

CIU

TODAY

GLOBAL BUSINESS & IT CENTER COMING TO CIU

Plus:

*Meet Ben Lippen Headmaster
Tony Fajardo*

CIU Athletics Grows

SPRING 2018
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#DiscoverCIU

CIU

TODAY

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Cover Photo

Artist renderings of the William H. Jones Global Business & IT Center and an adjacent security gatehouse to be located near the CIU campus entrance.

CIU | Columbia
International
University

Educating from a Biblical Worldview



#DiscoverCIU

DEPARTMENTS

- 20** **Academics**
The First CIU MBA Cohort;
Graduating with a Full-Time Job
- 22** **Athletics**
Here We GROW Again;
Women's Soccer Shines
- 24** **Campus Life**
Getting to Know the First Lady of CIU;
Record Set for Blood Donations
- 26** **Advancement**
The Difference You Make;
Open Doors of Opportunity
- 29** **Alumni**
CIU: A Foundation for God's Call;
Homecoming 2017 Review;
Class Notes

FEATURES



12 CIU Chaplaincy Students
Visit Shaw Air Force Base



14 Video Work of CIU
Student Featured in
Mainstream Film



16 Meet Tony Fajardo,
the New Headmaster of
Ben Lippen School



18 CIU Growing with
New Global Business
& IT Center



Bob Holmes, Editor-in-Chief

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

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An Observation from the Fly on the Wall

I enjoy being a fly on the wall. Sometimes that's what I am when I take photos of an event around campus. Just that guy off to the side with a camera and a zoom lens that tries his best to be incognito while getting a great shot.

I was doing my fly on the wall routine last fall at Ben Lippen School where new Headmaster Tony Fajardo was hosting "Coffee with the Headmaster." It's an opportunity for parents to meet the top guy at their child's school, CIU's Pre-K to 12th grade Christian school, most of which is located on the CIU campus.

I was thinking, if ever an administrator could make himself vulnerable, it's at a meeting like this. About a dozen parents gathered around the tables set up in a square with Fajardo alone at a head table. I doubt that was intentional, but it did seem to symbolize he was the leadership figure. (For this fly on the wall his position was a bit of a distraction, as the doughnut boxes were stacked right behind him. Only the kind of thing a fly on the wall would notice.)

Fajardo talked knowledgeably about trends in education and college admissions as well as events on the Ben Lippen campus. And as might be expected at such a meeting, the parents had concerns and questions. Fajardo was ready with answers and not afraid to say that some things needed to improve. He was in command, yet gracious. Kind in his demeanor, yet straightforward in his answers.



Ben Lippen Headmaster Tony Fajardo meets with parents.

Full disclosure: I didn't stay for the whole event. But I got to know Fajardo a little better during an interview in his office. I hope you'll read about our chat on page 16.

You'll begin to see more news and features about Ben Lippen School in upcoming issues of "CIU Today," as CIU President Dr. Mark Smith fosters the relationship with Ben Lippen, which has been a part of CIU since Ben Lippen was founded in Asheville, North Carolina in 1940.

Farjardo refers to the relationship as the "one team, one ministry concept." Smith has praised Fajardo on numerous occasions for his energy and vision.

There are no physical barriers between the parking lots of CIU and Ben Lippen, and the leadership of both are making sure that kind of symbolic openness permeates and strengthens the ties that bind.

And it won't take a fly on the wall to see that.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Holmes".

Bob Holmes
CIU Today
Editor-in-Chief

**He was in command,
yet gracious. Kind
in his demeanor, yet
straightforward in his
answers.**

Inauguration: Students, Alumni Excited About the Future of CIU

By Michael A. Lanier, Naomi Balk and Bob Holmes

Students, alumni and others expressed excitement about the future of Columbia International University as Dr. Mark Smith was ceremonially inaugurated as the seventh president of CIU. The Nov. 3 event was held as part of the Homecoming 2017 celebration.

Presenting greetings from the students, Student Body President Kyle Jones told the hundreds of alumni and dignitaries gathered in Shortess Chapel, that after Smith officially became president on July 1, he brought “a sense of anticipation within the student body.”

Addressing Smith directly, Jones added, “the students, have heard your heart for us, and for the university” and that “you relationally care for, and act for, the student body.

“We look forward to serving alongside you as we ‘impact the nations with the message of Christ,’” Jones added quoting from CIU’s mission statement.

The Inaugural Address was given by 2017 CIU Alumnus of the Year Ralph Enlow Jr. ('72,'82), who serves as president of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE). He noted that while CIU anticipates growth under Smith’s leadership, he added, “I implore you that during your administration there will be as much attention to CIU’s core, as to its circumference,” a reference to CIU’s Five Core Values.

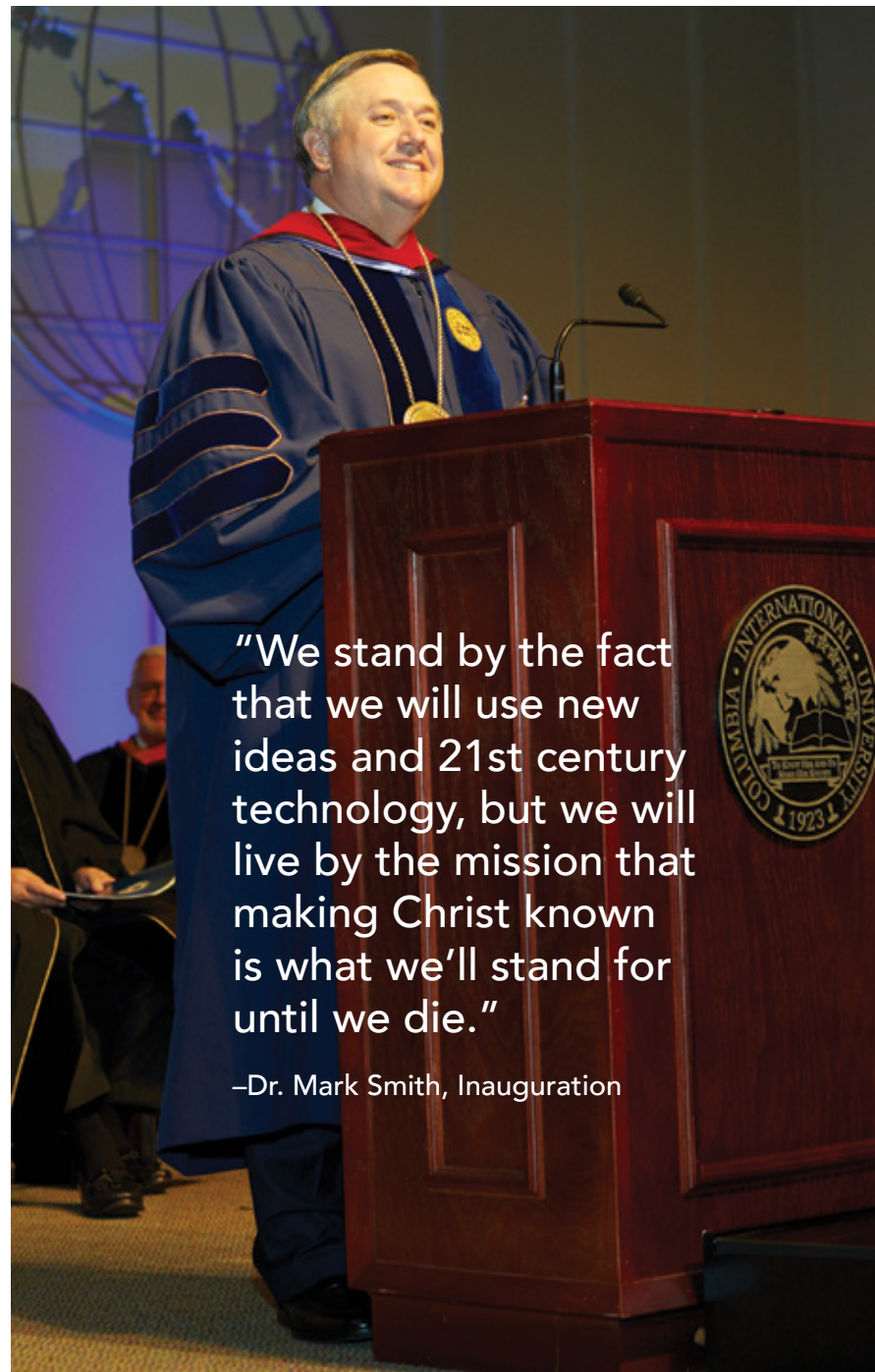
In his Inaugural Response, Smith said he will strive to expand the school’s educational horizons while never neglecting the calling God has placed on the CIU students.

“We stand by the fact that we will use new ideas and 21st century technology, but we will live by the mission that making Christ known is what we’ll stand for until we die,” Smith added.

After the ceremony, CIU junior Abigail Cotton said Smith is in her prayers.

“I pray that this new era we are moving into be positive and true to where we came from,” Cotton said.

“I am excited for Dr. Smith’s time here,” added senior Nathan Kyles. “He has a good understanding of the history of CIU and still plans to move forward. I see the Lord doing good work though him.” ■



“We stand by the fact that we will use new ideas and 21st century technology, but we will live by the mission that making Christ known is what we’ll stand for until we die.”

—Dr. Mark Smith, Inauguration

Alumnus of the Year: "All the Glory Goes to God"

By Naomi Balk and Bob Holmes

Dr. Ralph Enlow ('72/'82) felt a bit sheepish about receiving the 2017 Columbia International University Alumnus of the Year Award. That's because when he was on staff at CIU, he advocated for the award, even laying out biblical reasoning for the honor.

"Here I stand a victim of my own biblical reasoning. O the irony," Enlow chuckled before hundreds of fellow alumni, faculty and staff gathered for the President's Banquet at Homecoming 2017.



Dr. Ralph Enlow
2017 Alumnus of the Year

Enlow served for 28 years as an educational leader at CIU, including six years as senior vice president and provost. Today he is president of the Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) in Orlando, Florida.

Many at the banquet who studied and served alongside Enlow remember him fondly.

"Ralph brought vision, organization and academic excellence to CIU," said Don Jones ('70), CIU director of Human Resources. "He also brought a whole lot of humor and fun, he really did," Jones added.

In his acceptance address, Enlow deflected attention away from himself, and pointed to the heroes of the faith in Hebrews 11, calling them "models for us to imitate" who "reflect the kindness of the power and triumph of God's grace."

