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Letters

To the right of this column is one of the most popular sections of the magazine, “Reader Mail.” Each time we publish an issue, someone will approach me with a grin on his or her face and ask whether I had read such and such letter in the latest magazine. When I ask them which one (not reminding them of the role I play in publishing the letters), their brows raise as they fill me in on the details and tell me how much they absolutely agreed or disagreed with the person who wrote it.

Receiving letters from readers (and hearing about them from other readers) is one of the things I’ve enjoyed most during my 10 years as editor of Biola Magazine. And since readers seem to enjoy them too, I thought I would share some memorable Reader Mail moments from the last decade.

Most of my personal favorites don’t get published. Like the one from a gentleman early in my tenure who had attempted several times to have his name removed from our mailing list. Thinking we weren’t understanding his request, he described a dozen ways this could be done and ended the letter with “deep-six or otherwise obliterate my name from your mailing list.” His letter was handled so many times it was eventually lost, but not forgotten.

Another unforgettable letter came from a reader who complained that we only featured people who were successful or famous. She requested that we do an entire issue on those who consider themselves failures and asked that she be featured. This letter was not only saddening, but taught me early on that you can’t please everyone.

Some of the kindest letters come from alumni who have lost loved ones or suffer from poor health. I’m often moved by their letters of appreciation both for the school and for the magazine that helps them stay connected to it. I keep some of these letters in my desk and pray for those who have written them. One letter I keep close by is written in a shaky hand by an alumnus who, in mid-life, suffers from an incurable disease. In it he prays for God’s grace and mercy upon all his church.

Thank you to all who have written us over the years. Whether positive or critical, your letters tell us that you care about Biola and the magazine. So please continue to write us, and if you’ve never written us before, we’d love to hear from you — as would the 60,000-plus who read Biola Magazine.
Love the Magazine

After reading the Editor’s Note, “Outnumbered,” I’m glad you’ve decided to stay in the game. I love reading your magazine (ever since our eldest daughter, Mackenzie, started going to Biola in 2006), and I save them so I can refer to them again or pass them on to a friend. We are serving as missionaries here in the Philippines, so we don’t often have the opportunity to stop by the campus. It’s great to read about what is happening through your magazine and the parent connection online. Oh, by the way, I think the contrast between your Summer 2007 cover with Sam Harris and your Fall 2007 cover with Barry Corey is remarkable. Both men are created in the image of God, but they are clearly moving in different directions. May God keep your keyboard crackling and your eyestrain down!

Chris Wassell
Manila, Philippines

Readers Respond to Reader Mail

The criticisms leveled by a few in last month’s “Reader Mail” seemed awfully disingenuous to me. An undergrad publication with the quality you young people present each month shouldn’t take too seriously such picayunishness. Hard, rational critique —yes! Trivialness — no!

By the way, I loved the “Rare Find” piece on page 39. Lousy location for it, however! A column entitled “About the Bible” should be way up front … don’t you think?

John Gillmartin (M.Div. ’86)
Tucson, Ariz.

Editor’s note: According to Thomas Finley (one of the Hebrew professors cited in the article), the Masoretic text does have punctuation — accent marks that, in effect, serve as punctuation. So, the Masoretic text, itself, was mistaken.

Giving the Masoretic a Bum Rap?

Your article “Rare Find Supports Book of Jeremiah” suggests that translators using the Masoretic text have wrongly placed the Nebo phrase; therefore, the Masoretic itself must be mistaken. However, if the Masoretic text has neither spacing nor punctuation marks, then the differences you cited are with the Septuagint and translations such as the NASB and NKJV. Your article (though inspirational as for the tablet find) did not directly demonstrate fault with the Masoretic. Do you have a clarification?

Sean Mauer
Washington Crossing, Pa.

Tell us what you think!

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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.
Making History

With pomp and pageantry, Biola University formally installed Barry H. Corey as the eighth president in its 100-year history on Nov. 2. More than 3,500 witnessed the inauguration, held in Chase Gymnasium. Read more about this historic moment on page 10.
It was a strange moment for me, that late morning in late August. Lunch was about to be served to the 1,350 parents under the big tent on Biola’s Metzger Lawn. These mothers and fathers, from as near as La Mirada and La Habra and as far as Bahrain and Kenya, found their way to the seats around tables of 10 and began mixing with others who were also letting go of daughters and sons.

As I stepped to the podium to share some words of appreciation and assurance, I was in uncharted waters. And I knew it. Unlike my able and godly predecessor, Dr. Clyde Cook, I had never addressed as president a group of new parents. And as a father of three children who have yet to see a high school classroom, I could not empathize with the emotions of my audience. I have never been a parent of a college student.

So I shared with these parents not so much my kindred spirit with them, but the common bond we as a Corey family shared with their children. Like these new students, we as a Corey family were going through the sting and adventure of a transition, uprooting from our familiar world and beginning a new leg of the journey here at Biola. Never again will we share this bond with an incoming class.

What I wanted these parents to know is that what attracted their children to Biola was also what attracted us. For the more I understood the story and the soul of Biola, the more I thought what a wonderful place this would be to spend some of the choice years of my life. When we were certain of God’s call to leave our home and community in New England, we came excited to serve on a team of others all committed to the same mission of providing a biblically centered education, equipping our students in mind and character to impact the world for the Lord Jesus Christ.

How humbled we are as a family that God has called us to Biola to stand alongside faculty, staff, administrators and student leaders who pour their lives into these daughters and sons of Biola parents, day after day, year after year. And as we landed here, we have realized how much we need to learn.

So what I have been paying most attention to during my first few months in the office of the president are the voices of others. My informal motto has been to “hit the ground listening.” And the refrain I hear time and again is that the community of Biola knows the foundation on which this university stands.

We are tirelessly committed to the authority of God’s Word, evident among other places in the 30 units of required Bible courses. We care deeply about our students’ spiritual maturity and depth of character. We hold high the standards...
for integrating faith with academic excellence and professional preparation. We have always stood for the mandate of Jesus to be people of the Great Commission, and as a result we want our students to understand global realities and experience the breadth of the Kingdom of God. We are a community marked by grace, healthy relationships and selfless service. And we are a place where students flourish in their strengths to be all God has called them to be.

I assured these lunching parents that our faculty and staff have as a priority to invest in our students as they develop into the adults this world needs … in business and education, in the sciences and the arts, in media and healthcare, in law and public service, in the church and in the home. We feel confident that a Biola graduate will be shaped in mind, heart, skills and relationships that will bear fruit for the cause of Christ. For we provide an education that takes place in the classroom, through global immersion programs, in the arts and athletics, through community service projects and chapels, through spiritual retreats, Bible studies and accountability groups, in relationships with professors and other students.

Biola faculty and staff pour their lives into these sons and daughters of Biola parents so that, as students, they might not only be admitted into a good graduate school or enter a career well prepared, but so that they will live lives glorifying to God and graduate with the confidence to serve the Lord with imagination and courage, with a biblical worldview and a humility of spirit, with a profound love for Jesus and a desire to take the gospel wherever God calls them to serve.

So if parents were to ask me about our commitment to them as mothers and fathers, I would answer by saying that:

- We will strive to come alongside them and to ask the questions, to challenge their stereotypes, to deepen their faith, to hone their skills and to push them into new ways of interacting with others.
- We will strive to model for them that it is a noble endeavor to live a life of bold faith, taking on challenges that demonstrate their commitment to a cause greater than they are.
- We will strive to treat your sons and daughters as adults, a commitment we believe will help them in making responsible decisions as they go through these wonderful years of college life.
- We will strive to demonstrate that the community of Biola at its heart is a place that cares about students and draws out their inherent strengths.
- We will strive to prepare your children to speak courageously and compassionately about the Truth of God’s Word to an increasingly skeptical generation.
- We will strive to help your children understand the Word of God as the Bread of Life so they might clearly and passionately proclaim not only that there is truth, but that Jesus Christ is the Truth.
- We will strive to equip these you have entrusted into our care, as the apostle Paul writes, to “prepare [them] for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up.”
- We will strive to glorify God as we lead from a position of biblical strength and not from one of fear or intimidation.
- We will strive to graduate Biola students who will take the gospel and proclaim it and teach it and live it and pray it toward a great spiritual renewal our world needs.

I closed my comments under that luncheon tent by asking these parents to join with us in praying Ephesians 2:10 over their children, our students. For we believe that whether it’s Danielle or Stephen, Calvin or Christine, Olivia or Ryan … he or she is “God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for him or for her to do.” This is what we believe. This is the truth on which we stand.

— President Barry H. Corey

‘We have always stood for the mandate of Jesus to be people of the Great Commission, and as a result we want our students to understand global realities and experience the breadth of the Kingdom of God.’
With pomp and pageantry, Biola University formally installed Barry H. Corey as the eighth president in its 100-year history on Nov. 2.

And with reverence and humility, Corey promised to lead with a steadfast commitment to the Word of God and a desire to see God glorified.

"Let the record show that today’s pageantry is not about me," Corey said in an address that capped off an elaborate inaugural convocation. "This is a moment for all of us, one more time, to give God glory for who He is and for what He has done through Biola University for 100 years. We stand in expectation for what is still to come."

The inauguration, witnessed by more than 3,500 people in Chase Gymnasium and in satellite locations on campus, was the highlight of a weekend of festivities that also included an elegant inaugural dinner, a community luncheon and Biolafest, a homecoming revival.

The inauguration marked a significant moment in the history of the University, which is in the midst of celebrating its centennial year. The most recent inauguration had come 25 years earlier, meaning many in the Biola community had never experienced such an event.

Eight tolls of a historic bell from Biola’s original downtown Los Angeles campus — symbolic of each of the University’s eight presidents — heralded the ceremony’s start.

As the voices of the Biola University Chorale swelled, a procession of brightly robed delegates that included presidents, provosts and officials from 25 colleges and universities marched solemnly into the gymnasium.

Following a prayer, Scripture reading and hymn, a series of speakers issued presidential charges and words of encouragement to guide Corey during his time in office.

President Emeritus Clyde Cook, who retired in June after 25 years of leadership, presented Corey with the first of four presidential symbols of office: a Bible, symbolizing Biola’s commitment to the Word of God.

Also presented were a cross, symbolizing a commitment to the Great Commission; a replica of the cornerstone at Biola’s original downtown Los Angeles location, symbolizing a commitment to Biola’s founding mission; and a medallion, symbolizing a commitment to academic excellence.

