Class Act
Alumna Julie McGough recognized as Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year

Dozing Doxology
Professor Jason McMartin explains how our sleep can bring glory to God
For more than 30 years, Biola’s President’s Circle partners have been committed to praying for Biola and giving generously to support student scholarships. Through their contributions to the Biola Fund, President’s Circle donors provide scholarships for students most in need. We want the Circle to keep growing so that a Biola education can be affordable for all of our students.

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FEATURES

16  A Master Maestra
While a student at Biola, Julie McGough once swore she would never teach fifth grade. Two decades later, the fifth-grade teacher was recently recognized as one of Los Angeles County’s top educators for her inspiring work with Spanish-speaking students.

18  Biolans Around the World
Join Biola Magazine for a quick trip around the globe as we catch up with alumni who are making a difference on each continent. From Paris to Kenya, meet graduates who are putting their Biola educations to use in a broad range of careers, cultures and contexts — just a few of the thousands who are living out the university’s mission of impacting the world for the Lord Jesus Christ.
Wood on the Walls

When you step inside Biola’s impressive new Mosaic Cultural Center, the first thing you notice is all the wood. It’s everywhere you look: walls, floors, doorframes, cabinets, tables, desks, chairs. And none of it quite matches.

On closer inspection, you find that there’s a lesson in the lumber. It’s been brought in from the far reaches of the globe — six different continents — bearing such names as Asian paldao, Hawaiian koa and Australian figured walnut. And though there are many different shades, grains, tones and textures, somehow they all work together in beautiful harmony.

The wood offers the center’s visitors a powerful illustration of the vastness and diversity of both God’s creation and God’s people — fitting for a campus space devoted to celebrating and exploring cultural diversity. It serves as a visual reminder that Biola students come from many different nations, and are called to go to all nations for the cause of Christ.

That international call has been at the heart of Biola’s mission for more than 100 years, and it’s a prominent theme in the vision document for the next 10 years, the University Plan (biola.edu/plan). Over the next decade and beyond, one of Biola’s key aspirations is to cultivate competent and courageous graduates who are prepared to meet tomorrow’s challenges as cross-cultural, globally aware Christians. Biola wants to equip these students to work across cultures and continents, in any vocation to which God has called them.

In that spirit — and perhaps a bit like the wood on the walls — this issue of Biola Magazine offers a small glimpse into how God is currently using Biolans in diverse settings all around the world. Our cover package spotlights graduates on each continent (with apologies to Antarctica, unfortunately) who have followed the Lord’s call, be it in pastoral ministry, business, journalism or art. These remarkable alumni represent tens of thousands more who are impacting the world for the Lord Jesus Christ in untold ways every day.

Elsewhere in this issue, President Barry H. Corey writes about a recent visit to China (page 8) and gives a look at his travels to build overseas partnerships (page 11); professor Andy Draycott shares about the cross-cultural perspective he brings to his students (page 13); and alumnus Lawrence Tong tells about his new role as international director of the prominent missions organization Operation Mobilisation (page 35).

Seeing all of these international stories together, I’m reminded of something Biola’s late President Emeritus Clyde Cook often used to say. Quoting diplomat George Macartney’s 1773 famed observation that “the sun never sets” on the British Empire, Cook noted that the same was true of Biola alumni: “Every minute of every day, the impact of Biola University is being felt somewhere in the world.”

May that impact continue to grow, all for the glory of God.

Jason Newell (‘02, M.A ’13)
Editor
Toward the end of 2013, Biola Magazine sent a reader survey out to a sampling of subscribers, and nearly 400 of you completed it, offering great feedback and suggestions. Thank you for this invaluable feedback! Below you’ll find a smattering of the results. As always, we welcome your feedback via email at biolamag@biola.edu.

THE TOP 10 TYPES OF ARTICLES YOU ARE "VERY INTERESTED" IN READING ABOUT:

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO READ?

WHAT DO YOU LIKE MOST?
- “I love that it helps me feel connected to Biola and what’s happening on campus. It’s like a visit from an old friend. It’s much more in depth than a Facebook post or something on the website.”
- “I love that it includes faculty perspectives on controversial topics (health care reform, abortion, inerrancy, etc.) and publishes dissenting views in the Letters to the Editor section.”
- “It isn’t just institutional but is topical and opens me to new ways of thinking. I do like seeing how Biola is on various cutting edges and how alumni are impacting the world.”

WHAT DO YOU LIKE LEAST?
- “That the births and marriages went away. … We should still celebrate life.”
- “That it doesn’t come out more often.”
- “The font size is very and unnecessarily tiny. Perhaps there is an aesthetic reason for that, but it makes it very difficult to read.”

ARE THERE ANY CHANGES OR IMPROVEMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST?
- “Maybe include more information on graduate programs you have, to potentially draw alumni back to the university for higher education.”
- “More balance of opposing viewpoints — they do exist, even in evangelicalism.”
- “The majority of graduates aren’t in ministry. Appeal to your wide audience. Have a finance column, a dog column, a car column. Make it interesting and diverse.”
- “I would like to see some pop-up elements to the magazine.”

PRINT IS NOT DEAD!
Even though Biola Magazine has an award-winning website (magazine.biola.edu) with all the same content as the print version, our readers still overwhelmingly prefer reading the magazine in print. Eighty-one percent said they prefer reading the magazine in print, with only 4 percent preferring online. Fifteen percent said they preferred reading it both in print and online.

Serves as a source of continuing education: 36%  
Helps me to feel more in touch with my graduating class: 29%  
Encourages me to volunteer my time to the institution: 6%  
Provides useful career and networking information: 18%  
Reminds me of my experience at the institution: 66%  
Encourages me to support the institution financially: 36%  
Other: 18%

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Opinions should be a maximum of 200 words and include full name, city and state, and class year (if applicable). They may be edited for length and clarity.
North campus is a hard-hat zone these days as construction of a new five-story parking structure reaches its final stages. The structure, which will include 939 parking spaces, is slated to open by the end of the spring 2014 semester. Construction on a new 338-student residence hall near Sigma, slated to open by the fall of 2015, will begin as soon as the parking structure is completed.
Partnership Lessons from China

About 60 of us are gathered in the Majesty Plaza ballroom, a chandeliered hall in a downtown Shanghai hotel. I’m writing this column from that room, after eagerly taking notes as I listened to Christian leaders from China and the United States talk about the gospel at work transforming lives.

About 40 years ago when I was in elementary school, I didn’t know a lot about China. “Don’t dig that hole too deep in the yard,” parents would admonish my friends and me, “you might hit China.” I guess I did know a few things. China was on the other side of the world, Americanized Chinese food tasted wonderful, and President Richard Nixon was breaking ground traveling to Peking to meet with Mao Zedong.

I also knew China was “closed.” Around that time I recall reading the nail-biting stories in Christian comic books of Brother Andrew and others smuggling Bibles behind the “Bamboo Curtain,” Bibles banned by the sponsors of the Cultural Revolution. The missionaries who’d been at work in the early part of the 20th century had long been evicted. Bibles discovered were destroyed. Those found talking about Jesus or covertly sneaking in Christian literature risked what I understood then as tortuous imprisonment for years on end.

If someone told me, as an 11-year-old boy, that one day I’d be in Shanghai with Chinese Christian leaders talking openly about the Bible and the love of Christ, I would have thought they were from the moon, or at least the other side of the world.

But God is on the move in ways that defy our imaginations. I began to see the thaw through the eyes of my wife, Paula, who taught for a year in China during the early 1990s. Returning several times since, the changes are startling. What I witnessed in November underscored the change.

For a few days, a group of about 30 Christian leaders from the United States and about the same number from China listened to each other in a John 17 kind of way, the way that we are called to be one in Christ. We talked honestly about the struggles and perceptions of the past. We broke bread together, prayed together, listened to Scriptures and talked about the best days still before us if we can work in partnership with each other.

We’ve come a long way since I was in elementary school.

One evening I sat beside Pastor Li, the leader of a church of thousands in Nanjing. Translated to English, it’s called “Don’t Worry Church.” I found that name an unintended play on what had been years of worry-inducing pressures on Christians.

Pastor Li shared with me the story of his family hiding their one Bible during the 1960s, discretely tucking it away in any of seven different places. He was born in 1965, and when he was eight days old his parents dedicated him to the Lord for Christian service. A few years later, he made a decision to live out the prayer of his parents. But during his childhood, the Bible was literally a hidden treasure. He recalled the day soldiers stormed into his house and physically beat his father — blind from the age of 1 — demanding he turn over their family Bible so it could be destroyed.

Pastor Li’s father took the blows but did not relinquish the Book.

Today, that family Bible is on display at a Beijing exhibit symbolizing the bravery of families who protected God’s Word through the years of censorship.

In the few decades since I was reading the Brother Andrew comic books and Pastor Li was reading banned copies of Scripture, the climate in China has changed. What was once the closed, bamboo-curtained nation is now the leader in Bible production, not just for China but for the world. I toured Amity Printing Co. in Nanjing, a vast complex where Bibles are printed and distributed. For the past few years this publishing company has been printing 20 million Bibles per year, and last year had a big party when it printed its 100 millionth Bible.

What was remarkable about this trip was seeing a new generation of Christian leaders, many of whom have never met, coming together as one in Christ and dreaming of new partnerships for the gospel. The days of isolation, competition and going at it alone are drawing to a close. What we can do together is far more than what we can do alone. Helping cultures have access to and engage the Scriptures is still at the heart of Biola, and for this reason my heart was warmed by what I saw in China.

The spirit of Asian partnerships has also been on the hearts of Biola students. This year, Biola’s Student Missionary Union — the oldest and largest student-led missions organization in the world — is partnering with The Seed Company to launch The India Project. This project aims to translate 24 key Bible stories into several unreached native languages of the Indian people. These students have taken up the challenge to raise over $100,000 to fund this ambitious project.

We want to be a part of and in partnership with like-minded Christian communities globally committed to bringing the Word of God and the love of Christ to the nations. And we cannot do this alone.

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Barry H. Corey is the eighth president of Biola University. Visit his office online at www.biola.edu/president, on Facebook at facebook.com/presidentcorey and on Twitter at twitter.com/presidentcorey.
Biola’s Religious Freedom Lawsuit Moves Forward

Federal judge suspends government’s abortifacient mandate

A federal judge in December granted Biola University relief from complying with a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) mandate that requires faith-based employers to provide free insurance access to all government-approved contraceptive drugs — including those that might induce abortions.

U.S. District Judge Jon E. DeGuilio issued a preliminary injunction on Dec. 27 to allow Biola to exclude coverage for the drugs it finds objectionable, including Plan B and ella (known as the “week-after pill”), while the university’s ongoing court case against the federal government proceeds. The mandate, part of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, had been scheduled to take effect on Jan. 1.

“This case is about whether the government can force Biola University — under penalty of severe fines — to violate its deeply held religious convictions about the sanctity of human life,” the university responded in a statement. “Biola applauds the court for taking this initial step as the university seeks to protect its constitutionally guaranteed religious freedom.”

Biola filed its joint lawsuit with Grace College and Seminary in Indiana in August 2012. The suit challenges the HHS mandate on the grounds that the controversial regulation violates the Religious Freedom Restoration Act as well as the First and Fifth amendments to the U.S. Constitution. (Other institutions that have filed similar suits include the University of Notre Dame, Wheaton College, Geneva College and Catholic University.)

Biola’s primary concern with the mandate is the dangerous federal precedent it sets in narrowing constitutionally protected religious freedoms, President Barry H. Corey has explained. The regulation creates a full exemption for churches, but not for other faith-based organizations such as universities and hospitals — meaning they must comply with the mandate, even if it violates doctrinal positions, or choose to either pay substantial annual fines or stop offering health insurance altogether.

Since the original filing, the government has implemented an “accommodation” for faith-based organizations with religious or moral objections to the contraceptives. The change would allow institutions such as Biola to opt out from including objectionable contraceptives directly in their insurance plans, but would instead require the institutions’ insurance providers to offer the contraceptives to employees free of charge through separate individual policies.

The universities’ attorneys have argued in legal filings that the accommodation continues to violate their religious freedom — an argument that the court’s ruling affirmed.

“That the accommodation scheme allows [Biola and Grace] to avoid the costs of such services provides no comfort or relief,” DeGuilio wrote in his decision for a preliminary injunction. “It’s the facilitation of the objectionable services, not the related cost, that offends their religious beliefs. Ultimately, the plaintiffs would be forced to modify their behavior and violate their religious beliefs by either giving up their health insurance plans or by providing insurance but taking critical steps to facilitate another’s extension of the objectionable coverage.”

