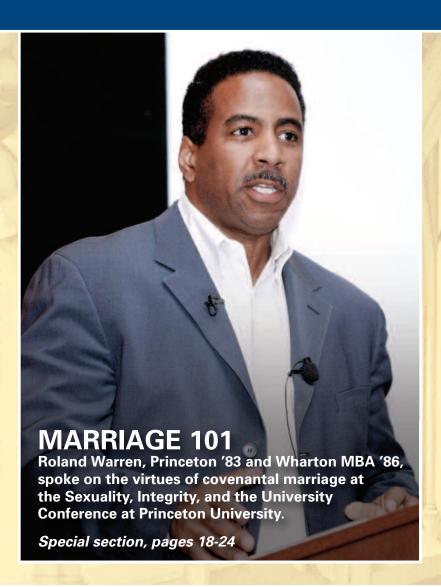
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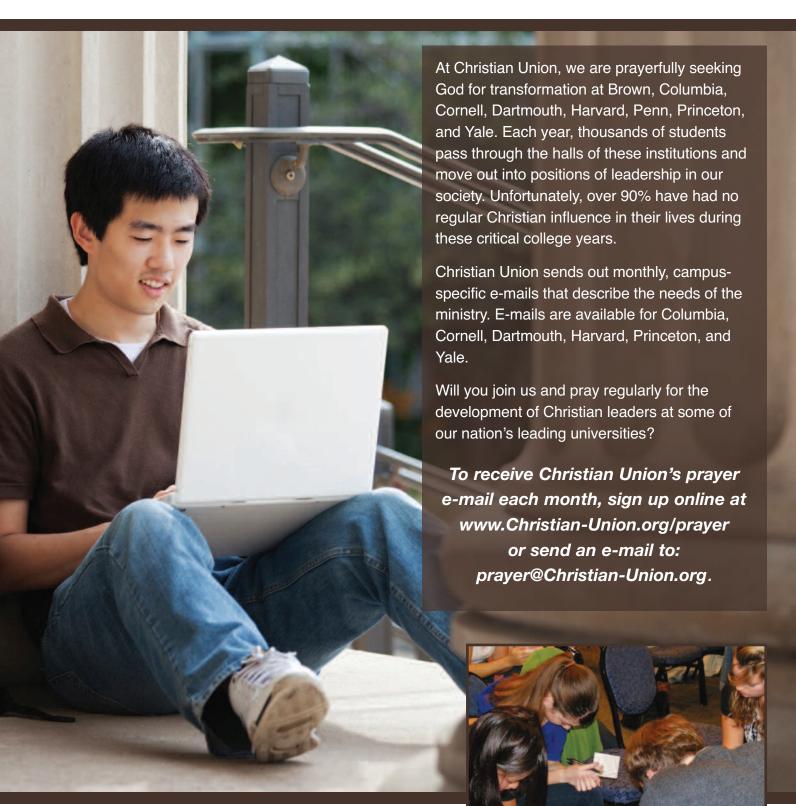
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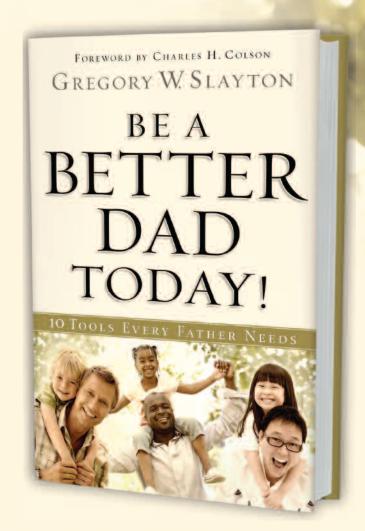
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### ILCOEditor@Christian-Union.org

Please help us get this magazine into the hands of those who want it. E-mail or write us in order to:

- · pass along the names of fellow Christian alumni, parents, staff, faculty, or friends who would enjoy this quarterly update from the Ivy League universities.
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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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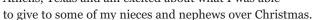
By God's power and with the help of other ministries, the mission of Christian Union is to change the world by developing Christian leaders and networking them together to make an impact for Christ in the larger culture. Matt Bennett (Cornell BS '88, MBA '89) founded the ministry in 2002 in Princeton,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

Cover Image: Ivy League students and Christian Union faculty members at Christian Union's Faith and Action Conference in April.

# Intergenerational **Faithfulness**

race and peace from our Lord Jesus Christ to you and your family as we begin the New Year. I spent the holidays with family in Dallas and Athens, Texas and am excited about what I was able



Nine of them are old enough to read well, so with money I received as an inheritance from the passing of my grandmother, I established with my brother a Bible reading program for them. For every section of the Bible that they read (or listen to), we will be giving them a financial reward and will give a bonus if everybody completes the Bible within two years. My own mother (thank you mom!) encouraged me to read Bible stories when I was young by paying me a little bit for each book I read, so I count it a joy to help inspire the next generation.

I am deeply persuaded that we all have a responsibility to develop the next generation to seek and fear the Lord (either our own kids, or in my case, my nieces and nephews). As Deuteronomy 6:6-7 reminds us: "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise."

I am grateful for the influence my own parents had on me during my formative years to learn the Bible and seek the Lord and aspire to help do the same for others.

If you are a parent and have kids at home, I encourage you to do everything you can to help form Christ in the hearts of those entrusted to your care. By God's grace, Christian Union is seeking to "train up" the next generation of students on some of the nation's most influential campuses (and you can read some of our stories and those of other campus ministries in this issue).

Through ministering to college students over the years, I have been exposed to many Christian families and have been greatly inspired by parents who have taken strong initiative for Christian formation in their children. The Christian maturity and balance that this produced in their children is truly inspiring. May the Lord give strength to every Christian family in America to do the same.

Yours in Christ,

Matthew W. Bennett

Founder and President, Cornell '88, MBA '89

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



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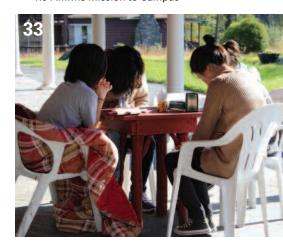
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# **CURATING COMPASSION**

# Ministry's Social Action Team Hosts Art Exhibition

On the evening of October 12, 2012, more than 250 visitors HARVARD filled the Adams House Art-Space for the opening night of "Compassion: The Good Samaritan." The exhibit, curated by artist Roni Pavick, was hosted by Harvard College Faith and Action

(HCFA), a leadership development min-

istry supported and resourced by Chris-

tian Union.

The HCFA Social Action Team conceived of the idea of the themed exhibit as a unique outreach with broad appeal. In addition to displaying works by international artists, they invited local artists to submit entries that would provoke observers to consider the act of compassion more deeply.

"I thought it might be a challenge for artists to create an image which conveyed compassion," says Pavick.

The inspiration for the evening began last year when the HCFA Social Action Team sought to provide a platform for Christian student artists to convey their faith through art.

"As we originally conceived this event, we were thinking small, maybe thirty people would attend," says Olivia Krusel '15, "but after meeting with Roni Pavick and exploring the possibilities, everything changed."

Having studied art and art education at Florida State University, London, and the University of Oxford, Pavick has also lived and taught in the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe, and the Middle East. She was able to draw on her rich background to exhibit artwork from Scotland to Slovenia, as well as several local artists.

At the opening, students and members of the Harvard community chatted excitedly over appetizers, and children were not only welcome at the event, they were supplied with treats and hot cider before entering the exhibition. Strains of violin music, played by HCFA members Michael Taylor '14 and Joon Jang '16, filled the gallery. Some of the contributing artists were on hand to engage visitors in animated conversations about compassion, discussing the diverse artworks. While

not all of the contributing artists were Christians, each selected piece conveyed a facet of compassion with compelling depth.

"My mission was more than just curating an exhibition. It was, more importantly, curating consciousness," Pavick.

This concept of "curating consciousness" was exhibited by an oil painting of a homeless man by a Danish artist. The artist noted that in addition to asking the man if she could paint his portrait, the artist had taken the time to get to know him in order to paint him with greater dignity. Having a gripping gaze, the figure in the painting demands the observer's undivided attention. This piece was adjacent to another painting by the same artist, this time a vibrant portrait of a mother. The juxtaposition between the peacefulness of "home" and unraveling intensity of the "homelessness" sparked conversation among viewers.

The exhibition also featured an intriguing installation by Danny Setiawan, an accomplished New York City artist who is originally from Indonesia. Entitled "Prayer," the in-

stallation featured an oil painting of a cold, human hand reaching up towards a projected digital image of the warm hand of God reaching down. Observers were able to become a part of the work by texting prayers to a designated email address. Moments later, the prayers would appear on the screen and float up towards the heavens.

The exhibit affirmed the power of art to stir reflection and response to the meaning and practice of compassion. Visitors flocked to the exhibition up to the last day.

Reflecting on the caliber of art dis-



"Prayer" was one of the many works featured at the art exhibit hosted by Harvard College Faith and Action this fall.

played and the turnout, Krusel stated, "It was a more powerful outreach than I even imagined." Jisu Yoo '15 elaborated, "I really learned what it means to 'not box God in.' Working together to develop and promote an art exhibit, and seeing the response it generated, we learned a lot about ourselves and about God."

As Krusel and Yoo expressed gratitude for the practical elements of this leadership development, they noted that above all, they discovered the importance of relying on God's power to present gospel themes in creative and compelling ways.

# WORDS OF WISDOM

# Manna Christian Fellowship Event Urges Students to Shine in Chosen Careers



As undergraduates contemplate career choices, they need to pause for some reality checks.

Namely, they are likely to be in the workforce for decades, and the vocations they select can have far-reaching spiritual and lifestyle implications.

Those messages came from a panel of five Princeton University alumni who participated in Manna Christian Fellowship's Alternative Career Fair (www. princeton.edu/manna). Altogether, more than 60 alumni were on hand to offer career and personal advice to undergraduates who took part in the event on October 20 in the adjoining Friend Center and Computer Science building.

While some young believers are motivated to pursue careers where they can directly watch God's influence operating through them, all will have opportunities to reflect their faith in the ways they conduct themselves personally and professionally, panelists said.

Though many Christians in the workforce may not clearly perceive the spiritual implications of their labors, they do have opportunities to demonstrate "dayto-day excellence," said Ted Jeon '07.

"You cannot always see the finish line," said Jeon, who works as an associate at an investment firm. "You need to be able to keep the faith that God has a plan."

Risa Toha '03 echoed those comments

Harvard's Kennedy School. "In the end, success comes from God."

Toha, who is the mother of a young son and another child on the way, also said believers, especially women, need to remember the role of grace in career and family endeavors.

"There really are not enough hours in the day," said Toha. "It's so easy to feel like I'm underperforming...I have to discern between truth and cultural expectation."

Another alumna, Emily Hung '02, said her faith plays a natural role in her career as a rheumatologist and internist.

"It's very rewarding, very hands-on," said Hung. "In a very concrete way, you're dealing with suffering and pain."

As such, the Houston resident makes it a point to ask patients about their support networks. Some of those conversations lead to openings for her to offer prayer.

"I talk to people where they are," she said. "I help with their healing."

Panelist Jon Cheng '05 noted that with many Christians, their beliefs and values are intertwined into their core persona. As a result, "you cannot separate your faith and your work so easily," said Cheng, a journalist.

For Cheng, his career as a reporter for The Wall Street Journal allows him to fulfill his passion for reporting the news and highlighting the human side of business trends.

"As Christians, we are called to be ambassadors of God, declaring His message of reconciliation of the world through Christ in whatever place we may be."

# -Enoch Kuo, Princeton '13

when she noted that, ultimately, faith serves as her main motivator on the work and home fronts.

"What has kept me going is the notion that God is the giver of everything," said Toha, a post-doctoral, research fellow at

"It's a sense that the world is bigger than you," he said. "It's about letting the people of the world know what's happening in the world. I'm a small piece of that bigger world."

Likewise, panelist and teacher Will



Enoch Kuo '13, the student president of Manna Christian Fellowship, appreciated the insight and advice he received at his ministry's Alternative Career Fair.

Wong '02 reminded students that part of being a believer in the workforce is speaking the truth into difficult situations and taking on challenges.

Overall, students involved with Manna said they appreciated the opportunity to receive career and spiritual advice from alumni who participated in the campus ministry as undergraduates.

"[The career fair] allowed me to see how people's hopes, fears, and dreams changed them and how they found their way to be the professionals they are today," said Enoch Kuo '13.

As they contemplate careers, young believers should strive to identify the audiences about which they care, promote the common good, and reverse the alienation of sin on the relationships and structures of society, Kuo said.

"As Christians, we are called to be ambassadors of God, declaring His message of reconciliation of the world through Christ in whatever place we may be," said Kuo, president of Manna.

Ultimately, Princeton students need to remember they possess an "incredible platform," Jeon said. They can use it to reflect Christ's gospel throughout life's callings. ■

# **BUILDING BRIDGES**

# Leadership Forum Gives Foreign Students Career Insight

Philly Bridges, a Cru ministry to international students at the University of Pennsylvania, held a dinner in October to provide foreign students with a wealth of career and spiritual input.

The Bridges Leadership Forum was an outreach aimed at offering foreign stuof the qualities necessary for leadership during his keynote address. Vanguard, which is headquartered in Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, is one of the world's largest investment management companies and a top provider of company-sponsored retirement plan services.

Many foreign students "aspire to be

Philly Bridges, a Cru ministry dedicated to international students at the University of Pennsylvania, held a dinner to present students with a smorgasbord of career and spiritual input.

dents a snapshot of the qualities U.S. firms desire in employees and the characteristics that can transform them into leaders in the workforce. About 55 students, many from East Asia, attended the dinner at Houston Hall, which included a gospel presentation.

Philly Bridges provides foreign students with practical services, social-networking opportunities, and spiritual resources. At the leadership forum, organizers assigned professionals from key fields to sit at each of the event's 11 tables to supplement discussions on a variety of work, spiritual, and relational topics.

The students were "very impressed. After the talk, nobody left until about two hours later," said Dave Brindley, a staffer with Philly Bridges (phillybridges.org).

Ken Volpert, a director in Vanguard's taxable bonds division, highlighted many leaders, and they are longing to learn about the American way," Volpert said. "Leadership is not academic. It's more experiential. I've been where they are. There are lots of people trained in quantitative methods. I didn't learn leadership in the classroom."

centrate on individual results and leaders focus on teamwork and group results.

"Being a leader is about thinking well. The results of the team reflect the results of the individual," said Volpert, who holds a master of business administration from the University of Chicago.

"It's about managing and directing the team and providing direction and guidance. Conceptual thinking is really critical."

In addition, the Illinois native, who manages more than \$300 billion in funds for Vanguard, highlighted the role faith can play in leadership development, and he described the qualities he looks for in employees. When interviewing potential employees, Volpert often asks candidates to describe when in their career they learned the most and to elaborate on the qualities of their best manager.

"When you have a team that's really engaged, it's a much more productive team," he said.

As well, Volpert told students that the decision he made to accept Christ as his personal savior about 30 years ago provided a life-changing experience. He also said he is motivated by Philippians 2:5-10, which describes Christ's decision to take on the nature of a servant and become obedient, even to death on a cross.

Overall, the students said the dinner and discussions provided stimulating spiritual and career perspectives, Brindley said. For some, the dinner provided a meaningful introduction into Christianity.

"There are a lot of students who come from China and are very interested in

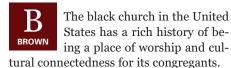
# "Leadership is not academic. It's more experiential. I've been where they are... I didn't learn leadership in the classroom.

-Ken Volpert

Along those lines, Volpert highlighted the difference between being a specialist and a leader, namely that specialists conlearning about Christianity," Brindley said. "What they are longing for in life can only be fulfilled by Jesus." ■

# A WORSHIP EXPERIENCE IN THE BLACK CHURCH TRADITION

Imani Jubilee Provides a Faith Community for African-American Students



African-American students at Brown are experiencing worship and community through Imani Jubilee, a ministry that provides a relevant worship environment, while retaining its roots in the traditional black church.

Rev. Kirstin Boswell-Ford, the new associate chaplain for the Protestant community at Brown, presides over Imani's Sunday services, which incorporate gospel music, spirituals, and messages that resonate with the students' experiences.

Boswell-Ford says she chooses to preach from the lectionary to help foster a common frame of reference among students.

"We have this vision that students who have gone to the 12:30 service and the 6 p.m. service—or services at other places can come together and have a conversation and relate over the common text," she said.

At the same time, Boswell-Ford is keenly aware that while students are young and cyber focused, they grapple with very tangible and sometimes complex issues and situations.

"Some, but not all, of the students who identify with Imani are dealing with never having been such a minority," she said.

Additionally, some students are the first in their families to attend college, while others are from socio-economically challenged backgrounds.

At times, Boswell-Ford explains, students have come to her, embarrassed to admit that they don't have money to get home or pay for food and books. Ultimately, she said, they often feel alone because they can't share their situations or feelings with their peers who've never known such need.

In addition to a worship experience, the Imani community at Brown also provides congregants with support regarding social justice issues and offers students a place of familiarity and identity.

Boswell-Ford adds to that comfort base by providing compassion and under-



Kirstin Boswell-Ford is the new associate chaplain for the Protestant community at Brown.

in Cambridge, which she said helps students see that she has "a foot in reality."

While Boswell-Ford can relate to where many of the Imani students have come from, her goal as a chaplain is to help them develop a vision of God's purpose for their lives right now and in the future.

Therefore, she said she works to help students "tune in to that vision and wrestle with what that path is and live it consciously and fully, embracing it in all the ways they can."

The new chaplain also fully embraces her responsibility to minister to the nation's future leaders.

"When I look out from the pulpit and see all the faces looking back at me, I see so much talent and potential," she said. "You never know what kind of impact those students could have on the future of the country or the world; or what message you might preach not knowing that it may impact that person. My goal is to be very conscious of that and use every opportunity to be a guide to these students."

And through the community of Imani Jubilee, Boswell-Ford is embracing that opportunity as she walks alongside students, guiding them through her faith and experience toward God's call upon their lives.

"I feel blessed to have a role, no matter how small or large, in the leadership potential of the students who come out of this institution," she said.

"When I look out from the pulpit and see all the faces looking back at me, I see so much talent and potential. You never know what kind of impact those students could have on the future of the country or the world..."