In a 52-minute address, Corey emphasized the need for all members of the Biola community to believe God’s Word with conviction and courage — not just knowing and affirming the Bible as truth, but being transformed by it.

"It’s not merely grasping God," he said. "It’s being grasped by God — the mind and the heart alike, with conviction and with courage."

Making frequent allusions to Biola’s founders, Corey made clear his resolve to stay rooted in the University’s founding mission while “envisioning stronger and ever more courageous ways to fulfill our vision.”

In coming years, he said, the University will seek to strengthen its academic programs, broaden its reach, build upon its commitment to spiritual transformation and provide students with greater cross-cultural experiences.

“Our vision is to be a global center for Christian thought and spiritual renewal,” Corey said. “And the goal of this vision is not our own prestige or renown or to bask in our gains. The goal of our vision is to see the glory of God.”

— Jason Newell
Five Exhibits Showcase Alumni Talent

For more than three decades, Biola art students have combined their art and their faith — sometimes overtly, sometimes subtly.

This year, the art department is showcasing a sample of that talent, devoting five shows in the gallery to alumni work.

Professor Barry Krammes, the gallery’s director, came up with the idea as a way to celebrate the department’s 35th anniversary and the University’s centennial.

The art department is also producing a catalogue of alumni work and hosting a major symposium in March that will feature internationally recognized art historian and author James Elkins discussing the interaction of contemporary art and religious faith.

“It’s a multifaceted project,” said Krammes, who is in his 24th year of teaching at Biola. “I just think we have some pretty outstanding people making art, and I wanted to see what would happen if we brought them all together.”

Each of the five exhibits features a variety of media unified thematically: abstraction, place, portraits, design and faith.

The final show will feature artists using their art to directly speak about their faith. Krammes said that exhibit will include work by liturgical artists and a meditative box that people can enter.

About 550 people have graduated with art degrees in the last 35 years, Krammes said. The shows feature the work of about 125 of them.

What Biola graduates have done since then runs the gamut: Some graduates are supporting themselves as artists; others continue making art in their spare time while working full-time jobs.

“I feel like the Biola art department prepared me very well for the kind of things to expect when I left the safety zone, that security blanket of the art department,” said Zach Kleyn, a sculptor whose work was featured in the first two shows. Kleyn, who graduated in 2004, is now an adjunct instructor at Biola.

“The faculty does a good job of getting you to start thinking like a visual artist,” Kleyn said. “To be thoughtful Christians. To not be naïve. To not be overly concerned with conquering the art world.”

The art has arrived at the gallery in a variety of ways. Nathan Opp (’97), now a professor of painting at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla., sent his pieces through an art shipper — at a cost of $400 one way. Others have sent things through UPS. And some have dropped off paintings at the gallery or leaned on friends or associates to do so.

Tim Timmerman, who graduated in 1989 and now chairs the art department at George Fox University in Oregon, came to Biola several days before the opening of the portrait show to render large images from his pieces on gallery walls, a process that can take anywhere from four to 20 hours.

“Biola has a phenomenal art department,” said Timmerman, who credits the instructors with nurturing and encouraging him.

— Lisa O’Neill Hill
Although the term “Gothic” conjures up images of ghosts and monsters lurking in dank passages, professor Cassandra Van Zandt says, when you’re dealing with American Gothic, stories are often less about ghosts and more about suffering, guilt and humanity’s need for redemption.

Van Zandt, who teaches American Gothic literature at Biola, said these themes offer unique insights into Christian spirituality.

Gothic literature is known to explore humanity’s deepest, darkest fears, whether real or imagined. The genre that began in Britain in the 18th century gets its name from the Gothic architecture that often provides the setting for its stories, like Dracula’s stormy medieval castle. But as it began to flourish in the United States in the 19th century, castles were exchanged for old family homes and spiritual conflict took center stage as characters discover — sometimes too late — the reasons behind the dark foreboding struggle taking place within themselves and others.

And like British Gothic, Van Zandt said the spooky specters in American Gothic literature serve a symbolic purpose.

One of the most popular American Gothic authors is Edgar Allen Poe, best known for his poem The Raven. The bird’s mocking cry serves as a symbol of unrelenting and painful memories. But another of Poe’s works, the short story The Cask of Amontillado, portrays the personal haunting that can result from man’s sinfulness. The opening line of the story captures the narrator’s desire for vengeance against a friend: “The thousand injuries of Fortunato I had borne as I best could, but when he ventured upon insult, I vowed revenge.” This quest for revenge spirals out of control, ending with the narrator gleefully burying his friend alive — a symbol for the psychological effects of revenge.

Yet, Gothic stories don’t just deal with individual failings, but also cultural failings, like slavery and the social conditions of women, according to Van Zandt. Louis May Alcott, an American novelist famous for her work Little Women, published a lesser-known American Gothic work, under the pseudonym A.M. Barnard, titled Behind A Mask: Or, A Woman’s Power. In it, Alcott’s main character, Jean Muir, an outcast due to her gender and social status, faces moral compromise in order to survive in a Victorian society.

“American Gothic gives us the opportunity for human failings to be more present in our discussion,” Van Zandt said.

Van Zandt, who started teaching at Biola in the fall of 2006, said she’s always encouraged after reading the journals she assigns her students to write regarding the Gothic works they’ve read in her class. She said she’s been impressed by the maturity of their reflection on the themes of the sinfulness of man and humanity’s need for redemption. Prior to Biola, Van Zandt taught at Vanguard University, and she earned a doctorate in English with specialization in American and Gothic literature from the University of California at Riverside. She’s currently preparing a paper on the seeming paradox between Christianity and Gothic literature for a Christian literature conference that Biola will host in May.

Van Zandt’s own interest in the genre began when she was 10 years old, after her mother gave her a collection of stories by Poe. But one of her favorite American Gothic writings is a poem by Emily Dickinson. Van Zandt feels the poem’s opening line captures the psychological conflict of the entire genre:

One need not be a chamber to be haunted,
One need not be a house;
The brain has corridors surpassing
Material place.

— Emily O’Dell

Beginner’s Guide to Gothic Literature

Professor Van Zandt recommends the following stories as an introduction to American Gothic literature.

The Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Washington Irving
The Man of Adamant, Young Goodman Brown, The Minister’s Black Veil or The Scarlet Letter, all by Nathaniel Hawthorne
The Tartarus of the Mabs by Herman Melville
The Yellow Wallpaper by Charlotte Perkins Gilman
The Turn of the Screw by Henry James
The Eyes by Edith Wharton
A Rose for Emily by William Faulkner
The Lovely House by Shirley Jackson
Beloved by Toni Morrison
Any works by Flannery O’Connor, Edgar Allan Poe or Charles Chestnutt

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The Eyes by Edith Wharton
A Rose for Emily by William Faulkner
The Lovely House by Shirley Jackson
Beloved by Toni Morrison
Any works by Flannery O’Connor, Edgar Allan Poe or Charles Chestnutt
If you’re a Christian living in the West, you’ll never lack Bible commentaries to consult. But until a year and a half ago, not one complete commentary had ever been produced in Africa from an African perspective.

That’s an entire continent of Christians without one.

Biola graduate Tokunboh Adeyemo (M.Div. ’75, M.Th. ’76), a Nigerian, undertook the first African commentary at the close of his 25-year term as general secretary of the Association of Evangelicals in Africa, an organization representing 70 million evangelicals. As general editor, Adeyemo brought together 70 African scholars who interpreted and applied the Bible in light of African cultures and realities. The scholars include men and women from more than 20 countries and many denominations.

Besides commentary — brought to life with African proverbs, songs and folklore — the 1,586-page volume features over 70 articles on African cultures just for African Christians. It also challenges Western Christians who can sometimes see their own cultures better through another lens, Adeyemo said.

“One of the more controversial articles tackles a custom that has been hushed for centuries: female genital mutilation. The author, Sicily Mbura Muriithi, a Kenyan, calls for pastors to condemn this practice, which she says occurs in more than 26 African countries. Muriithi argues that it’s oppressive and inconsistent with the Bible’s teaching that God created the female body and declared it good. Yet, some Christians defend the practice by misapplying the biblical practice of male circumcision, she says.

By helping African Christians gain a more solid understanding of the Bible, the commentary can challenge such flawed views, according to Adeyemo. The Association of Evangelicals in Africa sponsored the commentary after the Second Pan Africa Christian Leadership Assembly was held in 1994. There, Protestant leaders identified deficient knowledge of the Bible as the main weakness of the church in Africa.

Yet, the commentary doesn’t offer corrections just for African Christians. It also challenges Western Christians who can sometimes see their own cultures better through another lens, Adeyemo said.

One article that praises the African value of hospitality stands in contrast to American culture, where many next-door neighbors rarely talk to one another. The article notes that most African languages use the same word for “stranger” and “guest,” and Africans often prepare extra food for meals in case someone drops in.

Another article, “Worship and Praise,” written by Adeyemo, gives biblical support for the expressive worship found in African churches, including bowing down, kneeling with hands raised above one’s head, and prostrating oneself before God.

The book’s article “Polygamy” may help Western Christians think about whether practices they forbid are merely cultural preference. The author, Isabel Apawo Phiri, of Malawi, argues that, while the Bible mostly portrays polygamy in a negative light — and church leaders weren’t allowed to have more than one wife — it doesn’t explicitly forbid the practice among non-church leaders. So, Phiri supports the consensus of most African evangelical denominations that promote monogamous marriage as God’s ideal, yet still baptize converted polygamists and accept them in their churches.

The reception of the commentary has been overwhelmingly positive, and Adeyemo is encouraged that both Catholic and Protestant bookshops are selling it.

All the contributors were required to embrace an evangelical Protestant statement of faith, though they were allowed different views on issues like the role of women in the church.

—from Holly Pivec
More than 140 years ago, a presidential campaign played a key role in the death of the world’s first Mormon.

Now, in a role reversal, it’s Mormonism that could kill one candidate’s shot at the White House.

Or so says Biola alumnus Adam Christing (‘86), who has produced and directed a new documentary — just in time for election season — that parallels the presidential pursuits of Mormonism’s founder, Joseph Smith, and former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney.

“I don’t think Romney is a bad candidate at all, but I think he’s in for a big surprise,” said Christing, whose A Mormon President is set for release on television and DVD in early 2008. “Just as Joseph Smith’s campaign for president led to his death, I think that (Romney’s) Mormonism is really going to kill his chances of winning.”

