

FALL 2016

# Inside HIU

THE MAGAZINE OF HOPE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
& NEBRASKA CHRISTIAN COLLEGE



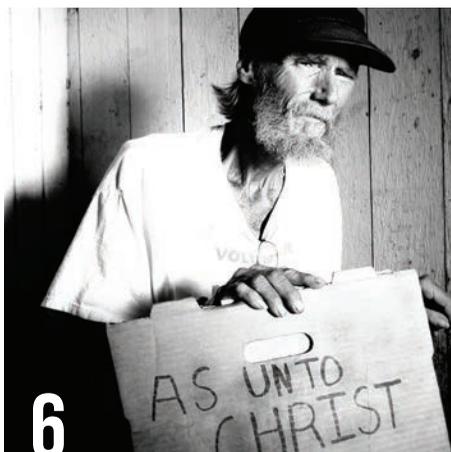
## *Cultivating Hope*

ALUMNI SOW ETERNAL SEEDS  
ACROSS THE U.S. AND ABROAD

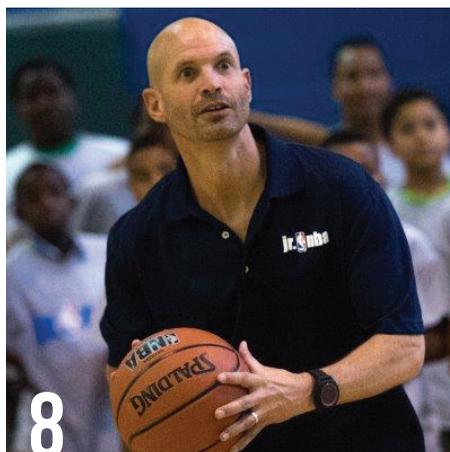
# WE ARE **HOPE**



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# Inside HIU

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**InsideHIU** is published by the  
Office of Institutional Advancement

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Hope International University is a regionally accredited Christian university founded in 1928 that integrates faith, service and learning. Through undergraduate, graduate, and online degree programs with faculty and staff dedicated to student success, our students experience a transformative educational experience and are prepared to make an impact with their lives. Our diverse student body represents over 35 states and 40 countries around the world.

# PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

When new students first arrive on campus, they are a little apprehensive and not quite sure what to expect. Then, after a few days and the opportunity to get acquainted, they begin to have a greater comfort level with their classmates and new surroundings. The same experience has been true of our faculty and staff on the HIU campuses in Fullerton and Omaha, as we've continued the merger process.

Over the past few months, we've been getting to know one another better. In May, I spoke for the Nebraska Christian College Commencement services, after which we recognized former trustees who had provided visionary leadership to the college. I also enjoyed visiting with friends of the school at several gatherings hosted by supporting churches in Nebraska and Iowa. At the NC Homecoming Celebration in July, I met alumni and donors who shared their memories of the NC campus in its former Norfolk location and of former professors and administrators who had faithfully served the school. At the beginning of this semester, I had the opportunity to speak for the opening Convocation services on both campuses, to let our students know we are here to help them succeed and achieve their goals and dreams.

As individuals and small groups from each campus make visits to the other campus, we're developing a better understanding of our respective programs and finding more ways to work together. This semester, our homiletics (preaching) course will host guest lecturers, such as **Bruce Templeton**, **Gene Appel**, and **Jeremy Jernigan**, in a video-interactive classroom on campus in Fullerton, CA, that is connected to an Omaha, NE, classroom. Such technology enhances students' educational experience and gives them the opportunity to learn from gifted leaders who might not otherwise be available to them. As we expand academic offerings at NC, we anticipate this learning tool will be used more frequently in all majors.

Several NC faculty members joined us in California for the opening faculty meetings, with scheduled time for the exchange of ideas, planning, and fellowship. The following week, **Dr. Joe Grana**, Dean of Pacific Christian College of Ministry and Biblical Studies, and Phil Towne, Director of the School of Advanced Leadership Training, met

with several pastors in Nebraska about establishing sites in local churches where emerging leaders will have access to regionally-accredited classes in biblical studies and leadership development.

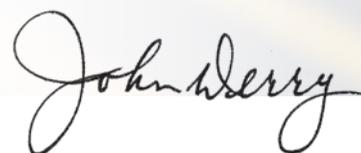
Andy Dykhouse, NC Director of the Institute for Church Leadership, was recently on the Fullerton campus to share with Bryan Sands, HIU Campus Minister, details of how the Institute's mentoring and residency program has been developed. This innovative approach to preparing effective leaders is increasingly in demand, and we look forward to establishing partnerships with churches in Southern California, just as the Nebraska campus has done.

Currently, we are in the integration phase of the merger, implementing policies and procedures, ensuring compatibility of technology, and revising position descriptions. We've had teams

“WE'RE DEVELOPING A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF OUR RESPECTIVE PROGRAMS AND MORE WAYS TO WORK TOGETHER.”

on campus at NC to coordinate Human Resources, blend Finance operations, and install new computers and software. Soon, our departments of Enrollment Management and Institutional Advancement will launch a new marketing campaign to build awareness of the merger and new program options at NC. Together, we're developing a five-year strategic plan that includes the addition of athletic programs, campus master plans for Fullerton and Omaha, and new academic offerings.

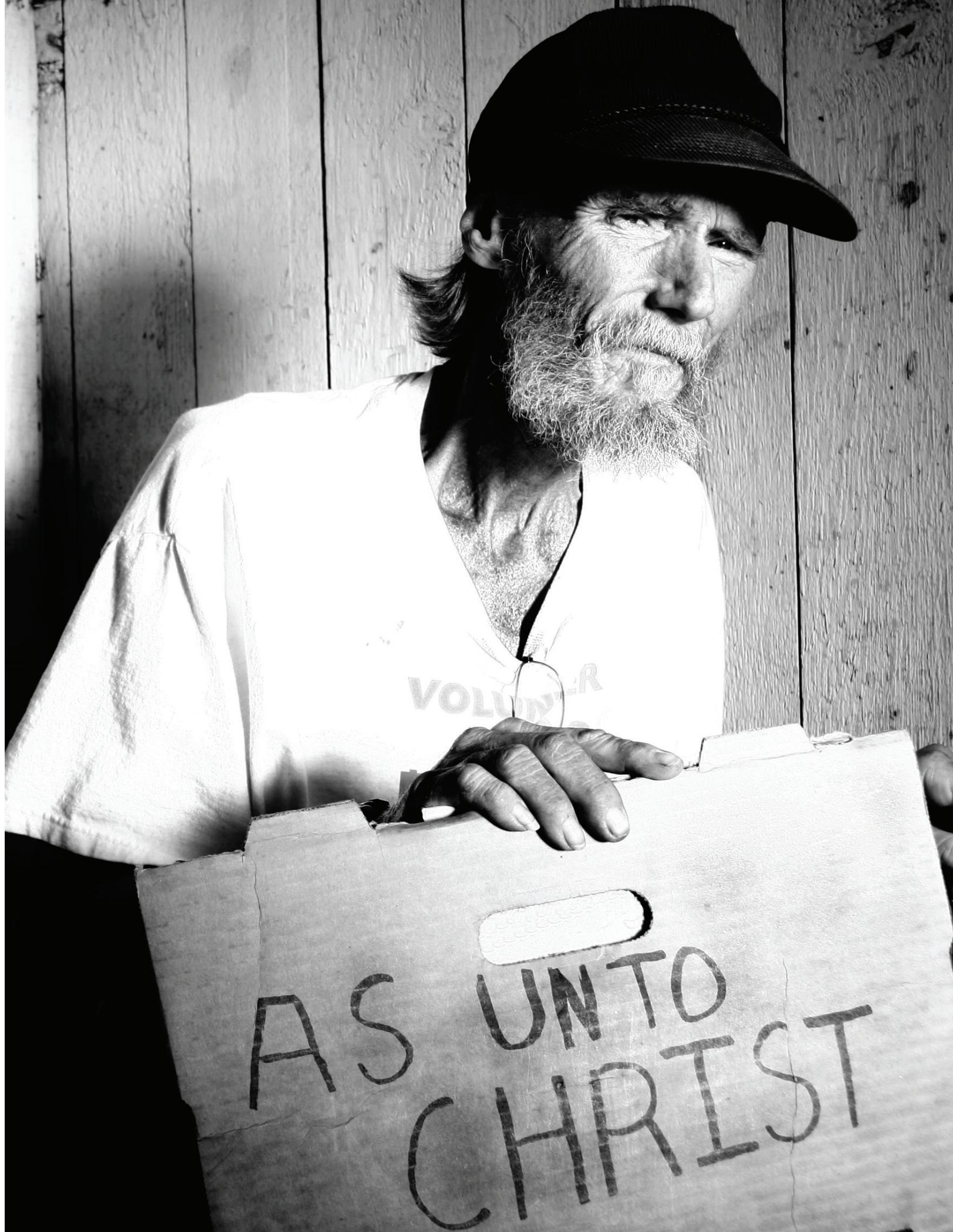
From the beginning of this endeavor, we have sensed God's direction and the encouragement of constituents from both schools. We ask for your continued support and appreciate your prayers as we plan for the future.



HIU'S MERGER WITH NC REPRESENTS A MILESTONE IN PRESIDENT DERRY'S VISION TO STRENGTHEN CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION THROUGH COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS.



*Dr. John L. Derry, President, in the Ministry Equipping Center (MEC) at NC*



VOLUNTEER

AS UNTO  
CHRIST

# “I AM HOPE”

## LIFE SUPPORT MENTOR TRAINING

When **Bill Nelson (BS '12, MA '13)** was a college student in Long Beach during the late '70s, he decided to help his mother work with those experiencing homelessness one weekend in the Arbor Villa area nearby. Nelson spent a lot of time “just listening” to his new acquaintances, he said. After getting to know them, he and his mother were able to connect them to resources designed to assist them in finding housing, jobs, and educational opportunities, but only if they wanted to accept the help.

“As I learned about who they were, I found that they once were engineers, mechanics, accountants and others with amazing degrees,” Nelson said. “But one business mistake caused them to just hit hard times. And I noticed something else – there were not enough people there to help that weekend.”

Forty years later, Nelson is a pastor at Fresh Beginnings Ministry in Costa Mesa and leads classes to teach others how to help those experiencing homelessness. He has taught more than 80 people how to become mentors. His program “Life Support Mentor Training” is supported by Fresh Beginnings Ministries and is open to the entire community.

Since that first weekend he helped his mother in Arbor Villa, Nelson has devoted his time to working in rescue missions and churches. He kept handwritten notes of the techniques that he found the most effective. The notes were for the thesis he was writing while earning his master’s degree in pastoral care and strategic leadership at HIU. He later assembled that thesis into a book on understanding homelessness and how to offer the appropriate help and had it published. Today, students use that book for their curriculum during his mentor training program.

After his first class took off in Huntington Beach last year, one of his students, a consultant from Costa Mesa, suggested a class to run in Costa Mesa. Nelson liked the idea.

“I gave my booklet to the city’s higher-ups, then they looked through the material and checked our status as a nonprofit,” Nelson said. “Once they understood the concept and that it was all about people trying to understand the homeless individually, they were all in.”

In February, 2015, he began to teach two classes that met once a month in the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Center. In nine months, his students graduated from the program.