# —Rev. Kirstin Boswell-Ford

The reverend also said she's challenged to tailor her messages to a generation that's constantly plugged in and accessible through technology.

"I find that I've been focusing on how they can take a step back from that and making sure they have time with God and listen to where He is leading them," she said.

standing that comes from years of ministering to and working with African-American communities on the south side

"My ministry over the last ten years has been dealing with severe need situations and all that comes with that," she said. Additionally, Boswell-Ford serves as an associate pastor at Union Baptist Church

# **BANNED BROTHERS**

# Yale Discriminates against Christian Fraternity, Revokes Recognition



Beta Epsilon Chi (BYX) lost its status as an officially recognized campus organization this

fall after a Yale Daily News article took issue with the fact that the Christian fraternity requires members to be Christians.

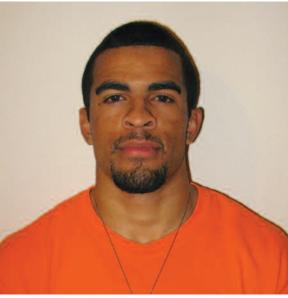
Other Yale-recognized student groups on campus have certain minimal requirements for membership in keeping with the purpose of the organization. Yet, the requirement that members of the fraternity be professing Christians prompted the university to demand the student organization change its constitution. The required change to the constitution would comply with Yale's "antidiscrimination" policies.

But the leadership of Beta Epsilon Chi (BYX), headed by Victor Hicks '15, refused to compromise its belief that the organization should be able to have such a fundamental requirement for membership; after meeting with university administrators, they opted not to seek to regain official status from Yale.

Christian Union Founder and President Matt Bennett, Cornell '88, MBA '89, was shocked at the turn of events and said the university is actively discriminating against BYX because it is a religious organization.

"This is unacceptable," said Bennett. "This is an unjust policy and it needs to be overturned. Religious student organitution was submitted to the university prior to recognition.

"On behalf of BYX, we were all hoping to partner with the university," he said. "It



Victor Hicks '15 is one of the co-founders of a new Christian fraternity at Yale.

is disappointing that we are not able to."

The BYX constitution states that the fraternity "exists for the purpose of establishing brotherhood and unity among college men, based on the common bond of Jesus Christ." Additionally, membership requires "a credible profession of faith in Jesus Christ."

It was that overt declaration of Christian faith that the university took issue with, al-

The situation at Yale is emblematic of a growing trend at colleges across the United States. Christian organizations are unfairly being singled out as "discrimina-

tory" because they simply require leaders to be Christians. Vanderbilt University's "all comers" policywhich requires that all recognized student organizations be open to all students for both membership and leadership—also impacted Christian organizations, many of which opted to relinquish their university status, rather than compromise their fundamental principles.

Still, Hicks and the other local chapter members declined to take legal action against Yale after discussing the matter with the national fraternity's legal team. However, BYX is still active at Yale.

"Whether we have an official relationship with the university or not, God has called us to this [campus]," said Hicks, who said he remains optimistic that the fraternity of brothers can still grow and impact the campus community for Christ.

Without official recognition, BYX loses university funding and its ability to reserve Yale rooms for campus activities. But the fraternity does keep its ability to congregate on campus and will maintain ties with campus organizations.

Despite this serious setback, Chad Warren, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Yale, said BYX would still make an impact.

"The fraternity not only offers community to men on campus who want to pursue Christ, but also provides members and nonmembers great social alternatives to the drinking and hook-up cultures," he

Hicks said he's not surprised by the challenges the fraternity is facing as it strives to impact the campus culture for Christ.

"[God] has gathered a group of men who are seeking to enact change socially," he said. "As we draw nearer to Him, we will face more adversity and opposition." ■

# Without official recognition, BYX loses university funding and its ability to reserve Yale rooms for campus activities.

zations should have equal standing and should have the right to require their leaders to believe and follow the Christian principles and goals of their organization, based on the free exercise clause in the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution."

Hicks noted that the fraternity's consti-

though BYX had applied for and received the university's recognition last spring.

"Unfortunately, there is a stigma that comes with being a Christian," said Hicks. "We see that a bit more at Yale as the campus is more secular and more liberal than some of the other colleges where BYX has chapters."

# **GETTING IN 'FOCUS'**

# Catholic Missionaries Bring the Gospel to Campus



"Holy men and women bloom among the generous missionaries who announce the Good

News to non-Christians, in the past in mission countries and now in any place where there are non-Christians."

So stated Pope Benedict XVI in his homily during a Mass at St. Peter's Square this October. Laura Scharmer, a missionary with the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS), is among those bringing the Good News to Columbia University, a place filled with many non-Christians.

In its second year at Columbia, FOCUS (www.focus.org) is striving to make Christian disciples and equip students to share their faith and the gospel wherever they go.

The vision of FOCUS is to "invite college students into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church" and "inspire and equip them for a lifetime of Christ-centered evangelization, discipleship, and friendship, in which they lead others to do the same." Therefore, the missionaries work to bring former Catholics back into the church and share God's love with those who don't believe.

FOCUS also offers Bible studies and activities to engage students in relationships that will build their faith.

"We try to minister in the way Christ ministers, the way Jesus went out and talked individually with people," said Scharmer.

While Scharmer and her colleagues work with the Columbia Catholic Ministry (www.columbia.edu/cu/earl/ccm), FOCUS is a separate organization and tends to emphasize outreach to students who aren't vet solid in their faith.

FOCUS was founded in 1998 by Curtis Martin, who was raised Catholic, but left the faith and then returned to God through Campus Crusade for Christ while in college. Through Scripture study and his faith evolution, Martin eventually returned to the Catholic Church and was inspired to provide an opportunity for Catholic students to discover the truth of the gospel for themselves and enter into a personal relationship with Christ.

The ministry also established a presence at Harvard this fall. In an article in the National Catholic Register, Martin stressed the importance of reaching young people for Christ.

"We believe that the key to building a better future lies with the young leaders on campus," he said. "Our goal is to inspire thousands upon thousands of men

and women who, 10 years from now, 20 years from now, 30 years from now, will be in positions of influence-such that they will transform our culture."

To achieve those ends, missionaries like Scharmer seek to model the biblical themes of discipleship for students, while reaching out to them in a non-threatening, relevant way. This is accomplished through initiatives such as getting students together to discuss areas of common interest, attending extracurricular events, meeting for coffee, and helping to establish strong community.

But ministering at the Ivy League university poses special challenges, according to Scharmer, a Vanderbilt University alumna.

"One of the biggest differences and challenges at Columbia is we want to build friendships," she said, "but [students] don't have time to spend an afternoon hanging out with me."

Additionally, Scharmer noted that Ivy League students have a hard time balancing non-academic pursuits, such as Bible study, with their classroom demands. But she said part of her work means helping students prioritize activities, and that while academics are important, conveying to students that they must guard against allowing their studies to take

"Making academics an idol and letting them come before God is a problem at Columbia," said Scharmer.

One of the most important messages she tries to convey to the high-achieving Columbia students is "the idea that you are good enough the way you are. You

have dignity not because of what you've accomplished, but because of how God has made vou."

And that's not an easy task on a campus where Christianity is often marginalized.

Further, Scharmer said, even the most faithful students struggle with openly sharing their faith because of concern about being "persecuted by the prevailing



Laura Scharmer, a missionary with the Fellowship of Catholic Students, is seeking to disciple students for Christ at Columbia.

relativism in New York City and Columbia."

Therefore, she said, "A big part of what we were doing last year was to get students to understand that faith is personal, but not private."

Consequently, as the Catholic Church celebrates the Year of Faith, Scharmer and her colleagues continue to strive to help students at Columbia overcome their pride, rejection of Christianity, and fear by modeling Christ's love for them. In the end, the missionaries hope to instill within Columbia students the virtues of humility, acceptance, and confidence regarding who God has called them to be, and the desire to share that realization with others.

# A NIGHT OF UNITY AND REVELATION

Campus Ministry Leaders Pen Letters to the Church at Yale

Editor's note: The following article is a first-person perspective on an inter-ministry event at Yale this fall. Travis Reginal, a freshman, is a member of Yale Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

Despite its very secular nature, Yale has a very dynamic and growing Christian culture on campus. The students I have met here, since arriving in September, are the most passionate and genuine believers I have known; it has been refreshing to catch the contagious spirit of excitement for God that they have.

One of the highlights of the fall semester was a night of unity hosted by four campus ministries. On November 1 in Battell Chapel, students and ministry staff from Yale Christian Fellowship (www.yale.edu/ ycf), Athletes in Action (http://aiayale. tumblr.com), InterVarsity's Yale Students for Christ (http://www.yalestudentsfor christ.org), and Yale Faith and Action (www.yaleyfa.org) gathered for an event entitled, "Come Together."

As we were ushered to our seats, we were grouped by our residential colleges. This was a great idea because it let us identify other believers in our dorms. Out of these arrangements, we have been able to organize monthly dinners with other Christians in our respective colleges.

The night of unity opened with a time of praise and worship from a band assembled from the four ministries. The music

blended into sweet harmony and the spiritual atmosphere was electrifying with songs such as "How Great is Our God," "Hosanna," "Jesus Paid It All," and "One Thing Remains."

Following praise and worship, representatives from each ministry presented a letter to the Church at Yale, in the same spirit as the Bible's Book of Revelation.

Joshua Williams, of Yale Christian Fellowship, focused on how we constantly try to prove ourselves through our accomplishments. Such material things, while great, should not be our focus, he said. Running along a similar thread, Craig Luekens, coordinator of Athletes in Action at Yale, said the cost of discipleship is not really a cost at all, but should be looked at as a freedom. The reason that there is freedom in discipleship, he said, is because the closer we get to God, the more we see that "separation" from Him is the greatest evil.

Chris Matthews, Christian Union's director of ministry at Yale, wrote of God's love for us and the intimacy of our relationship with Him. God's purpose for us here at Yale, Matthews said, is to be a fragrance to those who have never smelled the intoxicating aroma of His love.

Speaking in a prophetic tone, he said, "You labor hard, but you labor in vain when I am not laboring with you." As such hard-working students, it is easy for us to feel that we can take care of many tasks by ourselves. However, it is important to realize that it is okay, more so than okay, but necessary, that we seek the Lord regard-





Chris Matthews, Christian Union's director of ministry at Yale, and Karleh Wilson '16 participated in "Come Together."

ing every area of our lives.

Sang Yun, of Yale Students for Christ, spoke of how Yale has turned from its spiritual heritage and is now more focused on building up man, instead of God in man. However, Sang reassured us that now is the time when God wants to pour out His Spirit on this campus.

The event also included times of student testimonies and prayer requests. Karleh Wilson '16 urged everyone to continue praying for those devastated by Hurricane Sandy; Brandon Wang '14 excitedly spoke about the spirit of revival on campus and noted how members of the junior class have been waiting for such an event as "Come Together" since their freshman year.

The large group meeting for Christians was the first of its kind, but certainly will not be the last. There is something powerful, yet mysterious about the power of unity.

The night of unity opened with a time of praise and worship from a band assembled from the four ministries. The music blended into sweet harmony and the spiritual atmosphere was electrifying with songs such as "How Great is Our God," "Hosanna," "Jesus Paid It All," and "One Thing Remains."

# **LET FREEDOM RING**

# Penn Cited by Free Speech Advocacy Group

The Foundation for Individual Rights in Education honored PENN the University of Pennsylvania this fall with inclusion on its annual list of America's Best Colleges for Free Speech. Penn is the only private university on what is a short list of seven schools.

This is the second straight year that Penn has been cited. According to the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), the university "fully honors its robust promises of freedom of expression" and does not maintain "policies in serious conflict with free expression." Among Ivy League colleges, Harvard and Yale were ranked among the 12 worst schools for free speech.

The criteria FIRE used in the selection process included whether the university's policies restricted speech that is protected under the First Amendment and the school's recent history of censored speech.

Of note is the impact that FIRE cofounder and Penn Professor Alan Charles Kors, Princeton '64 and Harvard Ph.D '68, has had upon independent expression at the university for more than four decades. Some attribute his advocacy of student independence to Penn's good standing in the free speech arena.

"I think a lot of credit has to go to him," said FIRE Senior Vice President Robert Shibley in a Daily Pennsylvanian article. "It's a tribute to his influence that Penn has been a great place for student speech."

Kors, a faculty member since 1968, is the Charles Lea Professor of European History at Penn. In 1971, he helped establish Van Pelt House, a residence that brought together students of various ethnic, religious, and political backgrounds for a true sharing of ideas.

In an interview with Reason TV, Kors spoke of the influence faculty ideologies have upon students and the lack of true freedom of speech at many colleges and universities.

"Most of our private universities promise free speech and equality then deliver selective suppression of speech," he said.

Kors, author of The Shadow University, has shown countering differing views, rather than suppressing them, to be effective in maintaining the freedom of students at Penn.

"The best answer to speech you don't like is more speech," he said. Kors recalled an exhibit at Penn that featured Andres Serrano's depiction of the crucifix amidst the artist's urine.

At the time, people approached the professor and expressed outrage over the display, demanding that Serrano's work be banned. Instead, Kors suggested that an event be held to address the so-called art and what the cross means to the university.



Penn University Professor Alan Kors, Princeton '64 and Harvard Ph.D '68, has been an advocate of free speech at Penn for more than four decades.

"It turned out to be the largest and most significant religious event at the university," he said.

A private university is bound by the promises it makes to students, Kors said, and should be a place of open discourse where anything can be said, even when it contradicts the majority views of the faculty.

Ironically, the very academy that birthed so many civil and individual rights movements in the 1960s is now limiting the freedoms of students and advocating policies that treat them more as children than adults.

"The same generation that gave us the free speech movement has given us speech codes," Kors said. ■

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

# **EVANGELISM WEEKEND**

# Cornell Students Hear the Good News During Three-Day Event



An emphasis on altar calls made this year's Evangelism Weekend at Cornell even more poignant.

Nearly 300 attended the three-day event, hosted in late September by First Ithaca Chinese Christian Church and cosponsored by several campus ministries. According to Jevon Yu '15, the weekend provided an opportunity for Christians to invite friends to learn more about God through guest speakers and hearing the truth of the gospel. And while the campus was the primary focus, local residents also participated in some services.

Guest speaker Rev. Sabastian Huynh, an urban church planter, suggested incorporating altar calls at the end of each event, rather than having coordinators distribute interest surveys as in previous years.

"We feel like the altar call is more effective," said Rev. Paul Epp, the pastor of First Ithaca Church. "It's rare on our campus to have anything like an altar call. People responded really well."

On Friday night alone, roughly 70 Christians went forward during the altar call to rededicate their lives to Christ, and four non-Christians stood up and expressed interest in learning more about Jesus. Two of them went on to profess their faith that evening.

"Seeing people respond to the altar call filled me with joy as I saw the Spirit working in that room," said Yu.

The theme for the weekend was "God in the Midst of Suffering," an issue Yu says prevents some people from believing.

"Suffering is a heart barrier that people can have toward belief in God, and in this way, suffering becomes a personal issue," said Yu. "But the answer to a personal issue is a personal answer, and that's where the gospel comes in."

Huynh shared a powerful testimony about the resolution he found in Christ. A former member of the Chinese Mafia. he spoke of a life of crime that led him to the brink of suicide before he called out to God. While Huynh's criminal background may not have proven a connection point with his audience, his message of suffering and despair resonated.

"I see different kinds of suffering," said Yu, who noted that for some students academic challenges are overwhelming, while others are weighed down by personal issues they're reluctant to share.

For example, Yu said, Campus on a Hill (campusonahill.org) hosted an online fo-



Rev. Sabastian Huynh was the featured speaker for the Evangelical Weekend at Cornell this fall.

rum last spring that focused on the painful stories many students hold inside. "The anonymous postings really revealed much of the suffering people go through here at Cornell," said Yu, "and it just breaks my heart reading them."

One student wrote, "I'm not afraid of death because I often think it'll be a relief. People come to me with their problems because they think I'll understand, and I do. They just have no idea how hard of a

battle I have to fight every day just to convince myself that life is worth it."

In order to minister more effectively and better understand the suffering of such students, the topic of Evangelism Weekend's Friday night session was "Why Would a Good God Allow Suffering?" A Saturday leadership workshop focused on "Shepherding: Caring for Those Who Are Lost and Hurting." The Sunday sermon at First Ithaca Chinese Christian Church dealt with "Finding Hope When It Hurts." The Sunday session was followed by a question and answer period.

While the faith of many was renewed and ignited by Evangelism Weekend, Yu adds that for some the weekend meant planting seeds that, through prayer and God's grace, one day may yield a greater

"I invited a few of my friends to the event," Yu said. "I have been reaching out to them for a while now, and I have had many good and deep conversations with them about Christ. Although they did not make a profession of faith that night, I'm still praying for them." ■

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

# **ENGAGING PHILADELPHIA**

# National Day of Outreach Spurs Campus Faith Sharing over 24-Hour Period

Students involved with a handful of campus ministries and churches at the University of

Pennsylvania shared their faith with classmates and companions during a recent national day of outreach.

ENGAGE24 encourages college students across the country and beyond to reach out to their campuses with Christ's gospel during a 24-hour period. The national Baptist Collegiate Ministry organized the inaugural event, which took place on October 11 and targeted widespread involvement from a plethora of evangelical organizations.

"What we intended to do was to blanket the entire [Penn] campus," said Stan Williams, who oversees the Baptist Collegiate Ministry's outreaches in Philadelphia. "I'm pleased students walked away with positive experiences."

Williams said it was especially important for the campaign to include robust participation from multiple campus organizations. "Students got a chance to see people who identified [themselves] as Christians doing something bigger than their own student organizations," he said.

Students involved with Penn Cru (phillycru.org) took advantage of a variety of evangelical tools from Campus Crusade for Christ, including Soularium cards, to help explain their faith during ENGAGE24.

The cards feature 50 photographic images and five simple questions that allow users to engage in one-on-one spiritual conversations with non-believers. The questions explore life issues and provide bridges to dialogues about Christ.

Cru staffer Carolyn Moneymaker, Penn '12, teamed with Meryl Arnold '14 during



Jeff Manns, a Cru staffer at the University of Pennsylvania, helped lead ENGAGE24, a national day of outreach centered on encouraging college students to spread the gospel during a 24-hour period.