Already, much has been made of Romney’s religion; untold hundreds of articles, talk radio segments, blogs and books have examined the faith angle with a fascination not seen since the days of John F. Kennedy. But while JFK was able to allay concerns about his Roman Catholicism, Romney seems to face a steeper challenge, especially among evangelical Christians, who make up a significant bloc of his Republican Party.

A quarter of all Americans say they’re less likely to vote for a Mormon for president, a recent survey from the nonpartisan Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life revealed. Of those who believe that Mormons are not Christians, a full 42 percent said they’d be reluctant to support a Mormon.

One major reason is the potential for such a high-profile Mormon to attract converts to a clearly anti-Christian faith, said Rob Sivulka (88, M.A. ‘89, M.A. ’93), a longtime missionary to the Mormon community in Utah.

“I know that Mormon missionaries would be going door to door asking, ‘Would you like to know about the religion of the president?’” Sivulka said.

It’s that prospect of “normalizing” Mormonism that is rightfully causing evangelical resistance, said Kevin Lewis, an assistant professor of theology and law at Biola’s master’s program in Christian Apologetics.

“You have to ask yourself: In good conscience, can you knowingly make it easier for Mormons to sheep-steal?” he said. “A Romney presidency is going to lower the wall and make it easier for them to convert others.”

In that light, Christians ought to rule out a vote for Romney, even if it means supporting a candidate who is less politically appealing, Lewis said. Electing a Mormon as president “has eternal consequences,” he said. “Bad government has temporal consequences.” [As a nonprofit organization, Biola does not make political endorsements.]

But other evangelicals have rallied strongly behind Romney — or have at least been receptive to the idea of supporting him — arguing that the election is for president, not pastor. And as president, Romney seems to be the only electable candidate who would share their conservative principles on key social issues such as traditional marriage and abortion, they say.

Besides, the increased attention on Mormonism could actually have a negative effect on the Mormon Church, as more people learn about what it really teaches, said Craig Hazen, director of Biola’s master’s program in Christian apologetics.

“If Romney got elected, it could actually be the worst thing that could happen to the Mormon Church,” said Hazen, who interacts regularly with Mormon scholars and is featured in a pro-Romney book authored by Christian radio personality Hugh Hewitt.

“I could actually see this heightened profile pushing the Mormon Church away from some of the teachings of Joseph Smith and Brigham Young” that many Mormons already tend to distance themselves from — including the notion that a Mormon in good standing can become a deity, Hazen said.

For his documentary, Christing — who was raised in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints but converted before attending Biola — said he didn’t attempt to answer the question of whether people should or shouldn’t get past Romney’s faith. Instead, he simply wanted to offer an objective look at why they’re getting hung up on it in the first place.

He retraced Smith’s steps, crisscrossing the country to film reenactments in historic locations and speak with historians, scholars, active Mormons, Christian evangelists and everyday citizens, he said.

The finished product tells the story of a man who founded a new religion, married 33 women, became mayor. Six months into his run for president, a mob of people angered by Smith’s teachings and growing power shot and killed him.

While Mormonism has certainly evolved since then, the enduring notoriety of its founder and enduring skepticism about its teachings may simply be too much for Romney to overcome, Christing said.

— Jason Newell

New Documentary Explores Implications of a Mormon President

Mormonism is really going to kill his chances of winning.
Biola parents and administrators are working to develop a sanctuary for students, called “Olive Grove Park,” amid a historic olive orchard on campus.

The goal of the project is to restore the health and accessibility of what remains of publishing giant Andrew McNally’s olive orchard, which was planted around 1890.

Officials have raised over $220,000 of the $525,000 needed to complete the park, which will feature rustic walk paths and irrigation systems to keep the trees healthy.

Parents are trying to raise $100,000 for a walking bridge that will go over a creek that runs through the property. La Mirada Creek flows along the eastern edge of Biola’s 95-acre campus, spanning nearly 4,000 linear feet. In October, two separate anonymous donors offered a combined matching gift of $58,000 toward the project.

The purpose of asking Biola parents to contribute to this project is to give them the opportunity to add to their students’ enjoyment of campus by enhancing its beauty and increasing its available quiet space,” said Colleen Heykoop, manager of Parent Relations. “Many people do not realize that capital projects are not funded by tuition dollars. Therefore, this is an opportunity that parents can take to make a significant contribution to Biola’s fundraising goals.”

The grove, designated as an historic landmark by the La Mirada City Council, has between 60 and 70 trees.

Ken Bascom, senior director of facilities planning and construction, said there will be no wi-fi service in the park.

“The vision for this area is to make it a getaway from the increasingly urbanized campus, a place for students to go have a quiet place,” he said. — Lisa O’Neil Hill

To support the project, make a donation online at www.biola.edu/parent/olivegrove or call (562) 903-4714.
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FEATURING
SWITCHFOOT
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY, BIOLA
What is the most important life lesson you learned in college, outside of the classroom?

In high school, I was fairly rebellious, always in trouble. As a result, my parents insisted I attend a Christian college. I defiantly chose Biola because it was the farthest away from our home in Iowa. (A moving testimony to share at the candlelight floor meetings in Alpha Chi?) But it’s true that while we think we plan our own steps, God orders our paths. In spite of my defiance, he brought me to Biola, gave me lifelong friends, and the opportunity to serve him with my whole heart. I learned that God takes care of me wherever I go. As an international student, I lived in a small town in Ohio far away from my home in Seoul, Korea. Many things were new and strange to me; however, I felt quite comfortable and did not feel lonely. I had wonderful church families that invited me to their Thanksgiving dinners, friends whom I felt I could trust and communicate with, even in my broken English, and teachers that were inspiring and caring. During the summers, I also traveled alone to Canada and Europe for music festivals. God always took good care of me. I met many great people and grew a lot as a musician and person.

Jan (Barker, ’80) Lynn serves on the Alumni Board. The summer before I came to Biola, an elderly gentleman said to me, “Never let your studies interfere with your education.” I pretty much took that to heart.

Dennis Strellman (’82) is Campus Crusade for Christ’s prayer coordinator for Eastern Europe and Russia, based in Budapest, Hungary. One Friday in 1981, while a student at Biola, I was intrigued by a few simple posters that read “Bible Recital on Romans at 7 p.m.” That night a Talbot student dramatically presented the entire book of Romans from memory to about 30 of us. It was fantastic! His expression of the text made it seem like Paul was there pouring out his heart. This is the way these letters were originally presented to the early church. His example challenged me, and I adopted the hobby of memorizing the epistles. When I began to memorize multiple chapters, I saw new connections, making it easier to remember, and, at the same time, my memory “muscles” got stronger, requiring less time to remember more. In 1990, I traveled through Chile with a backpack and presented 2 Peter in Spanish to about 20 groups in 10 cities. In the 1990s, I lived in Moscow and memorized the letters of John in Russian. Memorizing Scripture can be a great tool for language learning.

Kangwon Lee Kim teaches violin and chamber music at Biola. The most important lesson I learned in my college years is that God takes care of me wherever I go. As an international student, I lived in a small town in Ohio far away from my home in Seoul, Korea. Many things were new and strange to me; however, I felt quite comfortable and did not feel lonely. I had wonderful church families that invited me to their Thanksgiving dinners, friends whom I felt I could trust and communicate with, even in my broken English, and teachers that were inspiring and caring. During the summers, I also traveled alone to Canada and Europe for music festivals. God always took good care of me. I met many great people and grew a lot as a musician and person.

Paul Poelstra retired last semester, after serving 36 years as a psychology professor. One of the most important lessons I learned early on in my career at Biola was what to do with arrows that land in one’s heart. We all share a fallen humanity and thus, even at Biola, it is inevitable that people are going to be wounded. In the early years, I watched some individuals develop a spirit of bitterness in response to being “sinned against” in some way by other members of the community (Heb 12:15). As I witnessed the effects this had on them and on those around them, I determined that I was not going to allow that to happen to me. By God’s grace, on the rare occasion where I took a hit, I was eventually able to forgive and move on. More recently I have learned to use these hurts as a way to explore my own heart. As I write this, I realize that this will be read by some whom I may have offended over the many years I served at Biola. I would hope that they would find the grace to forgive me, recognizing that I was still in process and continue to be.

John Mark Reynolds directs Biola’s Torrey Honors Institute. A lesson I have learned is that we are, all of us, just one step from the eternal Kingdom. In 1999, a group of about 20 Torrey Honors students and my family went to Mongolia at the invitation of Campus Crusade and the Mongolian government to do a series of meetings in the schools. I remember seeing an upperclassman, Angela Good, come into her own. She loved missions, education and great conversations, and we were involved in all three. We were all moved by teachers forced to do great work with poor resources. Angie came home and began a Torrey project to send school supplies to those teachers. It was one of her last acts. She would graduate to a greater school that fall, following a car accident. I have never forgotten Angie, and I have never forgotten the truth that any one of us might turn a corner and find ourselves with Christ in Paradise.

NEXT QUESTION
’Tis the season for spring cleaning. What do you save that most people throw out?

Send us your response with “Tell Me This” in the subject line.

E-MAIL
biolamag@biola.edu

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SAMPLE RESPONSES
to get you thinking
Some people save ticket stubs from every movie and event they’ve ever attended so they can remember good times with friends. Others might save special issues of Time magazine that feature significant moments in history. Tell us what you save and why.
A Century in Pictures

1908 to 2008
The Bible Institute of Los Angeles was founded Feb. 25, 1908, shortly after the first New Year’s ball dropped in Times Square and seven months before the first Model T rolled off Henry Ford’s assembly line. The founders, Unocal founder Lyman Stewart and the Rev. Thomas Corwin Horton, were troubled by the rise of liberal theology in seminaries and churches. They saw a need for a Bible institute — similar to Moody Bible Institute — on the West Coast. The first classes met above a downtown pool hall and drew students from the Fishermen’s and Lyceum clubs — Bible and evangelism groups led by “Daddy” Horton and his wife “Mother” Anna Horton. Four years later, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the first permanent campus at Sixth and Hope streets in downtown Los Angeles. Besides two 13-story towers, this modern marvel boasted an elevator, roof gardens and a skylight that illuminated its 4,000-seat auditorium. Here, the school’s first dean — renowned American evangelist and former Moody Bible Institute dean, Reuben Archer Torrey — drew thousands to the Church of the Open Door, started in partnership with the Institute. From the get-go, the founders embraced God’s Word as inerrant, reflected in their four-volume publication, The Fundamentals — now a classic defense of the Christian faith. They adopted a statement of beliefs that has remained the official doctrine held by Biola University for 100 years.