"I want to be a good steward of this opportunity that is so awkward for me so that all glory goes to God," Enlow said.

Mary Faith Phillips ('54/'60), former head of the Bible teaching program, remembered Enlow for "his ability with words," and appreciated him as a colleague.

"His affirmation and support when I was on faculty was a strong personal encouragement to me," Phillips said.

CIU Chancellor Dr. Bill Jones ('91) is grateful for his friendship with Enlow.

"He made a big investment in my life," Jones said. Twenty-seven years he ministered professionally and personally and into my family."

Enlow stressed "others are more worthy than I," after listing several CIU alumni and their accomplishments and service.

"I do not need recognition, nor do I deserve it," Enlow said. Instead he encouraged the crowd to persevere in the motto of CIU, "To Know Him and to Make Him Known."

"Join me in praising the only One to whom is due glory and praise. Solo Deo Gloria." ■



CIU and Midlands Technical College Formalize Articulation Agreement for Business Students

CIU and Midlands Technical College (MTC) in Columbia formalized an agreement that allows for a seamless transition into CIU for MTC students who are pursuing a degree in business management.

MTC President Dr. Ronald L. Rhames and CIU President Dr. Mark A. Smith signed the Memorandum of Understanding on Jan. 8.

Under the partnership, MTC students who earn credit through the completion of an MTC Associate of Applied Science in Management will have those credits applied to CIU's online Bachelor of Science degree in Business or CIU's on-campus Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration, which will be offered beginning in the Fall 2018 semester.

"We're always looking to open the door of opportunity even wider for our students to continue their higher education journey," said Rhames. "MTC students have transferred to CIU for many years, but this agreement gives our Business Management students a seamless path to having their credits transfer and achieving their education goals."

Smith says the agreement advances academic and career opportunities for many students, and it fosters ties between the schools.

"CIU has always had a great relationship with Midlands Technical College, and this further strengthens our partnership," Smith said. "We look forward to many years of cooperation. A special thank you to Dr. Rhames for this day."

MTC students who enroll in CIU's business programs may be eligible for a tuition discount at CIU. MTC students and alumni can learn more about transferring to CIU by contacting the CIU Admissions Office at (800) 777-2227 or yesciu@ciu.edu. ■

Ribbon Cut on Business and Entrepreneurship Center

By Bob Holmes and Naomi Balk

The CIU Business & Organizational Leadership program got a big boost on Oct. 6 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new John R. Cook Jr. Business and Entrepreneurship Center.

The Center features “Launch,” a cutting-edge resource facility offering students vocational training beyond the classroom as they collaborate with local businesses and ministries on projects that will benefit both the organizations and the students. In addition, Launch houses a business incubator, a video-equipped interview skills training room, conference rooms for seminars and workshops, and internship and job placement opportunities.

The Center was made possible through a generous donation by CIU Trustee Lynn Cook in honor of her husband and his contributions to his family and business, Cook’s Pest Control of Decatur, Alabama.

At a CIU Chapel service preceding the ribbon-cutting, Mrs. Cook told CIU students, faculty, staff and guests that businesses operating on Christian principles are valuable to communities and the work of the church.

“We are the supporters for missions, and industry is everywhere,” Cook said. “Anywhere there are people, there is going to be ministry. We’re excited to join with you and raise up Christian leadership here at CIU.”

The featured Chapel speaker was former Krispy Kreme CEO James Morgan, who is a new CIU trustee. He challenged believers in business to take Christ into the front door of their workplace with them.

“Make a difference where you are,” Morgan said. “Make people’s days a little better, be a little more like Christ. That will be a life worth living.”

CIU students majoring in business were on hand to take part in the ribbon-cutting and to give tours of the Cook Center. Among them was senior Kyle Jones who has already started his own business, KJ Films, offering his video services for weddings, real estate and business.

“I think that (Launch) is a great opportunity for networking, gaining business skills, and preparing for the future (in business),” Jones said. “I am really excited for CIU. This is the start of something that will grow and develop as CIU grows and develops.”

Meanwhile, as the day began, James Morgan appeared on “Good Day Columbia” on WACH FOX 57 TV in Columbia. He told host Fraendy Clervaud that when people enjoy their work, they help make a business successful. ■



▲ Cutting the ribbon (left to right): CIU Community Ambassador Randy Halfacre, CIU Board Chairman Doug Rutt, Chancellor Dr. Bill Jones, Trustee Lynn Cook, Business & Organizational Leadership Program Director Scott Adams, President Dr. Mark Smith



▲ Former Krispy Kreme CEO and CIU Trustee James Morgan (right) with WACH FOX 57 host Fraendy Clervaud.

Ben Lippen High School Students Show Holiday Appreciation to Law Enforcement

Students are in Dual Enrollment CIU Business Class

Ben Lippen High School students taking dual enrollment business classes at Columbia International University showed their appreciation to law enforcement officers and first responders a few days before Christmas. The students handed out 150 gift bags to sheriff's deputies and firefighters on Dec. 13 at the Launch! Center on the CIU side of campus.

The "Do Good December" event grew out of the students' participation in the Chick-fil-A Leader Academy. The officers and firefighters enjoyed lunch provided by Chick-fil-A and Panda Express.



▲ Ben Lippen business students greet Richland County sheriff's deputies as local news crews capture the scene.

The students collected the donated items for the gift bags from local businesses and organized the meals and the event.

The students' professor, Amy Dubois, was thrilled at what her students accomplished.

"I cannot stress how proud I am of our students," Dubois said. "They have done so much work to get this together."

Students from any high school interested in dual enrollment classes at CIU should contact the CIU Admissions Office at (800) 777-2227 or yesciu@ciu.edu ■

CIU Prison Initiative Students "Walk"

Norm fought back tears as the candidates for graduation formed the line that would lead to "the walk" when a Columbia International University student becomes an alumnus. But for Norm and the nine others who would receive their diploma, "the walk" would not be across a chapel stage, but a walk across "The Yard" — the prison yard leading to the commencement ceremony at the Kirkland Correctional Institution's multipurpose room.

Norm (full names are withheld for security reasons) was part of the latest two-year cohort to graduate with an Associate of Arts degree from the CIU Prison Initiative, training qualified inmates to live in accordance with biblical principles and equipping them for the unique ministry opportunities afforded by their incarceration. After graduation, the men are assigned as chaplain assistants to prisons throughout South Carolina.

"I've never finished anything in my life, and God has allowed me to be fulfilled in Him," Norm said as he celebrated with family after the Dec. 8 commencement. "It's not about my work, but about His kingdom work that He allows me to do."

The CIU Prison Initiative is privately funded. For information on how you can support this ministry, contact the CIU Development Office at (803) 807-5500 or visit community.ciu.edu/giving. ■



CIU Prison Initiative Director Andre Melvin hugs a graduate of the program.

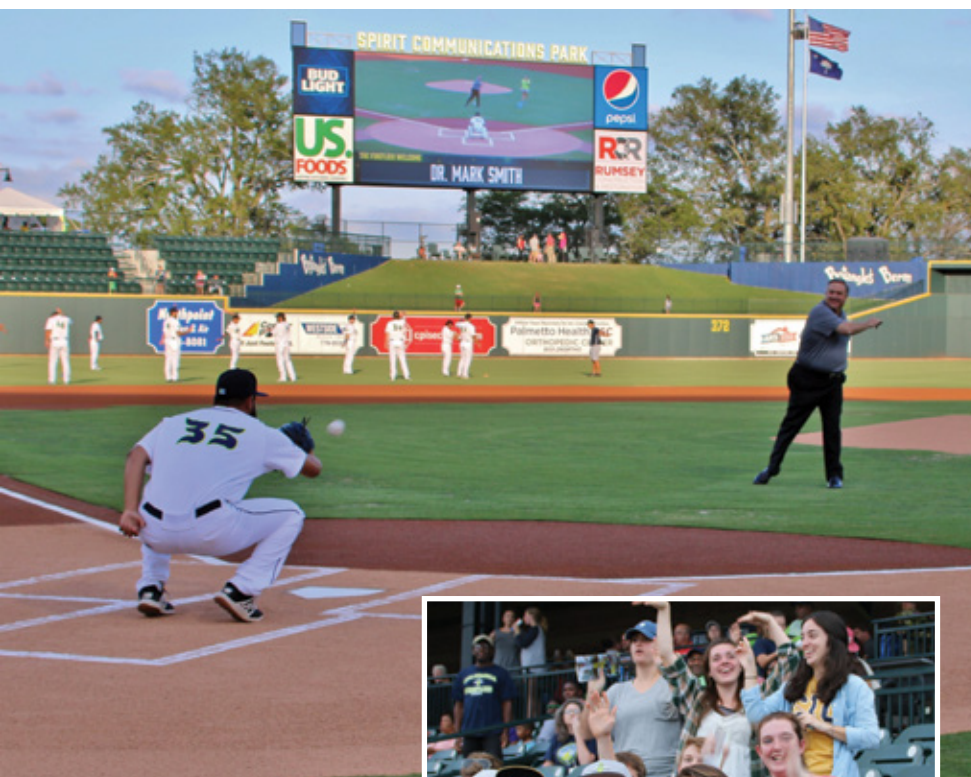
CIU Prison Initiative 2017 Impact

- 35,267 Prisoner Contacts
- 1,192 First-Time Salvations
- 2,112 Re-Dedications



CIU Thespians Present "The 39 Steps"

Seven actors made very quick costume changes, spoke with several different accents, and played over 60 characters in CIU's presentation of "The 39 Steps" in November. "The 39 Steps" is a melodrama adapted from a 1915 novel by John Buchan and a 1935 film by Alfred Hitchcock. ■



CIU Night with the Columbia Fireflies

For the second year in a row, the Columbia International University family enjoyed an August night out at Spirit Communications Park to watch the Class A minor league Columbia Fireflies in action. The Fireflies are an affiliate of Major League Baseball's New York Mets.

"Baseball is great, but the fellowship is greater," said senior McKenzie Sutton. "It's great to have our professors out here enjoying the game with us!"

"The opportunity to go to a baseball game with my fellow students has been a great way to begin my semester," added sophomore Hannah Stansbury.

Perhaps the highlight of the night came before the game ever started when CIU President Dr. Mark Smith threw out the ceremonial first pitch – a strike right down the middle of the plate that was televised on the stadium's electronic scoreboard. Smith then took his seat in the middle of the CIU section of the stadium.

