faith • reason • justice

THE EASTERN UNIVERSITY MAGAZINE

Spiritual Formation



President's Message

* I lift up my eyes
to the hills,
where does my
help come from?
help come from?
My help comes
from the LORD,
the Maker of
the Maker of
heaven and earth.
He will not let
your foot slip,
He who watchess
over you will
not slumber."

Psalm 121:1-3

We are pleased that author Richard Foster has graciously allowed us to reprint his wise words on spiritual formation in this issue of SPIRIT (see page 3). For those of you who know us well, you know that spiritual formation is at the heart of the lifechanging education Eastern University provides for students of all ages. It is one of the core values in our Mission Statement: "We work to inspire [students'] spiritual formation in apprenticeship to Christ."

I believe that this emphasis is especially vital during these turbulent economic times. While all of us are understandably focused right now on budgets and the bottom line, we can never lose sight of the fact that Christian higher education transcends these concerns and shapes our students to live extraordinary lives of Kingdom value. There is never a downturn in that realm!

So please keep that in mind as you read the inspiring stories throughout this issue of faith put into practice and all the ways our students, faculty and alumni are faith-fully building God's Kingdom throughout our needy world.

To all of you who continue to support Eastern University through your prayers and financial gifts, please accept my sincere thank you. I thank you for sharing the University's unwavering commitment to our students' educational programs and experiences. Amidst these current economic challenges, we will implement every measure to ensure that our academics remain engaging; that we give serious attention to our students' careers, callings, passions and transformation; that we integrate Christian faith, reason and justice in our work and studies; and that we serve students from diverse populations in a variety of communities nearby and across the globe.

Dand R. Black David R. Black

<u>Spirit</u>

The News Magazine of Eastern University Spring/Summer 2009

SPIRIT is published by the Communications Office Eastern University 1300 Eagle Road St. Davids, PA 19087 610.341.5930

Linda A. Olson (M.Ed.) '96 Executive Director

Patti Singleton Senior Graphic Designer/ Staff Photographer

Rebecca Druckenmiller Production Coordinator

CONTRIBUTORS Allison Auclair, *Sr. Web Manager* Kate Savo '08 Kathryn Doud, *intern*

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHERS Dave Christenson Leanna Davis '09

Article suggestions should be sent to: Linda A. Olson 610.341.5930 e-mail: lolson@eastern.edu

Alumni news should be sent to 1.800.600.8057 www.alumni.eastern.edu

MISSION STATEMENT Spirit supports the mission of Eastern University to provide a Christian higher education for those who will make a difference in the world through careers and personal service rooted in faith applied to

difference in the world through careers and personal service rooted in faith applied to academic disciplines. The news magazine serves as a connection between the Eastern University campus community of students, faculty, staff and administration and its alumni, trustees, friends, donors, parents and neighbors.

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ON THE COVER: Shafarr Savoy at Senior Chapel. Photo by Rebecca Druckenmiller



ur world today cries out for a theology of spiritual growth that has been proven to work in the midst of the harsh realities of daily life. Sadly, many have simply given up on the possibility of growth in character formation. Vast numbers of well-intended folk have exhausted themselves in church work and discovered that this did not substantively change their lives. They found that they were just as impatient and egocentric and fearful as when they began lifting the heavy load of church work. Maybe more so.

Others have immersed themselves in multiple social-service projects. But while the glow of helping others lingered for a time, they soon realized that all their herculean efforts left little lasting imprint on the inner life. Indeed, it often made them much worse inwardly: frustrated and angry and bitter.

Still others have a practical theology that will not allow for spiritual growth. Indeed, they just might see it as a bad thing. Having been saved by grace, these people have become paralyzed by it. To attempt any progress in the spiritual life smacks of "works

Photo: University Chaplain Joseph Modica and the 2008-09 Student Chaplains

righteousness" to them. Their liturgies tell them they sin in word, thought, and deed daily, so they conclude that this is their fate until they die. Heaven is their only release from this world of sin and rebellion. Hence, these wellmeaning folk will sit in their pews year after year without realizing any movement forward in their life with God. Finally, a general cultural malaise touches us all to one extent or another I am referring to how completely we have become accustomed to the normality of dysfunction. The constant media stream of scandals and broken lives and mayhem of every sort elicits from us hardly more than a yawn. We have come to expect little else, even from our religious leaders—perhaps especially from our religious leaders. This overall dysfunction is so pervasive in our culture that it is nearly impossible for us to have a clear vision of spiritual progress. Shining models of holiness are so rare today.

Yet echoing through the centuries is a great company of witnesses telling

us of a life vastly richer and deeper and fuller. In all walks of life and in all human situations, they have found a life of "righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit" (Rom. 14:17). They have discovered that real. solid. substantive transformation into the likeness of Christ is possible.

