

the IVY LEAGUE CHRISTIAN OBSERVER



THE IVY LEAGUE CONGRESS ON FAITH AND ACTION

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Please send us your feedback regarding events and topics described in this magazine at the e-mail or regular mail address listed above.



By God's power and with the help of other ministries, the mission of Christian Union is to change the world by developing Christian leaders and networking them together to make an impact for Christ in the larger culture. Matt Bennett (Cornell BS '88, MBA '89) founded the ministry in 2002 in Princeton, New Jersey. To learn more about Christian Union, please visit www.Christian-Union.org.

The purpose of The Ivy League Christian Observer (this free quarterly magazine) is to inform Christian alumni, students, parents, staff, faculty, and friends about the spiritual activity at eight of the country's most influential colleges, including Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton and Yale. Our desire is that you would be encouraged to pray for these universities, give financially to Christian initiatives on the campuses, and use your influence for the cause of Christ.

A WORD FROM THE PUBLISHER

Faith, Action And Leadership



At our Ivy League Congress on Faith Action this spring, student leaders from all eight campuses heard compelling messages from powerful plenary speakers and also engaged Christian professionals in breakout panels that showed how to make an impact for Christ in the fields of business, finance, law, media, and many others.

The Ivy League Congress is another way Christian Union is seeking to accomplish its mission of developing Christian leaders to transform culture. And judging by some of the feedback we received, I'd say the conference was a resounding success. "The Ivy League Congress was thought provoking," said one student. "The panels were encouraging and gave me hope for my future vocation," said another.

On pages 12-21, we've prepared a special section that will give you an in-depth look at our third Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action (ILCFA). At the event, held down the road from Harvard in Cambridge, Massachusetts, I posed this question to a gathering of Ivy League alumni, "If God can bring almost a whole nation to Christ like South Korea in the last 70 years, why can't the same thing happen in the Ivy League?"

With such a large percentage of prominent leaders graduating from these eight schools, the repercussions of an awakening in the Ivy League would be felt for many generations. And that's the kind of radical change we are seeking.

For some students from Brown University, the impact of the ILCFA was immediate and lasting. After being inspired to seek the Lord on a more consistent basis, leaders from various ministries returned to Providence with a plan to gather for regular campus-wide prayer meetings. In the *On Campus* section, you can read about this and similar prayer movements happening at Cornell and Dartmouth.

In *Reaching Out*, you will see how ministries such as Campus on a Hill at Cornell, PennforJesus, and Princeton Faith and Action brought prayer, worship, and evangelism to the forefront of their campus communities during the spring semester. Finally, *In Person* features profiles of two prominent Ivy League alumni, former Toro CEO Ken Melrose, Princeton '62, and medical missionary Dr. Matt Megill, Dartmouth '00.

It's our pleasure to publish this magazine each quarter and keep you informed, encouraged, and inspired about happenings on the Ivy League campuses.

Yours in Christ,

Matthew W. Bennett

Founder and President, Cornell '88, MBA '89

P.S. *The Ivy League Christian Observer* reports on the programs and initiatives of Christian Union and those of various other Christian organizations. While it is our desire to foster unity, encouragement, and awareness among campus ministries, the Christian Union is not an umbrella organization.

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IGNITING CORNELL

Students Faithfully Prayed Each Week During Spring Semester



The Ignite Ivy Conference helped spark a prayer revival at Cornell during the spring semester.

In January, approximately 40 students from Ivy League schools and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology attended Ignite Ivy. On the last night, the handful of Cornell students who attended spent

some students interceded for their non-Christian friends, while others would pray for specific academic buildings and dormitories.

After that night, the students decided to hold gatherings every Sunday night for the whole semester. The Spirit took over from there. William Poon '13, who eventually lead most of the prayer meetings,

Sciences who has been praying for revival at Cornell for approximately forty years.

"It was absolutely amazing to see how God's will for Cornell united generations of believers to contend for his kingdom to be established on campus," said Leslie Chi '13. "Through [Dr. Fick] and other mentors who sacrificed their time and energy to intercede for Cornell, I learned that revival does not belong solely to young college students."

The prayer meetings averaged about 60 people each week. As the leaders realized that there were too many people for the original format to be practical, Poon began introducing different focuses or topics every week. They prayed for individual campus ministries one at a time by gathering around the members and laying hands on them. They also prayed for global missions and the persecuted church. They took communion. No two meetings were the same.

At the last meeting, students prayed that they would not grow weary of passionately following Christ over the summer, and that they would be intentional in maintaining their fellowship with other Christians. Many students expressed their hope for what God would be doing at Cornell in the next few years.

Chi said, "Ultimately, I envision more student leaders than ever before...leaders who are willing to be the hands, feet, and heart of revival on Cornell's campus. In particular, I hope that the incoming class



A large group of Cornell students spent the spring semester in prayer at Anabel Taylor Hall.

some time praying for their school. Inspired by how prayer had brought about revival on college campuses in the past, the students decided to continue praying together when they returned to campus.

On the evening of January 23, as word got around mostly through text messaging, 17 people from different ministries and churches showed up at Anabel Taylor Hall, the interfaith center of the Cornell campus. There was not much of an agenda besides praying for revival. During the first half of the meeting, students chimed in by sharing thoughts, stories, and Bible verses. The second half was devoted to corporate prayer for whatever was on their hearts:

said, "Honestly, I think the first thing that surprised me was the attendance. Every week, I would just trust that the Lord would provide the people and he always did, and always more than I would hope

Even local pastors, laymen, and Cornell faculty members started coming out in small numbers; among them was Dr. Gary Fick, a professor in Crop and Soil Sciences who has been praying for revival at Cornell for approximately forty years.

would come."

Even local pastors, laymen, and Cornell faculty members started coming out in small numbers; among them was Dr. Gary Fick, a professor in Crop and Soil

of 2015 will also catch this vision of revival and bring fresh revelation to the larger Christian community on how to reach the darkest parts of campus and bring them to life." ■

STAYING THE COURSE AT BROWN

Ministries Persevere in a Diverse, Secular Environment

B Jarrod Lynn, a staffer with College Hill for Christ and Athletes in Action at Brown, discussed the ebb and flow of Christianity on campus during a breakout session of the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action in Cambridge, Massachusetts this spring.

Specifically, Lynn, Brown '05, said he has recently sensed a greater sense of Christian unity at Brown.

"We started doing more things together and collaboratively the past few years," he said, citing such events as Praise Nights and Veritas Forums. Additionally, Lynn and leaders from the other ministries meet regularly to pray and keep in touch.

At the Ivy League Congress, Lynn shared a story that underscored the value of campus ministry. In the early 1980s, a Brown freshman went to the 14th floor of a campus building so he could jump off. However, when he got to the floor, the windows were locked. A member of Campus Crusade happened to be on that same floor and engaged the student in conversation and shared the Gospel with him. The student rejected the message, but when he got back to his room, he was convicted by it. In surrender, he told God, "If you're real, I'm ready." Today, that student is a pastor in Providence, Rhode Island, speaks at Brown, and has seen many students become Christians.

That's the impact of connecting with others, and that's the goal to which Lynn and the other campus ministers have dedicated their lives. Together, through inter-ministry prayer and relationship building, the leaders strive, through God's grace, to impact Brown in the name of Jesus and to bring more students to Christ.

But Lynn warned against discouragement due to the relatively low numbers of conversions. In fact, he said there was perhaps only a handful in the last year or so. Still, he said, "We're doing a good job. Pointing people to Jesus is huge. Taking them from 'I don't want to think about God' to 'maybe there is a God'— that's huge."

"Don't get discouraged," Lynn exhorted, "You might not see fruit until 15

years later. Continue to trust Jesus. Keep your eyes fixed on him, and trust him that [that fruit] will grow when it's time."

In the short term, there has been progress in reaching out to students. Sthefany Alviar '12, a member of the Brown women's basketball team, reported that there has been "miraculous progress" that can only be attributed to God.

Specifically, she told attendees that during her freshman year, the team only won three games and there was a lot of negativity from upperclassmen. She and the three other freshmen rejected that attitude, and this year, the team won 10 games and placed fourth in the overall Ivy League standings.

"There's no way that would have happened without God," she said. "It's clear our team belonged to the Lord."

Yet, there are entrenched obstacles that inherently slow the spread of the Gospel on the campus. Namely, "diversity" and "tolerance," which Lynn says are synonymous with acceptance, have given voice to the minority, "politically correct" views and unfettered relativism.

"[The Brown community] does not believe that there can be right and wrong," said Lynn. "Things aren't challenged. It's just assumed everyone is right." That is, it seems, unless the views are moral imperatives.

For example, Lynn spoke of an incident where a group came on campus with signs referring to God and biblical marriage of one man and one woman. According to Lynn, within minutes, hundreds of students came together to protest. "They dropped everything to stand up for the homosexual community," he said. "That is a huge voice on campus."

At the Congress, a student asked Lynn how to pray for Brown. He offered several suggestions: that students would put a

higher priority on attending a local church; for discerning how to come alongside the homosexual population and



Jarrod Lynn (Brown '05), of College Hill for Christ and Athletes in Action, reported on the spiritual state of his alma mater during the Ivy League Congress on Faith in Action.

love them while pointing to Jesus; and discerning how to speak with the significant Jewish population on campus.

Lynn also asked that the Christian community pray for students to open their hearts to the idea that there is a God.

"People come to Brown with prior ideologies and reasons for thinking the way they do. [They] seem to be so set in their ways, it's hard to break in," he said.

Despite the challenges, Lynn remains hopeful in reaching the Brown community for Christ and he remains inspired by his colleagues and the students who continue to speak their faith amidst the diverse and secular environment that characterizes the university. ■

'IN GOD WE HOPE'

Ivy League Congress Inspires Corporate Prayer Meetings at Brown

BROWN The emphasis on seeking God, highlighted during the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action, has prompted some Brown University students to take the next step. Upon returning to campus after the April

At the same time, "I realized I didn't know what was going on with other Christians on campus."

As such, Shugarts decided to reach out to a variety of ministries to gauge interest in forming regular prayer gatherings,

Gassel also told Shugarts that she read a book about revival over spring break and was anxious to help launch an awakening on campus.

In response, Shugarts attended one of Gassel's prayer gatherings, and students began actively spreading the word of the nightly meetings among Christian circles. The sessions became so popular, the undergraduates convened until the end of the spring semester.

For most sessions, students gathered on Wednesday evenings in Smith-Buonanno Hall, but the students organized a prayer walk around campus one evening. Attendance averaged around 20 per night. Representatives attended from a wide range of campus ministries, including Athletes in Action, the Branch, College Hill for Christ, Brown Christian Fellowship, InterVarsity, Brown-RISD Catholic Community, Reformed University Fellowship, and United Christian Body.

"One of the biggest changes occurred when Christians realized there were Christians from other ministries who were just as on fire as they were," said Alviar.

"We could come together and not be separated, like many parts forming one body. We finally realized we could be one, and we are one on this campus."



Inspired by the emphasis on seeking God at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action, Christian students at Brown gathered for nightly prayer on campus.

conference, the group began gathering for nightly prayer.

Since then, the intercessory meetings have "changed our walks," said Sthefany Alviar '12. "I'm going because I want to go and communicate with God. Other people have said praying every night has changed their prayer lives and how we choose to worship God."

Alviar attended the Christian Union's triennial congress along with a dozen or so students from Athletes in Action (www.aiaatbrown.com) and College Hill for Christ (www.collegehillforchrist.com), including Bree Shugarts '13.

"We really felt led to do more on campus," said Shugarts, a student leader with Athletes in Action. "I really felt like I wanted to bring an awakening to Brown."

possibly once a month.

One student, Sarah Gassel '12, who participates in the Branch Christian Ministry

"Nightly prayer gave birth to beautiful, Christ-centered friendships, weekly nights of worship, evangelistic efforts, and an inter-ministry Easter worship night."

Shelby Mack, Brown '14

(www.thebranchconnect.com), eagerly responded that she already was contemplating holding nightly prayer meetings.

Eventually, the students began sharing regular updates on their prayer initiative via e-mail, Google Groups, and Facebook.



Luke Landers '12 serves on the Athletes in Action leadership team at Brown.

Attendance peaked at about 50 just before Easter.

The gatherings were a place of “sweet unity,” said Shelby Mack, who is involved with Brown Christian Fellowship.

“The meetings were a place where reconciliation and partnership between different Christian ministries could develop; they were also a forum in which we could seek to glimpse and act upon God’s vision for Brown,” said Mack ’14.

“Nightly prayer gave birth to beautiful, Christ-centered friendships, weekly nights of worship, evangelistic efforts, and an inter-ministry Easter worship night from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m.”

Luke Landers ’12 echoed those comments.

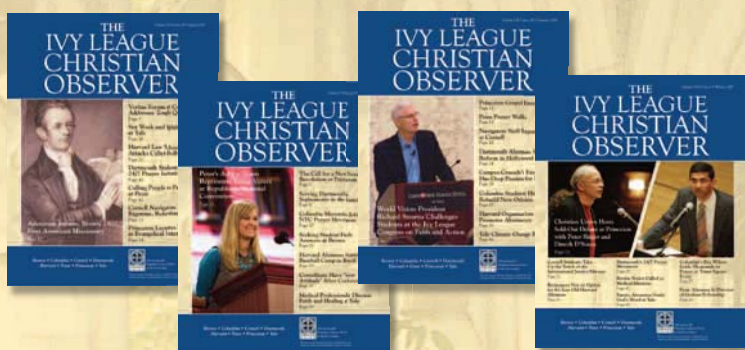
The Brown Bears offensive lineman also noted that he attended the prayer meetings “in belief that God is changing Brown and will continue to make Brown a place where His name is made famous.”

Landers expressed commitment to see revival at Brown, something that he felt inspired to pursue during a session of the Christian Union’s congress weekend in nearby Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Texas native serves on Athletes in Action’s leadership team.

“The main takeaway from the seminar was that we needed God to pour His Holy Spirit out on our campus for revival to happen,” he said. “When we say revival, we mean a restoration and reawakening of passion for Jesus at Brown.”

Ultimately, “we are praying for its return to its true self, a school whose motto truly is ‘in deo speramus’ – in God we hope,” he said. ■

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THE SPIRITUAL STATE OF DARTMOUTH

Campus Begins to Emerge from the Shadows of 'Samaria'

DContemporary evangelists don't need to go to the ends of the earth to witness to the unchurched. In fact, they need go no further than New England, where Christian Impact Advisor Tony Feiger likens the campus climate at Dartmouth to biblical Samaria. Once founded upon Christian values, Dartmouth, like Samaria, has buried its Christian roots beneath the allure of the "gods" of academia and success and has closed its intellectual heart to the truth of the Gospel.

But for Christians like Feiger, the challenge of proclaiming the Gospel in the wilderness of the academy is not insurmountable with God. In fact, there are signs of life amidst the spiritual desolation.

"Christianity is getting some visibility on campus," said Feiger. During the three-and-a-half years he has been at the campus, Feiger has witnessed the launch of the Christian journal *Apologia* and the Eleazer Wheelock Society for Intellectual Discourse, Service, and Vocation.

In addition to the increase in intellectual discussion and apologetics on campus, Feiger spoke about the emergence and importance of an increased emphasis on prayer. The Gospel, he said, cannot always be seen as rational.

"Change is going to come through the Spirit of God moving hearts," said Feiger.

"I think the [recently established]

prayer room has added a significant spiritual component to the campus."

Additionally, he said there is increased



Tony and Kaylene Feiger of Christian Impact at Dartmouth.

participation, particularly among freshmen, in coming together in prayer with other students from different ministries.

In addition to students, campus ministry staffs are also spending time in corporate prayer. A core group of ministers and local pastors pray together on a weekly basis.

More and more, he said students are taking some time away from their hectic Ivy League schedule and seeking God.

Feiger also said Agape Fellowship, the Asian ministry on campus, was a source of inspiration and encouragement. Agape hosts a well-attended Tuesday night prayer gathering that is totally student led.

"There seems to be a strong Christian culture here of prayer and worship," he said.

In addition to students, campus ministry staffs are also spending time in corporate prayer. A core group of ministers and local pastors pray together on a weekly basis.

"The staffs are praying together and reading scripture," said Feiger.

Christianity is also gaining attention in some classrooms thanks to bold students.

"I've heard there are young men taking a class with a philosophy/religion professor who has been anti-faith and pro-Dawkins," he said. As a result, these students are professing their faith in class, and are articulating it in meaningful and powerful ways. Feiger said that is having an impact on the classes and the instructors. "Who knows what can happen?" he said.

"This instructor has to teach these brilliant young men who are incredibly sharp and in opposition of her. I would dread going to that class if I were the instructor," he said.

Feiger said Dartmouth's reputation among college-bound high school students may be another indicator of a warmer spiritual climate on campus.

"I've heard that a lot of Christian students are attracted to Dartmouth. They

come here to visit and see the *Apologia* and the Christian community and they want to attend here," he said. ■

'NOW' IS THE TIME FOR PRAISE AND WORSHIP

Event Unites Believers on Yale Campus

Y Songs of rejoicing and worship filled the dining hall of Pierson College on Saturday, April 23. Andrew Kang, Yale '13, who brought the idea for a Night of Worship to Yale, helped to lead about 40 people in an event described as a night of "exciting, epic, and personal worship."

Night of Worship (NOW) was envisioned and orchestrated by Kang, a double major in East Asian studies and economics. The inception for an event like this began at Kang's former church in Houston, where he had previously teamed with his pastor and a few friends to host a similar

The United Church of Westville helped to sponsor the event. However, attendees also came from other local churches and campus ministries. As such, NOW not only united believers across different parts of the Yale community, but also served as an outreach to non-Christians. Kang described how the universal appeal of music can speak to even those who may not know Christ as Savior.

A similar event was held off campus last semester. This semester, NOW was moved to the Yale campus in the hopes of encouraging more students with the flexibility to simply stop by.