With the ruling, Biola joined numerous other groups to receive relief from the mandate. During 2013, courts consistently ruled in favor of groups challenging the HHS mandate, with 53 of 60 decisions going against the government, according to a tally from Alliance Defending Freedom, the group providing free legal representation in Biola’s case. In cases involving nonprofit religious groups, the courts have decided 19–1 against the government.

- Jason Newell

ONLINE EXTRA:
Visit magazine.biola.edu for more information about the suit, including Biola’s responses to frequently asked questions and a 2012 video statement and column from President Barry H. Corey.
One of the key measures of a university’s health is the size of its endowment, a savings account of sorts that helps to provide strong financial footing and keep tuition affordable. In the fall, Biola’s endowment crossed a historic threshold, reaching $100 million for the first time — more than quadruple its size from just 10 years ago. Michael Pierce, vice president of business and financial affairs, recently answered some questions about the milestone and what it means for Biola moving forward.

Mike, can you briefly explain how an endowment works, and why it’s important for Biola to have a strong and growing endowment?

An endowment is similar to a savings account. It represents the accumulated savings of the university over time, established via year-end surpluses, donations and maturing trusts. The endowment is made up of restricted and unrestricted components. For example, a donor may provide an endowed scholarship that is restricted for nursing students. Other pieces of the endowment may be unrestricted, meaning that those funds can be used for any university need. The endowment is invested in a variety of stocks, bonds and real estate funds, and each year a portion of those investment earnings are used to support the operations of Biola. It’s important to have a large and growing endowment as this provides greater financial flexibility and security for us, and helps us to keep tuition rates as low as possible.

What is the significance of reaching $100 million? What does this mean for Biola’s financial health?

Having a $100 million endowment is quite an achievement, especially considering Biola’s history and mission. (That is to say, our graduating students are more likely to be pastors and those of modest means than corporate CEOs who have ample resources to give back to their alma mater). It means that we’re in a good place financially, but as we seek to grow and make tuition more affordable for our students, we need to continue to grow and prudently invest the endowment. There have been some studies that show a direct correlation between college affordability and endowment size. As we seek to improve the affordability of a Biola education, we must continue to grow our endowment.

Now that Biola has reached this $100 million milestone, does that mean the university no longer needs financial support?

The university will always need financial support, regardless of how big its endowment gets. The endowment is used for a variety of purposes, including student scholarships, building maintenance (for example, the normal upkeep on the Talbot East building) and general university needs. As I mentioned earlier, there is a direct correlation between student affordability and endowment size. So hypothetically, let’s say we wanted to provide a free Biola education to every undergraduate student. We currently have 4,300 of these students paying an average of $23,300 per student (after average scholarships are applied). That means students are paying Biola just over $100 million each year in tuition (excluding room and board and in today’s dollars). After inflation, we forecast ourselves to earn about 4.5 percent on our endowment-related investments. So, to provide a $100 million in annual tuition we need an endowment (free from any other restrictions — i.e. Talbot East maintenance) of over $2.2 billion. That seems like a big number, but when you consider the schools that have an endowment of $1 billion or greater — 71 of them as of June 2012 — I think we can do it.

How does the endowment differ from the Biola Fund and other scholarship support that Biola seeks to raise each year?

Endowment items are put into this savings account analogy, and invested. The earnings from the investment are used to provide future scholarships or other needs. So if a donor provided a $1 million endowed scholarship, we’d invest that and provide $45,000 (assuming a 4.5 percent return) in annual scholarships. That would go on in perpetuity. The Biola Fund and other scholarships are spent in the current year, and need to be raised each year for us to use them.
I believe God is in the business of recovering and reclaiming. I think that even here in college as you are studying what you want to do with your life, he wants to remind you of what you were so passionate about when you were 6, 7, 8 or 9. What was effortless for you as a child? What did you do so much that it drove your parents crazy? Because calling is where your talents and your gifts collide with your burden.”

- Rebekah Lyons, author of Freefall to Fly: A Breathtaking Journey Toward a Life of Meaning, speaking at undergraduate chapel on Oct. 28.

Where in the World Was Dr. Corey?

What does a year in the life of a university president look like? In 2013, President Barry H. Corey criss-crossed the globe to meet with alumni and prospective students, build partnerships, raise funds and elevate the profile of Biola in the world. Here’s your Carmen Sandiego-esque guide to where Corey went in 2013, and why.

St. Petersburg, Fla. (Jan. 3–7): Attended Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) conference

Seattle & Spokane, Wash. (Jan. 15–20): Visited friends & supporters


Sacramento, Calif. (Feb. 22–23): Biola on the Road events

Bangalore, Hyderabad & Delhi, India (June 17–25): Attended Global Leadership Forum conference; visited alumni, trustees and potential partners

Colorado Springs, Colo. (June 9–11): Met with fellow college presidents

Israel (May 26–June 7): Joined 60 Biola friends and alumni for a two-week trip

Philadelphia and St. Louis (April 22–24): Visited friends & supporters


Hawaiian Islands (April 19–21): Visited alumni, friends & supporters

Lake Tahoe (Aug. 28–29): Visited friends & supporters

Shanghai, China (Nov. 16–23): Attended summit of Chinese and American Christian leaders, sponsored by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association

Tampa, Fla. (Jan. 3–7): Visited friends & supporters

Nashville, Tenn. (July 26–29): Attended CCCU board meeting

New York City (July 29–31): Visited supporters; hosted alumni & friends event

San Francisco (Aug. 19): Visited friends and supporters

Cannon Beach, Ore. (Aug. 3–10): Spoke at family camp conference

Tacoma, Wash. (Oct. 18–19) & San Jose, Calif. (Nov. 8–9): Biola on the Road events

Nashville, Tenn. (July 26–29): Attended CCCU board meeting

Springfield, Mo. (Oct. 14–15): Spoke to Evangel University board

Manchester, England (Nov. 16–17): Attended Global Leadership Forum conference; visited alumini, trustees and potential partners

Maui (Sept. 22–24): Spoke at Fellowship of Companies for Christ International conference

Hawaii (April 19–21): Visited alumni, friends & supporters

Yosemite (Aug. 30–Sept. 1): Hike with Biola freshmen
Biola Professor Gives ‘Christmas Gift’ to Atheists

Last December, Talbot Research Professor of Philosophy William Lane Craig was in fine form doing what he does best: making atheists squirm.

On Dec. 13, Craig published an op-ed on FoxNews.com titled “A Christmas gift for atheists — five reasons why God exists.” In the article — eventually shared more than 32,000 times on social media — Craig laid out the five arguments for God’s existence that he frequently gives in debates with atheists:

1. God provides the best explanation of the origin of the universe.
2. God provides the best explanation for the fine-tuning of the universe.
3. God provides the best explanation of objective moral values and duties.
4. God provides the best explanation of the historical facts concerning Jesus’ life, death and resurrection.
5. God can be personally known and experienced.

The week before, on Dec. 4, Craig appeared on Fox News in an interview with chief religion correspondent Lauren Green to discuss his new book, A Reasonable Response: Answers to Tough Questions on God, Christianity and the Bible.

During his eight-minute interview with Green, Craig talked about the necessity of Christians being able to defend their faith to critics and dialogue with non-believers about the reasons why they believe.

“"We don’t want to conflict with people on a personal level," said Craig, "but in terms of worldviews — views certainly do conflict with each other and we can treat one another charitably and with love and civility even as we charitably disagree on certain fundamental issues like whether God exists.”

At one point, Green asked Craig about the topic of pain and suffering:

Green: “Pain and suffering really do get at the heart of what you feel about God, though, because if you think he’s a God who just wants everyone to be happy, pain and suffering can’t fit into that paradigm.”

Craig: “That’s a very good point. I saw a book on the table in the waiting room as I was coming in that said, ‘God wants you to be happy.’ I thought that is very misleading. I do not think that God necessarily wants us to be happy in this earthly life. This earthly existence is not our home.”

Green: “But there is room for happiness in this life, though, isn’t there?”

Craig: “Oh certainly, and I think a deep-seated happiness is to be found in the knowledge of God. That’s the fulfillment of human existence. But God’s purpose for us on this planet is not to give us an easy life, a bowl of cherries that we enjoy. For many people this life will involve incredible suffering and hardship before they go to be with God in eternity.”

For more information on William Lane Craig or to purchase his new book, A Reasonable Response, visit www.reasonablefaith.org.
Get to Know

Andy Draycott, culture-crossing, cartoon-collecting theologian

As a self-described “freelance preacher and vagabond scholar,” Andy Draycott is a man with many homes, hobbies and degrees. Born in England, Draycott lived in South America for five years while his parents were missionaries in Brazil; it was there he picked up soccer and Portuguese. He later lived in Oxford, Canterbury, Portugal and Scotland during many years as a student and in ministry, before winding up in Southern California in 2009 to teach at Biola. Along the way, he earned three degrees from Oxford University (including two master’s degrees), a master’s from the University of St. Andrews and a Ph.D. from the University of Aberdeen. With each move, Draycott has gained new cultural interests, and has also been forced to give up pieces of his extensive book collection — which currently includes over 1,500 paperbacks.

As a theology professor at Biola, he’s grateful for the opportunity to use his pastoral and teaching skills in tandem to speak truth into the lives of his students, he said. Here’s your chance to get to know him.

Serious About Scholarship
Draycott is a dedicated scholar in the field of Christian ethics and the theology of mission. He’s an active member of several Christian ethics and theological societies, including the Evangelical Theological Society, the Society of Christian Ethics and the Kirby Laing Institute for Christian Ethics (UK).

Rugby Coach
Draycott is a USA Rugby-certified coach to the Biola Rugby Club, which he has coached for two years. He enjoys sharing one of his favorite sports with people who don’t have any prior experience.

Color Coordinator
Draycott has built a reputation at Biola for wearing the most colorful socks and coordinating ties. He doesn’t know why he is so particular about the combo, but admits he cares very much about the colors and patterns that adorn his feet and shirts.

Bonhoeffer Mimicker
In his class on the theology and life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Draycott makes a point to mimic Bonhoeffer’s teaching community that met secretly in Germany. During the class, Draycott engages students in worship, meditation on Scripture and table fellowship. Draycott said he enjoys inhabiting Bonhoeffer’s theological process with his students.

Culture and Cutlery
After a few faculty dinners, Draycott realized the difference between American and European utensil etiquette. Europeans cut with their right hand and eat directly from the fork in their left hand, whereas Americans transfer the fork to their right hand before eating.

Cartoon Collector
Draycott has collected Peanuts cartoon clippings ever since he was a child living in England. He said his only exposure to baseball before moving to the States was through watching Charlie Brown cartoons.

Energy Saver
Instead of taking the family car, Draycott prefers bicycling or running the four miles from his house to the Biola campus. He said he enjoys the exercise from alternate means of transportation.

magazine.biola.edu
Winning Ways
Volleyball coach Aaron Seltzer named national ‘Coach of the Year’

Biola volleyball players have long felt that Aaron Seltzer is one of the nation’s best coaches. And now it’s official.

In December, Seltzer was selected out of more than 200 volleyball coaches nationwide to receive the 2013 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics “Coach of the Year” title, an honor that recognizes coaching success and leadership both on and off the court.

Players credit Seltzer — who after 12 seasons as head coach is now the winningest coach in program history — with working hard to prepare them for matches, but even harder to prepare them for life.

“He helps me outside of volleyball, walking alongside me, always most concerned with my spiritual walk and maturity,” said Tara Rallis, a senior business major. “He is a great leader and mentor. Coach Seltzer will always be my favorite coach.”

The national coaching award, given by the American Volleyball Coaches Association, is just the latest of many achievements for Seltzer. He is also Biola volleyball’s all-time leader in coaching wins with 316, and has led seven different teams to the NAIA postseason tournament, helping Biola reach the sixth most wins in the national tournament all-time (51).

“My initial goal was to win and do well, but over the years it has developed more into what it is really about,” said Seltzer. “We need to find a balance between having a strong, successful program and understanding that we are Christians and the greater goal for us is spreading the gospel.”

He came to the university 12 years ago, earning his first full-time collegiate head-coaching gig.

“I remember meeting with him and liking his answers and how he conducted himself,” said Athletic Director Dave Holmquist. “I came out of our meeting confident that he would emphasize the right things and relate well to the women on the team.”