"This is an awesome night for CIU," Smith said. "I hope to have double the crowd next year!" ■

Meet the Master of Coffee

Beach Loveland calls it an important part of his lifelong pursuit of being the best he can be at roasting coffee. Perhaps we should call him, "Master Beach."

As of 2017, the 2009 CIU alumnus was one of only 97 people in the world to earn the certification of "Roast Master" by the Specialty Coffee Association and the only person in the Columbia, South Carolina area with the designation.

Loveland is owner of Loveland Coffee which began as a drive-thru kiosk in the Irmo area in Columbia's northwest suburbs in 2012. He has since added a roastery to his business.

For Loveland to become a roast master, he had to do a bit of travelling — two, two-week trips to the Specialty Coffee Association's U.S. headquarters in the San Francisco area. It was there he took coursework and two tests. But he says it was worth it because it shows his customers he's serious about the coffee business.



"I'm adhering to the global standards and best practices," Loveland said. "We're committed to quality and the certification shows you I'm committed to quality because it took effort, money and time on my part to put myself through this." ■

CIU President Mark Smith meets with Government Leaders

CIU President Mark Smith and his wife Debbie met in January with U.S. Vice President Mike Pence and his wife Karen at the Pence's Washington, D.C. home. The occasion was the inaugural "Faith Leaders Dinner." The Smiths were joined by five other faith leaders from across America and updated on faith and traditional family issues which the Smiths have actively supported.

"I have found the vice president to be a man of deep faith who will give all to fight for traditional family values," Smith said. "At the same time he is the kindest and most sincere listener I have met. He makes you feel like you have his full attention."

Also in January, Smith continued his "Get Acquainted Leadership Tour" of South Carolina by spending 45 minutes with Gov. Henry McMaster at the Governor's Mansion, thanking him for his service and leadership.

Smith also discussed expansion plans for CIU and shared the new vision to double the enrollment and impact the educational environment of the state. ■

CIU President Mark Smith with South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster. ▼



CIU President Mark Smith and his wife Debbie talking with U.S. Vice President Mike Pence. (Photo courtesy White House Photo Office)





South Carolina Congressman Visits Business Class

South Carolina U.S. House member Joe Wilson of Lexington County stopped by the Columbia International University campus to chat with business students as part of a tour of his home district and the surrounding area.

Wilson toured the campus with Business Professor Scott Adams and CIU Community Ambassador Randy Halfacre, a former mayor of Lexington, South Carolina. ■



Abby Reamsnyder (left) and Sarah Causey

Students March for Life in D.C.

Two CIU students made the nearly seven hour drive from Columbia to Washington, D.C. to participate in the 2018 March for Life on Jan. 19. Sarah Causey and Abby Reamsnyder were among the tens of thousands of people from across the nation protesting the January 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision legalizing abortion.

“The joy and love that seemed to fill the air was incredible,” Causey said. “As we marched as a group toward the Supreme Court Building, groups of supporters were praising God and chanting cheers declaring the value of life. It reminded me that there are indeed people who believe in life for the unborn, and to march as one for what we believe in was an experience I will never forget.” ■



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*"If chaplaincy were gone, there would be a huge, huge void, and there are not many entities in the military that I can say that about."
-Colonel Daniel Lasica*

A CLOSE-UP LOOK AT A FUTURE IN

MILITARY CHAPLAINCY



Learn more about CIU's Master of Divinity in Military Chaplaincy at (800) 777-2227 or yesciu@ciu.edu. For undergraduate students, CIU offers a minor in Chaplaincy.

CIU CHAPLAINCY STUDENTS VISIT SHAW AIR FORCE BASE

By Bob Holmes

Out on the flight line of Shaw Air Force Base in Sumter, South Carolina, it is really noisy. As maintenance crews scurry among rows of F-16s, more of the jets land nearby, causing a thumping sensation against the chest of even those standing at a distance.

It's the perfect place for a military chaplain.

That's what the students enrolled in the Master of Divinity in Military Chaplaincy program at Columbia International University learned as they toured Shaw on a hot and humid October day. Shaw is the headquarters of the 20th Fighter Wing, making it an important and strategic base, the perfect spot for chaplaincy students to be introduced to the spiritual needs of U.S. airmen.

As Master Sgt. Adam Cobb of Shaw's "Tiger AMC" (Aircraft Maintenance Unit) offered the chaplaincy students a close-up look of an F-16, he noted that the flight line can be a lonely place where a chaplain is welcomed.

"It's nice to know that someone cares about you," Cobb shouted over the constant roar. "A lot of times you feel like you're not on anyone's radar out here. Whether or not (an airman) is religious, (a chaplain) really makes a difference."

The same message also came from the top man at Shaw, Colonel Daniel Lasica. As the students sat around Lasica's conference room table, he told them that he could not imagine the military without chaplaincy.

"If chaplaincy were gone, there would be a huge, huge void, and there are not many entities in the military that I can say that about," Lasica said. "It would be a massive impact."

That resonated with chaplaincy student Ben Brandes, a military veteran who served in Afghanistan in 2004-2005 before the Lord saved him and led him to military chaplaincy and CIU. Over lunch, he mingled with 70 new recruits who were just assigned to Shaw.

"I think it's real easy to see how simple it is to connect with people where they're at," Brandes said. "Just to hear the adjustment that these airmen are going through, I think that serves as a great starting point to build a relationship with these guys and asking them, 'What's going on in your life right now?'"

Also on the tour was chaplaincy student Kyle Lambertson who said a lot of what was being explained on the tour was already familiar to him because of his CIU chaplaincy courses. He points to professors, Dr. Mike Langston and Dr. Brian Bohlman, both experienced military chaplains, as giving him "a leg up."



CIU Chaplaincy Professor Brian Bohlman (in fatigues) poses with CIU Chaplaincy students in front of an F-16 at Shaw Air Force Base. (Photo: U.S. Air Force)

"We're coming in with a little bit of knowledge, a little extra background (in chaplaincy)," Lambertson said. "If you're just getting a normal M.Div. you're not going to get that information."

One of the newest chaplains at Shaw is 2007 CIU graduate Nick Lopresto who was recently reassigned to Shaw from a base in Texas. Walking across Shaw with the CIU students, he said that CIU fully equipped him to accomplish the Great Commission as he "visits with the airmen, builds relationships, earns their trust, and then provides the gospel."

"You get the chance to be the visible reminder of The Holy, the incarnational presence of who our Lord is, and let them know, 'the Lord loves you, Christ died for you.'" ■



CIU alumnus Nick Lopresto, a Shaw Air Force Base chaplain discusses his work with CIU students.

WITTINGER!



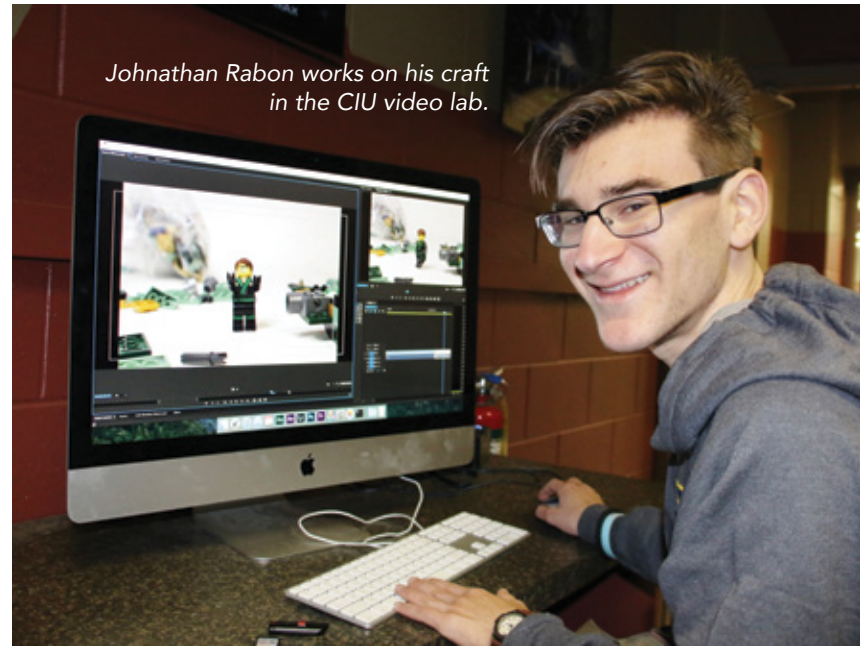
CONGRATS
JOHNATHAN
RABON

VIDEO WORK OF CIU STUDENT FEATURED IN MAINSTREAM FILM

By Michael A. Lanier, CIU Student Writer

Many fans of LEGO building blocks were quite excited at the release of the film, "The LEGO Ninjago Movie," but perhaps one of the most excited fans was Columbia International University freshman Johnathan Rabon, whose video skills are featured in the film. Rabon, who has created a YouTube channel call Hoverfrogfilms is majoring in Digital Media and Cinema at CIU.

In anticipation of the film, LEGO sponsored a contest for stop-motion animation LEGO scenes, a popular genre of video in recent years. The winners would have their contest submission edited into the film. Rabon, who has been working with stop-motion animation for about five years, entered the contest, not expecting much out of it.



Johnathan Rabon works on his craft in the CIU video lab.

"I didn't think I would win," said Rabon, "because they emailed me past the date when they announced the winners."

But Rabon was elated when he learned that he was one of just six grand-prize winners.

"I freaked out a little bit and scared my parents," he remarked with a smile. Rabon's mother is Melina Rabon, a professor of Church Ministry at CIU.

As a winner, Rabon received a complete set of LEGOs related to "The LEGO Ninjago Movie," a behind-the-scenes book of the film signed by the director, and figurines signed by stars of the film.

Rabon's entry titled, "A Day at Work" is featured on TV screens in the background of the main action as the movie opens, and Hoverfrogfilms rolls in the credits. He says since the movie, the number of subscribers on his YouTube channel has increased significantly.

"I'm honored to be able to be in a film," said Rabon when reflecting on the whole series of events. "Film is what I want to do."