**“We’ve learned so many things the past nine months,” said Costa Mesa resident Syndy Resler, one of Nelson’s graduating students. “I learned how to listen with my eyes. Sometimes, people will tell you one thing to get what they want, but you can see a different story.”**

While rollerblading in Newport Beach three years ago, Resler met a homeless man. “I thought maybe he’d like some help,” she said. “I brought him clothes, took him to church and also a sober home. But he dropped out of [the home] after four days. I had to realize he just didn’t want help.”

With those Resler encounters now, she asks whether or not they are hungry, do they have any addictions, do they have a source of income and are they willing to work for an income? “There are people who want help and are willing to get help,” Nelson said. “Our job is to find them. We never rescue them, but instead, we seek to empower them.”

**HIU Alumnus BILL NELSON with Fresh Beginnings Ministries gives a Life Support Mentor certificate to Judy Haskell at the Costa Mesa Neighborhood Center. The graduation ceremony was held for people who completed 30 hours of educational training in the area of mentorship for the homeless.**

*Story written by Alex Chan. Copyright (c) 2015. Los Angeles Times. Reprinted with Permission. (photo credit: Scott Smeltzer / Daily Pilot)*



# ALUMNI IN ACTION

## GLOBAL NBA AMBASSADOR

### AN INTERVIEW WITH NC ALUMNUS, TROY JUSTICE

**Tell us about your career path after graduating and how you ended up working in the NBA.**

I graduated from Nebraska Christian College and became the Youth Minister at Boulder Valley Christian Church in Colorado for 2 years. Then I played and coached professional basketball for Athletes in Action, where we played against Kentucky, Duke, North Carolina, Kansas, and UCLA. From there I coached college basketball at Gordon College in Boston and later became the Dean of Students & Athletic Director at Cincinnati Christian University. Afterward, I worked for the NBA as Senior Director of Basketball Operations in Mumbai, India. Today I serve the NBA as the Senior Director of International Basketball Operations based in the New York League Office.

**What does your day-to-day look like in that role?**

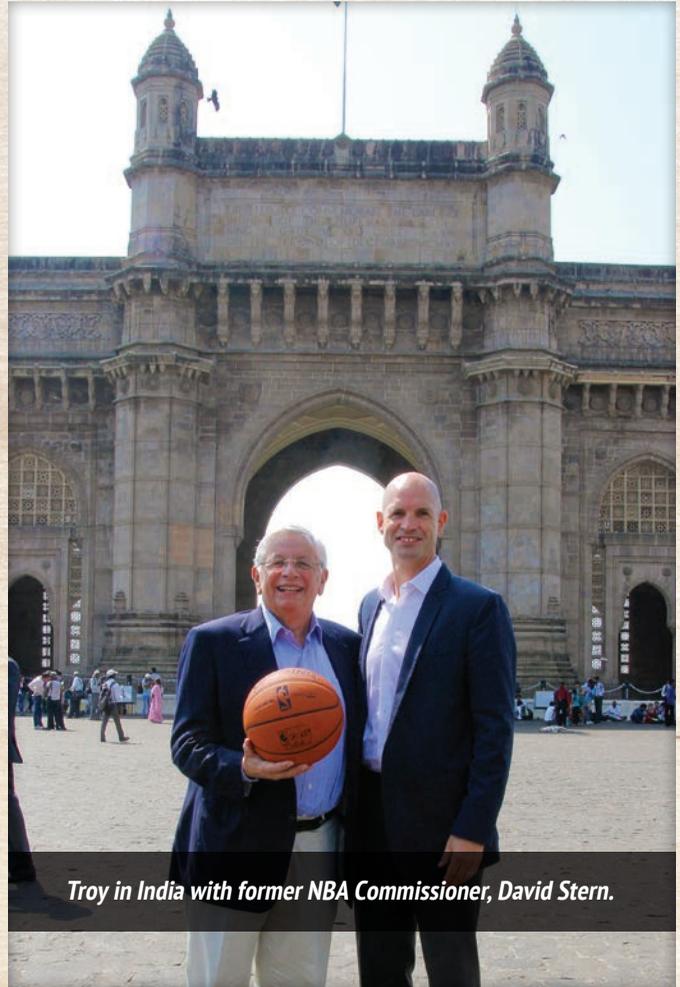
My role involves determining strategy and development of new NBA global basketball programs, including the expansion and curriculum of the Junior NBA global basketball program, which currently has over 12 million participants. On the court, I oversee the training of coaches and players. I coordinate the Basketball Without Borders Basketball Camp held during the NBA All-Star weekend for the top forty Under 17 (U17) players in the world. I serve as the liaison with the NBA for the U.S. State Department Sports Diplomacy tours. I work directly with our international NBA and WNBA players at NBA events, along with the FIBA (International Basketball Federation) for special projects. I am responsible for communication and support with our staff in regional offices located in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Mumbai, Johannesburg, Rio, Mexico City, and London, and I serve on the USA Youth Basketball Committee.

**What do you love most about your current job?**

I enjoy learning from others every day, encouraging and supporting their growth in the process while helping them pursue their dreams. I get to be a part of contributing as a member of a talented team at work. The job is constantly changing with daily challenges of improvement. Basketball is a platform that allows us to make a positive impact in communities around the world.

**How did the college experience prepare you for a career?**

The classroom challenged me to grow and prepare in knowledge and skills, but I also grew a lot outside the classroom. There's a saying, "More is caught than taught." The example of godly men and women working at NC who modeled their Christian faith, loving me unconditionally in spite of my many faults



*Troy in India with former NBA Commissioner, David Stern.*

and supporting me through my many mistakes and difficult life circumstances shaped me profoundly. The faculty, staff, and students were a family that genuinely cared for one another. The basketball court taught me to be disciplined, have a strong work ethic, be a good teammate, deal with losing and winning, overcome obstacles and accomplish goals which help you reach your dreams.

**How did you come to faith in Christ?**

I grew up in the church as a pastor's son hearing the Gospel. At age 12, I surrendered my life to Christ and gave Him complete control. I am a sinner saved by God's grace.

**How has your faith impacted how your work on a daily basis?**

It guides me to treat others how I want to be treated. My faith helps me to look for ways to serve others and to fulfill my role on the team. I face the day with confidence and optimism knowing there are workable solutions to be found for challenging problems. I value hard work and

understand that we should give our best. I understand it is not about me, but it is about doing the best with what God has given me.

**What advice would you give to your 20-year-old self?**

Don't be a dreamer only – do something everyday to pursue your dream. Trust God with everything; He is in control and has great plans for you. Think of others more than yourself and look for ways to give something to someone everyday expecting nothing in return. Be strong and courageous. Smile everyday as much as you can; it helps you and others you meet all do better. Remember a soft word turns away wrath. Pursue your passion, not money. Money often follows passion. Do the next best thing that is right in front of you. Bloom where you are planted. Work hard where you are and produce results. Then you will be prepared for the next opportunity God has for you. Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do. Be the best version of you. There is no one else like you.

**You've worked at churches and in the marketplace. What were some of the core issues that were similar (good & bad) at both?**

People are at the center of everything, so it is about treating others with dignity and respect. Communication is critical to effective organizations. Hire passionate hardworking employees because they will produce results. A positive outward and others-focused culture

is a trademark of successful organizations. Effective organizations spend time shaping the future with giant sized ideas. Effective organizations understand that success is found in the details and that failing to prepare is preparing to fail. Good organizations manage their human and financial resources wisely.

**Who were the people and what was the moment(s) that changed everything while you were at NC?**

There were so many people. My wife Andrea and I met at NC and have been married 29 years. That changed my life. Dr. David DeFor, Judy Gillen, Chris Lahm, Allen Boelter, Dan Cravatt, Bill Miller, and so many others were pivotal influencers for me, including so many incredible friends who will always remain in my life. The moments include playing on the basketball team, singing in the Christian rock band, Daesha, participating with New Way Singers, preaching in churches on weekends, working summer internships at churches, and so many other memories.

**What was your funniest NC moment (that we can print)?**

As a new freshman, I was invited by some eager upperclassmen wanting to welcome me to NC, so they invited me to see some of the local sights. Before I knew it, I was being thrown off a dock into a lake. That was a good one!



# ROYALS

**16** ALL-CONFERENCE PLAYERS  
**14** GSAC SCHOLAR ATHLETES  
**14** NAIA SCHOLAR ATHLETES

**16** PLAYOFF TEAMS  
**6** NAIA ALL-AMERICANS  
**6** NAIA SCHOLAR TEAMS

**2** NAIA ALL-REGION PLAYERS  
**1** ACADEMIC ALL-DISTRICT  
**1** GSAC DEFENDER OF THE YEAR

**BASEBALL:** In their inaugural season (see story on next page), the Royals were prolific at the plate, scoring in double figures on seven separate occasions. The Royals' best individual pitching performance came from **Payton Lobdell** against GSAC opponent Arizona Christian when Lobdell registered 13 strikeouts against the Firestorm in a complete-game effort. **Stefan Miladinovich** was the Royals' most productive hitter with 65 hits including 18 doubles, two triples, and three home runs. **Sean Clark** led HIU with 37 RBI and 12 HR.

**MEN'S BASKETBALL:** The Royals competed in their third consecutive GSAC Tournament Championship in 2015-16 and the team has made it to at least the GSAC Tournament Semifinals in each of the past four seasons. For the fourth year in a row the Royals finished in the NAIA Coaches' Top 25. The Royals boasted the second-best scoring defense in the NAIA during the 2015-16 season, allowing only 63 points per game. Additionally, HIU set three team single-game scoring records and averaged 77.8 points per game, the third-best scoring average in the program's history. HIU finished with the second-best GSAC record in 2015-16 with a 13-3 mark. **Tuff Barnes** and **Garrett Neilan** were named NAIA All-Americans and each of those players also received a nod as an All-GSAC player. Neilan also was honored as the GSAC Defender of the Year.

**WOMEN'S BASKETBALL:** The Royals finished the 2015-16 playing in the GSAC Tournament Semifinals for the third straight season. HIU achieved a NAIA Top-10 mark in defensive field goal percentage after holding opponents to 35% from the field and 27.6% from three-point range during the season. Two Royals were honored for their efforts in the classroom as GSAC Scholar-Athletes in 2015-16 and one Royal received a nod as an All-GSAC player.

**WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY:** Honored as a NAIA Scholar Team. **Ronda Ackley** was named both a GSAC and NAIA Scholar-Athlete.

**GOLF:** The Royals women earned NAIA Scholar-Team honors. **Allison Weideman** and **Clarence DeVera** were named All-GSAC players.

**MEN'S SOCCER:** The Royals' GSAC Semifinals appearance in 2015 is the third for the program and the second-most of any athletic program at HIU.

**Irvin Guadarrama** and **Eddie Arellano** were honored as All-GSAC athletes in 2015. Additionally, **Emmanuel Quitero** was honored as a Scholar-Athlete while All-GSAC defender Arellano was named the Cliff Hamlow Champion of Character for HIU during the 2015-16 academic year.

**WOMEN'S SOCCER:** The Royals' **Kristin Damon**, **Bianca Fard**, and **Xochitl Sandoval** were honored for their work on the pitch as All-GSAC athletes in 2015. Additionally, Damon and **Tara McNaught** were honored as Scholar-Athletes while All-GSAC defender Damon was named the Cliff Hamlow Champion of Character for HIU during the 2015-16 academic year.