ENGAGE24. The pair had significant conversations with two female students who were interested in better defining their beliefs.

Moneymaker told one of the students to ask God to reveal His existence and truth to her. She also passed along her business card and invited the student to attend Cru.

"This was another very positive experience with Soularium," Moneymaker said. "It's such a non-threatening way to invite unbelieving strangers to dialogue about their spiritual journeys."

The interaction involved with Soularium "appropriately shifts an evangelist's focus to the person's unique struggles and questions," Moneymaker said. "This allows the evangelist to lovingly share the gospel in a way that best addresses the

person's needs and questions."

Ultimately, the images can encourage participants to share deep beliefs and queries. "It truly gives us a window to their soul," Moneymaker said.

Cru staffer Jeff Manns teamed up with Eric Clark, a sophomore who leads a Cru Bible study, to probe spiritual curiosity on campus. A pair of female students rejected the offer, but another young woman participated in a meaningful conversation for about 30 minutes.

Manns said he was touched by Clark's interaction with the student.

"It was an incredible experience," he said. "Eric was really encouraged. It gave him a whole new perspective on evangelism at Penn."

Clark agreed. "All students here really value their time. Any initiative of evangelism would be encroaching on their time," said Clark, a math major from Lancaster, Pennsylvania. "I was really shocked at how receptive she was."

As for Williams, the longtime Baptist minister said he was pleased to hear reports from some Philadelphia students that the event served as their first experience explaining Christ's plan of salvation. One student said the day provided an initial opportunity to share the gospel in English.

"We're definitely going to try it again next year," said Williams. "I hope it becomes part of the rhythm at Penn."

By Eileen Scott, Senior Writer

# ANALYZING CAMPUS CULTURE

# Brown Campus Newspaper Yields Insight to Where Students Stand on Relationships, Abortion

Nearly 20 percent of the students at Brown University ad-BROWN mitted to being involved in the hook-up culture, according to a poll con-

ducted by The Brown Daily Herald. Yet, that same data reveals that more than half of the respondents long for a relationship with a special someone.

The Herald's Fall 2012 News Poll reflects a complex cultural landscape on campus. The survey queried 959 students through the distribution of written questionnaires. Students were asked about a myriad of topics, including their sleeping habits, political tendencies, and their opinion of university officials. For example, most Brown students reject racial preference in the school's admission policy.

When it comes to dating, 48 percent of undergraduates reported not being in any kind of sexual or romantic relationship; nearly 25 percent of respondents reported being in relationships with one person exclusively; more than 11 percent admitted to casual hook-ups with multiple people. Nearly eight percent admitted to having consistent hook-ups with one other person, yet 1.4 percent reported having consistent hook-ups with multiple people.

However, when polled as to what type of romantic or sexual relationship they

want right now, 56 percent of students responded that they want an exclusive relationship with one person.

In a 2010 poll by The Brown Daily Herald, 84 percent of students described themselves as heterosexual, while nearly 6.5 percent stated they were "homosexual." More than five percent of respondents identified themselves as bisexual, while nearly two percent responded as "other." The 2012 poll did not address sexual orientation.

Regarding abortion, the 2012 poll showed that more than 42 percent of students believe killing the unborn should always be legal, while only 3.3 percent of respondents indicated that it should always be illegal. In addition, varying numbers of students responded that abortion should be legal only in the first trimester or in situations involving rape, while more than a quarter of students surveyed believed it should be legal only in the first and second trimesters.

As for academic integrity, a cursory glance at the figures indicates that academic cheating has increased by more than 17 percent among students in the last year. However, The Herald contends that the facts don't necessarily speak for themselves. Roughly 80 percent of students



A 2012 poll by The Brown Daily Herald revealed that nearly 20 percent of students were involved in the hook-up culture.

polled last year stated that they committed "no forms of academic dishonesty" compared with only 60.2 percent of this year's respondents. But The Herald qualifies that spike by reporting that, in 2011, students were not asked about unauthorized collaboration. Students admitting to unauthorized collaboration this year account for most of perceived increase in cheating.

In the end, the poll's results surrounding abortion, hooking up, and cheating provide insight into the campus culture and the issues and questions facing students at Brown and on other Ivy League campuses.

By Catherine Elvy, Staff Writer

# **CHRISTIAN UNION**

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> Developing Christian Leaders to Transform Culture

# THE SACRED CALL TO STUDY

# Lecture Challenges Students to Build a Culture that Glorifies God

Academic studies can be part of a sacred calling.

Rather than simply being mundane, writing term papers, asking questions in class, and poring over textbooks can be part of the fulfillment of God's plan for humans to exercise dominion over the earth.

That intriguing message came from J. Richard Middleton, when the professor at Northeastern Seminary spoke during Columbia Faith and Action's weekly leadership lecture series on October 4. Columbia Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

Middleton, professor of biblical worldview and exegesis, told the group of 40 or so undergraduates to consider their studies at Columbia University as part of a priestly calling to develop a culture that glorifies God. Middleton used several Old Testament passages to explain how humans were created to worship God by using their gifts and abilities to transform the earth into a culture that glorifies its creator.

"The human creature was made to worship in a very specific way, by interacting with the earth," Middleton said. "We are commissioned by God to work and develop the earth in a way that represents God's will and brings Him glory."

Namely, it's a form of worship when humans transform the earth into a complex civilization that features families, churches, schools, governments, technology, arts, etc.

Genesis 1 and 2 explain how agriculture and animal husbandry are at the foundation of human cultural development. Genesis 8 and Psalm 104 highlight man's role in cultivating crops that result in bread, oil, and wine and taking charge over the flocks, herds, and fish that help supply sustenance and essential materials.

Middleton, a native of Jamaica, is the author of The Liberating Image: The Imago Dei in Genesis 1, as well as New Heaven and a New Earth: Reclaiming Biblical Eschatology.

Despite the "fallen" state of mankind, "God has not given up on the world," he

Ultimately, believers should remember that subduing the earth is part of a royal exercise. Humans, as creatures made in the image of God, have a divine calling to develop culture in a way that reflects His

"We are the mediators of God's presence in the earth," Middleton said. The misuse of power results in violence and sin, something that hinders God's presence from being manifested on the earth.

As for Christian students, they should strive to be faithful in their responsibilities to their families, friends, and the academy. "Our royal, priestly calling is to extend God's presence in and throughout



Seminary Professor J. Richard Middleton spoke at Columbia Faith and Action's weekly leadership lecture series in October.

our academic world," Middleton said. "You have all kinds of ways to impact people."

Jesse Peterson, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Columbia, said students who attended the lecture in Earl Hall Center were inspired by the concepts Middleton outlined.

The undergraduates came away with a "deeper sense of how their studies really matter to God and His purposes. If an important part of being made in the image of God means ruling over and cultivating the earth as God's agents, then academic studies are actually an essential part of that task," Peterson said.

"This was a new, radical idea for many of them."

# 'FARE FORWARD'

# Dartmouth Alumni Launch National Publication

A group of Ivy League gradu-DARTMOUTH

ates are shepherding a new publication aimed at offering

young adults a thoughtful, Christian approach to culture and a network to assist them in their pursuits of faith, intellect, and vocation.

In April, a group of former editors of a Christian journal at Dartmouth College launched Fare Forward, a national publication that aims to build on the momentum created by a growing number of similar, student-run magazines at toptier universities. In July 2012, Fare Forward added a Web site (www.fareforward.com) that features an electronic version of its publication and blogs.

"A major mission of our publication is to form a network and community around it that will impact the country," said Peter Blair (Dartmouth '12), editor-in-chief. "We want to gather the next generation of Christian thought leaders."

Blair, a former editor of The Dartmouth Apologia, said his team created Fare Forward, in part, after alumni who participated in Christian journals as undergraduates expressed how much they missed the spiritual and mental stimulation associated with production. In addition, well-publicized research from a Notre Dame University sociologist points to the spiritual struggles some believers encounter as they transition from college life to young adulthood, particularly as many delay the traditional passages to marriage, established careers, etc.

As such, during his senior year, Blair and Andrew Schuman (Dartmouth '10), the founder of The Dartmouth Apologia, began exploring options to birth a national publication. Schuman, who also oversees an organization that supports collegiate Christian journals, directs the Waterman Institute, a Christian study center in the Dartmouth community.

Their efforts included visits to universities with Christian journals and meetings with evangelical scholars and journalists, including Andy Crouch, Cornell '91, author and special assistant to the president of Christianity Today International.

The name Fare Forward is taken from

The Dry Salvages, the third quartet of T.S. Eliot's masterpiece, Four Quartets. It reflects on time, eternity, and humanity's place in between.

Blair and Schuman are optimistic about the audience for their publication, which caters to both print and electronic subscribers. Many of those individuals have ties to leading universities and familiarity with collegiate journals.

More than a dozen Christian journals operate at the nation's leading universities. In spring 2004, Jordan Hylden was a sophomore at Harvard University when he was struck by the need for a

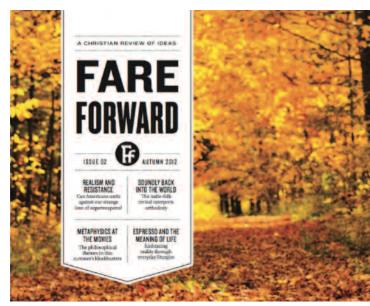
Christian magazine to offer intellectual discourse in the academy.

As such, Hylden launched The Harvard Ichthus, a campus publication with a Christian perspective on issues, literature, and culture. The Harvard alumnus of 2006 wanted a collegiate magazine with overtones similar to Christianity Today's Books & Culture, and The Institute on Religion and Public Life's First Things.

Several Ivy campuses also have publications. Undergraduates at Penn debuted a Christian journal in spring 2012, the same semester students at Brown partnered with the Rhode Island School of Design to re-launch a Christian literary arts journal. Many of the periodicals offer Web versions.

In 2006, Hylden created The Augustine Project Blogspot to facilitate the launch of journals of Christian thought, and staff members of journals in New England began to meet to share their experiences and insights. In 2011, with support from the Cecil B. Day Foundation Inc., Schuman and Tim Norton, consultant with the Day Foundation, formed The Augustine Collective to support the growing movement.

Schuman also is a founding member of



A group of lvy League alumni have launched Fare Forward, a national publication aimed at the next generation of Christian thought leaders.

The Eleazar Wheelock Society for Intellectual Discourse, Service, and Vocation, an alumni organization that seeks to encourage discussions reflecting a Christian worldview at Dartmouth. As well, he serves as a pastoral intern at Christ Redeemer Church in Hanover, New Hampshire.

As for Schuman, he remains committed to helping to expand the burgeoning network of journals.

"We talk a lot about trying to integrate faith, reason, and vocation in the modern world and what that looks like," he said.

Likewise, among other young adults with ties to leading universities, the passion for Christian discourse continues past their undergraduate studies.

Among them, Jordan Monge (Harvard '12), a former editor of the *Ichthus*, serves as a contributing writer to Fare Forward. Monge now works for The Veritas Forum, where she is the director of the Northeast region and the director of content development.

"I'm particularly interested in the intersection of Christian thought and practice, the ways doctrine shapes how we go about our daily lives," said Monge. "It's cool, because there is kind of a wide berth from which I can write."

# **ASKING WHY**

# Student Journal Responds to Campus Tragedy in Winter Issue

posed in the winter issue of The Harvard Ichthus, the student journal of Christian thought at Harvard College. The issue-which followed a suicide at the dawn of the school year and preceded one of the darkest days in the nation's history—asked "why" to a variety of topics and featured pieces ranging from materialism to the Christian "gaze."

Why? That was the question

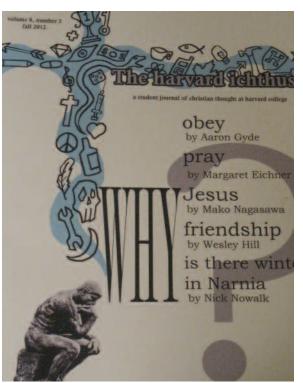
The fall semester at Harvard College started with a debate on the question of "Good without God," which was led by Christian Union Ministry Fellow Nick Nowalk. The semester was also indelibly marked by a tragedy, that of a student's suicide. In the days following this unsettling news, the staff of The Harvard Ichthus decided to produce an issue dedicated to the application of the question, "Why?" No one anticipated that shortly after distribution, on December 14, the nation would collectively mourn when 20 children and six teachers and administrators were senselessly murdered at the Sandy Hook School in Newtown, Connecticut.

The Ichthus recognized the messiness of the question of "Why?" and its inherent mystery. To a community of doers, this question does not offer neatly packaged responses. And it does not remotely explain the notion of how. Instead, Editor-in-Chief Roshni Patel '13 encouraged readers to exercise diligence and patience in searching for answers to such questions in Christ.

Student writers contributed to the theme by writing "Why Obey?" (Aaron Gyde '14) and "Why Pray?" (Margaret Eichner '14). Kelly Maeshiro '14 and Stephen Mackereth '15 penned pieces on "Christianity and the Gaze" and "When Things Stop Making Sense," respectively. A formal complement to the shorter, informal online blog, the print editions of the *Ichthus* provide insight into how Harvard students think and engage with the Veritas implications of their faith. These issues also provide a platform for believ-

ers to reflect on their faith and to challenge non-believers in their unbelief, fostering conversations.

The student pieces are telling of what is on their minds-Gyde's article offers a look into what he sees as the radical goodness of God and the fullness of joy in the call to obey, asserting that "Christian obedience to Christ is, on a basic level, a pursuit after a Christian's own happiness and



The goal of The Harvard Ichthus is to promote thought and dialogue about Christianity on campus.

delight." Eichner's appeal for the relevance and value of prayer is telling of her belief of the importance of intercession when it comes to having a personal relationship with God. Maeshiro's piece offers an inspiring critique of societal institutions, including the Church, and the call for Christians to "interrupt the smooth operation of its (society's) ideological fantasy" and gaze upon the invisible in our society. Mackereth presents a prevailing philosophy, material skepticism, and his rejection of this philosophy as a foundation for knowledge.

The winter issue also featured contributions from Nowalk and Mako Nagasawa, ministry staff leader of Harvard-Radcliffe Christian Fellowship (InterVarsity). Nagasawa responds to the question of "Why Jesus?" and works from the concept of the ring in *The Lord of the* Rings, while Nowalk asks the metaphorical question, "Why is there winter in Narnia?"

> Teng-Kuan Ng, an MTS student at Harvard Divinity School, provides a deep analysis of the Christian ethical perspective of pre-marital sex in "Why Wait?" Lastly, Wesley Hill, assistant professor of biblical studies at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania, reflects on "Why Friendship?" to round out the issue.

> The issue closes with Maeshiro's subversive question, "Why ask why?" He challenges the notion of Christianity as a philosophical system and provokes the reader to consider that Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life," not "I am the practical reason, the epistemology, and the ontological principle." He states, "Be skeptical of everything, but have some faith in mystery, too."

> Spanning a full 40 pages, the issue is rich, dense, and thought-provoking. Yet, alone it does not do justice to the work that God is doing on Harvard's campus.

"It has been truly incredible to see the staff triple in size to over twentyfive in the span of a year," said Patel.

"God has truly blessed The Ichthus, and it has been so encouraging to see Christians from all different backgrounds come together and use their talents to communicate their faith. It is a privilege for us to have a medium through which we can articulate our thoughts to reach out to a broken world around us that is filled with hurting people searching for answers."

Previous issues of The Harvard Ichthus, the daily blog, and more information can be found at http://www. harvardichthus.org. ■

# **LEADERSHIP WITHOUT VIRTUE**

Is Yale Producing Graduates with No Moral Compass?



Editor's note: The following article appeared in the Yale Daily News. Reprinted with

This fall, an alumnus of the Yale College Class of 2012, the field manager for his father's congressional re-election team, was caught on film acquiescing to a sting investigator's suggestion that he commit voter fraud. He subsequently resigned his position on the campaign.

Over the summer, another 2012 graduate lost her internship at The Wall Street Journal after she mistook a quotidian piece about the reopening of a footbridge in Manhattan for a creative writing exercise, inventing fictional sources and attributing quotes to them.

Though these stories may appear to be isolated, anecdotal events, they should worry us. The stakes are higher than one young man's future in politics or one young woman's career in journalism. Yale prides itself on educating the leaders of tomorrow, but if these stories are any indication, the leaders it is producing lack character, judgment, and virtue. Unless Yale recovers its moral compass and relearns how to educate its students in the virtues required for leadership, the nation would do well to look elsewhere for its future leaders.

Neither Yale's academic excellence, nor its social culture, distinguishes its under-

our first moments on campus; at commencement, the president of the university admits us to the "rights and responsibilities" (not "rights and privileges") of Yale alumni, implying that we have a duty to take what we have learned at Yale and use it for the betterment of the world. Sometimes, it can be hard to tell whether this fixation on leadership is entirely healthy; in my opinion, it often has the savor of a smug complacency or an unseemly messiah complex. Either way, the fixation is undeniable. Ours is an educa-

tion for leadership, and rarely are we allowed to forget it.

It is therefore frightening how little concern Mother Yale evinces for the moral education of her charges. Fifty years ago, the philosopher Henry Veatch commented on the American university's accelerating abdication of moral authority: "Even the professors of ethics nowadays...would not for a minute consider it their business to instruct students in such time-honored themes as 'the difference between right and wrong,' 'the good life



Bijan Aboutorabi, Yale '13, asks, "Do our classes impart any coherent system of ethics?"

tem of ethics? Do our extracurriculars? Does the administration? During the Title IX controversy, many official statements pronounced that sexual assault was inimical to "Yale's values." And yet, in my four years as a student here, I have yet to see that phrase - "Yale's values" applied to anything more concrete or less specific than the disapproval of rape, which ought to be a presupposition of any meaningful moral education-not its first and only lesson.

Nor is the faculty concerned with moral in-

struction. There are, undoubtedly, many teachers who see their job as the bettering of their students' whole being, including the cultivation of virtue. For the most part, though, our professors are professionals, not mentors. They were hired for their specialized academic competencies, not because anyone thought they would add to the university's ability to convert bright pupils into principled and profound leaders.