To get a detailed look at Biola’s 100-year history, read Rooted for 100 Years, Biola’s official centennial coffee table book. Purchase one online at 100.biola.edu.
By the early 1920s, the Institute had become a champion of conservative Christianity through national outreaches including The King’s Business (a nationwide monthly magazine), the Biola Press (which distributed Christian literature worldwide) and KTBI radio (the first religious station in Los Angeles). The Institute expanded overseas in 1916 with the Hunan Bible Institute — called BIOLA in China — which trained Chinese Christians. Graduates were becoming influential leaders, like Charles Fuller ('21), who went on to found Fuller Theological Seminary. But in 1925, a controversy erupted after John Murdoch MacInnis, R.A. Torrey’s successor, made a statement that left room for evolution as the manner of creation and published a book called *Peter, The Fisherman Philosopher*. The Institute lost financial supporters at a time when donations had already declined due to the Great Depression, and MacInnis was forced to resign. Afterward, William P. White — a noted pastor and speaker — became the Institute’s first president and inspired hope with his signature proclamation, “The Institute shall not die but live and declare the works of the Lord.” His successors Louis Talbot (a popular radio minister) and Paul Rood, founder of the Torrey Memorial Bible Conference, led fundraising efforts that eliminated the debt. On Sept. 11, 1938, Talbot led a jubilant mortgage burning ceremony.

1. First graduating class in 1911
2. An institute dorm room
3. An institute graduation in the downtown auditorium
During the 40s, the Institute saw a period of unprecedented growth. Sensing that radio was effective in conveying the gospel and in reaching a large audience, one of Louis Talbot’s first actions as president was reinstating the radio broadcasts at his own expense. His weekday Bible studies — first called The Bible Institute Hour and then The Biola Hour — forged a national audience and support base that helped keep Biola afloat through the Depression. The Biola Hour remained a popular Christian radio program for 60 years, airing until 1992. Other outreaches included evangelistic rallies, ministry to soldiers, and the annual spring Missions Conference, which got its start in 1929 and continues today. The Institute now offered four-year degrees in theology, Christian education and sacred music. This led to a name change in 1952 from the “Bible Institute of Los Angeles” to “Biola Bible College.” By the time Talbot retired, Biola had outgrown its campus, and his successor, Samuel Sutherland, began a search for a new location.

1. In 1943, more than 60 men from the Institute left for the armed forces.

2. An Institute student “studies” math. Non-religious studies were added to the curriculum in the 1940s to better prepare students to impact the world for Christ.

3. An Institute lecture hall, circa 1940

4. The School of Missionary Medicine, launched in 1945, provided medical missionaries for organizations eager to get back into the post-war mission field. Pictured: Ed McCully (’51) — one of the five famous missionaries including Jim Elliot who were killed in Ecuador in 1956 — stands in the second row from the top, far left.
W

ith enrollment swelling, the decision was made in 1954 to follow the newly created Santa Ana Freeway south to a 75-acre plot of sprawling olive groves in the Los Angeles suburb of La Mirada. That same year, Walt Disney broke ground on a citrus farm in Anaheim, Calif., for the construction of Disneyland, and business began to expand in Orange County. President Sutherland, chairman of the board Ray Myers, and business manager Russ Alder led the transition, but it wasn’t without challenges. A number of female students were required to make a daily bus trip from downtown Los Angeles to the new campus until enough residence halls, like Gamma Chi, could be built to accommodate the growing student body. Sutherland also worked tirelessly to raise the school’s academic standards. By the late 1950s, a liberal arts degree had become necessary for almost any profession, including missions. Sutherland was convinced that Christian leaders needed to be equipped in a broad curriculum that included science, mathematics and the humanities, not just biblical studies. So, he worked to transform Biola from a Bible college to a biblically centered liberal arts college and changed the name of the school to “Biola College” in 1961. He also led the school to secure regional and professional accreditations, including accreditation from the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the American Association of Theological Schools. And he added a graduate theology program, Talbot Theological Seminary (now Talbot School of Theology).

1 President Sutherland takes students on a field trip to the new site.
2 Students attend a groundbreaking ceremony for the new campus on May 26, 1957.
3 Even the goof offs had to adhere to the strict dress code, which continued after the move to the new campus.
In 1970, J. Richard Chase ('51) became the sixth president. During his tenure, enrollment nearly doubled and academic offerings grew to 23 majors, nine master’s degrees and three doctoral programs. Chase also oversaw the acquisition of Rosemead School of Psychology, one of the first Christian graduate psychology programs in the nation. Meanwhile, the Eagles athletics teams soared to district and national championships. Other extracurricular activities — like The Chimes student newspaper, the award-winning forensics team and drama — also thrived. To better reflect Biola’s diverse programs, Chase began advocating a university structure. While the Board of Trustees and administration agreed that Biola should strengthen its academic programs, they opposed any plan for expansion that would lessen the school’s historic Christian commitments. After much prayer and evaluation, they agreed that a university structure coupled with the 30 units of Bible requirement was God’s direction for the school.

Biolans couldn’t escape the fashion faux pas of the 70s.

Ron Hafer, Biola’s beloved chaplain since 1967, will retire at the end of this school year.

The “Biola Egg” tradition involves groups of students hiding and hunting a 300-pound lump of cement. The original “egg snatchers” (left to right): Stan Herod ('69, M.A. '78, Ph.D. '91), Baxter Swenson ('67), Larry Allen ('68) and Galen Borden ('68).

Inspired by its School of Missionary Medicine heritage, Biola established a nursing department in 1966 that combined professional training with ministry.

Chase Gymnasium has been the site of Bible and missions conferences and chapel services, which are held three times a week.
Appointed president in 1982, Clyde Cook ('57, M.Div. ’60, Th.M. ’61) kept missions in the forefront at Biola. He added the School of Intercultural Studies and fought to keep the annual Missions Conference, even though it takes three days away from classes. In 1983, he added the Welch Computer Lab. Cook also oversaw the addition of nationally recognized programs, like the Torrey Honors Institute, the undergraduate film program and the master’s degree in philosophy of religion and ethics. By the time Cook retired last spring, enrollment had nearly doubled to 5,752 and several new buildings were completed, including a new library, a business building and the school’s largest dorm, Hope Hall. Biola had also risen to national prominence, receiving national news coverage on shows like ABC’s *Nightline* for its conservative Christian views.

After a nationwide search for a new president, Barry H. Corey was chosen to lead Biola into its second century. At his inauguration in November, Corey said, “This is a moment for all of us, one more time, to give God glory for who He is and for what He has done through Biola University for 100 years. We stand in expectation for what is still to come.”

The men’s 2005 baseball team finished first in GSAC.

1980s students

“The Word,” also called the “Jesus Mural,” was painted on Bardwell Hall in 1990 by muralist Kent Twitchell.


The annual Mock Rock lip sync competition is a student favorite.

A 1980s student in the “Art Barn,” which was replaced in 1997 by the Ceramic/Sculpture Studio.
Finding Contentment in a Discontent World

Have you ever noticed how discontentment with the circumstances of our lives spawns all kinds of problems? The other day I missed the freeway exit while driving with my wife and young son. Of course, the next opportunity to exit was several miles further down and, due to some road construction, taking this exit led me on a seemingly never-ending detour in order to get back to the freeway. With my son crying in his car seat, I was anything but content with how things were going. As the discontentment grew I became more and more anxious about getting where we needed to go, frustrated with myself, impatient with the detour, and angry about our situation. All of this eventually spilled over in a pitiful attempt to blame my wife for my having missed the exit in the first place!

Whether it’s driving woes, health problems, job tensions, relational troubles, financial issues, our personal appearance, or numerous other circumstances, it is quite easy to become discontent and dissatisfied with the way things are. And discontentment tends to breed a whole host of additional vices: worry, frustration, envy, jealousy, condemnation, control, etc. How different our lives would be if we were able to remain more content, at ease and peaceful in the midst of life’s detours.

It is the disturbing nature of discontentment that makes Paul’s teaching in Philippians 4:11–13 so incredibly striking. Paul claims that “whether living in plenty or in want” he has “learned the secret of being content in any and every situation.” That is absolutely amazing. Paul is no longer wrapped up in the turmoil of a discontented heart.

Notice that it is not that he always gets what he wants (he is writing from a prison cell that he may not be released from) nor that he is apathetic about his condition (he does genuinely appreciate the Philippians’ help), but he takes pains to make clear that even if the help had not come, he would have been able to remain content. And with contentment pervading his heart, the anxiety, frustration, envy and anger fail to arise. Paul has learned an important dimension of the good life — but what is his secret?

Here we must be careful, for Paul’s secret has become cliché. His secret is: “I can do everything through him who gives me strength” (verse 13). I remember seeing a Christian poster once with a climber atop a high mountain peak, hands outstretched toward the sky, with the caption beneath: “I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me!” This image seems to suggest that with Christ on our side, we can always succeed. But that is not what Paul is teaching here. Rather, he’s teaching us about experiencing contentment even when we miserably fail to reach the peak.

The strengthening of Christ does not change Paul’s circumstances for the better, but it changes Paul’s response to his circumstances. It seems that Paul is referring to the literal strengthening presence of Christ in his inner being (compare to Ephesians 3:16 and Colossians 1:11). Paul has learned — to borrow another phrase — to be “filled with the Spirit” (Ephesians 5:18). When Paul is filled with the love, grace and truth of Christ, he is strengthened internally and the circumstances of his life do not cause him the angst they otherwise would. He is tethered to the inexhaustible reality of the Divine life from above that puts “living in plenty or in want” in perspective.

What is crucial for us, then, is not to try to drum up contentment in all circumstances. We have no direct control over that. What we can do is learn over time, as Paul did, to cultivate the strengthening presence of Christ in our lives so that we too might gradually find discontentment (and its attendant perils) a thing of the past. This will, of course, take time. And the way forward in this relational transformation is easier said than done. But we can take solace that we are not alone in the process. As Hebrews 13:5 puts it: “be content with what you have, for He has said, ‘I will never leave you nor forsake you.’”