**SOFTBALL:** **Alejandra Guillen** was named All-GSAC for the 2016 season and was the Royals' best hitter with a .393 average, 66 hits, 15 doubles, three triples, six home runs, and 38 RBI. Guillen also was honored as a NFCA All-Region player. **Jocelyn Young** was named a NAIA/GSAC Scholar-Athlete.

**TENNIS:** **Michael Maiolo** received NAIA/GSAC Scholar-Athlete honors. **Sabrina Miller** was named a NAIA/GSAC Scholar-Athlete.

**TRACK:** The women's squad was named a NAIA Scholar-Team; **Ronda Ackley** received NAIA/GSAC Scholar Athlete and CoSIDA Academic All-District honors.

**MEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** The Royals were a perfect 8-0 against NAIA Independent West teams in the 2016 season and outthit conference opponents .261 to .126 as a team. Three players were named All-Conference - **Tim Shenkin**, **Zach Greene**, **Beau-General Osborne** - with Shenkin also receiving All-Conference Scholar-Athlete honors.

**WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL:** **Conley Kipp** became the first Royal to be named a NAIA All-American and an AVCA All-Regional player. Kipp was All-GSAC (1st since 2003), NAIA All American, and AVCA All-Region. The team also had four athletes named GSAC Scholar-Athletes in 2015 for the effort they put in to their studies: senior **Brittanie Blanchard**, juniors **Johannah Wade** and **Samantha Fonseca**, and sophomore **Katie Landazuri**.

# THE RE-DEBUT: BASEBALL RETURNS TO HIU

Baseball returned to HIU with a victorious roar as the Royals team marked its home season opener by beating La Sierra University 13-1 on January 23. University officials are delighted to have baseball back on the athletics roster, and Opening Day festivities reflected their exuberance.

Head Coach ERICH PFOHL is proud of his team and the campus community and says that the fan support is as good as anything he has seen in more than seven years of Southern California college baseball.

“To see something like Opening Day run as smoothly as it did is a testament to the leadership and sense of community this campus has,” he said. “Our guys really fed off the environment that was created by everyone, ultimately executed a quality baseball game that night, and we couldn’t be more proud of them!”

Alumni and friends enjoyed a barbecue, and guests received commemorative Opening Day baseballs to mark the historic return of baseball after an absence of three decades. Seven players scored at least one run each on the team’s home field at nearby Valencia High School.

Placentia-Linda Unified School District Superintendent DOUG DOMENE (who is now Dean of the School of Education at HIU) and Valencia High School Principal Rick Lopez were recognized for their partnership with Royals Baseball. MARK COMEAUX, HIU’s Vice President for Student Affairs, presented Domene and Lopez with team jerseys and certificates of appreciation.

“It’s been a long-term goal to bring back baseball, but it’s not just about baseball,” said President JOHN DERRY, who threw the first pitch. “Our coaching staff has brought together a team of students who are committed to their sport, and to the mission and ideals of HIU – the kind of people who win off the field, too, and who carry the mission and ideals into a lifetime of service.”



# STUDENTS WITHOUT BORDERS FROM NEBRASKA TO BRAZIL & KENYA

This summer, much of the world turned their attention to Brazil for the Rio Olympics. In June, Professor **Andrew Wood** and student **Naomi Schaub** unexpectedly found themselves in Brazil for a very different purpose.

Dr. Wood serves as Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies at Nebraska Christian College, HIU's newest branch campus. Having previously served as a full-time missionary to Ukraine and participated in many short-term trips, he knows how unpredictable missions can be.



Dr. Andrew Wood

Last fall, Dr. Wood agreed to recruit a team with *Let's Start Talking*, a longstanding Dallas-based ministry that sends short-term workers to sites around the world. Halfway through the year, the team's original destination, Jordan, was changed to Senegal because of scheduling difficulties. Just a few weeks before departure, the destination was changed yet again to Brazil. As students joined and dropped from the team, one student, Naomi Schaub persevered to raise her funds and complete the journey.

A sophomore in NC's Family Life and Counseling program, Naomi Schaub is a Wyoming native who had never previously left the United States and admitted to being afraid to fly over water. She overcame this fear and found the results very rewarding: forming a close friendship with a longer-term worker on site, bonding with Brazilian nationals, and finding renewed confidence in her spiritual walk. In her words: "Going through all of this I learned that God really does have my best interest in mind. It may seem blurry at times, but if I had never let Jesus use me I would have never been able to meet the incredible people in my life, let alone have this amazing experience in Brazil."

For three weeks the team worked in cooperation with a church in Brasilia, offering English lessons from a workbook based

on passages from the book of Luke. Students ranged in age from teenagers to senior citizens and included academics, IT professionals, members of the military, lawyers, and a taxi driver. Some of those who became interested in the text began to attend Bible studies at the church. A cancer researcher commented: "I have never heard these stories explained this way before. It feels like they are talking about my life. You are making the Bible come alive to me."

Dr. Wood sums up the *Let's Start Talking* outreach this way: "LST trips allow us to bring a genuine benefit to the community by giving those who want to learn English the chance to practice with a native speaker, and they bring the local church into contact with people who otherwise might not consider attending or studying the Bible. The Brazilian people are friendly, hospitable, and kind. The relationships we made on this trip were well worth the time and effort."



NC students **Brandon Grant** and **Alicia Vonckx** spent 6-months in Africa with an organization called *Experience Mission* through a program called "Immersion." Through this program, they were able to uniquely experience three distinctly different countries, living with a local family in each community. In the words of *Experience Mission*: "We uphold the dignity of others when we eat their food, walk their roads, sing in their language, and bathe in their river."

The first segment of the trip was spent in Centurion, South Africa, working at an elementary school in a township (which would be comparable to an inner-city slum). The next community was in Lesotho, working with a farming organization called *Growing Nations*, that seeks to educate and practice sustainable farming methods with the people of Lesotho and beyond. In the last community, they were involved in several projects including building a daycare and helping out at a local orphanage.

# ALUMNI IN ACTION

## A KALIEDOSCOPE OF CONNECTIONS

**Jessica Vance (BA '14)** started her ministry with third-culture kids (TCKs) even before she enrolled at Hope International University. "Third-culture kids" is a term coined by cultural anthropologist Ruth Useem while she lived in India with her family more than 50 years ago, referring to those who are born to one culture, but who have spent most of their lives in another culture. It is the blending of those two cultures that creates a "third culture."

Through her organization, *Kaleidoscope*, Vance works primarily with third-culture kids who are the offspring of American missionaries. Jessica is a TCK herself, having been born in America and then grown up in Central Asia as the daughter of missionary parents. In her teens, she had the opportunity to work with younger kids as an intern for the Youth with a Mission program, and her calling was born. She followed that calling after high school and was counseled to pursue a college education, entering HIU at the age of 22. She credits the *Hope* faculty, particularly **Dr. Joe Grana** (Dean of Pacific Christian College of Ministry and Biblical Studies), **Dr. Kevin Lines** (Professor of Intercultural Studies), and former faculty member **Linda Whitmer**, with helping her design a degree plan that was unique to the development of what is now *Kaleidoscope*.

"HIU played a huge part in getting me ready for this," she said.

Vance operates *Kaleidoscope* from New York with the assistance of two part-time staff members (also TCKs). All three are in their twenties and work from three different states in a sort of virtual office. The programming model is very similar to the work Vance did prior to college. Each of *Kaleidoscope's* travel teams is made up of volunteers who have lived the TCK experience and most are young people who have previously been program participants.

She said that the best time to connect with groups of kids is when their parents travel to international missions conferences. The *Kaleidoscope* team creates safe spaces for TCKs to share their stories and process transition. They address such issues as the frequency of saying "good-bye" to friends when living abroad in other cultures (some third-culture kids move every year), the transitional state of missionary families, and the sense of not belonging to either their parents' cultures or the cultures of their international homes.

There are also sessions for parents. Though some might question the validity of a very young person leading a parent class, Vance said that these parents typically are very grateful to have someone investing in their kids, and her youth is not a detriment, because they see and appreciate the team members interacting positively with their children.

"I'm really honest about the fact that I don't know very much about being a parent," she explained. "These parents are living outside their comfort zones, just like the kids are, and they are happy to interact with someone who understands the issues of that lifestyle."

Despite the challenges of being a TCK, Jessica resists when someone, jokingly or otherwise, categorizes her and other adult missionary kids as "survivors." She said that it's not a harmful, terrible experience to be a third-culture kid and added that the kids typically have great verbal skills and are very articulate in emotional discussions about "living between worlds."

Vance approaches the future with an entrepreneurial spirit. The financial support of *Kaleidoscope* mostly comes from individual donors, but she expects to expand that development to church congregations and other possible sources of funding. She also is open to creating programming for the children of international business people, in addition to her ministry with missionary kids, and is excited about the positive impact of adult TCKs on younger TCKs and their parents.

**"We are able to develop beautiful friendships and see God at work," she said. "Even though there is some bittersweetness in this kind of life experience, we are showing Third Culture parents and kids that we are not just surviving – we are thriving!"**





The Gabriels see firsthand the hunger for the Gospel among Dominican youth.

## ALUMNI IN ACTION GET READY...GO!

When **Lenae Gabriel (BA '12)** attended HIU, her passion for international missions had already been ignited. As the daughter of an evangelist, Lenae grew up witnessing the miracles God performed on mission trips and felt called to continue on this road. She chose to attend *Hope* for the Christian principles, intercultural studies program, and the location being much closer to the coast than her hometown of Winchester, Virginia.

As an HIU student, Lenae played on the women's basketball team while earning her Bachelor's Degree in Intercultural Studies. She shared that playing on the basketball team taught her how to be a team player and also offered some great drills to do at sports camps that she now hosts.

"One of my HIU experiences that really stands out to me was when my class went on a mission trip to Mexico with Amor Ministries. I got to learn some Spanish, eat food that was out of my comfort zone, and hone my construction skills."

Upon graduation, she partnered with *Go Ministries*, and was stationed with a team, and her now husband Isaias Gabriel, in the Dominican Republic. *Go Ministries* is a non-profit organization that serves thousands of people in the Dominican Republic (DR), Haiti, Mongolia, and urban America by partnering with local churches, businesses, and leaders. Lenae is the Team Coordinator of Sports and Children's Ministry, working as the liaison between the Dominican and stateside staff leaders. Her husband Isaias serves as the Youth Pastor inspiring DR youth through Christian rap.

"My HIU education prepared me for my work with *Go Ministries* by teaching me how to fundraise properly and effectively build relationships on

the mission field to bring people into the kingdom of God. In my practicum class I learned how to perform a baptism and I have had the privilege of baptizing several of my friends!"