Many, I am sure, will feel that this is proper, that it isn't the university's place to teach virtue, that the academy should confine itself to academics and leave the students to their own moral explanations. Yet, if young men and women are to spend four years of their lives acutely conscious of their present and future privilege, they had better receive a sound moral education to prepare them for the use of that privilege. Yes, there is room for disagreement over the precise virtues Yale should be imparting. But when Yalies are willing to participate in voter fraud or fabricate journalistic sources, it is clear that their moral education has been so deficient that they have not even picked up the preliminary virtues of self-respect and integrity, without which no true leadership is possible.

# "Unless Yale recovers its moral compass and relearns how to educate its students in the virtues required for leadership, the nation would do well to look elsewhere for its future leaders."

graduate program; both are similar enough to those of hundreds of other colleges and universities. What sets Yale and its peer institutions apart is that they consider themselves - and are considered training grounds for future leaders par excellence. We undergraduates have the gospel of leadership preached to us from

for man,' or the obligation of being 'For God, For Country, And For Yale."

Admittedly, the Harvard-educated Veatch may have taken a more than philosophic pleasure in that jab at New England's second-oldest college. But we cannot deny the substance of the charge. Do our classes impart any coherent sysLOVE AND MARRIAGE





# **MARRIAGE-**WHY KNOT?

# **Love and Fidelity Network** Conference Draws 200

As students prepare for marriage, they need to be aware of the differences between a covenantal marriage and a consumer-style version.

Namely, a covenantal marriage mandates a lasting commitment to a spouse, while the consumer-oriented alternative only involves a commitment as long as the relationship meets individual needs.

That was the message of a plenary session led by Roland Warren, Princeton '83 and Wharton MBA '86, during the fifth annual Sexuality, Integrity and the University Conference in early November at Princeton University. Warren is the chief executive officer of Care Net, a Christian pregnancy center network headquartered in Virginia.







About 200 students, alumni, and faculty from 30 colleges across the United States attended the weekend conference. Approximately 45 students were from Ivy League

The Love and Fidelity Network, which provides training to collegiate chastity organizations, hosted the conference. Christian Union served as a co-sponsor. The Love and Fidelity Network (www.loveandfidelity. org) was founded by Cassandra Hough, Princeton '07. Hough, the organization's senior adviser, launched the Anscombe Society (blogs.princeton.edu/Anscombe) at Princeton in 2005.

During an afternoon session, Warren encouraged students to approach marriage as a sacred institution, requiring sacrifice instead of self-fulfillment. During his presentation-entitled "Why Knot? First Comes Love, Then Comes What?"-he implored students to be mindful of the vast gulf between a covenant marriage and a utilitarian

one, highlighting the concepts of noted family researchers.

"One is about what you get, and one is about what you give," said Warren, the former head of the National Fatherhood Initiative.

"In a consumer marriage, you stay connected as long as your spouse is meeting your need at an acceptable cost. Otherwise, you cut your losses."

Warren told students to avoid buying into the myth that cohabitating works just as well as marriage—and provides a handy trial run. "The secret sauce in a good marriage is covenant commitment. It's not 'try before you buy.' You cannot sample. You're either in or not."

Ultimately, low ideals produce low rewards, and high standards result in high rewards.

As well, Warren paused to counter the cultural notion that a wide range of sexual experiences and partners provides valuable training for mar-

riage intimacy. "This is based on faulty logic. Married sex is about fidelity," he said. "How can having multiple partners prepare you for fidelity? Practicing with a lot of folks does not lead to more perfect marriage."

Warren told students to embrace the importance of twoparent households and remember the special role of fathers.

"Unmarried households are becoming the norm. There's a delinking of marriage and parenting," he said. "Kids need stability and structure. It's difficult to be what you don't see. I've

Photos (clockwise from top left): Princeton Professor Robbie George, Love and Fidelity Network staff and conference attendees, Caitlyn Seery of the Love and Fidelity Network, Christian Union ministry fellow Ali Smith, conference attendees.



Roland Warren, chief executive officer of Care Net, was one of the keynote speakers at the annual Love and Fidelity Network conference held at Princeton University.

never met a single mom who wished her daughter would be one."

Along related lines, the director of the Marriage and Religion Research Institute told students the decline of marital stability in the United States hurts the country's economic productivity. However, the more immediate impact manifests directly upon children and their household conditions.

"We have a major crisis of male and female. Most American men and women cannot stand each other enough to raise that child to adulthood," said Patrick Fagan, a social science researcher who holds a doctorate from University College Dublin.

The breakdown of marriages also has spawned a crisis of non-belonging and, ultimately, a culture of rejection. "Rejection is powerful in its ill effects on both men and women, on adults and children," Fagan said. "We are made to belong."

As for the ties to economic productivity, married households with children top

household categories in income, and married men tend to work the longest hours.

Thus, with divorce rampant in recent decades, "the productivity of the United States is dropping." The overall effect also results in lower tax contributions to the U.S. Treasury.

In addition, Fagan told students to be mindful of the impact of religious worship on most of life's key sectors. Namely, teens and undergraduates who worship weekly have lower rates of sexual activity outside of wedlock. Likewise, there are ties between individuals who worship on a weekly basis and health, happiness, and education.

# Warren told students to avoid buying into the myth that cohabitating works just as well as marriage...

Ultimately, fruitful marriages are the key to rebuilding American society, Fagan said.

Also during the conference, Christian Union Ministry Fellow Ali Smith, Princeton '06, led a discussion for ministry leaders about ways to express their views on issues tied to sexual integrity on their campuses.

Overall, conference organizers were pleased with the event, which was held on November 2 and 3, during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

"We chose to go forward with the conference because we know just how valuable it is to the students who attend," said Caitlin Seery (Princeton '09), director of programs at the Love and Fidelity Network. "Without an opportunity to come together and be strengthened, it can be a daunting task to bring a counter-cultural message to campus."

# WHAT IS MARRIAGE?

# Book Philosophically Defends 'Conjugal' Union between a Man and a Woman

Two years ago, a group of Ivy League alumni shook up the public discourse on marriage in America by publishing an article in the Harvard Journal of Law and Public Policy that changed the focus of the debate from who should marry whom to what marriage is in the first place.

Princeton Professor Robert George (Harvard Law '81), Notre Dame Ph.D. Candidate Ryan Anderson (Princeton '04), and Princeton Ph.D. and Yale Law J.D. Candidate Sherif Girgis (Princeton '08) have turned their work into a recently-released book, What Is Marriage? Man & Woman: A Defense.

The book, says Anderson, is a result of the overwhelming response the writers received to their original journal piece.

"The reaction we received from readers of our [article] was that it was the best piece of philosophy they had ever read explaining why marriage of its very nature was a union of man and woman," he says.

However, some readers had difficulty explaining the authors' argument to those who disagreed. Therefore, they penned the book to explain further their position and make it easier for defenders of biblical marriage to share the information.

The writers explain the conjugal definition of marriage as a "comprehensive union of persons," adding that marriage "unites two people in their most basic dimensions, in their minds and bodies; second, it unites them with respect to procreation, family life, and its broad domestic sharing; and third, it unites them permanently and exclusively."

While the authors' conjugal marriage definition does not include same-sex unions, they contend that the book isn't about debating the morality of homosexuality. In fact, the authors challenge the notion that the conjugal view of marriage is bigoted and lacks compassion for the needs of same-sex couples.

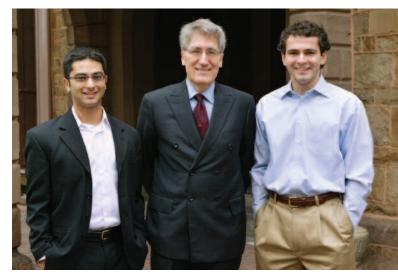
"We will show that one can defend the conjugal view of marriage while bracketing this moral question and that the conjugal view can be wholeheartedly embraced without denigrating same-sex attracted people, or ignoring their needs, or assuming that their desires could change," they write.

Despite being Christians, the writers say they don't base their views on faith beliefs, citing that ancient thinkers who were absent of religious convictions-such as Aristotle, Socrates, and Xenophanes—reached "remarkably similar views of marriage" that concur with the conjugal definition.

The authors add that the conjugal definition is based on the public good and the welfare of children, whom they say benefit most from being raised in a home with a mother and father.

However, the book is more than definitions, information, and sociological implications. It serves as a catalyst for social engagement and "grist for democratic deliberation." In effect, it serves as a resource for conversation and taking action on behalf of marriage in America.

"Our nation is having a large social and political debate right now about the nature and purpose of marriage, and we hope our book will contribute to that discussion by equipping people on our side with the best arguments and challenging people on the



(L to R) Sherif Girgis (Princeton '08), Professor Robert George (Harvard Law '81), and Ryan Anderson (Princeton '04) have co-authored the ground-breaking book, What Is Marriage? Man & Woman: A Defense.

other side to reconsider their views," says Anderson.

Others agree.

Brian Brown, president of the National Organization for Marriage, wrote a letter on the book's Facebook page urging action and lauding the book's timeliness.

"Our opponents will use the election results to push the idea that the radical redefinition of marriage is 'inevitable,'" Brown writes. "Now more than ever, we have to fight back hard with prayers—with strong arguments."

Brown calls it, "the best short, accessible argument for marriage as a union of man and woman."

Pastor and author Rick Warren also confirms the relevance of What Is Marriage? "This book brilliantly explains why the definition of marriage is so critical and why the strengthening of marriages is absolutely essential to our freedom and our future," he said.

But that strength, says Anderson, must be built among couples themselves. "The damage done to marriage has primarily been the result of bad thinking and behaving by heterosexuals," he said, citing pre-marital and extra-marital sex, divorce, pornography, and other unhealthy behaviors as preludes to the movement to redefine marriage.

"Only in such a world," he says, "where sex and marriage are seen as little more than instruments of individuals' emotional satisfaction, is a more thoroughgoing and explicit redefinition of marriage even thinkable."

Therefore, Anderson and his colleagues hope their book will inspire a clear understanding of marriage.

As Anderson puts it, "We'd like to see the book's impact start at home, expand to the local community, and extend to our national discussions." ■

# MARRIAGE AND THE PUBLIC GOOD

# Report Defends Marital Unions as Beneficial for Individuals and Society



interest.

In 2008, the Witherspoon Institute in Princeton, New Jersey released a report that states how marriage is in the public

Marriage and the Public Good: Ten Principles is a scholarly resource that taps the wisdom of experts from the fields of economics, history, law, philosophy, psychiatry, and sociology.

The document was released to make a substantial contribution to the marriage debate, stating: "In recent years, marriage has weakened, with serious negative consequences for society as a whole. Four developments are especially troubling: divorce, illegitimacy, cohabitation, and same-sex marriage."

In addition to showing how traditional marriage "serves children, women, men, and the common good," the Witherspoon Institute also sought to give college students a viewpoint not often heard in today's public discourse: "As university teachers and on behalf of students, we need to make this statement since marriage is above all a choice for the young: they need arguments to counterbalance the dominant arguments now attacking marriage as unjust and undesirable, and they need to know what marriage is in order to sustain their own marriages and raise their own children."

The report cites data that demonstrates how traditional marriage has served the betterment of society, particularly in the areas of bearing and raising children, as well as providing order and stability to adult sexual unions and civilizing men by providing a sense of purpose, social status, and diversion from vice.

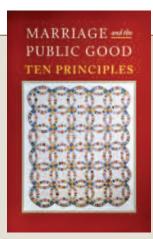
Marriage and the Public Good also debunks the contemporary argument that the civil union of a same-sex couple does not impact anyone else's marriage. Indeed, the so-called personal choices of civil unions, divorce, single parenting, and cohabitation all have a very public consequence on society as a whole.

Further, measures that stabilize marriage have farreaching societal consequences as well. They include extending waiting periods for no-fault divorce, ending marriage penalties for low-income Americans, and "protecting the interests of children from the fertility industry," among others.

"As scholars, we are persuaded that the case for marriage can be made and won at the level of reason," the report states. "Marriage protects children, men and women, and the common good."

Marriage and the Public Good and other resources, such as The Social Cost of Pornography, can be ordered at the Witherspoon Institute's Web site, www.winst.org. ■

- Marriage is a personal union, intended for the whole life of husband and wife.
- Marriage is a profound human good, elevating and perfecting our social and sexual nature.



- Ordinarily, both men and women who marry are better off as a result.
- Marriage protects and promotes the well-being of children.
- Marriage sustains civil society and promotes the common good.
- Marriage is a wealth-creating institution, increasing human and social capital.
- When marriage weakens, the equality gap widens, as children suffer from the disadvantages of growing up in homes without mothers and fathers.
- A functioning marriage culture serves to protect political liberty and foster limited government.
- The laws that govern marriage matter significantly.
- "Civil marriage" and "religious marriage" cannot be rigidly or completely divorced from one another.

# **ON OFFENSE**

# Pro-Bowl Center Stands for Marriage, Rights of Children

Baltimore Ravens center Matt Birk, Harvard '98, goes on the offensive when it comes to protecting marriage HARVARD and the rights of children who can be adversely affected by same-sex marriages.

Birk is a public advocate for marriage in his home state of Minnesota, where he spoke to a crowd of roughly 2,000 at the Minneapolis Rally for Religious Freedom in June. The six-time Pro Bowl football player also appeared in an online video for the Minnesota Catholic Conference and encouraged fellow Catholics to support his state's Marriage Protection Amendment, which proposes the preservation of the definition of marriage as being between one man and one woman.

"Outside and unfortunately even inside our own parishes we have people telling us to stop talking about marriage, an institution that the church has been talking about for thousands of years," Birk states in the video. "They say if we stand up and talk about the natural definition of marriage, that we are somehow being mean or bullies. Supporting the basic rights of children and the authentic rights of people with same-sex attraction are not mutually exclusive, and we must resist the forces that are telling us otherwise."

This fall, Birk penned a pro-marriage editorial in opposition to some of his fellow National Football League players, including teammate Brendon Ayanbadejo, a linebacker who has written op-ed pieces and appeared in television ads supporting same-sex marriage in Maryland. On Election Day, however, voters in Maryland approved a ballot question that made same-sex "marriage" legal in their state.

"Same-sex unions may not affect my marriage specifically, but it will affect my children," Birk stated in the opening line of his editorial that ran in the Minnesota Star Tribune. The piece also garnered attention from a variety of national media outlets.

But according to an article in the Baltimore Sun, Birk said his political views weren't intended to cause locker-room dissension, and he said that he notified Ayanbadejo about his editorial before it ran, so his teammate wouldn't be blindsided.

Birk, a father of six, has focused his editorial and video on the welfare of children.

"Marriage redefinition will affect the broader well-being of children and the welfare of society."

-Matt Birk, Harvard '98

"It's unfair to children if we don't make every effort to stand up for their rights, to be known and loved by their mother and their father whenever possible," he said. "While divorce, death, and other circumstances too often prevent it, no child should be intentionally deprived of knowing their mother and their father. If we allow genderless marriage to be made law, the implication is that the contributions of part of our community, either men or women, are somehow insignificant and less valuable."

In his newspaper editorial, Birk called upon his experience working with his wife at crisis pregnancy centers to laud the "heroic" efforts of single parents; but he also stated that despite those efforts and the resilience of many children, society ought not dismiss the "potential long-term effects" on children if they don't know or receive love from their fathers or mothers. Each parent, states Birk, "plays a vital role in the raising of a child."



NFL player Matthew Birk, Harvard '98, is speaking out for marriage.

Because of his views, Birk has received criticism from some who've labeled him an anti-gay bigot. But others see him as a hero.

"It says a great deal about the character of a man who does the right thing even when he has much to lose," writes Michael J.

> Matt in The Remnant, a national Catholic newspaper. "Matt has risked his reputation and professional career in the name of doing what's right, and I'd encourage Remnant readers to pray for him. He's now on the frontline, and the liberals in media and politics are going to crucify him if they can."

But despite how others might view him, Birk remains firm in his stance as a Christian and an advocate for marriage.

"I am speaking out on this issue because it is far too important to remain silent," Birk explained in his editorial. "Marriage redefinition will affect the broader well-being of children and the welfare of society. As a Christian and a citizen, I am compelled to care about both." ■

# WHY COFFEE DATES TRUMP DFMOS (DANCE FLOOR MAKEOUTS)

Alumnus Challenges Status Quo at Princeton with Column



Editor's note: The following article was reprinted with permission from The Daily

Princetonian, the student newspaper at Princeton University. Columnist Dave Kurz '12, an intern with Christian Union, challenged the student body to re-think being a part of the hook-up culture on The Street (a row of eating clubs) at Princeton.

During my freshman year at Princeton, I experienced my fair share of exciting make-out seshes, from some lean-to smoothing on Outdoor Action to my first dance floor make-out at Cloister.

But one night in particular stands out in my mind as the defining moment when my core beliefs duked it out with my 19-year-old sex drive. I'd been dancing at Tiger Inn with a cute girl I knew and-without really thinking about itfound myself walking back with her from The Street to her place. After sitting on a bench and talking for a half hour, she gave a little shiver and asked if I wanted to come inside to her room. As I walked up the stairs with her, my mind on our conversation about tennis or

Vermont or something, it gradually dawned on me that she probably didn't want to go inside just because she was cold. The reality of the approaching hook-up really hit home to me when she offered to kick out a friend sleeping on her couch so we could have the room to ourselves.

The choice was clear: go at it with an attractive, available girl or refuse my desire and head home. I remember blinking once or twice, scratching my head, and thinking about my next move. As I stalled and pondered, something inside told me that the hookup just wasn't right. I shouldn't kiss her. I shouldn't put my hands all over her body and use her for my pleasure, only to go back to being mere acquaintances the next day. I shouldn't make promises with my body that weren't backed up in my heart and mind. As tempting as the potential hook-up was, and as much as my body burned for it, I felt deep down that there was a greater satisfaction in restraint than indulgence. So I hugged her, said goodnight, and left.

My interactions with girls shifted dramatically soon thereafter. I no longer went out looking to grind or DFMO with the hottest girls. I no longer wanted to be just another guy on a nighttime prowl looking for his next kill — a conqueror looking for a victim. Instead, I wanted to be the knight with a streak of dirt across his face who puts his life on the line to save a girl from her distress.



