

CIT

TODAY



FALL 2016
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Photo on This Page

The photo on this page is taken from the documentary "A Promise Kept," detailing Robertson McQuilkin's care for his first wife Muriel. It was produced by CIU Communication Professor Ken Rife. To purchase a copy of the documentary contact CIU Alumni Relations at alumni@ciu.edu or phone (803) 807-5500.

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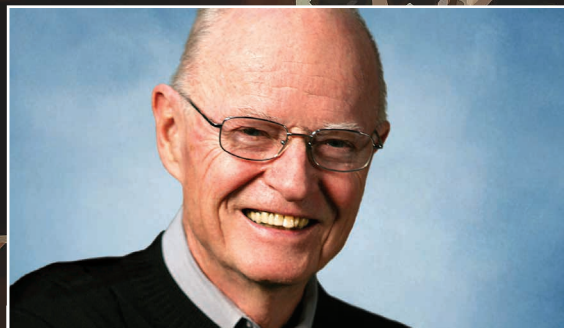
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THE FIRST WORD

Thank You for Being a Friend

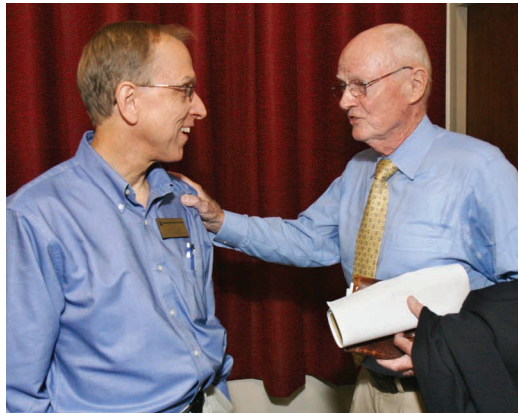
I escorted the reporter representing one of South Carolina's largest newspapers into the living room of Robertson McQuilkin. As CIU's communications manager, one of my jobs is media relations. The Rev. Billy Graham, now in his 90s, was ill, and some wondered if these were his last days. Consequently, news reporters wanted to talk to those who had rubbed shoulders with the famous evangelist. Robertson was one of them.

As we sat down for the interview, the reporter asked Robertson how he was doing. He responded, "Well, I was doing fine until I read your newspaper this morning."

(Insert awkward silence in the room here.)

With a wry smile, Robertson went on to lament an editorial in the newspaper that morning written by a local Unitarian cleric questioning the virgin birth and authority of the Scripture.

The reporter, a veteran of the religion beat, understood Robertson's biblical view of things, offered a broad smile, and her questions turned to Robertson's memories of Graham. After the interview, as the reporter and I walked out the backyard gate of the McQuilkin home, she told me how much she enjoyed the conversation. I suggested a possible future article about the many other aspects of Robertson's life. Unfortunately, that opportunity never came.



▲ *That's me celebrating with Robertson on his 83rd birthday*

While my relationship with Robertson over our 24-year acquaintance was mostly professional, there was a moment when it became pastoral. I was news director at then CIU-owned WMHK Radio in the early 2000s and struggling with some managerial decisions that were being made. One day Robertson, then CIU president emeritus, was at the station to record an interview with me. Before we got started, he sat in the studio listening to me pour out my heart about the decisions. He nodded, understood, and even agreed with my assessment of things. His kindness was what I needed at that time, and I've never forgotten it.

Then there was the time I met his wife Muriel. I was at the McQuilkin home doing a radio interview about his full-time care of Muriel, who by that time, was wheelchair bound from the advanced stages of Alzheimer's. I followed Robertson outside where she sat facing the Japanese garden he had planted for her. And while Muriel was unresponsive to him, my tape recorded picked up Robertson's tender words as he asked her to smile for me. I reminded myself that good journalists don't cry.

In 2014, I got an unusual email with an attachment from Robertson. He asked me to edit his obituary. In his humble way, he just wanted to make sure it was not too long.

Like many people, I miss him and his emails to me that would end with, "thank you, my friend."

I'm thankful that I could call Robertson a friend, and an example of a godly life to me.

Bob Holmes
CIU Today
Editor-in-Chief

Letters to the Editor:

Spring Break in Detroit

I appreciated Erica Williamson's account of spring break in Detroit (Summer 2016, "CIU Cross Country Ministers Cross-Culturally – in the USA"), particularly her conclusions:



"If I think that I am entitled to a life that is catered to my wants and needs, I will burn out when ministry gets hard. ... If I only befriend people that I naturally like, I will selfishly neglect many of the people that Jesus loves and for whom He died."

This 60-something needed to read that. Thanks!

Nancy Henrickson
Cypress, Texas

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

Dr. Michael Johnson ('94,'97)

A Calling Leads to Commissioner of Education



Every child looks forward to a "snow day," when school is cancelled because of heavy snowfall. But veteran Alaska educator and Columbia International University alumnus Dr. Michael Johnson says a snow day in Alaska has nothing to do with snow.

"We cancel school if it gets to 50 below zero," Johnson wrote in an email exchange.

The Alaska weather is just one challenge in the days ahead for Johnson who was named Alaska's commissioner of education in June. Johnson, who earned his bachelor's degree in Bible ('94), and master's degree in elementary education ('97) at CIU, has worked in Alaska as a principal, district superintendent, elementary teacher, and special education program assistant.

God's Call to Education

Johnson grew up in Rossville, Georgia, just south of Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was introduced to Alaska as a CIU student when he participated in a short-term summer missions program, and began to ponder the opportunities for village ministry in Alaska through education.

"In his wisdom, (the late) Professor Cliff Bedell assured me that serving as an educator was entirely in keeping with God's call to serve Him in ministry," Johnson wrote for a CIU publication in 2013. "Over a meal in the cafeteria, Professor Bedell graciously encouraged me to pray and follow God's leading."

Alaska's Education Challenges

Johnson says God's sovereignty as seen in the lives of fellow alumni is a great comfort as he tackles the challenges of overseeing education in Alaska.

"Alaska is going through a very challenging adjustment in its economy," Johnson wrote. "For the past few decades, we have enjoyed a government almost entirely funded from oil revenue. The dramatic drop in the price of oil and the declining amount of oil flowing through the (Alaska) pipeline have combined to create a budget crisis. At a time when Alaskans are thinking about what they are losing, I hope to encourage them by all

they are gaining when children learn."

There are also daily education challenges unique to life in Alaska. For example, many of the schools are only accessible by air or sea.

"We have students that actually fly to school each day," Johnson wrote. "Their bus stop is the local landing strip. We have schools above the Arctic Circle. We have a school on an island in the Bering Sea."

Johnson also notes that the Anchorage school district is one of the most diverse in the United States with over 90 languages spoken there.

CIU Impact

Johnson says every area of his life and career has been impacted by his time at CIU.

"Every professor I had positively impacted my spiritual development," Johnson wrote. "Where I have failed and repented, is where I neglected to apply the biblical lessons and admonishments of my professors."

Johnson makes sure he does not forget his professional roots. In 1997, he student-taught at Columbia's Harbison West Elementary School under the guidance of cooperating teacher Joyce Hamilton, the wife of CIU seminary professor emeritus Dr. Don Hamilton.

"I still wear a tie her class gave me at the end of my student teaching experience," Johnson wrote. ■

"In his wisdom, (the late) Professor Cliff Bedell assured me that serving as an educator was entirely in keeping with God's call to serve Him in ministry."

CIU News

President Bill Jones Concerned about Threats to Religious Liberty

Columbia International University President Dr. Bill Jones joined with the presidents of six other evangelical schools in South Carolina to deliver an open letter to South Carolina Governor Nikki Haley. The presidents are concerned that federal and state actions could ultimately deny their schools the ability to fulfill their faith-based missions and called for vigilance in the protection of religious institutions.

They cited as an example a California bill that as originally introduced, would have denied college students in that state the ability to participate in state grant programs if institutions were found in violation of state gender identity policies. The presidents also warned of the impact of regulatory mandates on churches and educational institutions that could force students to use bathrooms and showers with members of the opposite biological sex, even though to do so violates the privacy of students who may object on the basis of their deeply held religious values.

Gov. Haley responded with a statement that said, "South Carolina has a proud tradition of upholding religious freedom," and that she looks "forward to working with the universities to make sure we continue to honor that tradition." ■

Women's Prison Initiative Celebrates Graduation

A group of 14 female South Carolina prison inmates were encouraged to "allow other inmates into their lives" so they can share with them "the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

The message came from Peggie Johnson, a long-time mentor and professor to the women – the second cohort of female student-inmates to graduate from the CIU Prison Initiative program. Johnson was the commencement speaker at the graduation June 10 held at the Camille Griffin Graham Correctional Institution located among the sprawling state corrections facilities directly across the Broad River from the CIU campus.

The CIU Prison Initiative is a two-year, Associate of Arts degree program designed to prepare inmates for ministry within the state's prison system. Since the program began, a total of 124 male and female student-inmates have graduated and are serving as chaplain's assistants in many of the Department of Correction's 23 institutions across the state. About 1,400 South Carolina inmates are female.

It is to these women that Peggie Johnson told the cohort to "grant them access to you, to your love for God, and your love for one another, because it is written that they will know that you are His disciples because you have love for one another."

Unfortunately, CIU Prison Initiative Director Andre Melvin says that "due to institutional changes and extenuating circumstances," the CIU Prison Initiative among women is suspended for the foreseeable future. But he says CIU will still minister among the female prison population using non-credit Bible studies. The CIU Prison Initiative among the male inmates continues as normal. ■

Farnsworth Coaches at United World Games

Imagine you're the coach of a soccer team that is about to compete in an international tournament. But you've never met your players. That's the situation CIU Women's Soccer



▲ Coach Kara Farnsworth (left)

Coach Kara Farnsworth found herself in over the summer. Not only had she not met the players, the players had never met each other.

Farnsworth's reputation in collegiate soccer earned her a spot as the coach of a girls 19-and-under team in the Olympic-style United World Games played in Austria in June. The American team, known as The Stripes (for the stripes in the U.S. flag) consisted of some of the top talent among college-bound girls from across the United States.

"The good news was that by the time the tournament started they all knew each other's names," Farnsworth said with a chuckle in her voice, noting also the quick assessments she had to make to formulate a winning team.

The Stripes won their first game and finished third in the tournament. ■



Commencement Speaker Peggie Johnson

CIU Welcomes New Church Planting Chair



Dr. Victor Cuartas

CIU's College of Intercultural Studies welcomes Dr. Victor Cuartas to the faculty. Cuartas assumes the Elmer V. Thompson Chair for Missionary Church Planting that was previously occupied by Dr. Mike Barnett who went to be with the Lord in August of 2015.

Cuartas is originally from Cali, Colombia. For over 20 years he served in church planting and mission work in Colombia, North America, and North Africa. For the last 10 years, he has taught missions at Regent University. Cuartas earned a Doctor of Ministry degree from Regent and is completing a Ph.D. in Missiology through the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies (Middlesex University). Having served as the director of research for COMINHA

(Latin American mission network), Cuartas has contributed a number of scholarly articles in both English and Spanish and is the author of the book, "Empowering Hispanic Leaders."

Dr. Ed Smither, dean of the College of Intercultural Studies says that as a Latin American missiologist, Cuartas will bring an even greater global perspective on mission and church planting to CIU, and added, "I think Mike Barnett would be pleased." ■

Tilton Retires after 42 Years

As co-workers gathered around Roger Tilton to wish him well in retirement, the venue was particularly meaningful. He stood in the middle of the Ram Shack, the popular student hang out that Tilton helped transform from a campus bookstore just a few years ago.

"We tried to develop (The Ram Shack) to meet the needs of our students," the departing business manager said. "This is all about students."