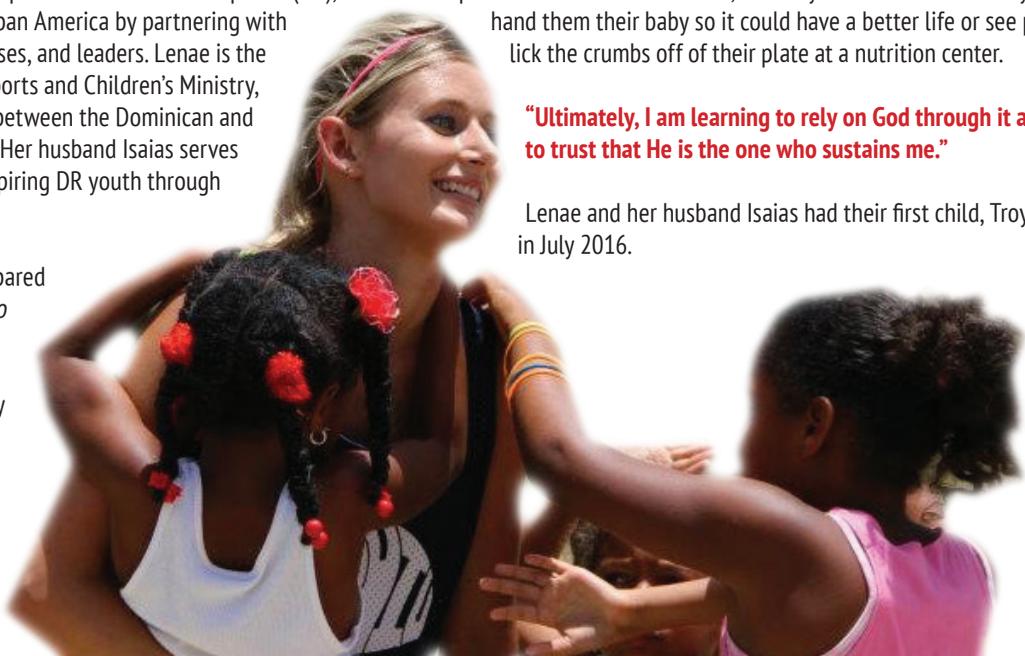
Lenae and Isaias thoroughly enjoy working with the youth in DR and being a part of the life changing experience that *Go Ministries* fosters for both the youth and the leaders (stateside and native). Living in the Dominican Republic, the Gabriels see firsthand the hunger for the Gospel that is prevalent in DR youth. "One girl walks for hours just to attend church," Lenae shares.

Lenae says she still experiences culture shock, both in her host country and upon returning to the United States. "I will never forget sitting in one of my missions classes at HIU and hearing that I would not only have culture shock going out of the country but also when I came back to the States. I didn't believe that, but it is totally true. Whenever I come back to the U.S., the first week is always the hardest for me. I usually don't even tell my friends that I am here yet; I just need some time by myself to reflect and process.

"Another thing that I am grateful I learned while at *Hope* is that people aren't going to completely understand how I am feeling -- because they haven't experienced it for themselves. I can show them pictures and tell them stories, but they've never had a dad try to hand them their baby so it could have a better life or see people lick the crumbs off of their plate at a nutrition center.

**"Ultimately, I am learning to rely on God through it all and to trust that He is the one who sustains me."**

Lenae and her husband Isaias had their first child, Troy, in July 2016.



# SPRING 2016 COMMENCEMENT

## HIU'S LARGEST GRADUATING CLASS!



On Saturday, May 14, 2016, HIU proudly conferred degrees upon 202 undergraduate and graduate students who successfully completed their chosen course of study. The Class of 2016 marks the largest graduating class in HIU's 88-year history. Drawn from the student body of over 2,000 students representing 31 states and more than 25 countries, these graduates now join over 9,000 alumni who carry HIU's legacy of service and ministry to locations across the globe.

Undergraduate student speaker **Cecilia Nava** encouraged her fellow graduates that "you do not have to earn God's acceptance or approval." **Kevin Cowell**, graduate of HIU's online program, quoted C.S. Lewis, "You are never too old to set a new goal or dream a new dream." Graduate student speaker **Karl Romero** thanked God for leading him

to HIU to earn a Master's Degree, and challenged the Class of 2016 to become a beacon of hope to whomever they encounter.

Commencement address speaker **Cal Jernigan (BA '78)** urged the graduates to "live daringly," recounting the inspiring true story of polar explorer Ernest Shackleton who ventured on dangerous explorations throughout his lifetime. Pastor Jernigan challenged the students to shun an insulated, risk-averse, boring life, stating, "God will take you beyond what you can imagine, but do not fear the unknown" in reference to 1 Corinthians 2:9. He concluded his address by reminding the audience that **"Today the trip begins; don't miss the adventure!"**

Jernigan has served as Senior Pastor at Central Christian Church in Mesa, Arizona, since 1999, a vibrant church of over 10,000 congregants. He and wife Lisa have two children, both of whom are also HIU alumni.

This was HIU's 101st Commencement Ceremony and marks Hope International University's 42nd academic year in Fullerton, where the University diligently maintains its commitment to advance the mission of Christ by empowering students through the integration of faith, service, and learning.

## NC COMMENCEMENT THE "HONOR CHAIR"

Nebraska Christian College memorialized Greta Milliken during its 2016 Commencement by displaying an empty, white-draped, "honor" chair. Greta was the wife of Harold B. Milliken, who served the school as professor and administrator from 1948 until his retirement in 1984, and served as President from 1952-1984.

Bob Milliken, son of Harold and Greta Milliken, serves as Professor of English and Humanities at the Nebraska campus. He said that his mother graduated with a bachelor's degree from Minnesota Bible College in 1947 and served as church secretary at First Christian Church, Council Bluffs, Iowa, until she married his father in 1951. Greta attended every graduation from 1952 through 2013, but missed the 2014 ceremonies, due to a heart condition.

"She loved NC's mission of raising up workers to build the church of Jesus Christ, and prayed and gave to that end," said Bob. "Seeing the new graduates sent out into the world meant everything to her."

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# THE INSTITUTE FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP

The growth potential of **The Institute for Church Leadership (ICL)** on the Nebraska campus, a ministry “honors program,” is one of the many great assets of the recent merger between HIU and NC. University leaders are working diligently to increase recruitment of students into this highly effective ministry training program.

NC has traditionally focused on pastoral ministry and has developed a stellar reputation for preparing pastors through the Institute, which combines on-campus learning and church residency components. HIU prepares strong, globally-focused church leaders, offering a range of 58 academic programs for those who have been called into such professions as teaching, counseling, and business. Students at the NC campus will benefit from expanded academic programming and students on the Fullerton campus will benefit as the ICL expands to the West Coast.

Nebraska and California is imperative and University officials have made it a priority to set that expansion in motion through increased fundraising, including grant seeking efforts.

**The church’s role is diminishing at a time when moral leadership has never been more needed, and HIU believes that the Institute model is designed to meet that need. The ICL model integrates service with learning from the moment that a student steps on campus.** Freshman students are required to volunteer five hours a week at a local church and, by the senior year, they are engaged in fulltime residency with regional congregations.

“For college students to be truly prepared for any job, they have to get out of the classroom, and find experiences to help make sense of the knowledge,” said **Andy Dykhouse**, Director of Leadership

Development at the Nebraska campus.

“For decades, colleges have assessed knowledge through tests and grades, but we wanted to get beyond that, and develop soft skills as well.”

Church partners benefit from the services of developing ministry students and also receive the benefit of enrichment for their own ministry staff members. Feedback travels continuously to and from students in the residency program, their resident ministry coaches, and Institute faculty, who “coach the coaches.”

“THE ICL IS THE INTERSECTION WHERE THE  
“ART” AND “SCIENCE” OF MINISTRY MEET.”

The Institute was established to grow ministers who will find ways to lead their churches in what researchers at Barna Group call a “post-Christian” society. The expansion of the Institute in both

The Institute model is founded on the principle that it is crucial for students to experience one or two years of intensive in-church training in order to achieve the level of competency that prepares

“Ministry education has long been a priority at HIU,” said President John Derry, “and this merger helps us take the Institute model and grow it, multiplying our impact on churches and future ministry leaders across the nation and beyond.”



*Featured ICL guest Cory Demmel addresses the NC community regarding principles of biblical ministry and leadership.*

them for the challenges of ministry. Institute leaders know that, in reality, a church leader is developed in a church. The Institute places students in the church setting, where they work with professional ministry staff, lay leaders, volunteers, and members of the congregation.

Students are recruited through a referral network of about 100 partner churches. Recruiters work with pastors and youth pastors from those churches to identify the students who have expressed a calling into ministry and who are gifted and passionate; it is required that they are recommended highly by pastoral staff. On-campus education includes regular small gatherings that feature national ministry practitioners. These events are intended to provide continuing education and support for alumni and local/

regional church leaders, allow students to interact with the best ministry people, and help students build a network with regional and national church leaders.

Once in the residency program, students must master 29 Core Competencies and “soft” skills. Pastor/coaches are required to meet one-on-one with residents weekly to give immediate feedback on progress, evaluating the work of the previous week. Institute faculty members act as coaches for the coaches, and also provide regular feedback, generating a continuous cycle of information and education for the student, the coach, and the Institute itself.

**For more information about the ICL, including schedule details, visit [www.nchristian.edu/the-institute](http://www.nchristian.edu/the-institute)**

# MEET OUR NEW DEANS

## DOUG DOMENE & LASHARANDA BECKWITH

**Dr. Doug Domene**, the new Dean of the College of Education, says he has a long-held affinity for Hope International University, rooted in his enrollment at the institution about four decades ago. He had been a member of the men's baseball team for a year, when then-Pacific Christian College canceled the baseball program. In a kind of poetic twist, baseball has just returned to HIU this past academic year, playing on its home field at nearby Valencia High School, which is part of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD), where Domene served as Superintendent of the district for the past four years.

Prior to his tenure as Superintendent, Domene served the district in a number of administrative, teaching, and coaching positions. He recently accepted the position of Dean of the College of Education at HIU, after exploring the field of Christian higher education as an adjunct professor for several years.

"I loved the Superintendent job," he said, "but I've always dreamed of working on a university campus, preparing the finest educators possible, whether they serve in public or private schools."

He said that working as a leader in a public school district helped strengthen his commitment to create and communicate a clear vision. He referenced the PYLUSD Advantage program, a bold strategic plan for the district, which he coordinated and managed for the district.

As Domene served as a part-time faculty member at HIU, he got to know HIU's leaders and mission more closely, and felt led to become part of that mission, believing he could help with its fulfillment, leading to his recent move to HIU.

He is convinced that teaching is one of the greatest opportunities for students to become servants, and that education is a rich mission field, so it is urgent business to identify the strongest teacher candidates and recruit them. **Domene emphasizes the importance of helping future teachers live their faith, whether in public or private schools, through kindness, caring, excellence, and living a life that is above reproach.**

"When your faith is on display, you should be at your best," he said.



*Dr. Domene served as Superintendent of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District.*



*Dr. Beckwith brings a wealth of leadership experience in both the marketplace and the classroom.*

**Dr. LaSharnda Beckwith** is delighted to be at HIU, where her international training and her personal mission are an ideal fit. Beckwith, the new Dean of the College of Business, spent more than two decades as an executive with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES), most recently as Vice President of Eastern Operations. She also loves teaching, and has served as the Chair of the Department of Business for Southwestern Assemblies of God University in Texas, as well as Adjunct Professor for Texas Woman's University, DeVry and Embry-Riddle University.

"I come alive in the classroom or business training rooms, because I am able to connect with people there," she said. "I can see the faces and am able to tell if people are 'getting it' or not."

She is excited about the "Business As Mission" component that **Dr. Neal Johnson** brought to HIU's business programs and believes the name "Hope" is fitting. The further integration of faith and business is her number one priority, followed by secondary accreditation, adding a new Business Advisory Council and, ultimately, a Doctorate of Business Administration degree to HIU's academic programs.