Christian Union Intern Dave Kurz, Princeton '12, extolled the virtues of coffee dates as an alternative to the hook-up culture in The Daily Princetonian.

I wanted to be the guy girls could trust, the guy who protects girls rather than taking advantage of them, the guy a father would want his daughter to be dating.

Those new desires pushed me to go old-school to find my new favorite way of interacting with ladies: the coffee date. Instead of snogging them on a beer-soaked dfloor, I began taking the interesting girls in my life to Small World Coffee to get to know them. And if you're a single who is not in on the secret, let me tell you: coffee dates will radically improve the quality of your interactions with the opposite sex. They're fun, easy, and lowcommitment, yet still give you an opportunity to explore a connection with someone in the context of a real, sober conversation. Getting to know a girl's personality, background, and interests before becoming acquainted with the curve of her butt somehow feels closer to the way things ought to be.

Coffee dates also encourage clear communication in a way that ambiguous make-out sessions do not. Simply telling girls whether I'm interested in them has been freeing for me. I no longer have those awkward freshman-year experiences of sitting in precept across from a girl I'd made out with on the dance floor a few nights earlier. And straight talk is kinder to the girl. It's helped me avoid leading a girl along with kisses that express an interest I never intended. Open lines of communication have helped me show my respect for the gal, that I value her enough to tell her what I'm thinking.

So in my book, coffee dates are ultimately far more satisfying than dance floor make-outs. I'm not here to tell you that Witherspoon Cafe is where you'll meet your future spouse. But I will say that, in my experience, hooking up hasn't helped me find the real intimacy and relationship I was hoping for.

After all, we get what we pay for. A cheap hook-up on a drunken Saturday night often buys us a cheap reward: temporary gratification, followed by hollowness and superficiality in our search for intimacy. On the other hand, a slightly heftier investment of time and energy with another person can lead us to the precious reward of a deep relationship built on trust, mutual respect, and joy.

So why not start with paying for a couple medium coffees? Only \$4.25 at Starbucks. ■

# 'A REMARKABLE TURN'

# After Promiscuous Past, Brown Alumnus Seeks to Promote Healthy Sexuality



As a freshman at Brown University, Damon Owens became swept up in the campus' rampant hook-up

Though he entered the university as a virgin from a devout Catholic family, the native of a rural New Jersey town and former Eagle Scout quickly found himself reveling in a rowdy party scene centered on alcohol and sex.

"I was just completely unprepared for college," said Owens, Brown '88. "Within the first week of college, I started doing everything I swore I wouldn't do. I was going to have a good time in college and get back to God later."

"I was lost, really lost."

Today, Owens trumpets the virtues of faith, family, and traditional values through his work as the executive director of the Theology of the Body Institute, a Catholic non-profit foundation that promotes spiritual perspectives on sex and family planning and highlights the dignity of masculinity and femininity.

"I feel so blessed," said Owens, who studied mechanical engineering. "It's been a remarkable turn."

While a graduate student at the University of California at Berkeley, Owens returned to faith through the influence of his future wife and their decision to stop engaging in premarital sex.

"Melanie had an active, conscious sense of something being wrong," Owens said. "We came back to faith by becoming chaste, choosing not to have sex."

After the couple married in 1993, they "grew in intimacy with one another and with Christ," Owens said. "There was a healing that moves us to speak." Today, the couple has eight children, including two adoptees, and resides in suburban Philadelphia.

Owens, who left engineering to focus on ministry in 2002, wants believers to understand the power, dignity, and beauty of the gift of sexuality within marriage. "Sex is good," he said. "Your masculinity is good, and your femininity is good."

In 2003, Damon and Melanie Owens founded Joy-Filled Marriage of New Jersey and New Jersey Natural Family Planning Association, non-profit organizations that offer courses, seminars, and conferences to married and engaged couples. He also has served as the spokesman for the Life, Education and Resource Network, a national consortium of African-American, pro-life organizations based in North Carolina, which calls attention to the negative effects of anti-family forces upon the black community.

Owens began lecturing in 2005 for the Theology of the Body Institute, which is headquartered in Exton, Pennsylvania. He later became a certified trainer for the organization's marriage-preparation program, which is used by more than 30 dioceses.

In December 2011, Owens stepped into a full-time role as executive director, a job he says offers opportunities to highlight the dignity of the human person and role of sexuality within marriage.



Damon Owens, Brown '88, is the executive director at the Theology of the Body Institute.

"There's a beautiful language and approach to dealing with these issues," he said.

Through his work, Owens often appears on Catholic and secular broadcasts to comment on topics related to marriage, family, and the Theology of the Body.

Before stepping into ministry, he worked as an engineer at AT&T Bell Labs and Lucent Technologies in New Jersey in the 1990s. In 2001, he was part of a team that launched Celiant Corp., a spinoff of Bell Labs and Lucent and a leader in power amplifiers and radio frequency subsystems for 2G and 3G wireless systems.

When Owens exited the corporate world, he "saw there was a huge need for stronger marriage preparation," and his mission

He remains committed to sharing and teaching others about the gift and beauty of sexuality within marriage. "I enjoy taking very complicated concepts and making them understood and enjoyed by others," he said. ■

Today, Owens trumpets the virtues of faith, family and traditional values through his work as the executive director of the Theology of the Body Institute, a Catholic nonprofit foundation that promotes spiritual perspectives on sex and family planning and highlights the dignity of masculinity and femininity.

# **NIGHT 'LIFE'**

# Saturday Evening Prayer Group Intercedes for Classmates, Campus

A group of Princeton University students are devoting their PRINCETON Saturday evenings to seeking God for spiritual transformation and re-

vival on campus from the heart of the university's party scene.

More than a dozen students are assembling at 9:45 p.m. in a basement room at the Campus Club, a university facility on Prospect Avenue available for student gatherings and near the famed eating clubs

in the hub of Princeton's social sector.

During the fall semester, Jessica Haley '14 began organizing the sessions to pray for an outpouring of God's spirit on campus and to intercede for peace and unity among believers on campus.

Prayer moves God's heart. "It shakes things up in heaven," Haley said. "Our campus needs to be renewed and revived. That won't happen without a move of God."

The meetings in-

clude intercessors from campus ministries such as Legacy, Manna Christian Fellowship (www.princeton.edu/manna), Princeton Faith and Action (pfanda.com), Princeton Evangelical Fellowship (pef. mycpanel.princeton.edu), and Princeton Leaders in Christ. Legacy and Princeton Faith and Action (PFA) are leadership development ministries supported and resourced by Christian Union.

The students gather to "bring before God our Christian body and the ministries we all represent, and to petition Him for guidance," said Haley. "What we most strongly desire is that God would bring about His will in and through us."

In addition, the students pray for their classmates to turn to God amidst the emptiness of the hook-up and drinking cultures on campus. "Mostly, we pray in

faith that God will redeem the brokenness we see around us, both within our ministries and outside them," said Haley, also an assistant Bible Course leader with PFA.

Nahrie Chung '16 echoed those comments, noting the students are asking God to "stir up hunger among students to experience Him."

"There seems to be a growing discontentment with the rampant drunkenness and hook-up culture on campus," she

A group of Princeton University students are praying for transformation on campus—from the heart of the university's party scene. Jessica Haley '14 and Nahrie Chung '16 are among the students who are assembling in a basement room at the Campus Club.

added. "As students grow desperate for something bigger than themselves to fill the inward emptiness, they are slowly beginning to look to the praying believers on campus."

Likewise, Christ is worthy of the adoration of Princeton students, said Chung, who participates in Manna and PFA.

"We know we have been placed at Princeton for a divine purpose, and we long for Jesus to reign over Princeton," Chung said. "We are praying for His glory to be manifested in the lives of our classmates, our professors, and our administrators."

Ashley Evelyn '13 noted the group is praying from a spiritually strategic location on campus. "We are gathering on 'The Street,' because we recognize that the party life at Princeton is one great way

that the enemy has used to stifle Christian life on campus," she said.

Evelyn, who serves as co-chaplain and treasurer of the Princeton University Gospel Ensemble, also is involved with Legacy, PFA, and Princeton Leaders in Christ.

Ali Smith '06, a ministry fellow with the Christian Union, said she is pleased to see students embracing the ministry's emphasis upon evangelism and the seeking-

God lifestyle.

"The students really have a heart of intercession to pray and cry out on behalf of their campus and peers," she said. "They are interceding that they might know God."

In addition, students said they welcome opportunities to promote unity among campus ministries.

"When we come together to pray, all our stylistic preferences and differences melt away," said Melody Falter

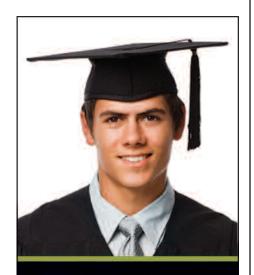
'15. "We're simply brothers and sisters in Christ, interceding on behalf of Princeton."

Falter, a South Carolina native, also noted PFA is encouraging participants in evangelical ministries across campus to attend its noon prayer sessions on Fridays in the Campus Club. "You can never get enough prayer," she said.

Ultimately, the students want to see their classmates embrace Christ as their personal savior.

The intercessors pray for their classmates to "be able to come to know the Lord, His works, His love, and grace," said Shawn Du '14. The economics major also participates in Manna.

"We pray against (any) barriers to the [message of] Jesus—that truly His beauty, glory, and works cannot be contained," Du said.



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# **PUTTING ON LOVE**

# Students Gather for a Special Night of Praise and Prayer

In November, students from various campus ministries at CORNELL Cornell gathered for Put On

Love, a night of praise and prayer.

The two-hour event was originally scheduled as an outdoor praise concert, which fell through because of regulations and frigid weather conditions. But according to student organizers, God guided the whole planning process and led them to use a small student engineer-

ing lounge that was open to the public and other students studying nearby.

Robin Ying '14 helped plan Put On Love, drawing inspiration from Chinese churches in his California hometown that gather monthly for prayer and praise night based on Acts 4:31. Ying had a very strong desire to bring something similar to Cornell

and worked with students in other organizations to begin an inter-ministry unity movement.

Will Hermann '13 said, "God has been burdening Christians with a hunger for greater community on campus." Hermann added that after meditating on Colossians 3:14-16, "God burdened our hearts with this image, so we pursued him on it."

The unifying factor that brought all the participants together was a desire to simply praise God. Josephine Chen '14 echoed that sentiment, saying, "What brought people together was a mutual love for God and a desire to see Him lifted high." Ying added that the central catalyst was "Jesus and a desire to simply worship God with our Christian brothers and sisters."

Students said Put On Love helped increase both their focus on God and their focus on the people around them, both believers and non-believers.

Christine Yo'13, a singer in the worship band, said the event "was a much-needed drink of water for a relatively dry season in the Cornell body." Hermann said it "was an awesome night of praise for the King of the Universe, and as a result, I do believe that it helped to show Christians on campus that their Christian family extends beyond their [ministry]."

As for the impact on non-believers, Chen believed many people walking past

the event were curious about what was going on. "I think that the kind of music we were singing was very different from what most people expect of religious worship," he said.

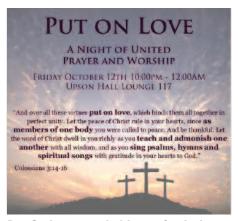
After promoting Put On Love via Facebook, Ying "received many questions regarding the event that led to further discussion and conversation about

[his] faith." Yo said she believes Put On Love was one of the many steps toward larger revival on campus. Other students agreed, saying that there was a shift in the atmosphere toward a deeper understanding of their purpose at Cornell.

The atmosphere at the event was lively and intimate. Believers raised their hands in worship, jumping along to the songs, and also sat in small groups for prayer.

Chen said that "worshiping always fills me up and makes me feel closer to God." Yo added that "God reminded me of how beautiful I am to Him-that though I may feel ugly and unworthy at times, those feelings alone cannot separate me from His love."

As for the future, the students said they are passionate about planning another night of praise and prayer for the Christian body at Cornell and believe that God is working mightily on the campus through it.



Put On Love was held out of a desire to worship and praise God and to unify, as one body, the campus ministries.

# **SERVING GOD AND COUNTRY**

# Dartmouth Freshman Seeks Military Career through ROTC



As many Dartmouth freshmen adjust to campus life and explore possibilities for the fu-

ture, one first-year student is pursuing a more certain path that calls him to serve God and his country.

David Berg '16 is a member of the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corp (ROTC) and intends to pursue a commission as an active-duty officer upon graduation.

A sense of service and camaraderie are two primary factors in Berg's desire to pursue a military career, as he finds similarities between his professional calling and his call to Christianity.

"My fellow cadets are much like my brothers and sisters in faith," said Berg. "Be it a 6 a.m. workout or a training exercise in the woods of New Hampshire, we work together toward common goal. It requires fortitude and purpose. Faith is the same way."

And faith born from

that fortitude and purpose is what this future military leader says influences his thought process and decision-making.

"It is an anchor, an unshakeable confidence, and a guiding force in the midst of adversity," said Berg, who noted he's spent time in prayer for discernment regarding the realities of a military career.

Helping to give clarity and inspiration to Berg's career choice is the example set by his brother Isaiah, Dartmouth '11, who recently completed Marine Corps Officer Candidate School.

"It wasn't something I considered before or even knew existed at Dartmouth," said Berg regarding ROTC. "It didn't take long for me to see it as a tremendous opportunity. It's awesome."

Last year, Berg and his brother shared a journey of a different sort-cycling 15,000 miles from Alaska to Argentina. The photojournalistic and philanthropic trek took them through nine countries in nine months and raised \$40,000 for a local Habitat for Humanity affiliate in Berg's home state of North Dakota.

And just like the brotherhood and camaraderie that inspires his faith and com-

> mitment to ROTC, it was a shared mission and faith that Berg says kept him and his brother together and "fighting for mile."

"God was there with us all along, too. So many miracles, big and small, kept us going," he said. "People were a big blessing to us everywhere."

In contrast, university campuses have not been as supportive of students seeking to pursue an officer's commission through ROTC. Many colleges ended the programs in protest of the Depart-

ment of Defense policy toward members with same-sex attraction.



While Dartmouth never severed its ties with ROTC, Berg said he's aware that the size of the program decreased during the "don't ask, don't tell" protest. Recently, however, the Dartmouth ROTC has become more present and active on campus.

Likewise, the university can be less than receptive to those with vibrant Christian faith. But Berg, like a good soldier, is not moved.

"I am thankful for the faith, hope, and love that I have," he said. "When God moves me to act or witness, I trust that call to action."

Berg attributes the Christian community on campus-including Dartmouth College Faith and Action-with fostering his faith journey through Bible courses. weekly meetings, and fellowship among believers. Dartmouth College Faith and Action is a leadership development ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union.

As Berg pursues his calling as a servant leader, he hopes to be a blessing to others,



David Berg '16 sees similarities between serving in ROTC and serving in ministry.

# "I am thankful for the faith, hope, and love that I have. When God moves me to act or witness. I trust that call to action.

The so-called "don't ask, don't tell" policy implemented during the Clinton administration was repealed under President Obama's administration. With that, many campuses have once again embraced the officer training program.

as he serves his country and follows God's call on his life.

"I believe that serving others, being a blessing to others, and making a difference are worthy goals, no matter the profession," said Berg. ■

# THE SLIPPERY SLOPE

# Books Document the Decline of Once-Christian Colleges into Bastions of Unbelief

Editor's note: The following column is reprinted with permission from WORLD Magazine (www.worldmag.com). The author, Marvin Olasky, Yale '71, is the editor-inchief of WORLD.

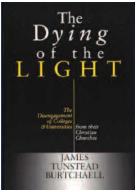
What happened to so many once-Christian colleges in the United States? Two fine books describe the decline. George Marsden's 462-page The Soul of the American University shows how once-Protestant universities became secular look-alikes. James Burtchaell's The Dying of the Light: The Disengagement of Colleges and Universities from Their Christian Churches uses 868 pages to show not only how schools moved from liberal theism to secularism but how, before that, they moved from theologically conservative to liberal stances.

I'll try to give the high points of 1,330 pages in fewer than 1,330 words: Three central messages are (1) Follow the money, (2) Watch the college president, (3) See what the college does with Darwin.

Follow the money: Andrew Carnegie, antagonistic toward Christianity, established in 1905 the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, which the following year began giving matching grants to fund the retirement of professors-but it excluded colleges and universities under denominational control. During the first four years of Carnegie grant-making, 20 schools changed their boards, statement of faith requirements, or hiring requirements so as to get Carnegie money for professors who might otherwise fall into poverty.

For example, Beloit College quickly sent Carnegie a message that suggested the board's resolve to have trustees from any denomination or no denomination. In the 1920s the trustees selected as Beloit's new president Irving Maurer, who said in one talk, "What does God mean to me? He means doing my duty, being good, allying myself with the right things." Maurer decried "the doctrine of the Virgin birth" and said, "I believe in the divinity of Jesus because I believe in the divinity of man. I believe that man and Christ have the moral characteristics of God."

Occasionally college leaders pushed back. Syracuse University chancellor James Day defended his Methodist school in 1910 and said, "Other colleges may do as they please. If they wish to crawl in the dirt for such a price, that is their privilege. But no university can teach young people lofty ideals of manhood and forget itself respect and honor, or sell its loyalty and faith for money that Judas flung away when in remorse he went out and hung himself. It is an insult





Marvin Olasky, Yale '71, reviews two books which show how colleges that were once Christian have moved towards secularism.

for such a proposition to be made to a Christian institution." Most colleges, Carnegie found out, welcomed such insult-and Syracuse eventually succumbed to other blandishments.

The love of money was the root of all kinds of evil. New presidents loved to find new money sources but often in the process abandoned a biblical focus-because no money came without strings of some sort. Burtchaell shows how the Lafayette College board with its Presbyterian trustees, "terrified of a sudden insolvency," hired a president who objected, "as all right-minded people do, to being thought sectarian." Boards at Millsaps, Davidson, and Wake Forest moved away from denominational influence upon receiving "a sudden, large benefaction."

Watch the college president.

Burtchaell shows that many college presidents cared more about respectability in the eyes of materialists than they did about Christ. These presidents were "attractive, and trusted," but at critical moments they helped their colleges gain money and students by abandoning the original Christian mission. Some were not even conscious of what they were doing: "All change was supposed to be gain, without a sense of loss." But losses there were: In college after college "the critical turn away from Christian accountability was taken under the clear initiative of a single president."

