All Scripture is inspired by God and beneficial for teaching, for rebuke, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man or woman of God may be fully capable, equipped for every good work.*

-2 Tim. 3:16-17

This year's campus theme is "Declare the Word" with a focus on The Authority of Scripture, a CIU core value that has undergirded the ministry for nearly a century. Let's take a closer look at its importance.

### **What does CIU mean when it says that one of its core values is the Authority of Scripture?**

We mean that the Bible is the functional authority for everything we do as a university — what we believe, what we do, how we live, how we go about the process of education, and is the basis for our other core values.

### **Why does CIU affirm the Authority of Scripture?**

We believe that because the Bible is inspired, it is fully authoritative in everything it teaches and touches; it is not the product of human ingenuity; every part of it is profitable; it equips us for life, godliness and service.

### **How does CIU's commitment to the Authority of Scripture prepare its graduates for life, godliness, and service in the 21st century?**

We make the Bible the starting point for everything we teach; we integrate it into every discipline we offer; it is the standard against which we measure every practice we teach.

### **How does the Authority of Scripture inform the specific ministry practices of preaching and teaching today?**

We teach our graduates that their role as preachers and teachers — in whatever context they might find themselves — is to communicate the truth of Scripture as accurately, effectively, and practically as possible; the method might look different in a given setting, but the message must be true to Scripture; the Bible is the starting point for preaching and teaching; it gives us the truths we are to affirm, the attitudes we are to assume, and the actions we are to adopt.

### **So, can we expect CIU to continue affirming its commitment to the Authority of Scripture for the next 100 years?**

Without question. It has been, is, and will continue to be the authority for everything we believe and do as a university and for everything we expect our graduates to believe and do in their lives and ministries. Culture might change, but God's Word abides forever. ■



## **“Declaring the Word” from CIU President Dr. Mark Smith**

Before the 2021-2022 School year began, President Mark Smith challenged the faculty and staff to “Declare the Word.”

### On why it's important to CIU:

“The Bible is the ultimate foundation and final authority in every aspect of our lives. It gives us truth that we affirm, the attitudes that we assume and the actions that we adopt.”

### On daily devotions:

“The only way we stay true to the Word, is to know the Word, and study the Word and understand the Word.”

### On declaring the Word to the students:

“Declare the Word to every student that comes into your classroom, who walks into your Financial Aid Office, every student who calls IT, every student that works in maintenance — the power of the Word changes lives!” ■



# NURSING

## "ON HOLY GROUND"

## Looking for Students Called to Bring Compassion *By Bob Holmes*

**V**ery early in his CIU presidency, Dr. Mark Smith was approached by a woman who had an urgent appeal.

"Dr. Smith you've got to get this nursing program going." At first he didn't realize he was talking to Dr. Deb McQuilkin, the widow of the late CIU President Robertson McQuilkin.

"Yes, I'm on board with you," Smith assured her.

"If you start it, I'm involved," replied McQuilkin, a retired associate professor in the University of South Carolina nursing program.

Five years after that conversation, two proposed nursing programs are

close to implementation; an online RN to BSN program and a traditional four-year BSN program. Smith says the programs fit perfectly with CIU's mission to impact the nations with the message of Christ.

"I was surprised that one of our missions programs was not medical," Smith noted on his arrival to CIU in 2017. "When people are hurting and open and broken, they are open to Jesus, they are open to Christ. Medical crises call us to understand that there is an eternity. This is one of the most effective ways to reach the world and present Christ."

Deb McQuilkin agrees saying that she and Robertson had conversations about a Bible-based nursing program

### Program Director Dr. Jill McElheny

#### Experience:

- 27 years of nursing experience
- Doubled enrollment as Director of Nursing Programs at Colorado Christian University
- Samaritan's Purse International Medical Disaster Team

#### Education:

- Doctor of Nursing Practice – University of Colorado
- Master of Science in Nursing – Medical University of South Carolina
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing – Medical University of South Carolina
- 11 licenses and certifications in nursing including Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and Emergency Nurse Practitioner

before his death in 2016, describing "a program designed to prepare nurses who are savvy in global health and cultural competence."

"I think CIU is uniquely positioned to see that happen," Dr. Deb McQuilkin said.

## Why Nursing at CIU?

- Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' -Luke 10:9 ESV
- The Parable of the Good Samaritan -Luke 10:25-37
- "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few ..." -Matthew 9:37b ESV

### The Program Director: An Answer to Prayer

Selected to initiate and lead the programs is a nurse with 27 years of diverse experience.

"If I could have cloned the perfect leader for CIU's nursing program, I would have created Jill McElheny," Smith said. "I prayed and prayed and Jill McElheny was the direct answer to prayer. I thank God for her."



*Dr. Jill McElheny with Sergio. He nearly died, but came to know Christ in a Samaritan's Purse field hospital following an earthquake in Ecuador in 2016.*

McElheny led the nursing program at Colorado

Christian University where under her guidance, enrollment in the program doubled. A native of South Carolina's Lowcountry, McElheny first felt the tug toward Christian nursing as a child when family friends involved in medical missions shared stories of using their skills to bring the gospel to medically underserved regions of the world.

"I decided right then I wanted to be a part of taking care of those people," McElheny said.

That commitment has led her to challenging opportunities around the world and around the corner. For example, she served with the Samaritan's Purse medical disaster team after a devastating earthquake in Haiti and has cared for patients dying from COVID-19 at a South Carolina hospice.