Tilton held a number of staff positions on the business management side of CIU for 42 years.



Roger Tilton

Tilton's longtime supervisor, Vice President Keith Marion, noted that over the years, many students wanted to work in the bookstore under Tilton's management, even though the work was hard and the hours inconvenient. Turns out Tilton and his wife Polly were inviting the students to their house for meals.

"I learned that Roger and Polly took care of the students," Marion said. "And then I got to know some of the students who worked for Roger, and found out they became a part of his family." ■



Randy Halfacre

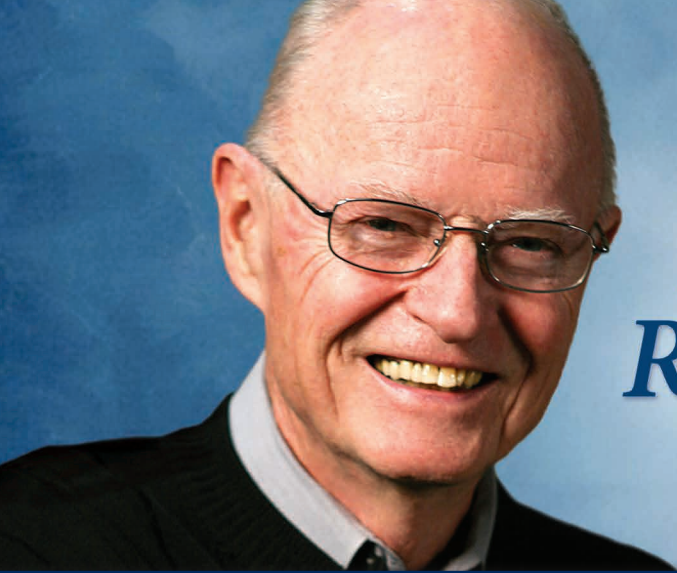
Former Mayor Named CIU Community Ambassador

Former Lexington, South Carolina mayor Randy Halfacre is CIU's new community ambassador. Halfacre served as mayor from 2004 to 2013 leading the town to become one of the fastest growing municipalities in South Carolina. He is also a former president and CEO of the Greater Lexington Chamber and Visitors Center, and assisted in the establishment of the MidState Chambers Coalition.

Halfacre's professional career includes managing business development for Lesesne Industries in West Columbia, South Carolina, and for 30 years he held a number of leadership positions in South Carolina state government, retiring as deputy director of the Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation.

At CIU, Halfacre will communicate the mission and vision of the school to the Columbia area while cultivating donors among individuals and corporations. He says he became interested in CIU after learning about the breadth of CIU's academic programs.

"I'm going to be using my contacts to broaden the understanding and awareness of CIU while generating resources to expand the mission of CIU," Halfacre said. ■



Remembering Robertson McQuilkin

Hundreds attend memorial service on CIU campus

By Melissa McCutchan and Bob Holmes

In the last months of the life of Columbia International University President Emeritus Robertson McQuilkin, when his health was declining, his close friend and former CIU Vice President John Davidson would visit him and inquire how he was doing.

"He would say, 'Terrible,'" Davidson recalled.

"I would say, terrible? What's wrong?"

"He'd say, 'I'm still here. I want to be in heaven.'"

"Well now he is," Davidson told those who gathered at a memorial service in CIU's Shortess Chapel June 4. "And we rejoice."

J. Robertson McQuilkin, who served as CIU's third president from 1968-1990, went to be with the Lord on June 2, 2016. The family welcomed hundreds of CIU alumni, faculty, students, and members of the community to celebrate McQuilkin's life.

McQuilkin was eulogized by his colleagues, friends, and children who shared about his worldwide influence among evangelicals, his deep love for his family, and his longing for his heavenly home.

"He loved extravagantly, and we're going to miss him so much," said his daughter, Amy Barber. "But we're so glad he's with Jesus."

Humble Acts of Service

McQuilkin's accomplishments were many. After graduating from Columbia Bible College (now Columbia International University) and Fuller Theological Seminary, he served as the headmaster of Ben Lippen School, and as a church planter in Japan, before returning to CIU to serve as president.

However, for all his accomplishments, those at the memorial service remembered him more for his humble acts of service. His children recalled him taking them on special trips and throwing surprise birthday parties for them; his friends remembered his faithfulness in prayer and writing letters of encouragement; his students remembered him for his energy and his desire to disciple them. And of course, those who knew him remembered his devotion to his first wife Muriel who suffered from Alzheimer's disease. His decision to resign as CIU's president to care for her full time still reverberates around the world.

Muriel - "Those years of care"

Delivering the sermon at the funeral was McQuilkin's friend of 50 years, Dr. John W.P. Oliver, a former CIU board member. Oliver was board chairman

when McQuilkin told him in 1989 that he needed to resign to care for Muriel. Oliver says he successfully talked McQuilkin out of that decision, something he regrets to this day. But he said McQuilkin came back with the same request a year later, saying: "John, if you're my real friend, don't try to talk me out of it."

That was just one experience in the life of McQuilkin that Oliver recounted correlating to McQuilkin's life verse on how the believer is transformed into the image of Christ:

*Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.
(2 Corinthians 3:17-18)*

"Change," Oliver began. "The care (for Muriel) for which he is famous – and let the Christian world not forget (it), the students who pass through here – let them not forget it – (it's) the gold standard, those years of care."

"A Spiritual Giant"

Many of those associated with CIU over the years chatted for over an hour after the service recalling the many ways McQuilkin impacted their lives.

"I remember boundless energy, rigorous intellect, and the profound respect people had for him," said current professor Dr. John Crutchfield, who as a CIU student, met with McQuilkin when he was president.

"I had lunch with him a couple of times, a couple of us guys got together, and we would just hammer him with questions, and his wisdom and the godliness was remarkable."

Under McQuilkin's leadership, CIU's enrollment doubled and seminary programs expanded.

"Mr. McQuilkin was the president who hired me," said Dr. Bryan Beyer, who is now the dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. "When I first started, I had very little experience, and ... I've always appreciated that he took a chance on me."

McQuilkin maintained a presence on CIU's campus even in his last years of life. Current students and recent graduates also fondly recall having lunch with him in the dining hall.

"Looking at the legacy he left, there's this man, this spiritual giant who's written books that I've spent hours pouring over ... and here he is just making casual conversation with me and my friends in the cafeteria," said 2016 graduate David Craft. "This school's definitely going to be missing a spiritual giant."

Finishing Well

In the course of his 88 years of life, McQuilkin spoke numerous times about the importance of ending well in careers, ministries, and all of life.

"Few, he used to tell me, finish well," said his friend John Davidson. "Sir, you finished well. You finished very well."

Editor's Note: Memorials may be made to the Robertson McQuilkin Memorial Fund at memorial.ciu.edu. View the memorial service at mcquilkinlibrary.com. ■

After the memorial service, these shared their thoughts on Robertson McQuilkin



Dr. Terry Powell, Professor of Church Ministry

Powell recalled when McQuilkin served him as an accountability partner for several months in the early 1990s, meeting together weekly for prayer. About a decade later, McQuilkin was visiting campus one day when he met Powell and told him he prayed for him that day. Powell thanked him.

A year passed and they met again. Powell thanked McQuilkin for "occasionally" praying for him.

"Oh no, you misunderstand" was McQuilkin's reply. "I pray for you every day."

"I was stunned that after all those years, he prayed for me daily," Powell said. "When someone like that dies, they are harder to replace — intercessors."

Henry Hennagan (former staff) and his wife Mary (alumna '94):

The Hennagans came to Christ through the ministry of students from CIU. Because the Hennagans are African-American, Henry especially remembers Robertson McQuilkin encouraging the admission of blacks to CIU as the South was coming out of segregation in the 1960s.

"He changed the direction of a lot of lives," Mr. Hennagan said. "I call Robertson a healing balm as he helped me understand that just because some Christians behave badly, it's not a reflection on Christ."

Mrs. Hennagan, who earned degrees in Bible and Education from CIU, says McQuilkin was helpful to her in her relationship to God.

"When I wanted to know if I was on cue with Him, I would talk to Mr. McQuilkin," Mary said. "He has been very special to me in my life."



Dr. Ed Smither, Dean of the CIU College of Intercultural Studies

Smither first heard of Robertson McQuilkin as a freshman at North Carolina State University, when he read McQuilkin's book, "The Great Omission: A Biblical Basis for World Evangelism." When he later heard that McQuilkin had stepped down as president of CIU, Smither at first thought perhaps something scandalous had happened before learning McQuilkin resigned to care for his wife Muriel.

"So those were my first two impressions of him — a love for the world and a love for his wife," Smither said. "He understood God's heart for the nations, yet realizing that none of us is so indispensable that we can't go home and cook and care for our wives. He was a real man."



Lynn Cook, member, CIU Board of Trustees

Cook became personally acquainted with Robertson McQuilkin when she became a CIU Board member in 2009, and was glad to meet the person she had only read about.

"He was so personable and could speak so easily one-on-one with you," Cook said. "He had a great sense of humor and was such a godly man."

CIU Alumnus Lowell Bailey ('52)

While a student at CIU, then Columbia Bible College, Bailey sat under the teaching of Robertson McQuilkin. The two would later both serve as missionaries and would sometimes cross paths and share about their ministries.

"He knew how to challenge you and he knew how to encourage you," Bailey said.

CIU Presidents Pay Tribute

Living CIU presidents pose with Robertson McQuilkin (from left): Bill Jones, George Murray, and Johnny Miller. Jones remembers Robertson McQuilkin on page 35.



“The school was part of his DNA ...”

—Dr. Johnny V. Miller

Lunch with Robertson

By Dr. Johnny V. Miller
CIU President 1991-1999

Robertson McQuilkin wasn't physically or emotionally ready to retire in 1990. He still simmered with energy and vision. The fact that he did retire to care for Muriel bespeaks loudly his commitment to her.

So one task my first year as the next CIU president, was to learn to take advantage of his strengths without conflict over differences in style and perspective. He was also concerned not to get in my way. He pledged not to come on campus my first year, not to interfere with the board of trustees — many his loyal friends, and to guard my back with alumni and donors.

So we met regularly to talk and build a personal friendship beyond what we had as colleagues and acquaintances for the previous 11 years when he recruited me to teach at CIU.

For our first meeting, he invited me to his house to eat. He had retired to the “McQuilkin compound” in Eau Claire, a couple of miles from campus, a corner square owned originally by his father, Robert C. McQuilkin. Eau Claire had once been an upscale suburb on the northern fringe of Columbia. But “white flight” had left it a racial enclave. Robertson didn't choose to retire there *despite* racial issues, but *because* of them.

He had upgraded the house to make it suitable to caring for Muriel after moving from the president's house on campus. He created a Japanese garden in the backyard, a place for peaceful meditation. He put up a privacy fence for protection — his car was stolen more than once, and the house broken into.

I was a bit in awe on my first visit because I was still intimidated by him. We'd spent lots of time together: He had hoped I would take over his courses so we had been team-teaching. Over those times together I learned he had high

expectations of people. I assumed he would be measuring me as long as I was president. But he went all out to set me at ease.

While we ate, Muriel sat unsmiling in her wheelchair. She occasionally took a bite when reminded. Eventually he would have to feed her, then tell her to chew and swallow — and always with tenderness and love. On subsequent visits he occasionally found someone to sit with Muriel and let me treat him, but more often he'd cook. He was a good cook, and he liked to show it off.

What I discerned that first visit was that he needed to know directly from me what was going on. Not *everything*, but the important things, so he wouldn't be dependent on rumors.

And I realized how badly I needed his historical perspective. The school was part of his DNA, and he was a primary source to help me see the significance of issues from both a corporate and historical perspective.