Marsden shows how decade by decade, college after college, presidents led trustees in making small accommodations, often with little understanding of the ultimate import of such moves. Boards of trustees assumed that Christian principles and objectives, often encrusted like fossils in mission statements, were still operative, but in practice they were increasingly marginalized.

Burtchaell shows how the presidents

often got their way because the colleges were tired of being poor and often tired of "doctrinal preoccupations that spoiled the religious, devotional, and behavioral commonplaces which the modernists took as cultural lozenges." For example, James Kirkland, who became chancellor of Vanderbilt in 1893, spoke less about the Bible and more about the "upbuilding of Christ's kingdom,' a phrase that could encompass everything constructive in modern civilization." Kirkland spent 20 years reducing the role of Southern Methodist

The largest Northern Methodist university, Northwestern, dismissed in 1902 an English professor who attacked biblical inerrancy in a local newspaper. The firing brought some negative national publicity, and Northwestern's new president told its board in 1908 that Northwestern should offend neither "the denomination which gave it birth or the great community which is becoming interested in it without respect to denomi-

leaders on his board of trustees.

national considerations." No school can serve two masters, and Northwestern was soon playing to the "great community."

Burtchaell writes about William Jewett Tucker, president of Dartmouth from 1893 to 1909, who took difficult parts of Scripture as metaphorical and called for "a Bible set free from the last bondage to literalism." As conviction of the Bible's truth disappeared, all that was left was "vague moralizing," and in time "the purge of Christian purpose" became evident to all. Tucker changed the board of trustees so that in 1906, near the end of his incumbency, a majority of board members were not active members of any church.

Tucker's comments as he left office showed why Dartmouth was on its way to becoming indistinguishable from secular counterparts: He did not want to discuss "distinctive tenets" of the Bible but only "those fundamental obligations and incentives of religion in which we are all substantially agreed." Then he proclaimed, "Formerly the distinction was, Is

a man orthodox or heterodox? Today the distinction is, Is a man an optimist or a pessimist?" Tucker's successor as president, Ernest Hopkins, said in 1921 that "friendliness and good will [are] the essence of the religion Jesus taught." Churches, in other words, were clubs.

Watch the treatment of Darwin. At Dartmouth during Tucker's reign, chapel became voluntary but a course on evolution compulsory. Wake Forest's president from 1905 to 1927, William Poteat, tried to meld Christianity and evolution, and oversaw religious drift. When Ohio Wesleyan President James Bashford interviewed zoologist Edward Rice for a faculty position, Rice said he would teach evolution and Bashford replied, "I wouldn't want you if you didn't."

Francis Patton, Princeton's president from 1888 to 1902, hired Woodrow Wilson to be a professor but told him he should teach "under theistic and Christian presuppositions." Patton complained, "In your discussion of the origin of the State, you minimize the supernatu-

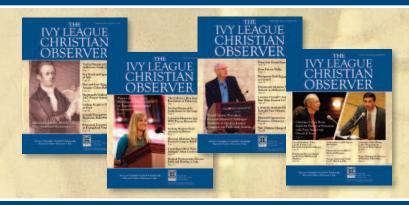
ral and make such unqualified application of the doctrine of naturalistic evolution and the genesis of the State as to leave the reader of your pages in a state of uncertainty as to your own position and the place you give to Divine Providence." In 1902 the trustees made Wilson president, and Wilson over the next 10 years undermined what was left of Princeton's biblical base.

Marsden quotes at length an article Cosmopolitan magazine published in 1909-Harold Bolce's "Blasting at the Rock of Ages"-that summarized a national tragedy: "Those who are not in close touch with the great colleges of the country, will be astonished to learn the creeds being foisted by the faculties of our great universities. In hundreds of classrooms it is being taught daily that the Decalogue is no more sacred than a syllabus; that the home as an institution is doomed; that there are no absolute evils; that immorality is simply an act in contravention of society's accepted standards."

How the mighty had fallen. ■

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# **BREAKING THROUGH**

# Catholic Women 'Speak for Themselves' in New Book



A new book compiled by Cornell alumna Helen M. Alvarè, J.D. '84, seeks to redraw the

portrait of today's Catholic woman and give voice to those who remain loyal to the church's teaching.

Breaking Through: Catholic Women Speak for Themselves is a collection of essays by nine devout Catholic women representing varied backgrounds and faith journeys; they are lawyers, mothers, and physicians who have come to reject the myth that freedom comes from dissent.

Collectively, the writers are contemporary thinkers who've been inspired—not by "feminists" such as Gloria Steinem or Helen Gurley Brown-but by St. Catherine of Sienna and Joan of Arc. Their choices are influenced by women such as St. Gianna, who chose to continue her pregnancy for the sake of her child's life, though she lost her own.

The authors seek a voice above contemporary media pundits and Catholics who speak political correctness over doctrinal truth. "Vast numbers of people have made up their minds about all sorts of things pertaining to the Catholic Church without reading or listening to actual Catholic sources," Alvarè writes. "This is ridiculously true when the subject turns to women in the Catholic Church."

Alvarè further contends that the American tendency to deem religion irrelevant and discount it as a credible source of wisdom and values, is, in part, linked to the misperception that the church is "out of step with 'freedom,' especially women's."

This is particularly true when it comes to women's health. One writer, Dr. Mari Anderson, shares her story of practicing OB-GYN medicine. Despite being Catholic, she prescribed contraceptives to her patients and even performed abortions on deformed fetuses. Through a series of events that led to an intimate connection with God, Anderson began questioning her medical practices and seeing value in the church's teachings.

"Far from harming women... the Church

was willing to ask hard questions about the meaning of human life, and to look for solutions to medical and cultural problems that did not violate the dignity of women or harm the most vulnerable among us, the child in the womb," she writes.

In the book's introduction, Alvarè states that she sought to dispel the belief that Catholic women ought to keep their faith personal while publically supporting a woman's right to "choose."

Instead, the essavists cast a different light upon feminine freedom by speaking as women emancipated through obedience rather than bound by a tide of cultural correctness that tempers speech based upon whatever public viewpoint is popular.

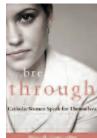
Alvarè also reminds readers of the church's "long [pre-feminist] tradition of women running major institutions such as universities, hospitals, and social services-and without a lot of blather about 'striking blows' for women's equality."

However, the writers also take an honest look at themselves and the Catholic Church, addressing issues such as fear of children, same-sex attraction, single motherhood, and sexual abuse by priests.

In her own essay, entitled "Fear of Children," Alvarè-an associate professor of law at George Mason University School of Law and an advisor to Pope Benedict XVI's Pontifical Council for the Laitvshares her evolution from a woman who didn't like children to a loving mother of three. She also reveals that her reluctance to bear children reflected a hesitation to embrace the selflessness of Christianity.

"I was resisting that whole 'finding oneself to losing oneself' way of life that the last two popes, in particular, are always





Helen M. Alvarè, Cornell J.D. '84, is the editor of Breaking Through: Catholic Women Speak for Themselves.

talking about," she writes. "I didn't want to experience the trials associated with the Christian way of life: self-gift, for as long a time as parenting takes."

Rebecca Vitz Cherico (Yale '93), an adjunct professor at Villanova University, contributed an essay about the role of women in the church's sex abuse scandal. Cherico writes that while some of the men entrusted to lead the church perpetrated the abuse, women can serve as healers and have influence.

"I believe that feminine wisdom can shed light on the situation and the possibilities for justice and healing," writes Cherico.

Overall, the book is about living out an authentic faith within a culture that would prefer it be kept personal.

As contributor Kim Daniels—a lawver. coordinator of Catholic Voices USA, and a mother of six-describes it, "Culture is much more than pop culture. But it's also much more than high culture, more than art, literature, and music. It's shared habits and understandings and affections rooted in a particular place. It gives a particular shape to family, to friendship, and to daily living. A vibrant culture is reflected in an everyday life interwoven with something beyond the everyday, something holy." ■

# **BRINGING COMFORT AND COMPASSION**

# Students Volunteer to Aid City Residents in Wake of 'Super Storm'

In the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy, a group of students with Columbia Faith

and Action ventured out into some of New York City's poorest neighborhoods to deliver food, blankets, and encouragement to people hard-hit by the mega-storm. Columbia Faith and Action (CFA) is a leadership development ministry resourced and supported by Christian Union.

Yi He '16 climbed 13 flights of stairs in darkness to distribute food and water to elderly residents in the Chinatown neighborhood of Manhattan. The reaction of an 86-year-old woman especially touched the political science and philosophy major from the People's Republic of China.

"She hugged and kissed us and very emotionally said 'shalom' to every one of us," said He. "Suddenly, I felt that I had a glimpse of the peace of God that transcends all understanding in a disaster like this."

As well, the freshman learned valuable spiritual lessons in the aftermath of the super-storm's landfall on October 29 in the Northeast: "We share the city we live in, so they are my neighbors. Their difficulties are my difficulties. Their struggles are my struggles. Christ calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves."

Ultimately, the super-storm caused more than \$50 billion in damage in the United States. While only a Category 1 storm off the coast of the Northeast, Sandy was the largest Atlantic hurricane on record, with winds spanning 1,100 miles. The second costliest storm in U.S. history, behind Katrina, also claimed more than 120 lives, according to news reports.



Following Hurricane Sandy, Yi He '16 and other students with Columbia Faith and Action helped New York City residents who were severely impacted by the devastating storm.

In New York City, Sandy forced the MTA to shutter the city's subways in advance of its arrival. As well, storm surges flooded tunnels, switching stations, and servers, and knocked out power, water, and communications in lower Manhattan and parts of Brooklyn and Queens. The heavy winds and rain also ravaged Staten

Island and Long Island, as well as much of coastal New Jersey, news reports said.

The devastation stirred Christians across the region, including some students at Columbia University, into action.

"Volunteering, for us, was a way of engaging with the greater New York community and touching base with a reality that is true for many poorer New Yorkers," said Daniel Maxson '15. "Being a Columbia student, it is easy to be living in a bit of a bubble and rarely go off campus."

Maxson was among a group of CFA students who ventured to Brooklyn, where they delivered blankets to elderly residents of the Red Hook section.

In such situations, it's especially incumbent upon Christians to respond, said Jesse Peterson, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Columbia.

"It should be the gut response of Christians that we help our city recover in times of need," Peterson said. "Even within the same city, there was a giant rift between the affected and the unaffected."

Peterson, who helped distribute meals in Manhattan's East Village, also noted the relief efforts provided meaningful learning opportunities for undergraduates.

"Students can easily fall into a state of mind where it's as though the world revolves around their class schedules, papers, etc.," Peterson said. "This has been a good opportunity for them to get out of the Columbia 'bubble' and help meet the needs currently present in the larger city around them."

"We share the city we live in, so they are my neighbors. Their difficulties are my difficulties. Their struggles are my struggles. Christ calls us to love our neighbors as ourselves."

—Yi He, Columbia '16

# YOUTH WITH A MISSION

# Cornell Students Grow at Convergence

Christ came and instilled the culture of His heavenly king-CORNELL dom in 12 men who went on to transform the world. That truth was at the forefront when Youth With a Mission (YWAM) of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania hosted the first Convergence conference from November 15-18.

The vision of Convergence is to gather believers to "get inspired, activated, challenged, and commissioned to bring the 'Culture of Revival' everywhere [they] go." The conference, held at YWAM's headquarters in Harrisburg, aimed to

Convergence had four main sessions with speakers Andy Byrd, Brian Brennt, Shawn Bolz, and Charles Stock. Worship was led by the YWAM Fire and Fragrance worship team as well as Sean Feucht. More than 200 people attended, including YWAM members, college students (including a contingent from Cornell), and ministers from all over the Northeast. Bomi Lee, Cornell '15, said that the conference "equipped people with faith and boldness to go and spread the love of Jesus without fear." Lee, who serves with Asian American InterVarsity (www.rso.

# The conference had a quite an impact. Cornell students expressed a renewal of hope, a building of faith, and a new desperation to see lost souls everywhere find the love of the Father.

meet these goals by helping students focus on and enter God's presence through various speakers, worship and prayer, and evangelism. The hope was that they would be equipped and challenged to return to their cities, workplaces, campuses, families, and other spheres of influence with this revival mindset.

cornell.edu/aaiv) at Cornell, is a human development major.

During Saturday morning's "Joy Filled Evangelism" session, attendees practiced sharing the gospel with one another. Kimberly Campos, Cornell '14, said the training was helpful. The evangelism session was followed by "Love Harrisburg," a





In addition to evangelism training at Convergence, students also shared their faith in the local community.

time when attendees went to the streets of Harrisburg and proclaimed the gospel of

"It was one of the most destitute neighborhoods I've been in," said Campos. "The people had a longing for hope in their eyes. That worked out perfectly because that was exactly what we were offering: hope, salvation, unconditional love, and so much more!"

Following the time of sharing the gospel on the streets, it was reported that 37 people gave their lives to Jesus and about 20 were physically healed. Lee recalled seeing "a man who was so hungry for love, a young man whose dead ears were opened as he accepted Christ, and a woman who relied on the Lord for her emotional and physical needs."

The conference had quite an impact. Cornell students expressed a renewal of hope, a building of faith, and a new desperation to see lost souls everywhere find the love of the Father-which will come through the application of what they have seen, learned, and experienced in their time at the conference. Slowly, as students share what they've learned, they will, one by one, help change the lives of the people on Cornell's campus.

# IN CHRIST ALONE

# Ministry's Retreat Strengthens Students, Re-Affirms Mission to Campus



The fall retreat for one of the largest ministries at Columbia aimed to solidify students'

identity in Christ and further its mission of bringing the gospel to a university in one of the nation's most secular and influential cities.

Members of Columbia University Korea Campus Crusade for Christ (columbiakccc.tumblr.com/) gathered for a powerful weekend in Kingston, New York on October 26 and 27.

"The aim of the retreat was to truly ground our identity in the work of the cross carried out by Jesus Christ, which would, in turn, lead us to live intentionally as light on the campus," said staffer Sarah Kim, Columbia '10.

Throughout the weekend, students focused on their relationship with Christ, their purpose to serve on campus, and practical ways of living an ambassador's life at Columbia.

"The retreat reminded me that God desires us to be raw and open before Him in prayer," said Kate Joohyun Lee '15. "That He desires us to draw nearer to Him, He pursues us relentlessly, and He loves us infinitely."

The weekend's theme, "Identity in Christ," is a topic of particular importance to busy college students, says Kim.

"We felt a need to address the fact that Columbia students so often identify themselves according to how the world, and specifically how Columbia University, defines them," she said, adding that identity in Christ should determine how they approach and share their passions, talents, and time.

Therefore students spent time in small group discussions, community bonding, and interaction sessions designed to encourage unity and fellowship. They also engaged in extended times of prayer.

Attendees also heard messages from Rev. Peter Ahn of Metro Community Church in Englewood, New Jersey. Rev. Ahn, using Mark 14 as his key text, challenged students to consider what it means to offer God their most prized possessions and put their focus on him.

Through the wisdom, edification, and

fellowship developed at the retreat, Korea Campus Crusade for Christ (KCCC) furthered its overall mission of building a spiritual movement at Columbia.

"KCCC has really pushed me to leave my comfort zone and actively seek after God through prayer and fellowship," said Yoojin Lee '14.

KCCC serves as an ethnic student ministry at Columbia, focusing on reaching Korean and Asian-American students with a vision of sending them throughout the world with the message of Jesus Christ. The ministry was established in Korea by Rev. Joon Gon Kim in 1958, making it the first international branch of Campus Crusade for Christ, now known as Cru. Rev. Kim first met Cru Founder Bill Bright while studying in California.

fect grades at an Ivy League university." she said. "Many of the challenges they face center around academic success and exceeding expectations."

Kim said the pressure often leads to feelings of isolation, disappointment, depression, and condemnation; therefore KCCC aims to provide opportunities for community, which take the focus off worldly expectations and places it on Christ and His love.

"God really provided some seriously needed peace over my life that weekend, and He has continually provided even more of His love and grace over me since then," said John Chang '14.

Through events such as the fall retreat and various outreach efforts throughout the year, KCCC hopes to continue its growth by encouraging students to draw



Students involved in Korea Campus Crusade for Christ pray together during their fall retreat.

According to Kim, the environment at Columbia for Asian-American students is full of overwhelming pressure that intertwines academic responsibility and cultural expectations.

"The culture and heritage of Asian families puts a heavy emphasis on succeeding in society, which presumably entails pernearer to God and share their faith with others.

"Ultimately, the goal of the fall retreat is to help build on the movement that we are fostering at Columbia," said Kim. "The goal of the ministry would be that everyone at Columbia would know someone who truly follows Jesus Christ."

#### ALL IVY

#### **Christmas on Campus**

Adding to the celebration of Christmas in the Ivy League, the Brown University Chorus and Baroque Orchestra performed Handel's Messiah, Part 1 on

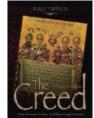


December 9 at Sayles Hall Auditorium. Additionally, a Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols was held at the Princeton University Chapel on Dec. 12. The Princeton event featured scripture readings and music provided by the Chapel Choir, Glee Club, and a cappella groups.

# Ivy Alumni Appear on Nicene **Creed DVD**

Ivy League alumni Timothy P. Shriver (Yale '81), Dr. Luke Timothy Johnson (Yale Ph.D. '76) and Dr. Stephen Barr (Princeton Ph.D. '78) are featured on Tim Keller's DVD, The Creed: What Christians Profess and Why It Ought to Matter.

The DVD, presented by First Things magazine's new video division, is "a film about why the radical claims made in the Nicene Creed are so important to all of us."



First Things is published by The Institute on Religion and Public Life, an interreligious, nonpartisan research and education institute.

# Columbia, Dartmouth Students **Give Thanks**

Leadership development ministries supported and resourced by Christian Union at Dartmouth and Columbia celebrated Thanksgiving with prayer and praise for what God



had done on their campuses during the fall season. Prior to the celebrations, students and Christian Union ministry fellows fasted and prayed before coming together for a turkey dinner before the break. At Dartmouth, students shared testimonies of God's work in their lives and heard a message about "Giving All to Christ in Thanksgiving." Jesse Peterson, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Columbia, reported that approximately 40 students fasted prior to the dinner.