### A Calling to Holy Ground

McElheny says each nursing program applicant will be interviewed and asked why they chose nursing as a career. She is looking for those with a calling to the field.

"We teach students in a Christian nursing program that every single patient is on holy ground," McElheny said. "And when you walk into the patient's room, your mindset should be that you are approaching that patient with compassion. That's what we're going to teach them here."

### CIU's Simulation Center

All the Columbia area hospitals as well as an organization serving lower income population centers are ready to welcome the nursing students for clinical experience required for

their education. But before that, the students will practice on manikins in CIU's state-of-the-art Simulation Center. McElheny calls that "huge."

"With every clinical course they will spend four weeks in simulation before they spend four weeks in the hospital or the clinical setting," McElheny said. "During those four weeks of simulation, we'll debrief and learn from the mistakes they may have made, and then they'll be checked off before they can enter the clinical facilities. They will be very well prepared."

### The Hallmark Program

Meanwhile, President Smith refers to medical missions as "The Hallmark" program for CIU's future and dreams of adding a nurse practitioners program and a physician's assistant program.

"That's a \$50 million dream," Smith said. "So with God's help, and the generosity of people, I believe we can do something fantastic in taking the gospel around the world through medicine. Medical missions are the wave of the future and we need to be heavily invested in it." ■

*"We teach students in a Christian nursing program that every single patient is on holy ground." -Dr. Jill McElheny*



ONLINE LEARNING FROM HIGH SCHOOL

Climbing to the Heights of  
**ONLINE EDUCATION**



Log on for a high school Christian education  
from Ben Lippen School

By Dr. Ben Porter  
Executive Director, The Crest

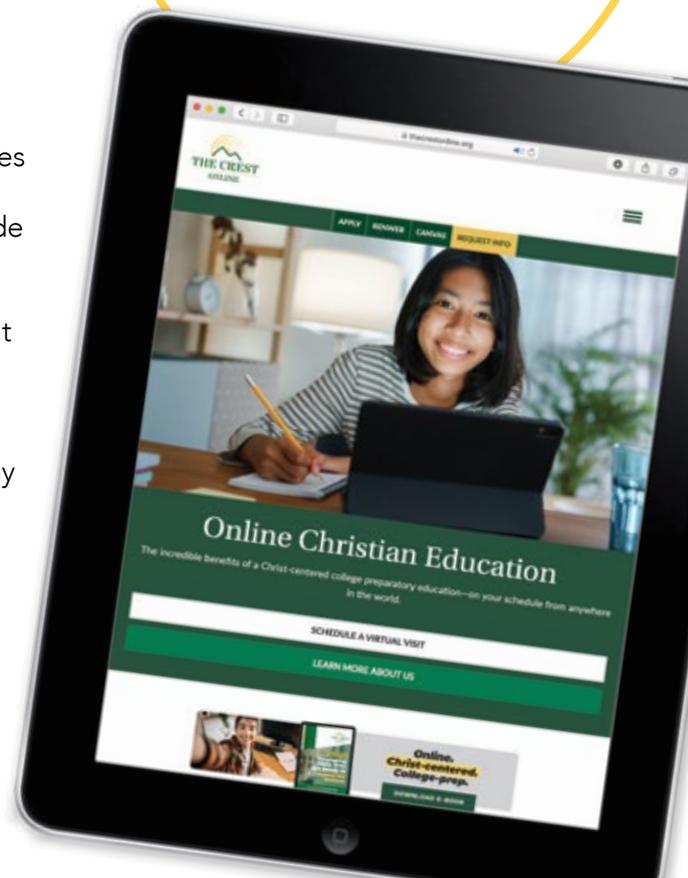
Online education has come to Ben Lippen School, CIU's Pre-K to 12th grade college preparatory Christian School.

The Crest Online (TCO) began offering ninth-grade courses this fall. Headmaster Tony Fajardo says the TCO goal is to "educate and graduate students who are equipped to represent Jesus through personal knowledge of God and His truth."

The ninth-grade course launch is just step one in the multi-year development of the online high

school which will be accessible around the globe, offering courses taught from a biblical worldview. Future plans include adding grade levels each year to provide the full high school course offerings, including college dual enrollment opportunities through Columbia International University.

With the expansion of technology and digital education, both the opportunities and benefits for online Christian education are endless. Flexible education from a biblical worldview is part of the intentional design of TCO making it possible for students and families around the



*Future plans include adding grade levels each year to provide the full high school course offerings.*

globe to partner with Ben Lippen. From its inception, Ben Lippen has served missionary and stateside families through the education of their children. The Crest Online continues this high purpose through the strategic use of current and expanding technologies.

## TO Ph.D.

The intentional discipleship of students is also a key component to the TCO experience. Devotions, biblically-integrated curriculum, and opportunities to connect with our discipleship team assists in developing personal relationships with individuals, pointing them closer to God.

"Our heartbeat at The Crest Online is that students would know Jesus, grow in Jesus, and extend His love to a world that desperately needs it," said Discipleship Director Chad Burnett.

Please pray with us that God will go before us and work in the hearts and minds of students and families as we seek to expand Christian education around the world to as many as possible through this unique opportunity.