Steven L. Porter (’92, M.A. ’95) is an associate professor of theology and philosophy in two of Biola’s schools, Talbot School of Theology and Rosemead School of Psychology. He has a Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Southern California.
The Two Tasks of the Christian Scholar: Redeeming the Soul, Redeeming the Mind, Co-edited by William Lane Craig (research professor of philosophy) and Paul M. Gould (M.A. ’03), Crossway Books, Oct. 2007: In 1980, Dr. Charles Malik gave a memorable and poignant address at the dedication of the Billy Graham Center on the campus of Wheaton College. He presented a challenge in two tasks: save the soul and save the mind. Malik believed that in order to evangelize the academic world, evangelism must learn to speak at an academic level. He called people to raise their level of thinking and sharpen their minds to this end. In this book several contributors seek to apply this message to our current context. It is a call to academics especially to integrate Christian faith with their disciplines and to be intellectual in their faith for the purpose of communicating at the level of their peers and students.

Living With Questions, Dale Fincher (M.A. ’02). Zondervan/Youth Specialties, Aug. 2007: Living With Questions addresses tough theological questions that students ask and adults rarely answer fully. Philosopher, storyteller and popular campus speaker Dale Fincher addresses “The Questions” — a series of seven core, life-defining questions asked by high school and college students across the country — in a style that is personal and imaginative.

The God Conversation: Using Stories and Illustrations to Explain Your Faith, Co-authored by J.P. Moreland and Tim Muehlhoff, IVP Books, Nov. 2007: In The God Conversation veteran apologists and communicators J.P. Moreland and Tim Muehlhoff say that often the best way to win over others is with a good story. Stories have the ability to get behind our preconceptions and defenses. They can connect both emotionally and intellectually, appealing to the whole person rather than just to the mind. The authors offer a wealth of penetrating illustrations, examples and quotes that respond to these issues and more. In these pages they enhance the logic and evidence found in other books defending the faith, with things your friends, relatives or co-workers will ponder long after a conversation is over.

Faith, Film and Philosophy: Big Ideas on the Big Screen. Co-edited by R. Douglas Geivett (professor of philosophy), IVP Academic, Nov. 2007: Plato said, “Those who tell stories rule society.” So who today are our principal storytellers? Not philosophers, but filmmakers. For those who know both the enormous entertainment potential and the culture-shaping power of film, this book will stir mind and imagination. But another philosopher, Aristotle, reminds us that wonder is the true source of philosophy. So perhaps Plato or Aristotle might have a shot at ruling society, even today if they took an interest in film. These 14 essays consider classic and current films together with several major philosophical themes, all within the context of Christian faith.

Overcoming the Dark Side of Leadership: The Paradox of Personal Dysfunction (Revised Edition), Co-authored by Gary L. McIntosh (professor of Christian ministry and leadership), Baker Books, Nov. 2007: The Christian world has been rocked by the number of prominent leaders, in both church and parachurch organizations, who have been compromised by moral, ethical and theological failures. This pace-setting volume addresses this alarming problem and offers Christian leaders valuable guidance in dealing with the inherent risks of their work. Using biblical and current examples, the authors describe the characteristics of five types of leaders and the problems that are most likely to develop if their particular dysfunctions develop unrestrained.

Invitation to Biblical Preaching: Proclaiming Truth with Clarity and Relevance, Donald Sunukjian (professor of Christian ministry and leadership), Kregel Academic & Professional, March 2007: Written in a conversational style with prose examples to illustrate all concepts, Invitation to Biblical Preaching takes the reader step-by-step through the entire process of preparing a biblical message, from studying a passage with skill and integrity to delivering a message with persuasion, accuracy, passion and relevance. An experienced pastor and homiletics professor, Donald Sunukjian provides budding pastors with wise counsel that is sure to stay with them throughout their ministries.

Single Moms Raising Sons: Preparing Boys to Be Men When There’s No Man Around, Dana S. Chisholm (M.A. ’02), Beacon Hill Press, Sept. 2006: How can a single mother provide her son with the strength and wisdom most boys receive from their fathers? How will her son learn to be a good man without a healthy male influence around? In Single Moms Raising Sons, Dana Serrano Chisholm speaks from her own experience as a single mother of two boys and inspires other single moms to partner with God — the Father of the fatherless.

“In Print” features books by Biola alumni and faculty. Send submissions to: Biola Magazine, 13800 Biola Ave., La Mirada, CA 90639. Self-published books must have a back cover endorsement from a known name in the book’s field.
1920s

Eva Rose (Pauls, ’27) Weightman was born in Reedley, Calif., on Oct. 16, 1907. She came to Biola in 1925 where, in addition to her studies, she sang in the Biola Glee Club. In 1929 she married William B. Weightman, and they lived in Los Angeles. Eva and William had three children: Joan Marie Gray, Velva Jeanne Griffin and William Paul Weightman. When her children were older, Eva went to work at the Federal Reserve Bank in Los Angeles, where she worked for 12 years and retired in 1972 as supervisor of files. Eva celebrated her 100th birthday in October. The photo shows Eva, third from the left, with other members of the Biola Octet group.

1940s

R. Eschol Cosby (’49) attended Biola after serving five years in the U.S. Army Air Corps. At Biola he formed a gospel team called “The Christian Cowboys,” which featured a western style of music. Besides having a full itinerary performing in churches and youth meetings, the group recorded several records and made television appearances. After graduation, Eschol married Joan Ives. Eschol pastored Arizona churches in Superior, Douglas, Sedona and Pearce. During his career as a songwriter, he wrote over 50 gospel songs, including his signature song, “Branded for Christ.” In 1977 he recorded an album, “A Christian Cowboy Concert,” with his children and their spouses. Together with his family, he recorded four other albums of gospel music. He had a national radio ministry that spanned 50 years and an evangelistic television broadcast ministry that lasted for six years. In 2005 he received an honorary doctorate for lifetime achievement from Cornerstone Baptist Church in Union City, Ind. Eschol and Joan have three children (Bob, Becky and Cathy), 20 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. They live with their son in Logansport, Ind.

1950s

John “Jack” Henderson (’50) and his wife, Linda (Woell, ’47), have served with Wycliffe Bible Translators since 1950 and have been on retirement status since 1998. During their active years, they were involved with administration and training. After establishing homes in eight countries, they now live in South Carolina just south of Wycliffe’s JAARS Center in North Carolina. “We continue to assist in the orientation of new members and are a resource person for managerial coaching and help,” Jack said.

1960s

In July, Marilyn (Schellenberg, ’68) Hansen finished a 39-year career of public education in Hacienda Heights, Calif. In August, Marilyn joined Mercy Ships to serve as a volunteer onboard the new Africa Mercy, the largest non-governmental hospital ship in the world. She teaches in the Academy for students of crewmembers. During the writing of Marilyn’s update, the Africa Mercy was docked in Liberia, West Africa, providing medical surgeries, eye care and dental services for Monrovia and surrounding areas. marilyn.hansen@mercyships.org

1970s

Neil Stipp (’76) had his article, “The Music Philosophies of Martin Luther and John Calvin,” published in the September edition of The American Organist, the most widely read journal devoted to organ and choral music.

Seng Young (’79), a graduate of the nursing program, serves as the assistant head nurse of the intermediate care ward of the U.S. Army 325th Combat Support Hospital in Iraq. Seng and his wife, Sherry, said they count it an honor to help share the cost of freedom that is so easily taken for granted. sengold@hotmail.com

1980s

Greg Dudgeon (’83) was named superintendent of Gates of the Arctic National Park and Preserve and the Yukon-Charlie Rivers National Preserve in Alaska. Together, these national parks comprise over 11 million acres (roughly the size of Switzerland) and two of the largest designated wilderness areas in the world. In December, Greg, his wife, Sherry, and their three children relocated to park headquarters in Fairbanks from their former home in Sitka, Alaska. Greg’s career with the National Park Service spans nearly 20 years, with time spent in Utah, Colorado and Alaska. Greg, who earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology at Biola, also attended the University of Wyoming and California State University at San Bernardino for postgraduate work. greg_dudgeon@nps.gov

Tom (’89) and Audrey (’86) de Rivera and their five children returned from missionary service in Rota, Spain, in 2006, after seven years directing the Victory Villa hospitality house. Cadence International (originally Overseas Christian Servicemen’s Centers) establishes houses like Victory Villa near key military bases around the world to share the gospel message with military communities. The de Riveras live in Philadelphia, Pa. They serve part time with Cadence International, and Tom works full time with a defense contractor.

1990s

After switching careers into the field of education in 2001, Gregory Voelker (’93) is finally settling into his new area of expertise. He relocated to San Jose, Calif., to take on a teaching position as a special education instructor with Seven Trees...
Alumni Files  *Five ways you can get involved and make a difference at Biola*

In recent weeks we’ve had many alumni ask when they might have the opportunity to meet President Corey. We encourage them to consider one of the upcoming Biola events or chapter activities around the country. In the coming year, we will be hosting numerous events including the alumni chapel and awards ceremony on Feb. 22 during Alumni Weekend, Serve Day on Feb. 23, and the Centennial Legacy Gala also on Feb. 23. (Learn more about Serve Day on page 38, and see ads for Alumni Weekend and the Legacy Centennial Gala on pages 40 and 16.)

‘There are many alumni across the country who love Biola and are seeking ways to partner with the University as we grow alumni services and programs.’

During the spring semester we will also be hosting several “Meet the President” chapter events across country that you know you will enjoy. But most events with President Corey are selling out, so I would encourage you to get your reservations in early, so you won’t be left out! Watch your mailboxes for more details.

One of the questions I often hear is, “How can I get involved and make a difference for Biola?” There are many alumni across the country who love Biola and are seeking ways to partner with the University as we grow alumni services and programs. Many of you would like to serve and give back to Biola, but aren’t sure what that might look like.

I serve on several boards and committees outside of Biola, and it’s the organizations where I find my service most needed, valued and best utilized that I want to pour my life into. Our goal at Biola is to bring value to volunteer service.

So, how do you become an active alumnus? First, consider serving on the Alumni Board. We are always looking for Alumni Board members who love Biola, want to make it even better, and are willing to help set the vision for alumni benefits and services. If you want to serve in that way, drop us a note saying why you want to be involved and a little information about yourself. A member of the board will contact you for follow-up.

Second, consider leading a chapter. There are still several regions where large groups of alumni live, but don’t yet have a chapter. If you would like more information about leading a local chapter, we would love to talk to you about leading one.

Third, join the Reunion and Events Committees — like the 1960s Reunion Committee that has been meeting regularly to plan for a huge decade reunion here at Biola in July. We would love to help you put together a meeting of your class or special interest group. Were you part of Biola Abroad, the soccer team, Chorale, the wrestling team with Coach Orr, King’s Men or the winning intramural football team from 1987? If so, we would love to help you put together a reunion of your friends during a Biola event or a special event just for your group.