Interested in Digital Media and Cinema? Contact CIU at (800) 777-2227 or yesciu@ciu.edu. ■



"A Day at Work (*Winner* Rebrick Ninja For a Day)" by HoverfrogFilms





Meet Tony L. Fajardo

FAMILY

Wife: Becky; married 15 years
Children: Corey is in seventh grade;
Tyler "Ty" is in fourth grade

EDUCATION

Nova Southeastern University
*Master of Science, Management
and Administration of
Educational Programs*

Barry University
Bachelor of Science in Education

FAVORITE VERSE

Rejoice in hope, be patient in
tribulation, be constant in prayer.
Contribute to the needs of the saints
and seek to show hospitality.
—Romans 12:12-13

"To show hospitality — that's what we
do in Christian education. We open
our doors and say, 'welcome'"



Dreaming Big, Praying Much, Serving Others

TONY FAJARDO - THE NEW HEADMASTER OF BEN LIPPEN SCHOOL



PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2010-2017 – Northside Christian
Academy; Charlotte, North Carolina
Head of School

2007-2010 – Florida Bible Christian
School; Miramar, Florida
Secondary Principal

2001-2007 – Dade Christian School;
Miami, Florida
Dean of Students, Teacher, Coach

FUN FACT

"I like to sing in the shower. I don't
even know if I have the right tune.
But I like to worship in the shower. My
wife tells me I should not be singing.
But what safer place than my own
shower?"



The new headmaster at Ben Lippen School learned the English language by watching Sesame Street.

Tony Fajardo came to the United States as a five-year-old when his Cuban parents immigrated to the Miami area and worked hard to make their way into the mainstream of American life – his father employed as a locksmith,

and his mother doing overnight janitorial work in hospitals. The young Fajardo tagged along with his mom when she went to work because his father had to be available for his job 24/7. So in addition to sleeping overnight in hospital beds as his mom cleaned toilets, it was also at the hospitals that Fajardo found other English tutors to supplement Big Bird.

“When I was there late at night, the doctors and nurses helped me with my spelling homework and how to write paragraphs,” Fajardo fondly recalled during an interview in his Ben Lippen office.

The Impact of a Teacher

Ironically, Fajardo was first introduced to Christian schooling through his sixth grade teacher and coach at the public elementary school he was attending. The teacher’s church operated Dade Christian School, and while Fajardo’s parents could not afford the tuition, a scholarship was provided for him by a donor.

“I came to know the Lord in eighth grade in my middle school Bible class. My Bible teacher led me to the Lord,” Fajardo said. “Ever since then I wanted to be a teacher and a coach so I could impact the hearts and minds of young people like mine were impacted by that teacher.”

Fajardo’s climb to position of headmaster began with humble beginning similar to his parents – he cleaned toilets and did other odd jobs for the athletics department at Dade Christian School. Once he finished his teaching degree, he taught middle school science at Dade and worked his way up to administrative positions at two Christian schools in Florida, before serving the past seven years as head of school at Northside Christian Academy in Charlotte, North Carolina. During his tenure there, the Northside high school was named one of the top schools in North Carolina, and recognized as the most diverse Christian school in the state.

“Dreaming big, praying much, others first. To me that challenges what society has put out in front of our kids.”

Creating a Culture of Generosity

But Fajardo says when he and his wife learned of the headmaster opening at Ben Lippen School, they sensed a call to Columbia.

“We felt it was an opportunity to come in and join a great leadership team already in place and continue to expand the mission of Ben Lippen to equip students spiritually, academically, socially, and physically under the Lordship of Jesus Christ – what a great mission that is,” Fajardo said.

Fajardo desires to carry out the Ben Lippen mission by creating “a culture of generosity in the hearts of the students.” He says that is developed in three ways: dreaming big, praying much and serving others. Ultimately, he wants every Ben Lippen student to ask the question: How can I help others with what God has given me?

“I think that challenges the perspective of the world that is saying, ‘everything is about you,’” Fajardo said. “Dreaming big, praying much, others first. To me that challenges what society has put out in front of our kids. If we can together partner in that, I think it helps Christian education, and helps the family face the struggles of tomorrow.”

Creating an Optimal Teaching Environment

As for Ben Lippen’s future, Fajardo has been praying, “Lord what would you have us do next?” The answer to that prayer has been to “expand what the Lord has already blessed us with” and a better balance of what he calls Ben Lippen’s four A’s: Academics, Athletics, Arts and Attitude (spiritual life). He points to the expansion of facilities at the upper school level as a priority.

“This will put our staff in an optimal teaching environment, giving them an opportunity to expand their classrooms with the proper technologies to give our students the best education possible,” Fajardo said.

While he notes Ben Lippen has great athletic facilities, Fajardo looks forward to improving the area of the fine arts — making space for visual arts classes, and expanding band and choir rooms. He says the improvements are necessary in “a very highly competitive education world.”

CIU Relationship

Meanwhile, Fajardo has been spending time in prayer and conversation with CIU’s new president, Dr. Mark Smith, and sees “a great relationship with CIU” ahead.

“We like to talk about a ‘one team, one ministry concept,’ Fajardo said. “As we move forward, many of our decisions will be based on how we make this campus the best campus, and provide the best opportunities for all of our students at Ben Lippen and CIU.” ■



CIU Growing With New Global Business & IT Center

State-of-the Art facility to be named for Chancellor Dr. Bill Jones

Columbia International University Chancellor Dr. William H. “Bill” Jones is known around Columbia for conducting downtown Bible studies with area business professionals, and leading many of them to Christ. It’s from this passion that the Columbia International University Board of Trustees unanimously voted to name a new facility dedicated to business and internet technology, The William H. Jones Global Business & IT Center.

During his 10 years as president of CIU from 2007-2017, Jones often communicated his passion that CIU graduates impact the nations with the message of Christ as professional ministers, such as pastors and missionaries; but also as ministering professionals in the marketplace.



The Global Business & IT Center will be located at the campus entrance near a security gatehouse.

The William H. Jones Global Business & IT Center has four primary goals:

1. Educate university students in best practices for Business and IT and how to integrate those skills into the global world.
2. Provide a corporate training room for Columbia area business professionals to act as a catalyst for business development. This training will begin with the John Maxwell Leadership Forum on April 25 at CIU. (See page 28 for details.)
3. Enhance the campus IT functionality and infrastructure for all staff and students.
4. Provide a high school “Young Professionals Business/IT Academy” for the students of Ben Lippen School, CIU’s Pre-K to 12th grade Christian school.

CIU President Dr. Mark Smith says for over 90 years, CIU has been distinguished for its excellent biblical and theological programs that train graduates for the ministry, and now is increasing its focus on marketplace academic programs taught with a global perspective, equipping students with the business skills needed for the marketplace as well as the mission field.

“To Know Christ and to Make Him Known’
in every profession is our mandate.”

–CIU President Dr. Mark Smith

“It’s important for employees to be great citizens and have a strong work ethic,” Smith added. “There is a direct correlation between a biblical worldview and good citizens. Employers want people who are not only competent in their trade, but trustworthy, honest and hard-working.

The Center and other program initiatives total \$20 million. A CIU donor has already committed \$12 million toward the Center. The university is seeking additional donors to assist in its completion with groundbreaking expected in May. The Center will be located near the entrance to the campus.

For more information on donating to CIU’s expansion plans, contact the CIU Advancement Office at (800) 777-2227, ext. 5500. ■

What CIU leaders are saying about the William H. Jones Global Business & IT Center



Professor Scott Adams | *Director of the Business & Organizational Leadership Program*

“God is raising up His young men and women at CIU to become mighty marketplace servant-leaders — ministering professionals — and the global marketplace is the next great wave of effective evangelism and discipleship. The Center will be the hub of this exciting student training and equipping ministry. From equipping our students to work in businesses, health care facilities, or intercultural leadership, our vision is that the Center will be a beacon for the training and equipping of these ministering professionals.”



Michele Branch-Frappier | *Vice President of Information Technology*

“Technology is a powerful tool that has infiltrated almost every corner of the globe. For believers, technology can facilitate reaching more people in less time by creating innovative solutions to communicate the gospel across economic, social, cultural and geographic boundaries.”



“The environment in the business classes are conducive to growth, encouraging people to shoot for their dreams.”

Luke Harris takes notes in his Business Law class

Graduating with a Full-Time Job

CIU Business student strives to “add value” to the marketplace

By Bob Holmes

Luke Harris has a strategy meeting every Monday morning — with himself. He has to. His schedule is that full.

The CIU senior from Swansea, South Carolina is a full-time student who graduates in May with a bachelor’s degree in Business & Organizational Leadership. But he has already landed a job with Thrivent Financial, operates a landscaping/light construction business that he founded, is getting married this spring, is in the market for a house, and is active in his church.

So, on Monday mornings he gets out a white board and lists his priorities for the week.

“I draw five circles,” Harris explains. “Thrivent, Harris and Williams (his business), Laura (his fiancée), school and church, not necessarily in that order.” Then he asks himself, “Where am I allocating my time?”

More of that time will soon be going to Thrivent, a financial consulting company that specializes in faith-based planning. Harris contacted Thrivent last year when he was looking for a business summer internship. A Thrivent representative told him they don’t offer internships, but took him to lunch.

“I was told, ‘I like your drive. I’m going to give you a shot at working for us,’” Harris recalled.

Harris’ early success, even before graduation, does not surprise CIU Business Professor Amy Dubois.

“Luke is very bright and has great initiative,” Dubois said. “I have had the opportunity to talk with some of his colleagues and they have nothing but wonderful things to say about him.”

While Harris says he has always been a person with drive, he notes that the CIU Business program has provided guidance for his future success.

“The environment in the business classes are conducive to growth, encouraging people to shoot for their dreams,” Harris said.

It is in the CIU Business program that he learned about an ethical principle called “adding value.”

“That really transformed the way I thought about things, and the way I thought about interviewing (for a job),” Harris said.

"That's what every employer wants to see, 'How will this person add value (to the company)?"

That's exactly what Professor Dubois wants to hear from her students.

"It is important to know who we are in Christ, so when we go into the workplace, we can operate at our best," Dubois said. "We all have unique gifts, passions, and abilities. Watching students discover what these are is one of my greatest joys in teaching. It has been so great to see Luke excel as he uses his gifts and follows the Lord in beginning his career."

Meanwhile, (as if he didn't have anything else to do), Harris is studying to add credentials to his name at Thrivent so he can assist more people with various types of financial advice and products. He notes that the potential for earnings is high, but he says he's not in it for the money.

"I enjoy helping people with their finances. I know the first three years is going to be really hard, but having a company that I believe in, is a reason to stay."

And that makes a professor's heart glad.