Since 2002, Seltzer has had a hand in shaping 64 young women’s collegiate experiences and spiritual walk. As their coach, he works with each player nearly every day from August through December each year, and remains in consistent contact throughout the entire year. This gives him a great amount of quality time to mentor and grow each woman in any way he can.

“He has always reminded us of our priorities: God, school, then volleyball,” said Amy Weststeyn, a junior journalism and integrated media major. “When we come into the program we all expect to grow in our athletic abilities, but I think the greatest joy is being able to grow in our faith and in other aspects of our life because of who coach is.”

This past season was the most successful of his tenure at the school, as he led the team to a berth in the NAIA National Championship match.

Proof of the overwhelming difference between Seltzer and most other coaches is his pregame speech before the national semifinals. Rather than focus on athletics and strategy, he conveyed to his team that they simply needed to be thankful to God for the opportunity placed before them, and he encouraged them to be thankful in all areas of their lives.

“Our God has used coach to build such a unique and special program that keeps Christ at the center,” said Gracee Gallarda, a senior kinesiology major. “I have learned so much because one man decided to make a program that was different from the others, a program that stays committed to our Savior.”

This coach emphasizes that focus every day. Whether it is in recruiting, practice, an exit interview or an impromptu mentoring opportunity, he always aims to focus his players’ hearts and minds on God, and off themselves and their accomplishments or failures.

“He has been a good role model, teacher of the game, a good colleague and done everything the right way,” said Holmquist. “He has been great to work with in all respects.”

– Neil Morgan
Fall Sports Highlights

**WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL**

The volleyball team made its first appearance in a National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) national championship match since the 1997 season. After a 22–3 regular season, the Eagles made a deep playoff run, including a stunning three-set sweep of the Golden State Athletic Conference (GSAC) champion, Concordia University Irvine.

Head Coach Aaron Seltzer earned the university’s second NAIA national coach of the year award and his fourth GSAC coach of the year nod. Amy Weststeyn, Biola’s superb middle blocker, earned the GSAC player of the year award and was one of four Biola All-Americans.

Their national runner-up result was a part of Biola’s seventh straight national tournament appearance.

**MEN’S SOCCER**

Horchler finished third and 13th, respectively, to earn all-conference nods for the men.

The women’s team earned a berth in the NAIA national championship meet and placed third overall. Hunt and Soholt led the Eagles’ effort and were rewarded with All-American recognition. Ledesma qualified as an individual for the third consecutive season and placed 108th.

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**

It was an up-and-down season for women’s soccer, as the squad finished 9–9–1 and in sixth place in the conference. The highlight of the season was earning the program’s first top 25 national ranking since 2006. The Eagles were ranked No. 24 in the coaches’ poll on Sept. 24.

Morgan Aukshunas was the standout of the season for the soccer program, earning CoSIDA/Capital One Academic All-America honors while also getting named all-conference and NAIA national player of the week. Chrissy King and Amanda Lillicrop joined Aukshunas on the All-GSAC squad.

Biola’s most successful portion of the season was a five-game winning streak they rode into the start of conference play. During that stretch they outscored their opponents 17–1.

**CROSS COUNTRY**

The 2013 season was the best regular season in men’s soccer’s 53-year history. The Eagles compiled a 13–3–1 overall record prior to the postseason, making their .794 winning percentage the highest in program history.

They defeated Westmont in the conference tournament semifinals, but lost to top seed Concordia in the tournament championship match. They narrowly missed out on qualification for the NAIA national tournament, falling into place as the highest-ranked team out of contention.

Head Coach Todd Elkins made an immediate impact in his first year at the helm, coaching Daniel Chew and Kevin Kiser to All-American considerations and leading four all-conference players.

**GOLF**

Both the men’s and women’s golf programs got their seasons started by participating in fall tournaments. They laid the groundwork for their upcoming spring seasons by working on fundamentals and refining their strokes.

The men’s team shot 14 different rounds in the 70s, setting them up for a strong spring under their new coach, Jeff Anderson.

The women’s program also has a new coach, Jane Carr, and look to have a successful spring under the leadership of their captain, Jackie Mata. Mata led the Eagles with five rounds of 85 or less. She led Biola in scoring at three of their four fall tournaments.

– Neil Morgan

Get in the Game! For all the latest news on Biola’s student-athletes — including live updates during the games — follow Biola Athletics on Twitter: @BiolaAthletics.
Alumna Julie McGough’s inspiring work with Spanish speakers earns her recognition as one of Los Angeles County’s top teachers

By Amber Amaya
Photos by Greg Schneider

Julie McGough (’91, M.A. ’94) has three goals for every student who walks through her classroom door — to love reading, to love math and to have strong character.

And though every year she has one or two students who promise to defy her claim that they will all love to read by the end of the year, one by one the reluctant students stop protesting as they begin flipping through the pages of such books as Eragon and The Secret School. As each student eventually sits engrossed in their most recent “Book Club” book, McGough smiles, knowing that, as she predicted, a good book is a powerful teacher.

In September, McGough, a fifth grade teacher at Hodge Elementary School in Azusa, Calif., was honored with a Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year award, becoming one of only 16 teachers in the county to receive the annual honor. Two months later, McGough went on to become one of six finalists for California Teacher of the Year, narrowly missing the honor.

“It’s a very humbling and odd experience to be in the spotlight in this way as a teacher,” McGough said. “I enjoy the work I do in my
McGough’s calling wasn’t always so clear. While studying Christian education at Biola, McGough specifically swore she would never teach fifth grade because it appeared completely exhausting. However, after a few years of teaching in the Azusa Unified School District, McGough was invited to teach fifth grade at Hodge. Now, 20 years after the start of her teaching career, more than 600 students have walked through her classroom door.

“Fifth graders are a lot of fun. They are at that stage in between being a little kid and becoming a young adolescent,” McGough said. “We spend a lot of time talking about what it means to be a learning community and what it looks like to be responsible and to show kindness and respect.”

In circle groups, McGough’s students discuss the friendships found in *Because of Winn-Dixie* and the themes of bravery and courage that are woven into *Percy Jackson and the Olympians: The Lightning Thief*. McGough’s students learn that the “median is in the middle” and that “listening to others is the sincerest form of respect.” The book clubs, math games and character sketches all work together to move students toward the three goals McGough sets for every student that enters her classroom.

“Parents get very excited when I talk about these goals for their children,” McGough said. “Because every parent wants their child to love reading, to do well in math and to have a strong character.”

McGough said partnering with parents is the most effective way she has been able to be a positive influence in the lives of her students, and as a fluent Spanish speaker, she is able to connect with all her students and their parents.

Centered in a predominantly Hispanic community, Hodge Elementary School is home to many Spanish-speaking students and families. And over the past 17 years McGough has spent teaching at Hodge Elementary School, she has built a reputation among parents as *la maestra*, or “the teacher.”

Ana Gonzalez, a mother to two of McGough’s former students, said she could visibly see the difference McGough made in the lives of her children. Gonzalez’s children are now in college and high school, but she said they still have a desire to ask questions, to read and to love learning.

“What she instilled in my kids, I can still see it. The love for reading, which my son did not have before he was in the fifth grade, and his love of math and wanting to learn more, I owe that all to her,” Gonzalez said. “She was a wonderful teacher and I’m very thankful for all the opportunities and encouragement she gave to my children.”

McGough’s linguistic skills have been invaluable tools for her as she has sought to build strong connections with her students’ families. Aware of the role she plays in students’ lives as their teacher, McGough doesn’t take her job as an educator lightly.

“These parents say in Spanish, ‘Le encargo a mi hijo,’ and there’s this real sense of, ‘I entrust my child to you. They are in your care now, teacher,’” McGough said.

McGough has continued to care for and educate students not only in the classroom but also through online resources that she built for students and parents. McGough partnered with Learnzillion to write mini math and language arts lessons for the second through 12th grades. And on her website, [bitingintothecore.com](http://bitingintothecore.com), McGough has created a place where teachers can link to the best Common Core standards content from around the nation.

McGough’s influence is far-reaching, not just in the lives of her students but also in those of her fellow teachers. Between training all the kindergarten through fifth grade teachers in her district in math practice and acting as the fifth-grade level leader for Hodge Elementary, McGough still finds time to work as liaison for the school’s student-teaching program with Azusa Pacific University.

Many people perceive teaching to be a much less involved job than it truly is, McGough said.

“Teaching is not a nine-to-five job and so that can be very challenging, because you bring a lot of work home,” McGough said. “With my husband’s multiple sclerosis, the demands in my home are a little different than in most homes. Our family has really worked together as a team so that we’re really supporting each other.”

Having a strong support system at home is an important reason why McGough can be so invested in her classroom. And while she is grateful and honored by her recent award, McGough said it has also prompted her to reflect on her career as an educator and what she might consider pursuing in the future. McGough said wherever her career takes her next she still sees herself continuing to work with students, parents and teachers.

“I’m mid-career, so I’ve been thinking about where do I go from here,” McGough said. “I think my role in training teachers will continue to grow because that’s something that I enjoy doing, but I’m very open to what God has in store for me next.”

“*I entrust my child to you. They are in your care now, teacher.*”
Afric A

Kenyan journalist Bedan Mbugua ('80) chose prison over compromising his conscience.

“What happened to the sugar?” That was the question posed to 6-year-old Bedan Mbugua ('80) by his mother when she returned home and noticed the bowl was empty. Mbugua and his brothers said they didn’t know, but there was no hiding the evidence on their mouths: little white granules of sugar, a rare commodity in Kenya at the time. Mbugua’s mother was enraged.

“I can’t tolerate lies,” she said, punishing the boys accordingly.

Mbugua remembers this as the moment he became firmly committed to truth-telling.

Mbugua’s quest for truth led him to become an influential journalist in Kenya, exposing scandals and government corruption throughout the 1980s and '90s. It didn’t come without a price, however. Mbugua has been threatened, offered bribes, arrested and jailed for his refusal to tolerate lies.

Mbugua’s journalism career got started at Biola. As associate editor of The Chimes in the late ‘70s, Mbugua wrote stories that made waves on campus, including a piece titled “God Visits Biola,” in which God toured campus and was dismayed to see a sign on a door that read “Office of Minority Students.”

“The word minority,” said Mbugua, “pushed a group of students to an isolated psychological corner.” The article led to a coffee appointment with Richard Chase, Biola’s president at the time, who congratulated Mbugua on a well-written piece and asked him what he would want the office to be renamed.

“Office of Intercultural Relations,” he replied.

Another article Mbugua wrote about food wastage at Biola and in America led students to cut their waste in the cafeteria and send money to famine-ravaged countries in Africa.

These Biola experiences taught Mbugua that the pen was powerful and, when used well, could cause a society to change or at least examine itself.

Following graduation Mbugua returned to Kenya, where he became editor and publisher of Step, a Youth for Christ publication for young people in Kenya and surrounding countries.

In the mid-'80s he helped start a Christian leadership magazine called Beyond, which became known as an important and courageous voice at a time when the press

THE TRUTH IS NOT NEGOTIABLE
in Kenya was censored and the one-party government was dictatorial. During the pivotal 1988 elections, Mbugua published articles that exposed government corruption and election fraud.

“Our paper decided to report things as they were,” remembers Mbugua. “No other paper was willing to take such a risk. When Beyond hit streets people rushed for it in the thousands. The printing machines never stopped. … The government started to panic.”

This episode led to Mbugua’s first arrest and imprisonmen (for nine months) by a court that took orders directly from the executive arm of the government.

The government’s attempt to silence Mbugua had the opposite effect. In 1993 he started a new weekly paper, People, which continued in the muckraking vein of Beyond. One story exposed the Central Bank of Kenya’s massive theft of public funds. Before it published, Mbugua was offered a bribe from the bank’s director to kill the story.

The man paid Mbugua a visit and carried a briefcase. He opened it to show 5 million Kenya shillings.

“For a moment I didn’t know what to do,” remembers Mbugua. “[His] boldness put me off balance for a few minutes. Finally I looked at him directly with some renewed courage. ‘Look here, first we shall not kill the story! And secondly, my conscience is not for sale!’”

Surprised by this response, the man closed his suitcase and left. The story ran the next day and launched a public outcry. The bank was forced to close.

The more Mbugua’s People exposed wrongdoing, the more the government was antagonized. After publishing an article in 1994 about a controversial Kenyan court ruling and suggesting direct interference from the Kenyan president, Mbugua was arrested for a second time, along with the article’s writer. He was given two options: sign a court-written apology that claimed the article was false, or face jail time.