Beckwith's own accomplishments include a number of performance awards during her tenure with the Exchange Service, more than twenty Superior Accomplishments awards and 4 Extraordinary Achievement awards. She credits AAFES with giving her a global perspective of business. She is grateful for the opportunity to have learned and experienced business living in other cultures. While managing a \$150 million operation -- only a piece of the \$10 billion dollar organization -- she worked with employees from diverse cultures, and learned to communicate in the ways that were appropriate and helpful within those cultures.

"Americans view issues in a very 'black and white' way, but there are gray areas," she said. "Ethics must always remain consistent, but grace and mercy may look somewhat different to people in a different part of the world."

Dr. Beckwith's experiences have shown her that working in the business area also can increase one's Christian influence. "In international business, the world becomes our pulpit, if you will" she said, "allowing us to reach people who might never enter a church or listen to a preacher."

Beckwith firmly believes that building relationships is the foundation for expanding the College, so she began reaching out to her business connections on the West Coast while still in Texas, laying the groundwork for starting a new Business Advisory Council. She plans to work with local organizations in Orange County, and will lean heavily on the networks she has built through the previous phases of her career.

"It's all about relationship building," she said, adding that her teaching philosophy is tied to relationship building, too. **"I prefer to focus on learning rather than teaching. I believe in investing in others, showing them that I care, not letting them slide, and loving them through their challenges."**

Dr. Beckwith's life scripture is Jeremiah 29:11: "For I know the plans I have for you, says God, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you hope and a future," leading to her personal goal of willingly seeking God's face each day to follow the path He has set before her.

# Our Accomplished Academicians



**Kevin Lines (Kip), Ph.D.** (Intercultural Studies) presented one workshop at the International Conference on Mission (Richmond, VA) in October and presented on migration and mission at the CMF International board meeting in November. In February, he was the main speaker for a gathering of missionaries serving in SE Asia (Chiang Mai, Thailand). In March, Dr. Lines traveled to Kenya and India. While in Kenya, he consulted with church leaders in the Community Christian Churches in Turkana. In India, he taught an extension course to church leaders in HIU's certificate program in partnership with Lakeview Bible College and Seminary in Chennai, India. He presented at the Stone-Campbell Journal Conference in April and attended the American Society of Missiology meetings in June. His paper analyzing mission and intercultural studies programs in Christian Church institutions was published by the Association of Professors of Mission. Dr. Lines' book based on his research of traditional religious specialists and Christianity in Turkana will be published in the American Society of Missiology Scholarly Monograph series in early 2017.

**Gene Sonnenberg, D.Min.** (Biblical Studies) conducted extensive teaching of indigenous pastors, Bible College students, and churches in North Myanmar with Joni and Nangsar Morse and at Leadership Training Institute with Christopher LaPel in Cambodia in June. He also served as a co-speaker with Gary Tiffin at Septemberfest Conference at Wi-Ne-Ma Oregon.



**Bill Thornton, M.Min.** (Pastoral Ministry) and, his wife, Marcia, recently received the 2016 Alumni Ministry Award at their alma mater, Manhattan Christian College. In addition, Bill will be the main speaker at the Kansas Christian Church Ministers' Retreat to be held at King Solomon Camp in Kansas on September 12 & 13. He recently began an intentional interim ministry with First Christian Church, Ashland, Nebraska.



**Terri L. Bogan, M.L.S.** (Library) presented results of a semester long collaborative instruction effort with James Yuile, M.A. (Biblical Studies) at the 2016 annual conference of the American Theological Library Association (ATLA).

**Michael Shepherd, M.A., M.S.** (Biblical Studies and Social Sciences) presented a seminar entitled Community Engagement Strategies at the Summer School for Nonprofits, hosted by the Gianesschi Center for Nonprofit Research of the Mihaylo College of Business and Economics at California State University, Fullerton.



**Phil Towne, Ph.D. Candidate** (Ministry and Biblical Studies) presented two papers at the Stone-Campbell Journal conference in April 2016. He is currently in the process of finishing up his PhD Dissertation.



**Stefanie Rowe, M.A.** (Clinical Counseling) became a certified Strengths Coach with Gallup's *StrengthsFinder*. This fall, she will be leading several developmental psychology workshops and is leading two PREPARE/ENRICH trainings—one in Nebraska and one at a partner church in Colorado.



**Jan Johnson, D.Min.** (Ministry) has a new book coming out in September titled "Meeting God in Scripture: A Hands-On Guide to Lectio Divina." Her book includes the exercises from her Developing Spiritual Disciplines course. She is also an instructor with Apprentice Experience and Renovare Institute. See [janjohnson.org](http://janjohnson.org).



**Roberto Sirvent, JD, Ph.D.** (Political and Social Ethics) gave a lecture on prison hospice care at Yale University's Summer Bioethics Institute. He also facilitated a research and writing seminar at the Hispanic Theological Initiative summer workshop in Princeton, New Jersey.



**David Matson, Ph.D.** (Biblical Studies), published articles in *Perspectives in Religious Studies*, the *Stone-Campbell Journal*, and *Leaven* as well as gave the Stone-Campbell Journal lecture at the North American Christian Convention in Anaheim, CA. He also participated with Paul McReynolds in an HIU alumni symposium on Codex Sinaiticus and delivered one of the Dunning lectures at Nebraska Christian College. Dr. Matson participated as a panel member in an inter-faith discussion at Parkcrest Christian Church in Long Beach, CA.



**Brian Albright, Ph.D.** (Business) was a guest professor in Entrepreneurship for Kairos International University in Ho Chi Min City, Vietnam this summer in their Masters of Global Leadership program.



**Joseph Cho, D.M.A.** (Music) performed at LA Christian Reformed Church as a music director of The Elders Choir of Southern California at their 22nd Annual Concert. During Spring break Dr. Cho taught a church music seminar at several cities in Korea such as Mokpo, Chung Ju, and Seoul.



**Wm. Curtis Holtzen, D.Th.** (Philosophy and Theology) served as president of the Wesleyan Philosophical Society and presented the paper "So You Are Calling God a Liar? An Unbiased Comparison of Springfield's War over Science and Religion" at their annual meeting. He co-edited the book *In Spirit and In Truth: Philosophical Reflections on Worship and Liturgy* (Claremont School of Theology Press, Fall 2016) and co-wrote the essay "Gadamer's Hermeneutic of Trust—Ontological and Reflective" for that volume. He and his co-editor, Matthew Hill, have begun editing a second volume for CSTP on faith and science due out in 2017. Holtzen also wrote the essay "St. Linus: Faith, Sincerity, and the Great Pumpkin" for the book *Peanuts and Philosophy* (Open Court Publishing, Fall 2016). He continues to be a member of the American Academy of Religion WPS, and Society of Christian Philosophers.



**Steve Alley, M.S.** (Ministry) led children's ministry trainings at Calvary Chapel of Honolulu, and at Grace OC Church in Anaheim, CA. He continues to serve as "Children's Pastor Emeritus" at Harvest Christian Fellowship in Riverside, CA.



**Andrew Wood, D.Min.** (Intercultural Studies) spent three weeks this June in Brasilia, Brazil, teaching conversational English based on the book of Luke and consulting with church leaders on ministry strategies. This work was completed in partnership with "Let's Start Talking" and the acapella Churches of Christ.



**Lisa Wilson, M.A.** (Psychology and Counseling) is an AAMFT Approved Supervisor, EMDRIA Approved Consultant and maintains dual licensure as a Marriage and Family Therapist and as a Professional Clinical Counselor.



**John Hendee, M.A.** (Ministry and Biblical Studies) is the Chair of World Evangelism and has put 5 new books on his website, [itsallaboutrelationship.org](http://itsallaboutrelationship.org). The books are part of a series titled "Living in the Light While We Pass Through This Darkness." In August, he was in Ecuador for a week training leaders and later met with 12 African Bishops in Kona to share his evangelism program. He will lead two dual-session workshops at ICOM in November. "Training Disciples who Can Make NEW Disciples" is his newest book which can also be found at the above website for free.



**Joseph C. Grana II, D. Min.** (Dean, Ministry & Biblical Studies) preached during the summer at: Parkcrest Christian Church-Long Beach; Friends Church-Orange; Oak Park Christian Church-Grover Beach; Morningstar Christian Church-Montclair; Westwood Hills Christian Church-Westwood; Newbury Park Christian Church; Fallbrook First Christian Church; New Day Christian Church-Eastvale and Placentia United Methodist Church. He also taught a workshop on Spiritual Formation at the North American Christian Convention



**LaSharnda Beckwith, Ph.D.** (Dean, Business) held a leadership conference for Pastors and local business people in Colombo, Sri Lanka. She along with her colleague, Dr. Tara Peters have traveled to Sri Lanka over the last 2 years to train in the areas of vision casting, strategy, goal-setting, teambuilding and leadership. Dr. Beckwith also led a team of 13 to Coimbatore, India, with her Business For Missions program. The team uses the skills they learned throughout their undergraduate program to help locals set up and operate micro-businesses. In the rural area of Coimbatore, Dr. Beckwith and her team started one goat farm and one chicken farm in Andaman. In 2016, Dr. Beckwith published scholarly work accepted by the Journal of Business Studies Quarterly. One published in March, "A Christian Vision of the Marketplace," and one published in June, "The Underrepresentation Of African American Women In Executive Leadership: What's Getting In The Way?" (pp. 115-134).



**Cora Alley, M.A., M.S. Ed.** (English/Theater) was a speaker for various women's ministry retreats, conferences, and luncheons in the southern California area from January-August, as well as an "Island Women's Ministry Conference" in Hawaii. Cora also was privileged to be the speaker for the "President's Wives Luncheon," hosted by HIU for the NACC in Anaheim.



**Susan Hastings, Psy.D.** (Grad-MFT) along with 120 participants from the College of Psychology and Counseling and HIU Admissions raised over \$2,000 at the Orange County Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on October 11, 2016. Dr. Hastings, **Teresa Wilcox, M.S.**, and 12 others from *Under The Same Sun* traveled to Tanzania, Africa, to work with 171 children with albinism who participated in a week long camp with activities that included music, drama, Bible story, science of albinism, and art. In many parts of Africa people with albinism are misunderstood, disadvantaged, and even attacked and killed. Their body parts are sold to witchdoctors for use in charms and magical potions believed to bring wealth and good luck. Spending time loving on these children was a blessing and a life-changing experience.



**Teresa Wilcox, M.S., LMFT**, (Psychology and Counseling), Robert Pate, Ph.D., LMFT, and alumni Heather Silva, MA, MFTi (2nd trip) joined Ignite Missions Honduras to serve at their Missionary Couples Retreat. This was an incredible opportunity for our HIU faculty and alumni to use their Marriage and Family Therapy gifts and skills serving couples and impacting the world for Christ.

*<< Recipient of the 2015-16 FACULTY EXCELLENCE AWARD, Psychology Professor Dr. PEACE AMADI ([peaceamadi.com](http://peaceamadi.com)) also co-founded **The Ruby Project** and authors **ThePinkCouchBlog.com**.*





# Cultivating Hope

## ALUMNI SOW ETERNAL SEEDS ACROSS THE U.S. AND ABROAD

**Alumni who are called into the ministry of church planting represent a dynamic manifestation of Hope International University's claim that "We are Hope!"**

"Church planting is the kind of ministry that brings the stories of the early New Testament Church to life," said Troy Gardner, Director of Development and Church Relations, a former church planter himself. "It is the most elemental of ministries — and a perfect example of the HIU mission — as our alumni reach into neighborhoods and communities and grow congregations, fueled by faith, compassion, and creativity."