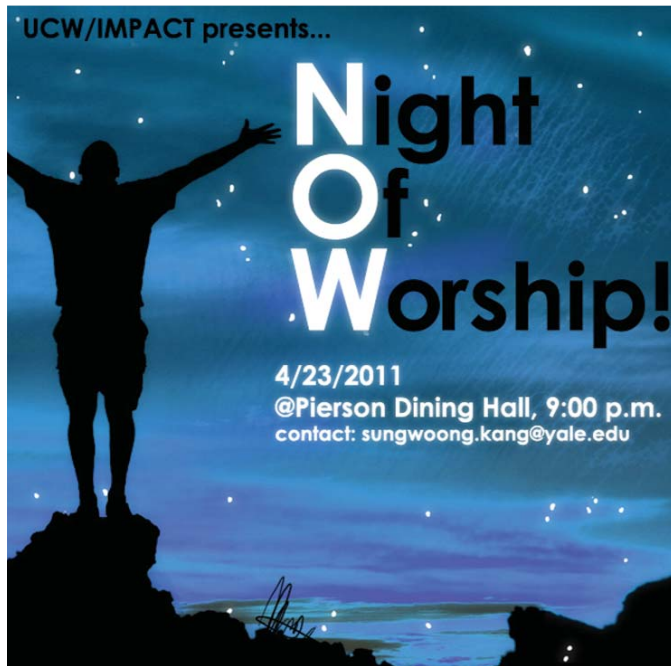
Paul Han '14 and Brandon Wang '14, members of Yale College Faith and Action: An Undergraduate Ministry, were encouraged by the unity and passion of the people.

"The event was absolutely amazing," said Han, who had a unique vantage point as the drummer in the worship band. "Being able to face the people in the crowd directly allowed me to witness God's presence in the room. Nearly everybody was singing out at the top of their lungs, shamelessly dancing to faster songs as if no one was watching. It was awesome to see normally reserved individuals

breaking free and just going all out for God."

Wang said NOW was "effective in bringing together people from various Christian backgrounds...to gather and worship Jesus wholeheartedly."

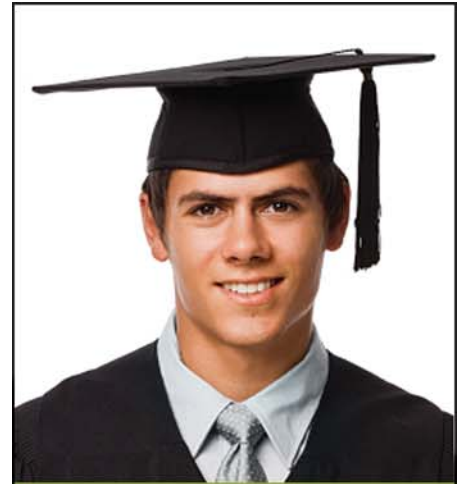
In the future, Kang envisions seeing NOW continue each semester and grow to include even more members of the Yale community, worshipping together as a body of believers. ■



The student initiated Night of Worship at Yale was described as "exciting and epic."

night of song and worship.

The vision behind NOW, explained Kang, is to "worship and glorify our God through music, dance, and song. Worship is a lifestyle and encompasses everything in your everyday life; praise through music is one awesome form of worshipping. We want to come together and celebrate the awesomeness of God by singing and dancing with no shame."



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POLITICS ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE

Harvard Alumnus Calls on Christians to Influence Government

H In his latest book, *Politics According to the Bible: A Comprehensive Resource for Understanding Modern Political Issues in Light of Scripture*, scholar Wayne Grudem writes in the same way Christians are called to share the Gospel—unashamedly. The book is not for those interested in being politically correct; rather it is geared toward Christians who are interested in the relationship between the Bible, faith, and government.

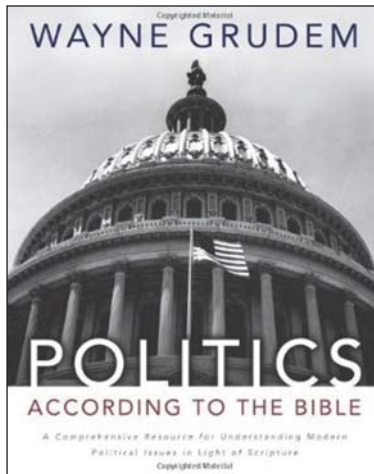
Grudem, Harvard '70, calls out Christian authors, pastors, and laymen to seriously consider how they are representing the faith in the public sector. He also corrects what he believes are errors in the way some noted Christians, such as fellow Ivy alumnus Greg Boyd (Yale, MDiv '82), are influencing others regarding the Bible and politics.

In the opening chapter, *Five Wrong Views about Christians and Government*, Grudem seeks to undo concepts such as: Government Should Compel Religion; Government Should Exclude Religion; All Government is Evil and Demonic; Do Evangelism, Not Politics; and Do Politics, Not Evangelism.

Grudem, Research Professor of Theology and Biblical Studies at Phoenix Seminary in Phoenix, Arizona, warns readers of the harm being done by pastors and writers such as Greg Boyd, who wrote the book, *The Myth of a Christian Nation*. Grudem states that Boyd's "all government is demonic" views

are having an impact on Christians in this country, particularly youth.

"I am concerned about the influence of Boyd's position because his mistake is not simply a harmless failure to distinguish the task of evangelism from the task of government," Grudem writes. "There is a much more serious problem with his position, namely, that it tends to persuade Christians to oppose all governmental power over evil." He adds that "at many places in the Bible God approves the use of governmental power over evildoers."



Wayne Grudem, Harvard '70, writes about engaging politics with a Christian worldview in his latest book.

And that is at the crux of Grudem's view: God is not separated from government, but rather, He uses government for the greater good. Grudem also takes issue with those who believe that Christians should do evangelism and not politics. He asks, "What parts of the Bible have you decided not to preach about because you are 'just going to preach the Gospel?'"

"I think Christians should support the candidate who best represents moral and political values consistent with biblical teaching, no matter what his or her religious background or convictions."

The book also covers a myriad of social/political issues and discusses them from a biblical perspective, including marriage, the environment, national defense, foreign policy, and others. He even

gets down to the micro level by discussing earmarks, gender-based quotas, tariffs, and gambling.

While Grudem has specific views on these matters, he also realizes that on certain issues, Christians will disagree. And that, he says, is OK. Disagreements and debates generate discussion on issues important to the country and ultimately the world. They are issues Grudem believes Christians ought to be studying, discussing, and sharing with believers and non-believers.

Grudem is also adamant about pointing out that while he is a proponent of Christians influencing government based upon biblical interpretation, he is not condoning the disregard of people of other faiths. Nor is he advocating that Christians only vote for Christian politicians. He shares, at length, an endorsement he had written on behalf of then Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney, who is a Mormon.

"I think Christians should support the candidate who best represents moral and political values consistent with biblical teaching, no matter what his or her religious background or convictions," Grudem writes.

That's the kind of frank and sincere ac-

tion Grudem calls for in *Politics According to the Bible*, and another example of how the author is calling believers to assert "a significant Christian influence on government." ■

THE PRAYER FACTOR

Lecture Explores Link Between Intercession and Healing

Y Prayer for an individual's healing can be especially beneficial if the person interceding is physically near the infirmed individual.

That was one of the messages from Candy Gunther Brown, Harvard Ph.D. '00, when the scholar spoke at the Yale Divinity School on April 7. Brown is widely considered to be one of the world's leading researchers on global healing practices. The associate professor of religious studies at Indiana University presented a lecture entitled, "Can Science Prove the Healing Power of Prayer? Empirical Perspectives on Modern Pentecostal-Charismatic Healing Networks and the Revival of Global Christianity."

A highlight of Brown's visit to Yale involved a discussion of her research into the "proximal intercessory prayer" – close-up, personal intercession involving an emotional touch.

Brown led an international investigation of healing prayer that suggested close-up prayer is beneficial in statistically significant ways. Data from the study was published in the September 2010 issue of the *Southern Medical Journal*.

More importantly, the findings illustrate contrasting results to a widely publicized study at Harvard in 2006 purporting that "distant intercessory prayer" could make patients worse.

However, that study included only one group of Protestant intercessors: Silent Unity, a "New Thought" group whose leaders reportedly reject prayers of petition as "useless," Brown said.

Nonetheless, Brown notes that, according to public opinion polls, most Americans believe illness and injury can be impacted positively by intercessory prayer. Such faith has helped to fuel the explosive growth of charismatic Christianity in recent decades.

In a 1997 survey, executives with health maintenance organizations expressed affirmation that personal prayer can benefit medical treatment. Furthermore, data from 2004 suggests 73 percent of U.S. medical doctors believe that miraculous healings sometimes occur, according to The Jewish Theological Seminary.

Brown's study, which focused on the effects of prayer on individuals with auditory and visual impairments in rural Mozambique, measured surprising improvements in economically disadvantaged areas where eyeglasses and hearing aids are not readily available.

The study investigated close-up prayer because "that is how a lot of prayer for healing is actually practiced by Pentecostal and charismatic Christians around the world," Brown said.

"These constitute the fastest-growing Christian subgroups globally, with some 500 million adherents, and they are among those most likely to pray expectantly for healing," she said.

The study was part of a larger research effort, funded by the John Templeton Foundation Flame of Love Project, on the cultural significance and experience of spiritual healing practices. As editor of a new book entitled, *Global Pentecostal and Charismatic Healing*, Brown has made an in-depth, seven-year study of how Pentecostals worldwide pray for healing.

Of significance to her recent research, Brown noted that many Pentecostals emphasize the importance of human touch in praying for healing. "When people feel that they have a serious need for healing, they are willing to try almost anything," Brown said. "If they feel that a particular religious or spiritual practice healed them, they are much more likely to become an adherent. This phenomenon, more than any other, accounts for the growth of these Christian subgroups globally."

Brown and her colleagues studied the activities of Iris Ministries and Global Awakening, in part, because of their reputations for specializing in healing prayers.

In the study, researchers used an audiometer and vision charts to evaluate 14 rural Mozambican individuals who reported impaired hearing and 11 who reported impaired vision. The study focused on hearing and vision because it is possible to measure

results with hearing machines and vision charts, allowing a more direct indicator of progress.

The subjects exhibited improvements that were statistically significant after receiving close-up prayer. Two individuals with impaired hearing reduced the threshold at which they could detect sound by 50 decibels; likewise, three people improved their scores on vision tests from 20/400 or worse to 20/80 or better.

Such augmentations are greater than those typically found in suggestion and hypnosis studies, Brown noted. "You cannot fake thresholds," she said. "These were people with no education."

Brown recounted that one subject, an elderly Mozambican woman named Maryam, initially reported that she could not see a person's hand with two upraised fingers, from a distance of one foot. A healing practitioner put her hand on Maryam's eyes, hugged her, and prayed for less than a minute. After that, the person held five fingers in front of Maryam, who was able to count them and read the 20/125 line on a vision chart.

"More studies definitely need to be done," she said. "The bottom line is that healing practices are incredibly important in the human experience. Sickness and suffering are common."

Ultimately, "one of the most common practical needs is the need for healing and help. That is why we see the growth of Pentecostal and charismatic Christianity." ■



Courtesy of Indiana University

Candy Gunther Brown, Harvard Ph.D. '00, is a leading researcher on global healing practices.

A photograph of a diverse group of students at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action. They are shown from the chest up, clapping and singing with their eyes closed or looking upwards. The students are wearing lanyards and name tags. The background is slightly blurred, showing more people in the audience.

CAN WE REALLY CHANGE THE WORLD?

Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action Draws 380 Students

Hands raised, bodies swayed, voices lifted in song. At the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action in Cambridge, Massachusetts, 380 students gathered to seek and praise the One who could not be seen, but whose presence was palpably felt.

Held at the Cambridge Hyatt on April 1-3, the conference—one of the largest gatherings of Ivy League Christians in history—featured keynote speakers, ministry leaders, and panelists who challenged the students to serve God wholeheartedly in college and in their future vocations.

Presented by Christian Union, the third Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action (ILCFA) was co-sponsored by Athletes in Action, Campus Crusade for Christ, Campus Renewal Ministries, Chesterton House, Dartmouth Christian Grads, The Epic Movement, Grace Street Church, International Church at Cornell, Legacy, Manna Christian Fellowship, Navigators, Reformed University Fellowship, and Wharton Christian Fellowship.

photo: Keren Rohe

“Can we really change the world? Is it just a pious phrase or do you seriously expect there can be real change?” asked plenary speaker and author Os Guinness. “Are you committed to winning back the West again for our Lord?”

“You are the so-called ‘crunch’ generation. Many of the world’s problems are coming together [in your generation]. Your generation must be wise enough to give the answers.”

Helping to foster that wisdom, the conference featured the following panel discussions: Education, Medicine, Media, Business, Ministry, Law, Government, Finance, The Academy, and Arts/Entertainment. Students learned first-hand from Christian professionals the significance of living out their faith.

“They have the access and the obligation to change the world for Christ,” said Stacy McMahan, an executive and a 1989 Harvard Business School alumna. McMahan participated in the finance panel.

Ministry seminars included: Seeking God, Understanding The Pro-Life Position, Campus Revival, Christ as Creator, and Hearing God’s Voice through Prophecy.

Feedback of the ILCFA was overwhelmingly positive, ranging from “encouraged” and “challenged” to “blessed” and “spiritually rejuvenated.”

“I was bolstered by seeing other Ivy Leaguers on fire for Christ,” said Aileen Daniels, Brown ’12. “It’s easy to feel like a minority at Brown. But here, we all had the same objective – to make God known on our campus.”

Some ILCFA speakers proclaimed that believers are the living Gospel to those who look to them for leadership and guidance; how Christians respond during a crisis represents the Gospel to those who are watching. This was particularly true in the business and finance panels where alumni shared stories of ethically and morally challenging experiences where they chose to do the right thing, although it was not always easy.

The importance of a commitment to ethical behavior was also brought home by Max Anderson, Harvard Business School ’09. Anderson is the co-author of the Harvard MBA Oath, which is a commitment to conduct business in an ethical manner and is similar to the Hippocratic Oath taken by doctors.

An oath calls people to act upon values and not fear, he explained. “It’s not enough to fear the bad. You’ve got to love the good.”

Doing good in the midst of tragedy was the theme of Dr. Matt Megill, Dartmouth ’00, a medical missionary with Samaritan’s Purse in West Africa. Dr. Megill spoke of a land of suffering and needless death, a land where many people die without ever hearing or receiving the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

“When I look at my Ivy peers, we downplay the Gospel too easily. We shy away from speaking truth or being distinctively salty,” Megill said. “Millions are perishing without access to the name by which we are saved...Christ calls our generation to pour out our lives in seeking social justice for the have-nots.”

And representing the “have-nots” in a way that is uniquely her own, Baroness Caroline Cox spoke to the students about the persecuted church in remote oppressed lands. A nurse and a member of the House of Lords, Cox spoke with the loving voice of a grandmother, but the stories she shared were no fairy tales—they were nightmares of oppressed Christians facing brutality and death.



Edgar Lei, Cornell '08

At the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action, Max Anderson, Harvard MBA '09, asks students, “Why are you here?”

“Look at their lovely smiles,” Cox told the students while showing them pictures of their persecuted brothers and sisters. “They could be dead tomorrow, but they smile.”

And as the humble voice of the oppressed told her stories of illegally entering savage countries on the perilous wings of hired planes and prayers to God, one couldn’t help but be struck by the juxtaposition of adventure and heartache and hope and brutality.

The students and alumni were visibly moved by the words of the Baroness as they continued to think through what their purpose and God’s call for their lives would be. But that’s what the Ivy League Congress is all about.

Plenary speaker and urban minister Rev. Eric Mason told the students, “Many of us want our lives built around us. God wants life built around Jesus, not built around us...before you can plant the Gospel, the Gospel must have been planted in you.”

Christian Union Founder and President Matt Bennett, Cornell ’88, MBA ’89, reinforced that point in his closing remarks on Sunday. He ended the weekend by bringing home the overall focus of the Congress, which was to seek God in all things and above all things. Bennett acknowledged the busy schedules the students carry, yet he reminded them that they are not alone in their journey.

50% OF OUR MOST INFLUENTIAL LEADERS

graduate from just 8 of the nation's 2,474 four-year colleges. These schools are Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale.

“We’re all on the team together,” he said. “Encourage each other...it doesn’t happen overnight. It will take some time, and that’s OK. God is with you and helping you.”

Bennett also said that seeking God consistently every day would certainly require sacrifice: “Think of the lesser things you spend time on—are they comparable to knowing the King of Kings and being used by Him? Are they comparable to having His Spirit fall on this nation in an unprecedented way and bring incredible revival?”

Praise and worship were also key elements of the ILCFA. Each plenary session included worship led by Christian Union Teaching Fellow Dr. Chuck Hetzler and a band comprised of Ivy League students and alumni. The worship culminated with the voices of the All Ivy Gospel Choir, a student ensemble that came together under the direction of Damaris Taylor, Harvard ’12.

Among the faces singing in the choir—some with eyes closed and hands clasped over their hearts, others with wide smiles and hands raised, jumping with excitement for the Lord—were the faces of future business leaders, doctors, lawyers, and perhaps presidents, united by the love of Jesus Christ and a desire to praise Him.

“You felt it, didn’t you? God is moving in this place,” commented Christian Union Ministry Fellow Scott Jones, Cornell ’04, as he spoke at the Saturday evening plenary session. His words represented what many felt throughout the weekend—that the Lord was indeed with them, drawing near to them as they drew nearer to Him.

But Jones also cautioned the students against only going with what they feel. He reminded them that soon they would be back on campus where their excitement for the Lord would bubble over or quickly disappear. Jones challenged them to determine if they could really live out their faith and dreams and pursue excellence and success while being devoted to the Lord.

His final questions caused the students to pause and reflect: “Is it really possible to be in the world but not of it? Or have you already sold out?”

As they pondered tough questions like these and reflected on pearls of wisdom from believers who have gone before them, the students headed back to their campuses with an invigorated sense of purpose and the challenge to seek the Lord and to put their faith into action. ■

NO QUESTION ABOUT IT

Students Are Challenged by Ivy League Congress Speakers

PENN Students from the University of Pennsylvania may have come to the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action looking for answers, but they left with some compelling questions.

The plenary and inspirational speakers challenged the students to really seek God in understanding their purpose and mission as Christians, students, and future leaders.

“What are you here for?” asked conference speaker Max Anderson, Princeton ’01 and Harvard M.B.A. ’09. The co-author of the Harvard MBA Oath, Anderson challenged the students to reflect on their purpose in life and why they attended the conference.

“Everybody was just really touched by the Holy Spirit and saw what needed to happen in our lives so that community could be a lot better back on campus,” said Penn freshman Matthew Pershe.