Because the first option “aimed at destroying my credibility as an editor, I chose the second option,” said Mbugua.

Imprisoned for five months in Manyani prison — a former British colonial detention camp — Mbugua was forced to work in a quarry breaking up rocks every day except Sunday. He and fellow inmates were fed beans mixed with pieces of broken glass, which led them to go on a hunger strike.

Life after his harrowing experience in prison was challenging for Mbugua, who was left weak and lacking confidence as he sought to rebuild his life.

“Prison life had taken much from me,” said Mbugua, who was unemployed for a time and left to raise three children on his own.

Though it changed his life forever, Mbugua says his work with People was “the greatest fulfillment of my career.”

Mbugua ended his journalistic career working for Kenya’s largest media house, Royal Media, from which he retired in 2013. Today he’s involved in several entrepreneurial ventures, including organic farming and a faith-based company, Herbal Garden, that manufactures Aloe vera health products. He also speaks regularly at international conferences. In the past two years has spoken in Geneva and India, and will this year speak in South Africa.

He lives in Nairobi with his wife and is involved in a church, Nairobi Chapel, where his son has been worship director. Mbugua frequently speaks to churches on topics ranging from corruption to environmentally sustainable development.

Mbugua has seen a lot of change in Kenya; he’s been a catalyst for some of it. Today, the Kenyan press is free and a new constitution ensures multiple centers of power with many checks and balances. The economy has been growing and education and infrastructure have improved.

Through all he’s experienced as part of Kenya’s history, Mbugua says his faith has carried him. He’s grateful to his mother for instilling Christian faith in him from a young age — she read him Bible stories every night — and he’s also grateful for his time at Biola.

“Biola prepared me very well,” said Mbugua, who likened Biola’s biblically centered education to a yardstick by which to judge the world’s values. Without the strengthening and nourishing of his soul that he received at Biola, Mbugua says “I would have been broken down long ago.”

— Brett McCracken

Through all he’s experienced as part of Kenya’s history, Mbugua says his faith has carried him.
JOSEPHINE (DAYCO, ’03)
LOCK SHINES A LIGHT
WITH HER ART, WRITING —
EVEN GRAFFITI

Josephine (Dayco, ’03) Lock stared at her computer screen, perplexed. She had just emailed her boss at an Australia-based engineering firm to ask about the time of an upcoming meeting, and the answer that came back made no sense: “Tomorrow arvo. Ta.”

Was this a typo? Some kind of strange abbreviation? After trying in vain to figure it out, she wrote back for clarification — and picked up her first of many pieces of Australian slang.

“It’s like learning another language,” Lock said. “Arvo is ‘afternoon,’ and ‘ta’ is short for ‘thanks.’ As if ‘thanks’ isn’t short enough.”

Today, four years after a career opportunity put her on a one-way flight to Australia, Lock has now become fully immersed in her new culture — a process that she has documented on her blog, “Becoming Aussie” (where, incidentally, she also maintains a slang dictionary). During that time, she has also become an author, a wife, a (legal) graffiti artist and a soon-to-be documentary filmmaker, all while trying to serve as a light for Christ in a largely nonreligious setting.

Her international journey is one that’s seen the clear guiding of God, she said.

After graduating from Biola with an English degree, the California native had explored several opportunities to live abroad — including a creative writing graduate program in Scotland and a teaching position in China — but the timing or finances never panned out.

Then, while working in marketing for the Southern California offices of GHD, a temporary position opened at the engineering firm’s head corporate offices in Australia. Lock sensed God leading her to apply, even though she felt a bit out of her depths and wasn’t sure about moving to a place where she didn’t know anyone.

“From that point on, I had such peace about it,” she said. “I ended up getting an interview, they called me back, and I got the job.”

Over the next year, Lock worked to help refresh the firm’s international brand and implement new writing and visual style guides — a massive project, she said. Within the year, she also met and married her husband, Matt, who happened to be her boss’ stepson. That, of course, gave her a reason to stay in Australia even after her temporary position came to an end in 2011.

Since then, she’s worked in a variety of projects and freelance writing and editing positions. In 2012, she fulfilled a longtime dream by publishing The Old Testament Obituaries, a book of original poems and drawings that explore the deaths of biblical characters such as King Eglon and Lot’s wife. And through her husband, a successful motion graphics animator, she’s also begun to hone her skills with a spray can, as together they create graffiti art throughout Sydney.

“People might think, ‘How are you a Christian and doing graffiti?’ But they actually have legal walls,” she said. “There are designated walls for graffiti where anyone can paint. … You have one day, and the next day it could get painted over. So you’re basically there to take a picture, and then it’s done. You make all of that effort, and then it’s gone.”

Within the graffiti community in Sydney, the Locks have built a close friendship with Matthew “Mistery” Peet, an influential graffiti writer and hip hop artist who also serves as a pastor and youth worker. The couple is currently producing a documentary feature film about the artist, whom they’ve been filming for the past couple of years. Lock said she hopes the project will expose more people to his work and to his faith — particularly in a culture where most people don’t seem to see a need for Jesus and are instead fixated on “living the dream.”

“Everything is ‘It’s all good, mate,’” she said of the typical Australian mentality. “It’s all about mate-ship, which is really interesting, because I feel like if they understood that that’s what your relationship with Jesus is like, they’d go for it. They’d be the most hardcore Christians. But they don’t feel like they need it.”

As she continues her process of “becoming Aussie,” Lock said she aims to live out her faith and serve as a light wherever God leads next.

“God is so faithful,” she said. “He just makes opportunities and he opens doors. We just have to keep walking through them, trusting that he’s going to be there.”

– Jason Newell
Brazil is a country in transition. The fifth biggest nation on earth has seen an economic boom in recent decades, rising to become the world’s seventh largest economy. Brazil’s emergence on the global stage will be spotlighted over the next few years by its hosting of the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Summer Olympics, events that will showcase how far the largest country in South America has come.

But what about Brazil’s future? Is the country’s fast rise building towards a flashy global showcase, or a sustainable future for its 200 million citizens? That’s a question of concern for Laurence Martins (’04), a pastor from the Amazonas state in northern Brazil. He founded an NGO called Origem (origin) committed to socio-environmental transformation through education, community planning and something called permaculture — an approach to ecological design focused on sustainable architecture and self-maintained agricultural systems modeled after natural ecosystems.

Based out of Manaus, the capital city of Amazonas, Martins — who serves as lead pastor of the First Foursquare Church of Manaus — founded Origem out of a belief that the Christian gospel “isn’t about saving us from the misery of this earth and taking us to a heaven disconnected from all of creation.” Rather, he believes in “a gospel of transformation” that leads to a kingdom lifestyle here and now.

“We teach a kingdom that ‘comes’ and brings truth concerning a better way to use the land we are given, a healthier way to deal with the waste we produce and a better way to live in community so we can get ready now for the heaven and the earth we are inheriting,” he said.

Martins said this outlook is challenging in Brazil because it’s not a very future-focused country.

“Instant gratification is part of being Brazilian, and in the north of Brazil it is about ‘What will we do to get through the day?’” he said. “People are not prone to planning or being disciplined in order to build a better lifestyle.”

Origem is experimenting with ways to combat this mentality. The young organization, which has enlisted volunteer help from two local churches, has recently focused on jungle farmers who have opted to make easy money by cutting down trees for charcoal rather than cultivating crops (such as Yucca, Manioca, bananas and pineapples) for the long term. Martins hopes to educate these rural farming communities in a sustainable lifestyle and show them that there are better options for income than charcoal production.

Over the past two years Origem has worked with architects and urban planners to help develop one particular village of about 70 families to be economically stable and environmentally sustainable. One emphasis has been educating the farmers in organic agriculture, for which there is a young but growing market in the city. Origem also partnered with the government to bring electricity to the community, and plans this year to build a schoolhouse and health clinic.

In addition to his work with Origem, Martins is a busy husband, father of two and pastor. He’s done work with the Willow Creek Association in Brazil and since 2007 has been involved in Willow’s annual global leadership summit for pastors and Christian leaders in Manaus.

Martins said his experience at Biola has helped him greatly in ministry, enabling him to bring a broader view of the kingdom of God, and a greater appreciation for serious biblical thinking, to his congregation.

The evangelical movement in Brazil is at a record high, with nearly a quarter of the population declaring themselves evangelical Protestant. However, Martins wonders whether Brazil’s evangelical movement — much of it infused with prosperity theology and a “Santa Claus-like God” — could do more to confront issues facing everyday Brazilians, such as violence, corruption, social health and education.

Martins notes that many outsiders perceive evangelicals in Brazil as alienated and uninterested in becoming involved with social change.

But if there are many other evangelicals like Martins — working tirelessly to win souls but also transform communities for a sustainable future — that’s a perception that will likely change.

— Brett McCracken
READY FOR CHAPTER TWO

WES WASSON (’89) REACHED THE HEIGHTS OF SILICON VALLEY SUCCESS — THEN LEFT TO HELP THOSE IN DEEPEST POVERTY

Not long ago, Wes Wasson (’89) did something that would have been unthinkable to many people in his position.

At the height of a career in senior executive leadership at a multibillion-dollar technology corporation, he decided to walk away and follow God into the unknown. The Lord was calling him, he believed, to redirect his time and talents to a new venture aimed at bringing people out of extreme poverty — even if he wasn’t exactly sure what that venture might be.

“Whatever I’ve been doing with my career has been building up to something,” Wasson remembers explaining to his CEO at Citrix, where he served as senior vice president and chief marketing officer. “There’s going to be a Chapter Two. I don’t know exactly how it’s going to come together, but Chapter Two is going to involve taking what I know — which is how to build and grow companies and technology — and applying it somehow to poverty alleviation.”

Since transitioning out of his role at Citrix in May 2013, Wasson has been working to research and explore opportunities for a “social startup” that uses technology to address systemic issues related to poverty in developing nations. While he still hasn’t nailed down all the specifics, it’s safe to say that if Chapter Two is anything like Chapter One, exciting things are in store.

Wasson’s remarkable career in marketing and technology got its start when he was still a teenager. In high school, he and a friend founded their own technology company, Elysium Software, just as personal computers were just starting to come into vogue. Together, they wrote “Quick TASC” (short for “Truck & Auto Sales Calculator”), a program to help automobile dealers do pricing.

“We sold one copy to an auto dealer in Arizona,” Wasson said. “[That] just about paid for all the floppy discs and business cards we bought.”

The humble beginnings eventually led to great success. After earning a business degree from Biola and spending some time in a marketing position in Southern California, Wasson followed his love for the technology industry up to California’s Silicon Valley. There, he worked his way into senior leadership positions for such technology giants as McAfee and Sun Microsystems.

In early 2005, just two months after he joined a startup company called NetScaler as vice president of worldwide marketing, the company was sitting down with Citrix to negotiate terms of a $325 million acquisition. Wasson stayed on at Citrix, eventually taking over marketing for the company. There, it was his role to help set the vision and strategy that helped grow Citrix from a single-product company to a multibillion-dollar industry leader.

By 2011, a Bay Area News Group survey had named him the top executive leader within all large companies in Silicon Valley.

And then came God’s call to leave.

“When God works in our lives, I think it’s often like what he did with Abram,” Wasson said. “He didn’t tell him, ‘Here are the next 10 things I want you to do.’ He said, ‘Leave your country and come to the land I’ll show you.’ I feel like that’s kind of where I am.”

Over the past year, Wasson has been traveling, meeting with innovators who are working to address poverty in different parts of the world, and researching opportunities to bring technology and poverty-alleviation together. On a recent trip to Rwanda, for example, he was struck by the high rates of cell phone ownership among people who lack running water or electricity in their homes.

“They’ve all got mobile phones,” he said. “And now you’ve got this wave of new technology, with the cloud, with social networking, with the ability to connect people in ways that were never possible before. There have got to be some ways to … combine some of these interesting phenomena together and help to change the dynamics in some of these areas.”

He’s also been active in his role as chairman of the board of a nonprofit organization called Elevate Africa, which provides funding, technology and mentoring to local entrepreneurs in underdeveloped countries to help them support their families and communities. In April, he’ll travel with the organization to Burkina Faso in West Africa to meet with small-business owners,
As an international student from Japan, Taka-ki Nakadai (‘08) didn’t always get the highest grades while in Biola’s visual journalism program. But what he may have lacked in GPA, he made up for in go-getterness — by networking with as many professionals as he could.