Fourth, of course we always need financial support. Your gifts make a huge difference for the University. Many students and alumni don’t know that the tuition they paid was less than what it actually cost to educate them. Someone supplemented your tuition to make it possible for you to attend Biola. Now it’s our turn to support the next generation of students.

Fifth, prayer is perhaps the greatest gift you can give to Biola. Your prayers for Biola — for our new president and all the leaders, and prayers that we would remain a bright beacon for Christ, rooted firm in our founding faith — are invaluable. This is an amazing year for Biola. A new president, new buildings, new century of opportunities, and — as President Dick Chase told President Clyde Cook more than 25 years ago — and Cook recently shared with President Barry H. Corey, “Biola’s best days are yet ahead!” The Alumni Association, as Biola’s alumni voice, looks forward to going there with you.

**Rick Bee**

(‘79, M.A. ’90, Ph.D. ’01)

Senior Director of Alumni and Friend Development
Elementary School. “God has come through by providing a wonderful new job, career, and helping me settle down in San Jose, Calif...” Gregory said. The San Jose Education Foundation along with the city of San Jose recently offered Gregory a grant to help him relocate. He said he hopes to call San Jose his new home for many years to come.

2000s
Kim (Than, ’00, M.A. ’02) and Michael P. Castro (’99, M.Div. ’03) have been married for five years and are excited about their new ministry as well as relocating to Irvine, Calif. Michael recently took a full-time position as the senior associate pastor at Harbor Trinity Church in Costa Mesa, Calif. His duties include overseeing local and global outreaches, small groups, adult education and preaching. Kim teaches English at Warren High School in Downey, Calif. She’s also a full-time student, pursuing a doctorate in psychology with an emphasis in marriage and family therapy. Kim’s desire is to start a private counseling practice and a nonprofit counseling ministry for those who are unable to afford professional care. The Castros would love to hear from other alumni. michaelpcastro@gmail.com or kimcastro@gmail.com

Marriages
Sharon (Poelstra, ’95) and Mike Bertuleit were married on May 26, 2007, in Portland, Ore. Biolans in the wedding included Melinda (Poelstra, ’99) Ma, John Poelstra (’91) and Paul Poelstra (’63), father of the bride. Mike is an electrical engineer, and Sharon works as a wound care specialist in the hospital of Oregon Health and Science University in Portland.

Byron Garmo (’98) married JoDee Ancheta on Aug. 31 in La Jolla, Calif. Alumni in the wedding party included: Matt Conway (’98), Greg King (’98), Rich Ferreira (’00, M.A. ’02), Shawn Lorenzen (M.A. ’03), Eric Malone (’97), Krista Garmo (’00) and Kai (Garmo, ’03) Ward. Byron and JoDee live in San Diego, Calif. Byron works in operations and marketing for an organization called Mission to Children. JoDee works as a cafe manager and realtor.

David Cross (’02) married Jenny Daniel on Feb. 3, 2007. The couple lives in San Clemente, Calif. david.cross@usfood.com

Kevin Felt (’02) married Ruth Hull on Oct. 7 in Social Circle, Ga. Kevin and Ruth met while teaching English in China and were engaged in Thailand. The couple lives in Pasadena, Calif. Prior to going abroad, Kevin worked for five years as a journalist, reporting for the Whittier Daily News, San Gabriel Valley Tribune and Pasadena Star-News. When he returned, he picked up where he left off, working for the Pasadena Star-News. Kevin and Ruth plan to return to China in 2008. Both are working on master’s degrees in intercultural studies through Wheaton College. kevunblush@yahoo.com

Lauren McCartney (’06) and David Turner (’02) were married at Grace Evangelical Free Church of La Mirada, Calif., on June 10. Former Biola employee Daniel Dau and Biola professor Erik Thoennesses officiated. Lauren’s bridesmaids included students and alumni: Kellee Thompson (’07), Nicole Hollearn (’07), Kaitlyn Rohrbach (’07), Annalisa Schappert (’05), Emily Ballbach (’06), Terri Hewko (’06), Morgan McCartney (’11) and Beth Turner, (’06). Jones. David’s groomsmen included Brian Jones (’02), Colby Long (’02), John Rinehart (’02), Kyle Wormser (’08) and Patrick Saia (Talbot, ’05). The Turners reception was held at Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park, Calif. The couple honeymooned in Kauai, Hawaii. Lauren and Dave are both Talbot students and Biola employees. Dave is the resident director of Stewart Hall, and Lauren is the undergraduate chapel accountability coordinator. laurenturner@biola.edu

Births
Doung (’85, M.A. ’06) and Jolene Wicks are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Noah Lawrence, born April 25, 2007. He was welcomed by his big sister, Phoebe (7), and his big brother, Levi (4). The Wicks family lives in Entebbe, Uganda, where they serve the East African church in the work of Bible translation with Wycliffe Bible Translators. communications_utb@sil.org

Marguerite Watson, ’91 and Michael Allen joyfully announce the arrival of Joshua Michael on June 23. The Allens live in Boise, Idaho, where Michael works as a software engineer, and Marguerite keeps very busy as a stay-at-home mom.

Nancy (Hillaker, ’91) and her husband, John Puckett (’97), are pleased to announce the birth of Jesse Matthew, born at home on Aug. 20. Jesse is welcomed by his four older siblings: Emily, Rebekah, Hannah and Johnny. John is a teacher at Katella High School in Anaheim, Calif., and heads the BITA program. Nancy is a stay-at-home mom and homeschools their children. The Puckets live in Whittier, Calif. bybysbye@aol.com

Lynee (Gerbrandt, ’92) and Matthew Graves announce the blessed birth of their fourth child, Brant Carl-David, born July 24, in Denver, Colo. Brant joins his big brothers, Braden (14) and Camden (10), and big sister, Justina (3). Matthew continues to work as a police officer with the Denver Police Department, and Lynee is in her ninth year of joyfully homeschooling their children. They spend loads of time with both sets of the children’s grandparents who live nearby, and they recently vacationed in Mexico with the whole family. lynee.graves@msn.com

Jonathan (’93) and Maggie (Huang, ’94) Choy were blessed with a new addition to their family, Nathanael Cheng Yen, on Jan. 10, 2007. “Cheng” means virtuous in Chinese, and “Yen” refers to a wise scholar. Bethany (5) is a proud big sister and loves her little brother. Both Jonathan and Maggie work at Biola University. jonathan.choy@biola.edu or maggie.choy@biola.edu.

Steve (’96) and Veronica (Fenske, ’96) Johnson are excited to announce the birth of their first child, Sophia Grace, born on Oct. 7. Steve and Veronica have been married for 11 years and live

Continued on Page 38
Where Are They Now?

Building ‘Bridges of Hope’ in Africa

Dennis Wadley (’84, M.A. ’98) is the co-director of Bridges of Hope International, a community development organization dedicated to helping in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Africa, with his wife, Susan. After reading about the AIDS pandemic in a February 2001 issue of Time magazine, Dennis and Susan traveled to Cape Town, South Africa, to witness firsthand the complex issues the country is facing. In February 2003, the Wadleys moved to South Africa and started Bridges of Hope South Africa. Its programs include linking churches from the United States with communities in South Africa to empower them to meet their own identified needs, launching a Leadership Training Center, and opening an orphan boarding school for teenage children of parents who died of the disease. In Philippi, South Africa, where the Wadleys launched the first Bridges of Hope ministry in a community of 100,000 people—there has been a remarkable transformation, according to Dennis. “Missionaries from Philippi have multiplied the ministry to three surrounding communities and have even helped launch community development projects in the neighboring country of Swaziland,” Dennis said. He, Susan and their three children, Tasha (16), Addie (14) and Elijah (11), returned to California in December to work out of the Bridges of Hope Santa Barbara office. dennisw@bridgesworldwide.org

Reversing Childhood Obesity

Steve Grant (’69)—associate professor and department chair of health and human performance at George Fox University in Newberg, Ore.—received the 2007 Faculty Achievement Award for Undergraduate Teaching in June. Steve’s passion for improving health is contagious to his students, and he gets excited about preparing elementary education teachers to change the health trend among their future students. Steve said that as teachers model and encourage healthy behaviors, “our society can reverse the trend toward childhood obesity and early onset diabetes that takes such a huge toll on both the mental and the physical health of Americans.” Steve is also in his 26th season as the women’s volleyball coach at George Fox, where he took on the position of associate athletic director in 2007. Steve has led the team to two conference championships and two national championships. He played three sports at Biola—basketball, baseball and soccer—and was basketball MVP his junior and senior years and was selected as a First Team All-West Coast player in soccer in 1968. He majored in English and met his wife of 40 years at Biola, Kathy (Ware, ’66), who studied music and was a cheerleader. Kathy is an enrollment counselor at George Fox. They have two grown sons and four grandchildren. sgrant@georgefox.edu

Teaching Classical Music to Haitians

Louima Lilite (’99), originally from Port-au-Prince, Haiti, is completing a doctorate degree at Eastman School of Music in Rochester, N.Y., one of the nation’s most prestigious music schools. Louima has won several awards in piano and voice, and the “Excellence in Teaching Award” from Eastman. Louima’s first formal music instruction took place when he was 13 at the North Haiti Music Camp in Limbé, Haiti. The camp—founded by alumna Laurie (Heneise, ’73) Casséus—provided musical training to students with little or no money, with the condition that they would work to improve the quality of music in Haitian churches. “I will never forget that fortuitous summer that opened my eyes to a world I never knew existed,” Louima said. In a music theory class at Biola, Louima met his wife-to-be, Dephanie (Yim, ’98). Louima and Dephanie—a pianist and stay-at-home mom—return to the Haitian camp each year to volunteer their gifts. The camp’s 30th anniversary in 2007 coincided with Louima being named director of the summer session. The Lilites have two daughters, Abigail (5) and Estelle (born last April). lilitefamily@aol.com

Making Psychology Personal for Students

Jerre White (Psy. D. ’94) is dean of the School of Psychology and director of the graduate clinical psychology program at Vanguard University in Costa Mesa, Calif. Jerre also teaches classes on topics like ethics, psychodynamic therapy, chronic illness, death and dying, and child abuse workshops. But the part of her work she loves most is aiding graduate students in the process of becoming therapists and in their own journeys of self-introspection and discovery. “Learning about clinical psychology becomes very personal. You cannot earn this degree without being personally changed,” Jerre said. In fact, it was a personal family crisis that drove her to go back to school to pursue a doctorate in psychology, 17 years after she earned her undergraduate degree. Jerre and her husband, Jack, have been married for 37 years. They have two adult sons and live in Long Beach, Calif. jwhite@vanguard.edu

We surprised these alumni with a phone call or e-mail. Who knows, you may be the next alumnus to be featured in “Where Are They Now?”
Alumni Chapters Gear Up for ‘Serve Day’ By Pattie Brown ('00), Alumni Board member

About 30 alumni and students rose early one Saturday morning last February, grabbed a cup of Starbucks coffee, and met on Biola’s campus. They were on a mission. The Biolans broke into teams, one heading to an elderly couple’s house in a nearby neighborhood. The couple’s garage was overpacked. So, the Biolans cleared the garage, making room for the couple’s cars to be parked inside. Another team broke into twos and threes and went door-to-door, handing out batteries for smoke detectors.