The very phrase "church planting" evokes the imagery in Jesus' own words throughout the gospels in his stories of sowing, cultivation, and harvest. Church planting does share the principles of that agrarian model, and just as in agriculture, the type of cultivation that works for one church plant is very different from what may work for another. Growers of citrus and growers of potatoes use very different methods of farming, just as a church plant in Austin, Texas may not use the same growth methods as a church plant in Limerick, Ireland.

Profiled briefly on the next few pages are three Hope alumni and their ministries in Colorado, Texas, and Ireland. Though their growth methods may differ as much as their geography, their love for the people and churches they serve is evident as they serve across many miles and an ocean.

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**Steve Blake (MA '15)**  
Austin, Texas

**Steve Blake**, his wife, Tori, and their two young children started Catalyst of Austin, using the “parachute model.”

“Basically, it’s like you and your family just parachute from a plane and go to work,” laughed Blake.

He said that Austin is the fastest-growing city in the United States, with about 154 individuals per day taking up residence, and few of them are going to church. He compared it to a “Bible-belt refugee camp,” and said that people find it surprising that 85-90% of the population is unchurched in a Texas city.

The city has fewer than a dozen churches that would be considered mega-churches, and only one other independent Christian church. The Blakes believe that their approach must be relational, not institutional, in a community that embraces the mantra, “Keep Austin Weird.”

One of Blake’s original goals was to get involved with city government and local non-profit programs aimed at addressing systemic concerns such as gentrification in a growing city.

**“The church needs to be culturally aware and we need to change the way people perceive God,” said Blake, adding that he was inspired by HIU Professor Jan Johnson’s assertion that “God isn’t mad AT you – he is mad ABOUT you.”**

While searching for partners, Blake didn’t follow a traditional path. He went looking for those who wanted to “participate, not just spectate,” and he discovered the first music minister for Catalyst performing in a cafe. He purposefully sought cultural diversity in the launch team, which included individuals from the Anglo, Indian, Asian, Caribbean, Hispanic, and African American communities. The Blakes themselves are a multi-ethnic, multi-national family (he is Jamaican; she is African-American), which helps create a comfortable and welcoming environment for diversity.

The church held its first services in January, and Blake looks forward to the process and progress as he continues to live out the *We are Hope* concept. “We are spreading hope in Austin,” he said.



**Patrick Lightfoot (MA '13)**  
Windsor, Colorado

**Patrick Lightfoot** has been a member of Journey Christian Church in Greeley, Colorado, for the past 13 years and has served as the church’s Adult Minister for four of those years. Patrick and his wife answered the call to serve the community of Windsor, Colorado, and their church sent them to plant Traverse Christian Church.

The new church held its “soft launch” last Christmas Eve with 186 participants in worship. “I can’t think of a better day to launch a church in our community,” Lightfoot said.

He is concerned that today’s church has developed a consumer mentality when churches really should be replicating the grace that has been extended to believers.

**“Our mission is to ‘help others live transformed lives that fiercely love Jesus and others,’” said Lightfoot. “I desire for this church and the church around the world to be sold out for Jesus.”**

Traverse is committed to family ministry and began its programming by focusing on Sunday worship services and children’s programs (infant – 5th grade). Lightfoot believes that less is more and he is adamant about developing excellence in those two specific areas. Later this the fall, the church will add mid-week programming for middle school and high school students, as well as growth groups and couples’ groups.

Growth groups are adult groups that will meet for a 10-12 week season and then take 5-7 weeks off to focus on church-wide events to promote unity and reach the community. The curriculum for couples is Married People, a program that was designed to enrich, encourage, and grow marriages.

“In our community, 64% of the population is married and the greatest gift we can give our children is a strong marriage,” Lightfoot explained. “We will have community events and education opportunities for married couples. We’ll also offer date nights because couples too often spend all their creative energy at work and raising kids and leave nothing for their spouses.”

His vision for Traverse is to have a safe place for children of all ages to learn and grow in Christ; a place for adults, both single and married, to worship freely and live out the purpose Jesus has

called them to, men leading as servant leaders within the church and home; and, finally, a place where marriages can be honored, celebrated, and encouraged. He happily added that attendance on Easter Sunday was 292, there have been seven baptisms to date, and 180 is the average attendance.

He said that HIU prepared him for this new foray into church planting and expressed gratitude for the opportunity to learn online while he was already serving in the church.

**“I can confidently say that all my classes at HIU shaped me and I have used them all in my ministry,” he said. “I was able to study, work, and lead my family all at the same time, and I could not have done it without HIU Online.”**



**Justin Gearing (BA '03)**  
Limerick, Ireland

**Justin Gearing** felt a call to serve outside the United States during his post-HIU graduation backpacking trip in Europe, when he felt God showing him some of the struggles of the church in the region. It wasn't until after he had met and married his wife, Laura, and served for eight years in ministry with Christ's Church of the Valley in Phoenix, Arizona, that a plan was revealed, when he met an Irishman named Dermot O'Mahony, from Limerick. They began to talk, and Gearing would become the lead pastor of a ministry in Ireland.

“People will often say of our church, ‘It’s run by a local Limerick lad,’” said Justin. “That means, ‘He gets what it’s like here – he’s one of us.’”

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Justin and Laura thought that serving in an English-speaking country would make international ministry easier, but they found that it only gave them a false sense of security. They believed they knew what they were communicating to people, but began to realize that they didn't really understand how people perceived their words in the Irish culture.

"There were new words to learn, of course, but much more difficult was learning how people think and approach life," he explained. "What worked well in Phoenix, Arizona, was actually counterproductive in Ireland. I had to learn a completely new way of communicating and of rallying people toward a cause, and I am still learning."

One of the challenges is the Irish definition of "church," as being Catholic has traditionally been synonymous with being Irish, and, to the Irish, Protestantism has been synonymous with repression. Many Irish have been disillusioned by both Catholic and Protestant churches.

"Looking back into the history of Irish Christianity, I have no doubt that the Spirit of God was at work and there was a vibrant, Christ-centered faith," said Justin. "Over time, some corruption and abuse have left people with a sour taste for religion. Still, there is also a huge separation between priests and laypersons, in the minds of the Irish - you can't even buy a Bible to read in Limerick."

The Gearings know that Americans associate productivity and fast results with success, but they have learned that the Irish view that perspective as dismissive of relationships and community, even as arrogant and uncaring. So, instead of promoting the church as an organization, they have focused on connecting people to "the source" – Christ and His Word. They get the Bible into people's hands and encourage them to know that Jesus is living proof that God wants to speak into their lives.

Justin said that their difficult transition has been well worth it, because people have come to know Christ. After three years of work, the church is ready to move into a new building with about 60 regular attendees and small groups scattered around the city.

**"Our vision from the beginning has been to plant a church full of people living out their faith in Christ in everyday life," said Justin, "They can change the city through the way they serve and live."**

"Justin and Laura have cultivated a church in a beautiful place with a challenging atmosphere. They use unique methods to develop relationships with the Irish people. In a land where a lot of 'spirits' flow, they allow the Holy Spirit to flow through their lives." said **Dr. Joe Grana**, Dean of Pacific Christian College at HIU, who recently visited the Gearings. "Their church is growing, and people living in Limerick are learning new limericks to live by because of the church's efforts!"



# A perfect night to fly a kite



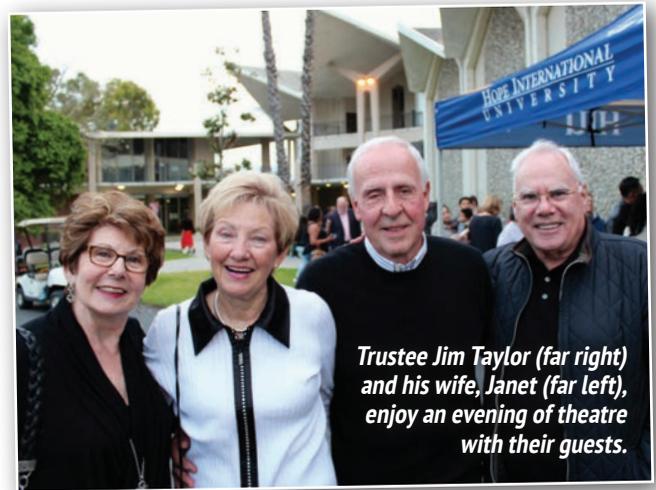
Alumni, donors, and special guests enjoyed a VIP reception on the closing night of HIU's spring production, *Mary Poppins*, joined by HIU student ambassadors, administrators, and staff for dessert prior to the show. Immediately following the gathering, Hope International University's production of Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's "Mary Poppins" took the audience on a magical and memorable adventure.

"This popular annual event allows us to thank those whose generosity funds the HIU mission," said President John Derry, "and it is a great opportunity for donors to enjoy the talents of the very students they support."

The reception capped off the 2016 run of HIU's spring musical, an annual production that is popular in the local community. The musical also serves as a community outreach; this is the eleventh year that the University has hosted special matinee performances for local students, including elementary and high schoolers. Following those performances, student audiences were invited to "meet and greet" the HIU cast.



*President Derry spends a moment with a future HIU alumna, Class of 2035.*



*Trustee Jim Taylor (far right) and his wife, Janet (far left), enjoy an evening of theatre with their guests.*



*"Mary Poppins" was produced by EMBER WILLIAMS, who has directed HIU's spring musicals for the past decade.*



# “FORE” IN A ROW!

## HIU Golf Tourney Fundraiser Breaks Record for Fourth Consecutive Year



• HIU Trustee, Jim Taylor

On Monday, May 23, HIU held its 10th Annual Golf Tournament to raise funds for student scholarships and departmental programs. This year's event raised a record \$55,235, surpassing the \$50,000 mark for the fourth straight year. Since HIU's inaugural golf fundraiser in 2007, the event has raised a cumulative total of over \$400,000.

“Our golf sponsors and donors make a significant contribution,” reports **Troy Gardner**, HIU's Director of Church Relations & Development. “Hundreds of well-deserving students have benefited over the ten years of this signature event, not to mention the countless lives those students and alumni have touched.”

Special thanks to all of the 2016 sponsors whose significant contributions helped make this event successful, especially our course sponsor, University Trustee **Glenn Carpenter**. Additional sponsors included CDF Capital, Arthur J. Gallagher & Company, Christ's Church of the Valley San Dimas, Direct Print & Promotions, First Christian Church Huntington Beach, Journey Christian Church, Payne Janitorial, Peter C. Foy & Associates, Proline Electric, The Wright Image, and The Refinery Christian Church in Goodyear, Arizona.

The 2016 participants included University administrators, faculty, staff, as well as pastors, church leaders, community members and HIU supporters. Golfers enjoyed spectacular coastal views playing the Monarch Beach Golf Links course in Dana Point, culminating in an awards dinner at Cedar Creek Inn in San Juan Capistrano.

*For more information about participation in this annual golf fundraiser, contact **Troy Gardner** at 714-879-3901, ext. 2210.*



Jeff Vines, Lead Pastor of Christ's Church of the Valley, San Dimas

# 2016 NC GOLF CHALLENGE

The 5th Annual **NC Golf Challenge** was held on July 23, 2016, at Eagle Hills Golf Course in Papillion, NE. Together, 30 golfers raised a cumulative \$34,735 toward NC Student Scholarships.