"It is a great pleasure to see young men and women who not only excel in professional settings, but also represent Christ well," Dubois said. "Luke is one of those students. He carries the light of Jesus with him wherever he goes. He is very kind and humble, while also being confident in his God-given talents. I am very excited to see what God has in store for him." ■

A Surprise in the Mail

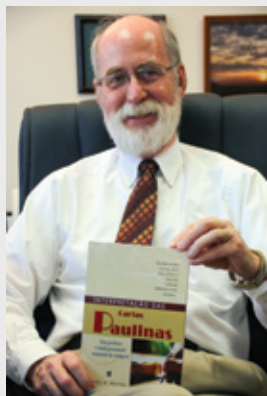
Dr. John Harvey was excited in early November when he opened his mail to find two copies of a book he authored in 2012, "Interpreting the Pauline Letters," translated into Portuguese.

"It was a total surprise," said the dean of Columbia Biblical Seminary. "I didn't know it was happening. It's encouraging to see something we've done here go around the world."

Harvey describes "Interpreting the Pauline Letters" as "a method for taking a passage from one of Paul's letters from text to sermon." Calling it "an excellent resource for pastors," his desire is that the book "will help people understand how to interpret apply and communicate Scripture more accurately."

The book is published by Kregel.

Harvey was also surprised nearly 10 years ago when his 2008 book, "Anointed with the Spirit and Power: A Biblical Theology of Holy Spirit Empowerment" was published in Korean. ■



The First CIU MBA Cohort Diverse in Background, United in Purpose

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



CIU online Business
Professor Dr. Mark Beadle

The Fall term of 2017 marked a significant milestone in the history of Columbia International University as CIU's first ever Master of Business Administration (MBA) class was held. The students in the first cohort for this online degree are quite diverse. One is from Burkina Faso (Africa), another from the Midwest and yet another works for QVC, a home shopping television network.

Through this program, God is bringing future business leaders to CIU. Our commitment is to educate these students from a biblical worldview to impact the nations with the message of Christ. What better way to fulfill God's purpose and glorify Him than by sending CIU graduates to serve Him in the workplaces of Columbia, South Carolina, the United States and the world?

An experienced team of professors is instructing the business program. Among them is Dr. Mark Beadle, who adds his own bit of diversity to the mix. He has been to 35 countries, worked in Saudi Arabia and started an online Christian school called Sevenstar.

When asked about the new MBA program, one student wrote that he is pursuing an MBA "because it will expand my career opportunities and advance my professional and leadership skills." He is finding that expectation to be delivered as he learns essential business practices in the context of a biblical worldview that the business community so desperately needs today.

Another student wrote to Dr. Beadle, "Thank you Dr. Beadle! I learned so much from your class and I hope you teach more. I really enjoyed the structure and felt you gave great input throughout. I couldn't have had a better professor in the beginning of this degree."

A third student simply wrote: "I thank God because of what He has done for me, allowing me to attend this MBA program and to widen my knowledge through this course."

These students and professors are finding that the comprehensive MBA course material fits the distinctive of CIU, and adheres to what a Christian college should be offering. As renowned educator Arthur F. Holmes wrote in his book, "The Idea of a Christian College," a Christian education "cultivates the creative and active integration of faith and learning, of faith and culture."

Apply to CIU's online MBA program at onlinestudies.ciu.edu. For more information call (800) 777-2227 or email yesciu@ciu.edu. ■

CIU Athletics: Here We GROW Again

Two sports added to the roster begin this fall

By Mitch Strauser and Bob Holmes

Opportunities for athletes to glorify God through their athletic abilities continue to expand at Columbia International University. Two sports will be added this fall led by two seasoned and successful head coaches.

Men's Golf

Men's golf returns to CIU with Coach Matt Decker, former Ohio Christian University golf coach. At OCU, Decker led the Trailblazers to numerous championships and helped players set personal records.

CIU Athletics Director James Whitaker says he's excited that golf is back after the program was put on hold for two years.

"We are looking forward to seeing the young men that God will bring to CIU to play golf," Whitaker said. "We're also excited to have an experienced coach to lead our program. Matt Decker will do a great job of building a strong golf program."

Meanwhile, Decker says CIU has the right environment for the golf program to grow.

"The high standards set by the athletics director, the Christ-centered campus community, and the fact that a golf team can play and practice year-round, all set the table for the development of student-athletes," Decker said. "CIU is a great place for a young golfer to grow into a better student, athlete and Christian."

Women's Volleyball

The first collegiate women's volleyball team takes to the court this fall under the guidance of Head Coach Amber Haver, known around the Columbia area for her success at the high school level.

As the former head volleyball coach at Gray Collegiate Academy in West Columbia, Haver led the War Eagles in their inaugural 2016 season to a perfect 10-0 season in regional play, and to a deep run in the state playoffs. In 2017, the team clinched another regional championship and a berth in the Final Four. In two years, Haver produced eight All-Region players, three All-State players, one Region Player of the Year, and the highest collective GPA of any athletic team at the academy. In addition, she was named South Carolina Coach of the Year for Class AA and Region III.

Haver is known for her character-based coaching style. Her goal is to develop the whole athlete, with a focus not only on skill improvement, but also on an increase of discipline, integrity, athleticism, character and nutrition.

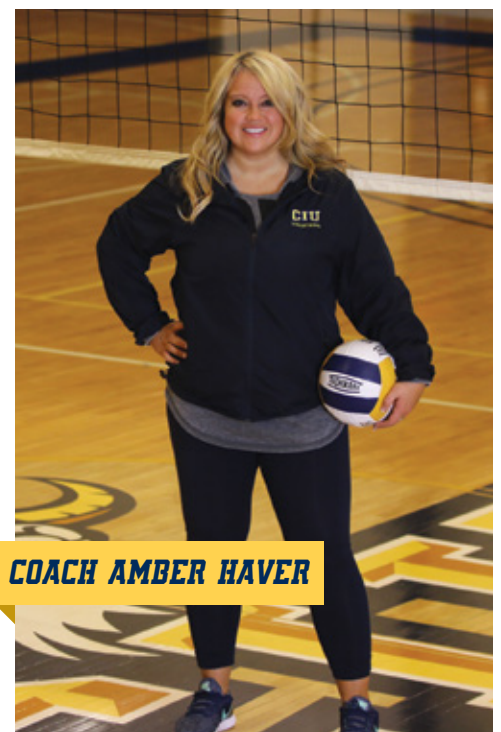
"I'm looking forward to assisting young women in their walk with Christ," Haver said. "I want the volleyball program to set a precedent in the first year and start a tradition of competitive excellence." ■



CIURAMS.COM



COACH MATT DECKER



COACH AMBER HAVER

Ben Lippen Student Participates in Junior Olympic Development Program

Ben Lippen junior Brad Lehman was one of only 12 students from across the country, and the only one from South Carolina, invited to participate in the USA Junior Olympic Development program in International Skeet held in Colorado in August.

Brad trained and practiced with gold-medal-winning coaches and members of Team USA while staying at the United States Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. He was selected based on certified tournament results, his performance at the 2016 Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) State Championship, as well as academic performance, character and potential for furthering his skills at a higher level. ■

Brad Lehman ▶
(photo courtesy
Lehman family)



CIU Women's Soccer Shines

The CIU women's soccer team excelled on and off the field during the 2017 season. The Lady Rams were recognized with five separate awards.

NCCAA South All-Region Team

Alanna Battermann, Sotiria Tsilonis and Angela McMaster were named to the National Christian College Athletic Association (NCCAA) South All-Region Team. Athletes are named to this team by South Region coaches for their play throughout the year.

NCCAA All-Tournament Team

Goal Keeper Sam Wammock was named to the NCCAA All-Tournament Team for her stellar play at the tournament: 20 saves in two games.

NCCAA Fall Scholar Team

Scholar Team is a compilation of the student-athletes' Grade Point Averages (GPA). To be eligible, teams need a minimum GPA of 3.40 on a 4.00 scale. The Rams GPA was 3.60. That's the highest GPA among NCCAA women's soccer teams.

United Soccer Coaches National Top Ten NCCAA Division 1

Because of the Rams outstanding play, they finished the season ranked #8 in the nation. The rankings are determined by coaches around the nation.

United Soccer Coaches Team Ethics Award of Merit

This is the third year in a row that the Rams have received the Ethics Award. It's given to teams receiving no red cards and a minimum number of yellow cards. ■

1st Annual

CIU Golf Classic

Wednesday, May 2, 2018

Enjoy a great day of golf and assist in the growth of CIU athletics. Future plans include a baseball program and the expansion of sports facilities including a field house and an eight-lane, Olympic-style track.

Join us for the **1st Annual CIU Golf Classic** at **Woodcreek Farms Golf Course** in Columbia, designed by world-renown golf course architect Tom Fazio.

Details and registration at ciu.edu/golfclassic.



“Everybody has a story. When you look at them with that perspective, you view people differently.”

– Debbie Smith

Getting to know the First Lady of CIU Ladies Fellowship Welcomes Debbie Smith

By Naomi Balk, CIU Student Writer

Debbie Smith says if she could teach one class at Columbia International University it would be “Hospitality.”

Smith, the wife of CIU President Dr. Mark Smith, was the special guest of Wives Fellowship, a regular on-campus gathering of women, many of them the wives of CIU students. The women became better acquainted with the new First Lady of CIU through a Q&A session at the October event.

Before coming to CIU last summer, the Smiths lived in Circleville, Ohio where her husband was president of Ohio Christian University, and one of her roles was hospitality where she says you have the opportunity to “love people well and get to know them deeply.”

“Everybody has a story,” Smith said. “When you look at them with that perspective, you view people differently.”

Smith was born in Greenville, Pennsylvania, the seventh of seven children. She graduated from Hobe Sound Bible College in Florida with a degree in Elementary Education. It was there she met her husband. They’ve been married for 31 years

and have two sons; 22-year-old Douglas who is married, and 13-year-old Micah, an eighth grader at Ben Lippen School, CIU’s Pre-K to 12th grade Christian school.

“Being with my boys is my happy place,” Smith said about her family.

As Smith continues to settle into a new home, city and campus, she says she wants to “learn from the best,” referring to former CIU First Lady Debby Jones, the wife of Dr. Bill Jones who now serves as CIU chancellor. Smith says her constant prayer is, “Lord, where do you want me to be?”

She includes her mother among those most influential in her life, teaching her and her siblings to have a heart for people and looking for the best in them.

“She taught us how to love well,” Smith said.