The purpose of the event, called Serve Day, was twofold: to get involved in the local community and to make a positive impression of the University. The concept was created by the Alumni Board’s Service Committee. Though the first Serve Day was a modest start, the next Serve Day, Feb. 23, will be expanded to include alumni chapters around the world — all serving their communities on the same day.

Biola junior Becca Hull took part in the event last February. Hull was the Associated Student Government Spirit Board chair at the time and learned about this opportunity when the Alumni Board met with Associated Student leaders. She decided to get involved because she said she has a “passion for the community and wants to see that Biola becomes a part of La Mirada and not just in La Mirada.”

Hull also indicated she hoped to “open up doors and love the people she met.” When asked how she felt after the event she said, “It was good to be there and be a part of planting a seed. It is the first step to being a bigger part of the community.”

Hull said she’s excited to be involved in the next Serve Day.

Chris Gleason ('95) — a pastor in San Clemente, Calif., and chair of the Service Committee — has great hopes for the future of this event.

“Based on the response of the alumni and students to last year’s event, I look forward to the impact in La Mirada and around the world,” Gleason said.

We hope many alumni will take part in the next Serve Day. Won’t you join in and do something positive in the name of Biola University and the Lord?

To get connected with a chapter in your hometown, call the Alumni Association at (562) 903-4728 or e-mail alumni@biola.edu.

in Virginia Beach, Va., where Steve works from home as a web application developer, and Veronica is halfway through her Psy.D. from Regent University. steve@stevejohnson.org

Jeff ('97) and Jessica (Goetchius, '99) Eschen are pleased to announce the arrival of their fourth blessing, Luke Scott. He was born into loving arms at home in Canby, Ore., on March 9, 2007. He joins his big brother, Andrew (6), and big sisters, Gwendolyn (4) and Leah (2). Jessica is a homeschooling mom and tries to keep up on housework. Jeff works in Salem, Ore., as a certified public accountant doing various audits and tax preparations. Together they are training their children up in the admonition of the Lord.
eschenfam@canby.com

Chris ('97) and Heidi (Zimmerman, '98) Henry are proud to announce the arrival of their second child, Allison Elizabeth, born June 6. She joins her older brother, Josh, at their new home in Wildomar, Calif.

Michelle (McNally, '98) Balloun, and her husband, O. Shane, are pleased to announce the birth of their beautiful son, Lucas Aurelius, born Aug. 21, 2006. Lucas looks just like his daddy. The Ballouns recently moved from the Bay Area in California to Bellingham, Wash., to be closer to family and to enjoy a slower pace of life. O. Shane continues to work at Google in policy, and Michelle resigned from her AdWords account manager role at Google to focus on home and family management responsibilities. “Seriously, this job is way more fun than my old one!” Michelle said, adding, “Life is good and we are very blessed.”

Holly (Rasmussen, ’00) and Abe Grindling joyfully announce the birth of their second son, Simon Russell, born March 13, 2007. Elliot (2) loves being a big brother. The Grindlings live in the Portland, Ore., area, where Abe works for Horizon Airlines, and Holly works as a part-time oncology nurse.

Erik ('00) and Monica (Duran, '99, M.A. '03) Peterson are proud to announce the birth of

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Biolans Up Close  Bill and Pam’s recipe for a happy marriage

Bill (M.Div. ’86) and Pam (Rogers,’83) Farrel are popular marriage conference speakers and bestselling authors of Men Are Like Waffles, Women Are Like Spaghetti (Harvest House). The Farrels have been featured on Focus on the Family and Family Life Today radio programs, discussing ways to avoid becoming a divorce statistic. Here, Bill and Pam share their best marriage advice.

Pam

One common thing a woman does to hurt her marriage is constantly point out flaws. Some really good men — men who bring home a paycheck, play with the kids, don’t cheat or drink or beat their wives — still feel bad about themselves because their wives have forgotten the art of saying, “I appreciate you.”

The best thing a woman can do to help her marriage is compliment her husband. Men like to live in boxes they feel comfortable and successful in. So, if a woman wants a more romantic husband, a more responsible husband or a more communicative husband, then if she will begin to compliment him in those areas she will notice he will want to do more of those things.

The biggest predictor of divorce is how couples mishandle conflict.

The biggest predictor of a happy marriage is how nice of a person you are to your spouse. We should treat our mate like company.

Take the word “divorce” out of your vocabulary. Your mate will feel safe and will be easier to live with, and your Red Hot Monogamy — the title of our latest book — will increase!

The thing that first attracts you to your mate can become the thing that irritates you later. I fell in love with Bill because he’s a really great listener. However, being a pastor, he will focus so much on listening to someone that he often runs 15 minutes late. I used to criticize, but now I compliment him for being a great listener and that’s completely changed the mood in our home.

The worst marriage advice I’ve heard is “Marry a Christian.” We know plenty of Christians with bad marriages. Better advice might be, “Marry a Christian who has a vital, growing relationship with God and understands the meaning of commitment.”

There are two ways to deal with money arguments: Make more money or learn that the way a person deals with money is an expression of his or her personality and background. When you can talk through those deeper issues, the money problems then take care of themselves.

Two danger zones for marriage are early on — in the first five years — and then midlife when life’s responsibilities pile up. The midlife crisis stage is one reason I started an organization called Seasonedsisters.com so women can gain encouragement for holding their marriages together.

The more passionate a couple is about their relationship with God, the more passion is in their marriage. Simple things like praying together daily and investing in your spiritual growth add to marital satisfaction.

Bill

A common thing a man does to hurt his marriage is shut out his wife emotionally by being passive or angry at her.

The best things a man can do to help his marriage are pray for his wife and with his wife every day and be intensely curious about what God is doing in her life and how she is wired.

The biggest reason for our successful marriage of 28 years is we followed this principle: Be tough on yourself and tender toward your spouse. Spouses usually reverse the two.

All problems in marriage come down to two things: selfishness or stupidity. One (or both) partners have become selfish and self-centered and/or done something really stupid like use porn, take drugs or have an affair.

Marriages face new problems today, including the pornography that is being piped through the Internet. Also, individuals are so independent they’re not as committed to marriage.

Warning signs that a marriage is in trouble are that you’re frustrated daily with your spouse, intimacy has ceased to exist and you feel like exiting the marriage.

If a couple has a bad marriage they can take steps to transform it. Forgive, pray together, seek counsel, get in church, get in a couples Bible study where healthy relationship are modeled and get a mentor couple. Every marriage is one breakthrough away from being really great, and sometimes things feel harder right before a breakthrough because vulnerability is forming.
their first child, Tatiana Isabella, born April 15, 2007. The Petersons are enjoying each day of parenthood with their new daughter. puchi-cuvozz@aol.com

Andrew ('00) and Laura Poe welcomed the birth of their first child, Abigail Louise, on March 8, 2007. The Poes live in Los Alamitos, Calif. Andrew is working to complete his Master of Divinity at Talbot, and Laura returned to work as a registered nurse in the fall. They think “Abby Lou” is the biggest blessing from God! web.mac.com/andrewpoe

Colin ('01) and Elizabeth (Langenwalter, '03, M.A. '06) Anderson announce the birth of Emily Elizabeth Audrey on Feb. 7, 2007. Colin is serving in Iraq, and Liz spends her days playing with Emily.

Melissa (Fox, '01) Stephenson and her husband, Lee, are excited to announce the birth of their son, Aaron Lee, born July 29. The Stephensons live in Mesa, Ariz., where Lee is an associate pastor, and Melissa is a stay-at-home mom. melfoxy15@msn.com

Caleb ('01) and Laura (Mitchell, '01, M.A. '06) Tucker are thrilled to announce the birth of their daughter, Audrey Sophia, born July 28. Audrey joins her proud big brother, Micaiah (2). For pictures, visit www.lauraandcaleb.com

Beau ('02) and Ashley (Moreland, '02) Brady announce the birth of their first child, daughter Taylor May, born on July 2.

Ryan ('03, M.A. '04) and Karla (Defries, '02) West announce the birth of their daughter, Ella Kay, born on April 26, 2007. The family moved from Denver, Colo. to Whidbey Island, Wash. They are enjoying life in the Northwest with their adorable baby girl. They said they love and miss all their Biola friends. ryan.west@biola.edu

Jacob ('04) and Chrissy (Malone, '03) Abeelen welcomed their daughter, Claire Jane, on Feb. 22, 2007. Claire joins her big brothers, Connor (5) and Carter (2). The Abeelen family lives in Whittier, Calif. Jacob is the administrative pastor at Morningstar Christian Chapel, and Chrissy works as a part-time student teacher supervisor for Biola’s education department.

Deaths
Clarence Ecker ('50) died on June 20, 2005, in Barron, Wis. Clarence was born on June 3, 1920, in Great Falls, Mont. He served in the Army during World War II and received the Bronze Star Medal as a staff sergeant. He also accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior during that time. Clarence married Dorothy Schultz on June 9, 1946. He attended Biola and, after graduation, became a pastor of a church in Los Angeles. In 1959, the Eckers moved to Barron, Wis., where they served as full-time missionaries with the American Missionary Fellowship for 26 years. Clarence and Dorothy were active in ministering to the mentally disabled in Barron County. Clarence served as the pastor of the Evangelical Free Methodist Church until his death. He is survived by his sons, James and Paul; granddaughters, Pamela and Kristina; a great-grandson; and a brother, Alvin.