Richard Foster shares his three priorities for the next 30 years.



They witness to a character formation that is nigh unto amazing. They have seen their egocentric passions give way to such selflessness and humility of heart, it astonishes even them. Rage and hate and malice are replaced with love and compassion and universal goodwill.

There is a more than 2,000-year record of great ones in this life-Augustine and Francis and Teresa and à Kempis and many more-who, by following hard after Jesus in this way, became persons of absolute sterling character. The record is there for anyone who wants to see.

Thirty years ago, when Celebration of Discipline was first penned, we were faced with two huge tasks: First, we needed to revive the great conversation about the formation of the soul; and second, we needed to incarnate this reality into the daily experience of individual, congregational, and cultural life. Frankly, we have had much greater success with the first task. Christians of all sorts now know about the need for spiritual formation, and look to saints Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant for guidance.

It's the second task that needs to consume the bulk of our energies for the next 30 years. If we do not make real progress on these fronts, all our efforts will dry up and blow away.

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One critical reminder before we begin in earnest: Spiritual formation is not a toolkit for "fixing" our culture or our churches or even our individual lives. Fixing things is simply not our business. So we stoutly refuse to engage in formation work to "save America from its moral decline" or to restore churches to their days of past glory or even to rescue folk from their destructive behaviors. No! We do spiritual formation work because it is kingdom work. Spiritual formation work is smack in the center of the map of the kingdom of God. Therefore, all other matters we gladly leave in the good hands of God.

HEART WORK

od has given each one of us the responsibility to "grow in grace" (2 Pet. 3:18). This is not something we can pass off onto others. We are to take up our individualized crosses and follow in the steps of the crucified and risen Christ.

All real formation work is "heart work." The heart is the wellspring of all human action. All of the devotional masters call us constantly, almost monotonously, toward a purity of heart. The great Puritan divines, for example, gave sustained attention to this. In Keeping the Heart, John Flavel, a 17th-century English Puritan, notes that the "greatest difficulty in conversion, is to win the heart to God; and the greatest difficulty after conversion, is to keep the heart with God. . . . Heart work is hard work indeed."

When we are dealing with heart work, external actions are never the center of our attention. Outward actions are a natural result of something far deeper, far more profound.

The ancient maxim Actio sequitur esse, "action follows essence,"

reminds us that our action is always in accord with the inward reality of our heart. This, of course, does not reduce good works to insignificance, but it does make them matters of secondary significance, effects rather than causes. Of primary significance is our vital union with God, our new creation in Christ. our immersion in the

never experienced God's healing touch, perhaps it is because we have not welcomed the divine scrutiny.

The most important, most real, most lasting work is accomplished in the depths of our heart. This work is solitary and interior. It cannot be seen by anyone, not even ourselves. It is a work known only to God. It is the

... when the branch is truly united with the vine and receiving its life from the vine, spiritual fruit is a natural result.

Holy Spirit. It is this life that purifies the heart; when the branch is truly united with the vine and receiving its life from the vine, spiritual fruit is a natural result

This is why the moral philosophers could say, "Virtue is easy." When the heart is purified by the action of the Spirit, the most natural thing in the world is the virtuous thing. To the pure in heart, vice is what is hard.

It is no vain thing for us to return to our first love over and over and over again. It is an act of faith to continually cry out to God to search us and know our heart and root out every wicked way in us (Ps. 139:23-24). This is a vital aspect of the salvation of the Lord.

We are, each and every one of us, a tangled mass of motives: hope and fear, faith and doubt, simplicity and duplicity, honesty and falsity, openness and guile. God is the only one who can separate the true from the false, the only one who can purify the motives of the heart.

But God does not come uninvited. If certain chambers of our heart have

work of heart purity, of soul conversion, of inward transformation, of life formation.

It begins first by our turning to the light of Jesus. For some, this is an excruciatingly slow turning, turning until we turn round right. For others, it is instantaneous and glorious. In either case, we are coming to trust in Jesus, to accept Jesus as our Life. As we read about in John 3, we are born from above. But our being born from above, of necessity, includes our being formed from above. Being spiritually born is a beginning-a wonderful, glorious beginning. It is not an ending.

Much intense formation work is necessary before we can stand the fires of heaven. Much training is necessary before we are the kind of persons who can safely and easily reign with God.

So now, we are ushered into this new relationship. As Peter puts it in his first letter, we "have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God" (1 Pet. 1:23). God is alive! Jesus is real and active in our little affairs.

And so we begin to pray, to enter into an interactive communion with God. At first our praying is uneasy and halting. It's an alternation of our attention back and forth from divine glories to the mundane tasks of home and work. Back and forth, back and forth. And often the alternation is worsemuch worse-than not praying at all. One moment we are reveling in divine glories, the next moment our minds are wallowing in the gutter of base desires.