#### BROWN

# **Good Parenting Linked with Decrease in Alcohol Abuse**

In a recent study, addiction researchers at Brown University concluded that



According to a study led by Robert Miranda, associate professor of psychiatry in Brown's medical school, attentive parenting can help young people overcome a predisposition towards alcohol abuse.

attentive parenting can overcome a genetic predisposition to alcohol use disorders among teens. Parents can have an impact if they "closely monitor their child's behavior and peer group," said author Robert Miranda, an associate professor of psychiatry in Brown's medical school.

In the November issue of *Alcoholism*: Clinical and Experimental Research, Miranda reported that specific genetic risks largely are overcome in teens whose parents are attentive. Researchers interviewed 104 adolescents, ages 12 to 19. Miranda completed a clinical research fellowship at Brown in 2003.

# **Lower Percentage of Campus** Hookups?

Hooking up has become such a buzz on campuses that some believe such casual encounters may be replacing traditional romantic relationships. However, a new study by researchers affiliated with Brown University suggests college students are not actually hooking up as frequently as suspected.

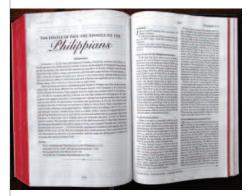
Romantic relationships are still the most common context for sexual behavior, at least among women in their first year of college, according to researchers with The Miriam Hospital. The study was published online by the Journal of Adolescent Health. Researchers reported that



sex with a partner was found to be twice as common as hookup sex.

# **Cru Students Study Philippians** on Retreat

Students involved in Cru's outreach at Brown participated in the campus organization's autumn getaway in Connecticut. The students from Cru Brown (www.cru-brown.org) trekked to



Students involved in Cru's ministry at Brown University studied the book of Philippians during the ministry's annual fall retreat.

Ashford, where they joined students from the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth on October 12-14. Greg Ganssle, a senior fellow with the Rivendell Institute at Yale and a Cru senior staffer, guided the undergraduates through an in-depth study of Philippians.

#### **CHRISTIAN UNION**

# Gordon-Conwell Professor Speaks at Christian Union Salon

Twenty-three people participated in New York City Christian Union's inaugural salon on November 29 in Manhattan. The event featured Sean McDonough, a professor of New Testament at Gordon-

**New York City Christian Union's** inaugural salon featured Sean McDonough (Harvard '86), a professor of New Testament at **Gordon-Conwell** Theological Seminary.



Conwell Theological Seminary in Massachusetts. The Harvard alumnus of 1986 spoke on biblical views on the origin of the world in light of modern science. The salon marked the launch of New York City Christian Union, which seeks to build a network of leaders in one of the world's most influential cities.

## **HCFA Hosts Panel Discussion** On Evangelism

Harvard College Faith and Action, a leadership development ministry resourced and supported by Christian Union, held an evangelism panel discussion in November. Two dozen students attended the event, which featured four panelists and two moderators in Lamont Library.

HCFA's outreach team sponsored the event, which probed ways to start spiritual conversations with friends,



Harvard College Faith and Action hosted a panel on evangelism in November in Lamont Library.

roommates, and others. As a result, participants noted they were inspired to pray for their classmates and companions and to share their faith with close associates.

#### An Illuminating Experience

Columbia Faith and Action, a ministry supported and resourced by Christian Union, launched its weekly leadership development series this fall. "Ilumina" provides an opportunity for students to hear from Christian Union ministry fellows and leaders who are influencing the culture for Christ. Roughly 60 students attended the first gathering in which Christian

Jesse Peterson, a Christian **Union ministry** fellow at Columbia, spoke at Columbia Faith and Action's first leadership lecture series meeting.



Union Ministry Fellow Jesse Peterson addressed the issue of illuminating light and some of C.S. Lewis' ideas.

## **Family Matters**

The Fidelio Society of Columbia University is hosting The Family in Modern Society Conference on February 16. The all-day event will feature family sociologist Brad Wilcox (Princeton \*01),

theologian Dawn Eden, and philosopher Sherif Girgis (Princeton '08). among others. The conference seeks to reshape the family debate on campus and to foster future discussion of the



**Brad Wilcox,** Princeton \*01

issues surrounding family at the University. Each scholar participating in the event shares the perspective that the best family form consists of one man and one woman who are devoted to one another.

# **Daniel Burke Wins Religion**

Journalist Daniel Burke, Columbia MS '03 and MA '04, received third place recognition in the 2012 American Academy of Religion Award for Best In-Depth Newswriting on Religion. Burke is



Journalist Daniel Burke, Columbia MS '03 and MA '04, was recognized by the American Academy of Religion for his in-depth news writing.

an associate editor and national correspondent for the Religion News Service.

This is the second time Burke received the award which honors "well-researched newswriting, that enhances the public understanding of religion." According to the judges, Burke's "compelling writing shows great skill in combining accessibility and detailed research while addressing intriguing, timely, and diverse topics that take readers beyond the ordinary."

#### CORNELL

## 'How to Learn from People Who Do Not Share Our Faith'

Richard Mouw, president of Fuller Theological Seminary, is scheduled to present a public lecture at Call Auditorium in Kennedy Hall on February 1. An author, philosopher, and theologian, Mouw's topic is "There's Gold Out There: How to Learn from People Who Do Not Share Our Faith." The event is presented by The Institute of Biblical

Studies, Bethel Grove Bible Church, and New Life Presbyterian Church.

**Fuller Theological** Seminary President Richard Mouw will speak at Cornell this winter.



## **Engaging Cornell with The** Reason for God

In December, Christian Union's leadership development ministry at



The Reason for God, by Tim Keller, was given out to hundreds of students by members of Christian Union's leadership development ministry at Cornell.

Cornell distributed 350 copies of *The* Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism, by Tim Keller. The book giveaway served as an opportunity for students to grow in their evangelistic outreach and engage their peers in discussions surrounding faith. According to Asha Garretson, a Christian Union ministry fellow at Cornell, Keller's book (a New York Times bestseller) was chosen because it covers topics relevant to most skeptics.

## 'Pray, Send, Go'

LIGHT 12-Campus on a Hill's annual night of praise, exhortation, and prayer for the nations-was held on November 17. A revival catalyst for student missions, the event included presentations and activities designed to



share God's heart for the world and encourage Christians to "pray, send, and go." LIGHT

increases student awareness regarding the global church and encourages them to invest in God's worldwide redemption plan. According to one member of Campus on a Hill

(www.campusonahill.org), coordinators "desire to see the world transformed by the gospel of Christ." A Christian Union grant helped underwrite the event.

#### DARTMOUTH

#### A Week of Prayer

Several ministries at Dartmouth participated in the annual Week of Prayer this fall. The event, held at the Dartmouth Prayer Room, offered a variety of opportunities for students and community members to gather in prayer, worship, and sharing. The week-long event also included a prayer walk and vigils for each of the college's classes and graduate students.



The annual Week of Prayer was held at Dartmouth this fall, offering students and community members an extended time of prayer and worship.

The class of 2016, for example, held an overnight vigil that included an opening ceremony and a night of worship and prayer. Students were encouraged to bring friends to the event.

### Staying Connected

A group of 16 women who participate in

Christian Union Bible Courses at Dartmouth spent their winter break participating in a book study.

The women formed a group on Facebook to study Lies Women Believe: And the Truth

that Sets Them Free, by Nancy Leigh DeMoss. The students took turns leading chapter discussions and probing the scripture verses that accompany each

chapter. Caroline Albanese, a Christian Union ministry fellow who leads Bible courses at Dartmouth, said she was pleased the students connected to one another over their break.

## New Associate Chaplain at **Aguinas House**

Father Christopher M. Saliga was recently named associate chaplain at Aguinas House (http://dartmouth catholic.com). Fr. Christopher was an adjunct professor of theology and

philosophical bioethics and chaplain of Walsh University in North Canton, Ohio. Most recently, he completed an 18month missionary assignment as



Father Christopher M. Saliga is the new associate chaplain at Aguinas House.

postulant director and assistant novice master for the Dominican Vicariate of Eastern Africa, where he also served as chaplain of Our Lady of Grace Primary and Secondary Catholic Boarding School.

Before entering the priesthood, Fr. Christopher was a combat medic and paratrooper with the U.S. Army as well as an emergency room technician.

#### HARVARD

## **Leadership Roundtable Focuses** on Mixing Politics and Religion

The Leadership Connection's Roundtable on Science, Art and Religion was held at the Harvard Faculty Club on October 20. The event featured Robert D. Putnam,



professor of public policy at Harvard and the

Harvard professor and author Robert D. Putnam was the speaker at the Leadership Connection's Roundtable on Science, Art and Religion on October 20.

2011 Wilson Award winner for his book, American Grace: How Religion Divides and Unites Us. Attendees explored mixing politics and religion in the public square. Since its founding in 2005, the Leadership Connection's Roundtable has drawn hundreds of faculty for seminar dinner discussions. A Christian Union grant helped fund the event.

## Journey Church Plans Ministry **Center at Harvard Square**

Journey Church of Boston, in cooperation with Grace Street Church, is working to establish a ministry center at Harvard Square focused on Harvard students. The



center would provide a central location from which student outreach and discipleship, as well as community service, can be coordinated. Additionally, the space would provide a permanent meeting place for student prayer groups, evangelism training, and leadership initiatives. A Christian Union grant is helping to underwrite the project.

## Walton Installed as New **Memorial Church Minister**

In November, Rev. Jonathan L. Walton was installed as the Pusey Minister of the Memorial Church and Plummer Professor of Christian Morals at Harvard.

In the New York Times, Walton, a Baptist minister, called himself a "post-



Jonathan L. Walton is the **Pusey Minister** of the Memorial Church and **Plummer** Professor of Christian Morals at Harvard.

civil rights kid" and "a Southern evangelical who's been appointed to lead the spiritual community of an almost 400-year-old institution founded to train Puritan ministers. And that says something positive about Harvard University as it relates to an obscuring, if not erasing, of regional and religious differences, of class and cultural bias."

#### PENN

## Penn Chaplain Responds to **Newtown Murders**

Charles Howard, the university chaplain at Penn, went on a 27-day fast in response to the cold-blooded murder of



Penn Chaplain Charles Howard fasted for 27 days in response to the murders at the Sandy Hook School in Newtown, Connecticut.

20 children and six administrators and teachers at the Sandy Hook School in Newtown, Connecticut on December 14. In a Huffington Post column, Howard said he would fast for 27 days for peace, "one day for each life lost in Newtown including the gunman's."

"Deep in my spirit, I felt a call to spiritual activism."

Normally, Howard does not call attention to his own fasting, but wants to "not only lean into this issue spiritually, but also move those around us to act as well."

## **Concert Focuses on Our Need to Thirst for God**

Students with the New Spirit of Penn Gospel Choir (www.dolphin.upenn.edu/



The New Spirit of Penn Gospel Choir performed 14 songs during its concert on November 3.

nspirit) participated in the group's fall concert, which centered on our need to thirst for God. The concert reflected Christ's words in John 4:13-14: "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life." The November 3 concert featured traditional and contemporary selections, as well as a dance performance during the intermission and a reception.

## Conference Gives Biblical Perspective on Global Health

Students involved with Penn Medical Christian Fellowship participated in the Global Missions Health Conference in November in Kentucky.



Students involved with Penn Medical Christian Fellowship participated in the Global Missions Health Conference in November.

The event featured 105 workshops that offered opportunities to learn about a biblical perspective on suffering, community health, and dealing with HIV/AIDS.

Longtime missionary and physician David Stevens spoke at the conference, which was held at the Southeast Christian Church in Louisville. "If you're going to follow Christ, it requires everything," Stevens said. A Christian Union grant helped support the trip.

#### PRINCETON

## **Cornel West Back at Union** Theological Seminary

Former Princeton University professor and activist Cornel West, Harvard '73, is back at Union Theological Seminary as professor of philosophy and Christian



Former Princeton University scholar Cornel West, Harvard '73, has returned to the faculty of Union Theological Seminary.

practices. The controversial figure spent a decade teaching at Princeton, where he completed a doctorate of philosophy in 1980. He has also taught at Yale and Harvard, worked as a commentator and actor, and has authored 20 books. Dr. West started teaching at Union in 1977 while

pursuing his doctorate. During that time, he wrote one of his top works, *Prophesy* Deliverance!, a book that highlights African-American literary and artistic contributions.

## **Respect Life Week Features** Interfaith Service

Students with Princeton Pro-Life (www.princeton.edu/~prolife) celebrated Respect Life Week in October with an interfaith service that featured nationally syndicated columnist Mona Charen, a



**Princeton Pro-**Life celebrated Respect Life Week in October with a service that featured nationally syndicated columnist Mona Charen, **Barnard** College '79.

1979 alumna of Barnard College. Other speakers included Christian Union Founder and President Matt Bennett, Cornell '88, MBA '89, and Rev. Eugene Rivers, pastor of Azusa Christian Community and a national figure with ties to Harvard University. The service also featured a performance by the Princeton University Gospel Ensemble. Other Respect Life Week events included a session with a local ChoiceOne pregnancy center representative and a candlelight prayer vigil.

#### Einstein's 'God Letter' Auctioned

Albert Einstein's handwritten letter questioning the existence of God sold for more than \$3 million on eBay in October. The anonymous purchaser bid \$100 more

Albert Einstein's handwritten letter questioning the existence of God sold for more than \$3 million on eBay in October.



than the required starting bid of \$3 million.

In the so-called "God letter," the acclaimed physicist penned his thoughts on religion, God, and tribalism. Einstein wrote the letter on Princeton University letterhead to philosopher Erik Gutkind after reading his book, Choose Life: The Biblical Call to Revolt. He wrote the letter in 1955, a year before his death.

In 1933, the Nobel Prize winner accepted an appointment at the Institute for Advanced Study, a private institution that collaborates with Princeton University.

#### YALE

## **International Journalists Talk** about Covering Religion

In the fall, Yale Divinity School hosted the panel discussion, Faith Across Oceans: Leading International Journalists Talk about the Religion Beat.

David Briggs, executive director of the International Association of Religion



Former Associated Press religion writer David Briggs, YDS '85, was among the participants at the Faith Across the Oceans panel discussion at Yale Divinity School.

Journalists, was among the participants for the November 15 event. Briggs, a 1985 YDS alumnus, has also served as chief religion writer for the Associated Press and editor of the Far Eastern Economic Review and Asian Wall Street Journal Weekly.

## **YDS Celebrates Its African-American Students**

Convocation and Reunions 2012 at Yale Divinity School included a look back at

the history of African-American students at YDS and the admittance of its first African-American student, Solomon Coles, in 1871.



Moses Moore, M.Div. '77, presented "Been in the Storm So Long," a look at the history of African American students at YDS during the school's Convocation and Reunions 2012.

Moses Moore, M.Div. '77, presented "Been in the Storm So Long." According to the YDS Web site, the project was created in an effort to make the stories of black students and faculty at Yale Divinity School more widely known, and explore how the black presence at Yale has affected the wider community and the growth of black theological education.

## Metaxas Speaks about the Role of Faith in Opposing Injustice

In December, best-selling author Eric Metaxas, Yale '84, returned to his alma mater as the keynote speaker for God and Government: The Role of Faith in Opposing Injustice.

Roughly 200 Yale students attended the presentation, which was hosted by Yale Law Christian Fellowship, Athletes in Action (http://aiavale.tumblr.com), Yale Christian Fellowship (www.yale. edu/ycf), and Yale College Faith and Action (www.facebook.com/ yalefaithandaction), a leadership development ministry resourced and supported by Christian Union.

Metaxas spoke about William Wilberforce and Dietrich Bonhoeffer and how their faith in God and sense of

calling motivated their actions and perseverance in combatting the injustice of their day.

**Author Eric** Metaxas, Yale '84, spoke at an interministry event at Yale this fall.



# 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

The United States is unusual in the industrialized world for its possession of significant spiritual devotion, but lack of Christian vitality among cultural innovators. Many of the most influential leaders in academia, the arts, business, education, government, media, medicine, and law are decidedly secular in their individual outlooks. Regretfully, the Christian community itself is mostly to blame for this sad state of affairs. More than a hundred years ago, large segments of the Christian community decided that intellectualism and positions of cultural influence were to be avoided and, therefore, left those arenas to secularists. Now, Christians lament that so much of the culture is directed and shaped by those holding values contrary to the gospel of Christ. Of course, this should be no surprise.

#### WHY THE MINISTRY EXISTS

In 2002, Christian Union was founded to rectify this imbalance by developing Christian leaders to impact the larger culture. The ministry strategically focuses on a highly influential and unreached segment of the U.S. population—current and future leaders who shape many of the decisions that affect the daily lives of all Americans. Such influencers are found in two primary places: the top tier of academically-oriented universities and a handful of powerful, "global" cities in the United States.

#### **UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN UNION**

One of the two branches of Christian Union is known as University Christian Union, and it develops Christian leaders at eight university campuses with extraordinary influence. Research has shown that just eight of the 2,500 universities in this country produce 50 percent of the most powerful leaders. It's incredible to consider that a tiny segment of only

100,000 college students-out of 21 million nationwide—on just a handful of campuses will occupy 50 percent of the most strategic roles in the United States. Graduates from these schools also will exercise tremendous impact on the international scene.

Currently, these campuses are extremely secular in their outlooks, representing a slow-motion train wreck that has been negatively impacting this

country and world for a generation. More than 90 percent of the students on these campuses have no regular Christian input in their lives. The campuses are Brown, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, Harvard, Penn, Princeton, and Yale universities.

Even with the help of local churches and godly national campus ministries, the proportion of Christian involvement and strengthening on these key campuses has not changed in 50 years. There is no good reason to expect the United States will substantively change spiritually in the next 50 years if these campuses are not dramatically changed in our present day. New approaches and energy need to be poured into making it a priority for the Christian church to ensure the lives of future leaders are strengthened with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore, the mission of Christian Union is to develop Christian leaders at these colleges to reshape dramatically the direction of the nation.