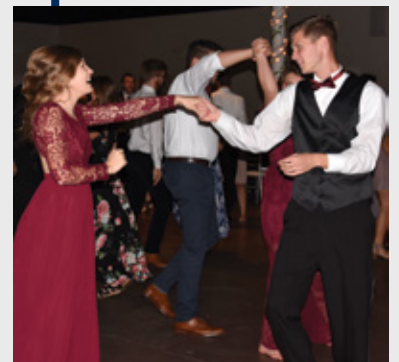
CIU senior Alicia Heatherly was among those who said they appreciated getting to know Mrs. Smith at the Wives Fellowship.

“She strikes me as a very personable and kind person,” Heatherly said. ■



Winter Formal

Meghann Miller and Andrew Haylett dance at “A Night in the Garden,” the theme of the Winter Formal held at The Gala by JW in Northeast Columbia.





▲ Dr. Bryan Beyer with freshman Ingrid Peterson

CIU Sets Record for Blood Donation

By Michael A. Lanier, CIU Student Writer

The annual American Red Cross blood donation day at Columbia International University was record-setting. A total of 60 units was donated Sept. 25, breaking the old CIU record of 51 units set in 2012.

A steady stream of students, faculty, and staff lined up in the Rossi Student Center from morning until evening including sophomore Abigail Alfaro.

"It was a rewarding experience because of the lives I could save just by giving blood," Alfaro said.

The Grace Coffee shop in the Student Center rewarded the donors with beverages. Similarly, a local Chick-Fil-A offered food to the donors and a chance to win free meals for a year.

"It's pretty amazing," said junior Andrew Haylett. "It was quite an experience, knowing I saved lives just by giving blood."

"It's an hour of discomfort to literally save people's lives," added junior Chase Effler. "I can't be selfish with my blood."

The enthusiasm made Dr. Bryan Beyer, CIU's dean of the College of Arts & Sciences especially happy. He is a member of the BioMed Committee at the local Red Cross.

"I'm very grateful for the partnership with Chick-Fil-A and Grace Coffee, and I'm proud that our students have stepped up and given the largest amount we've ever given," Beyer said. ■

CIU: A Place for Poets, Painters and other Artists

By Naomi Balk, CIU Student Writer

In a dimmed atmosphere of fairy lights, a blazing hearth fire, and the aroma of coffee, Columbia International University students shared an evening of art and poetry at an October exposition co-hosted by student organizations The Credo and The Exchange.

Sophomore Blaise Shields, the president of The Exchange said the event "was for people to get their art out in the open so that people can be recognized as artists."

"A part of wrestling with who we are and what we believe is done through art," added senior Elizabeth Branch who heads The Credo.

The event was held in the lobby of the Moore Fitness Center where there was space for students to savor and appreciate each other's art in the form of paintings and photography before settling in for a time of poetry reading.

Poetry topics included the Christian walk, struggles with anxiety, and the joy of giving.



"I really enjoyed people's willingness to share and I feel like I know them better because of it," sophomore Anna Thompkins said.

"It was a chance to see a different side of people," added junior Will Huff.

Reflecting on the exposition, sophomore Nathan Stewart said that he thinks everyone should write poetry.

"One part of doing art is the enjoyment of making it, and the other is sharing it." ■

The Difference You Make

For Guillermo and Agustin Arce-Ruiz, donor scholarships changed their lives. The brothers are originally from Mendoza, Argentina but have been living in Beaufort, South Carolina for over 16 years. Both graduated in 2017 with bachelor degrees in Business & Organizational Leadership and Bible.

Agustin was the first to enroll at CIU.

"I wasn't originally looking into CIU. However, everything fell into place and it was amazing," Agustin said.

It was his life-changing experience at CIU that influenced Guillermo to attend as well.

Due to their immigrant status they were both ineligible for federal scholarships. That's why donor scholarships were so important.

"It was huge," Guillermo said. "It was the only way we could come."

The brothers played soccer for the CIU Rams, and Guillermo is especially thankful for his soccer coach James Whitaker, who was a role model and mentor in his life.

"I was blessed to be able to coach both Agustin and Guillermo," said Whitaker, who is now the CIU athletics director. "I'm so proud of both of them especially for their drive and work ethic to succeed in everything they did. They maximized the opportunity they were given and used that opportunity to grow in soccer, in relationships, in their academics, and in their walk with God."

Guillermo has begun his career at Grow Financial Credit Union as a relationship specialist. He says he enjoys helping others with their financial matters. Agustin is a team administrator and equipment manager for the United Soccer League in Charlotte, North Carolina. His professional goal is to work in the business side of professional soccer.

The brothers are immensely grateful for the generosity of CIU scholarship donors.

"All I can say is that I am beyond thankful for their financial support," Agustin said. "I look forward to beginning my career and being a donor in the future. I will forever be thankful for the amazing opportunity that was given to me at CIU."

"Every donation makes a difference!" Guillermo added.

You can also make a difference. Read more at: ciu.edu/difference. ■



Open Doors of Opportunity – Contribute to Scholarships

Over 90 percent of CIU students rely on financial assistance. That's why when you contribute to scholarships, you open doors of opportunity. Your gift will directly impact students who are following the call "To Know Him and to Make Him Known."

Become a Monthly CIU Fund Supporter

Join the 150 donors who use the convenience of monthly automatic giving through their bank or credit card account.

"It is our joy and honor to give back to the CIU community with a monthly contribution. Attending CIU made such a positive impact on us. We know the monthly financial support allows others to study at a university that is steeped in solid Christian core values, prepared for the advancement of the kingdom work of Jesus Christ."

–David ('89) and Lana ('90) Cromeenes

Make a Gift, Make an Impact



GIVE ONLINE
give.ciu.edu



CALL US
(803) 807-5006

WRITE TO:
CIU
Advancement Office
Box 3122
Columbia, SC 29230

Sponsor a Recurring Scholarship

You can make a difference in the life of a student for as little as \$1,500/year for five years. Recurring Scholarships include The Jesse Fund for students in the Psychology program. It was established in memory of Jesse Adkins ('10) who died unexpectedly just a few months after graduating.

Build a Tower Fund

Chuck ('82) and Penny Paxton began their tower fund in 2014 and contribute a moderate amount to the fund each month. This is a great beginning to build toward an endowed scholarship over time. Some Tower Funds have reached the \$10,000 mark in as early as one year, but many will take longer (\$1000/yr. for 10 years).

Establish an Endowed Scholarship

Larger gifts can be invested long term and students are helped by the interest earned. This provides CIU with a long-lasting resource for financial aid. Gavin Hamilton, a Scottish traveling preacher, was so impressed with the quality of Bible teaching offered at CIU that he included CIU in his will, creating the Gavin and Margaret Hamilton Scholarship. Other Hamilton family members have contributed to the scholarship through their wills.

Plan Your Legacy Gift

When a dear CIU friend and former board member passed away recently, she named CIU as beneficiary of her life insurance policy. She designated a portion of this legacy gift to be used for the family's named scholarship and a portion toward the #RenovateShortess project scheduled to begin this summer.

Find out more about scholarships at ciu.edu/studentdebt or contact Frank Bedell frank.bedell@ciu.edu.



Take a Turn in the Right Direction

Begin Your Stewardship Journey

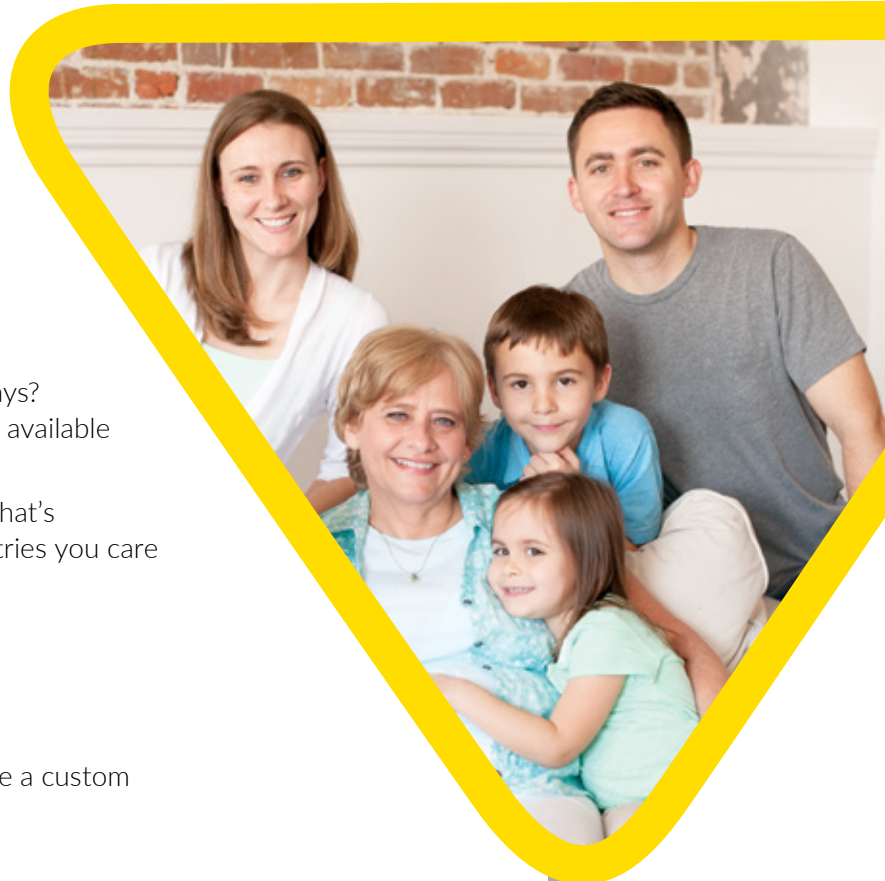
Would you like to get involved and support CIU in exciting ways? You may be surprised to discover that there are many options available with gift planning.

Let us help you make a turn in the right direction with a plan that's customized for you and your goals, so that giving to the ministries you care about becomes possible today.

»» Become part of our team, inspire others and create a lasting legacy.

Visit our **website** to learn about the many ways you can create a custom gift plan. Ready to talk now? **Give us a call.**

Find out more at (803) 807-5500 or ciu.edu/plannedgiving.



JOHN MAXWELL LEADERSHIP FORUM

John Maxwell to Hold Leadership Forum at CIU



Dr. John Maxwell, one of the most influential leadership experts in the world, is coming to Columbia International University for a Leadership Forum on April 25.

Maxwell is a #1 New York Times bestselling author, coach, and speaker who

has sold more than 26 million books in 50 languages. Each year Maxwell speaks to Fortune 500 companies, presidents of nations, and many of the world's top business executives. More than six million leaders from every country of the world have received training through The John Maxwell Company, The John Maxwell Team, EQUIP, and the John Maxwell Leadership Foundation.