Our lives are fractured and fragmented. As Thomas Kelly puts it, we are living in "an intolerable scramble of panting feverishness." We feel the pull of many obligations and try to fulfill them all. And we are "unhappy, uneasy, strained, oppressed, and fearful we shall be shallow." But through time and experience—sometimes much time and experience—God begins to give us an amazing staidness in the Divine Center. In the depths of our being, alternation gives way to a well-nigh unbroken life of humble adoration before the living presence of God.

This is not ecstasy but serenity, unshakableness, and firmness of life orientation. In the words of George Fox, we become "established" men and women.

We began to develop a habit of divine orientation. Now this is no perfectionism, but it is progress in our life with God. The interior work of prayer becomes much simpler now. Slowly we find that little glances heavenward and quiet breathings of submission are all that are needed to draw us into a habitual orientation of our heart toward God. Without even knowing it, we are practicing the presence of God. Formal times of prayer merely join into and enhance the steady undercurrent of quiet worship that underlies all our days.

Behind the foreground of daily life continues the background of heavenly orientation.

This is the formation of the heart before God. To use the words of Kelly, it is "a life of unhurried peace and power. It is simple. It is serene. It is amazing. It is triumphant. It is radiant. It takes no time, but it occupies all our time."

As apprentices of Jesus we are learning, always learning how to live well; love God well; love our spouse well; raise our children well; love our friends and neighbors- and even our enemies-well; study well; face adversity well; run our businesses and financial institutions well; form community life well; reach out to those on the margins well; and die well-ars moriendi. And, as we learn how to live well, we share with others what we are learning. This is the structure of love for the building up of the body of Christ.

We are not alone in this work of the reformation of the heart. It is imperative for us to help each other in every way we can. And in our day, the desperate need is for the emergence of a massive spiritual army of trained spiritual directors who can lovingly come alongside precious people and help them discern how to walk by faith in the circumstances of their own lives. Please note that I said "trained" spiritual directors and not "certified" spiritual directors.

There is a genuinely bad idea circulating these days that if we take a certain number of courses and read a certain number of books and receive a certain kind of certification, we will be ready to be spiritual directors. I'm sorry; I really do wish it were that simple. But no, we are here talking about life training. And it is only by life

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LIFE AS A STUDENT CHAPLAIN

The Student Chaplain Program is a voluntary, peer ministry that nurtures students and their spiritual relationships. Chaplains host weekly Grow Groups, small gatherings in residence halls, to create an atmosphere for spiritual discussion and growth. "I think grow group can be whatever it needs to be," says junior Rachel Fox, student chaplain for Gallup Residence Hall. "I think it can be a group of guys going out for cheesesteaks, if that could be something soothing to the soul."

Fox chose to be a student chaplain to fulfill a leadership requirement for the Leadership Grant Program, but she has exceeded the necessary hours. "I think the implications of being a student chaplain stretch way beyond Wednesday evenings," Fox says. "Grow group and this ongoing conversation that takes place between hall mates should always lead people closer to the understanding that everything is indeed spiritual."

Fox is glad to be part of the Chaplain program. "To be on a campus with a thousand other students your age, frantic and busy and being away from a foundation and home, having one ritual can be an important thing, not just to your life as a student, but to your life as a Christian here at Eastern."

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training that we will see the development of a certain kind of life, a life of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. It is this quality of life-the ability to forgive when it is painful, the yearning for prayer-that we are looking for in trained spiritual directors.

We have real difficulty here because everyone thinks of changing the world, but where, oh where, are those who think of changing themselves? People may genuinely want to be good, but seldom are they prepared to do what it takes to produce the inward life of goodness that can form the soul. Personal formation into the likeness of Christ is arduous and lifelong.

FELLOWSHIP GATHERING POWER

his naturally leads to the sec-ond great arena of work for the years ahead: congregational renewal. If in our churches we do not do the hard work of spiritual for mation, we will not get spiritually formed people. So this is a vital arena of labor, and I am speaking of both congregations as traditionally understood, as well as newly emerging forms of our life together.

At the outset, it is important for us to see the context in which we labor.

First, we have in our churches a "hurry sickness." Many of our people are adrenaline addicts, and the overall spirit of our day is one of climb and push and shove, of noise and hurry and crowds. But spiritual formation work simply does not occur in a hurry. It is never a quick-fix deal. Patient, time-consuming care is always the hallmark of spiritual formation work.