That prompted Pershe and his Penn classmates to immediately put their faith into ac-

tion as they prayed until the early morning hours one night.

“There was a bunch of us,” he said. “We realized that you need individual transformation before you can effect change.”

What about the bigger picture? Did coming to the conference help Pershe cast a vision for his purpose in life? “Definitely,” he said. “Not just as a freshman, but also for being a leader on campus. This has been really challenging.”

Pershe was also positive in his response to the question asked by author and keynote speaker Os Guinness, “Do you really think you can change the world?”

“I do think we can change the world,” Pershe said. “Part of that change starts with what we’re doing here (at the Ivy League Congress)—training up Christians to be leaders and take leadership roles in society so people can see someone who is positive and has hope in what God is doing.”

Leadership with a Christian worldview is particularly important for Pershe, who has an interest in possibly pursuing a career in politics. He found fellow Penn alumna Lolita Jackson ’89, a speaker on the government panel, particularly interesting. Jackson is the Manhattan Director of the New York City Community Affairs Unit in the office of Mayor Michael Bloomberg, Harvard MBA ’66.

Arianna Ahiagbe, Penn ’12, said the conference offered a time of refreshment.

“I was really at a point in the semester where I was getting jaded. I was kind of in a dead zone,” she said. Attending the conference and listening to the alumni on the medicine panel helped her realize that work, even her work as a student, is worship, and



Keren Rohe

Author Os Guinness was a plenary speaker at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action.

that helped to breathe new life into that dead zone.

Penn freshman Ariana Jones said the conference inspired her to be a bolder witness for Christ. She came to the ILCFA to counterbalance the lack of boldness on campus.

“I was pretty much shocked when I first got to Penn. The environment is different from what I had at home,” she said. “People don’t want to encroach on each other’s beliefs or infringe on their rights by speaking about God or talking about what you believe.”

Therefore, the prospect of being around fellow believers excited her: “I just felt like I had to get here. I had to come to see

what [these other students] are doing that works.”

As the conference came to a close and the students thought about heading back to campus, they knew they would inevitably be faced with another question from their peers, “What did you do this weekend?”

“All I can really say is that we met God here,” said Pershe. “We had these great speakers who challenged our perceptions of the world and brought new light and perspective to the career paths we want to take—but, at the end of the day, all I can say is that God showed up.” ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

DETERMINED LIKE DANIEL

Cornell Alumnus Exhorts Ivy League Students to Stand Fast



Believers at leading universities need to remember that being faithful to God is far more important than achieving prominence within worldly powerhouses.

That was one of the messages from Scott Jones when the Christian Union (www.christian-union.org) ministry fellow served as one of the plenary speakers at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action in Cambridge, Massachusetts this spring.

“Walking with God is better than dancing with the powers of the world,” Jones told students during his keynote address on April 2.

As an example, Jones pointed to the account of the prophet Daniel, who was among the young Jewish nobility taken to Babylon.

The four youths – chosen for their intellect and handsomeness – were trained to be advisors to the Babylonian court. Daniel entered public life after three years of education in royal schools.

Despite being submissive to the other requirements of his captivity and duties, Daniel drew the line at eating the king’s food and wine – something that would amount to gaining the acceptance and approval of the ungodly.

“To be in the world but not of the world, you must taste and savor something much greater,” Jones told students. “Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king’s food and wine.”

Daniel could have taken the attitude that, “it’s just a little food – you have the chance to be in the king’s court,” Jones said. But, the young Jewish man stood fast in his convictions.

Like Daniel, youthful believers need to remember to pursue God’s will – not their own will, Jones said. They also should avoid the attitude that, “God will have the great privilege of using me.”

Ultimately, Daniel’s fidelity exposed him to persecution by jealous rivals within the king’s administration. But, he also walked in his giftings and callings as an interpreter of dreams.

Late in life, he began his ministry as a prophet.

Overall, the account of Daniel’s life illustrates the commitment of a privileged young man to God’s service, even when it meant sacrifice. “Daniel loved God’s presence more than anything,” Jones said.

As such, believers in top universities should stop to consider



Keren Rohe

Christian Union Ministry Fellow Scott Jones, Cornell '04, exhorted students as a plenary speaker at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action.

God’s directions and commandments as they chart their futures. They need to say, “God, I will go where you send me,” Jones said.

Likewise, they need an awareness of the potential pitfalls that often accompany wealth and prestige, especially the temptations associated with greed and ego.

“Most of you have incredible potential for wealth,” Jones said. “It is the rich that Jesus suggested need a miracle in order to enter the kingdom of God.”

Daniel’s example teaches young believers to hold steadfastly to the biblical mandate to “seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,” Jones said. ■

'MISSION' ACCOMPLISHED

Previous Ivy League Congresses Made a Lasting Impression



The immediate impact of the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action was apparent as students passionately worshiped the Lord, spent late nights in prayer, and eagerly listened to speakers and panelists discuss how their faith may be lived out in vocations. But what happens after the conference, when students go back to their campuses and once again encounter the stresses and secularism of the academy? Can just a few days of praise, reflection, and teaching really have a lasting impact?



Edgar Lei

Elyse Lee, Cornell '08, was among the Ivy alumni who spoke at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action.

For alumni Elyse Lee, Cornell '08, and Bobby Fijan, Penn '09, the answer is a resounding yes. Lee, an attendee at the first Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action (ILCFA) in 2005, said that conference helped identify her passion and set the course for a missional vocation.

For Fijan, the impact was less dramatic, but still influential. His takeaway from the 2008 ILCFA was a "nugget" of wisdom imparted by one of the speakers that has stayed with him, helping model values for his future career in business, and for students on the Penn campus.

Lee was an inspirational speaker at this year's Congress and shared how her life was changed.

"I came to the 2005 ILCFA conference asking, 'What should I do with my life?'" she said. While there, she began discovering her passion for sharing the Gospel when she considered inspiring words from a panel speaker who said, "Vocation is where your passion meets the world's needs."

After talking a mission trip she soon discovered her calling.

"I traveled to Northwest China with Pioneers. This was when I discovered that the world's greatest need is Christ," said Lee.

Following graduation, she embarked on a career with Pioneers, a worldwide missions organization based in Orlando, Florida.

The passion she discovered during the first Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action has blossomed in a way she had not previously imagined.

"Life as a Christian means being a disciple and follower of Jesus," she told the students. "That doesn't mean you don't make plans, but hold your life loosely. We are all on the same mission to preach the power of God."

While Lee's experience set a course for serving in missions, Fijan's experience empowered him with a better sense of balance regarding work, faith, and self-worth. It has also had a lasting impact upon the Penn campus where Fijan attended school as an undergraduate. He is currently a Wharton grad student.

At the 2008 ILCFA, Fijan was impressed by the remarks of a business panelist, who said people working in finance often measure their worth by whether they are in the red or in the black; they don't take risks because they don't want their self-worth to suffer the loss. This panelist, however, told the students that as a Christian, his worth and identity was in Christ, and that enabled him to do his job better. Whether he succeeded or failed, his faith would not change.

"I've remembered that and passed it on to other young students here at Wharton," said Fijan. And, it's a philosophy he hopes to carry with him when he eventually enters the business world himself.

But those words of wisdom are not the only thing Fijan brought back to this year's ILCFA. "The most significant, lasting impact I came away with was how much older professionals needed to be involved in on-campus ministry," Fijan said.

A leader with Penn Students for Christ (www.pennstudentsforchrist.org), Fijan was inspired to start a student Bible study led by a professor in the medical school. That study is still active, and Fijan sees it as a sort of "child of the Congress."

"I came to the 2005 ILCFA conference asking, 'What should I do with my life?'"

—Elyse Lee, Cornell '08

Fijan believed so much in the value of the Ivy League Congress that he brought several Penn students with him this year, and subsequently passed along the opportunity to impact future Penn leaders for Christ.

The future will tell the stories of how this year's Congress impacted those in attendance. But if Lee and Fijan are any indication, it would appear that fruits of the ILCFA will continue to abound for years to come. ■

POWER PANELS

Prominent Christians Speak About Serving Christ in Their Professions



This year's Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action offered a veritable smorgasbord of vocational panels for collegiate believers who want to make a difference in the workforce.

Break-out sessions during the Christian Union's triennial conference ranged from the arts to medicine and featured a series of prominent leaders. Speakers were especially encouraged by their interaction with students from the nation's top universities and the individual commitments the students expressed to reflect Christ in their vocational choices.

Among highlights of some sessions:

In the arts panel, participants heard about the need for believers to reflect their beliefs and faith in the highly influential realm.

"The performing arts are a powerful communication instrument, and, by and large, they have been used by people who don't know God to encourage people to worship gods of their own making, said Rich Swingle, an actor based in New York City.

Swingle wants believers to "take back the entertainment industry and tell stories that point to the One True God."

Also during the arts panel, musician and composer Tim Tsang, who also is known as the "Moogist," stressed the need for youthful believers to keep their focus on Christ while also seeking opportunities to launch their careers within the performing world.

"I have learned that I must love God more than my profession," said Tsang, a synthesizer player and classical pianist. "When we seek God's kingdom first, everything else will be given to us."

Tsang also is a keyboardist, producer, and sound artist.

Likewise, participants in the entertainment segment also heard about the tangible need for believers to help shape the vastly influential sphere.

"A believer can make a difference in the entertainment world by being an agent of shalom in every position they are placed," said John Seel, president of nCore Media.

Los Angeles-based nCore provides high-performance computing applications to the entertainment industry for computer-generated images and special effects.

Seel noted the biggest gap in Hollywood "is not among cinematic creatives, but among business-minded 'suits.' There are many Christian actors, screenwriters, and directors. There are very few studio executives or MBAs who think in kingdom terms," Seel said.

"How much longer can our culture be sustained by movies like *The Hangover Part II* and *Bridesmaids*?"

Rhonda D. Hibbler, a production director at WPEN AM/FM, also shared with students about her position with the ESPN Radio affiliate in Philadelphia.

While Hibbler, Penn '82, has spent much of her life being labeled as a "first" or a "youngest" in her field, she said the only



Edgar Lei

The medical panel at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action included Dr. Elizabeth Mutsiya, Dr. Walt Larimore, and Dr. Ali Tsai.

recognition that really counts is her status as a believer. Hibbler said she makes it a point to not be a closet Christian.

Another popular segment of the congress included the finance panel.

Participants weighed a variety of meaty issues, including the pressure of meeting return on investment, especially in cases when that goal is pursued without regard to whether an investment conforms to the Christian worldview.

Ultimately, the main keys to success for Christians entering the corporate world center on taking principled stands and reflecting faith on the job, said McMahan, vice president of finance for the customer channels group at Thermo Fisher Scientific and the past chief financial officer of Johnson & Johnson Customer and Logistics Services.

McMahan said she is grateful for the opportunities she possesses to touch many lives around her. "It is in those individual interactions where Christ mediates powerfully," she said.

A separate panel on business featured James Armstrong (Princeton '88), an executive vice president of California-based Symmetricom and general manager of the communications business unit. Other speakers were Tom Darden, chief executive officer of Cherokee, a North Carolina-based private equity firm that specializes in brownfield redevelopment, and Rich Farrell (Cornell '90), president of FullArmor Corporation, a Massachusetts-based software and services company. Darden completed a law degree from Yale University in 1981.

In other panels, participants in the law session heard from Tom Angell, Dutchess County public defender in New York; Michael Schutt, director of the Institute for Christian Legal Studies; and Lori Windham, who joined The Becket Fund for Reli-

gious Liberty after graduating from Harvard Law School in 2005.

As well, the government segment featured Lolita Jackson, Penn '89, Manhattan director of New York City's Community Affairs Unit, and Kerry Knott, president of the C.S. Lewis Institute. Knott also is a former chief of staff to U.S. Rep. Dick Armey, who served as majority leader from 1995 to 2003.

In addition, Greg Slayton, a Dartmouth University professor and former U.S. consul general and chief of mission to Bermuda,

also served as a speaker. The Dartmouth alumnus of 1981 also holds a master of business administration from Harvard, which he completed in 1990.

Another popular segment centered on the medical field. Key speakers were Elizabeth Mutisya, Harvard Medical School '94 and Penn MBA '07; Walt Larimore, medical director of the Mission Medical Clinic, a faith-based clinic for uninsured patients sponsored by churches in Colorado Springs, Colorado; and Ali Tsai, director for the Greater New York City Christian Medical & Dental Associations. ■

By Grace Chen, Cornell '10

CHRIST IN EDUCATION, THE ACADEMY

I The Education Panel at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action featured three experts in the field. Nicole Baker Fulgham and Matt Worthington were previously with Teach For America; Barbara Schoenly, the third panelist, has served in various leadership positions in the past 16 years.

Fulgham began the panel with a snapshot of her work as the vice

president of Teach For America's faith community relations initiative, which "focuses on inspiring communities of faith to support Teach For America's mission and help eliminate educational inequity." Fulgham said that 53% of those who serve for Teach For America said faith was an important aspect of teaching. When asked what inspired her, she answered that she is most motivated by "the conversations in this country about closing the achieve-



Nicole Baker Fulgham, spoke about her work as vice president of Teach for America's faith community relations initiative.

ment gap and faith-based advocates of education reform."

Schoenly followed the discussion with an overview of her journey in college administration. She shared compelling stories about her years as dean of students at Wells College and as assistant dean, admissions officer, and freshman advisor at Harvard. She spoke about the opposition she sometimes faced—particularly regarding topics like homosexuality, abortion, and rape. She also encouraged others to stand by the motto—which happens to be Yale's—*lux et veritas* and to continue to be a light and speak truth. One example included how the abortion rate at

Wells College dropped by 12-15% during her tenure there. Lastly, she also shared about homeschooling both her sons, who are attending Ivy League schools.

Worthington, who teaches special education in the Washington, D.C., area, opened his talk, "Jesus and Public Schools," with a story about a divine reminder of his calling to help children with literacy issues. "If you want to be a true leader, it's about teaching others—Jesus was a great teacher," he told attendees.

THE ACADEMY

The Academy Panel featured believers who shared how they combined intellectual pursuits with a passion for faith. Arnold G. Hyndman, Princeton '74, who has taught cell biology and neuroscience at Rutgers for over 30 years, spoke about being open with his faith in a department replete with scientific minds opposed to any talk of religion or spirituality. He spoke about identity and how he sought to make it known "who I am in Jesus Christ."

Marla Frederick, a professor of African and African American studies and the study of religion at Harvard, shared her journey of balancing faith with her discipline in anthropology. She noted that around 90% of those in the field of anthropology are agnostic. "Anthropology can challenge faith," she shared.

Richard Baer, professor emeritus at Cornell since 1974, also shared about his experience as a Christian faculty member over the years. As a professor in environmental ethics and one of the founders of Cornell's Chesterton House, Baer said he has experienced times when his proposals on discussions of religion and ethics have been dismissed by the academic community.

The Academy panel closed with a simple question posed by Charlene Chan, Cornell '11, who asked how Christian students can support Christian faculty. Hyndman replied simply, yet unwaveringly: "Pray for us. Because of Jesus Christ, you have more in common with us—despite disciplines or age." Baer added: "Be good students! God is calling you now to be responsible students," and lastly, Frederick encouraged students to "take the initiative" to get to know faculty members. ■

MINISTRY JOURNEYS

Panel Members Share Their Stories and Insights



Three people with connections to Harvard College led the Ministry Panel discussion at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action, which was held April 1-3 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Panel members included Dick Keyes, Harvard '64, the director of L'Abri Fellowship in Southborough, Massachusetts; Tammy McLeod, a chaplain with Campus Crusade for Christ at Harvard and the director of college ministry for Park Street Church in Boston; and Walter Kim, an associate minister and primary teaching pastor for the contemporary services at Park Street Church.

The session, attended by a capacity crowd of over fifty stu-

God and the significance of human life."

McLeod became a Christian in college through Campus Crusade for Christ. After going on a beach evangelism missions' trip, she started to feel an immense burden for those who had never heard the Gospel. Along with her husband, she started a youth group at a local church, but the leadership of the church actually told them that they were too gifted in campus ministry not to be in that mission field and asked them to leave. She and her husband Pat are campus ministers for Campus Crusade for Christ at Harvard.

Kim was "predestined" to be a doctor. However, after encountering God at a conference, he went back home with the goal of becoming a medical missionary. His plans changed once again when he realized in medical school that he did not care about physics or organic chemistry. Eventually, in spite of immense family opposition, he joined the staff at Campus Crusade for Christ and earned a seminary degree.

The first question during Q & A addressed Kim and his previous interactions with his non-Christian parents. He admitted that at the time it seemed very messy and difficult, and there often were fiery arguments going late into the night over the phone, but he had to persevere for the Gospel. "I tried my best to obey them in every area of my life, so that though I disobeyed them on this point, they would not be able to say that I was a disobedient child," he said.

When asked about how desires play into God's calling for a life, Keyes affirmed them strongly. Keyes mentioned that some people choose vocations solely on what the biggest problem of the world is, and that is not the right attitude. "It's a struggle to realize that I am not the Messiah," he said. At the same time, desires aren't everything either. "There will probably be chunks in our lives when we wish we were doing something else."

Another question reflected on the opinion that Ivy League students should do something with their lives that they couldn't have done if they didn't go to an Ivy League school. Tammy McLeod, in response, invited all of the students in attendance to seriously consider vocational ministry, not in

spite of an Ivy League degree, but because of the Ivy League degree. "I want to say that vocational ministry is definitely worthy of Ivy League degrees," she urged. Citing people like John Mott of Cornell and the Apostle Paul, she declared that the Church needs people in ministry who understand the hard issues of life and the intellectual issues of society. These gifts need to be utilized to serve the body of Christ.

However, she added that going into ministry is not more spiritual than going into the corporate world, "Your identity is not what you do. Your identity is in God." ■



Dick Keyes, Harvard '64, was among the ministry panelists at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action.

dents, started with each member explaining how he or she came into ministry, and was followed by a time of Q & A.