For information and enrollment log on to [thecrestonline.org](http://thecrestonline.org). ■

# Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership Quickly Becomes Largest Degree Program at CIU



By Dr. Brian S. Simmons  
Associate Provost for Online Studies

On June 14, 2021, I received an exciting email from CIU administrator Mary Beth Leavell which read: "So exciting to see TWO new Drs.!!! Dr. Emery Nickerson and Dr. Chino Walters!!"

Drs. Nickerson and Walters are the first two graduates of CIU's newest and largest Ph.D. degree program — the Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership. These two students will be joined by more than 40 additional doctoral students from the first two cohorts at the December 2021 CIU commencement.

The Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership was launched May 5, 2019 with 65 students enrolled in cohort 1. Three months later, these students were joined by another cohort of 50 students and the newest Ph.D. at CIU was off and running! Today, the program has eight cohorts and over 250 students making this the largest degree program at CIU!

There are a number of unique features that make this doctoral program so popular with adult students. First, the Ph.D. in Organizational Leadership is delivered totally online. Through this accelerated program, students can complete their studies, including their dissertations, in just 27 months. This is accomplished in a unique manner by weaving the writing of the dissertation

in with the coursework from beginning to end. Students are assigned a mentor, supported by a team of stylists to assist with APA guidelines, and coached by a methodologist to ensure that their research methods are sound and in line with best practice.

Using a cohort model, students have life experiences that they bring to the online classroom, learning from one another. The cohort remains together throughout the program.

The program is also practical, with courses in organizational leadership, team building, board leadership, strategic planning, and finance and development to name a few. Our mission states "CIU educates students from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ." So, we integrate faith and learning into the program praying that our graduates will integrate faith and life! ■

*Today, the program has eight cohorts and over 250 students making this the largest degree program at CIU!*



# RAMS WIN THE WORLD SERIES!

**I**n the first full season of Columbia International University baseball, the CIU Rams snagged the first team national championship in school history at the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) World Series held in Easley, South Carolina. The Rams defeated Southwestern Christian (Oklahoma) 11-2 in the title game.

The Rams swept their way through the Series, going undefeated throughout pool play, the semifinals, and championship. Coach Jonathan Johnson founded the CIU baseball program in 2020, but their inaugural season was cut short due to COVID-19 making 2021 their first full season. The Rams went a perfect 20-0 against NCCAA member schools in

2021 to top off their historic season while Johnson was named the NCCAA National Coach of the Year.



**Coach Jonathan Johnson**  
NCCAA National Coach of the Year

Coach Johnson is a former Major Leaguer who pitched for the Houston Astros, San Diego Padres and in the Atlanta Braves system. Baseball has led him to ministry in Honduras, Nicaragua, and even communist Cuba.

“God has allowed baseball to open big doors in Latin America, to present the gospel and meet with people and bond with them on the sports field,” Johnson said. “These people who would never normally go to church are opening up and listening to me and other athletes ... (as we) share the gospel.” ■