“I wasn’t a good student at all. Doing journalism in a second language is very difficult,” he said. “But I didn’t miss any opportunity [to connect with people].”

By the time he graduated, Nakadai estimates he had reached out to potential employers or industry contacts with more than 1,000 phone calls, emails and personal introductions. And the tenacity paid off. After graduating, he landed great opportunities as a photojournalist, doing work for such outlets as ESPN, where he covered the X Games, basketball and baseball.

Today, back in his home country of Japan, Nakadai’s “try anything” determination has led him to succeed across a whole range of industries — business, filmmaking, journalism, consulting, and operating a production studio with his wife, Ai Mei Yu (‘06).

He does a little bit of everything, but in all of it what he enjoys most is the opportunity to connect with diverse people all around the world.

“I’m trying to travel a lot,” he said. “I like flying to different countries and meeting people. I like having projects that aren’t only in Japan. Distance-wise, I fly more than 100,000 miles a year.”

A major part of his current work is with Verandah Studio, which he and his wife founded a few years ago. The company of about 10 staff has done work on a wide variety of projects, such as commercials and promotional films for leading Japanese car companies, a documentary video for a major recruiting firm and graphic design giving them such tools as business cards, branded materials and custom-developed Android tablets.

While his desire to alleviate poverty has grown through his involvement in Elevate Africa and through his international business travels over the years, Wasson also credits his time at Biola with planting seeds in him early on. As a student in the Student Missionary Union, he spearheaded an effort to raise about $100,000 to bring a 34-student team to India — including his future wife, Heidi (Robinson, ’89). The team spent more than two months partnering with local groups to help with reading skills, teach Bible lessons and provide health care.

In the leprosy colonies and street-side clinics, his eyes were first opened to the depths of global poverty, he said.

“I went over expecting the slums to be like the ghettos of New York that I’d seen, or inner-city L.A.,” he said. “You get there and you really see poverty and it just blows you away. You think, ‘How do hundreds of millions of people live like this?’ … But I looked in their eyes and I saw that these are people who have the same capacity, dreams, hopes, loves, desires as I do. There’s no difference.”

Now, as he embarks on Chapter Two of his career, Wasson said he is excited to see how God will use his background and knowledge to improve the lives of those who are poor and suffering.

“He doesn’t know where it all leads, but I am convinced that God makes all things work together for good for those who put their trust in him,” he said. “No matter where we are in life, or how unspectacular we may think we are compared to our heroes, we all have the opportunity to live a life of spectacular adventure. The real fun begins when we stop working so hard to discover some secret formula for our own happiness, and focus instead on loving and serving others. I’m still working on that, but I’ve discovered that when you get it right, there’s no greater joy.”

– Jason Newell

“The real fun begins when we stop working so hard to discover some secret formula for our own happiness, and focus instead on loving and serving others.”
for computer companies. Nakadai brings his skills with production and the camera. Yu, who studied art at Biola, does post-production and graphic design.

On top of the work with Verandah, Nakadai has had his hands in several other ventures. He’s consulted for a leading Japanese retail corporation, working to establish connections in America. He’s done fashion photography, which opened the door for him to negotiate a significant business deal between two fashion companies in Singapore and Japan.

He’s also produced several short films, and is currently wrapping up work on a full-length feature film that he hopes to submit to the Sundance Film Festival later this year. The mockumentary-style comedy follows a wannabe Internet radio DJ who’s struggling to gain a following for his work.

As a Biola graduate, Nakadai said he is particularly thankful for the biblical foundation he received during his college years. The doctrinal training helps him as a Christian in Japan, where he is part of just 2 percent of the population that professes faith in Christ.

“In Japan, if I say I am a Christian, people think that’s weird,” he said. “People either hate me or people get interested.”

He’s also grateful for the lasting friendships that he built with fellow Biola journalism students and faculty, he said. In the years after graduating, he’s returned to speak in Biola journalism classes, and has had several opportunities to travel with former classmates.

“Those friends really matter,” Nakadai said. “We can still talk about how to be holy, or how to be journalists in this world. Or we can simply learn about different cultures, we can share devotions, we can pray for each other. Those things are really important, because most likely, if you become a journalist, you will be alone when you go into the field.”

While he doesn’t do much journalistic work these days, Nakadai has used his background in photojournalism to document recent natural disasters in Asia and bring relief to those in need. Shortly after Typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines in November 2013, he traveled to the country to capture images and conduct interviews.

Upon his return, he shared his work with relief organizations in Japan to help raise awareness, spoke at universities and was even interviewed on NHK, one of Japan’s largest TV stations.

Both with his films and with his photography, his camera has helped him to do what he loves most, he said: meet people, start conversations and tell stories.

“I still think photography is the best way to communicate with people,” he said. “Without knowing their languages, I can talk to people. If I have a camera, I can take people there.”

— Jason Newell
Gabrielle Hui-Hutter ('08) Models Persistence and Integrity in the High-Paced Public Relations Industry

Gabrielle Hui-Hutter ('08) hasn’t quite mastered the French language. But after five years of living and working in Paris, she’s discovered the secret to communicating within the French culture — being persistent.

Building up immunity to hearing “no” is a must. And being patient and adaptable are necessities.

“Most of the time, across the board, my experience has been that people say ‘no’ three times and then give the answer of, ‘Well, this is a huge exception,’” Hui-Hutter said. “Now, I ask three times, in different ways, and then after the third ‘no’ is when I start to worry.”

Hui-Hutter’s perseverance and skills as a communicator are highlighted in her work for LEWIS, an international public relations firm with offices in over 26 countries. As an international account manager, she works daily with senior-level executives from some of the world’s most influential technology companies. Along with a team of international campaign managers, Hui-Hutter creates and coordinates public relations campaigns for business-to-business clients such as Lexmark.

“My team works directly with the client on the strategy and planning for the PR program for the entire EMEA region (Europe, Middle East, Africa),” she said. “Once we’ve developed the plan and strategy for that region, my role is to communicate that to the 15 countries [that have] LEWIS agency offices on the ground and they carry out the strategy and plan on a local level.”

On a recent product launch campaign for one of Lexmark’s home-office printers, Hui-Hutter coordinated press events for American spokespersons who were promoting the new product. As a skilled cross-cultural communicator, she crafted each press event to have the “local flavor” of the host country.

Her invaluable ability to thrive in intercultural settings stems from her childhood spent in a dual-cultural home. Born to a Swiss father and American mother, Hui-Hutter was raised with an appreciation for diverse cultures and traditions. And her frequent childhood trips to Europe left her with a desire to eventually live and work in an international setting.

In 2007, while earning an interdisciplinary degree from Biola in business and communications, Hui-Hutter took the opportunity to study abroad through the American Business School in Paris. There, she quickly decided to return to Europe after college.

“After I graduated in 2008, I moved to Paris, not speaking any French or having a job,” she said. “But I knew I wanted to work in an environment, or in a job, where I was able to work with many different countries on a day-to-day basis in a business setting.”

Now, Hui-Hutter and her Romanian husband, Gabriel, reside in Paris. Despite being the only foreigner in LEWIS’ Paris office, she said she feels at home in the multicultural, English-speaking environment. But it’s not just her citizenship that sets Hui-Hutter apart from the rest of her office colleagues. She is consistently met with surprised looks when she discusses her involvement in La Cité, her local church.

“In France, if you say that you went to church on Sunday, you get a blank stare,” she said. “When I speak with my work colleagues and with people I meet, they often don’t know anyone in their whole life who goes to church.”

But Hui-Hutter embraces the opportunity to integrate her faith and career. She values her team members and believes in investing in people. She is committed to being Christ-like by maintaining a reputation of honesty and loyalty in an industry where “loyalty is scarce.”

With her commitment to Christ-likeness, patience and, yes, perseverance, she hopes to lead her French colleagues to see Christianity in a different and positive light as she continues to serve in the City of Light.

– Amber Amaya

ONLINE EXTRA: Visit magazine.biola.edu for photos and links to some of the work of the alumni featured in our “World Tour.”
How Can Sleep Bring Glory to God?

We spend roughly a third of our lives sleeping — more than any other single activity. But while many of us are happy to thank God for a good night’s rest, we may not necessarily see anything particularly spiritual about this enormous segment of our lives.

As it turns out, the Bible actually has quite a bit to teach us about the spiritual significance of sleep, says Biola professor Jason McMartin. McMartin, who teaches systematic theology and theological integration in two of Biola’s graduate schools, recently researched and wrote about the subject in an article titled “Sleep, Sloth, and Sanctification,” published in the Fall 2013 issue of the Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care. In it, he suggests that sleep can bring glory to God and that we can even grow spiritually because of sleep.

Biola Magazine connected with him to learn more.

Jason, many people probably think of sleep as a spiritually neutral activity — like hitting the pause button on our lives for eight hours. But you say that we can actually bring glory to God while we sleep. How so?

We glorify God by making known his greatness. Human sleep illuminates God’s nature by means of contrast and difference. Humans must sleep and can die if they do not. God’s sleeplessness shows his independence; our sleepfulness reveals our dependence.

We cannot not sleep; God cannot sleep. God is blessed in himself, which includes his self-existence and independence. He has the source of life and joy in himself (1 Thess. 1:9; Ps. 36:9; John 1:3–4; Jer. 32:36–41; Zeph. 3:17) and is in need of nothing to possess these things. Sleep brings glory to God by showing that we are not blessed in ourselves and must receive blessing from God’s hand. If we are to possess existence, life, joy or anything at all, we must receive them from God as gifts of grace. Appropriately then, we glorify God in sleep without being able to help it. Sleep shows my creatureliness in contrast to the Almighty Creator who gives me life.

Many of us associate sleep with comfort and safety, but that often wasn’t the case in the biblical world. How might recognizing that difference help us to better understand what the Bible has to say about sleep?

The authors of Scripture often use sleep as a metaphor for death. Many times and cultures other than our own envision a close connection between the two, since the night hours may bring genuine threat to one’s person. A vivid example of this comes from Psalm 3, where the context is David’s flight from Absalom. Surrounded by enemies, uncertain of whom he could trust, waking up in the morning is attributed to God’s sustenance. Elsewhere in Scripture we see the potential for death and evil to befall one while sleeping. Samson, though complicit, meets the beginning of his downfall while aslep (Judges 16). David resists an opportunity to have a spear put through Saul’s head while he is sleeping (1 Sam. 26). Dying at the hands of one’s enemies, having possessions stolen or having one’s livelihood disappear are all dangers the night may bring. Though we may not face the same dangers, all of us are vulnerable while sleeping. We can connect our lives to the biblical message by considering the obstacles we do face with respect to sleep.

In your article, you draw an interesting analogy between sleep and spiritual growth. In what ways can sleep help us to think about the process of spiritual growth?

One potentially agonizing truth about sleep is that you cannot pursue it directly. If you try to do so, you will likely fail: “OK, I’m going to go to sleep now. No, really. Now I’m going to go to sleep — right now. Ready, begin!” Direct routes are counterproductive. So we must try indirect routes, and an entire industry eagerly waits to assist us. Yet, one can try all the indirect routes (aside from medication) and not produce sleep. Sleep does not follow necessity. Sleep, like our very existence, is a grace. It is a gift. It is given and not earned. Likewise, spiritual growth is largely indirect. Formation practices set the context and conditions for growth to happen, but do not directly produce the growth. Growth in Christ requires effort, but it is the grace of God’s activity that engenders results and not our earning. As in sleep, we must be patient in spiritual growth when all of the conditions are in place, but the intended outcome does not happen.

Beyond helping us to understand spiritual growth, in what ways might sleep actually contribute to spiritual growth?

One way to engage sleep as a spiritual practice is simply to endeavor to get enough of it. We put ourselves in a better position to do the hard work of loving others when we relinquish control in sleep. We have all experienced the impatience and irritation that comes from lack of sleep.

Second, we can gratefully receive sleep as a gift that reinforces the loving grace of being...
a creature. When we sleep, we must trust that we will continue to exist and be safe, that we will indeed wake again in the morning. I cannot control the outcome of my life through my work; more work does not ensure more security or control. I cannot make myself self-sufficient by avoiding sleep in order to work (Ps. 127:1–2).

Some theologians have suggested that growth can occur not only as the result of sleep, but during sleep. I’m not sure how we could know this was happening, but it does seem that our ability to sin is severely curtailed while we’re sleeping.