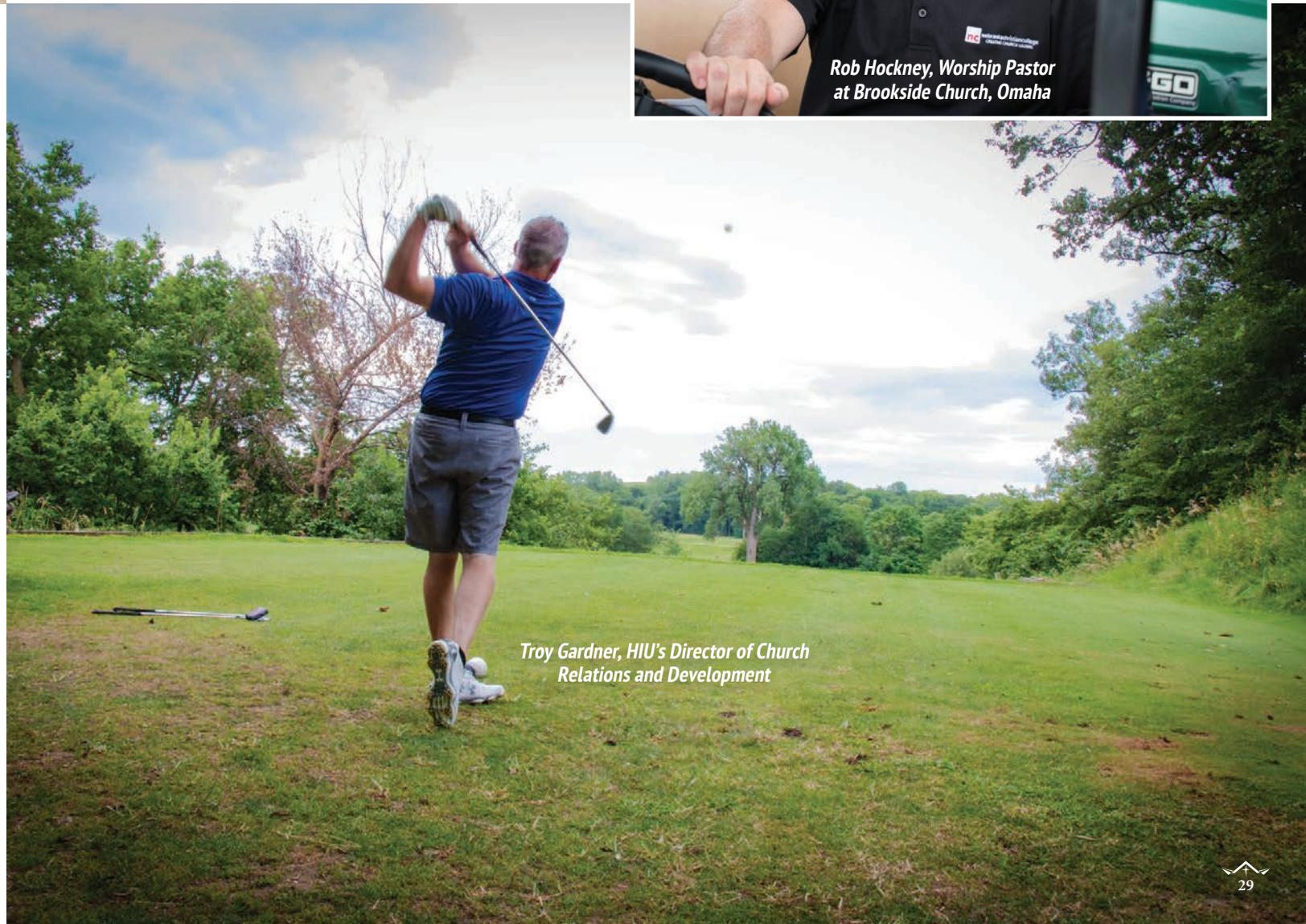
For the second year in a row, NC teamed up with Calvary Christian Church of Bellevue, NE. Calvary uses this annual tournament to raise scholarships money for students from the church who attend a Bible College. Combined, 110 participants played in the 2016 tournament.



*NC's Director of Leadership Development, Andy Dykhouse*



*Rob Hockney, Worship Pastor at Brookside Church, Omaha*



*Troy Gardner, HIU's Director of Church Relations and Development*

# ALUMNI NEWS & NOTES

## 1960s

**Larry Bailey (BA '64)** and his wife Anita recently retired and moved to Eugene, OR. His career included active and reserve duty in the U.S. Navy (retired as Captain); 26 years of ministry at Puget Sound Christian College (Academic Dean, Professor of Psychology); six years as Manager, Behavioral Health Services, Hanford Site in WA; and four years as the Director of the Psy.D. in Counseling Psychology Program at Northwest University (Kirkland, WA). He also taught Psychology/Counseling courses at PCC, Cincinnati Christian Seminary, and Nebraska Christian College. Publications include articles in several professional journals, Christian Standard, Lookout, Restoration Herald and company newsletters. He has made numerous presentations at conferences [Christian Association for Psychological Studies (CAPS), American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC) and North American Christian Convention (NACC)] He maintained a limited private practice as a licensed Clinical Psychologist for 28 years in California and Washington. He and Anita recently celebrated 50 years of marriage with family and friends.

## 1970s

**Lee (BS '72, MA '78) and Loralee (BS '72) McClanathan** were very involved in college with traveling music groups and recruitment. Loralee was in the signature group "His" and Lee served as student body president in '71-'72 and a student recruiter. They have been involved in local church ministries for 40 years in Illinois.



<< After graduating from PCC, **Dennis Shelby (BA '76)** received his MSW at CSU, Fresno. He was the Director of Patient and Family Services for 11 years at Kaweah Delta Hospital in Visalia, CA. For the next 27 years he held top leadership roles in psychiatric, rehabilitation and rural healthcare in the states of CA, CO, AK, AZ, OK and KS. Dennis is grateful for the professors, alumni and friends of the University and their impact on his life. The Shelbys currently own

a lake home in Bella Vista, AR, where they intend to live out retirement when that day comes. They attend New Life Christian Church in BV and look forward to serving there when they do live in that community full time. Dennis and Judy's daughter, **Alison (Shelby/BA '03) Myers**, is currently the Worship Leader at Redeemer Covenant Church in Tulsa.

## 1990s

**Byron Burns (BA '94)** while attending HIU served in the Naval Reserve for 5 years on the USS George Phillips. He has 20 years of Music and Worship ministry experience serving mostly at large churches of 1200 or more. Byron has also performed with numerous musicians, worship leaders, and groups, such as Larnelle Harris, Sandi Patty, Paul Baloche, Tommy Walker, Maranatha Music, Promise Keepers, Continentals, and Ekklesia. Byron and his wife Brenda have been married for 17 wonderful years and have two beautifully talented daughters, Anya and Alexis. He is currently serving as the full-time Worship Minister at Christ Church of the Valley Bakersfield, CA and partners with a non-profit ministry called FishBowl Ministries.

**Shawn Farrens (BA '99)** accepted the position in July 2015 of Superintendent/Principal of Silvies River Charter School, a K-12 Virtual Charter School in Oregon.

## 2000s

**Sara Benedetti (BA '05)** is celebrating two years as the associate pastor for Faith Formation at Second Presbyterian Church in Lexington, KY.

**Tiara (Breau/B.A. '07) Brumberg** recently moved to Birmingham, AL with her husband, Robby and their two children, Emma and Rex. Tiara plans on becoming an Occupational Therapy Assistant, completing her program in January 2018.

**Rebecca Larson (BA '08)** recently accepted a position at Providence Seaside Hospital as a Social Worker. Her husband, Gavin is now

the youth minister at Christian Church of Warrenton, where he has been working for the past 4 years. The Larson's bought their first home in Warrenton in March of 2014. Their children, Micah (5) and Noah (3), bring so much joy and learning opportunities to their lives.

**Ashton Maxfield (AA '00)** manages PR campaigns for action sports brands including ThirtyTwo, etnies, Black Label, Girl, and Thunder. He is currently the managing director of Master Plan Communications, Inc., where he oversees PR programs for the agency's diverse clients. Ashton and **Tamara (Nelson/BA '02, MED '06)** currently live in Mission Viejo, CA.

**Jessica (Mahan/AA '02, BM '06) Perry** is celebrating seven years as Pastor of Creative Arts at Valley Christian Church in Chino, CA. She and her husband, John, an attorney, were married by Jess' dad, Jay Mahan (BA '79), on October 17th, 2015. She recently launched her speaking and church consulting site - [www.jessperrymedia.com](http://www.jessperrymedia.com) - and continues to give piano and voice lessons in the North Orange County area.

**Jason (BA '05) and Elizabeth (Crech/BA '05) Shafer** continue to pursue parenthood through their local foster-to-adopt agency. They have adopted their first son and are fostering 2 babies currently, praying that they get to adopt them. Elizabeth has been doing real estate over the last few years and their church has been featured as one of America's top 100 fastest growing churches by Outreach Magazine. The Shafer's are blessed to be a part of an amazing church and community in the Palm Springs area.

**Albert Wolfe (BA '05)** announced the publication of his third book specifically written for teachers who are going to China to teach English. *Coach Them to Speak: A Practical Guidebook for College Oral English Teachers in China*. Albert received his training to be an English teacher as a tent-maker. He is currently residing in Guangzhou.

## 2010s

**Lynda Buskey-Berg (BA '10)** went on to receive a Masters of Divinity from Duke Divinity School in Durham, NC. She has been able to pursue a calling as an organizer for the National Nurses United.



<< **Breanna Keller (BA '12)** married Alexander Davis on November 14, 2015.

<< **Ramal (MBA '12)** and Annya **Dixon** proudly announce the birth of their daughter Nadia Charlotte born June 1, 2016, a precious gift from God. Ramal graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary in June 2016 earning a Master's in Intercultural Studies with an emphasis in International Development and Urban Studies. The Dixons live in Pasadena, CA.



**Minta "Lenae" Hardman (BA '12)** and her husband Isaias announce the birth of their first child. Troy Anthony Gabriel was born on June 20, 2016.

**Scott Gross (MBA '11)** was recently selected as 1 of 58 Air Force Officers to begin training to become a Regional Affairs Strategist/Foreign Area Officer. This position is the military equivalent of a State Department Foreign Service Officer. Scott attended the Defense Language Institute (DLI) to learn French. Upon graduation from DLI, he will attend the Naval Post Graduate School to earn a Master's degree in International Affairs. After graduating from NPS, he will be positioned to serve as an Attaché within a US embassy in Sub-Saharan Africa.

**Brandon Maynard (BA '10)** married Miriam Prewett, a CSUF student, and moved to the central coast of California. There he attended graduate school in Santa Barbara graduating Valedictorian in 2013. Brandon and Miriam have two daughters, Elizabeth and Naomi and are expecting their third child in April 2017. The family moved to Casper, Wyoming

where Brandon was accepted into a doctorate program in Forensic Clinical Psychology and will graduate with a PsyD. in June 2017. Meanwhile, Brandon obtained a predoctoral internship in Casper. Brandon's plan is to become a licensed Forensic Psychologist in Wyoming or Colorado and continue to be an active participant in their church.

**Carl Myers (MBA '14)** works as a social media/communications specialist at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, TX. where Carl lives. The university is a private, Catholic university.