**GO RAMS!**



★ ★ ★ ★  
NCCAA BASEBALL

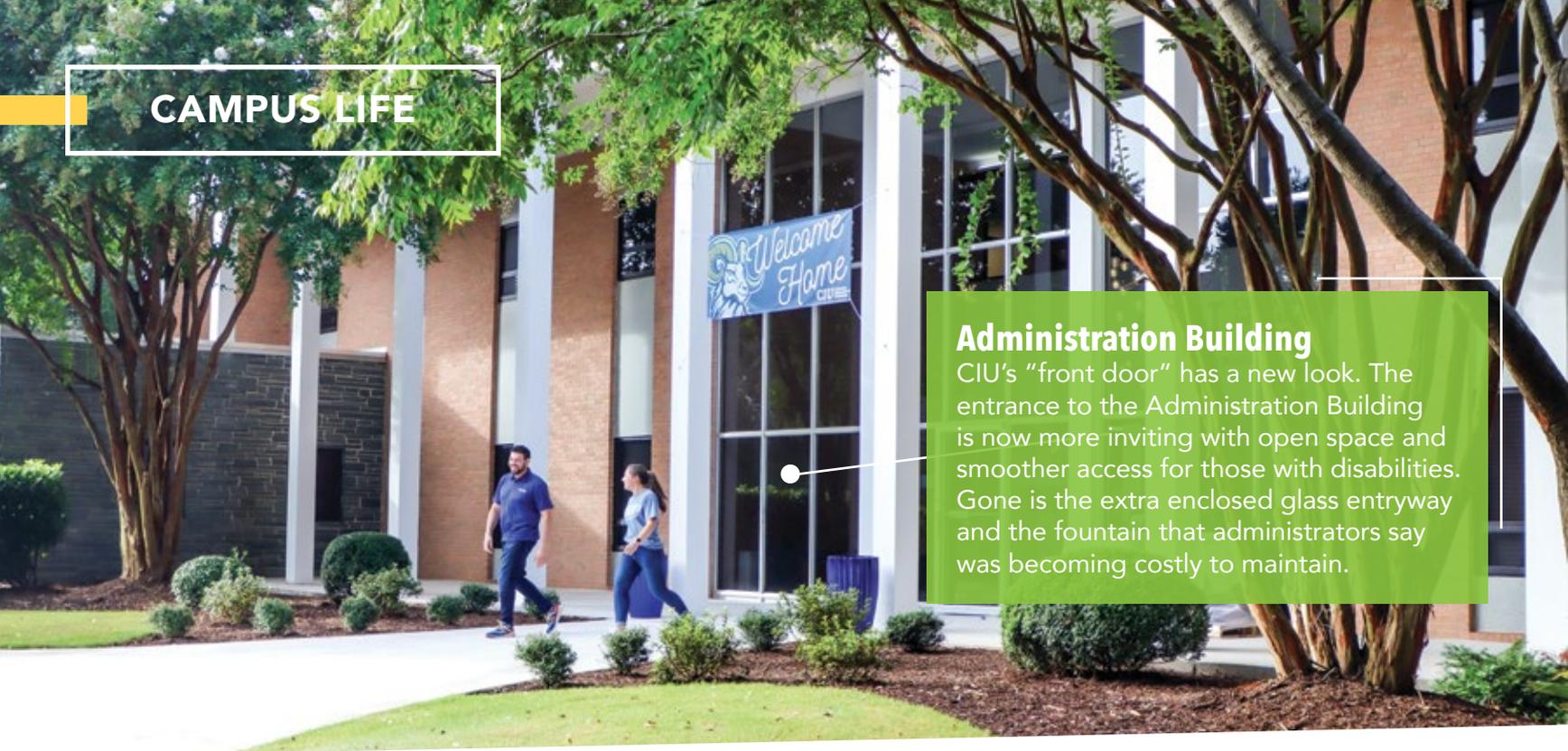
**NATIONAL CHAMPIONS**



**CIU**

**RAMS**





### Administration Building

CIU's "front door" has a new look. The entrance to the Administration Building is now more inviting with open space and smoother access for those with disabilities. Gone is the extra enclosed glass entryway and the fountain that administrators say was becoming costly to maintain.

# Another Summer of "Wow"

It was another summer of adding to the "Wow Factor" at Columbia International University.

Summer renovations have come to be expected in recent years. Soon after the May 8 commencement, work crews were busy across campus from the Jones Center at the campus entrance, to the Rossi Student Center, to the athletic fields. Wow!



### Nursing Skills Center

Visitors walking through the hallways of the Jones Center do a double take. The manikins lying in the hospital beds of The Skills Center and The Simulation Center look like real people at a glance. The rooms are being readied for CIU's proposed nursing program. (See page 18.)

### 34 North

Hallmark Dining Services has added a coffee/snack bar named 34 North to the Rossi Student Center. It's named after Columbia's coordinate point on the globe. It features hot, iced and frozen coffee drinks including "The Big Horn Latte" in honor of the CIU Rams. It's made with white chocolate, caramel, espresso and milk. Hot breads and pastries start the mornings, salads and sandwiches are available throughout the day, and then in the evenings — what else? — pizza! The restaurant is located in the space formerly occupied by Grace Coffee.



### Post Office

Even in the 21st century, students still receive important Postal Service and campus mail. New key-operated mailboxes have replaced the combination-operated mailboxes that alumni from the 1960s had used.



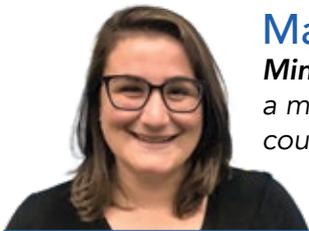
### New Gym Floor

The gym floor in the Moore Fitness Center has taken on a brighter and more modern look. New college basketball rules called for the three-point line to be moved back just over a foot, so the Athletics Department did a full upgrade. Meanwhile, lights were also installed on the CIU baseball field.



# Thank You for Joining Us on the Journey!

You make it possible for CIU students to prepare for God's calling on their lives. You have come alongside us in prayer and financial support and together we have been able to accomplish great things for this generation of CIU students. Thank you for loving, praying and giving so that CIU students are equipped to reach the world.



**Marianna**

**Ministry goal:** establish a missionary care and counseling center



**Daniel**

**Ministry goal:** teach Bible overseas



**Hannah**

**Ministry goal:** bridge medical care and mental health through Christian counseling

Because of the Lord's faithfulness through the **support of alumni, family, friends and sponsors**, CIU continues to strive for excellence and to look boldly into the future. ■



## 100th Anniversary Capital Campaign

For nearly 100 years, over 24,000 alumni have been making Him known with millions of lives changed for eternity through their service. As we approach our 100th anniversary, we are laying plans **to make Him known for the next 100 years.**

Because reaching the world with the message of Christ looks different now than it did 100 years ago, we have added programs in business, teacher education, counseling, and plan to add healthcare programs as well. (See page 18.)

Training and equipping students to become Kingdom builders requires faithful partners in prayer and support. It always has. Columbia International was birthed in prayer 100 years ago and continues to rely on prayer every day.

**We invite you to share in the work of training the next generation of Kingdom workers!** ■

# Capital Campaign Initiatives

**\$35 MILLION GOAL**

## Asking God for Immeasurably More The Next 100 Years!

*“To him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us” –Ephesians 3:20*

<b>NEW STUDENT PROGRAMMING</b>	<b>\$20,000,000</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing &amp; Healthcare</li> <li>• Business Entrepreneurship</li> <li>• World Missions Expansion</li> </ul>	<p><b>\$10,000,000</b></p> <p><b>\$5,000,000</b></p> <p><b>\$5,000,000</b></p>

<b>TRANSFORMATION FOR OUR FUTURE</b>	<b>\$11,000,000</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online Program Expansion</li> <li>• Freedom from Government Financing</li> </ul>	<p><b>\$5,000,000</b></p> <p><b>\$6,000,000</b></p>

<b>COMMUNITY HOUSING</b>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Residential Housing Building</li> </ul>	<b>\$4,000,000</b>

**To make a gift go to [ciu.edu/next100](http://ciu.edu/next100)**

# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## Optimism from a Wheelchair

By Jenita Pace (2001)

### *Remembering Byron Sellers (2000)*

I remember the first time I met Byron Sellers. The most striking thing about Byron was his reassuring smile that came with some quickly delivered humor and a friendly invitation to conversation. What struck me next was he held his continual optimism from a wheelchair.