**Are there any spiritual dangers associated with sleep?**

One spiritual danger of sleep is the deadly sin of sloth, which is not the mere laziness or the excess of sleep. In the Christian tradition, sloth was apathy toward or avoidance of one’s relational commitments. In our culture, we tend to use workaholism, busyness and activity as means of slothful avoidance, which often results in not getting enough sleep. For others, a slothful approach to sleep manifests as lazy apathy or disengagement. Some have thought that we may be susceptible to demonic influences while sleeping, perhaps in the form of dreams.

**What biblical counsel might you offer to someone who has trouble getting enough sleep?**

Sleep eludes us for many reasons. We are holistic beings, composed of bodies and souls. Nothing we do is merely physical or merely spiritual. We ought to consider all angles. Sometimes sleep problems are primarily physiological, and we should consult with medical experts or review the National Sleep Foundation’s tips for sleep hygiene. We should consider the spiritual role that caffeine, use of electronics, entertainment, workaholism and food play in our lives. We may be using these to exert control or bring comfort. We should entrust ourselves to God for his provision and protection, so that even in the midst of our enemies, we are able to sleep.

Many Christian practices can support healthy sleep. Scripture meditation and prayer are activities that we may do in our beds as our first and last conscious actions of the day (Josh. 1:8; Ps. 1:2; 4:4; 63:6). For example, we might focus on the beauty of Christ as we drift off to sleep, or thoughtfully recite the Lord’s Prayer before we get out of bed upon waking. Of course, we may also have troubling circumstances or relational commitments (e.g. young children) in which it is appropriate to avoid sleep in order to watch and pray (Matt. 26:36–46).

**In your time studying the biblical treatment of sleep, did any particular passage or story become especially meaningful or impactful to you?**

Psalm 127 became particularly meaningful as an important reminder that the outcomes of my efforts are not entirely up to me. This means that (1) I can refrain from excessive attempts at controlling things, (2) I can give due credit to God for the good outcomes that have come about, and (3) I can place disappointments within a broader kingdom perspective. It helps me to seek the Lord for every aspect of my responsibilities, commit the results to him and get a good night’s sleep under his watchful care.

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**ABOUT THE EXPERT**

Jason McMartin (‘97, M.A. ‘99) is an associate professor of theology at Biola’s Rosemead School of Psychology and Talbot School of Theology. He holds a Ph.D. in religion from Claremont Graduate University and serves on the pastoral team at Maple Evangelical Church in Fullerton.

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**ONLINE EXTRA:**

Download McMartin’s journal article “Sleep, Sloth, and Sanctification” for free from Biola’s Journal of Spiritual Formation and Soul Care at journals.biola.edu/sfj.
According to Dennett, all that’s going on is the interpretation of the behavior of “intentional systems,” like sophisticated chess-playing computers and people. While observing them, we try to interpret and predict their behavior. For instance, we might interpret a computer’s move in a game as “intending” to checkmate its opponent, whereas the human player “thinks” or “believes” she can escape by making a certain move. We just interpret their behaviors by how we conceive of (or talk about) their behaviors as mental states — but that’s all there’s to it. There are no real beliefs, thoughts or observations.

However, suppose a person comes here from a fourth-world country. She’ll need to get a concept of what a traffic light is and that she can cross the street on a green light, not red. To learn that, she’ll need experiences and thoughts of what these things are, and then form a concept of when it’s safe to cross a street.

So, for Darwinian evolution and naturalism, there’s a crucial problem here: How could we have knowledge if there aren’t real beliefs we can accept as true? Indeed, we can infer even more. If we can have real immaterial thoughts, experiences, beliefs and more, then it seems that there must be something immaterial that is real which can have and use them. That suggests that we have minds, even souls, that are real and non-physical. So, how then do we best explain their existence? Surely not from Darwinian evolution. Instead, it seems that this short study highly suggests that God exists and has made us in a way that we can have knowledge.

I am reminded of what Solomon said: “To have knowledge, you must first have reverence for the Lord” (Prov. 1:7, GNT).

Thus, fixing our education system seems to involve, in part, a repudiation of naturalism and Darwinian, naturalistic science. For on it, we lose all knowledge whatsoever. But since we do know many things, that fact strongly suggests that God exists.
Formed for the Glory of God: Learning from the Spiritual Practices of Jonathan Edwards, by Kyle Strobel (M.A. '05), IVP, June 2013. Jesus said we should focus our minds and hearts on God above all else. No small task! Is there someone we can turn to for help? In Jonathan Edwards, the 18th-century Puritan pastor and theologian, we find deep thought balanced with deep passion. Strobel explores the writings and practices of Edwards, who provides us with the tools — the "means of grace" — that make us receptive to God’s work in our lives as we learn to abide in Christ.

Doing the Right Thing: Making Moral Choices in a World Full of Options, by Scott B. Rae, (professor of philosophy of religion and ethics), Zondervan, November 2013. Our culture is in an ethical mess because we’ve neglected moral training and education. Rae proposes that there is such a thing as moral truth, that it can be known and that it can be put into practice. Informed by Scripture and calling for a renewed understanding of the importance of the Christian faith in moral training, Doing the Right Thing issues a call for cultivated virtue that can bring about both better lives and a better society.

The Princess in the Opal Mask, by Jenny Lundquist ('98), Running Press Kids, October 2013. Orphaned as a child in the crumbling village of Tulan, Elara is determined to learn her true identity, even if it means wielding a dagger. Meanwhile, in Galandria’s royal capital, Princess Wilha stands out as someone to either worship or fear. Though no one knows why the king has always made her conceal her face — including Wilha herself. When an assassination attempt threatens the peace of neighboring kingdoms, Elara and Wilha are brought face to face … with a chance at claiming new identities.

Grieving the Loss of a Loved One, by H. Norman Wright (research professor of Christian education), Regal, June 2013. Everyone experiences the death of significant people in their lives. Wright, a certified trauma specialist, has written Grieving the Loss of a Loved One to help people handle a traumatic loss in their lives and move forward through the painful journey of grief. Readers will learn that they are not alone in their experience of loss and grief. They will learn what to expect and how to manage grief through topics such as: steps to take in moving through grief; preparing for death and anticipatory grief; and handling sudden death and its aftermath.

Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs: Teach the Text Commentary Series, by Edward M. Curtis (professor of Old Testament and biblical studies), Baker, October 2013. Curtis’ volume on Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs provides carefully organized guidance for interpreting, teaching and illustrating these books. By keeping the discussion of each carefully selected preaching unit to six pages of focused commentary, the volumes in this series allow pastors to quickly grasp the big idea and key themes of each passage of Scripture. Each unit of the commentary includes the big idea and key themes of the passage; sections dedicated to understanding, teaching and illustrating the text; and full-color illustrations, maps and photos.

A Reasonable Response: Answers to Tough Questions on God, Christianity and the Bible, by William Lane Craig (research professor of philosophy), and Joseph E. Gorra (M.A. ’05), Moody, August 2013. A Reasonable Response offers dozens of examples of how some of the most common challenges to Christian thought can be addressed, including “why does God allow evil?” and “how can I be sure God exists?” Utilizing real questions submitted to his popular website ReasonableFaith.org, Craig models well-reasoned, skillful and biblically informed interaction with his inquirers.

SIX-WORD SUMMARY

Don’t “sell.” Ask questions. Probe worldview.

How to Talk to a Skeptic by Donald J. Johnson (M.A. ’01), Bethany House, October 2013.
**ALUMNI NEWS**

**NEWS AND NOTES**

Ralph Poulson ('54) recently published *From a Canoe to a Chevy — Brazil Ministry and Memories*, a book based on his missionary service in Brazil. Ralph and his wife, Marjorie ('52), served with ABWE, an independent Baptist missionary agency, for 25 years in the Amazon and then Natal, Brazil, directing the Berean Baptist Seminary. Ralph then became the pastor of First Baptist Church in Ferndale, Wash., for 18 years before Shepherds Baptist Ministries enlisted him to represent them on the West Coast.

Gary Williams ('67, M.A. '73) is retiring from his pastoral ministry after serving at Twin Lakes Church in Aptos, Calif., for more than 23 years. During his time of service, Gary started more than 30 ministries at the church and helped bring in 350 volunteers. Now, Gary and his wife, Susie, are retiring to Tucson, Ariz., where they look forward to being close to their grandchildren and extended family.

Melanie Vliet ('76) recently graduated *cum laude* from Western State College of Law. Melanie and her son, Blaise, earned their juris doctor at the same time, and both mother and son passed the California Bar Exam on their first attempts. Melanie hopes to practice public interest law in order to assist people who cannot afford to retain a private attorney. She would also like to combat human trafficking, evictions and deportations.

Myrons Steeves ('79) was elected to the Christian Legal Society’s Board of Directors. Located in more than 1,000 cities in the United States, the Christian Legal Society is a membership organization of Christian attorneys, judges, law students and other legal professionals dedicated to serving Jesus Christ through the practice of law, defense of religious freedom and provision of legal aid to the needy. Myron also continues to serve as dean for Trinity Law School in Santa Ana, Calif., where he has served as a law professor since 1997.

Robert ('81) and Barbara Fritch were married on Nov. 9, 2013, at Church for the Nations in Surprise, Ariz. The wedding was officiated by fellow Biola alumnus Jeff Merry ('82, M.A. '84).

Brent Olstad ('84) has a new arrangement of “How Great Thou Art” for three-octave handbell choirs, published in the *Brent Olstad Handbell Series* by Hope Publishing Co.

Randy (M.A. '87) and Jan (Peterson, '76) Kent are currently in the United States after Randy was diagnosed with prostate cancer. The couple is thankful for the early detection and slow progression. However, they seek the prayers of the Biola community as they decide on treatment options.  

**Continued on page 32**

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**Biola Named Second Healthiest College in Nation**

In October *The Daily Beast* released its list of the “20 Healthiest Colleges” in America, and Biola University landed in the No. 2 spot (behind No. 1 Brigham Young University). Other schools on the list — which was based on College Prowler ratings of the best schools for non-drinkers, the top drug-free campuses and the healthiest campus dining options — include Wheaton College (No. 4), Pepperdine (No. 9) Azusa Pacific (No. 12) and George Fox University (No. 20).

**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

Paul Pardi (M.A. '98) has worked for Microsoft in some capacity for more than 10 years — currently as the senior content publishing lead. During that time, he has been involved in programming, creating new features and even helping to develop the application store for Windows 8. “My team was responsible for the daily programming for the store and for the daily programming of the landing page,” he said. “We had a team work on the landing page programs that had brand new features and operating systems.” A graduate of Biola’s Talbot School of Theology with a master’s degree in philosophy, Pardi has also taught as an adjunct philosophy professor at Seattle Pacific University for more than 12 years. Pardi also runs a website, Philosophy News, dedicated to informing the philosophical community about important trends and providing quality content on philosophical topics. Recently, the website has been gaining the attention of media outlets such as *The Chronicle of Higher Education* as a result of a study that was published on the website concerning students’ academic placement after graduation. The website also features interviews with theistic philosophers such as Alvin Plantinga, Paul Moser and Robert McKim. Pardi, who lives in Seattle with his wife and two children, said participating in the philosophical community at Biola helped him view the world differently and has continued to impact the way he works and lives. “The program changed the way that I thought about the world,” Pardi said. “All the professors I studied under helped me develop a worldview that has impacted my ability to function in the business world. The program was powerful for me as an individual.”
Biola University thanks these generous sponsors for supporting the 2013 Biola Golf Tournament and several other alumni and parent events over the past year.

Together, over $68,000 was raised for the Biola Fund and student athletic scholarships.

ALUMNI FILES

Networkers, Mentors and Hirers: Join Us!

In January, the alumni office updated Biola’s senior leadership about our progress in implementing a leading program of career networking, mentoring and internships for our students. I am pleased to report that these programs are blossoming like never before.

We began the presentation — a joint effort between the career development, alumni and parent offices — with an overview of research on the best practices of our peer schools across the country. What we discovered is that, yes, there are a few schools doing such programs well, but most are not. In fact, our efforts over the past year are moving Biola quickly up the ladder of best practices. This is both exciting and challenging, as your partnership of providing outstanding network resources is critical to our success.

So, what are we talking about in regard to alumni networks, mentoring and internships? If you have seen the university commercial with the person in the “alumni red” socks who applies for a job, competes with all the other people not wearing “alumni red” socks, and gets the job because the manager also wears “alumni red” socks … that’s what we are talking about! We want to launch a campaign that shouts to the world, “Hire Biola!” If you own a company and you are looking for the best, we believe you can find the best at Biola.