As we were finishing our first lunch, I was feeling increasingly headachy and weak. When I stood to leave, I was staggering. I plopped down into my chair. "Did anything happen to have sugar in it?" I asked. We didn't have dessert.

"Sugar in it?" he laughed. "Of course, I put sugar in everything!"

"I should have told you," I groaned. "I can't eat processed sugars. They make me sick." He couldn't help chuckling; he'd made me drunk on my first visit to his house.

Otherwise it was a very profitable meeting. I persuaded him to come onto campus that first year of retirement so students could meet him and hear him in Chapel. And we marked it into our schedules to meet about once a month to discuss business or share life.

Lunch often ended with a question (or was it a threat?): "Do you want me to cook with sugar next time?" ■

Dwelling Completely: What I learned about Ephesians 3:17 while living with the McQuilkins

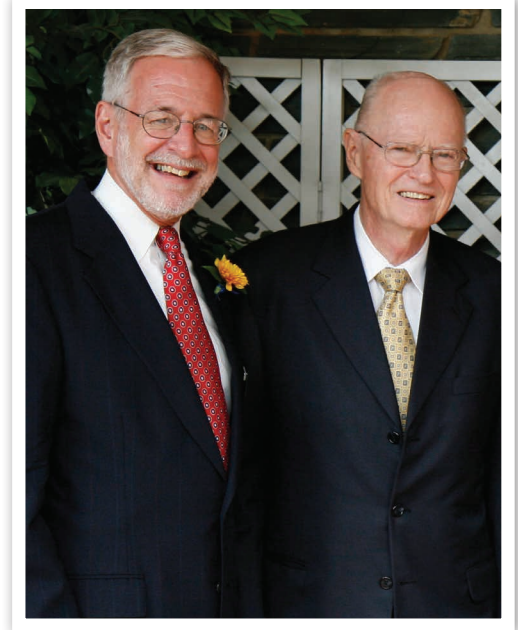
By Dr. George Murray
CIU President 2000-2006

It seems strange that the missionary apostle Paul, writing to genuine believers in Ephesus, would tell them he was praying "that Christ would dwell in your hearts through faith" (Ephesians 3:17). Didn't Christ *already* dwell in their hearts? Yes, but the Greek word translated "dwell" really means "to dwell fully and completely." Paul wasn't praying *that they would have more of Christ; he was praying that Christ would have more of them.*

While my wife and I were serving as church-planting missionaries in Italy, I was desperately trying to finish writing a master's thesis for CIU's Seminary & School of Ministry. Robertson and Muriel McQuilkin graciously invited me to return to Columbia and live (dwell) in their home for two months while I did final research and thesis completion, which I did.

The first day I was there, they showed me a comfortable room with a bed, closet, desk and chair. They said, "This is *your* room. Please make yourself at home." That same day, Mrs. McQuilkin took me to the kitchen, opened the refrigerator, and said, "You can have anything you see in here. Just make yourself at home." She baked cookies every week, and showed me where she kept the cookies, telling me, "These are for you to eat whenever you want. Make yourself at home!" About a week later, she took me to the laundry room and showed me the washer, dryer and detergent, and said: "This is for you to use whenever you want. Just make yourself at home!" One day, when the guest bathroom in the hall was occupied, Robertson took me through the master bedroom to the master bathroom and said, "Whenever the hall bathroom is occupied, just come in here and use our master bathroom. Make yourself at home!" Every Friday night, the McQuilkin family, Dad, Mom and kids, would have a family "pow wow" by all sitting cross-legged and shoeless, in a circle, on the king-sized bed in the master bedroom. I was warmly invited to join them, which I did. Then, one day, Robertson took me to a "hidden" closet in the house where he stored all his personal tools, all neatly categorized and labeled. It was obvious that this was "private territory" that he guarded jealously. But he said to me, "If you ever need a tool to fix anything, feel free to come to this closet and take whatever you need. Just make yourself at home."

What's my point in telling you this? My point is, that from the day I entered the McQuilkin house to "dwell" there for two months, that house never got more of me; but as time went on, I got more of the house. From that experience I learned the importance of having Christ "dwell in me fully" by yielding every corner and closet of my life to Him, just like the generous McQuilkins opened every part of their home to me. ■





LOVE STORY

ROBERTSON & MURIEL

IN ROBERTSON'S OWN WORDS

THE RESIGNATION SPEECH HEARD AROUND THE WORLD

Google the name Robertson McQuilkin, and many of the top hits will link to his resignation speech from CIU, then called Columbia Bible College (CBC) and Seminary. In 1990, after 22 years as president of CBC, McQuilkin announced he would resign to devote full time to Muriel, his wife of 40 years who was suffering from Alzheimer's disease. With the introduction of the internet and social media, his words from 26 years ago, continue to be shared and reverberate around the world:

I haven't in my life experienced easy decision making on major decisions. But one of the simplest and clearest decisions I've had to make is this one, because circumstances dictated it. ...

Muriel now, in the last couple of months, seems to be almost happy when with me, and almost never happy when not with me. In fact, she seems to feel trapped, becomes very fearful, sometimes almost terror. And when she can't get to me there can be anger; she's in distress. But when I'm with her, she's happy and contented. And so, I must be with her at all times. ...

You see it's not only that I promised in sickness and in health till death do us part; and I'm a man of my word. But as I have said ... it's the only fair thing. She sacrificed for me for 40 years to make my life possible. So, if I cared for her for 40 years, I'd still be in debt.

However, there's much more. It's not that I have to, it's that I get to. I, I love her very dearly, and you can tell it's not easy to talk about it in public. She's a delight. It's a great honor to care for such a wonderful person.

WHAT MURIEL TAUGHT ROBERTSON ABOUT LOVE

In an era of broken promises, McQuilkin's simple commitment to his wife led to dozens of media interviews over the years, his authorship of the book, "A Promise Kept," a widely circulated Christianity Today article, "Living by Vows," and a popular message "Love in the Midst of Alzheimer's," heard nationwide on the "Focus on the Family" radio program:

... Muriel taught ... (me) that (love) is enduring. (The psalmist) David asked the question about who is God's companion, who is acceptable to Him? And His answer, "Those who keep their promises, even when it hurts," Psalm 15; or another translation, "Those who keep their promises no matter how much it may cost." So, it's a matter of integrity, of commitment – commitment to God and to one another. Love feelings may blaze up and die down, but commitment is the bond that holds. Commitment without the warm feelings however, isn't much fun. The biblical model Muriel taught me is that true love endures.

And after Muriel was abed, she had lost all her abilities to speak, hadn't spoken in a year and she couldn't feed herself; she couldn't stand; she couldn't walk. And it was Valentine's Eve and I was on my Exercycle at the foot of her bed. And I said, "Honey, I just read that you and I are victims. We don't feel like victims, do we?" Now she didn't talk, but I talked to her. ... And ... I told her I loved her and I said, "You love me, don't you?" And all



▲ Robertson and Muriel McQuilkin

"So, it's a matter of integrity, of commitment – commitment to God and to one another."

of a sudden, she opened her eyes and smiled and for the first time in a year, she spoke. And she said, "Love, love, love." I jumped off the cycle and ran around and embraced her and I said, "You really do love me, don't you?" Well, she didn't know what to do to answer that, but she wanted to respond so she said, "I'm nice." Last words that she spoke. ■

God Opened A New Chapter

In 2005, God opened a new joyful chapter in McQuilkin's life with the gift of Deborah Jones, his second wife, a nursing professor at the University of South Carolina.

"What Do We Do Now?"

I was privileged to be the pianist for the wedding of Robertson McQuilkin to his second wife Deb held in CIU's Shortess Chapel. I had a great view of the bride, groom, and pastor from behind them on the stage.

The vows were coming to an end. Dr. Bill Barton said, "I now pronounce you man and wife." I knew from the rehearsal that he was supposed to add, as usual, "you may kiss the bride," but for whatever reason, Dr. Barton said nothing. There was this strange silence while Robertson and Deb stared at each other. As if to fill the awkwardness, Robertson stuck out his right hand to Deb, as if to shake hands with her. The audience roared in laughter, and Dr. Barton quickly said, "Oh yeah, you can kiss the bride." Robertson embraced his beloved, beautiful wife and planted a good one on her, until the pastor pretended to pull them apart and said, "OK, that's enough!" More delighted laughter rang out in this joy-saturated ceremony that united two wonderful saints in marriage.

—CIU Professor Dr. Shirl Schiffman



▲ Robertson and Deb McQuilkin

The McQuilkin Memory Book



Me and Dad

Memories of "Dad"

Dad was always busy, and yet he carved out time to spend with all six of us kids. Sometimes it was just two of us. Before we turned 12, and would need an adult airplane ticket, he would take us someplace exciting. For our birthdays, we could choose a party with a lot of friends, or a sleepover with one friend, or a date with Mom and Dad. We always chose to go out with Mom and Dad – eating out and spending time with them individually were both rare events because there were so many of us! We got the birthday party, too, but just with family – which was boisterous enough with eight people.

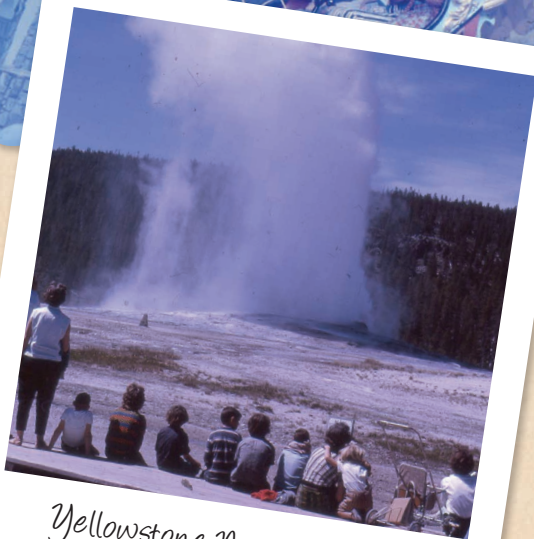
Having six kids did not deter Dad from planning epic trips. There was the road trip across the United States when I was three years old, back when you could throw six kids in the back of a station wagon to sleep. We camped all along the way and stopped at major sites. Dad made camping an adventure, but it was probably the only way we could afford to travel so much with such a big family.

We camped in Japan, too – on the edge of a misty lake with a stone arch high above the tree tops – where we took an inflatable rubber boat to explore the opposite coast. There was a camping trip on the beach where we used the rubber dinghy to investigate off-shore stone formations with tiny pools full of live shellfish and sea anemones. We explored abandoned tunnels where the Japanese guarded the coast during World War II.

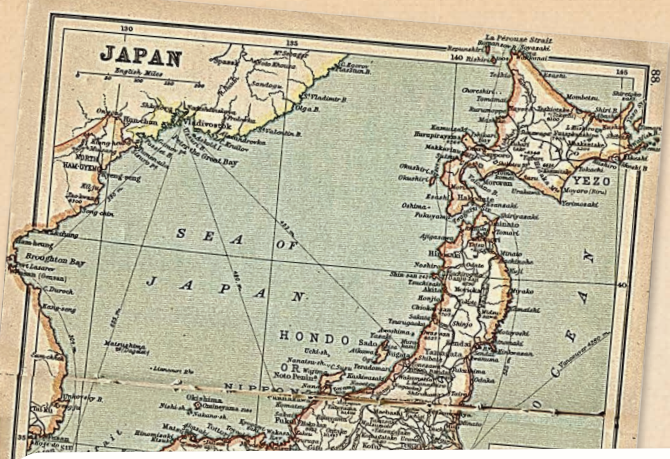
After our older siblings had left home, Dad took the younger half of the family across the United States again to see Yellowstone, Yosemite and Grand Canyon National Parks. When we were canoeing the Snake River, the current was so fast that it slammed the canoe into a log jam. The canoe swamped, and I grabbed Dad's paddle as it floated by. He claims I saved his life when I offered the end of the paddle to pull him back to the canoe.