In his youth, Byron was a star baseball player, good student, and active in his church. When he was 14, he was on an errand for his church when he was in a terrible car accident. Byron never walked again.

Starting high school with new challenges, Byron was angry with God. Hurt by the loss of his future dreams, he was unable to walk, unable to use his hands, and needed constant care. He begged God to heal his body; or at least give him back the use of his hands, if not his legs.

As Byron fought through the heartache, he grew in his faith, making a choice to use his pain to

help others. After high school, he attended St Andrews University, earning a degree in religion and philosophy. He enrolled at CIU in the late '90s to pursue a master's degree in counseling. During his time at CIU, Byron nearly died from a blood clot, and faced several unique health challenges, but pushed through and after graduation began an impressive career aimed at bringing others to know Jesus.

Using his personal story as a beacon of hope, Byron joined the ministry of Joni and Friends as an advocate, helping people who were experiencing the faith-challenging road of physical disability. He led multiple mission trips to Kenya and the Dominican Republic, to deliver wheelchairs and counsel those rejected due to their inability to walk.

He later served as a children's pastor in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he also oversaw ministries to those with disabilities. Byron's love for



children led him and wife, Scarlet, to adopt three children who needed a place of hope and acceptance.

For seven years, Byron was a special speaker at Camp Celebrate in Tennessee, a camp designed to offer hope and healing to disabled people and their families. He also found joy ministering to inmates in a South Carolina prison.

Byron ultimately was set free from his wheelchair. He died unexpectedly on May 22, 2021. I cry when I think of my friend — partly because so many of us feel the gap he left in this world. And partly out of joy, knowing he is with his Savior. ■

*About the author: Jenita Pace is a therapist at Three Rivers Counseling in Burnsville, Minnesota.*

COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

# RECENT ALUMNI

## *Recognition Award*

Columbia International University annually recognizes recent alumni for their distinguished accomplishments in the marketplace, on the mission field or in church ministry. They are a faithful example of CIU's five core values. Read more at [ciu.edu/RARA](http://ciu.edu/RARA).



**RENATA HANSCAMP ('93, '96, '13)**

**Academic Dean at Cornerstone Bible College for Missionary Training in The Netherlands**

Renata has earned degrees at two CIU campuses: Columbia, South Carolina, and Korntal, Germany. She has taught in Japan, Germany, and now serves in The Netherlands.

Born and raised in New Zealand, Renata recalls almost packing up and returning home within the first few weeks of college because everything seemed too different, and she felt unprepared. Standing with a handful of change to call her parents and ask them to "please bring me home," CIU Professor Bryan Beyer spoke to Renata in her distress, prayed with her, and she agreed to stay for one week, which turned into a month, then a year, and the rest is history.



**ANNE LORD BAILEY ('06)**

**Emerging Tech Clinical Specialist, Department of Veterans Affairs**

After Anne graduated from CIU in 2006, she furthered her education in pharmaceuticals. She now works with the Veterans Administration bringing innovation – such as virtual reality, augmented reality, and wearable technology – to the VA. In 2020, Anne participated in the adventure reality TV show "World's Toughest Race: Eco-Challenge Fiji," viewable on Amazon Prime Video.



**STAN ('16, '17) & JENNIFER ('03)** *(Full names withheld for security)*

**Campus Staff, Mission Agency**

Stan and Jennifer served many years in East Asia with overseas agencies, starting a small business as their mission platform. They focused on language, evangelism, and discipleship as they assisted a local house church. Today they build relationships with East Asian scholars, professors, and their families on a U.S. college campus. Jennifer also homeschools their children and teaches English to children in Asia.



**LATOYA REED ('06)**

**Director of the South Carolina Youth Challenge Academy**

LaToya is the first female, minority, and non-military director of a residential program for struggling youth. She has also worked with youth at the South Carolina Dept. of Social Services and the South Carolina Dept. of Juvenile Justice. Equipped with CIU's Youth Ministry degree, LaToya takes her passion for youth and leads her team in caring for and educating teens who have trouble succeeding in a normal high school setting. She feels most fulfilled when she is able to witness transformation in the students, from the moment they walk through the door to the day they graduate from the program.

**Is there someone you would like to nominate?**

Please visit [ciu.edu/nominate](http://ciu.edu/nominate) or contact the Alumni Office via phone or email: (803) 807-5500 / [alumni@ciu.edu](mailto:alumni@ciu.edu).