Keyes said his journey from agnostic to being a Christian took several years. One of the things that held him back was the idea that giving his life to Christ included possibly surrendering his career to full-time ministry. When he did become a Christian, his passion to learn and grow led him to get a seminary degree and to become a pastor in London for eight years. Eventually, he started a L'Abri Fellowship, a community "where individuals have the opportunity to seek answers to honest questions about

THE REALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

'The Forgotten Factor in Campus Transformation'

I About 30 students from Ivy League schools attended the Campus Revival Seminar at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action. The triennial leadership conference—which drew 380 students—was hosted by Christian Union April 1-3 in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Dave Warn, the director of Collegiate Impact, led the Campus Revival Seminar. Collegiate Impact is an organization that aims to “see the body of Christ on college and university campuses experience life in Jesus Christ on such a deep, powerful, contagious level that lives are changed and campuses transformed for the glory of God.” Warn also serves on the executive team for the National Collegiate Day of Prayer and has directed The Institute of Campus Revival and Awakening held at Yale University.

Titled “The Forgotten Factor in Campus Transformation,” Warn’s message began with references to Bible verses that show three realities of the Holy Spirit. There is the indwelling Holy Spirit, which is characteristic of all Christians from the point they are saved. There is the filling of the Holy Spirit, which is influenced by a conscious decision of the individual. And then there is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which is the “missing link” on many campuses. This outpouring is “moving from an individual interaction with the Holy Spirit to a corporate interaction with the Holy Spirit,” said Warn.

Warn then quoted numerous individuals, from Jonathan Edwards to John Mott to Martyn-Lloyd Jones, who described personal events or spoke of revival with the implications of a Spirit outpouring.

Afterward, he spoke of a few concerns about Spirit outpourings. For example, Warn addressed the issue of tongues, saying that it was not wise to dismiss the possibility of Spirit outpourings when tongues are present, and it was also not wise to dismiss the same possibility when tongues are not present. Warn also spoke about how

“Come near to God, and he will come near to you.”

—James 4:8



Dave Warn is the director of Collegiate Impact.

modern individualism in America has reduced Jesus solely to a personal Savior for many Christians. This produces an environment in which it is often difficult or unimaginable to have a corporate encounter with God.

Warn ended with God’s promise in James 4:8: “Come near to God, and he will come near to you.”

This is surely a promise that needs to be embraced by Christian students in the Ivy League after a powerful weekend of worship, teaching, and exhortation at the Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action. ■

By Grace Chen, Cornell '10

Hearing God’s Voice Through Prophecy

Jack Deere, an author and pastor, spoke on the topic of “Hearing God’s Voice through Prophecy.” Deere, who established Wellspring Church in North Richland Hills, Texas in 2004, began the session by saying that he believes God is healing and speaking today. He addressed how people can cultivate a friendship with God, how to discover and effectively use spiritual gifts to help the church, and then how to use the gifts in the market place.

“The most important thing in our lives is friendship with God,” said Deere, the author of the book, *Surprised by the Power of the*

Spirit: Discovering How God Speaks and Heals Today.

Congress attendees had a chance to learn about how to cultivate spiritual gifts and what prophecy actually entails. Deere also emphasized to the audience—which included a mix of skeptics and the curious—that prophecy should be spoken to “support, confirm, or encourage a leading you already have.”

“We have the Gospel, but we still need to pray and hear God’s voice.” He then posed the question: “How did Paul know how to get to Philippi?” “In stages—God does this to keep us dependent on Him.”



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A MISSION OF MERCY

Medical Doctor Serves the Poor in Western Africa

DA Dartmouth alumnus is taking seriously the biblical principle of sacrifice in his medical career.

Matt Megill is so dedicated to serving some of the world's sickest and neediest patients that he recently moved his young family to a republic in Western Africa that ranks among the world's most impoverished countries; the young doctor has pledged a long-term commitment to a Christian hospital.

"We need to continue to engage and have hearts of compassion," he said of his medical philosophy. "Most of all we need to love our neighbors and recognize that you or I could have been born in Africa, if it had been God's will."

Megill, Dartmouth '00, shared his commitment to missionary service during the Christian Union's triennial Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action in April.

This is Megill's second stint in Western Africa. From August 2008 to July 2010, he served at a Christian hospital in the heart of a country that averages about one physician per 30,000 residents. The hospital treats more than 100,000 people per year who seek help for life-threatening and debilitating illnesses and injuries.

Both forays were arranged through a worldwide Christian missionary organization.

Much of Megill's work will focus on serving patients who are battling HIV; Sub-Saharan Africa is more heavily afflicted by HIV and AIDS than any other region of the world. An estimated 22.5 million people live with HIV in the region, about two-thirds of the global total, according to AVERT, an international charity.

The average life expectancy in sub-Saharan Africa is about 52 years, according to AVERT.

"We're trying to be the Good Samaritans of this world. We're trying to pour oil into the wounds of people who are not only stigmatized but cast out," he said.

Other top killers in Western Africa are

tuberculosis, malaria, and typhoid.

Megill, who split his childhood between Lawrenceville, New Jersey, and Warren, Pennsylvania, received his medical degree from Temple University in 2005, where he also completed a residency in 2008. Homeschooled through his sophomore



Edgar Lei

Dr. Matt Megill, Dartmouth '00, is a medical missionary in West Africa.

year of high school, he credits his parents for his interest in missionary service.

Doug Megill, Princeton '75, a former emergency-room physician, is chief of clinical operations at Warren General Hospital, while Laura Megill, Princeton '76, is director of the entrepreneurship program at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford.

Among other ties to leading universities, a sister, Anna Megill, Princeton '06, is re-joining the campus ministry of Princeton Evangelical Fellowship in the fall.

Overall, "we support missions very strongly," said Laura Megill. "It's a focus of our family."

Likewise, living in a third-world country has opened Megill's eyes to the needs among its citizens for basic necessities. "There is a call for us to be missional in reaching out to those in desperate need in desperate parts of the world," he said.

At a practical level, Megill notes that much of the burden of living in one of the world's least developed nations falls to his wife, Tara (Dartmouth '02), who must handle homemaking chores without modern conveniences, including a washing machine, dishwasher, and vacuum cleaner. That also means fixing meals from scratch for their daughters, Irene, 5; Alethea, nearly 1; and son, Emmet, 3.

"It is rural Africa," said Megill, who noted the couple does benefit from a household assistant. "We're doing it for the sake of the Gospel. The needs are compelling."

While at Dartmouth, the classics major was active in campus ministries including The Navigators, Campus Crusade for Christ, and former Voces Clamantium. He also developed a deep interest in Muslim religion and culture.

As such, he volunteered for 10 weeks during 1998 at Annoor Sanitorium, a hospital dedicated to treating chronic lung disease in Jordan. Following undergraduate studies, he also served as a teacher for grades 6 to 8 to mostly missionary children at an English-speaking school in Cairo, Egypt.

"From a missional perspective, the needs for evangelism and gospel outreach in some of these least-reached countries are really profound," Megill said.

Along those lines, Megill shares his Christian faith as opportunities arise.

"As we try to be followers of Christ and try to do missions work in some of the neediest parts of the world, it is appropriate to be weaving the two together," Megill said.

"As a Christian physician following in Christ's footsteps, I feel a real compelling need to help people and to share Christ with them."

Ultimately, believers need to sacrifice for those in greater need. "We, as individuals in the church, do have a call to respond," Megill said. "I don't think God calls us to have parts of the world that are a godless vacuum."

During Dr. Megill's service to Africa, friends and supporters can follow his efforts and make donations via <http://desertgills.blogspot.com>. ■

FOR AN AUDIENCE OF ONE

Harvard Student Sings Hymn on Apollo Night



The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart leaps for joy, and with my song I praise him. – Psalm 28:7



Damaris Taylor, Harvard '12, is passionate about leading worship and discipleship.

The passion for the Lord and joy of praise about which the psalmist wrote could also describe Harvard rising senior Damaris Taylor, who not only sings with joy and passion, but also uses his music to share the love and truth of the Gospel in churches and at Harvard.

With the popularity of contemporary Christian music, at times worship singers can almost be seen as performers of sorts. However, for Taylor, who has been in music ministry since he was 5 years old, it is not about performance. It's about truly worshipping God.

Taylor, a native of Greenville, South Carolina, comes from a family of worshipers and musicians. His parents,

grandparents, siblings, and other family members make up the 20-person Taylor Family Choir, a group that ministers and leads worship services throughout North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. Taylor joins them when he's home on breaks from Harvard.

"I believe that I am called to boldly share my faith with others through song," Taylor said. "I realize that music is a unique form of communication that is unmatched by a 'regular' conversation."

And at Harvard, where conversation about Christ may not be easy to engage, Taylor boldly shared his faith with a rendition of the hymn, "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus," at the college's Night at the Apollo talent show.

"I wanted to sing a Christian song that would very clearly emphasize the importance of Christ as the main priority in an individual's life," Taylor said.

The audience responded with resounding applause and cheers, yet Taylor is quick to point out that when he sings, it isn't a performance.

"Because of the talents that God has given and the style of singing that I come from, sometimes people can mistake my vocal runs and arrangements as performing," he said. "For that reason,

act of evangelism.

"The audience reacted positively, but I honestly think that was because some people knew me and influenced the crowd. Unfortunately, the cheering before I appeared on stage wasn't for Christ," he said.

Still, Taylor was able to engage the audience and even had people singing along with him during the chorus, "Oh for grace to trust Him more."

"I hoped that my actions would encourage others," Taylor said. "I do see it as an act of servant-modeled leadership."

Taylor's learned a lot about servant leadership through his participation with Harvard College Faith and Action, a ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union. He serves as an assistant Bible course leader with the ministry.

"Discipling others has caused me to think more closely about the way I am representing Christ in all I do as well as how I model the way for other believers," he said. "My increased involvement in discipling others that led me to sing a Christian song at the talent show."

In April, Taylor led the All Ivy Gospel Choir at the Ivy League Congress on Faith in Action, which was attended by 380 students. The conference, held adjacent to Harvard in Cambridge, Massachusetts, was hosted by Christian Union and co-sponsored by many campus ministries.

While leading the choir and singing in a clear, full voice, Taylor lifted his arms and literally leapt with joy as he sang his praise to the Lord, bringing to life the

"I believe that I am called to boldly share my faith with others through song."

—Damaris Taylor, Harvard '12

I always like to emphasize to audiences and congregations that I am simply leading worship."

In the case of the Harvard talent show, Taylor said he sees his singing there as an

psalmists words, and bringing to light the truth and joy of the Gospel.

To see the YouTube video of Damaris' performance at Apollo Night, visit www.Christian-Union.org/HCFAtaylor. ■

HITTING A 'KEYNOTE'

Student Uses Social Media to Promote Musical Ministry

BA Brown University student recently kicked off his summer break by using his musical background to share Christ's gospel.

Derek Vance '12 helped promote Campus Crusade for Christ's Keynote Summer Project by plugging the musical ministry via social media. Crusade formed Keynote, its creative arts and communications outreach, in 1966. The touring ministry concentrates on sharing Christ's message via performing artists, bands, comedians, film, and the like.

Vance, who participated in the outreach during summer 2010 as a bass guitarist, returned to the ministry in a newly created role as a communications specialist on May 16.

Initially, Vance was assigned to Keynote's headquarters in Westfield, Indiana, where he received about three weeks of training in evangelism and electronic communications. Later, he toured with one of the ministry's two bands as it performed throughout Florida until wrapping up the season around July 5.

The native of Charleston, West Virginia, said he decided to pursue a second summer in the musical outreach because his experience in 2010 was so inspirational.

"I've seen the Gospel transform lives in such a powerful way," said Vance.

This year, the top duties in his new role at Keynote centered on posting updates for the musical outreach via Facebook and penning a blog capturing ministry activities.

A staffer described Vance's role as "a ground-breaking thing" for Keynote. "He is helping us form and develop this role for students in the future," said David Roux, director of Keynote's summer projects.

"The creative arts have always been influential in moving people. Music drops a

said. "There were a ton of prisons that wanted to work with us."

The bands practiced for about a month before hitting the road to play a repertoire of 15 or so classic and contemporary pop-rock songs. In particular, the groups highlight songs that deal with relationship matters and life issues as a means to segue into spiritual conversations, said Roux.

"The music is the common piece that draws people in," Roux said. "We'll take those songs and train a student or two to share personal stories and share the gospel."

In 1994, Keynote added its summer-projects division for college students. Historically, attendance at each summer concert averages about 100 to 200 people per show.

As for Vance, the religion and public policy major focused on engaging donors, parents, and potential recruits via the Internet. In addition to updating the Facebook page for Keynote's summer projects division, Vance wrote for the Connection blog and handled other electronic chores.

"He's trying to paint a picture and cast a vision of what we are," Roux said. "He's trying to tell the Keynote story."

Much of Vance's material came from "going on the road to catch some of the stories," Roux said. "His audience was more of the Christian audience."

Social media outlets are flourishing because "people want to be part of online communities," Roux noted. "It's where a lot of young people live. We're all about meeting them where they're at, not making them come to us."

Ultimately, for Vance, involvement in Keynote has been an amazing opportunity for spiritual growth. "Just seeing older Christian guys was really helpful for me," Vance said.

Roux also remarked on Vance's flourishing faith. "I've seen him take more initiative and want to share the Gospel with people," he said. "The more you're out there doing that, the more your vision grows." ■



Derek Vance (top row, 2nd from left), Brown '12, served as the communications specialist at Campus Crusade for Christ's Keynote Summer Project.

lot of barriers. People can connect on a lot of different levels."

During the academic year, professional artists with Keynote take to stages on college campuses and military bases across North America and even venture to overseas venues. During the summer, professionals help train students in their respective fields.

This year's set of bands focused on performing in the Southeast, mostly in prisons. "It just worked out that way," Roux

CREATING A 'RIPPLE EFFECT'

Former Toro Company CEO Promotes Servant Leadership

P The former CEO of the Toro Company wants to encourage the next generation of business executives to embrace the concept of servant leadership.

Ken Melrose, Princeton '62, discussed his personal and professional journey at the helm of one of the world's leading providers of landscape products and irrigation systems during a recent visit to Princeton University.

"The purpose of life is to serve God by serving others," said Melrose. "It's not who you are as in your title. It's what you do. What you do creates a ripple effect."

Melrose, who appeared through the university's Faith and Work Initiative, formed *Leading by Serving* in 2006 to promote the principles of servant leadership in business organizations.

"My hope is there are some junior servant leaders who will percolate up and have the courage to take a risk," Melrose told students on April 12 in McCormick Hall.

Melrose joined Toro in 1970 as director of marketing planning for the consumer products division. He was named chief executive officer and chairman of the board before assuming the role of executive chairman for Toro's board of directors in 2005. He retired from the Bloomington, Minnesota, corporation in 2006.

During Melrose's tenure, he ushered Toro through a make-or-break transition period when analysts were openly doubtful about the company's survival. Melrose quickly instituted a series of measures to save the landscaping behemoth from demise, including a dramatic reduction in the workforce. Later, he turned his attention to incorporating seismic changes in Toro's corporate culture, ones he had started to introduce in the late 1970s as a division manager.

"Toro in the 1970s was very top-down. I could see the employees were not giving

their best," Melrose said. "It was a very dysfunctional environment."

Gradually, Melrose introduced a climate that reflected both faith and an emphasis on employee input. Likewise, he consulted with some of the most renowned management gurus from the 1980s, including Stephen Covey and Tom Peters, and Toro launched an innovative improvement program called *Pride in Excellence*. The company also revamped its product portfolio to expand into the less cyclical and more profitable professional division, while balancing its array of residential products.

Melrose documented much of his faith-based corporate journey in *Making the Grass Greener on Your Side: A CEO's Journey to Leading by Serving*. The 1995 book describes the principles behind allowing customers to behave as boss and, in turn, management to facili-



Former Toro CEO Ken Melrose, Princeton '62, shared insights on leadership as a guest speaker with the Princeton Faith and Work Initiative.

who produced replacement parts for golf equipment at a plant that typically shuttered during the winter months. Instead, management sent the employees to top golf courses, including Augusta National Golf Club, to service mowers and other equipment.

"How can we value other people when we are laying them off? Why not redeploy them? The distributors needed extra workers to refurbish the equipment," Melrose commented to Princeton students.

Not surprisingly, productivity at the plant spiked as the laborers caught the company's vision. "You could see these people just so energized," he said.

Likewise, under Melrose's leadership, Toro became a national forerunner in dispute resolution to solve product-liability cases, resulting in a dramatic reduction in legal costs per claim and a virtual elimi-

Under Melrose's leadership, Toro became a national forerunner in dispute resolution to solve product-liability cases, resulting in a dramatic reduction in legal costs per claim and a virtual elimination of cases resolved through trials.

tate employees and their service to customers.

Put simply, management's role is to give employees the potential to contribute by engaging, inspiring, and empowering them.

At a practical level, valuing employees also played out when Melrose's team decided against furloughing 250 workers

nation of cases resolved through trials.

In the early 1990s, members of Toro's product-liability team expressed concern about the way the company dealt with injured customers, calling the aggressive legal defenses inconsistent with Toro's cultural values of helping customers.

As such, they suggested a system of reaching out to customers before the

start of the legal process. As a result, Toro began dispatching teams, usually including paralegals and engineers, to visit injured parties. Representatives often were authorized to pay for medical fees, lost work time and even some trauma-related costs.

In 2007, Melrose reflected on the success of the program to *Ethix*, a publication of Seattle Pacific University's business school. He noted that two-thirds of cases are settled in the home, and one-third head to mediation. Only one case – a dispute from 1994 – landed in court.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Toro dealt with about 100 lawsuits per year, and half of those ended up in the court, Melrose told *Ethix*. As such, overall legal expenses and settlement costs dropped precipitously under the alternative-dispute resolution program.

“The best part of this is we’ve been able to retain these customers for life,” he said.

Melrose, a native of Orlando, Florida, graduated with honors from Princeton University in 1962, where he majored in mathematics and lettered in track. He went on to earn a master of science in electrical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1965 and a master of business administration from the University of Chicago in 1967.

He told students that he shuns the Wall Street mentality of putting shareholders first and prizing profit maximization above other considerations. Executives should take a long-term approach to business decisions, not ones simply to beat the next set of quarterly, earnings-per-share estimates, which is the kind of thinking that helped cause the current recession, he said.

“We value the employee,” Melrose said. “It’s obvious to me that if employees are really engaged, the shareholder and the customer will do really well. You don’t do that by autocracy and control.”

Ultimately, Melrose said executives should look to Christ as their example.

“If you want to know who was the greatest servant leader in the world, just open up the New Testament,” he said.