For all of these trips, and in between, Dad took lots of photos and made photo albums of the family – enough to fill a station wagon! Missionary kids can't always go back to their childhood homes, but with our family albums, we could always go back for a visit. We miss Dad, but we can relive many good times with him through his photographs.

- Amy Barber, daughter of Robertson McQuilkin



Yellowstone National Park



Impact in Japan

Robertson McQuilkin served as a missionary to Japan for 12 years. He left behind a legacy and an impact that continues today.

The first Japanese church that McQuilkin pastored was Tsuchiura Grace Church from October 1957 to April 1962. Today, it is one of the largest churches in Japan. The senior pastor is Katsuhiko Ken Seino who wrote the following about McQuilkin:

He had a great passion for Japanese people and was zealous to reach out to them. One day he saw his reflection in a show window glass and whispered sadly, "Oh I wish I had black eyes and black hair like the Japanese, so I might reach out to more Japanese people."

Because of his love for Japanese people, during his six years in Tsuchiura, 38 Japanese people were baptized by him. Some of them are still serving the Lord as elders of the church today. His passion for Japanese people has left an impact on all members of the church, allowing Tsuchiura Grace Church to be very active in evangelism in various ways to this day.

In 2005, when we celebrated our 50th anniversary, Robertson McQuilkin visited the Church and encouraged us. On that occasion we expressed our deep appreciation and gave our sincere honor to him. Thank you, McQuilkin-sensei (Teacher).

Other testimonies from Japan:

I met The Rev. McQuilkin in 1958 at Tsuchiura Grace Church when I was 16 years old. I found a poster announcing a gospel meeting in the town, and went to the church. It was the first time I attended a church in my life.

Later in the day at his house, he eagerly talked to me about Jesus Christ. As a result, I believed in Jesus Christ as my Savior. After that, I decided to dedicate my whole life to Jesus, learned the Bible and theology at Japan Christian College, and then became a pastor at Japan Evangelical Alliance Church. I am currently engaged in church planting in Nagano after pastoral ministry at three different churches.

I praise the name of the LORD who sent The Rev. McQuilkin to Japan for His mission. —Tomoyuki Hirota

In 1966, I was a college student in Tokyo, lonely and with no special purpose in life. Mr. Robertson McQuilkin, who lived in the neighborhood with his family, had started a church in a small Japanese-style house. And I found my way to the congregation the following year. Mr. McQuilkin spoke excellent Japanese, but I was a doubting Thomas, or rather, my main interest was in English classes on weekdays, and the good, friendly family of eight. "Why are they here?" I wondered.

In August, I reluctantly participated in a Bible camp on his advice. It was toward the end of the camp that I finally decided to accept Christ as the Savior with joy. Then I knew the reason why the McQuilkins came to Japan: to make Him known.

Even after he returned to the United States in 1968, I had the privilege to meet him several times. He was undoubtedly the most influential man in my life. And I thank God for having known him. —Toru Iijima

I met Mr. McQuilkin when I was 13 years old. He came to our junior high school to teach English. After the study, he said to us, "Come to the church. So I soon went to the church, and heard the message of the Bible. He told me about Jesus Christ (who) hung on the cross for me. I believed the Lord Jesus. My parents were saved too. And after some years, so was my daughter.

Thank you very much for coming to Japan, Mr. McQuilkin! —Hiromi Matsutani



Robertson McQuilkin



Ben Lippen Headmaster

In 1952, Robertson McQuilkin became the headmaster of Ben Lippen School, CIU's Christian school and conference center, then located in Asheville, North Carolina.

Ben Lippen was going through hard times and the board of directors had decided to close it. But R.C. McQuilkin, Robertson's father and CIU's first president, decided to give Robertson a chance to turn around Ben Lippen. Robertson once summed up the situation this way:

"No training, no experience, 25 years old, so they sent me up there. My father never told me, but what I think happened was, that he had in mind he'd been running the place from Columbia anyway, so he might as well do it through his son. But that summer, he died, so I was pretty much on my own."

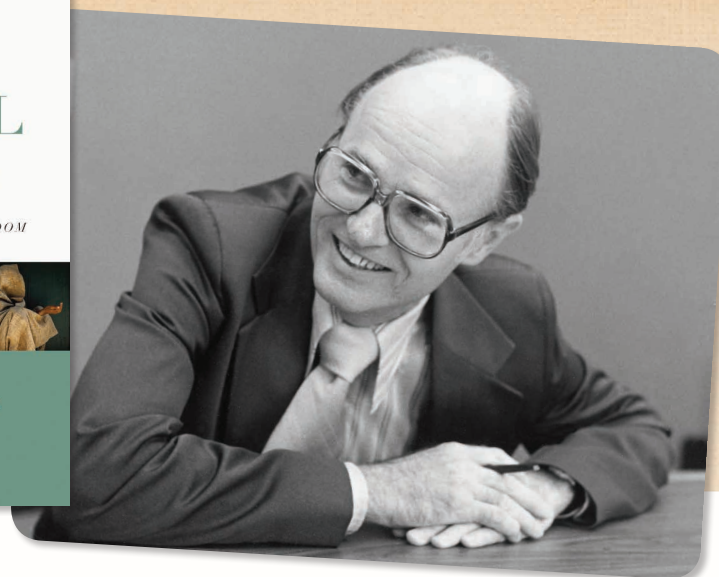
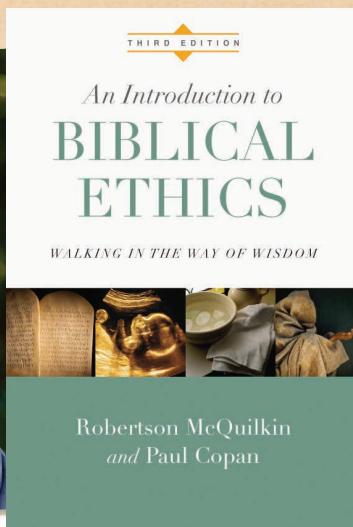
On his own except for four other CIU graduates who made the trip to Asheville with him: Bob Weeber, Wayne Doll, Tony Fortosis and Marlin Bolar.

Bolar today is 88 years old and lives in Tucson, Arizona, where he retired after 29 years as a science professor at California State University, Sacramento. He jokes that he was "The Science Department" at Ben Lippen because he was the only science teacher and had to use his skills as a craftsman to build science labs. But despite such challenges, Bolar says Robertson McQuilkin kept things positive, putting the school on more solid footing over the next five years.

"Robertson was a man of great faith," Bolar said in a phone interview. "He was a very stabilizing influence. When he was in a bad situation, he was rock solid."

That included discipline of the students.

"He was always warm and very friendly toward the students," Bolar added. "The Lord sent him there. That was his ministry. He embraced it totally."



McQuilkin's Student becomes his Co-Author

Very few students find themselves later in life publishing a book with their former professor. But Christian apologist Dr. Paul Copan did just that.

Copan earned his bachelor's degree from CIU in 1984. Today he is the Pledger Family Chair of Philosophy and Ethics at Palm Beach Atlantic University. In 2014, he collaborated with Robertson McQuilkin on the third edition of McQuilkin's book, "An Introduction to Biblical Ethics – Walking in the Way of Wisdom."

When Copan first heard the news of McQuilkin's death, his thoughts brought him back to CIU and "sitting on (Robertson's) back porch on faculty row," Copan recalled referring to a row of houses that used to line the road to The Pointe, CIU's scenic overlook.

"His wife Muriel said, 'Come anytime if you want to get away and sit on the back porch.' I did that on a regular basis," Copan said. "That would often lead to conversations with her and with Robertson."

But little did Copan know then, he would later collaborate on a book with Robertson.

"It was a high honor, certainly a great privilege, to work together with Robertson McQuilkin," Copan said. "(He was) well-regarded worldwide and had a marvelous reputation as a Christian statesman. Yet someone who was humble and gracious."

Copan says there were a few ethical issues that he and McQuilkin disagreed upon. But McQuilkin wanted to include their differing viewpoints in the book. Copan remembers McQuilkin saying:

"We can have differing viewpoints. Rather than that being a detraction from the book, I think that can actually benefit the book. You have two authors committed to the same evangelical faith, and yet don't always see eye to eye. It actually shows a spirit of graciousness to disagree agreeably, and to support one another in this endeavor."

Copan says that once they finished the book, McQuilkin bequeathed the project to him.

"I was very, very heartened by the fact that he trusted me with this, and that he used the term 'bequeathing' this book to you," Copan said. "That was very, very gratifying."

It was a professional and personal relationship that began on the McQuilkin back porch.

I'm grateful for all the memories of that sweet friendship and the partnership in the gospel over the years," Copan said.

"It was a high honor, certainly a great privilege, to work together with Robertson McQuilkin. —Paul Copan



David Morrison (left) with Robertson McQuilkin just seconds away from WMHK going on the air for the first time.



Robertson McQuilkin, the Broadcaster

Robertson McQuilkin was instrumental in CIU's establishment of two Christian radio stations. The first broadcast of WMHK in Columbia was in 1976, and in the 1980s under McQuilkin, the application process for WRCM in Charlotte, North Carolina began.

Robertson McQuilkin never wanted a radio station at Columbia International University. He thought it was not central to the school's core purpose of education.

A fly on the wall of the CIU Board Room may have overheard alternative views we'll never know about. Four board members were already involved in radio broadcasting.

Whether it was this CIU group or the Columbia Christian businessmen who asked McQuilkin to start the station, he agreed WMHK could be a good idea — provided it would in some measure be evangelistic.

McQuilkin initially resisted a suggested proposal to increase from an 18- to a 24-hour broadcast schedule. "Christians should be asleep at such times," he said. I responded with anecdotes about truck drivers, emergency first responders, nursing mothers and elderly insomniacs but also with a 27-page study showing dramatic statistical advantages for 24-hour schedules regarding audience growth and listener loyalty. McQuilkin finally decided, "I can see you really want this; I don't need to read all 27 pages!"

Perhaps in heaven it will be revealed as to whether McQuilkin's evangelistic wishes were especially fulfilled because of those overnight hours which he permitted.

Upon his resignation from CIU, McQuilkin was asked about highlights during his 22 years as president. He told "Columbia Quarterly" magazine: "I never would have predicted the impact of WMHK and it has been a very pleasant surprise."

On Dec. 19, 2014 the CIU board affirmed that in some measure McQuilkin had been right: broadcasting is not CIU's core mission. In the increasingly competitive media environment it would be better for CIU to hand off the broadcasting properties to another Christian broadcaster, the K-LOVE radio network. But not before CIU had ministered to the greater Columbia area for 38 years and in Charlotte for 21 years, through radio.

—David Morrison, founding general manager of WMHK



“He had an ability to communicate deep theological truth in relevant, accessible language. —Shirl Schiffman”



Are the Absent Safe with You?

In Robertson McQuilkin’s writings and often in his speaking, he would address how Christians talk about others. His thoughts seem even more relevant in a world where many feel entitled to say anything about anyone through social media.

I have consulted with multiple congregations in the past 10 years split into painful division because of emails being forwarded beyond the original intended author. Here I will just paraphrase an experience Robertson shared from his early days as a missionary in Japan with his wife Muriel:

We were the new missionaries and the more experienced couple had come to dinner to welcome us. It turned into a painful evening of them “helping us” by pointing out failures and weaknesses of all of the other missionaries. They left that evening with a date for another dinner being set and I was not looking forward to another evening of roasting co-workers.