We also know that many of you want to be in a mentorship relationship with someone. Bringing up the next generation and passing along what God has taught us is one of the most encouraging things we can do, and what better way to leave a legacy than to touch someone’s life in this way?

So, what resources are available to make this happen? Our programs now include:

- Career networking through Biola’s online presence on Facebook and LinkedIn.
- Our alumni search-by-job resources through the website (biola.edu/alumni).
- Our Student Alumni Association Mentorship program, which matches students to alumni and parents who are seeking to mentor the next generation.
- The career advice videos available on the alumni and Career Development websites (career.biola.edu).
- The alumni directory (biola.edu/alumni).

You now have available some very significant resources. However, this is only going to work if you join us in “Hiring Biola” and utilizing the great resources available. Biola alumni should be the men and women with the Biola “alumni red” socks!

For more information on Biola’s mentor or internship programs, please contact one of us in the alumni office.

Rick Bee
Senior Director of Alumni
rick.bee@biola.edu

Don Bernstein
Manager of Alumni
don.bernstein@biola.edu
Oversees the Student Alumni Association and career networking programs; Biola LinkedIn; alumni business networking

Bre Todd
Coordinator of Special Programs
breanna.n.tosti@biola.edu
Oversees young alumni and career networking programs; Biola University Alumni Association Facebook page

To support students with a gift to the Biola Fund, visit www.biola.edu/giving or call 800-632-4652.
Michael Ayulo (’89) recently published Hills, Skills, and Wills: How to Improve Your (and Others’) Performance, a book focused on business management with a self-help focus. Michael’s book is available on Amazon.


Beth Gayden (’99), recently published her second devotional, Be Still: 21-Days Praying the Names of Jesus, and an accompanying journal. This is her third publication following her children’s book, Caitlyn the Cat Goes Dancing in the Mud, and her first devotional, Be Still: 21-Days Praying the Names of God. Learn more at www.bestill21days.com.

Dave Milbrandt (M.A. ’00) recently published his first novel, Chasing Deception, about a journalist’s investigation into a small strip-mall church and its charismatic pastor, who appears to be a con man. Dave, a high school English teacher and former journalist, used some of his actual sermons from Talbot as the basis for material in the book. Dave is also currently working on two other books, one of which he is writing with his wife. Chasing Deception is currently available on Amazon.

John Hwang (’00) was recently awarded the 2013 Hospital Hero Award by the National Health Foundation. After graduating from Biola, John went on to graduate school at the University of Southern California and became an occupational therapist. John also does photography on the side, both as a hobby and for occasional projects. Many of his portraits, especially those of the homeless in downtown Los Angeles, are gaining attention. More of his work can be found on his website, www.johnhwangphotography.com

Joshua Shoemaker (’04) recently published a book titled Discover the Bible. The book is designed for the average individual or small group study. It uses commonly misinterpreted passages, such as Jeremiah 29:11 and John 8:32, to teach proper Bible interpretation. More information can be found at discoverthebible.wordpress.com.

Steve and Alanie (Lazarov, ’05) Atyabi were married on Aug. 17, 2013, at the Oak Canyon Nature Center in Anaheim Hills, Calif.

Jillian McClendon (’03) recently published the book The Call to Love through Westbow Press. Jillian’s book is a practical guide to loving and serving God by loving and serving people. The book is available on Amazon.

Chris and Kristi (Van Wicklin, ’04) Sterry are happy to announce the birth of their first son, Thomas, who is an absolute joy. The Sterrys live in Bend, Ore., where Chris is an engineer and Kristi works in cancer research.

Michael Shoemaker (’05, M.A. ’06) and Abby (’05, M.A. ’06) Clark are pleased to announce the birth of their third child, Caleb Taylor, born on April 5, 2013. Caleb joins sisters Kate, 5, and Savannah, 3. Michael and Abby are enjoying trying to raise their children in the Lord and are attending Worship Generation Church in Huntington Beach, Calif. Michael works in graduate admissions at Biola.

Michael (’05) and Kimiko (Payne, ’05) Musser welcome Westin Emmitt Koyama, born on Sept. 23, 2013. Westin joins big brother Quinten, 2. The Mussers reside in Marietta, Penn., where Michael is a designer and owner of Anticipate Invitations. Kimi was working as a speech-language pathologist but is now a stay-at-home mom. Continued on page 34
Alumnus Named Year’s Standout African-American College Writer

Hurston/Wright Foundation honors Justin Campbell (’09) for Jazz-Age tale

This April, Justin Campbell (’09) received a surprising email that confirmed his talent as a writer.

“I thought it was a prank at first,” said Campbell. “What are the chances of me winning?”

Months after sending the Hurston/Wright Foundation part of his novella about an African-American Southerner’s experience in Jazz-Age Harlem, Campbell was told he was the winner of the foundation’s annual Award for College Writers. He, his wife, Kaitlyn (Rohrbach, ’07), and his infant son flew out to Washington, D.C., in October to accept the award and find his best networking opportunity yet.

Since receiving his bachelor’s degree in humanities at Biola, Campbell has progressed in graduate studies, taught English, written for a blog and published stories in literary journals. The Hurston/Wright award, though, was a unique and satisfying commendation.

“That was an affirming moment as a writer for me,” said Campbell. “I had been published, but it was my first kind of big affirmation moment, saying, ‘You do have talent; keep fostering it, keep working on it, this isn’t just a pipe dream — it still may be a pipe dream, but you shouldn’t give it up. Don’t give up yet.’”

By traveling to Washington, D.C., as one of the Hurston/Wright Foundation’s big winners this year, Campbell was able to meet respected African-American writers such as Bernice McFadden and Pulitzer Prize winners Edward P. Jones and Isabel Wilkerson. He also met numerous other authors and a publishing house editor who expressed interest in meeting again.

“Those kind of opportunities don’t just fall out of the sky,” Campbell said.

Campbell’s first college pursuit was philosophy. However, to him, stories were better company than mechanical arguments. He realized studies should be more of a pleasure, he said. That spring he switched to humanities, selecting an English emphasis.

Campbell wrote stories in his early youth, imagining Indiana Jones discovering Eden or crafting a sequel for Cinderella.

“Those are kind of the questions I was always asking as a kid,” said Campbell. “I kind of stopped [writing], and then I realized that it was what I love doing and picked it back up in college.”

After refocusing on writing in college, Campbell needed validation.

“I still was kind of on the fence with my own abilities,” he said, recalling motivational professors who helped by commending his writing, offering office hours and suggesting graduate school.

Now Campbell is married and nearing a master’s degree in literature, studying and working as a graduate teaching fellow at Loyola Marymount University. As he works to build his writing portfolio, he is also content and appreciative to lead introductory English classes.

“A lot of my energy to write comes from the energy that I get from teaching and the fact that I love working with college students, and so I don’t know if I could have one without the other,” he said. “I think having to leave the house and interact with the world in that way helps my writing as opposed to hurting it. And it pays me, so that’s also a nice addition.”

After graduating in the spring he plans to seek a third degree — another master’s, or even a doctorate, involving creative writing.

Campbell’s Jazz-Age novella, Sitting on the Knees of Gods, is not yet published, but he is currently at work on new stories. While he has not written more historical fiction, his novella’s themes of identity and openness — “What things do we hide because we don’t think we’ll be accepted?” — keep finding a way into Campbell’s stories.

“I love writing,” he said. “I just want to keep writing, and I hope people will want to keep reading my work.”

– Trevor Gerdes

Picture This!

Biola is on Instagram! Follow the photo updates @biolauniversity.
Trying new and exotic cuisine is a regular occurrence for KiYong Kim (‘07), who has eaten tarantula in Cambodia and fertilized duck egg in the Philippines. As a marketing and vision trip specialist for Compassion International, Kim coordinates exposure trips to 26 countries that partner with the organization globally — and it’s during these trips he gets to sample the local fare. While on the exposure trips, Kim is responsible for taking sponsors, pastors and other Compassion partners into the field to see the organization’s work on the ground. He said his own face-to-face interaction with his sponsored child in Guatemala showed him the impact sponsorship has on a child’s future. “Getting kids out of poverty and into churches and getting to be part of this amazing organization that works with local churches is just a crazy thing,” Kim said. In addition to coordinating international trips, Kim is also responsible for working with the organization’s Korean market, church relations and business relations. As a result of his past experience as a youth pastor and an account executive for Ambassador Advertising Agency, Kim enjoys working on diverse projects. And his global experience and knowledge of three languages allows him to thrive in a professional setting where he interacts with multiple cultures on a daily basis. Kim, who is ethnically Korean, grew up in China and attended a British secondary school before enrolling at Biola, where he served as president of the International Student Association. He credits his business professors with helping him connect to international internships and said he’s been pleased to find Biola alumni at every job he’s had since graduating with a degree in international business. He and his wife, Carolyn, live in Costa Mesa, Calif., where he desires to keep working for Compassion International and embracing new cultures and cuisines.

Jessica (Helton, ‘06) Oleksy recently released her debut album What My Heart Is Made Up Of under her artist name “J. Lauren.” The pop singer-songwriter’s album sparkles with infectious melodies and heartfelt, inspirational lyrics. Many of her original songs have been featured on television networks such as ABC, CW and ABC Family. Jessica graduated from the radio, television and film program at Biola and now resides in Nashville, Tenn., with her husband, Mike, who is a producer and musician. Her album is available on iTunes and Amazon.

Mike and Rachel (Emerine, ‘07) Hicks were married on June 15, 2013, in Carlsbad, Calif.

Heather Stapp (‘08) recently published a Christian fiction book called The Narrow Path through Westbow Press. Through her book, Heather desires to help readers understand that regardless of their past, there is a promising future in Christ. The book is available on Amazon.

Kevin and Justine (Soules, ‘10) Lane were married on June 2, 2013, at Holy Cross Orthodox Church in Yakima, Wash. After a honeymoon to Victoria, Canada, the couple returned to Yakima, where they are currently residing.

Danny (‘11) and Aimee (Larew, ‘11) Borges were married on April 21, 2013 at the Altadena Country Club. They first met in Professor McKinley’s theology class at Biola and graduated together in May 2011. Danny worked at the Biola IT Helpdesk for three years and is now putting his experience to work at MullinTBG in El Segundo, Calif. Aimee is working at a financial broker’s office in Pasadena.

James (‘11) and Alexandria (Rivera, ‘10) Weaver were married on Dec. 8, 2012. The couple met in high school but didn’t become close friends until James graduated from Biola and moved back home to the San Francisco Bay area.

Continued on page 36

The Lent Project

The Biola University Center for Christianity, Culture and the Arts is offering a sequel to its “Advent Project” (ccca.biola.edu/advent) during the season of Lent. Visit ccca.biola.edu/lent each day between March 5 and April 27 for art, music and devotionals written by Biola faculty and staff. For other resources and arts events for the spring 2014 semester, visit ccca.biola.edu.
Lawrence Tong ('89)

International director of Operation Mobilisation

Lawrence Tong is a man on a mission. Last March, the 1989 Biola graduate became the new international director of Operation Mobilisation, a leading missions organization that works to advance the gospel in more than 110 countries around the world. With more than 6,100 workers in its family of ministries, OM works to share the good news of Jesus through a variety of means — including ships that sail the oceans, offering resources and evangelism at port cities wherever they go.

Tong had already served with OM for seven years before attending Biola in the ’80s. After he graduated from Biola with a degree in communications, he went back to work for OM for a year before returning to his home country of Singapore, where he started several successful businesses over a 10-year period. All the while, he maintained a relationship with OM, and in 2009 Tong gave up all his businesses in order to return with his family to full-time ministry with OM.

He recently shared his story with Biola Magazine.

I am passionate about raising a new wave of missionaries from the emerging nations to serve as equal partners alongside their colleagues from traditional sending countries. Above all, I want to see people and nations transformed to live for our Lord Jesus Christ.

I first got involved with Operation Mobilisation in the ’70s, and their radical lifestyle of forsaking all and living for Christ resonated well with me. I was attracted to these people who were totally sold out for the Lord Jesus Christ.

When I first was involved with OM, I would work with the OM ships. I worked on an advance team, which was a group of men and women who would go ahead of the ship to prepare its visit and program in a country. I was also involved in fundraising in Asia, served on the OM Singapore board and was interim field leader for OM Taiwan. I also later served as the director on Board the ship LOGOS II.