David Miller, founding director of the Princeton University Faith & Work Initiative, said students were riveted by Melrose’s account.

They were “stunned to think you could have a leadership style that was people-oriented and not stock-oriented. The students were deeply impacted by the real-life stories he told and the way his faith quietly, but firmly, shaped his leadership style,” Miller said. ■

By Nana Asiedu, Dartmouth '12

SALUTING SENIORS

Three From Class of 2011 Look Back, Look Ahead

D *Editor’s note: The Ivy League Christian Observer recently interviewed three graduating seniors at Dartmouth College regarding their time at the school, their future plans, and their faith.*

CHRISTABELL DORCAS MAKOKHA

Hometown: Eldoret, Kenya

Major: Engineering (with concentration in biomedical engineering)

Activities at Dartmouth: Undergraduate Advisor, Deans Office Student Consultant, Rockefeller Leadership Fellow, National Society of Black Engineers, Tucker Fellow in Kenya, Research at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center and in Germany.

Plans after Dartmouth: Moving to Boston to work as an associate in health-care consulting.

Best part of being a Christian: The concept of grace; knowing that I don’t have to



Christabell Makokha '11

earn God’s forgiveness. No matter how much I mess up. I don’t pay for my salvation in deeds. That is definitely not a human concept and it’s one of my favorite things about Christianity; also, the fact that I don’t go through life alone. Even when things are painful or sad, I have the assurance that God is going to be there.

ISAIAH JAMES BERG

Major: Geography with a minor in Economics

Hometown: Starkweather, North Dakota

Activities: Brother of Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity (president during senior year), writer for *The Dartmouth* student newspaper and *Dartblog*, Navigators, Dartmouth Cycling Team.

Plans after Dartmouth: I’m planning a bike and camping expedition with my two brothers. We’re hoping to go from Anchorage, Alaska to Ischilín, Argentina. In May, I will enter Marine Corp Officer



Isaiah Berg '11

Candidate School in Quantico, Virginia and work four to eight years with the Marines.

“To me, [Isaiah 6:8] is about being available for God’s calling. God calls us on an individual basis; there is so much richness in that call.”

Bible verse that has been the most meaningful during four years at Dartmouth: “Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, ‘Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?’ And I said, ‘Here am I. Send me!’ ” (Isaiah 6:8). This verse is about the calling of Isaiah. It connects

with me because, hey, my name is Isaiah! To me, this scripture is about being available for God’s calling. God calls us on an individual basis; there is so much richness in that call.”

KI SUH JUNG

Hometown: Ridgewood, New Jersey

Major: Government and Economics (double major)

Activities: Agape Christian Fellowship, Praise Coordinator for Logos Church, Alternative Spring Break and Inter Fellowship Living Community with Tucker Foundation, Gospel Choir

Plans after Dartmouth: My mid-term goal (one to two years from now) is to become either a Foreign Service officer or a Navy officer. I will take the Foreign Service exam at the end of this year, and I’m in the process of applying to the Navy. Right now, I’m helping out at my parents’ restaurant while looking for a job to keep me busy for those couple years. I’ve been looking at various fields, but mostly consulting. I’m taking everything in stride because I might end up taking a different



Ki Suh Jung '11

time at Dartmouth. Usually, freshmen are very excited about coming into the unknown in terms of campus ministry. Then they face the difficulties of being a Christian, or being part of a campus ministry, or just the difficulties of studies at Dartmouth. Some people tend to become more cynical, more pessimistic. But I don’t think it has to be this way. If you stick with your fellow believer friends, if you just continue to be positive, then this college experience can continue to be a very exciting time. There will be ups and downs, but you never have to lose the enthusiasm that you came in with, ever. ■

route from the one I described above. Uncertainty, as much as it’s worrisome, is also exciting in a way.

Advice to incoming and current students of faith: They need a healthy balance of realism and idealism during their

FAITHFUL UNTIL THE END

Book on Trappist Monks by Columbia Alumnus Is Inspiration for Motion Picture

Columbia *Of Gods and Men*, released by Sony Pictures Classics in the spring, is a film that exemplifies what it means to live out one's faith and love one's neighbor, even in the face of death.

The movie is based upon the acclaimed book, *The Monks of Tibhirine*, written by Columbia alumnus John W. Kiser, MA '76. Kiser tells the story of seven Trappist monks who were kidnapped from their monastery in the village of Tibhirine in Algeria and killed during the political violence there in 1996.

The French monks vowed to be witnesses of God's love within the Muslim community. According to Kiser, the Church in Algeria served the Muslims by running schools and hospitals. These remarkable monks were bound by their love for Christ and dedication to serving their fellow man.

Both the book and the movie deal with the conflict the monks experienced as they tried to discern whether or not to leave the monastery when the French government gave the order for all foreigners to vacate Algeria. But as there are no foreigners in God's kingdom, the monks ultimately chose to stay, continuing to support and care for the villagers.

"To my mind, their

country was that of the Gospels," Kiser wrote in his book. "They belonged to everyone..."

Additionally, said Kiser, in an interview for his Web site, "There was a strong sense of solidarity that would have been

opposite. They often have more of an idea."

While the film uses subtitles, the music and expression demonstrate the depth and crescendo of emotions the monks experience as they collectively discern their

"The prayer for which they gather several times a day is an integral part of their life... Without their life of contemplation their life of action is meaningless. Their lives of contemplation and action can't be separated."

—Fr. James Martin, Penn '82

broken if they had hightailed it to a safe place when their neighbors did not have that option."

"The monks were human beings, they struggled with their faith," said author and social commentator Fr. James Martin, Penn '82, during a recent interview for *Religion & Ethics Weekly*. "Their politics was the politics of love and charity. The same way Christ loved everybody, the monks loved everyone. Most people think monks have no idea what's going on outside the walls. That's quite the

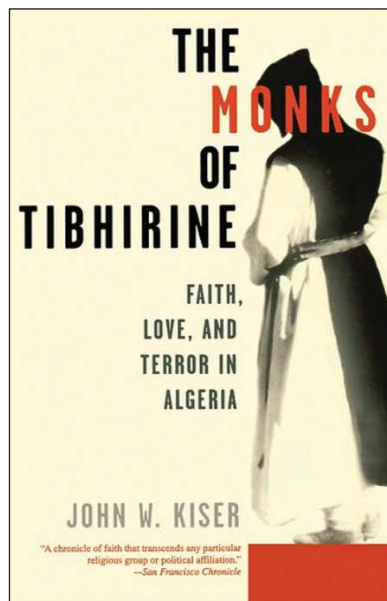
future. The significance of prayer is also depicted well.

"The prayer for which they gather several times a day is an integral part of their life," said Martin. "Psalm prayers form their discernment process. Without their life of contemplation their life of action is meaningless. Their lives of contemplation and action can't be separated."

"I've never seen a film on an overtly religious topic that has affected me so much. I don't think I've ever seen one that is so honest about the life of faith. It blew me away."

Despite the publicity surrounding this story, the facts of the actual kidnapping and deaths are still unknown. However, for Kiser, the details regarding the monks' deaths are not what his story is about, as much as the love and faith that infused their lives.

"The motives for the monks' kidnapping and the cause of their death remain a mystery to this day," writes Kiser. "It is not my purpose to solve it, but to tell a story of love and reconciliation amid fear and hatred." ■



The recently released film, *Of Gods and Men*, is based upon the book, *The Monks of Tibhirine*, written by John W. Kiser, Columbia '67.

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON COMPASSION

Grad Student Features Relief Bus Ministry in Final Project

COLUMBIA As a graduate student in a multi-platform media class, Tatiana Schnurr could have featured anything in New York as her final project. But in a city of hopes and dreams, desire and disappointment, bounty, and poverty, Schnurr chose to feature mobile compassion in a video piece about The Relief Bus, a ministry that feeds the poor and homeless.

Schnurr, an international relations and public affairs graduate student at Colum-

a worship singer. The Relief Bus, based in Elizabeth, New Jersey, is a ministry that provides food and hope for the down and out on the streets of Metro New York City.

In the neighborhoods of the South Bronx, Manhattan, Newark, and Elizabeth, Relief Bus volunteers bring food and hope to those in need by handing out hearty vegetable soup and bread. From two refurbished busses, they dispense love, encouragement, and tangible tools

to revive the hearts and lives of those ready and willing to make a change.

Poverty isn't new to Schnurr. She's witnessed it on the streets of New York, and has also encountered it in Brazil, where she has spent time studying. Still, she said, the environment around the bus was a stark contrast to the Ivy League halls where she spends her days.

"I was really blown away by the way people live in daily need not knowing if they will have what they

need to get by. It's a dreary, dark atmosphere," she said.

Yet, in the midst of the darkness, Schnurr said the Relief Bus provided a ray of hope. "The bus seems to have a lot of life around it," she said, explaining that some food recipients stay all day just to feel part of the community there.

To gain the trust of the Relief Bus team and the people they serve, Schnurr started as a volunteer. She started praying for the people she met at the bus, and because many of the same people return each week, she even developed friendships.

"Margarita from Puerto Rico was one of

my favorites," Schnurr said. "She was happy to see me because she knew I cared for her and was praying for her."

In addition to helping the poor and the afflicted, Schnurr said she wanted to bring fellow students to the bus to show them what it meant to be Christian.

"When people think of church work, they think of soup kitchens. This is something these people dedicate their lives to," she said.

Schnurr also wanted to bring the witness of Christ at work through the bus into her classroom at Columbia. However, she wasn't sure how the academy would respond to the Christian subject matter.

"I wanted to do a godly subject and this felt right," she said. "I didn't know how it was going to be taken. There was uncertainty," she said. Even other Christians had cautioned her about doing an overtly Christian project.

To her delight, however, the instructor and the class welcomed the project. In fact, it was one of only five selected as a class group project. That meant that Schnurr was able to bring four of her classmates to the bus to work on the video and to witness God's work there.

"They really felt good about what they were doing," Schnurr said of her peers. She also said they seemed comfortable helping to distribute the food while Schnurr and the other volunteers openly prayed for the community.

The final outcome was a video that depicted the bleakness of the city and the snow and rain through which the bus traveled. But it also showed the smiles of people who felt loved and cared for, and it shared the stories of those whose lives have been transformed from drug addiction, all because someone cared about them.

Schnurr received an A for the project, but more than a grade, the project gave Christ the spotlight in the classroom, and touched the hearts of all those involved. ■



Columbia Graduate Student Tatiana Schnurr documented the ministry of The Relief Bus for a class project.

bia, didn't know a lot about video production, but took the class because she wanted to be familiar with the technology and resources should the opportunity arise in a future career position. She also wanted to use the final project as an opportunity to introduce Christianity into her classroom.

"It's a secular school, so I wanted to do a piece to show how people are impacted by faith," Schnurr said. "I really wanted to bring that into the classroom."

Schnurr received the idea for her final project from a fellow congregant at Times Square Church in New York, where she is

GOD AND GAMING

Expert: There Is 'Potential for Spiritual Enrichment'

P Princeton Nearly 90 percent of college students engage in gaming, whether casually on a cell phone or intensely online, and such gaming can present spiritual opportunities.

That was one of the key points from Craig Detweiler when the Pepperdine University scholar and author spoke recently at Princeton University on the wide-ranging impact of video games and the entertainment arena.

Rather than viewing such activities as irreligious or even irreverent, Detweiler encouraged students to incorporate God into their leisure breaks.

"Given the sheer volume of time invested in gaming, I wanted to challenge students not to see that as time away from God, but as an activity that could include God and connect to their deepest spiritual longings," he said.

Detweiler is the editor of *Halos and Avatars: Playing Video Games with God*, a collection of essays that include theological themes of some games. Topics include video games as a storytelling medium and the theological implications of violent or apocalyptic games such as Halo 3, Grand Theft Auto IV, and Resident Evil.

Manna Christian Fellowship (www.princeton.edu/manna), along with the SmashCraft Heroes gaming club, sponsored Detweiler's appearance on April 9 in Forbes College. He also lectured later that evening in Murray-Dodge Hall on the role of theology in film.

Both video games and cinematic productions offer the potential for theological and personal enrichment, said Detweiler, a frequent cultural commentator.

"What I did was help them understand why they love the things they love and tell them to reflect theologically – to look closely at the music, games, and TVs that surround them," he said. "We were affirming common grace and God's ability to speak through anything."

Detweiler noted that both gaming and movie viewing can involve fellowship. "Many people think of gaming as passive, but it is remarkably communal and active,"

he said. "I wanted them to think in terms of fellowship within the gaming space."

He added: "Even in film, most popular cinematic sagas demonstrate that nobody can make the journey alone. You literally need a fellowship around the ring."

Likewise, for students who have struggled with addiction to video games, a spiritual component is critical for future participation. Detweiler recommends "inviting God into the process, asking for spiritual discernment on when enough is enough."

As for Detweiler, the father of two said he is being reintroduced to gaming through his children, ages 11 and 9. *Halos and Avatars* also includes a chapter from the Fuller Youth Institute on how parents and pastors can effectively talk to teens about gaming.

Ultimately, humans were created to enjoy recreational activities. "Before the fall, there was a certain beauty and wonder to the world," Detweiler said. "The best games bring us back to that sheer joy."

Detweiler holds an undergraduate degree in English, a master of fine arts, and both a master of divinity and doctorate of theology and culture from Fuller Theological Seminary. In addition, Detweiler is a screenwriter, producer, and author. He co-wrote *The Duke* in 1999 for Buena Vista Home Entertainment and the road-trip comedy *Extreme Days* in 2001 for Providence Entertainment. Furthermore, Detweiler co-wrote *A Matrix of Meanings: Finding God in Pop Culture* with British musician Barry Taylor in 2003.

In 2008 he produced and directed the award-winning documentary, *Purple State of Mind*, which probes the tension of so-called "blue" and "red" states in the United States. Detweiler also released *Into the Dark: Seeing the Sacred in the Top Films of the 21st Century*. The book probes 45 pop-culture films from social, cultural, and theological perspectives.

During his visit to Princeton, Detweiler



Scholar Craig Detweiler encouraged students to incorporate God into their leisure breaks during a lecture on the entertainment arena and video games.

told students the "best filmmakers are asking the ultimate questions that may be answered in forgotten or overlooked sections of the Bible."

In addition to his core position as an associate professor of communications at Pepperdine, Detweiler is helping the university to launch a master of fine arts program in media production. He previously served as the co-director of Reel Spirituality: An Institute for Moving Images at Fuller Theological Seminary.

"Pop culture has consistently moved me closer to God and connected with my heart-felt yearnings," he said. "I've gone on a theological quest to explain how God can use profane things to spark sacred searches. God has always used unlikely people and unlikely means to wake up obstinate people."

As for his time at Princeton, Detweiler said he was struck by the commitment of students to the role of aestheticism.

"The students at Princeton were much more interested in aestheticism, the possibilities of art, music, and drama to express our deepest longings," he said. "You have an entire generation of Christians who are being prepared to enter into the marketplace of ideas." ■

POWER EVANGELISM

Guest Minister Helps Princeton Faith and Action 'Go for It'



An Illinois pastor, known for ministering in supernatural manifestations of God, served as one of Princeton Faith and Action's guest speakers during Go-for-It Week.

Robby Dawkins, senior pastor of Vineyard Aurora, taught students about healing, prophecy, deliverance, and experiencing the presence of God during his March visit at Princeton University. Princeton Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

"People were very hungry to hear and experience God," Dawkins wrote on Facebook.com.

During Go-for-It Week, leaders with Princeton Faith and Action (PFA) encouraged students to share their faith on campus.

Dawkins began his visit on March 22 with an evening session focused on training PFA students to practice "power" evangelism. Dawkins taught students that "power" involves taking the initiative to share the Gospel and expecting God to show up in supernatural manifestations, including prophecy, healings, and other miracles.

The next day, Dawkins delivered a devotional at PFA's noon prayer meeting before interceding and prophesying over individual students and Christian Union staffers.

Dawkins said the Holy Spirit showed up in a remarkable way. "People around the room began to weep and kneel as the Holy Spirit began to fall on them. It was powerful," he said. "Several students were supposed to go to lunch, but only one or two left. It went for over an hour."

Subsequently, Dawkins took about 15 students on an evangelism excursion to the Frist Campus Center. While there, Dawkins prophesied in detail over a woman manning a table for donations to benefit victims of the recent tsunami in

Japan, and he organized the students to pray for three coffee baristas who reported back and leg pains.

"All three were completely healed," Dawkins said. "The students were very excited."

But the highlight of Dawkins' visit occurred when he served as the featured speaker at a campus-wide event in McCosh Hall entitled, "Do Miracles Happen Today?" Dawkins shared many of his personal experiences with miracles and gave a presentation of the

Gospel message before inviting audience members to come forward for prayer for healing.

As a result, five or so students reported healings of ailments including back, leg,

she experienced heat and electricity spreading across her body.

Several skeptical students told Dawkins that they "now believed in God and his power. Many felt God's power and manifest presence that night," Dawkins wrote on Facebook.

As a whole, students were "inspired by Robby's faith and willingness to approach the subjects of healing, prophecy, and miracles as well as his faith that they will happen if we go out and pray for them," said Christian Union Ministry Intern Mike Vincent, Princeton '10.

"Many students shared stories about how they were either healed, felt the tangible presence of God through his prayers, or received prophetic words from him."

Scott Jones (Cornell '03), a Christian Union ministry fellow at Princeton, said Dawkins' appearance prompted robust discussion among believers and non-believers.

"Robby's presence on campus was one of the most thought-provoking and talked about events at Princeton this year and remained one of the most discussed articles on *The Daily Princetonian's* Web site for about a month," Jones said.

"Our students were deeply challenged by his teaching, and we've seen greater boldness in many of them. There is an increased willingness to pray for those in suffering and a greater expectancy to see God move in extraordinary ways."



Pastor Robby Dawkins spoke about and demonstrated "Power Evangelism" with students from Princeton Faith and Action.

"Many students shared stories about how they were either healed, felt the tangible presence of God through his prayers, or received prophetic words from him."

—Mike Vincent, Princeton '10

and neck pain, sinus congestion, and headache.

Dawkins stayed into the early morning to prophesy and intercede for students. He prayed for a non-Christian who said

Along related lines, Ravonne Nevels '14 said she was touched by God's heart for reaching non-believers.