Muriel assured me she would make sure the next evening’s conversation went differently. Our home had a large wall with no pictures on it. She made a small cross stitch and hung it on the wall. They arrived and noticed the new addition to our decor. The wife walked over, read it, and then called her husband over to read it:

The absent are safe with us.

(Robertson paused like a good stand-up comedian and then said), “It was one the quietest dinners we had ever had.”

Are the absent safe with you?

—Dr. Roy King is a former CIU professor and church consultant www.royking.org

Schiffman: A professional and personal relationship

CIU Professor of Ministry Studies Dr. Shirl Schiffman assisted Robertson McQuilkin on a number of writing projects. She remembers him as “no-nonsense, very straightforward, sometimes even blunt in conversation, and at the same time warm and outward focused.”

“He looked you in the eye and connected with you,” Schiffman said. “He could also be very, very funny.”

She also described him as one of the best speakers and writers she has known.

“He had an ability to communicate deep theological truth in relevant, accessible language,” Schiffman said. “More than any other theologian I know of, McQuilkin was able to make what it means to be in Christ — to actually have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ — not just understandable, but real for the people of God.”

Schiffman also personally witnessed McQuilkin’s integrity after his resignation from the presidency of CIU to care for Muriel, his first wife who suffered from Alzheimer’s disease.

“I visited him quite a few times after he stepped down and Muriel’s Alzheimer’s grew worse,” Schiffman said. “You would leave with tears in your eyes, not because her condition was so sad, but because his love for her was so evident, and the love between them was so evident. It was amazing.”

Schiffman also knew McQuilkin’s passion to see the world reached for Christ. She says McQuilkin returned from 12 years of missionary work in Japan “because he had the opportunity to lead CIU that has sent out thousands of missionaries all over the world.”

“The last sermon I heard him give was a strong call that the needs are still great, and God’s people must care about the salvation of people to the ends of the earth just as God does,” Schiffman said.

ACADEMICS

A Journey to Hope Healing the Traumatized Spirit

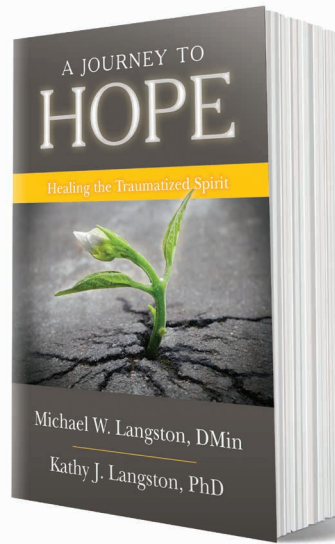
Columbia International University professor of Chaplain Ministries, Dr. Michael Langston understands those who struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder. After serving as a Navy chaplain in three wars, he has suffered from it too. That's why he joined with his wife, Dr. Kathy J. Langston, a professional communication professor at the University of South Carolina, to write the book, "A Journey to Hope," published by Lampion Press. Langston opens up his heart about PTSD in this Q&A with CIU Today:

In what ways have you been personally affected by post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)?

In January 2009 I was diagnosed with moderate to severe PTSD resulting from experiences in three yearlong combat tours in the First Gulf War, Afghanistan and Iraq. I had direct experiences with combat, the sight of horrific injuries, death and dying, and the secondary traumatization that comes from listening to countless stories of the warriors involved in the direct hand-to-hand nature of combat. Secondly, my family was also affected as they watched and experienced the aftermath of my traumatization when I returned home. So, in many ways, this became a family trauma as they observed firsthand, the impact of war and its aftermath lived out in my post-war life.

What prompted you to write about PTSD?

As my wife, Kathy and I read many books and journal articles concerning PTSD, we were continually struck by the absence of a Christian focus for healing the spiritual trauma caused by PTSD. Some books focused on mental and physical healing



Michael and Kathy Langston ▲

while others offered spiritual answers from Eastern religions or from a harsh, judgmental Christian perspective. Our experience with spiritual healing was through a loving God and His Son, which we wanted to share with others. We address the issues of PTSD from a family perspective, providing a spiritual road map to recovery for both the wounded veteran and their family.

What is your wife's role in the co-authorship of the book?

My wife is not only the co-author of the book, in her effort to be actively involved in the healing process of the PTSD diagnosis, she became an expert in PTSD. As we both prayed, read and searched for healing paths, we became knowledgeable of what was working

and what was not working. Our faith in each other and in Christ grew as we walked the dark, lonely road of recovery and healing. The most powerful thing we found was that our God was with us through the whole ordeal. A strong component to healing was the physical presence and support of my wife and children.

What are the outward manifestations of PTSD?

Some of the more common signs and symptoms of PTSD include recurring memories or flashback, feelings of guilt and shame, feelings of being on edge, sleeplessness, loss of interest in normal activity, feeling numb, stress and anxiety that brings on anger, rage, and irritability. An important component to remember is that different people react to trauma differently. These symptoms may not surface for many months or years, and may come and go. If these symptoms do not go away within a few months of the trauma, one should seek medical assistance immediately.

What are the first steps to recovery?

The very first step for me was to admit that something was wrong; there was a wound and I needed assistance. This was very difficult for me because I was a Navy captain. I was a commanding officer and senior chaplain. I remember thinking, "These kind of leaders do not get injured this way: What's wrong with me?" My irrational fear was that I would be seen as being a failure, broken and weak. I knew somewhere in my mind that this line of thinking was false, but it was what I felt at the time. I had to come to terms with the struggle going on in my mind and understand that this diagnosis did not mean that I was an outcast that others would avoid.

I finally sought assistance from a Navy physician who immediately brought me under the care of Navy medical authorities. Additionally, I strongly engaged my relationship with God as I traveled the road through "the dark night of the soul" to physical and spiritual healing. ■

“Statistics show that students who major in philosophy in undergrad will rise higher in career advancement in the first year than any other degree.”

—Dr. Glenn Gentry



Philosophy: Offering More Than Many Realize

By Melissa McCutchan, CIU Student Writer

A new undergraduate major at Columbia International University may surprise some people for its academic and career possibilities.

The Philosophy program, formerly only offered as a minor, is beneficial to students who intend to pursue graduate or seminary degrees, but is also foundational for many careers that only require a bachelor's degree.

Program Director Dr. Glenn Gentry says the Philosophy major is designed to prepare students for entrance into various graduate school programs by emphasizing critical thinking and writing.

“Essentially, it’s taking the Christian narrative into the areas of academics and professional training, trying to ground our people well in their Christian identity and give them good skills,” Gentry said.

Students may choose from three tracks: pre-law, pre-seminary, or general preparation for graduate school. However, Gentry expects CIU’s Philosophy program graduates to be able to flourish in the working world even if they choose not to pursue advanced degrees.

“Statistics show that students who major in philosophy in undergrad will rise higher in career advancement in the first year than any other degree,” Gentry said. “If you’ve worked hard in an undergrad philosophy program, you can probably write pretty well, you can probably think pretty well, and you’re probably going to do very well when you get into the real world.”

During the program, Philosophy students will intern in law or seminary offices, or they will present a paper at an academic conference. Students will take many classes that are already

offered under the Humanities program, and will also take some new classes, such as Philosophy of Science and Philosophy of Law.

Gentry says some students are hesitant to major in philosophy because they’re concerned it will challenge their worldview.

“This type of philosophy program is intended to strengthen traditional Christianity, it’s not meant to challenge and change that belief,” Gentry said. “It’s meant to strengthen students’ Christian worldview so that they can compete anywhere in the world. They can go into a secular law school and maintain their faith.”

After taking several introductory philosophy courses at CIU, junior Lance Kaminer switched to the Philosophy major because he wanted to develop his mind and prepare for graduate school.

“One should not ask, ‘What will my studies do for me?’, instead one should ask ‘What will my studies do to me?’” Kaminer said. “It is about allowing Philosophy to grow, teach, and challenge you in a way that another major (cannot).”

Professor Gentry says the Philosophy program offers ambitious goals for students. He says it aims to produce students who are excellent thinkers and communicators, who will both score well on graduate school entrance exams and be able to defend their faith in secular contexts.

“We’re stepping out into the mainstream, but we’re doing it in the way that (secular colleges) can’t do it,” Gentry said. “We’re doing it with deep foundational beliefs. You need a Christian narrative to hold (philosophy) together, and really make sense of psychology and science and history and draw it all together into one narrative.” ■

ATHLETICS

Seeking God First

*New Women's Head Basketball Coach Sets Priorities
By Melissa McCutchan, CIU Student Writer*

When it comes to basketball, CIU's new women's head coach has an impressive record. Temple Elmore scored 1,599 points in her college career at the College of Charleston, earning her a place in the college's hall of fame. She was named an All-District player from 1983-85 and she was an NAIA All-American. She has played and coached in 12 countries.

However, Elmore doesn't talk much about her athletic credentials. She'd rather talk about how her relationship with Christ began when she was a junior in high school, or about how God called her to coach basketball in 1989. She'd rather tell you about how she wants the CIU Lady Rams to know Christ and to tell others about Him.

"I know that God has placed a call on me to coach, to help young ladies to be able to understand how to get the spiritual into the game of basketball," Elmore said.

Elmore came to CIU in 2014 when the team's former head coach, Tammy Holder, invited her to be an assistant coach. When Holder left her position at the end of the 2015-16 season to care for her parents, Elmore took her place.

"Her credentials are excellent," Athletics Director Kim Abbott said of Elmore. "In addition, because we had worked together in prior years with her as our assistant coach, we knew that her heart and her godly life was perfect for CIU."

Elmore is committed to building flexible, well-rounded athletes. She believes each player should be able to play each position and stresses conditioning so that they will be in top shape for competition.

"(The women's basketball program) is relatively new, and I understand that when you start a program, it's not always where you want it to be," Elmore said. "It's still in a building stage. You start where you can and you keep building."

Elmore also has high spiritual expectations for her players. She wants them to grow in their relationship with Christ and make an impact wherever they go.

"I don't think that there is a 'secular' area in our lives, or there shouldn't be," Elmore said. "Everything to me should be about the Kingdom of God, so it's my goal to be able to help the players understand what it means to play to honor (and) glorify Christ and to expand the Kingdom."



◀ CIU Women's
Basketball Coach
Temple Elmore

"Everything to me should be about the Kingdom of God, so it's my goal to be able to help the players understand what it means to play to honor (and) glorify Christ and to expand the Kingdom."

The 2016-2017 season is only the team's fourth — so Elmore encourages fans to show the team grace as they grow.

"I don't know how quickly we will develop as a program, but know that we will be seeking to honor God in all that we do," Elmore said. "Be patient with my players and allow them to make some mistakes and grow. Know that we're going the right direction, seeking God first." ■

CIU Ram Makes an Impact on Youth

Damian Hurta Becomes Coach for a Week
By Bob Holmes

Damian Hurta now understands what he puts his basketball coach through when he doesn't follow directions. The Columbia International University Rams sophomore guard/forward became a coach for a week when he took a leadership role in the "One Died for All" basketball camp sponsored by Urban Discoveries Ministries. About 70 boys from ages 12-16 took part in the camp held on the CIU campus this summer.

"I was telling (CIU) Coach (Marshall) Teague, 'I feel your pain, when you ask us to do something and we don't do it right, and it frustrates you,'" Hurta said during an interview after a couple of days of coaching the youngsters.

According to Urban Discoveries the goal of the camp was "to provide a way of glorifying our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, through the game of basketball." CIU's Men's Assistant Basketball Coach Danny Reese was the co-camp director.