I loved serving in China, with my colleagues and with the local church. Their zeal for evangelism, their willingness to suffer for the kingdom, and their passionate desire for the Word of God taught me so much.

While I served in China, I helped start a welfare center, an organic farm and a training center. These helped integrate local believers into a holistic ministry that trained them to be self-sufficient and to provide for those they serve.

I so appreciate the many friendships that developed during my time at Biola which remain till this day. Perhaps the most memorable experiences I had were trips with the forensic teams to compete at various colleges around the country. It was good exposure to other schools in America, and my team members were great. We had a lot of fun traveling together.

My wife, Susan, and I met through Operation Mobilisation. She joined at about the same time I did but she mainly served in India and the subcontinent, while I was with the ships in South America. We met eight years later at an OM conference and started corresponding, which led to our getting together.

Family is important to me. We now live in three different continents, so we try to get together at least once a year and build memories. Our oldest son is studying creative writing and movie making at NYU; our youngest son is finishing his national service in Singapore. We are presently based in England.

Some of the most exciting work OM is currently doing is in India among the Dalits (untouchables). That work is seeing thousands of them coming to faith in Christ. The Good Shepherd Community Church movement has more than 3,000 churches in their care.

Another exciting ministry is the ship Logos Hope, which God continues to use as a catalyst for world mission. At any given time, multiple ministries take place simultaneously on the ship: people come to faith in God, lives are transformed, leaders are trained, and good, wholesome literature is distributed to visitors.

About the Illustrator

Austin Ranson (’12) is an art director and illustrator who lives and works in Los Angeles. He is currently employed at a small ad agency, working on the Los Angeles Dodgers and Lexus. See more of his work at www.austinventions.com.
IN MEMORIAM

Erma Gertrude Reid (‘37) passed away on Dec. 12, 2013, at the age of 97. After earning a music degree from Biola, Erma married Ransom Marvin, who was also a Biola graduate. The couple pastored many churches together. After Ransom’s death in 1960, Erma married Jesse Leise and moved to Seattle, Wash. After Jesse’s death in 1992, Erma married a former Biola classmate, Cyril Reid, and after Cyril’s death in 2000, Erma went to live in Kenmore, Wash., until she was over 94 years old. She had a great sense of humor and her love for her Savior, Jesus Christ, sustained and comforted her until the end of her life.

Nancy Woolnough (‘47) went to be with the Lord on Oct. 25, 2013, at the age of 93. Nancy was involved in radio broadcasting while at Biola and even produced a live student radio program for Al Sanders, founder of Ambassador Advertising Agency. During her time at Biola, she began writing a children’s radio series, *The Adventures of Raindrop*, which went on to be broadcasted on the radio. After studying Spanish in Costa Rica for one year, Nancy went to Quito, Ecuador, to begin her ministry of English radio production. Nancy produced radio shows for more than 23 years in Ecuador for HCJB Global. Nancy was never married, nor did she have children, but many of her friends stayed close with her until her passing.

Burton Clark (‘48) went to see his Savior at age 91 on Sept. 19, 2013. He was born in Wisconsin and served in the Navy during World War II. He and his wife, Glenna (‘48), were married during their time as Biola students. They were blessed with two daughters and a son. Their younger daughter, Nanette Swick, also graduated from Biola, as did their granddaughter, Megan, and grandson-in-law, Eric Mendoza. Burt and Glenna began missionary service on the faculty of the Jamaica Bible Institute, West Indies, in 1952. They joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 1959 and went on to serve with them for more than 40 years in the Philippines, Guatemala, California and other offices in the United States. They celebrated their 67th wedding anniversary in June 2013.

Charles G. Ramsey (‘52) went home to be with the Lord on Nov. 28, 2013. After graduating from Biola, Chuck and his wife, Jean, moved to Bolivia to work among the violent Ayore people group for 23 years. Upon his return to Bolivia after furlough in 1977, Chuck pioneered the first professional Christian recording studio in Bolivia. In 1980, he co-founded the Bolivian Evangelical University and in 1984 he pioneered Christian radio for the nation. Chuck founded LATCOM mission that same year, and in 1992 he helped co-found COICOM (the Confederation of Christian Mass Media for the Spanish speaking world).

Don Fults (‘55) passed into the presence of his Lord on Nov. 25, 2013 after suffering from a terminal blood disease. After graduating from Biola, Don married Shirley Schwarz in 1956, and the couple went on to participate in church ministries in Newton, Kan., and San Diego, Calif., before being called to serve with Overseas Crusades in South America for eight years. Following those years, they joined World Vision, and later returned to the mission field with Overseas Crusades in Argentina. Don and Shirley moved to the Columbia River Gorge in 1996 to be near their family, finally settling in The Dalles, Ore., where they assisted ministries at Calvary Baptist Church.

Becky Lynn Black (‘76) went to her heavenly home on Nov. 2, 2013, after a four-year battle with cancer. For the past 15 years, she lived with her husband Dave (‘75, M.Div. ’80) on their 123-acre farm in Southern Virginia. She was heavily involved in missionary work in Ethiopia, where her parents had also been missionaries. Her autobiography can be found at www.daveblackonline.com.

John Taylor Adams (‘78) entered the presence of his Savior on Sept. 5, 2013, at the age of 57, after a five-month bout with cancer. He is survived by Kathleen (Knox ’77), his wife of 35 years; their son Timothy; their son Stephen and his wife Lindsey; and their two grandsons, Braedyn and Asa Adams. John was, and is still, loved by his family and many friends and is greatly missed.

Steven Aanderud (‘78) passed away on Dec. 8, 2013, after suffering a heart attack. Aanderud was a long-time coach for La Habra High’s boy’s soccer team. This season was his 15th season with the program. During his time at Biola, Aanderud was a standout player on the men’s soccer team. He is survived by his wife, Julie, and his four children, Heather, Jennifer, Bryan and Brittany.

Jean Nagel (‘88) was called home to the Lord on July 4, 2013. Jean was born in Lincoln, Neb., but grew up in California and Missouri. She studied at Biola before finishing her schooling at Wheaton College. After college, Jean left for Ethiopia in 1951 to serve as a missionary with Sudan Interior Mission. In 1956, she married Jarel Nagel in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The couple had four children before returning to the United States in 1975. Jean was active in her church, Sutter Salem Bible Church, in Hamilton, Ill.

Darcie (Frazier, ’06) Ridgeway passed away on Nov. 18, 2013, after a battle with breast cancer. Darcie attended Biola from 1995 to 1999 and then went back to complete her degree, graduating in 2006. She was a two-time All-American on the Biola volleyball team. She is survived by her husband, Jason Ridgeway (’98), and her 3-year-old daughter, Lily Rae Ridgeway.
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What’s the story behind the iconic “Above All, Give Glory to God” mural in Chase Gymnasium? Turns out the mural was the brainchild of Sue (Claesson, ’82) Wynsma, a transfer student who wanted to leave her “mark” on Biola’s campus her senior year. “I was great friends with a couple of basketball players and the year before we went all the way to the national playoffs,” remembers Wynsma. “The team theme was ‘Above All, Give Glory to God,’ so I hired a senior art graphics student to draw this saying with the Biola Eagle and was given permission by the administration to have it painted as a mural on the wall above the gym bleachers.” Though a different version of the mural stands today, Sue’s original concept remains.

Biola Inducts Three Alumni into Athletics Hall of Fame

Biola inducted its second set of distinguished athletes into the university’s Athletics Hall of Fame in September. The 2013 inductees included: Jim Blagg (’78), the 1978 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) champion wrestler; Natasha (Miller, ’11) Jackson, a 12-time NAIA national champion track athlete; and Tim Worrell (’89), a former Major League Baseball relief pitcher.

The new honorees join three inductees from the 2012 inaugural class: former Major League Baseball pitcher (and Tim’s brother) Todd Worrell (’82); basketball and volleyball player Becky (Miller, ’86) White; and basketball player Wade Kirchmeyer (’85).

The Hall of Fame serves to honor and recognize outstanding individuals who have made exceptional contributions as a student-athlete, coach or an honorary member who brought honor, recognition and distinction to the intercollegiate athletics program and the university.

Jim Blagg (’78)
- Only national champion in Biola wrestling history
- Named Biola’s Most Valuable Player in each of his four seasons at Biola
- Won the NAIA national championship for the 190-pound weight class in 1978
- Two-time NAIA All-American
- Holds the school record for individual wins in a season (40)

Natasha (Miller, ’11) Jackson
- Won 12 individual NAIA track championships
- Earned 24 NAIA All-American honors
- Won six national Most Outstanding/Valuable Performer awards
- Holds two NAIA records for the indoor pentathlon and the indoor pentathlon high jump
- Placed third at the 2011 Canadian Track and Field Championships

Tim Worrell (’89)
- Played 14 seasons of Major League Baseball for nine different teams
- Finished fourth in the National League with 35 saves in 2003
- 758 career MLB strikeouts; 3.97 career ERA
- Finished seventh in the NAIA in 1989 with 10.65 strikeouts per game

Memory Lane

What’s the story behind the iconic “Above All, Give Glory to God” mural in Chase Gymnasium? Turns out the mural was the brainchild of Sue (Claesson, ’82) Wynsma, a transfer student who wanted to leave her “mark” on Biola’s campus her senior year. “I was great friends with a couple of basketball players and the year before we went all the way to the national playoffs,” remembers Wynsma. “The team theme was ‘Above All, Give Glory to God,’ so I hired a senior art graphics student to draw this saying with the Biola Eagle and was given permission by the administration to have it painted as a mural on the wall above the gym bleachers.” Though a different version of the mural stands today, Sue’s original concept remains.
Does Jesus Possess the Cure for Anxiety?

Recently I was reading through the Sermon on the Mount and I had to stop and chuckle. I got to the passage where Jesus is teaching not to worry about food, water and clothing (Matt. 6:25–34), and I noticed for the first time that the editors of the New American Standard Bible titled that section: “The Cure for Anxiety.” That’s quite a claim. I thought to myself: Does Jesus possess the cure for anxiety? If so, a lot of psychologists and drug companies are in trouble!

As I continued reading with that title in mind, I saw more clearly that Jesus does present a way of making worry a pointless hangover from a former way of viewing our lives. Jesus’ central point is this: “Do not worry ... for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things” (6:31, 32). The idea is that our Father knows what we truly need, he highly values us, and he competently cares for those he values. As we learn to immerse ourselves in that reality — to seek first God’s rule in our lives — anxiety will be a diminishing concern. It’s not that things won’t go wrong (that is never promised). But in light of our loving, competent Father’s care, even in the face of life’s severest challenges, we can relax.

Nonetheless, we all worry. If not about food, clothing and water, then probably about mortgage payments, what people think of us, how our kids will turn out, our health and so on. Jesus, it seems, was well aware of this. In the midst of his teaching regarding the cure for anxiety, Jesus exhibits his own psychological realism: “O ye of little faith,” he says (6:30). Jesus knows that immersing ourselves into the rule and reign of God is easier said than done. All of us, to varying degrees, are firmly habituated to seek all sorts of other ways of caring for ourselves as a means of dealing with worry rather than a firm and utter reliance on the resources of God’s kingdom. So it turns out that the psychologists and drug companies are not out of business yet, even amongst those who know of Jesus’ cure. For we too are of little faith, and we need all the help we can get to grow into a deeper, more constant confidence that God is with us and for us in a manner that makes worry pointless. There is much theory and research within contemporary psychology that can help us understand the way forward in developing the kind of trust and dependence that the Christian life requires.

This is one of many examples where the interplay of psychology and theology can assist us in minding our hearts. Throughout church history, Christians have engaged the best psychology of their times to more fully understand how to address the emotional, relational, cognitive and developmental issues that arise in human life.

In light of this long history of reflection, here at Biola University’s Center for Christian Thought we are extremely excited about our 2013–14 theme, “Psychology and Spiritual Formation.” In the most recent issue of our bulletin, The Table (cct.biola.edu/bulletin), we’ve featured a variety of thinkers and scholars interacting with just a few of the fascinating ways in which the Christian wisdom tradition and contemporary psychology can be brought into conversation to further our understanding of what it means to become conformed to the image of Christ as we seek to be Christ to those in need.

Steve L. Porter (’92, M.A. ’95) is a director of the Biola University Center for Christian Thought as well as associate professor of theology, spiritual formation and philosophy at Biola’s Talbot School of Theology and at Rosemead School of Psychology. He holds a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California.
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