"God really wants to love and have non-Christians experience him in a unique

way, and it pleases God to use believers to help bring these people closer to him,” said Nevels, a religion major from Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Likewise, Hannah Barkley '11 said Dawkins helped explain the concept of healing and ways to pray for miracles to an unfamiliar constituency.

“He made the biblical basis of healing and, more generally, miracles, accessible to a modern-day audience to whom such things often seem foreign or hard to believe or understand,” said Barkley, an ecology and evolutionary biology major from Basking Ridge, New Jersey.

Trent Fuenmayor '12 seemed to sum up

student appreciation for Dawkins' visit and their new spiritual insights best.

“He really gave me lots of practical insight into the gift of prophecy,” said Fuenmayor, a religion major from Los Angeles, California. “It was inspiring and faith building to hear him talk and see him work.” ■

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

PRAYING 24/7

Tent Makes Christianity Visible and Accessible

PENN This spring's 24/7 Prayer Tent at Penn was marked by an abundance of inter-ministry support, according to Michael Hu, Director of PennforJesus.

“The sense of the prayer tent being more of a co-owned event really took hold this year, and a greater sense of [unity] was really felt,” said Hu.

PennforJesus, a ministry of Campus Renewal Ministries, sponsors the annual 24/7 Prayer Tent. This year, leaders from several campus ministries adopted specific days for their members to pray.

“The prayer tent furthers the cause for Christ on the campus by promoting unity, prayer, and public witness,” according to Hu. A Christian Union grant was provided to help underwrite the event.

The prayer tent, as in years past, served as a holy space of increased prayer for the Penn campus and its students, as well as for the world and its leaders. Additionally, “Its visibility generated dialogue among passersby about prayer and faith issues,” said Hu.

The tent also served as a place of healing. Hu shared the story of three Penn

grieved by the discord among her former roommates from last year, one was Christian and one was Jewish. However, as the Catholic woman was spending time in prayer at the tent, each of the other friends saw her and came in. They spoke and reconciled, and in the end, the Jewish friend suggested they all pray together.

According to Hu, “It was a testimony of God's sovereign timing, His work of reconciliation between relationships, and even more amazing to see Him initiate prayer together from a Jewish student in a Christian prayer tent.”

Other students were also moved and encouraged, as evidenced by their feedback to the event coordinators. “This is my favorite place to be on campus,” commented one student. “I love



Prayer requests, confessions, and praises were posted in the prayer tent set up this spring at Penn.

“[The prayer tent’s] visibility generated dialogue among passersby about prayer and faith issues.”


women who were brought together in reconciliation. A Catholic student who graduated last year was spending time doing prayer shifts at the tent. She was

what you are doing here,” said another. And still another longed for more time devoted to prayer and asked, “Can we extend this for another few weeks?”

ity. Yet even more striking was the witness of Christ's love and fidelity and His mercy and compassion available to all who entered the tent. ■

CELEBRATING HOLY WEEK ON THE QUAD

Outreach Proclaims 'God's Unashamed and Bold Love'

 Students with Campus On A Hill at Cornell used Holy Week to take a public stand for their faith, and they invited others to do the same.

From Maundy Thursday evening through Easter Sunday morning, Chris-

relegated Christian practice to the closet.

“One of the greatest victories Satan has won in the Eastern Church is that he has made Jesus a private, personal matter. The Church was once the center of both religious and civic life. It is no longer,” said Wen. “That is why we needed to have

According to the team coordinating the event, which was partially funded by a Christian Union grant, the vision was clear. Leaders with Campus On A Hill (rso.cornell.edu/campusonahill) wanted the truth and power of Christ’s death and resurrection to permeate out from the Christian subcommunity and more deeply into the campus community. Ultimately, they wanted to see the person of Jesus and the message of his death and resurrection become a topic of public conversation.

“We wanted to have a public event because we believe a large part of campus transformation will come through changing the collective culture of the community.”

And while Wen and his peers wanted to spark public conversation and transformation, they also knew there would be some negative responses as well.

“We were concerned about the reaction, but not afraid. We know that the Gospel always causes some controversy, that it will divide people,” he said. “Our main concern was in communicating the Gospel in such a way that it resonates with the needs and pierces the sins of today’s cultures.”

According to feedback, the outreach was successful in piercing through some of the barrenness at Cornell.

One student, who brought some close friends who are not believers, found the event to be a portal for discussing Christianity.

“The follow-up conversations I’ve had have been so encouraging. God is definitely working in the hearts of my friends and I am just ecstatic. They told me they were really glad this event was held,” said the student in an email.

Another demonstrated the impact of the resonating worship and the significance of publicly praising the Lord and reaching out in bold faith.

“I was walking to Uris Library one evening and from way across the Arts Quad I heard singing,” wrote the student. “It was the people from the prayer tent and the sound was so beautiful and reassuring that I had to stop and sing with them.” ■



Christian students at Cornell publicly exalted the resurrection of Jesus Christ through the Easter on the Quad Event in April.

tian students publicly gathered on the campus’s central quad for outreach, prayer, and live worship. The continuous days of prayer and the celebratory Easter service were widely publicized to the entire campus and were aimed at inviting non-Christian students and faculty to follow Jesus Christ.

“The intention of gathering in a public area was to display God’s unashamed and bold love for the campus, and His tangible pursuit of the hearts of students and faculty,” said Henry Wen ’09, a graduate student and one of the coordinators of the outreach.

This stands in opposition and contrast to what Wen sees as the advancement of secularism and anti-faithfulness that has silenced Christian proclamation and has

a physical manifestation in a big common space on campus.”

And so they did. Despite a drizzling rain, nearly 600 students gathered on the Arts Quad for the Easter Morning Service. Organizers had set up 500 seats, but those quickly filled up, leaving only standing room for the remaining attendees. Wen isn’t sure how many non-Christians attended the service, but estimates around 25 percent.

A Gospel choir and a Christian a cappella group each led worship, including songs from various traditions such as a black Gospel, contemporary, and classical hymns. Songs from Simon and Garfunkel and the Black-Eyed Peas were also incorporated into the worship with the intention of raising questions about life and purpose.

BECOMING 'A FORCE FOR LOVE'

Columbia Students Excited About Upcoming Year After Leadership Retreat

Columbia Students from InterVarsity at Columbia attended Basilea, the ministry's end-of-year retreat, with high expectations and desire for confirmation of a new vision of healing and restoration on their campus. Basilea, InterVarsity's annual leadership conference, was held at Saranac Village, a Young Life camp in Upstate New York.

By all accounts, God met and exceeded the expectations of the Columbians as they joined students from other campuses for the week-long event.

Damaris Giah, CC '14, was part of the Transforming Prayer track.

"One thing we learned well was how to pray in agreement, how to build off of each other's prayers so that we are united in a stronger force, a stronger prayer," she said.

Giah also said that God broke down her illusions about herself, revealing "pride and jealousy in my heart." She plans to bring these realizations back to campus next semester as part of IV's quest for authentic community.

Heidi Keller (BC '14), received new insight on the importance of community for the ministry.



Jason So '13 and Heidi Keller '14 were among the Columbia students who attended Basilea, InterVarsity's end-of-year retreat.

Jason So, CC '13, a leader with Columbia's Veritas Forum chapter, said it was important for him and the rest of the Veritas board members to go to Basilea. "Our goals were brainstorming, getting to

know the other members of the board, and asking God how we can serve the other fellowships," he said, "and I think we accomplished all of them."

So said that Basilea gave Columbia's Veritas chapter a new perspective on what kind of organization they should be as they seek to connect with un-churched students through various initiatives. "We

can serve as a 'frontier' for campus ministries by bringing in people who would normally not set foot in [their meetings]," he said. The team set ambitious goals and made significant changes to their event structure. They also set what So described as a "challenging" goal: to raise \$11,000

over the next year, including \$5,000 from sources outside Columbia.

InterVarsity's vision for restoration and healing on campus comes, in part, from a calling that many have felt to reach out to the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) community. According to Keller, the students who attended Basilea's Servant Leader track want to "address places on campus where there might be a lot of hurting and need for healing, especially within the LGBTQ community." Several events on campus last semester, including a forum about "Safe Spaces" and a discussion of intersections between religion and sexuality, brought the divide between the Christian and LGBTQ communities on campus

to the forefront. IV's serving council will seek to bridge this divide by displaying its commitment to radical love next semester. Keller said IV will also be doing more of what she calls "kindness projects," things like bringing food to people who are studying in the library.

Overall, students from Columbia InterVarsity (www.columbia.edu/cu/ivcf/) said Basilea increased their desire to be a force for love on campus. Giah said that in their first chapter meeting at the retreat, "you could feel this bubbling excitement for what God was going to do next year...everyone was really excited about their track and the vision God had given them." Giah said the ministry learned to be more dynamic and responsive to God's voice at the retreat—to do more of what she calls "breaking the mold—listening to his voice and acting on those things." Given that attendance at IV's weekly large group meetings increased from an average of about 60 people to 100 over the past year, it seems that IV has physical and spiritual evidence of God's faithfulness and desire to do great things at Columbia. ■

InterVarsity's vision for restoration and healing on campus comes, in part, from a calling that many have felt to reach out to the LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, transgender, queer) community.

"[Community is important,] not just in hanging out, but how we evangelize, and how we come to be disciples," she said. "Our community has the potential for great authenticity, which draws people in from other campus communities."

'LIVING OUT MY CHRISTIAN FAITH'

Alumni Panel Gives Testimonies at Reunion Weekend

P Believers should approach business negotiations with the attitude that Christ – plus their own mothers – are also seated at the table.

“Our Christian faith demands that we be proactive in our faith,” said Paul Birkeland, Princeton '66.

The real estate investor made his comments when he spoke during an alumni panel discussion entitled, “How I Am Living out My Christian Faith Today.”

geted classes with graduation years ending in “six” or “one.”

Along related lines, Birkeland shared with students and alumni how the loss of his wife of three decades also has profoundly shaped his perspective on business and personal matters.

“That offers a tremendous amount of perspective on how frail life is,” he said. “Are we spending time with people? What grace are we showing to our fellow human beings?”

“Ask yourself if it will matter in five years. What you do with your spouse will matter,” he said. “Business decisions can be forgotten, but how you treat people will not be forgotten.”

Likewise, as part of his efforts to reflect Christ in business practices, Birkeland instructed his residential rental division to begin writing letters of recommendation for departing tenants who kept satisfactory terms during their leases.

To Birkeland's amazement, a sizeable chunk of former tenants returned for future leases. “They would hand back the letter,” he said. “That letter was the primary reason they came back...”

“We are all created in God's image. Let's look for the good. As Christian people, we need to do that.”

Along related lines, believers should not be in search of the last dollar in their financial dealings. “Most busi-

nessmen stiffen up their backs and play hardball,” he said. “Leave something on the table for both guys. I would rather have the other guy come back.”

played a key role in his decision to reside and work in Manhattan, rather than to pursue opportunities in the culturally lavish and historically rich corridors of Europe.

Hazelton, who grew up in Switzerland, France, and Kenya, said he senses that New York City is on the verge of a much-needed revival.

“What's happened over the last year to two years in New York City is remarkable,” he said. “There are lots of churches starting. People are meeting together and praying.”

The private investor and co-founder of Arrabon, a corporate advisory and investment business, said he felt the need to pause and consider where God is moving.

“We are living here as a family because God is working here,” Hazelton said. “It would be disobedient for me not to live here.”

Likewise, a growing prayer movement spreading across New York City makes it “really exciting to be there.”

In addition, Hazelton shared with the panel the way his faith played a key role in how he and his wife dealt with the news of an early miscarriage in 2010.

“I remember being surprised at the peace,” he said.

In an amazing turn of events, a follow-up appointment brought miraculous results. A physician repeated a key scan and declared the prior reading to be a mistake. The couple's daughter will celebrate her first birthday in September.

“I was grateful to know God during that time,” Hazelton said.

Overall, Hazelton said he wants believ-



Stacy Whitelock, Princeton '96, shared the impact her Christian faith has had upon her life, career, and every day decisions during an alumni panel discussion hosted by Princeton Faith and Action.

Princeton Faith and Action (www.pfanda.com) sponsored the discussion on May 28 in McCosh Hall as part of Princeton University's annual reunion weekend.

“Put your mother at the table. Put Jesus Christ at the table,” he said. “It's very easy to practice your faith if you keep that in mind.”

Birkeland is the founder of Birkeland and Associates, a real estate investment firm that specializes in apartments, shopping centers, and office buildings on the West Coast.

The testimonies were just one of several activities sponsored by Princeton Faith and Action (PFA) to coincide with Princeton's Reunions 2011, which tar-

“Business decisions can be forgotten, but how you treat people will not be forgotten.”

—Paul Birkeland, Princeton '66

ers at leading universities to know that a Christian faith can be a “real advantage” in business, especially for those who base their identity in their Savior.

“There is a freedom in not having your identity tied to your work or the nature of

ers at leading universities to know that a Christian faith can be a “real advantage” in business, especially for those who base their identity in their Savior.

“There is a freedom in not having your identity tied to your work or the nature of

your work,” he said.

Also during the panel, Stacy Whitelock '96, shared how she relied heavily upon her faith at major crossroads, especially as she entered the fields of dermatology

and dermatopathology.

“I had other people pray for every major decision,” said Whitelock of Fullerton, California. “As I would weigh those big decisions before the Lord, gradually a

deep sense of peace would fill me.”

“The major challenges I’ve faced have not so much challenged my faith, but my faith has helped through the challenges,” she said. ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

PENN'S NEW ALUMNI NETWORK

Ministry Seeks to 'Complement and Strengthen a United Christian Movement'

P PennforJesus is in the beginning stages of launching an alumni network for evangelical ministries at the University of Pennsylvania.

As a first step, Campus Renewal Ministries hosted a reception for Christian alumni on April 9 to coincide with the 20th anniversary of Full Measure, a spiritual a cappella group at Penn. About 40 alumni attended the event, which was held at St. Mary's Hamilton Village – The Episcopal Church at Penn.

The reception was designed, in part, as a preparation for the future Penn Evangelical Christian Alumni Network, which is intended to provide prayer and financial support for campus ministries, as well as for alumni activities.

Michael Hu, a staffer with PennforJesus, said his organization was inspired by many of the strong religious and cultural groups on campus that maintain close alumni networks.

“They keep in touch with their alumni,” said Hu, Penn '00. “We’re starting to have a greater, united movement on campus. This is a void we want to fill.”

The proposed Christian association would connect graduates with current campus ministries and with one another. The organization also would help network seniors to Christian alumni in cities across the region, and it could provide job and internship referrals to upperclassmen as they probe opportunities in their fields.

“We hope it will complement and strengthen a united Christian movement,” Hu said.

The next major event to help in launching the Penn Evangelical Christian Alumni Network is slated to coincide with

the university's homecoming in November. Hu plans to gather key alumni to form a steering committee.

“We’re hoping to develop this as a cooperative among existing leaders,” Hu said.

The alumni networking organization would be a first for Campus Renewal Ministries, which is based in Austin, Texas. The organization specializes in partnerships among students, professors, collegiate ministries, and churches to build missional communities to transform college campuses.

“If it works at Penn, then maybe it can be applied to other campuses,” Hu said.

PennforJesus is a student-led organization that brings together believers from evangelical ministries across the University of Pennsylvania for prayer, worship, and fellowship. The group's roots date back to the campus' first Jesus Week in 1996, and the collaborative became part of Campus Renewal Ministries in 2007.

As for the Full Measure reunion, Hu said many alumni were touched to learn the student group is thriving.

“It was like, ‘wow, this ministry has lasted 20 years?’ They were shocked the group still existed,” said Hu, an alumnus of Full Measure.

The a cappella ministry presents the Gospel message through skits, songs, and other methods. During its spring concert weekend, alumni gathered for a dinner on Friday and a reception on Saturday. Highlights of the reception included a slide show and testimonies from original group



Campus Renewal Ministries at Penn, led by staff member Michael Hu (Penn '00), recently launched an alumni network for evangelical ministries.

members.

“We contacted 90 percent of alumni who had ever been involved in Full Measure,” Hu said. “A good number came, including one of the founding members. It was a celebration of the ministry itself and how God has been faithful.”

During the reunion weekend, reaction to the proposed Christian alumni networking organization was promising.

“Everyone was very excited about the alumni network. They would like to be part of it in some way,” Hu said. “It’s not just to network. Rather, it’s to build the kingdom both on campus and beyond.” ■

BUILDING CATHOLIC 'ESTEEM' AT YALE

New Program Is a Bridge between Campus Ministry and Parish Interaction

Y The Saint Thomas More Catholic Chapel and Center at Yale, in conjunction with the National Leadership Roundtable on Church Management, has launched a pilot program developed to empower students to engage their faith more deeply while on campus and to bring their leadership talents to their parish communities upon graduation.



Katie Byrnes, assistant chaplain at Yale, has helped start St. Thomas More Chapel's pilot program Esteem, which encourages graduates to take leadership roles within parish communities.

ESTEEM (Engaging Students to Enliven the Ecclesial Mission) was started at Yale and several other campuses this past fall. ESTEEM is not designed to replace existing Catholic campus ministries, but rather to enhance existing programs by serving as a sort of bridge between campus ministry and parish interaction.

According to Katie Byrnes, assistant chaplain at St. Thomas More Chapel, each

spring, universities graduate vibrant, talented Catholics who lose their passion for the Church and their faith because they don't connect with parishes they way they did with their campus ministries. ESTEEM is a way to help students identify their gifts and discover how they can enhance or even create ministries within their new church communities.

"We remind them of their baptismal call to be and live in the world and our faith communities," said Byrnes. "We help them identify what they can do and what they should do."

In addition to Yale, the program was launched at five other universities around the nation: Ohio State, Michigan State, Sacred Heart, Stanford, and UCLA. The colleges share a 10-unit curriculum that focuses on issues such as church history, leadership, social justice, spirituality, and how to live out faith in the world.

ESTEEM also includes a mentorship component. At Yale, that means pairing students with members of the Catholic campus community, as well as faithful Catholics from various professions such as medicine and the media.

"My mentor was Sister Jane Ruffing, a professor on spirituality at the Yale Divinity School," said recent graduate Annie Killian '11. "I was so excited to be paired with her." According to Killian, her mentor helped guide her through the fear she felt about leaving St. Thomas More behind when she left Yale.