The campers were broken up into teams, with Hurta saying his team needed to learn teamwork because they weren't passing the ball and were losing. Hurta, a Sports Management major, blames the pros in the NBA for setting a ball-hogging bad example.

"They watch the NBA. That just brainwashes them," Hurta lamented.

That concern carries over to the spiritual side, something central to the ministry of Urban Discovery Executive Director Ronnie McAdoo and his wife Janet who assists him. They played basketball at Old Dominion in the late '70s and early '80s. And that's why their son, James Michael McAdoo of the NBA's Western Conference Champion Golden State Warriors, was asked to drop by and speak to the campers.

He told them that as a freshman basketball player at the University of North Carolina, he put idols in his life ahead of God.

"I started partying. I started drinking. I started having sex. All of that. I loved to party," the younger McAdoo told the campers seated in front of him on the CIU gym floor. "Partying was one of my idols."

But after his parents confronted him about his lifestyle, McAdoo told God he "blew it."



▲ CIU Rams sophomore Damian Hurta reviews the results of a free throw contest with a camper at the "One Died for All" basketball camp.

"The world is going to put these idols in our lives that are going to steer us away from the Lord," McAdoo continued. "But realize you are on this earth for a bigger purpose, and that's to serve God."

Meanwhile, Hurta was glad to see a big name like James Michael McAdoo set an example for the campers.

"I like the way that he was down to earth and didn't think that he was better than anyone else," Hurta said.

Hurta himself had the whole week to set an example to the youngsters. If he had one message for them, what would it be?

"As much as we love winning, it's not all about winning," Hurta said. "In everything that you do, and in everything that you have, give all the glory to God, because without Him you have nothing." ■



▲ James Michael McAdoo of the NBA's Western Conference Champion Golden State Warriors spoke to the campers.

CAMPUS LIFE

TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLGAME!



Take Me Out to the Ballgame

CIU Night with the Columbia Fireflies
By Michael A. Lanier and Bob Holmes

The Columbia International University student body knows how to cheer loudly – even when the home team is not the CIU Rams.

This time the home team was the Columbia Fireflies playing in their inaugural season as the capital city's newest Class-A minor league baseball team, an affiliate of the New York Mets. The students were joined by CIU faculty, staff and a few alumni to make up a large cheering section of about 300 people Aug. 30 at the new Spirit Communications Park in downtown Columbia.

"I loved the game, and I loved the fellowship," said sophomore Daniel Wolff among the CIU fans located just behind first base.

Freshmen such as David Atkinson said the game was an opportunity to get to know upperclassmen

"I enjoyed hanging out with my new friends," Atkinson said.

As the large video screen beyond the left-center field fence rolled the names of organizations in attendance, an especially loud cheer went up when CIU's name appeared.

"The CIU Fireflies game was a night when community was built, friendship was shared, and the joy of the Lord was shown to Columbia," said junior Caroline Crabtree.

"I'm hanging out with the big-timers," said Dr. Wayne

Rasmussen, director of CIU's Sports Management program, speaking of both the Fireflies and those around him. "I'm having a great time, and I'm trying not to get hit by a foul ball."

Perhaps the highlight of the evening for CIU came in the pre-game ceremonies when Dean of Students Rick Swift threw out the ceremonial first pitch. The pitch was a strike, sending a rousing response through the CIU section.

"Rick Swift has a future in professional baseball," said Dr. Bill Jones, president of CIU.

The only disappointment of the night was the final score. After the Fireflies came from behind to score six runs in the fifth inning, they were defeated by the West Virginia Power in 10 innings 7-6. ■

Dean of Students Rick Swift throws ceremonial first pitch.



A Healthier Community through House Collective

Residence Life house system brings unity on campus
By Janai Tedder

Leaves aren't the only thing changing on CIU's campus this fall as the Director of Residence Life, David Blanchard, kicked off the year by implementing a new dormitory housing system, the House Collective. Under this new arrangement, freshman live alongside the upperclassmen in a unified house associated with the six existing residence halls.

After coming on staff in June 2015, Blanchard made it a priority to get a feel for where students are in their journey at CIU. After talking to students and the Residence Life team, Blanchard says everyone agreed it was time for something new that would bring the campus together.

"We wanted to keep all the best parts of the first year experience but build on that so that the second, third and fourth year experiences were just as strong," Blanchard said.



▲ Freshmen through seniors get together in the Quad for volleyball.



◀ The House of Dignitas won the House Throwdown championship title with their Disney princesses meet CIU routine.

Graduate student Elizabeth Stroud, a member of the House of Fidelitas fills her plate during the House Throwdown picnic. ▼



Commuter students and students living in Pine View Apartments are also assigned to a house. Each house is named for a virtue, and has its own crest and Bible verse associated with its virtue. The virtues, in Latin, are: Fidelitas, Dignitas and Veritas for the women; Virtus, Justitia, and Sapientia for the men. It's hoped that traditions will develop at each house that will be honored by future students.

"The House Collective gives students a great way to connect with others at CIU and catalyze new energy and enthusiasm," said Rachel Joung, an RA in the House of Fidelitas.

Blanchard and the Residence Life team have been overwhelmed at the support and acceptance of the House Collective, and the first annual House Throwdown competition at the beginning of the school year.

"From helping decorate the hall, to eating meals in the cafeteria with new girls, to getting pumped about the Throwdown, these students have been a blessing and a gift of God's faithfulness as they catch hold of the vision with me and the Res Life team," Joung said.

Grant Shaver, a junior, believes the House Collective has given him opportunities

to meet other students, particularly freshmen, and build new friendships.

"It's a lot easier now that we can just walk into their rooms and get to know each other rather than going into a different building," Shaver said. "There's a better sense of community and we're a lot closer together ... pushing each other further in our Christian walk."

Student Caroline Crabtree says she has seen a significant change on campus especially as students mix with classes other than their own.

"When I started my sophomore year, I remember feeling shut off from the other classes because we didn't have much interaction," said Crabtree, a junior. "Now, there are freshman, sophomores and seniors right across my hall, creating more opportunities for community building and fellowship." ■



▲ William and Charlotte Cassels holding a resolution dedicating the Cassels Residence Hall in their honor.

Residence Hall Named for Cassels

By Bob Holmes

The Columbia International University men's residence hall that faces west has never had a real name – except West. But that changed on Sept. 8 when it was announced at the end of a Chapel service that the hall is now named Cassels Residence Hall in honor of a couple who have been generous, faithful CIU supporters.

William T. Cassels Jr., the president of Southeastern Freight Lines in Lexington, South Carolina, and his wife Charlotte had surprised looks on their faces as they were called to the stage of Shortess Chapel following a message by their son Tobin Cassels, the chairman of Southeastern Freight Lines and a CIU board member.

Concerned that the humility of the elder Cassels would keep them from accepting the honor, CIU President Bill Jones invited the couple to campus to hear their son give the Chapel message, but told them nothing else.

"That was a powerful message, but it was a setup, Mr. Cassels," Jones joked as William and Charlotte were escorted on to the stage to be recognized. "Tobin, thank you for being bait." Jones added, bringing laughter from the student body.

Jones then fought back tears as he recalled how a member of the student worship band prayed before Chapel, "God, thank you for blessing us as students through Mr. and Mrs. Cassels. God, would you bless them, so they can bless other people?"

Jones noted that most of the recent residence hall renovations were funded by the Cassels bringing a long round of applause from the student body. A photo of the couple that will reside

in the lobby of the Cassels Residence Hall was unveiled. It includes the words:

Because of Mr. and Mrs. Cassels' generosity, CIU has grown in its ability to fulfill its mission of "educating people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ."

Below that is the Scripture:

From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked. Luke 12:48b

Before he would exit Shortess for a lunch with family and other guests, William Cassels asked for the microphone because as he put it, "I could not leave you without saying thank you. We have such a respect for this institution. It's overwhelming."

Then addressing the student body he added, "We have the most respect for those of you sitting out there. You are earnestly seeking what God wants you to do with your life and for Him. We respect you so much. It's just a great blessing to be a part of this institution."

The Cassels family involvement with CIU goes back decades. In an earlier Chapel, Jones told students that as a young man William Cassels drove his mother around the campus so she could pray for the students and deliver cookies that she had baked for them. ■

Thy Towers are Pointing Upward!

(Lyrics from *CIU's Alma Mater*)
By Frank Bedell

I am not a prophet, nor am I the son of a prophet – BUT I do work for a non-profit organization (can you tell that the book of Amos is one of my favorites?). At Columbia International University, we rely on the gifts of alumni and friends to bridge the gap between CIU's actual operating cost and the amount we charge for tuition, room, and board.

One of the ways that we accomplish this goal is through our endowment program. Endowments require a minimum gift of \$10,000. However, I have a secret for those of you who don't have \$10,000 but would still like to create a legacy that will benefit CIU students beyond your lifetime or until Christ returns. The secret is the CIU Tower Fund.

You can begin your scholarship in the Tower Fund for as little as a \$25 monthly commitment. My wife Marti Cosper ('76) Bedell and I began our scholarship in the Tower Fund to create a perpetual memory of our son who went to be with the Lord in April of 2013. On the year anniversary of Jonathan's death, Marti and I were retracing the steps of our son along the 80-mile Hadrian's Wall, built by a Roman emperor in northern England to separate the "Romans from the barbarians." This mighty wall with accompanying towers was built one stone at a time. That's when I was struck with the idea of the Tower Fund, which uses small gifts to build a lasting endowment.

After launching the Tower Fund two years ago, we now have 10 active funds along with two funds that have reached their endowment goal. I have a vision for 50 funds by the end of this school year. Consider participating in the Tower Fund and begin to build a legacy that will impact generations of students. As a bonus, gifts to the Tower Fund or gifts to endowments will be matched through Dec. 31, 2016.

For more about the Tower Fund, please visit ciu.edu/towerfund. ■



▲ Frank and Marti Bedell



▲ Alleene Kracht ('68) chats with Dr. George Murray (center) and Keith Marion

Is CIU Still Living by Prayer & Faith?

Homecoming 2016 features CIU Chancellor Dr. George Murray ('67) and Vice President of Estate & Gift Planning Keith Marion ('79, '93) at an event called, "Living by Prayer & Faith." They will share their many years of CIU experience and financial knowledge as they answer questions such as:

- Do students still attend CIU by faith?
- Does CIU still have prayer days?
- How do I receive life income on a charitable gift?
- Do I have to pay estate tax?

Living by Prayer & Faith
Homecoming 2016
Nov. 4
3:30-4:30 p.m.
McKey Dining Room
Registration is free at ciu.edu/HC16

Thank You!

\$3.1M

CIU met its operating budget of \$3.1 million thanks to alumni, friends and parents.

Because of your gift, we move forward in our mission to educate people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ.

HOW MAY WE HELP YOU?

INTRODUCING **CIU LAUNCH!**

A new Columbia International University initiative is ready to assist your business or ministry.

CIU Launch! is an on-campus business incubator promoting entrepreneurship from a biblical worldview to impact our community and the nations with the message of Christ.

This educational-community partnership benefits you while providing practical, real-world experiences for CIU students before they enter the marketplace or ministry.