Join us

# Homecoming & Family Weekend



**CIU** | November 4-6, 2021

[ciu.edu/homecoming](http://ciu.edu/homecoming) • [alumni@ciu.edu](mailto:alumni@ciu.edu) • (803) 807-5500



**Alumnus of the Year**  
**Chaplain (Col.) Larry Dabeck**

# CELEBRATE WITH REUNION CLASSES

1951 • 1961 • 1971 • 1981 • 1991 • 2001 • 2011

# ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

**1 Bill Harding ('50) and Howard Blair ('50)** had a wonderful time visiting the CIU campus in April 2021, reliving memories as classmates and sharing wonderful stories of God's faithfulness in their lives and ministries. ✉ [wtharding@gmail.com](mailto:wtharding@gmail.com) ✉ [howardcblair@aol.com](mailto:howardcblair@aol.com)

**2 Jeanette (Taylor) Jones ('55)** visited CIU's Alumni Center along with her three children and enjoyed seeing photos of her husband, **Gordon Jones ('55)**, an Alumnus of the Year.

**Martha (Lehmann) Heisel ('61)** is writing her autobiography for her family, which includes five chapters of reflection on her time at Columbia Bible College.

**David Fraser ('63)** published a new commentary in 2021, "Matthew's Manual for Disciples." ✉ [Davidallenfraser@gmail.com](mailto:Davidallenfraser@gmail.com)

**Elouise (Renich) Fraser ('64)** published a new book in 2021, "Without a Flight Plan." ✉ [Elouiserenichfraser@gmail.com](mailto:Elouiserenichfraser@gmail.com)

**3 Jacqueline (Mours) Scorza ('66)** After retiring from Wycliffe Bible Translators along with her late husband, **David Scorza ('65)**, she retired again from her job as a professional counselor. ✉ [Kscorza.sobieski@gmail.com](mailto:Kscorza.sobieski@gmail.com)

**Patrick Major ('69)** retired in 2013 and has since been enjoying volunteer work with Scleroderma Foundation of Southern California and traveling National Parks west of the Mississippi. ✉ [Patwmajor@gmail.com](mailto:Patwmajor@gmail.com)

**Raymond Ashmore ('71)** has authored nine books and numerous articles on the state of the conservative Christian church in America, as well as hermeneutical essays read by over a thousand Christian leaders in over 60 countries. ✉ [Sgashmore@gmail.com](mailto:Sgashmore@gmail.com)

**4 Rena (Tarter) Jarboe ('71)** and her husband Dwight are involved with a ministry (from which they both retired) called MMS Aviation, which prepares, repairs, and refurbishes aircraft for worldwide missionary use. ✉ [Renajarboe@gmail.com](mailto:Renajarboe@gmail.com)

**5 David Gillespie ('76)** is teaching Religious Studies and Philosophy at Furman University. ✉ [Scdrgillespie@gmail.com](mailto:Scdrgillespie@gmail.com)

**6 Joe Fine ('78)** retired from a career in IT and moved to Florida in 2020. Joe and his wife **Judy (Stallard) Fine ('80)** remain active at their church and travel to Italy for ministry every two to three years. ✉ [Joefine48@yahoo.com](mailto:Joefine48@yahoo.com)

**Bruce Crawford ('79)** retired as pastor of First Baptist Church of Myrtle Beach, South Carolina on May 2, 2021. ✉ [Pastorbruce@fbcmb.com](mailto:Pastorbruce@fbcmb.com)

**Wendell Schultz ('87)** and his wife Jennifer are missionaries in the Philippines with World Outreach Ministries. ✉ [Zoeperissos2014@gmail.com](mailto:Zoeperissos2014@gmail.com)

**7 Jerdone Davis ('87)** retired after 14 years as a women's consultant for the PCA's Reformed University Fellowship, as well as 12 years as an associate professor at Erskine Seminary. ✉ [Sassynonie@bellsouth.net](mailto:Sassynonie@bellsouth.net)



**James Bates ('88)** After 20 years of ordained ministry within the PCA, James now works in the Student Services and Admissions Department of Christian Counseling Educational Foundation in Glenside, Pennsylvania. His wife, **Joy (Haines) Bates ('89)** works at a local greenhouse and serves as a musician in their local church. ✉ [joybates01@comcast.net](mailto:joybates01@comcast.net)

**8 Deonna (Wechtel) Bundrick ('91)** assists School Time Bible Ministries by writing Bible curriculum, teaching the Bible, and connecting public schools with local churches that host Bible classes during the school day. ✉ [Thebundricks@gmail.com](mailto:Thebundricks@gmail.com)

**Lisa (Schaw) Sinclair ('92/'10)** published a book in 2020 titled "Restoring the Paths: Sexuality for Christian Leaders." ✉ [Malimuso@gmail.com](mailto:Malimuso@gmail.com)

**Andra (Brasuell) Harris ('95)** published a children's book titled, "Magnificent Meg: A Real-Aloud Book to Encourage Children with Dyslexia." ✉ [Andrah2009@gmail.com](mailto:Andrah2009@gmail.com)

**9 John DeValve ('97)** and his wife Nancy are back in the United States after over 36 years of service in West Africa. ✉ [john.devalve@sim.org](mailto:john.devalve@sim.org)

**10 Dr. Andrea Berry ('98)** is the new principal of Pontiac (South Carolina) Elementary School. ✉ [aberry@richland2.org](mailto:aberry@richland2.org)

**11 Jodi Oppenhuizen ('99)** is the new director of the Christian International School of Prague in the Czech Republic. ✉ [Jodi@wordtoall.org](mailto:Jodi@wordtoall.org)