"She gave me the right perspective: to focus on the gratitude that I have for my time and experience at the chapel and to look forward with hope and faith in God as I embark on a new adventure," said Killian, who is considering future ministry work.

Killian also said the program helped her transition from a college student who was active in the STM community to a graduate ready to participate in a parish community as a young adult.

"Finding the Saint Thomas More Chapel and Center was one of the single

greatest surprises and blessings of going to college. I expected Yale to be an excellent school, but I never suspected that I would find so many Catholic peers. STM is a joy-filled witness to the love of Christ, actively working to realize the Kingdom of God here and now," said Killian, who was a member of the STM undergraduate leadership council since she was a sophomore.

"The presence of the Spirit is palpable in that community, working through its programs and in its members. Because of STM, I've realized the importance of participating in a spiritual community, of worshipping with other people who will challenge and encourage you."

However, as a senior, Killian resigned from her leadership position with STM, which is customary for seniors. She said that participating in ESTEEM filled the void created during her senior year as she held less responsibility within STM, and that it helped move her toward her future role as a lay leader within the church.

ESTEEM also helped Killian as she took on the leadership role of captain of the swim team, where she said she drew heavily upon the lessons she learned about living in community at STM.

"I tried to come from a place of respect for every woman on the team, calling upon each of them to find a way to build the group. I also found the model of 'servant leader' compelling; like Jesus, a real leader kneels down and washes the feet of his or her followers," she said.

Killian hopes to continue serving as a leader in her new parish. She would like to be involved with small church communities and possibly organizing a weekly soup kitchen.

"I think that the Church needs people who are excited about and dedicated to the communal life of the parish," she said. "The American Catholic Church is undergoing a transformation right now; we are in the midst of decay and death but moving slowly into a period of new life and regeneration. I think my peers and I will play a leading role in that renewal. We must." ■

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ROBERT P. GEORGE, J.D., D.PHIL.
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

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CHRISTIAN UNION

Ministry Fellows Take Summer Courses



Dan Knapke, Christian Union' Director of Undergraduate Student Ministry at Princeton, and his wife Laurie attended seminary classes at Reformed Theological Seminary this summer.

Ministry fellows with the Christian Union are taking advantage of the summer months to pursue seminary training to better equip them to minister to the needs of returning students in the fall.

Among the team at Princeton University, Lorri Bentsch, Princeton '91, is taking New Testament Theology from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary (www.gordonconwell.edu), while Dan and Laurie Knapke are pursuing classes from Reformed Theological Seminary (www.rts.edu). The couple is taking a course in Acts and Romans and another in New Testament Canon.

Likewise, Chris Matthews, Christian Union's ministry director at Yale, signed up for a weeklong course on Jonathan Edwards' sermons at the Yale Divinity School.

Ministry Achieves Official Recognition

Yale Faith and Action: An Undergraduate Organization (YFA) was officially recognized by the Office of Student Affairs on May 6 as an official organization at Yale College. Benefits of recognition include being able to reserve university facilities and host major events on campus. In the new academic year, YFA will also be listed in the fall Bazaar of Registered Undergraduate Organizations, significantly raising the ministry's visibility. YFA is a leadership



Yale Faith and Action: An Undergraduate Organization received official recognition from the university this spring.

development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

Alumna Opens Homes for Abused Women, Addresses University

Abigail Bach likes to remind believers they were created to do good works.

Bach, Princeton '81 and Wharton MBA '86, also is quick to note an extraordinary God uses ordinary men and women for his purposes. As such, Bach recently testified how she relied upon God's guidance in launching two homes for abused women and their children in urban Denver, Colorado.

"I really prayed that God would use me where I was," said Bach, also Penn '86.

In May, Bach spoke during the annual Princeton University reunion service at Nassau Christian Center, which was sponsored by the Christian Union. Other speakers were Thomas Donnelly '61 and Steve Edwards '01.



Abigail Bach, Princeton '81, spoke about starting homes for abused women and children during the Princeton University reunion service.

ALL IVY

D. Michael Lindsay Named President of Gordon College

The selection of D. Michael Lindsay, Princeton '06, as the new president of Gordon College has garnered significant acclaim.

In a story by Timothy Daryl Imple (Harvard '09) on Patheos.com, Veritas Forum Chairman of the Board Kurt Keilhacker (Harvard '07) called Lindsay a "game changer." Author Mark Noll described Lindsay as "the right choice for the right college at the right time."

Lindsay, a sociolo-

D. Michael Lindsay, Princeton Ph.D. '06, will be the next president of Gordon College.



gist and the author of *Faith in the Halls of Power: How Evangelicals Joined the American Elite*, said he was "thrilled with this opportunity and extraordinarily blessed to be given a chance at this moment in Gordon's history."

Dartmouth, Penn Among Best Colleges for Free Speech

Dartmouth College and the University of Pennsylvania were listed among the seven best colleges for free speech by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE). In an article on



Dartmouth and Penn were recently named among the Seven Best Colleges for Free Speech by the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education.

Huffington Post, FIRE President Greg Lukianoff said the schools received a green light rating because their

policies "at least nominally protect speech that would be protected by the First Amendment" and have not committed a serious incident of censorship for at least several years.

Donald Trump: I Am a Christian

In an interview before he decided not to run for President of the United States, businessman and media personality Donald Trump told Christian Broadcasting



Donald Trump, Wharton '68, said, "I am a Christian," in an interview with the Christian Broadcasting Network.

Network's David Brody that he is a Christian. Trump, who graduated from Wharton Business School in 1968, said, "I believe in God. I am Christian." As for the Bible, Trump called it "THE book." "It is the thing," he said. And regarding church attendance, Trump said, "Well I go as much as I can. Always on Christmas; always on Easter; always when there's a major occasion....I'll go when I can."

BROWN

Brown Hosts Immigration Symposium

In the spring semester, the bishop of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence delivered the keynote address for a major symposium at Brown University.

Thomas J. Tobin spoke during the “Immigrants and Immigration in the 21st



Roman Catholic Bishop Thomas J. Tobin presented the keynote address during the “Immigrants and Immigration in the 21st Century” symposium.

Century” symposium on March 12 in MacMillan Hall. Brown President Ruth J. Simmons, Harvard Ph.D. ’73, also spoke at the event, which was sponsored by the A. Alfred Taubman Center for Public Policy and American Institutions.

To coincide with the symposium, Brown released results of a new survey of Rhode Island residents highlighting deep divisions on the subject of immigration but strong support for the educational programs for the children of immigrants.

College Hill for Christ Breaks Bread

College Hill for Christ (www.collegehillforchrist.com) held a series of dinners aimed at building greater unity among members and encouraging outreach to those who don’t know Christ.

The Campus Crusade for Christ ministry held six dinners entitled “Breaking Bread: Friendship across the Spiritual Divide” between March 22 and May 9.

The dinners, supported by a Christian Union grant, were designed to expand relationships within College Hill for Christ and encourage participants to show the love of Christ to non-Believers.



Campus Crusade for Christ held six “Breaking Bread” dinner events designed to encourage and expand fellowship within the ministry.

Book Giveaway Promotes a ‘Rational Conclusion’

Athletes in Action at Brown (www.iaat-brown.com) University directed a book giveaway this spring. Members of AIA distributed copies of James Agresti’s *Rational Conclusions* between April 21 and May 5 in the Petteruti Lounge of the Stephen Robert ’62 Campus Center.



Brown students stand in line for their copies of *Rational Conclusions* during a book giveaway. The book was written by James Agresti, Brown ’88.

Agresti (Brown ’88), a former atheist who came to Christ after reading the Bible and finding objective evidence for its accuracy, has worked as a designer of jet aircraft engines, technical sales professional, and chief engineer over helicopter customizations. At Brown, he was a member of the wrestling team.

Support from the Christian Union helped underwrite the outreach.

COLUMBIA

Helping Haiti

Lucy Santizo ’11 of Columbia Students for Christ went on a mission trip to Haiti this spring. Sponsored in part by a grant from Christian Union, the week-long service mission was done in partnership with Nehemiah Vision Ministries (NVM), a humanitarian aid organization headquartered in Chambrun, Haiti. The trip consisted of service work at the NVM campus, which included painting and sorting donations, as well as spending time with local residents, experiencing Haitian culture, and working with Haitian college students.

Lucy Santizo ’11 (second from left) of Columbia Students for Christ spent spring break serving in Haiti.



Dorm Discussions Address Faith Barriers

The Veritas Forum at Columbia sponsored dormitory discussion groups this spring to encourage conversation about Christianity and the Gospel. Roughly 70 students participated; more than half were non-Christians. Topics included truth, relativism, different religions, morality, justice, heaven, hell, and more. The discussions exposed participants to the Gospel in a variety of ways and also served to address and challenge misconceptions and underlying barriers to Christianity. A Muslim leader on campus told Veritas coordinators that he would like to help more members of the Muslim student group attend the discussions next year. A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the initiative.

Approximately 70 students participated in Veritas Forum dormitory discussion groups at Columbia.

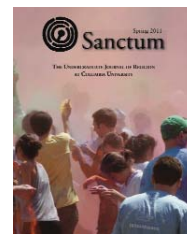


Religion Journal Examines Pop Culture

Sanctum, Columbia’s undergraduate journal of religion, recently published an issue that focused on pop culture. The journal received a record number of submissions for the issue.

Since its founding, *Sanctum* has expanded its content to include literature, academic articles, and personal essays. Features have ranged from an ethnographic study of ex-Hasidic Jews in Manhattan to a poem from the perspective of a third-grader. The overall purpose of the journal is to provide a forum for inter-religious dialogue in a publication format at Columbia. *Sanctum*, which is targeted toward undergraduate and graduate students, continues to grow in readership and submissions with each issue. A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the production of the journal.

Sanctum, a Christian journal at Columbia, received a record number of submissions for its spring issue featuring religion and pop culture.



CORNELL

Chesterton House Hosts Graduate/Faculty Conference

The Graduate/Faculty Conference was held at April 9 at Chesterton House. Dr. Ted Davis of Messiah College spoke on the interaction of science and religion from a historical perspective. Points of discussion included Galileo and the Roman Catholic Church, Science as a Christian Vocation, and Darwin and

Dr. Ted Davis of Messiah College spoke on the interaction of science and religion during the Graduate/Faculty Conference held at Cornell in April.



Religion. The event provided an opportunity for faculty and graduate students from across the Cornell campus to come together to explore issues of faith.

Blogging, Praising, Praying

Christian students at Cornell can announce their prayer requests and praises through the Cornell Christian News Blog (cornellchristiannews.tumblr.com). According to its founder William Poon '13, "The purpose of the blog is to further spur on the Christian community at Cornell to love God and love one another."

In one recent entry, someone praised the Lord for the way He is moving on campus.

"It's an amazing time to be a Christian at Cornell!," the student wrote. "There is so much to praise God for about the way



Will Poon, Cornell '13, founded the newly established Christian News Blog.

he has been strengthening the hearts of believers and transforming those who did not previously know him."

Reunion Breakfast Held for Ministry Alumni

Chesterton House at Cornell hosted a Reunion Breakfast in June for all alumni and relatives who were involved with campus ministries at the university. The ministries represented included Campus Crusade for Christ (cornellcru.com), Chi Alpha, Chinese Bible Study (www.rso.cornell.edu/cbs), Cornell Christian Fellowship (www.ccfiv.org) and several others. In addition to food and fellowship, the event featured updates on campus ministry activity. Chesterton House is a Christian studies center affiliated with Cornell University.



Chesterton House was the site of a reunion breakfast held for alumni and relatives involved with Christian campus ministries.

DARTMOUTH

Agape Hosts Senior Send Off



Agape Christian Fellowship at Dartmouth hosted a senior send-off this spring.

Agape Christian Fellowship at Dartmouth held its Senior Send Off on May 28. Approximately 30 students participated in the event that was designed to recognize graduating seniors and to show the ministry's appreciation for their service. The event also served as an opportunity to pray for the seniors, asking for God's blessing upon each as his time at Dartmouth came to a close.

According to the event coordinators, the seniors subsequently encouraged the underclassmen to be passionate for Christ and to be bold in sharing God's word at Dartmouth.

A Christian Union grant helped subsidize the event.

Spring Break Trips Serve Mothers in Need

Aquinas House, the Catholic student ministry at Dartmouth (www.dartmouth.edu/~aquinas), sponsored two opportunities for students who were interested in spending their spring breaks in the service of others. One group of students traveled to Phoenix, Arizona, where they worked at Maggie's Place and Andre House, residences for

Students with Aquinas House at Dartmouth spent their spring breaks serving the homeless in Phoenix, Arizona.



homeless pregnant mothers. Another group served in St. Augustine, Florida, where they volunteered at St. Gerard's Campus, an accredited high school for teenage mothers.

"I met so many people who trusted so fully in God...I truly intend to make that fervent spiritualism a greater part of my life from this point on," said one student.

Annual Event Celebrates Crusade Achievements

Campus Crusade for Christ's branch at Dartmouth College (www.dartmouthcci.org) recently held a banquet for students, staffers, partners, and other ministry leaders.

Christian Impact held the formal dinner on May 7 in Quechee, Vermont. A Christian Union grant helped fund the dinner. The campus ministry organized the annual event to celebrate achievements during the 2010-2011 year, encourage increased ministry to students, and extend the ministry's network.

Organizers said they wanted to expand partnerships with area churches, share their vision for next year, and raise funds for ministry efforts.



Christian Impact at Dartmouth hosted a formal dinner this May to celebrate the ministry's achievements during the academic year.

HARVARD

Faith and the Achievement Gap

Dr. Bill Jeynes, Harvard '92, recently completed the first meta-analysis ever completed on the factors that most reliably reduce the achievement gap. Jeynes



Bill Jeynes, Harvard '92, recently released an unprecedented study regarding faith and family factors.

presented his results at the American Educational Research Association's Annual Conference. The Senior Fellow at the Witherspoon Institute determined that students' personal religious faith and family factors are those most reliably associated with reducing the achievement gap. "I believe that educators are beginning to possess more of an open mind to the inner strength that faith often provides," he said.

"Increasingly, educators, historians, and social scientists are recognizing that faith and family values are conducive to strong economic growth."

Ordination to Daily Work

On Saturday, April 16, Harvard Graduate Christian Fellowship kept with its oldest tradition and held the Ordination to Daily Work, a worship and commissioning service for its graduating members. The service, first held in 1976, is a cele-



Harvard Graduate Christian Fellowship commissioned its graduates into service for Christ on April 16 during The Ordination to Daily Work.

bration of God's calling upon the lives of the graduates. Family, friends, and pastors were all invited to attend the event, which was held in Appleton Chapel of Memorial Church.

Transformation Conference Draws Criticism

The Social Transformation Conference held at Harvard this April drew fire and

protest from several organizations on campus on the grounds that the event was "homophobic and Islamophobic," as reported in *The Harvard Crimson*.

Themed "Social Transformation by the Power of God," the conference sought to assemble "leading voices for the faith-based social transformation of culture

Harvard Divinity School Student Sierra E. Fleenor attended The Social Transformation Conference at Harvard. The event garnered protest because of its adherence to orthodox Christian values.



and nations to bring the relevance of God's purpose and power to the students at Harvard."

In the *Crimson*, Harvard Divinity School student Sierra E. Fleenor said, "They're trying to infiltrate Harvard and bring on the next level of Christendom...The message is hateful."

PENN

James Martin Is Baccalaureate Speaker

Author, Catholic priest, cultural commentator, and Penn alumnus Rev. James Martin, SJ '82, was the 2011 Baccalaureate speaker at the University of Pennsylvania on Sunday, May 15. Two ceremonies were held on the same day to accommodate the large number of attendees. Martin, who earned a bachelor's degree in economics with a concentration in finance from Penn, chose to enter the priesthood after working for several years with General Electric. The Culture Editor of *America Magazine*, Martin has written several books, including his latest work, *The*

Jesuit Guide to (Almost) Everything.



Penn alumnus Rev. James Martin, SJ '82, was the 2011 Baccalaureate speaker at Penn on May 15.

Undergraduates Host Celebration Dance

About 60 undergraduates with Penn Students for Christ (www.pennstudentsforchrist.org) recently participated in the campus ministry's semi-formal dance. The students gathered on April 26 in Houston Hall for the annual event.

"They had a great time celebrating the end of the semester," said Jason Turner, a staffer with Campus Crusade for Christ (www.ccci.org) at the University of Pennsylvania.

Also in April, about 30 students met to brainstorm ways to greet arriving freshmen in the fall. "It was really exciting to see all of the students gathering around the mission of reaching the incoming class," Turner said.



Ladies from Penn Students for Christs pose for a picture before the annual semi-formal dance.

A Fond Farewell

About 50 students with Penn Students for Christ (www.pennstudentsforchrist.org) recently participated in the campus ministry's senior send-off. During the event, 16 seniors imparted wisdom from their studies at the University of Pennsylvania and underclassmen shared key memories of the departing seniors. The annual event was held April 28 in Houston Hall. In particular, the seniors emphasized the importance of Christian fellowship during college. "You really do get a lot out of the community around you," said Jason Turner, a staffer with the Campus Crusade for Christ outreach. Overall, the event was "definitely emotional," Turner said.



During Penn Students for Christ's annual senior sendoff, graduating students emphasized the importance of fellowship during their college years.

PRINCETON

May Concert Recognizes Seniors



Nassau Christian Center was the venue for a concert presented by the Princeton University Gospel Ensemble.

The Princeton University Gospel Ensemble celebrated another noteworthy year with an exhilarating concert in May. The student-directed group performed May 1 before a packed audience at Nassau Christian Center. The ensemble boasts a repertoire that comprises spirituals, hymns, contemporary gospel, and a cappella. The free concert also included tearful recognitions of the group's seniors. Among them, Vance T. Stephens served as president and Jared Crooks as musical director.

Sermon Competition Winner

John Butler '12 was the winner of Princeton University's Chapel Sermon Competition for 2011.

Butler delivered his sermon, based upon Christ's words concerning the "eye of a needle," during the senior recognition service on May 8 in the historic chapel. In the passage in Matthew, Christ told his disciples that it is "easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God." Butler received a small monetary prize for winning the annual Rev. Dr. Joseph C. Williamson Sermon Competition. The service honored the class of 2011.