In 2014, Maxwell was identified as the #1 leader in business by the American Management Association® and the most influential leadership expert in the world by Business Insider and Inc. magazine.

Maxwell says his passion in life is "growing and equipping others to do remarkable things and lead significant and fulfilled lives."

"There's no greater mission for me," Maxwell adds. "There's no higher goal than to help others realize their significance and potential."


CIU President Dr. Mark Smith says Maxwell has been his personal mentor for several years and has changed the way he leads. He says Leadership Forum attendees will be introduced to:

- World class teaching on leadership
- Principles for effective leadership
- Access to Maxwell's latest leadership book
- How to lead with influence
- Given a framework for leadership.

The Leadership Forum is open to the public from 2- 4 p.m. in Shortess Chapel. Tickets are \$250. Alumni may purchase tickets at the special rate of \$50. Register at ciu.edu/Maxwell, select the Single Ticket option, and enter the Discount Code: `ciumaxwell`.

A special VIP Luncheon with John Maxwell features a CEO panel discussion with Tobin Cassels, president of Southeastern Freight Lines; Jim Morgan, former CEO of Krispy Kreme; and bestselling author Hans Finzel, CEO of HDLeaders.

For more information and registration visit ciu.edu/Maxwell.



Mike Matheson ('99)
and his family

CIU: A Foundation for God's Call

Mike Matheson ('99) was born in Brazil to Christian missionaries and, as you might expect, was greatly influenced by the Christian environment around him.

However, it wasn't until Matheson went on a missions trip at age 16 that he became serious about his faith. As he says, "God shifted my heart." This was also where the first seeds of Matheson's calling to minister to youth were planted, but it would take some time for that calling to manifest itself.

Influenced by his youth pastor, a Columbia International University alumnus, Matheson enrolled at CIU as a youth ministry major. It was at CIU that God prepared him for a calling in both youth ministry and missions. In his own words, "What CIU did for me was give me the tools and strong foundation to build whatever ministry God called me to."

Psalm 71:17-18 later influenced him, particularly verse 18: "Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, my God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your mighty acts to all who are to come." After graduation, Matheson would go on to minister to youth with Wycliffe Bible translators, shaping and influencing the lives of the next generation who are wondering what calling God has for their life.

Whenever he can, Matheson encourages youth to enroll at CIU, presenting them with the Alumni Referral Grant that assists with tuition costs. Seven students have taken him up on the offer.

"I know it. I trust it," Matheson says of recommending CIU. "I know the education is going to be quality, and I know their experience will be great."

How about you? To whom can you present the Alumni Referral Grant?
Ask that student to visit: ciu.edu/referral. ■

RECAP

CIU Homecoming '17

A TIME OF CELEBRATION AND REMINISCING

Homecoming 2017 was an incredible time to reconnect with classmates and to celebrate what God is doing at CIU through faculty, staff, students, and alumni around the world. It included the inauguration of new CIU president Dr. Mark Smith who challenged alumni to pray daily for God's blessing within and beyond CIU. Join our 1000 Prayer Partners at ciu.edu/prayer.



Inauguration



At the Ram Run finish line



Jane Hartzler ('77) and classmates



Adam Erickson ('07) with Dr. Dan DeLozier



President Smith sings with Forever Changed



Professor Andre Melvin ('07)



Class of 2007



Jack Layman ('60) and Ralph Enlow ('77/'87)



Dr. Brian Simmons



President Mark Smith with his parents Mr. and Mrs. John Smith



Josie Lesondak ('08) and Daniel



Ram Run



Ben Lippen Headmaster Tony Fajardo with Vice President Keith Marion ('79)



Former President Johnny Miller and wife Jeanne



Game Time!

Save the date for Homecoming 2018 - November 2-3!

2018 ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR / DR. Y. ARMANIOUS ('04)



Dr. Y. Armanious ('04) is the director of Pioneers Mobilization Office for North Africa and the Middle East and founder of the Egypt-based missionary organization Streams of Living Water. He has been serving in the region for over three decades where he established missionary training schools, orphanages, and prayer networks in Sudan and Egypt. Dr. Armanious has a 10-year vision to train and send out 1,000 Arab church planters. Currently, 92 dedicated servants are being disciplined for long-term church planting careers. Additionally, the House of Hope Children's Home in Juba, South Sudan, hosts 31 orphaned and neglected girls.



COLUMBIA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

RECENT ALUMNI

Recognition Award

Recent alumni are impacting the nations with the message of Christ as they fulfill their professional callings in ministry, missions and the marketplace. The following seven people represent thousands of others who are glorifying God around the world. Read more about them at ciu.edu/RaRa.



Faith Kenoyer ('12)
Ph.D. in Educational Leadership

Faith has served for 24 years in North Africa as head of a private international school. She has a passion for helping

third culture kids adapt and thrive in a new culture.

"This year we have 14 different cultures in the school. Children growing up away from their parents' home country have specific challenges as they adjust to a culture that is not their own. Staff members help these 'third culture kids' adjust to the local culture, learn a foreign language, and provide them with a supportive environment where they can thrive."



Todd Marrah ('09)
Ph.D. in Educational Leadership

Todd serves as superintendent at Tree of Life Christian School and as executive pastor of Rock City Church

in Columbus, Ohio where he recently helped launch a business and incubator center in the area. He is also a board member of the Columbus Dream Center and the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI).

"I had a professor who told me in the first week of CIU classes, 'Don't be overwhelmed by all that you have to do. Simply persevere in the next thing we ask you do. You'll learn what you're supposed to learn and you'll graduate!' That's not just good for school, that's good for life."

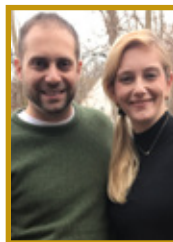


Jacob Pursely ('06)
M.A. in Muslim Studies,
Ph.D. Candidate

Jacob has been ministering in the Middle East since 2002 serving as an elder at a church he

planted and at a sister church. He is an evangelist, apologist, and founder of a ministry school in the Middle East. He also facilitates reconciliation between Turkish and Armenian Christians over the Armenian Genocide that took place 100 years ago.

"It has been a joy and privilege to serve our King in the Middle East for over 15 years. Experienced and knowledgeable CIU professors prepared me to serve in the Middle East, and I established ministry partners in the classroom who serve with me today."



Erich ('05) Schindler
Bachelor's Degree in Humanities

Kelley ('06) Schindler
Bachelor's Degree in Intercultural Studies

Erich and Kelley have served as missionaries in Taipei, Taiwan for 10 years. They assist in operating two gospel coffee houses and a church, as well as ministering to moms and their children at a local mission center.

"We don't go to church. We are the Church. We believe God has called us to take the church into places where it currently doesn't exist. Using a non-traditional church-planting platform such as a gospel coffee house, gives us opportunities to interact with and bless our community, while at the same time sharing the love of Jesus with many who have never heard about Him."



Amelia McNeilly ('08)
Bachelor of Science in Communication

Amelia lives and blogs from her home base in North Carolina. From 2009-2015, she served as a booking agent for

three Christian comedians in Hollywood while reviewing over 480 books on the website Goodreads. Despite having Cerebral Palsy, she doesn't stop!

"I saw the Lord at work in what some call a dark and crazy place. I saw Jesus lived out in Hollywood — which is my dream."



Jay Ezelle ('11)
Bachelor of Science in Youth Ministry

Jay ministered as a youth pastor from 2007-2013. Today he serves as a sheriff's deputy in Pulaski, Virginia where

he received a Lifesaving Award in 2017.

"Working in law enforcement, I've had more opportunities to grow relationships. Dealing with different people in different situations every day, I look for back-door approaches to speak truth into their lives, and I work hard to give people a positive outlook on law enforcement. Regardless of career or vocation, the Lord will use you to impact those around you." ■

Is there someone you would like to nominate?

Contact the Alumni Office at (803) 807-5500 or alumni@ciu.edu

ALUMNI CLASS NOTES

Betty Overcash Yount ('54/'55) is now living at Laurel Crest Retirement Center in West Columbia, South Carolina where she has taught Bible studies for 17 years. She has 10 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. bbyount@bellsouth.net

Sarah Willingham ('60) has redesigned and published her late father's publications. Thomas Fountain ('40) under his Spanish name, Tomás de la Fuente, wrote many Bible-centered books, textbooks and booklets in Spanish, some of which are still in use in Spanish-speaking seminaries. He also wrote Christian books in English including one on hermeneutics, "Keys to Biblical Interpretation." librosdelafuente.org

Dick ('63) and Mary Ann Shutt ('64) McCloy, "retreaded" after teaching in Africa for 35 years, now teach Bible to public school students through the School Time Bible Ministries in Lexington, South Carolina. With parental permission, the students are transported to a church during the school day for an 11-week study of Genesis to Revelation, based on the "Progress of Redemption" course from the McCloy's days at Columbia Bible College. Dick.mccloy@gmail.com



Ron ('63) and Sharon Shonkwiler ('64) Stoltzfus have been working with Wycliffe Bible Translators and the Summer Institute of Linguistics for over 50 years. Through God's grace, wisdom and strength they have published the New Testament and an Old Testament summary in

the Huarijio language for the people of Sonora, Mexico. They had a dedication ceremony with a group of Huarijio people in January 2017. ron_stoltzfus@sil.org



Rick ('77) and Deb Miller served for 18 years in Japan with OMF International and the International Mission Board. Today they serve at Cornerstone Baptist Church in Goldston, North Carolina where Rick is senior pastor. They are blessed with nine grandchildren! Rickdeb1976@gmail.com

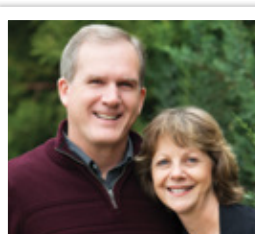
Larry Peck ('80) received his Ph.D. in Instructional Design and Technology from Old Dominion University in May 2017. He is married to Debbie (Nehlsen) Peck ('76). They live with their daughter Andrea in Pineville, North Carolina. Larry directs a study abroad program called Rome with Purpose. Larrypeck53@gmail.com



Chaplain Harry Rauch ('85) retired from the U.S. Army where he served over 33 years of active duty military service. He and his wife, Natalie, live in Hawaii. harry.rauch@icloud.com