**Andrew Paine (MBA '11)** married Sara Highhouse on July 30, 2016. An added bonus is also being a new dad to Sara's 7 year old adopted son, Micah. The family will be living in Fullerton, CA. Andrew is an assistant professor of Business & Management at HIU as well as the assistant coach for men's soccer at HIU.

>> **Nicole (Eggers/BA '10) Rowan** helped plant Prodigal Church in Irvine, serving as one of the lead pastors. Nicole wrote a 30 day devotional, "Kingdom Daughters".

**Steve (MCM '14)** and Merrilee **Sandy** announce the birth of their first child. Tristan Gabriel Sandy was born November 17, 2015. The family lives in Tustin, CA.

**Dan (AA '13)** and Melissa **Shaker** are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Melody Joy Shaker born on November 8, 2015. The Shakers live in Warren, OH.

>> **Scott (BA '16)** and **Emily (Thomas/BA '15) Stebner** announce the birth of their first child. Arlen Stebner was born on July 12, 2016. The family is overjoyed. The Stebner's currently live in La Habra.



**Cristina (BA '10)** and Michael **Morgenlander** proudly announce their completion from Liberty University of a Masters in Divinity, majoring in Professional Ministry in May 2016. The Morgenlanders continue to serve in Colombia through their humanitarian organization establishing an after school program that feeds 150 children.

<< **Joshua (BA '10)** and **Caitlin (Hannan/BA '12) Wilson** have one daughter, Eliana born in August 9, 2015. Josh continued his education after leaving HIU by attending Emmanuel Christian Seminary in Johnson City, TN where he received a Master of Divinity. Josh took a position in the chaplain residency program at Mountain States Health Alliance. He is now working at UCLA Santa Monica in another residency as he and Cait are making their transition back to living in So Cal.



### Let Everyone Know What YOU'RE Up To!

New job? Getting Married? Have a new baby? Moved? We'd love to know, and share it with the alumni community via our website, eNews, and/or magazine! Whether a **HIU** or **NC** alum, email your news, notes and pics to [alumni@hiu.edu](mailto:alumni@hiu.edu).



# 2015 Honor Roll of Donors

This Honor Roll of Donors features individuals, churches, corporations and foundations that have made gifts through cash or pledge payments received by the University between January 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015. Gifts received after December 31, 2015 will be recorded in the 2016 calendar year.

On behalf of the administration, faculty, staff, and student body, THANK YOU to each and every donor. Your gifts are very much appreciated and vital to the success of our scholarship recipients, most of whom otherwise could not afford to attend HIU. You have impacted their lives, as well as countless lives that they in turn will impact as they take *Hope* to their corner of the world.

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*(Contributions given to all funds)*

*\$30,000 & Above*

Calvary Christian Church, Bellevue, NE  
 Church of Christ, Storm Lake, IA

*\$10,000 - \$29,999*

Capitol City Christian Church, Lincoln, NE  
 First Christian Church, Council Bluffs, IA  
 Kingsway Christian Church, Omaha, NE  
 McCook Christian Church, McCook, NE

*\$5,000 - \$9,999*

Academy Christian Church, Colorado Springs, CO

Auburn Christian Church, Auburn, NE  
 Wildewood Christian Church, Papillion, NE

*\$2,500 - \$4,999*

Antioch Christian Church, Marion, IA  
 Christian Church of Broomfield, Broomfield, CO  
 Christian Church, Wakefield, NE  
 Countryside Christian Church, Maryville, MO  
 Evangelical Covenant Church, Mead, NE  
 Florence Christian Church, Omaha, NE  
 Footville Church of Christ, Footville, WI  
 Grinnell Christian Church, Grinnell, IA  
 Huron Christian Church, Huron, SD  
 Indianola Church of Christ, Indianola, IA  
 Lamar Christian Church, Lamar, CO  
 Martelle Christian Church, Martelle, IA  
 New Hope Christian Church, Marshalltown, IA  
 Rising Sun Church of Christ, Pleasant Hill, IA  
 StoneBridge Christian Church, Omaha, NE  
 Third City Christian Church, Grand Island, NE,  
 Worthington Christian Church, Worthington, MN  
 Wymore Church of Christ, Wymore, NE

*\$1,000 - 2,499*

Acts 2 Church, Gretna, NE  
 Benson Church of Christ, Omaha, NE  
 Carroll Church of Christ, Carroll, IA  
 Central Church of Christ, Griwold, IA  
 Christian Church, Logan, IA  
 Christian Church, Maywood, NE  
 Church of Christ, Cozad, NE  
 Church of Christ, Rockwell City, IA  
 Church of Christ, Sutherland, IA  
 Clay Center Christian Church, Clay Center, NE  
 Cozad Christian Church, Cozad, NE  
 East Side Christian Church, Council Bluffs, IA  
 First Christian Church, Beaver City, NE

First Christian Church, Broken Bow, NE  
 First Christian Church, Norfolk, NE  
 First Christian Church, Onawa, IA  
 First Christian Church, O'Neill, NE  
 First Christian Church, Rapid City, SD  
 First Church of Christ, Atlantic, IA  
 First Church of Christ, Cherokee, IA  
 First Church of Christ, Ladysmith, WI  
 Iowa City Church of Christ, Iowa City, IA  
 Journey Christian Church, Wayne, NE  
 Julesburg Christian Church, Julesburg, CO  
 LifeBridge Christian Church, Longmont, CO  
 Little Sioux Church of Christ, Mondamin, IA  
 Madison Church of Christ, Brooklyn, IA  
 Mountainview Church, Westminster, CO  
 New Market Church of Christ, Villisca, IA  
 Oakwood Park Christian Church, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Pikes Peak Christian Church, Colorado Springs, CO  
 Valley Christian Church, North Platte, NE

*\$500 - 999*

Antelope Hills Church of Christ, Canby, MN  
 Christian Church of Fairmont, Fairmont, MN  
 Christian Church, Skidmore, MO  
 Church of Christ, Le Mars, IA  
 Church of Christ, Lewis, IA  
 Church of Christ, Table Rock, NE  
 Church of Christ, Webster City, IA  
 Countryside Christian Church, Kearney, NE  
 Edgar Christian Church, Edgar, NE  
 Elliott Church of Christ, Elliott, IA  
 First Christian Church, Central City, NE  
 Glenn Park Christian Church, Wichita, KS  
 Lillian Church of Christ, Broken Bow, NE  
 Mondamin Church of Christ, Mondamin, IA  
 New Life Christian Church, Albert Lea, MN  
 Northfield Church of Christ, Fort Dodge, IA  
 One Life Church, Inc, Plattsmouth, NE

Sheridan Christian Church, Sheridan, MO  
 Thanksgiving Lutheran Church, Bellevue, NE  
 Twin Cities Christian Church, Council Bluffs, IA  
 WestWay Christian Church, Scottsbluff, NE

*\$100 - 499*

Blockton Christian Church, Blockton, IA  
 Brownville Christian Church, Brownville, NE  
 Calvary Chapel of Nederland, Nederland, CO  
 Central Christian Church, Belleville, KS  
 Church of Christ, Anthon, IA  
 Church of Christ, Inavale, NE  
 Church of Christ, Irwin, IA  
 Church of Christ, Sargent, NE  
 Clearmont Christian Church, Clearmont, MO  
 Cummings Christian Church, Cummings, KS  
 Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Murdock, NE  
 Freedom Church, Sante Fe, NM  
 Henderson Christian Church, Henderson, IA  
 Indianola Heights Evangelical Free Church, Des Moines, IA  
 Lifehouse Church, Hastings, NE  
 Louisville United Methodist Church, Louisville, NE  
 Missouri Valley Church of Christ, Missouri Valley, IA  
 Murray Church of Christ, Murray, IA  
 New Life Church & World Outreach Center, Auburn, NE  
 Park Church of Christ, Goldfield, IA  
 Riverview Community Church, Ashland, NE

*Every attempt is made to ensure the accuracy of these lists. If we have made an error or omitted your name, please notify the Office of Institutional Advancement at 714.879.3601, ext. 2642, or email [maustin@biu.edu](mailto:maustin@biu.edu).*

*If you prefer, you can also mail corrections to the HIU Office of Institutional Advancement, Attn: Megan Austin, 2500 E. Nutwood Ave, Fullerton, CA 92831.*

# NC ALUMNA HIRED AS DIRECTOR OF

## CHURCH RELATIONS & DEVELOPMENT

**Jane Jech**, an alumna of Nebraska Christian College, has accepted the position of NC's Director of Church Relations and Development. Jech, who lives in Marshalltown, Iowa, will travel throughout the region on behalf of the institution, keeping alumni, donors, and churches up to date on developments at the Nebraska campus.

"Jane knows alumni, church staff, and community leaders all across the Midwest," said Michael Mulryan, Vice President for Institutional Advancement for Hope International University. "She embraces the mission of our campuses and is going to do a great job reaching out to our friends."

Jech is enthusiastic about the opportunities presented by the recent merger of Hope International University and Nebraska Christian College. "I see our culture pulling young people away from the church," she said. "I am extremely excited for our students to receive a broader education with a Christian world view."

Her life has been linked to NC for many years. Her father was a member of the Board of Trustees and three of her four siblings also attended. Her husband also served as a NC Trustee, and three of her four children are NC alumni as well.

Jane and her husband, Kerry, have lived in Marshalltown for 38 years. She has worked as a teacher, spent about 15 years as the Worship Arts Director of her church, and ran for the State Legislature. Most recently, she served on the staff for a presidential campaign, leading up to the 2016 Iowa caucuses. Her volunteer work has included a social services non-profit organization and the public schools.

Kerry is the Senior Pastor of New Hope Christian Church in Marshalltown. The Jechs have four children – Adam, Jeremy, Amanda, and Jordan – and eight grandchildren.

**For more information regarding ways to financially support NC scholarships and programs, email [jane.jech@nechristian.edu](mailto:jane.jech@nechristian.edu) or call 402.935.9400.**



*You can make a very real difference in someone's life...including your own!*

**Help us train and equip the next generation of servant leaders!**

Your HIU Gift Annuity provides scholarships for students who otherwise could not afford to attend a Christian university...and is an attractive opportunity for retirement income.

### **SAMPLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES (as of July 1, 2016)\***

*Rates below are for a \$10,000 single-life charitable gift annuity*

| AGE | ANNUITY RATE INCOME | YOUR ANNUAL PAYOUT | YOUR POTENTIAL TAX DEDUCTION |
|-----|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 65  | 5.3%                | \$530              | \$2,424                      |
| 70  | 5.8%                | \$580              | \$3,115                      |
| 75  | 6.5%                | \$650              | \$3,800                      |

For details, email [tgardner@hiu.edu](mailto:tgardner@hiu.edu) or call 714.879.3901, ext. 2210

\*All rates and estimated tax deductions are subject to change. This illustration is for educational purposes only and is not intended to be legal or tax advice.

Nebraska Christian College has joined forces with  
Hope International University!



# STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Here's what we look like now that our two institutions have become one:



**70+**

## ACADEMIC CHOICES

degree programs for undergraduate, graduate, and online students, plus certificate programs for ministry training

6 x 3 = 18

**3,700+**

**STUDENTS**  
currently pursuing academic degrees or certificates in the U.S. and abroad



**13,000+**

## ALUMNI

servant leaders prepared to minister inside and outside the Church, impacting the world for Christ



**160+**

## YEARS

our combined heritage and rich legacy in the Restoration Movement



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