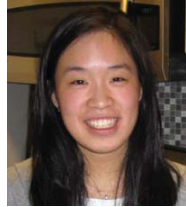


John Butler '12 was the winner of Princeton University's chapel sermon competition.

Professor, Graduate Outreach Hosts Banquet

Faculty Commons, an outreach of Campus Crusade for Christ (www.faculty-commons.com) to professors and graduate students, held a ministry appreciation dinner on May 13 at the Prospect House. About 50 attendees listened to a variety of testimonies during the evening.

Stephanie Lee, a doctorate candidate at Princeton, attended the Faculty Commons ministry appreciation dinner at Prospect House on Princeton campus this May.



"Through Faculty Commons, I was introduced to Christian professors on campus whose testimonies demonstrated to me that academia doesn't have to be a place where data, publications, and grants are the bottom line," said Stephanie Lee, a doctorate candidate in chemical engineering.

"I have seen just how much influence a professor can have in a student's life."

YALE

Student Sex Abuse Investigation Opened

The Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights has launched a Title IX investigation into allegations that Yale University inadequately responded to cases of sexual misconduct on campus. In an e-mail to the Yale community, Yale College Dean Mary Miller stated that the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is "seeking information about Yale's response to sexual harassment and sexual violence against Yale undergraduate students."

The investigation comes as a result of a Title IX complaint filed in March by 16 current undergraduates and recent graduates who allege that the university did not properly address incidents of sexual harassment and sexual assault.



PHOTO CREDIT: Michael Marsland/Yale University

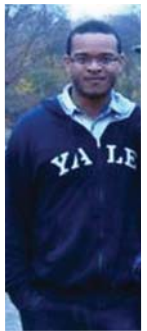
Yale College Dean Mary Miller said the Office for Civil Rights was investigating allegations that the university failed to adequately respond to cases of sexual misconduct.

Cross Desecration No Laughing Matter

Just days before Good Friday, the letters ROFL replaced INRI on top of a cross that was displayed on campus. Those letters are commonly used in texting or on the Internet and mean "rolling on the floor laughing." In an op-ed column for the *Yale Daily Herald*, student Jordon Walker '12 called the incident "nothing less than sacrilegious." Additionally, Walker criticized the university for its lack of response.

"We are a campus that responds aggressively to most forms of discrimination, but this kind of disrespect was ignored," he wrote. Walker went on to contend that at the university, "the only rights worth defending belong to women and sexual and ethnic minorities. And all others are cast aside."

Jordon Walker '12 responded to an incident of mocking the cross during Holy Week by writing an opinion piece for the *Yale Daily News*.



ROTC Marches Back to Campus

For the first time in four decades, Yale will allow ROTC back on campus. The university altered its policy of banning military organizations after U.S. Congress voted to allow homosexual individuals to openly serve in the military, CBN reported in May.

Some prestigious universities banned ROTC programs during the 1970s in the midst of anti-war sentiment tied to the Vietnam War. The unit will be the Navy's only ROTC unit in Connecticut. The first class of midshipmen will enter in fall 2012.



After a four-decade absence, the first naval midshipmen ROTC cadets will enter Yale in 2012.

THE MISSION AND VISION OF THE CHRISTIAN UNION



Following is the mission and vision of Christian Union, printed in each issue of the *Ivy League Christian Observer* to keep new readers informed of the ministry's purpose and passion.

INTRODUCTION

America is unusual in the industrialized world in that it has significant spiritual devotion, but unfortunately lacks Christian vitality among those who are in positions of cultural influence. Many of the most influential people in academia, the arts, business, education, government, media, medicine, and law are decidedly secular in their outlooks. Unfortunately, the Christian community itself is mostly to blame for this sad state of affairs. Over 100 years ago, large segments of the Christian community decided that intellectualism and positions of cultural influence were to be avoided and left those arenas to the secularists. Years later, Christians have lamented that so much of the culture is directed and influenced by those with values contrary to the Gospel of Christ. Of course, this should be no surprise.

WHY THE MINISTRY EXISTS:

Christian Union was founded in 2002 to rectify this imbalance by developing Christian leaders to impact the larger culture. The ministry is strategically focused on a very influential and unreached segment of the U.S. population – the portion that makes much of the decisions that affect the daily lives of all Americans. Christian Union focuses on developing Christian leaders through events and conferences throughout the country, but directs most of its energy toward eight university campuses because of their extraordinary influence. Research has shown that just eight of the 2,500 universities in the country produce 50% of the most influential leaders. It's incredible to consider, but out of 21 million current American college students, a small segment of only 100,000 students on a small number of campuses

will occupy 50% of the most influential leadership roles in the United States. Graduates from these schools will also have extraordinary influence on the international scene.

Currently, these campuses are extremely secular in their outlooks, representing a slow-motion train wreck that has been negatively impacting our country and world for a generation. Astoundingly, 93% of the students on these campuses



Christian Union Founder and President, Matthew W. Bennett, Cornell BS '88, MBA '89.

have no regular Christian influence in their lives. These campuses include Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale.

MISSION

Even with the help of local churches and godly national campus ministries, the proportion of Christian involvement and strengthening on these campuses has not changed in 50 years. There is no good reason to expect that America will substantively change spiritually in the next 50 years if these campuses are not dramati-

cally changed in our present day. New approaches and energy need to be poured into making it a priority for the Christian Church to see that the lives of these leaders are strengthened with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the mission of Christian Union is to develop Christian leaders at these colleges in order to dramatically change the direction of the nation.

THREE VALUES OF THE MINISTRY

In its mission, Christian Union has three values of paramount concern. First, the ministry is organizational and engaging in its approach. Several in the organization have M.B.A.s, providing training for the ministry to be strategic and purposeful in its goals and objectives. Every quarter, the ministry compares its progress against goals in a number of key indicators. Jim Collins' monograph, *Good to Great in the Social Sector*, has been a tremendous aid in providing direction for the ministry. This strategic-mindedness of the ministry is also reflected in how students are mentored on campus. They are coached to be dynamic, faithful leaders, making an impact for Christ on their sports teams, academic departments, social clubs, and extra-curricular activities, such as singing groups and theatre.

Secondly, Christian Union works deliberately to engage students, and in order to have a realistic chance of seeing them develop into Christian leaders in a few short years, ministry workers of substantial caliber are needed to mentor and teach the students. Christian Union's ministry workers are called "ministry fellows" and have a strong educational and experienced background. Many have advanced seminary degrees including master of divinity, master of theology, and Ph.D. in New Testament. Others have years of experience in some of the best companies in the world including McKinsey and Co. Years of educational training and life experience give the ministry fellows the depth and ability to mentor students and teach them bibli-

cal depth, theology, Christian worldview, and integration of faith with academic disciplines and anticipated vocations.

Third, and perhaps most importantly, Christian Union emphasizes the importance of seeking God wholeheartedly. What's the point of having a Christian in a position of cultural influence if his devotion to God, faith, and spiritual strength are so weak that his values do not significantly differ from his secularist peers? Daniel of Bible fame serves as an inspiration. He was extremely organized and focused in his outlook, which he had to be as second in command of the most powerful nations in the world in his day: Babylon and Persia. He also was known to be extremely intelligent, which is why he was selected to enter the king's service in the first place, learning the literature of the Chaldeans. Yet, he also had a devotion to God so strong that even under the threat of death, he would not eat food defiled by idols, would not bow down to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar, and would not cease praying three times per day. After teaching the students to be good leaders organizationally, and developing their intellectual knowledge of the Christian faith, they also need to be taught how to seek God with a whole heart day and night: praying fervently, humbling themselves, reading the Scriptures often, repenting of sins daily, and obeying the Spirit promptly, persevering day in and day out in their love and devotion to the only true God of the universe.

ACTIVITIES

Christian Union fulfills its mission on campus through a variety of strategically conceived activities. These are divided into three categories: 1) partnership ministry, 2) ministry centers, and 3) Christian leadership development programs. The first category of ministry activities is active on all eight campuses, the second on three campuses, and the third on three campuses.

The first category of ministry on campus is the Partnership ministry, which consists of Christian Union partnering with other ministries for a variety of Christian related initiatives on campus. The ministry spends \$200,000 per year helping other ministries on the eight campuses. Approximately 50 projects per year are sponsored, about seven per campus per year. Past projects have included

funding Christian speakers to come to campus, evangelistic outreaches, community service projects, pro-life initiatives, conferences to help ministries recruit interns to join their staffs, and many other initiatives. Though the vast majority of Christian Union's spending goes towards its own programs (see category 3), the ministry is unique in that it devotes so many resources to the furtherance of a faithful Christian presence through other organizations.

Christian Union's second category of ministry on campus is the ministry centers, which are currently in operation at three campuses: Brown, Cornell, and Princeton. These facilities range in size from 3,600 to 5,500 square feet and are for the benefit of the Christian cause on the campus. Every semester, hundreds of small and large events happen in these facilities. These events are sponsored by Christian Union and also by many other ministries, free of charge. The spaces are used for offices, fellowship meals, prayer meetings, organizational meetings, small lectures, receptions, Alpha courses, and in many other ways. Christian Union plans to have ministry centers on the remaining five campuses in the next several years.

The third category of ministry activities on campus, and by far the largest and of the most significance, is Christian Union's Christian Leadership Development Programs (CLDP), which require full-time staff on campus and are present at five campuses: Columbia, Dartmouth, Harvard, Princeton, and Yale (other campuses will be added down the line).

The centerpiece of the CLDP consists of Bible Courses containing 8-10 students each and led by a Christian Union Ministry Fellow. These are very popular and there is often a waiting list for students to join. During the spring semester, there were 28 Bible Courses meeting weekly on the Princeton campus; nine on the Harvard campus, and two at Yale. Students need to be sponsored in order to be able to join a Bible Course, so there is a great need for more sponsors in order to touch the lives of more students (for information, see www.christian-union.org/sponsorship). Every student sponsored means one more student is receiving the opportunity to develop into a Christian leader. In addition to the Bible Courses,

students benefit from one-on-one mentoring, a weekly Christian leadership development lecture series, various conferences, and service and training opportunities.

CLDP includes one-on-one mentoring of students so that they can be coached to live for Christ wholeheartedly, understand the depths and implications of their faith in Christ, and make a godly impact in their spheres of activity and influence. By helping students succeed in affecting the culture on campus, Christian Union is preparing them to impact the culture when they graduate.

IMPACT

We are grateful to God for the impact he has had through us on the campuses. I think the best way to convey to you all that has happened, is by sharing a number of quotes from students who have participated in the ministry's various activities:

"The Princeton Faith and Action ski trip was the first time I had an encounter with the living God. That's when I was like, 'wow, this is for real.'"

"Christian Union's Ivy League Congress on Faith and Action really made a very great impact on my life. It helped me to be close to Christ and definitely put a sense of meaning in my life. From now on, I can look forward to being a true Christian."

"Harvard College Faith and Action has provided me with a base of Christian leaders and friends on campus. At Harvard you meet people with a lot of different perspectives, and if you're not grounded in your beliefs, it's easy to sway. Having people who can answer your questions and who are willing to wrestle through things with you is invaluable."

"The worship and the messages during 802 (Princeton Faith and Action's weekly lecture series) taught me about God, both on an intellectual and a spiritual level."

"PFA has shown me the importance of fellowship and surrounding myself with believers, and to always make time for prayer." ■



PRAY WITH US

FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS WHO WILL TRANSFORM CULTURE



At Christian Union, we are prayerfully seeking God for transformation at Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale. Each year, thousands of students pass through the halls of these institutions and move out into positions of leadership in our society. Unfortunately, over 90% have had no regular Christian influence in their lives during these critical college years.

Christian Union recently launched a monthly email that describes the key prayer needs of the ministry. Campus-specific prayer emails are also available for Harvard, Princeton, and Yale.

Will you join us and pray regularly for the development of Christian leaders at some of our nation's leading universities?

To receive Christian Union's prayer email each month, sign up online at www.Christian-Union.org/prayer or send an email to: prayer@Christian-Union.org.



FIRST RESPONDERS TO CRISIS

On their release, Peter and John went back to their own people and reported all that the chief priests and the elders had said to them. When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

*“Why do the nations rage
and the peoples plot in vain?
The kings of the earth rise up
and the rulers band together
against the Lord
and against his anointed one.”*

Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.”

Acts 4:23-31

The Book of Acts records an early corporate prayer of the church. A thoughtful examination of how the early church prayed can be instructive for us as we consider our own prayer practices and attitudes. It is a rich passage, but we will look at just four brief aspects:

The believers were facing a significant challenge. Peter and John had been detained by the Jewish leaders and threatened with imprisonment (or worse) if they did not stop preaching Christ. When faced with this predicament, their first response was to go to their brothers and sisters in Christ.

When the rest of the community learned of the trial, their immediate response was to pray; not to strategize, problem-solve, or give Peter and John advice.

Most of the prayer as recorded by Luke is focused on exalting

God for His sovereignty and control, quoting God’s promises back to God. The believers then apply this truth to their own situation and confess their belief in God’s sovereign care.

Remarkably, they conclude not by asking God to change their situation or destroy their enemies. Instead, they simply ask for the strength and grace to respond in a way that glorifies God! They ask for three things: to be able to speak with boldness, that God would heal, and that God would perform signs and wonders. The account that follows shows that God answered all three requests.

What about us? How does our response to life’s trials compare to theirs? Do we rely on the body of Christ for support in difficult times? Just as importantly, are we available to our brothers and sisters in times of crisis? Is prayer our first response to ours and others’ problems, or a last-ditch effort when nothing else avails? When we do pray, what is the content of those prayers? Do we seek to glorify God and respond faithfully to whatever trials He allows in our life? Or are we only concerned about getting rid of the trial? Are we expectantly asking for God to move miraculously in and among us?

Our readiness to pray is often indicative of our level of faith; the content of our prayers is often indicative of our heart’s priorities. If we truly believe in a God who is sovereign and mighty, our knee-jerk response to stress and crisis will be to turn to Him. If we remember and believe Jesus’ words that persecutions and troubles will come (e.g. Mark 10:30, John 16:33), then we will not respond in fear and dismay when they do, but rather ask for boldness and faithfulness to endure them. If our hearts and minds are set on the “things above” (Col 3:1-3), then our prayers will reflect a concern for His glory before our own comfort.

The accounts in Acts were preserved by God to instruct us; let’s use the example of the early church to convict and inspire us in whatever trials we face today to fervent, faith-filled, God-glorifying corporate prayer. ■

Lorri Bentsch, Princeton ’91, is a Christian Union Ministry Fellow at Princeton University.



***When the rest of the community learned of the trial,
their immediate response was to pray; not to strategize,
problem-solve, or give Peter and John advice.***

BROWN

- Over the next few weeks, pray for Summer RUF (Reformed University Fellowship) as members consider the relationship between science and religion by viewing a series of videos by R. C. Sproul and follow it with discussion times.
- Pray that unity and love are the characteristics of believers on campus, and that through the various ministries and individuals, many more students will be respond to the Good News.

COLUMBIA

- The last issue of *Sanctum*, the undergraduate journal of religion at Columbia, was delivered to nearly 800 students, exposing many non-Christians to Christianity and challenging them to look into it further. Please pray that God will use this journal to promote dialogue about Jesus Christ among the students.
- Pray for unity among the campus ministries as they work together toward the common goal of reaching students for Christ.

CORNELL

- Keep in prayer students and graduates who are overseas on mission trips, traveling, studying, or taking new employment. Pray that they set aside daily personal time with the Lord and have edifying interpersonal connections.
- Pray for Christian students remaining at Cornell over the summer as they gather for times of prayer, praise, fellowship, and service. Pray that they will use this time to focus on God and discern how he can use them in the upcoming school year.

DARTMOUTH

- Pray that there will be an abundance of ministry workers and leaders on campus in the upcoming year. Pray that they will raise the necessary financial support so they will be able to focus on evangelism and discipleship.
- Pray for the incoming freshmen, that they will find a ministry where they can be encouraged and be encouragers. Also pray that they would develop a deeper relationship with God.

HARVARD

- Harvard students from overseas have been attending The Awakening at Harvard Square, the weekly service of Weiner Ministries International. Praise God that the number of attendees grew from eight to 30 this semester. Keep in prayer those who came to Christ and others who were transformed by the power of God.
- Pray for safety, health, and the Lord's provision for students who have gone on mission trips to Thailand, Korea, China, and Africa.

PENN

- Continue to pray for recent graduates as they leave the academic setting. Pray that their transition will be smooth and that those who are Christians will soon find a community of believers in which to grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the university administration and trustees. Pray that each may have wisdom, individually and as a board, to fulfill their responsibilities with integrity and dedication.

PRINCETON

- Pray for the various campus ministries as they each engage students of all cultures and backgrounds. Pray that they will work in harmony together toward their common goal of sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the Christian faculty, staff, and ministry workers, that they will be used by God in a profound way to impact the lives of many students.

YALE

- Pray that God blesses, guides, motivates, and sustains the leaders of Christian campus ministries at Yale, and that the Holy Spirit fills them with energy, love for others, strong faith, and the fruit of the Spirit.
- Keep the recent graduates in prayer as they leave the academic setting and move into a new phase of life. Pray that God would lead them into good works of his service and that they would be obedient to his call.



From the bottom of our hearts, “Thank You!”

Through your generous giving, Christian leaders
are being developed to change culture.



Shannon Walker, Princeton '11

Hometown: Purcellville, VA

Major: Chemistry/Pre-Med

Campus Activities: Residential College Advisor, Black Student Union's
Leadership and Mentoring Program,
After School Tutoring Project Coordinator

God has blessed me with the gift of leadership. As a Residential College Advisor, I provided guidance to many freshmen, pointing them toward University resources, and sharing the Gospel with some. In this and my other leadership roles, Christian Union's Campus Christian Leadership Development Program has been invaluable. I am so thankful for ministry fellow Lorri Bentch's faithful mentoring and weekly Bible Courses. Recognizing my leadership skills and service to others, Johns Hopkins University Medical School admitted and awarded me a full-tuition scholarship. An answered prayer! I look forward to lovingly care for others and working for the advancement of God's Kingdom in medical school and as a physician.

www.Christian-Union.org/Giving

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“At Trinity, we help students understand not only what is happening culturally but why it is happening. Students learn to think theologically and missiologically about culture, to recognize that cultural engagement is a significant part of the practice of the ministry of the Gospel.”

— Dr. Peter Cha, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology

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