## **CITY CHRISTIAN UNION**

In addition to University Christian Union, the second branch of the ministry, City Christian Union, concentrates on a handful of the country's most influential cities, starting with New York City. Other cities of focus to be given increasing attention in the future include: Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Washington D.C., and Boston. By many measures, these cities are



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

extremely prominent nationally and internationally but, unfortunately, also are generally secular in orientation. Heroic efforts have been made in these cities in the last few decades to strengthen Christian communities, and much more needs to be done to see these cities become known for their love for and devotion to Jesus Christ and His purposes.

## **FOUR VALUES OF THE MINISTRY**

In its mission, Christian Union has four values of paramount concern that characterize its approach. First, Christian Union works deliberately to engage students and marketplace professionals. To have a realistic chance of seeing such individuals develop into Christian leaders in just a few short years, the ministry utilizes workers of substantial caliber to mentor and teach. The Christian Union's ministry workers are called "ministry fellows," and they possess exceptional professional and educational credentials. Many hold advanced seminary training, including master of divinity and master of theology degrees, and several possess doctoral degrees. Others have substantial experience at some of the top companies in the world, including Merrill Lynch and McKinsey and Co. Years of educational training and life experiences give ministry fellows the ability to mentor successfully students and professionals, as well as instruct them in biblical depth, theology, a Christian worldview, and the integration of faith into academic disciplines and vocations.

Secondly and perhaps more importantly, Christian Union emphasizes the relevancy of seeking God wholeheartedly. What's the point of having a Christian in a position of cultural influence if his or her devotion to God, faith, and spiritual strength is so weak that the individual's values do not significantly differ from sec-

ularist peers? Daniel of Bible fame serves as an inspiration. He was organized and purposeful in his leadership, which was to be expected of a man second in command in 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 possessed a devotion to God so strong that even under the threat of death, he would not eat food defiled by idols, bow down to the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar, and cease praying three times per day. While teaching students and professionals to be good leaders organizationally and developing their intellectual knowledge of the Christian faith, the Christian Union also instills a deep appreciation for the importance of seeking God wholeheartedly day and night. Participants learn to pray fervently, practice humility, read the Scriptures often, repent of sins daily, and obey the Spirit promptly, persevering day in and day out in love and devotion to the only true God of the universe. Only with such qualities will Christian leaders have the spiritual power by the Spirit of God to fulfill His purposes for their lives.

Thirdly, the Christian Union networks participants for the purpose of cultural engagement. Christians can make mistakes on both ends of the spectrum. Either, they are fully engaged in the culture, but lack Christian companions and contacts and become weak spiritually and unable to call on a wider range of resources for impact, or they have many Christian friends, but do not expend the energy to interact with the larger culture that needs the salt and light of Jesus Christ. For Christian leaders to be successful, they need a network of close, likeminded friends who love and urge them on as followers of Christ. They also bring additional resources to bear in key cultural struggles, and they need to be outwardly focused, looking for ways to engage and improve the larger culture and make sacrifices for the purposes of Jesus Christ.

Lastly, the ministry is organizationally disciplined in its approach. Several leaders in the ministry possess master of business administration degrees, and their

expertise helps the ministry to be strategic and purposeful in its goals and objectives. Every quarter, the ministry compares its progress against goals in a series of key indicators. Jim Collins' monograph, "Good to Great in the Social Sector," has been a

personal mentoring as described below. It culminates in a leadership project that each student individually conceives and implements. The initiative needs to impact the campus environment for good and can take a variety of different forms.



tremendous aid in providing direction for a disciplined, metric-driven approach.

### **ACTIVITIES ON CAMPUS**

As of summer 2012, University Christian Union is active at Princeton, Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth, Columbia, and Cornell, and it plans to expand to Penn and Brown in the near future. Christian Union fulfills its mission on these campuses through a variety of strategically conceived activities. The following are the ministry's principle offerings on campuses.

#### **Leadership Certification Curriculum**

Christian Union employs a proprietary two-year curriculum to develop students intellectually, spiritually, and socially for the purposes of cultural engagement. The curriculum comprises 2,000 pages of reading, participation in Bible Courses, attendance at weekly lecture series, and

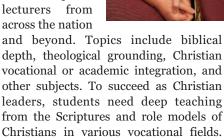
Among them, students may engage social leaders on campus to reduce reliance on alcohol or the hook-up mindset, interact with professors who have been advocating anti-Christian worldviews, or reach out evangelistically to peers.

#### **Bible Courses**

The centerpiece of the ministry on campus consists of Bible Courses comprised of eight to ten students of the same sex and a Christian Union ministry fellow as the leader. These are extraordinarily popular, and there is often a waiting list for students to join. Students need sponsorship to be able to join a Bible Course, so there is great need for additional support to touch the lives of more young people. (For information, see www.christianunion.org/sponsorship.) Every undergraduate sponsored means one more student receives the opportunity to develop into a Christian leader.

## Weekly Leadership **Lecture Series**

Every week on campus, the students are taught in a lecture setting by Christian Union's ministry fellows or special lecturers from across the nation



Weekly lectures provide the necessary in-

tellectual strengthening for success.

#### **Personal Mentoring**

Educational theorist and University of Chicago Professor Benjamin Bloom discovered years ago that one-on-one instruction dramatically increases student's learning when compared to conventional teaching methods. Reducing class sizes down to four or five students only modestly improves learning. However, one-on-one input radically improves understanding because tutors are able to give tailored feedback and allow students to master a subject before moving on to other concepts. Because of the impact of one-on-one interaction, Christian Union ministry fellows provide personal mentoring to guide students spiritually, and to provide leadership coaching.

## **Conferences**

To augment instruction students re-



ceive through the above activities, the ministry also hosts a variety of conferences and retreats during the academic vear and longer programs during the summer months. World-

class theologians, leaders, and speakers convene to inspire and teach students in a context of worship, fervent prayer, and relationship building. The power of these weekend or week-long gatherings is so strong that often more Christian growth and strengthening happens during a conference than through a whole semester of other programming.

## **ACTIVITIES IN NEW YORK CITY** THROUGH CITY CHRISTIAN UNION

Ministry to New Yorkers began in 2005, but only recently is New York City Christian Union able to make a stronger impact because of the hiring of both a director and an event manager. The ministry is expanding its impact through the following programs:

#### **NYCU Bible Courses**

The New York City Christian Union Bible Courses are similar to the ones offered to students on campuses, except that the application of the biblical text is geared toward working professionals and parents. The emphasis on relationship building and deep biblical teaching remains the same for the purposes of spiritually strengthening the participants.

#### **NYCU Salons**

Christian leaders need periodic interaction and inspiration from the leading intellectuals and influencers of the day in order to make the impact for which they have been called. Salons are periodic gatherings of 10 to 20 participants, hosted by an NYCU member, to hear from a leading, Christian cultural influencer.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Christian Union exists because of Jesus' words in Luke 12:48: "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required." All who have received much in terms of education, industry influence, wealth, and prestige need to be inspired, strengthened, and equipped to use what they possess for the purposes of God for the world. He blesses His people so that



they can turn and be a blessing to others. We look forward to the day when the United States is dramatically changed because of the selfless leadership of countless devoted Christians using their positions of leadership for the purposes of Jesus Christ.

For more information about Christian Union, see www.christian-union.org. ■

Because of the impact of one-on-one interaction, Christian Union ministry fellows provide personal mentoring to guide students spiritually, and to provide leadership coaching.

# THE STRENGTH WE NEED

f you are anything like me, you often pray for strength. You know that you need God's power in your life. Whether we face ordinary tasks or particularly heavy burdens, we ask God for the strength to accomplish (or endure!) the things He has called us to do. And we can ask God for strength because He is the source of all strength and power, and He promises to give strength to His people. Psalm 10:17 reads, "O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart..." Psalm 29:1 and 11 states: "Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength...May the Lord give strength to his people!"

But do you ever find yourself praying for strength, and yet still feeling weak? Even as I pray quite often, I frequently feel like I'm lacking the strength I could have. I have a God of all power, who promises to strengthen me, and I pray, but something, it seems, is still missing. So I get to thinking, maybe I need to pray more often or perhaps more fasting will do the trick, or music, or more sleep? Now don't get me wrong – all these things are good things - especially sleep! But *every* good thing given by God will fail to strengthen you, apart from one supreme and specific thing - the

Now this probably sounds either very strange or quite obvious, but here's the thing: As a Christian, the bottom-line source of your strength is all that God promises to be for you in Jesus Christ. While it is certainly the content of the gospel that accomplishes all that we desperately need done for us (the cross of Christ) and in us (the Holy Spirit), we continually receive Christ and His Spirit day by day through the powerful word of the gospel. Listen to the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 1:18: "For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God." Note the present tense. Paul doesn't say, "The word of the cross was the power of God." Rather, the word of the cross of Christ is the power of God! And Romans 1:16 says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes..." I think this is why, when we look closely at Paul's prayers, he doesn't merely pray for strength to do things. He also prays for strength to know something: the love of Christ, the gospel.

In Ephesians 3:16-19, Paul prays: "that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith - that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God."

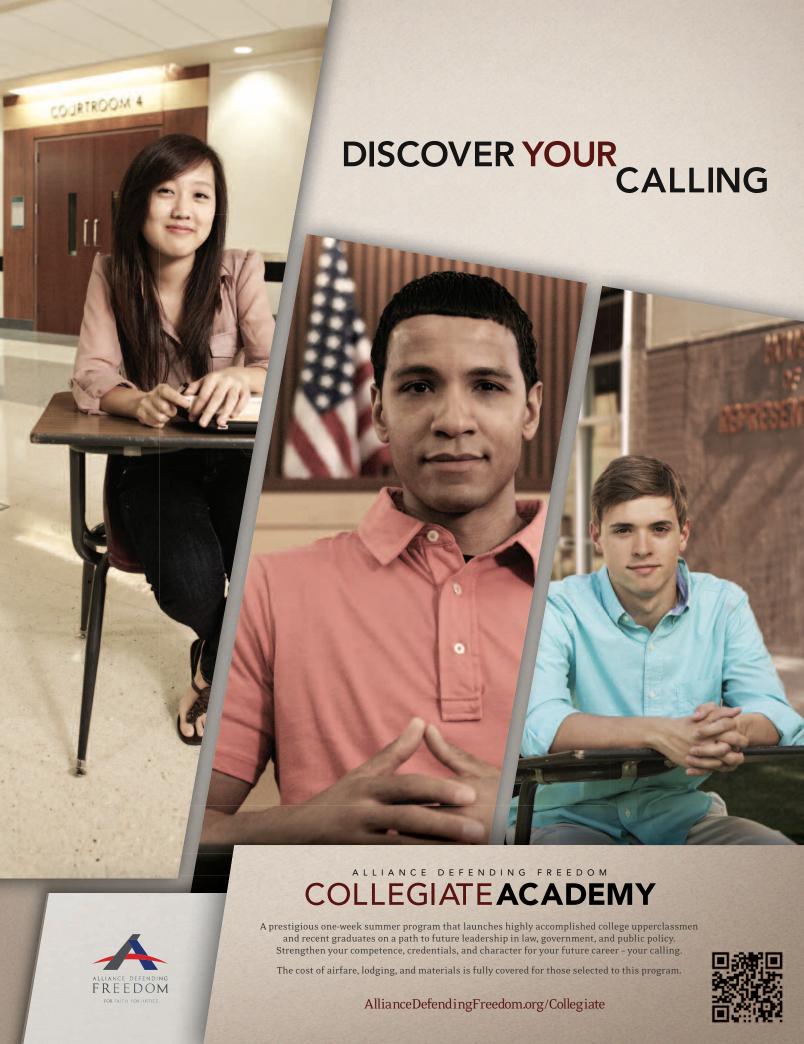


For what strength is Paul praying? He's praying ultimately for spiritual strength to comprehend and know the love of Christ! Paul prays that they would be strengthened by the power of the Spirit, not just to do something, but to know something -"strength to comprehend what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge..." And this knowledge is not merely intellectual, but experiential and transforming because the word of Christ is power! As Paul concludes, this strength to know the love of Christ is for something: "that you may be filled with all the fullness of God." The strength we need (but often neglect praying for) is the strength to grasp the love of Christ - in order that we might be filled with the Spirit of God to live lives worthy of the gospel!

At Christian Union, we are deeply grateful for the prayers of our friends and supporters as we help train future Christian leaders. To that end, let us all pray that the students would be filled with all the fullness of God so as to walk in a manner worthy of the gospel, that we might "have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge!" ■

Jim Thomforde, Christian Union's director of undergraduate ministry at Cornell, is an alumnus of Trinity College. Jim earned a master of theology and a masters in church history from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and is studying toward a PhD in systematic theology from the University of Edinburgh.

The strength we need (but often neglect praying for) is the strength to grasp the love of Christ - in order that we might be filled with the Spirit of God to live lives worthy of the gospel!



## **BROWN**

- Pray for Brown's student athletes, that they would balance their training with their studies. Also pray that Christian athletes would demonstrate true commitment to Jesus Christ.
- Pray for the student leaders of Cru, that their walks with the Lord will be strengthened and for a commitment to disciple their peers.
- Pray that the meeting space at Christian Union's Judson Center will continue to serve as a catalyst for the advancement of the gospel.

## **COLUMBIA**

- Pray that the Lord will raise up leaders for campus ministries, both for direct work with students seeking the truth and for general oversight.
- Pray against the common tactics of the enemy: depression, workaholism, selfishness, and lack of close friendships, fellowship, and accountability.
- Pray for Christian faculty members, that they will be bold in sharing their faith with colleagues and students who cross their paths. Also pray for those who eagerly assist the ministries at Columbia.

## **CORNELL**

- Pray for members of campus ministries, as they meet with God in prayer. Pray that they will be strengthened in their
- Pray for the recipients of blankets, winter coats, hats, and gloves collected by the Cornell Catholic Ministry for those in the Ithaca community who are less fortunate.
- Pray for students struggling with issues related to alcohol, sexuality, stress, sickness, and relationships. Pray that they meet Jesus and turn their lives over to Him.

## **DARTMOUTH**

- Pray for the students from Agape Christian Fellowship who attended the Urbana Missions Conference over New Year's weekend. Pray that these students will be intentional about reaching out to others on campus.
- Pray for the Dartmouth Faculty and Staff Christian Fellowship as they meet regularly to encourage one another through Bible study and times of prayer. Pray that members of this ministry will boldly share their faith.
- Pray for an even greater unity among the ministries and Christian faculty at Dartmouth.

#### **HARVARD**

- Pray for the many student-led prayer meetings and Bible studies that have sprung up on campus during this academic year.
- Pray for unity within individual Christian ministries at Harvard, as well as for Christian students to be burdened with a sense of urgency to evangelize.
- Pray for continued growth in the ministry to Harvard students by Grace Street Church and its Sunday afternoon services in Holden Chapel.

#### **PENN**

- Penn for Life joined the March for Life in Washington, D.C. in January. Pray that their efforts promote and foster a culture of life at Penn.
- Pray that the students with Penn Cru who attended the Radiate 2012 conference over the winter break were encouraged and stretched in their walks with Christ.
- Pray for the business students at Penn, that they integrate their faith with their work lives. Pray that they do not fall into unethical business practices.

## **PRINCETON**

- Pray for graduate students who are raising their children. Pray that God will bless their efforts and provide for their daily needs.
- Pray for the two Christian Princeton students who have been selected to participate in The Scholars in National Service Initiative, a program preparing outstanding individuals on a path toward public service.
- Pray for The Alternative, a new organization that is working to engage and educate Princeton students regarding an alternative to the hook-up culture.

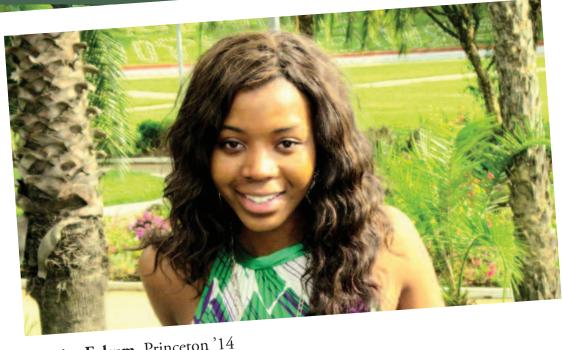
#### **YALE**

- Pray for the Graduate Students Christian Fellowship and its times of Bible study, prayer, and fellowship.
- Keep in prayer the students who write, edit, publish, and distribute The Logos, Yale's undergraduate Christian magazine. Pray that it will be used to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and stimulate discussions of a Christian worldview.
- Pray for the continued impact of the Alpha Course, and those who have given their lives to Christ and been baptized.



# From the bottom of our hearts, "Thank You!"

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



Bernice Fokum, Princeton '14

Hometown: Springfield, IL

Major: Anthropology; Certificate: Global Health & Health Policy

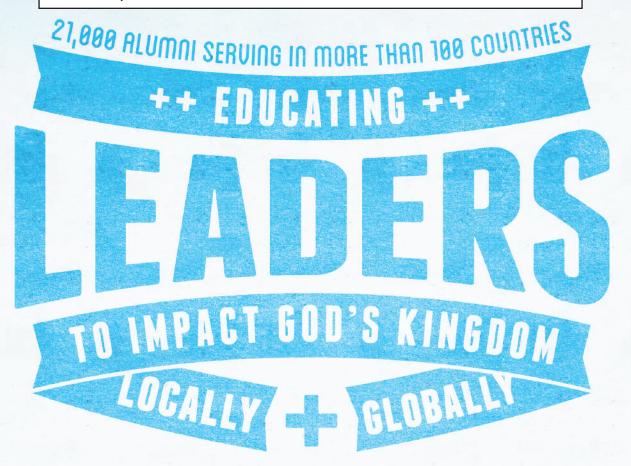
Campus Activities: Student Global AIDS Campaign board member;

Princeton Association of Black Women board member

God gives us gifts and passion, and He expects us to make a difference with them. Last year I traveled to Ethiopia to serve on a panel discussion at the International Conference on AIDS and sexually transmitted infections in Africa. I was one of more than 10,000 conference participants working to address these pressing health issues. I am interested in minority health issues and my college work and studies are a natural progression of that interest. On the other hand, I have changed dramatically in college. God has used my experiences with Christian Union to shape my Christian identity and to teach me how to live out my faith. I am especially grateful for my Christian Union ministry fellow, a dedicated teacher and role model. My college experience has been deeply enriched because of my involvement with Christian Union, and I am grateful for the donors who make this possible.

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