**Sara (Pendarvis) Bazemore ('00)** serves as the new director of the S.C. Energy Office. ✉ [Sarahbazemore@gmail.com](mailto:Sarahbazemore@gmail.com)

**12 Chaplain Kevin Thompson ('04)** was promoted by the South Carolina Army National Guard to Lieutenant Colonel of the 228th Signal Brigade in Spartanburg. ✉ [Chaplainthompson@aol.com](mailto:Chaplainthompson@aol.com)

**Drew Meritt ('04)** is the demand coordinator with SWITCH, a grassroots organization leading a movement to end human sex trafficking and sexual exploitation in the Upstate of South Carolina. ✉ [Andrew\\_meritt@hotmail.com](mailto:Andrew_meritt@hotmail.com)

**13 Sarah (Wheeler) Warburton ('07)** Sarah is in her fifth year of teaching in Nashville. Jonathan Warburton is a dual British/American citizen as of March 10, 2021! ✉ [Sarahcausa@yahoo.com](mailto:Sarahcausa@yahoo.com)

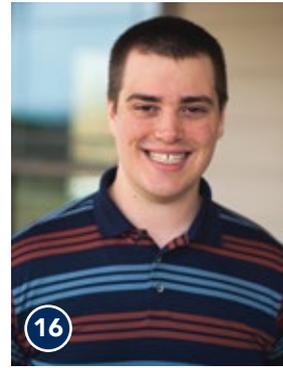
**14 Andrew Bullard ('11)** planted Radiant Church in Seneca, South Carolina after serving as a youth and campus pastor for 11 years. Radiant held its first service on Sept. 20, 2020. They have a partnership with Clemson University FCA reaching hundreds of students for Christ on a weekly basis. ✉ [Andrew@radiantchurchsc.com](mailto:Andrew@radiantchurchsc.com)

**Bradley ('11) and Courtney (Cochrane) Wise ('12)** along with daughters Hosanna and Haven welcomed Daniel Bradley into their family in January 2021. Proud grandparents are **Paul ('87) and Barb (former staff) Cochrane.** ✉ [courtneywise89@gmail.com](mailto:courtneywise89@gmail.com)

**15 Hans ('12) and Stephenie (Bergen) ('14) Helland,** along with children Sophia and Lars, welcomed baby Andrew to their family in April 2021. ✉ [Hp.hInd@gmail.com](mailto:Hp.hInd@gmail.com)



**16 Jared Poulton ('14)** accepted the call to senior pastor of Harbins Community Baptist Church in Dacula, Georgia. ✉ [Jared@harbinschurch.org](mailto:Jared@harbinschurch.org)

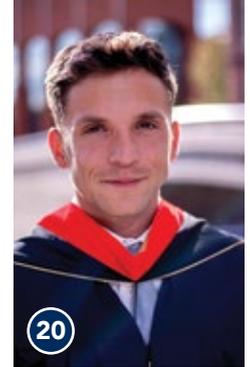


**17 Shara (Lewis) Drimalla ('17)** is a writer for BibleProject, a website that helps "people experience the Bible as a unified story that leads to Jesus." ✉ [Sharadrimalla@gmail.com](mailto:Sharadrimalla@gmail.com)



**18 Caleb ('18) and Ariana (Mendez) Copeland ('17)** welcomed their daughter Esther in January of 2021. ✉ [Ari.mendez678@gmail.com](mailto:Ari.mendez678@gmail.com)

**19 Abigail (Kraus) Adams ('18)** and her husband, Larry, welcomed their first child, Larry Alan Adams IV, into the world in May of 2021. ✉ [Krausabigail@gmail.com](mailto:Krausabigail@gmail.com)



**20 Blaise Shields ('19)** is the new youth ministry pastor at St. Andrew Evangelical Church in Auburn, Indiana. ✉ [blaise.shields@ciu.edu](mailto:blaise.shields@ciu.edu)

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## In Memoriam

**Dorothy Banks Larsen ('42)** - March 2020  
**Robert "Bob" Miller ('44)** - March 2020  
**Dorothy "Dottie" Whitman Few ('45)** - May 2021  
**George McMillan ('47)** - April 2021  
**Patricia Haughton ('48)** - April 2021  
**Betty Lowry ('48)** - July 2020  
**Harry Marshall ('47/'48)** - July 2021  
**Walter Nelson ('50)** - December 2020  
**Laura Carroll Williams ('50)** - February 2021  
**Pierce Barnes ('51)** - June 2021  
**Burt Harding ('51)** - May 2021  
**Ian Hay ('51)** - March 2021  
**Margaret Orton Powell ('51)** - April 2021  
**Marlys "Mollie" Anderson Watson ('51)**  
 - January 2020  
**Richard "Dick" Griffiths ('52)** - May 2021  
**Joyce Harwell Hensley ('52)** - April 2021  
**Marianne Lomel Wagemaker ('53)** - July 2021  
**Harold Goldmann ('54)** - July 2020  
**George Conger ('55)** - September 2020  
**Ila Dillinger ('55)** - February 2021  
**Darrell Hockersmith ('55)** - March 2021  
**Lewis Draper ('57)** - March 2021  
**Cash Godbold ('57)** - July 2021  
**Dan Goldsmith ('57)** - May 2021  
**Betty Ann Houchins Robinson ('57)**  
 - October 2020  
**Julie Chreptak ('58)** - November 2020