Launch! offers you and CIU students:

- An incubator for student-initiated entrepreneurial ideas
- Consultation to alumni ministries and alumni businesses
- Ideas for economic development and recruitment
- Practical training and collaboration
- Marketing research
- Staff training

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Educating from a Biblical Worldview



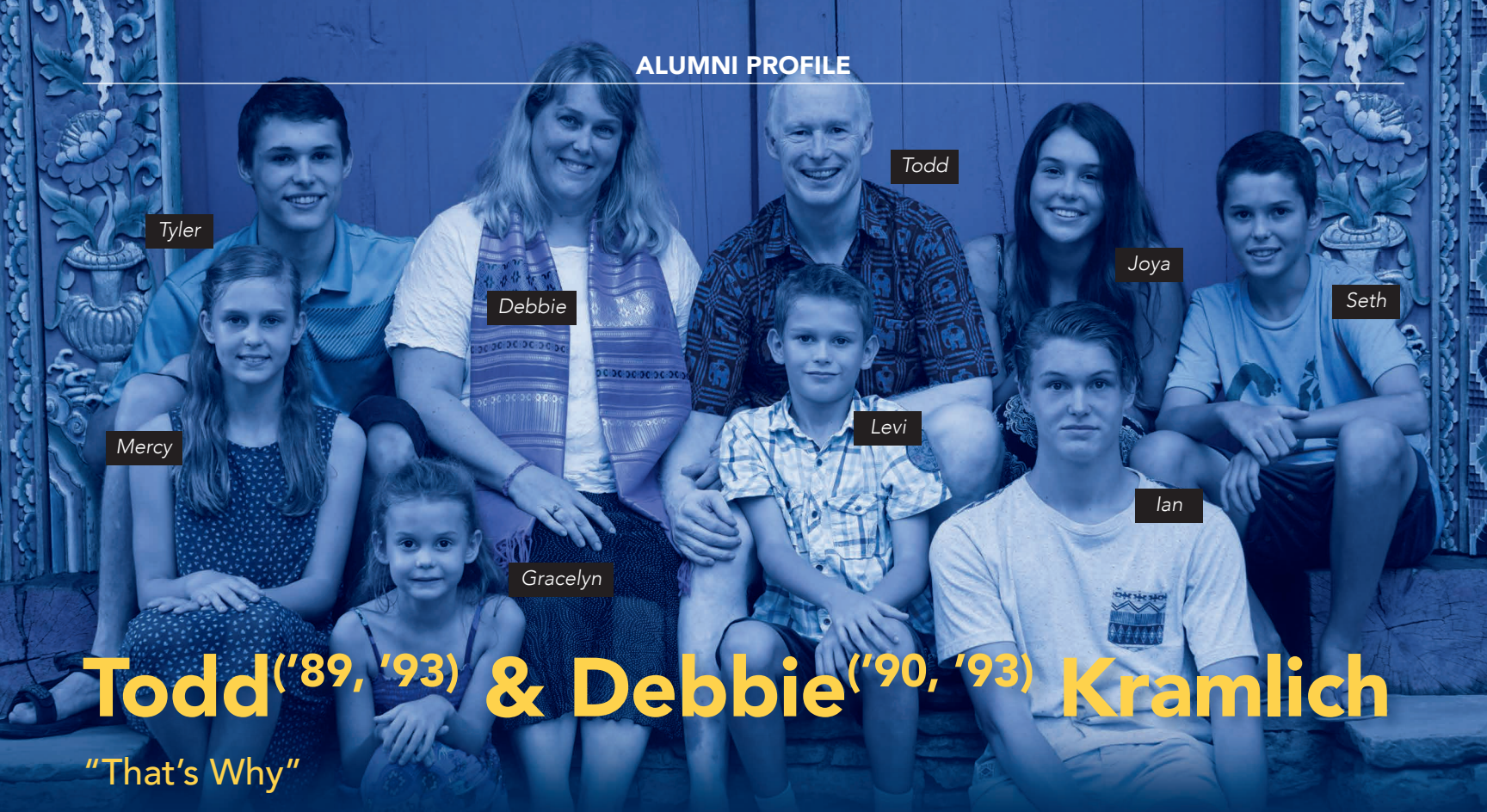
Contact Dr. Scott Adams

Director of Business & Organizational Leadership

 **Scott.adams@ciu.edu**

 **(803) 807-5131**

 **ciu.edu**



Todd ('89, '93) & Debbie ('90, '93) Kramlich

"That's Why"

Todd and Debbie Kramlich departed for the mission field with their children in 1993, and for 16 years worked with Bible college students, mostly in Sweden. In 2009, they moved to Germany to work with the education-based ministry TeachBeyond.

Life had gone pretty smoothly for them until this time of transition. Their children, who had been fully immersed in Swedish culture and schools, had to switch to German schools where they were often the only foreigners in their classes and became an easy target for bullying. In addition, their youngest child was often in and out of the hospital as she suffered from seizures and other illnesses. Their six years in Germany included a house fire, car theft, 100 overnights in the hospital, 12 ambulance rides, a helicopter evacuation, and great financial stress. Currency fluctuation resulted in a loss of equity in their home and they were suddenly underwater with their mortgage. They even had to take on a cleaning job for two years to earn money for a furnace for their house.

In Sweden, the family "looked pretty together," but in Germany people jokingly called them the "Job family" as they were in constant crisis. Rather than being strong and able to minister to others, Debbie and Todd often felt pathetic, weak and unable to give to anyone.

In 2014, the Kramlichs were forced to leave Germany for one year to honor a Social Security law. Wanting to keep the children in German schools, they heard about a German school in Thailand where they could continue with the same curriculum. Over a year later, the children are thriving and finding friendships in the German school, and Todd is

loving his work as a counselor at Cornerstone Counseling Foundation, a place where missionaries from all over Asia come for a time of intense counseling, allowing them to return to their place of service. Walking through challenging times in ministry has given Todd and Debbie a greater empathy and sensitivity to those who hurt.

Debbie once attended a conference where the theme of one of the sessions was, "That's Why." The speaker went through her history of some 40 years in ministry and shared story after story of how difficult times, years later, turned out to be blessings in disguise. It was these moments where she could look back and say, "Oh, that's why . . ." She learned from experience not to despair in the hard times, but to trust in God that one day she would understand, "that's why."

Todd and Debbie are both experiencing this to some degree in Thailand. As Todd walks beside people who are going through deep struggles, the Kramlich family's past challenges have prepared them to care for those who are hurting. They are also seeing that their hard times were not "wasted times" and that God also brought their family closer together in a way not possible if life had gone smoothly. Debbie says: "we are slowly learning to be thankful for these difficult times as we begin to see a bit of the "That's Why." As the Apostle Paul wrote:

God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us. (II Cor. 1:3-4) ■

It's Time to Come Home!

Family Time

Fri. 3:00 p.m. / CIU Student Video Showcase

View Communication program student-made videos at Homecoming 2016 Video Showcase.

Fri. 7:30 p.m. / Crowder/Tedashii Concert

Christian musicians David Crowder and Tedashii will be performing live in Shortess Chapel on Friday, Nov. 4.

Sat. 1:00 p.m. / The Matchmaker

Bring the whole family for the CIU Players production of *The Matchmaker*, an "uproarious farce about love and money" set in 19th-century New York.

Sat. 12 noon / Field Day

Picnic lunch, bouncy house and kite flying in the Quad.



Game Time

Thurs. 7:00 p.m. / CIU Rams vs. Bob Jones University Soccer Match

Sat. 11:00 a.m. / Rambunctious Run or Shofar Shuffle?

Bring the family for a Rambunctious Run through CIU's campus. If running isn't your thing then you can always do the Shofar Shuffle.

Sat. 3:00 p.m. / CIU Rams vs. College of Faith Basketball Game

Sat. 6:00 p.m. / CIU Bowl Join us for CIU's oldest tradition: the CIU Bowl where two teams of CIU students face-off in an epic flag football game.

Tripp Time

Fri. 11:00 a.m. / Alumnus of the Year Chapel

Honoring Dr. Paul Tripp ('72)

Fri. 5:45 p.m. / President's Banquet - Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Robertson McQuilkin

Author and speaker Dr. Paul Tripp ('72) will join us for dinner and an evening of community and reflection.

Sat. 8:00 a.m. / Breakfast

Morning devotions with Dr. Paul Tripp

Connection Time

Sat. 9:00 a.m. / Scones with Scholars

Meet the CIU professors who are training the next generation. Learn how they are "educating people from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ."

Fri. 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. / Class Reunions

Sat. 10:00 a.m. / Class Reunions

Return to CIU for Homecoming 2016, Nov. 4-5, to reconnect with classmates, faculty and friends.

Register at:

 **ciu.edu/hc16**

 **(803) 807-5500**

**Coming
2016**

ALUMNI Class Notes

Grover DeVault ('53) continues his speaking engagements to military groups, retirement communities and veterans associations. He also recruits for Cadence International, a ministry to military personnel and their families, and leads a chapter of the Military Chaplains Association. His wife, Nancy, recently went to be with the Lord. revggdltc@gmail.com

John Wood ('60) retired from the Department of Religion at Baylor University in 2004 after more than 20 years of teaching Christian Ethics. His lifelong passion of baseball led him to publish "Beyond the Ballpark: The Honorable, Immoral, and Eccentric Lives of Baseball Greats." John_Wood@Baylor.edu

Paul ('71) and Ruth Cochran retired in Wabash, Indiana and are serving in their local church as Bible teachers and missions advisors. paulcochrane@yahoo.com

Al ('71) and Joan Morris ('71) Herrington celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary on May 31. They graduated and got married on the same day in Shortess Chapel. Today they serve with Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship focusing on evangelism, chaplaincy, and Scotland missions. They have three children and five grandchildren. jalherrington@aol.com

William ('78) and Vivian ('76) Shipley live in Plano, Texas where Vivian serves as church pianist and Bill works full time as a computer support technician for Anthem, Blue Cross Blue Shield. chiefyn1@hotmail.com

Shari ('81) and John Thomas ('78) founded Parakaleo assisting and encouraging women in ministry, especially church planting. shari@parakaleo.us



Imro ('80) and Linda Sigglekow ('81) Smit have served the Lord in Suriname, South America since 1982. Now in their 60s, they will soon be coming off the field. dettauitvlugt@hotmail.com

Mark ('83) and Maritza Padgett are serving in Costa Rica where Mark has been a professor at Seminario ESEPA for 25 years teaching Missions and New Testament. markmaritza@esepa.org



Tom ('82) and Vicky ('84) Arabis are in Portugal where Tom is academic dean and a professor at Seminário Teológico Baptista. In 2005, they founded Teófilos an e-learning platform offering theological education online, and are hoping to add virtual classrooms this year. arabisv@globaloutreach.org



Chaplain (COL) Harry Rauch ('85) and wife Natalie serve in the army at Fort Shafter, Hawaii. Daughter Bonnie graduated from the University of Hawaii-Manoa with a bachelor's degree in Theater. harry.rauch@icloud.com

Todd ('89/'93) and Debbie Samworth ('90/'93) Kramlich relocated to Thailand after serving for 22 years in Germany and Sweden. Todd is finishing up a Master of Arts degree in Professional Counseling while Debbie is a Ph.D. candidate at CIU's Korntal, Germany campus, focusing on International Theological Education. The family stays connected to Europe in a very international setting in Chiang Mai and have opportunities to use their Swedish and German. todd.kramlich@gmail.com

Lynn Kuitems ('89) God has led Lynn around the world and back to her birth place, New Jersey, where she reaches out to children in the communities of Salem County. packingqueen@yahoo.com



Bryan ('90) and Janet ('89) Thompson moved to Denver, Colorado after serving with OMF International in Japan for 23 years. They now focus on equipping OMF volunteers to serve around the United States. bjthompson5@gmail.com

John ('94) and Mary Lackey ('95) Carroll have written, "Cover to Cover: through the Bible in 365 days" published by Metokos Press. mary.carroll@cckpca.org



Richard ('97) and Victoria Ramsey After serving 20 years with Campus Crusade and six years with Christian Leadership Concepts, Richard made the transition to North Metro Church in Kennesaw, Georgia as the global & local outreach pastor. Victoria serves as a licensed professional counselor with East-West Psychotherapy. r Ramsey@northmetro.org