Robert ('86) and Debra Holley ('86) Sipper celebrated their 31st wedding anniversary. They met at CIU in 1985 and were married the next year. Today they live in Hillsborough, North Carolina where Robert serves as pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church. They have two grown children, Stephen and Rebecca. Debbie.sipper22@gmail.com



Bryan and Janet Thompson ('90) After 23 years of missionary service with OMF International in Japan, God has led them to a role in mobilization with OMF based in Littleton, Colorado. Bryan oversees the Volunteer Ministry, equipping believers in the United States to represent the needs of the unreached in East Asia. Janet serves in Member Care, leading a prayer team and following up on missionaries who have left the field. bjthompson5@gmail.com

Tommy and Margaret Fraser ('92) Barron welcomed their first grand baby, Dawson Connor McGranaghan. mfraserbarron@gmail.com



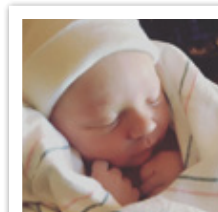
Howard ('94) and Stacie Lederfind live in Ellenboro, North Carolina where he has been serving as youth pastor at Liberty Baptist Church for the past 19 years. He has had 28 years in youth ministry and is grateful for his experience at Columbia Biblical Seminary, especially in the Youth Ministry program with Michael Holt and David Olshine! In January 2015, he started teaching at Covington Theological Seminary extension while working toward a doctoral degree. lederfind@bellsouth.net

Joel and Irene Alexander ('96/'03) Jobin are living in the French-speaking Canadian province of Quebec where many have never heard the gospel. irene.alexander@videotron.ca

Stewart and Sharon Ebersole ('02) Hobbie and their son Samuel live in Montgomery, Alabama where Sharon enjoys teaching English to international students. hobbiesrus2@gmail.com

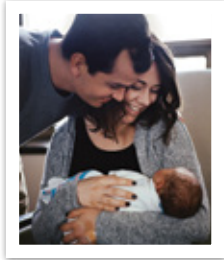
Erich ('05) and Kelly ('06) Schindler have been serving as missionaries in Taipei, Taiwan for almost 10 years. They assist in operating a gospel coffee house and church in the city. Additionally, they minister to local moms and their children at a mission center in their neighborhood. They have two sons, Max and Samuel. krschindler30@hotmail.com

Adam ('07) and Hannah Rumberger ('08) Erickson, along with daughters Zelda and Lily, welcomed Titus to their family on Dec. 5, 2017. adam@adamcerickson.com



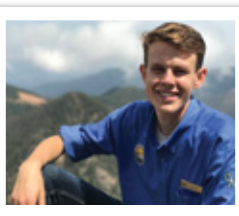
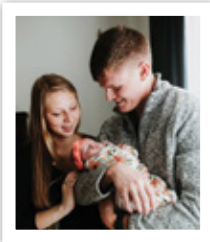
Collin Cornell ('09) will finish his Ph.D. in Old Testament in Spring 2018. He recently edited a book of sermons preached by Nibs Stroupe, the former pastor of Oakhurst Presbyterian Church, a multiracial congregation in metro Atlanta where Collin and his wife Vienna are members. The book, "Deeper Waters," calls for preaching that is evangelical and emancipatory, unashamed of the good news about Christ's death and resurrection and resolute in resistance to white supremacy. collin.cornell@emory.edu

Andrew ('13) and Challie Shaver ('14) Monk welcomed Boone Zion into their family on Oct. 9, 2017. Andrew is a manager of fulfillments at The Cason Group in Columbia, South Carolina. challiemonk@gmail.com



Antonio Sherman ('15) received his (D.M.S.) Doctorate of Martial Science & Philosophy after 49 years of studying. imnikida2u@yahoo.com

Blake ('16) and Raena Hannink ('15) Tindle welcomed Holland Walker into their family on Nov. 1, 2017. Blake serves in the Armed Forces. Proud grandparents are Jack and Tina Tindle, a CIU staff member. Raena.hannink@mailbox.ciu.edu

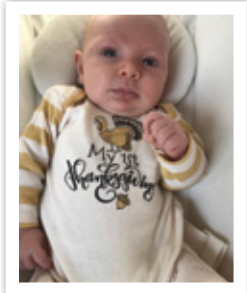


Mitchell Gebel ('16) moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado in November of 2016 where he works as a ranch hand at Emerald Valley Ranch, an off-property division of the Broadmoor Hotel, a five-star, five-diamond resort. mitchell.gebel@mailbox.ciu.edu



Dot Strickland ('16) In October 2016 God called her to be program director and marketing manager at Cedar Campus, an Intersivity training center in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Full-time camp ministry has been Dot's long-held dream. dot.strickland@intersivity.org

Jud ('17) and Nicole Jones ('10) Brooker welcomed Myles Judson into their family on Sept. 27, 2017. Jud is CIU's cross country and track coach as well as CIU's fitness and recreation director. Judson.brooker@ciu.edu



Tai Wai David Yip ('17) lives with his family in Hong Kong where he is the senior pastor of Joyful Praise Assembly and the president of Hong Kong Institute of Christian Counselors. taiwai.yip@mailbox.ciu.edu ■

In Memoriam

Remembering Earl McQuay ('54)

Former CIU administrator and professor, Dr. Earl P. McQuay ('54) entered the presence of his Lord and Savior on Oct. 31, 2017.

Dr. McQuay was converted to Christ in the First Baptist Church of Charlotte, North Carolina under the ministry of Billy Graham in 1947. He began studying and preaching God's Word when he was 16 years old and was ordained at 21 years old. The ordination took place at the First Baptist Church of Leesville, South Carolina where he was called to pastor in his senior year at CIU. Dr. McQuay was the founding pastor of Grace Baptist Church in Sarasota, Florida in 1956.

Dr. McQuay's two periods of employment at CIU spanned 30 years beginning in 1959, serving as dean of Student Affairs and professor of New Testament Survey and Pastoral Ministry. He also taught for six years at Denver Seminary, authoring 15 books during his teaching career.

Dr. McQuay also served as interim pastor of several churches in South Carolina and Denver. Upon his retirement to Sarasota, he served as interim pastor at Bethel Community Church for nine years.

- Luella Anson Steppe ('43)** – July 2017
- Alvida Craft Dickerson ('44)** – January 2018
- Alma Edith Welch ('47)** – December 2017
- Dewey Cockrell ('49)** – June 2017
- Roy Richard Eichner ('52)** – November 2017
- Raymond Dubert ('54)** – June 2017
- Philip Christiansen ('58)** – August 2017
- Charles Hattaway ('58)** – October 2017
- Ivan Felton ('59)** – October 2017
- James Hammond ('59)** – January 2018
- J. Robert Briley ('61)** – July 2017
- Carol Owens-Bidewell ('62)** – October 2017
- Richard "Dick" Dye ('62)** – October 2017
- John Haines ('62)** – November 2017
- Frank Forward ('63)** – December 2017
- Kathryn Garrison Durand ('65)** – August 2017
- Denis Keith Forster ('66)** – January 2018
- Kenneth Ward ('66)** – November 2017
- Jacquelin Brown ('70)** – November 2017
- Donald Royster ('71)** – October 2017
- Priscilla Phillips ('77)** – October 2017
- William Erving ('78)** – October 2017
- Lillian Sachs ('79)** – September 2017
- Stephen Claiborne ('84)** – November 2017
- Elizabeth Wilcox Williams ('92)** – December 2017
- Queenie Canzater ('03)** – July 2017
- Brian Kooyman ('07)** – November 2017
- Amy Todd ('15)** – January 2018
- Stanford Karnwie ('16)** – November 2017
- Ronnie McFadden ('16)** – July 2017
- Bill Leavel (former staff)** – November 2017
(former Food Services director)
- Rigba Wolfe (former staff)** – October 2017
(former Physical Plant director)
- Paula Harrison (former staff)** – November 2017

Update your alumni profile @ ciu.me/alumniprofile

Making Him Known — The Vision

Columbia International University has the ingredients to meet our nation's and the world's greatest needs. We have Christ and we have education.

Experts estimate that two thirds of all new jobs will require a baccalaureate degree, and by 2025 there will be a shortage of 23 million college-educated adults in the American workforce. In addition, we are all aware of the moral and ethical decay that pervades the culture.

This puts CIU in a unique position in history to make an impact like never before. The best way to create a great society is to introduce the world to Christ, and we do that through education from a biblical worldview.

Here are some specific initiatives introduced at my inauguration in November to address these issues and go "on the offense" to meet the challenges ahead:

1. We are focusing on prayer, and requesting that you would be among 1,000 prayer warriors who will join us. Our prayer request is that CIU experience the Spirit of God and that the students know Christ, not just know about Him. We want them to leave CIU with hearts aflame and a charge to keep.
2. With that power of prayer, we have set ambitious enrollment goals for the next five years of 2,000 students at CIU and 1,000 students at Ben Lippen School.
3. We are expanding program offerings in three distinct areas: fully online education for bachelor, master and doctoral degrees; high school postsecondary programs; and programs for working adults. Over the next decade, an estimated 100 million American adults in their 30s and 40s will be retrained for the workforce. Our desire is to recruit them to be CIU students and for them "to Know Him and to Make Him Known."
4. As we continue our priority of world evangelization, we're making plans for a \$20 million William H. Jones Global Business & IT Center where students will be trained with valuable skills that will open doors to new mission fields in places such as the Middle East and Central Asia.
5. We have a beautiful campus, but there are some facilities that need upgrading. Shortess Chapel will be undergoing renovations; a \$2-3 million expansion of the Dining Hall will take place soon; and at Ben Lippen School, a \$4 million expansion of the middle and high school will enhance learning and enrollment.
6. We've renewed our focus on serving Columbia and the surrounding area, with a particular emphasis on economic development and partnerships along Monticello Road, the gateway to our campus. We will serve here and around the world!

All of the above will cost about \$25 million. But we will not go into debt. We are engaged in fundraising, and more importantly, "friend raising." And so far many of our friends have helped us raise over \$16 million toward the goal.

One of the hallmarks of CIU is the great missionary and evangelism efforts of the 18,500 alumni in 150 nations. But we must urgently accelerate our motto: "To Know Him and to Make Him Known" with new ideas and 21st century strategies, making CIU technologically current and educationally advanced. Please join me in asking God for mercy, grace and strength in these days.



Dr. Mark A. Smith
President





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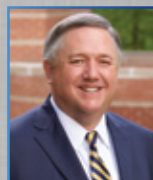
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