**Margaret "Margie" Hiestand ('58)**  
 - February 2021  
**Frank Patterson ('58)** - June 2021  
**Billy Joe Walker ('58)** - June 2020  
**David Calhoun ('59)** - April 2021  
**Eleanor Humme Daniels ('59)** - January 2021  
**Alice Loyd ('59)** - January 2020  
**Stephen Poore ('59)** - January 2021  
**Janet Dawson ('60)** - February 2021  
**W. Laurens Hudson ('60)** - March 2021  
**Darlene Hokanson ('61)** - June 2021  
**Virginia Townsend Sanders ('61)**  
 - November 2020  
**Willie Crockett ('62)** - March 2021  
**Robert "Bob" Vajko ('62)** - December 2020  
**Margery Christman ('65)** - May 2021  
**James Martin ('65)** - May 2020  
**Homer Swartzentruber ('67)** - May 2021  
**Andrea Steelman Simms ('68)** - April 2021  
**Joseph "Joe" Brown ('69)** - February 2021  
**Douglas Tilley ('72)** - April 2021  
**Wayne Graves ('73)** - July 2021  
**Evan Palmer ('75)** - January 2021  
**Priscilla Jones Kew ('77)** - April 2021  
**Dennis Temple ('77)** - May 2021  
**Thomas William Lowman ('79)** - February 2021  
**Danny Ramsey ('79)** - November 2020  
**Lewis Roberts ('79)** - March 2021

**Marge Collins ('81)** - January 2021  
**Henry Rauch ('85)** - December 2020  
**Mary Bisesi ('90)** - May 2021  
**Gene Aughtrey Smith ('91)** - April 2020  
**Reid Minich ('92)** - November 2020  
**Byron Sellers ('00)** - May 2021  
**David Blair ('03)** - March 2021  
**Courtney Rashad Spurgeon ('11)** - August 2021  
**Margaret Staples ('21)** - March 2021

**Ian Moreland Hay ('51)** - After earning his graduate degree from CIU, Ian and his wife, June, traveled to the mission field in Nigeria with SIM in 1952. Ian served SIM in various positions, and authored several books and numerous articles on missions and prayer. He was a former chairman of the CIU Board of Trustees, and was named Alumnus of the Year in 1997.

**Cash Godbold ('57)** - Pioneer missionaries Cash and Ann ('58) Godbold lived for 30 years in the Sahara Desert working with the Tuareg people. They also conducted workshops on how to evangelize Muslims. Each of their three children attended CIU and have served on the African mission field. Cash and Ann were Alumni of the Year in 2010.

# Christian Colleges Face Growing Threats

*But opportunity awaits for bold, graceful witness*



One of the more serious attacks facing the church and its mission is the attempt to impose the LGBTQ agenda throughout all of society's institutions, including education. This agenda promotes activity that silences opposition to the worldview it espouses, especially voices from faith-based communities that support religious liberty. While it is understandable to see these attacks on religious liberty as threatening, one could

also view these attacks as opportunities for Christian colleges to uphold biblical standards for sexuality while demonstrating Christlike love and grace.

Columbia International University is committed to our core value of the authority of Scripture believing the Bible functions as our authority for faith and life. Consequently, CIU is committed to a biblical understanding of human sexuality. Ephesians 5:1-3 reminds us to be imitators of Christ, walk in love, and avoid sexual immorality and impurity.

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**CIU is committed to a biblical understanding of human sexuality.**

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But the Equality Act, which has passed the House of Representatives and is under consideration in the Senate, would make it virtually impossible for Christian colleges to survive if it led to federal financial aid being denied students who choose to attend a school committed to biblical sexuality. Christian colleges would certainly agree that no one should be harassed or subjected to humiliation or

violence. The Bible teaches that we are to express this truth in love. We must not, however, abandon this truth.

Under the Equality Act as it is currently written, Christian colleges would be forced to hire people who are opposed to biblical truth since sexual orientation and gender identity have been added to the list of protected

classes under the Civil Rights Act of 1964. In some scenarios, Christian colleges would be forced to adopt the transgender agenda as it relates to residence halls, bathrooms, sports and language usage since a refusal to do so would be discrimination against a protected class. This would mean a biological man declaring himself to be a "woman" would have a right to all services and activities designated for women, and that any original concept of male and female difference would be altered. We cannot accept this principle.

So with this reality facing Christian colleges, what do we do? We are taking several steps to address these concerns:

1. We are reaffirming our commitment to teach biblical truth (John 12:48).
2. We are reaffirming that we are called to hire godly faculty, set apart for God's service.
3. We are reaffirming our commitment to teach God's design of humanity as male and female (Genesis 1:27).
4. We are developing alternative revenue streams for funding and student loans in case the government restricts religious liberty.
5. We are engaging with leaders in education and all levels of government to present a biblical worldview in love.

In the end, Christian colleges are private, voluntary religious communities where students and employees agree to live by biblical standards. We simply believe we have the right to live in harmony with God's Word without government coercion.

Please pray with me as we navigate biblical higher education in these challenging times. ■

**Dr. Mark A. Smith**  
President

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*Professor of Anthropology,  
Taylor University*



**Dr. Robin Harris ('01)**  
*Director, Center of  
Excellence in World Arts,  
Dallas International University*



**Steve Richardson ('84/'85)**  
*President, Pioneers*



**Shirin Taber ('19)**  
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