Derek and Yoshi Ikeda ('98) Johnson are teachers with Oasis International School. Derek has recently published two books. derekandyoshi@gmail.com



Benjamin Lawson ('99) serves as vice president of business administration with Rescue 1 Global, combatting slavery and human trafficking. He and his wife Serena, and their children, reside in Tennessee. ben@rescue1global.org



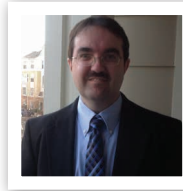
Lindsay ('98) and Eva Gilliam prepare missionaries for cross-cultural experiences through their church, Immanuel Baptist, in Richmond, Virginia. They served in Latin America for 14 years and plan to return overseas. lindsay.gilliam@sim.org



Matthew ('99) and Toni Brackeen ('97) Daniels served in Uruguay for 18 years. Today they train Uruguayan church leaders remotely from Nashville, Tennessee. tonimdaniels@gmail.com

Wesley ('13) and Stephanie Livesay ('12) Edwards welcomed their first child, Eliza Blake Edwards, into their family on July 27. Wesley and Stephanie are both working in the area of special education and disability service. wce@email.sc.edu

Christopher Russell ('99) works full time for an audiovisual systems integration company in northern Virginia. cdrussell@gmail.com

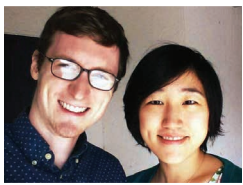


Joseph ('15) and Grace Balding Joseph is now a Bible teacher at Southside Christian School in Greenville, South Carolina. josephbalding@gmail.com



Timothy and Elisa Patag ('02) Skinner joined Frontier Ventures (formerly U.S. Center for World Mission) in Pasadena, California. They are training college-bound students to use the INSIGHT (Intensive Study of Integrated Global History & Theology) program around the world. elisapatag@yahoo.com

Marti Wade ('16) serves with Pioneers USA. She recently co-authored a study guide for Christian workers with lessons on how to thrive in missions work. It's based on research and the Old Testament book of Ruth. "Crossing Cultures with Ruth: Lessons in Thriving in Missions" is published by GMI books. Marti.wade@mailbox.ciu.edu ■



Collin ('09) and Vienna Cornell live in Georgia where Collin is a Ph.D. student in Old Testament/Hebrew Bible at Emory University. He is writing his dissertation on the profile of God in royal psalms. vienna.pae@gmail.com

Rebekah Settembrini ('09) has been a registered nurse for over five years in the Neurosciences Unit at the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, Florida. She says she loves her job and her patients. Last year she went on a medical mission trip to Okoa Refuge in Uganda. bekabrini@gmail.com



Update your alumni profile @ ciu.me/alumniprofile



Check out upcoming events and speaking schedules of President Bill Jones and Chancellor George Murray @ ciu.me/ciuevents



Tracy ('10) and Aimee ('10/'11) Roberts reside in Florida where Aimee is a board certified behavior analyst. Using skills she acquired from her CIU Music and TEFL degrees, Aimee works with autistic children breaking through cultural and language barriers. Tracy is an ordained priest with St. Paul Anglican Church. aimee.roberts@hotmail.com

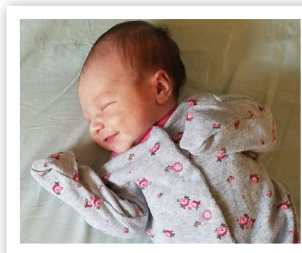
With The Lord

- Colene Woodard Norton '39** – August 2016
- Ruth Hungerpiller Petersen '40** – August 2016
- Kathryn Lockett '46** – July 2016
- J. Robertson McQuilkin '47, & CIU President Emeritus** – June 2016
- Betty Blue Newman '47** – May 2016
- Marjorie Bancroft '48** – May 2016
- Beatrice Wright Smith '49** – June 2016
- Christine Trevvett '49** – September 2016
- Beulah Stapf Kruhmin '51** – May 2016
- James Birkitt '52** – July 2016
- Nancy DeVault – wife of Grover DeVault '53** – June 2016
- Frances Aycock '56** – February 2016
- George Berends '56** – July 2016
- Carter Smith '56** – May 2016
- Edward Shipman '56 (Alumnus of the Year '95)** – August 2016
- Donald Gregory '59** – June 2016
- Benjamin Kistler '60** – November 2015
- Jay Fippinger '62** – April 2016
- Matthew Garippa '66** – June 2016
- Charles McLean '69** – January 2016
- Joseph Cubberley '69** – August 2016
- W. Ronald Johnson '71** – May 2016
- Alan Campbell '80** – February 2016
- Mary Ann Steffy '82** – June 2016
- Chuck Peters '84/'93** – August 2016
- Estes Hightower – Former staff** – July 2016

Andrew ('11) and Shana Bullard live in Moncks Corner, South Carolina. Andrew is campus pastor for Faith Assembly in Summerville, South Carolina. He also serves as an adjunct professor for the Summerville extension campus of Southeastern University. Shana works as a pediatric nurse at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. They welcomed their first-born son, Ezra, in January. andrew@faithishere.org



Oliver ('11) and Katie ('11) Thompson along with their children Griffin and Nora, welcomed Lily Beatrix into their family through adoption in July. oliverandkatiethompson@gmail.com



ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Paul Tripp ('72) – Following his Passion

Pastor, author, and conference speaker, Paul David Tripp, president of Paul Tripp Ministries, works to connect the transforming power of Jesus Christ to everyday life. With 17 books on Christian living and speaking engagements around the world, Paul's driving passion is to help people understand how the gospel of Jesus Christ speaks with practical hope into a broken world.

God used Paul's experiences growing up to create a desire in him to see the gospel applied to the realities of a fallen world. In 1972, he graduated from Columbia International University, (then Columbia Bible College) with bachelor degrees in Bible and Christian Education. He also has a Master of Divinity from the Reformed Episcopal Seminary and a Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Counseling from the Westminster Theological Seminary.

God has allowed Paul to use his gifts and passions in many different ways over the years. He planted a church in Scranton, Pennsylvania, where he pastored for 11 years. While there, he founded a Christian school, wrote worship songs, and even toured with a Christian band.

Paul was a faculty member at the Christian Counseling and Education Foundation (CCEF) and an adjunct professor at Westminster Theological Seminary for many years, and has served in other faculty positions at seminaries around the country. With a pastor's heart for pastors, Paul also founded the Center for Pastoral Life and Care, where he currently serves as executive director.

A Companion with a Passion

Paul has had a steady companion and supporter through the years, his wife Luella, who also is a 1972 graduate of CIU. Luella's passion is abstract art, which led her to own and direct popular art galleries in Philadelphia for several years, to collaborate on national exhibitions, place art in both personal and corporate collections, sell art work through interior designers, and participate in two international art fairs. More recently, Luella began representing artists as an art dealer and consultant.

Paul and Luella are both exercising their gifts to God's glory, as they pursue the passion He has ignited in each of them. They live in Philadelphia and have four grown children. ■



Hear Dr. Paul Tripp speak at the President's Banquet at Homecoming 2016. Register at ciu.edu/hc16.

THE FINAL WORD

Dr. Robertson McQuilkin: My Friend and Mentor

As a CIU doctoral student traveling back and forth from Atlanta to take weeklong intensive courses in 1989, I remember being called out of class one day and ushered into the office of the president. I didn't realize at the time, but I was being interviewed for a faculty position. Someone had forgotten to tell me that they wanted me to join the team. The dean of the seminary introduced me to President Robertson McQuilkin who asked me if I would do fundraising if I came on faculty. I respectfully told President McQuilkin that I had not applied for a job.

Unflappable, he paused for a moment and queried, "Hypothetically, if you were looking for a job, and it were to be at CIU, would you be willing to help raise funds?" I told him, "Hypothetically, yes I would," not realizing that years later I would spend *a lot of my time* raising funds for CIU!

That unusual meeting began a decades long friendship with the man I considered my mentor; one who guided me through my years as a CIU professor, provost and president. Robertson McQuilkin, the son of CIU's first president, literally grew up with the school. His birth came just a few years after CIU's establishment as Columbia Bible College. When he died, we lost someone irreplaceable, and I miss him dearly.

Over the years, Dr. McQuilkin supported my efforts to reach the nations with the message of Christ. Even though he made very few commitments during the years he cared for his wife, Muriel, who suffered from Alzheimer's disease, he did agree to serve on the board of Crossover Communications International (CCI), the missions agency founded in my Atlanta basement in 1987. He made sure our strategies were cutting-edge and applauded us for making the world's unreached people groups our priority. Today CCI has planted 423 churches, 226 of them among Muslims. Much of the credit from a human perspective goes to Dr. McQuilkin.

He also prayed for me daily, rejoiced with me when I had opportunities to share the gospel with businessmen, and diligently guided me in my efforts as CIU president. He would preface those discussions with "You know, I don't want to tell you how to lead the school, but ..." He would then explain from his experience how I could be more effective.

Dr. McQuilkin impacted me the most, however, through his care of Muriel. His Christlike character left a lasting impression. One memory, that is stamped indelibly on my mind, I visited his house one day and the lid of a trash can happened to be open. I noticed an adult diaper, a reminder of how he cared for the most intimate needs of his beloved. That experience made me all the more desirous to serve my sweetheart and wife, Debby, as Christ loves His church.

Please join me in thanking God for blessing us with Robertson McQuilkin. Pray that his passion for world evangelization, commitment to excellence in biblical education, and Christlike character will always be the standard at Columbia International University.

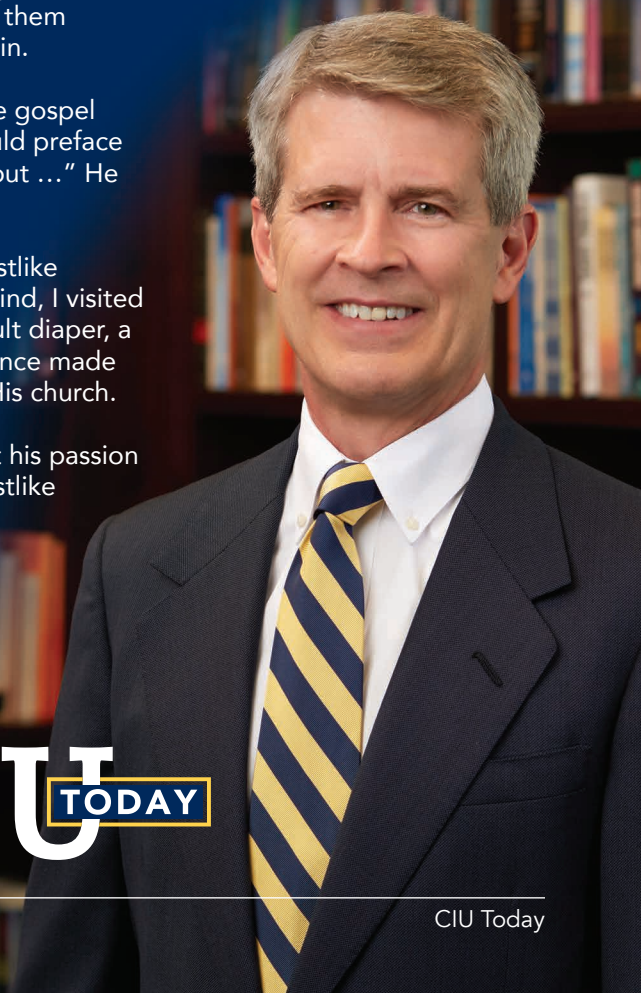
Yours for His glory,



William H. Jones
President



When he died, we lost someone irreplaceable, and I miss him dearly.



CIU TODAY

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