Joseph Cooke ('52) died Oct. 25. Joseph was born in China, among the Lisu tribe, where his parents — Biola alumni Allyn and Leila Cooke — served as missionaries. After graduating from Biola, Joseph became a missionary to Thailand with his wife, Laura Hopping, and helped translate the Bible into the language of the Pwo Karen tribe in Thailand, Laos and Burma. After their return to the United States, Joseph attended the University of California at Berkeley, where he graduated fi beta capa, and later taught Thai and C.S. Lewis courses at the University of Washington. He wrote several books, including one for men struggling with sexual temptation. Laura developed Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis, and Joseph lovingly nursed her until her passing. He then attended a Youth With A Mission training school taught by his younger brother, John Cooke. In his later years, Joseph traveled the world, visiting and encouraging the Good Samaritan Ministries centers. He also taught linguistic schools for Wycliffe Bible Translators. In Thailand, Joseph worked with Good Samaritan Ministries to develop a counselor-training program and offered aid to children orphaned
Baby Biolans

01) Abigail Louise Poe
02) Aaron Lee Stephenson
03) Brandt Carl-David Graves
04) Noah Lawrence Wicks
05) Claire Jane Abeelen
06) Ella Kay West
07) Joshua Michael Allen
08) Jesse Matthew Puckett
09) Lucas Aurelius Balloun
10) Taylor May Brady
11) Luke Scott Eschen
12) Nathanael Cheng Yen Choy
13) Sophia Grace Johnson
14) Tatiana Isabella Peterson
by tsunamis. Today, any of Joe’s friends can go to Good Samaritan Ministries, sit in his rock- ing chair, and remember him and the Savior he loved and served.

Kenneth Fischer (‘52, D.Div., ‘76) died on Aug. 24 from pancreatic cancer. Kenneth was born on Oct. 6, 1930, in Olivia, Minn. Besides studying at Biola, he also studied at California Baptist Seminary, where he received a Master of Divinity degree. Kenneth was the founding pastor of Magnolia Baptist Church in Anaheim, Calif. He was described as an “energetic, enthusiastic and exuberant leader.” He was an evangelist who had a heartfelt love for his family and other people. A memorial service was held for him on Aug. 31 at Temple Baptist Church in Lodi, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Donna; daughter and son-in-law, Gwen and Steve Borges; son and daughter-in-law, Dale and Michele Fischer; six grandsons; one great-grandson; siblings, Rev. Loren Fischer, Neil and Gary Fischer, Jean Wollem and Linda Buhrmister; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Ted Dixon (’56) died May 4, 2006. Ted attended Biola for two and a half years before he transferred to San Francisco State College, where he graduated with a bachelor’s degree in education. He’s survived by his wife, Laura “Lee” (Bigley, ’56) Dixon, a retired fourth grade teacher. She lives in Monterey, Calif.

Henry “Hank” E. Jones (‘66) died Oct. 13 in Sacramento, Calif. Hank was 83 years old. He retired from the United States Marine Corps in 1961 and attended Biola in preparation for worldwide Christian service. He pastored Central Baptist Church in Costa Mesa, Calif., before joining the staff of Campus Crusade for Christ in 1970. He, his wife, Marjorie, and three of their children moved to Vietnam in 1970 to minister to servicemen and women as well as indigenous Christian leaders. When Vietnam closed in 1975, he took on the role of Oceana-Pacific Coordinator for Campus Crusade, opening 15 countries to Campus Crusade for Christ’s ministry, training leaders throughout the South Pacific, and unleashing countless mission leaders to fulfill their ministries. In 1979, Hank and Marjorie founded Spiritual Overseers Service International, an organization that has served national leaders in more than 80 countries. In all, Hank served the Lord in 89 countries.

Janice Irene (Darrow, ’73) Geist died Sept. 29 in Tigard, Ore. Janice was born in Philadelphia, Pa., on Jan. 6, 1952, but grew up in Playa del Rey, Calif. At age 4, Jan placed her faith in Jesus Christ. She later experienced the joy of seeing her children make the same decision. At Biola, Jan met her husband of 32 years, Dan Geist (’75). After a 1975 wedding and move to Portland, Jan worked at 3M Business Equipment Bureau, teaching customers to make presentations using overhead projectors. The Geists added three children to their family, fulfilling Jan’s lifelong ambition of motherhood. Her home was the scene of many art and craft projects. Jan’s works included painted Christmas ornaments, miniature flower paintings, watercolors, calligraphy, quilts, painted clothing, jewelry and photo-note cards. From 1998 to 2007, Jan’s journey through cancer was filled with God’s grace. Always the comforter and encourager to her “chemo buddies,” Jan would ask them, “What flavor of cancer do you have?” then listen and finally share her own story of God’s ability to bring peace and allow U-turns. Her hallmarks were a gracious spirit sprinkled heavily with humor. Her husband and children were privileged to care for her throughout hospice. A memorial service was held on Oct. 13 at Tigard Christian Church. Surviving Jan are her husband, Dan; son Aaron and daughter-in-law, Alison; daughter, Annaliese Bightel, and son-in-law, Matt; son Andrew; mother, Doris Darrow; sister, Joanne Huddleston; and brothers, David and John. Read more about Jan and see her creations at www.jangeist.com.

Mike Louis Rice (’75, M.Div. ’80) died Oct. 3, two weeks after being diagnosed with end-stage liver disease. Mike was born on Dec. 31, 1951, in Los Angeles, Calif. He grew up in Hollywood and attended Notre Dame High School before attending Loyola University. Two years later, a spiritual experience led Mike to drop out of school. He spent a year traveling around the South in his van and lived with the family of a black pastor friend in Clarksdale, Miss. When he returned to California, Mike completed a bachelor’s degree in biblical studies at Biola and later graduated with a master’s degree in theology from Biola’s Talbot School of Theology. While at Biola, Mike met his wife, Sharon (McMillan, ’76) in the Café. The couple courted in the Biola library and often spent time together in Rosemead Chapel. Their three children were born while the family lived in Pasadena, Calif. Mike embarked on a financial journey that led him to become involved with a number of different companies. By his own admission, Mike was not money-motivated. His passion and zeal were in spending time with his family and living out his faith in the workplace. Mike made friends wherever he went, reaching out with kindness and joviality at every turn, including with the nurses and doctors who cared for him at the end. In addition to his wife of 32 years, Mike is survived by his sons, Josh and Jeremy; his daughter, Heather; his sister, Carol; brothers, Larry and Tim; and several beloved nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles and in-laws. A memorial service celebrating Mike’s life was held on Oct. 13 at Lamb’s Fellowship in Lake Elsinore, Calif. Guests were invited to wear Hawaiian shirts in Mike’s honor. Sharon can be contacted at wildriceproductions@gmail.com.

— News & Notes compiled by Emily O’Dell
Ancient scribes painstakingly prepared the Scriptures by hand, preserving them for future generations. Daniel B. Wallace achieves the same goal by using modern technology.


The nonprofit center is the only center in the world devoted to making digital photographs of existing Greek New Testament manuscripts so the images can be preserved, duplicated and be accessible to scholars doing research. Yet, Wallace sees his work as much more than a scholarly pursuit.

“I think it’s important because Scripture is important,” Wallace said. “I think it’s important because if we truly love Jesus Christ, we need to honor the Jesus Christ we know from the Bible.”

The work is especially vital, he said, given that manuscripts frequently get lost, stolen or destroyed by fire. And many are rapidly deteriorating.

Wallace — author of Greek Grammar: Beyond the Basics, a standard textbook — got the idea for using modern technology to preserve ancient text when Apple Computers introduced an early version of a PDA commonly referred to as the Apple Newton in the 1990s. The device featured handwriting recognition software.

“When I noticed the Newton had come out, I thought this is the very kind of thing we need to do with these manuscripts. All we really need to do is get the manuscripts photographed digitally and then apply OCR (optical character recognition) technology to them to have them read and then we can have all the manuscripts available and accessible to scholars,” he said. The quality is 10 times better than microfilm, he said.

It’s a daunting task. There are about 1.3 million pages of Greek New Testament manuscripts known to exist. The center already has photographed over 60,000 pages, taking more than 25,000 photographs alone in two expeditions over the summer.

And the scholars have discovered manuscripts previously unknown to Westerners.

“In our first five years, we have discovered more New Testament manuscripts than the rest of the world combined has discovered,” he said.

The manuscripts are spread across the world. Wallace’s work has taken him to numerous sites including Mt. Sinai, the Vatican, Constantinople, Geneva, Milan and most recently, the Greek island of Patmos, where the apostle John wrote the book of Revelation.

Over the summer, one team from the center worked in a subterranean library at the Monastery of St. John the Theologian on the island. Another team went to an Eastern European country that Wallace can’t currently disclose, where they rediscovered 16 manuscripts that had been presumed lost and discovered another 18 that were unknown to Western scholarship.

In Constantinople in 2004, they discovered two leaves of a very early manuscript — a leaf from Mark 3 and another from Mark 6. The manuscript can be dated by its uncial script, a type of script consisting of all capital letters that was exclusively used in the first 800 years A.D. This was the first uncial manuscript ever discovered in Constantinople, according to Wallace.

The scholars take between 60 and 90 minutes to prepare a manuscript for photography. Photographs, taken with 17 megapixel cameras, are uploaded onto a hard drive. The scholars can get through 1,200 to 1,700 pages a day.

Funds to make digital photographs of all the manuscripts would cost about $10 million, Wallace said. If the center could send out 20 teams a year, the effort could be completed in 10 years, he said. The center is networking with some major institutes in hopes of receiving funding and is also seeking private donations and grants.

It’s tiring work, especially for Wallace, who was diagnosed with a strain of viral encephalitis 10 years ago that put him in a wheelchair. He recovered but the impact remains. When Wallace gets too hot or too overworked, his legs start shutting down.

Yet, despite the heat and long hours on expeditions, Wallace never feels the effects of the virus when he’s examining manuscripts.

“I think this is the thing I need to be doing,” he said. “It’s in my DNA. This is what God designed me for.” — Lisa O’Neill Hill

For more information, visit the center’s Web site at www.csntm.org.
Help Julie take **TRUTH** to the next generation.

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- Insider briefings via President’s Memoranda
- Private invitations to University activities: presidential events, concerts, lectures and athletic events
- Free subscription to *A Century of Truth*, Bible-teaching CDs including President Corey, Joni Eareckson Tada, J.P. Moreland and others
- Communication from students sharing their Biola journey and your impact on their lives