Another contextual situation we face is the fact that we now have a

Christian entertainment industry that is masquerading as worship. How do we attend in reverence and awe before the Holy One of Israel when so much of our worship culture focuses on

and mind and spirit are being reformed—if I am longing to know Jesus and follow Jesus and serve Jesus and be formed into the image of Jesus-then I am powerfully drawn

Of course, spiritual formation work teaches us to turn away from our wants and instead focus on true needs...

amusement, diversion, and gratification? I don't know the answer, but it is clearly one of the realities of our congregational life.

A third issue: We are dealing with an overall consumer mentality that simply dominates the American religious scene. It is a mentality that keeps the individual front and center: "I want what I want, when I want it, and to the measure I want it." Of course, spiritual formation work teaches us to turn away from our wants and instead focus on true needs, such as the need to die to self and to take up our cross and follow hard after Jesus.

All these things and more make the work of spiritual formation in a congregational setting complicated indeed. I am sure I don't have the answers to these complicated matters. But it is wonderful to know that having the answers is not our job. Our job is to do the work of spiritual formation, and to do this in a congregational setting.

First, that means we want to experience deeply the fellowship gathering power of spiritual formation. The church is re-formed and always reforming. And if my heart and soul

toward anyone and everyone who is seeking to know Jesus and follow Jesus and serve Jesus and be formed into the image of Jesus. A person filled with the beauty of Jesus has fellowship gathering power. Others are drawn irresistibly toward such a person.

Second, let us do all we can to develop the ecclesiola in ecclesia—"the little church within the church." The ecclesiola in ecclesia is deeply committed to the life of the people of God and is not sectarian in any way. No separation. No splitting off. No setting up a new denomination or church. We stay within the given church structures and develop little centers of light within those structures. And then we let our light shine!

Three historical expressions of the ecclesiola in ecclesia are particularly worthy of study:

• Philipp Jakob Spener (1635–1705) in 17th-century Germany and his collegia pietatis. Considered the father of Pietism, Spener spent his days practicing and teaching conversion of heart and holiness of life. Those listening to him were so regularly moved by his preaching that they wanted further instruction, and asked if he would be good enough to meet with them.

Spener began to hold such groups with those eager to follow Jesus, first in his house, then in other houses, and then in public buildings and so on, with the intent of instructing people who were anxious to learn and live a holy life.

• John Wesley (1703-1791) in 18th century England and his societies, class meetings, and bands. These gatherings were a way to give order and discipline to new converts. The societies were for the purpose of fellowship, the class meetings were for the purpose of accountability, and the bands were for the purpose of loving and mutual confession of sin.



Eastern's service learning program grows directly out of our institutional commitment to faith, reason and justice. We want our students to think and act as Christians, and to be agents of God's redemptive purposes in a broken world. Our service focuses on issues of injustice in surrounding communities like Chester, Norristown and Philadelphia, PA. Essentially, service learning fosters learning and spiritual formation through the discipline of service to communities in need.

Every Eastern student in the College of Arts and Sciences serves 20 hours during their first semester as part of the core curriculum. The service is part of a class called "Introduction to Faith, Reason and Justice." With 29 sections comprised of over 500 students serving at 20 sites, the program leads to 10,000 hours of service each year. In economic terms, the value of that volunteer labor is over \$195,000 (\$19.51/hr. according to www.independentsector.org). In Kingdom terms, the value is infinite!

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• Hans Nielsen Hauge (1771-1824) in 19th-century Norway and "the inner mission." There were great renewal movements in Norway under Hauge, butand this is crucial—Hauge urged his followers to stay in the Lutheran state church of Norway. He formed them into small structures within those churches and called their work of piety and heart formation "the inner mission."

Now, this ecclesiola in ecclesia, this spiritual formation work, produces a certain kind of fellowship, a certain kind of community. It produces a unity of heart and soul and mind, a bond

that cannot be broken-

a wonder-filled caring and sharing of life together that will carry us through the most difficult circumstances.

And that leads me to my third suggestion for congregational spiritual formation: that we learn to suffer together.

I believe our time of suffering is coming. A multitude of factors will bring this to pass. For example, the hostility of the general culture to things Christian is only going to increase. We should not be surprised by this or even try to change it. What we should be doing is building a rock-solid community life so that when suffering comes, we will not scatter. Instead, we will stand together, pray together, and

SERVICE LEARNING

Service Sites in 2008: ACLAMO, Norristown The Barry School, Philadelphia Broad St. Ministry, Philadelphia Central Presbyterian Church, Norristown Chester Student Center, Chester City Team Ministries, Chester Cornerstone Christian Academy, Philadelphia Delaware County Housing Coalition, Chester Don Guanella School, Springfield Frederick Douglass Christian School, Chester Good Works, Coatesville Habitat for Humanity, Eastern Chapter MANNA, Philadelphia Philabundance Prison Ministry, House of Corrections, Phila. Project HOME, Philadelphia St. Edmond's Home, Rosemont Team Children, Audubon, NJ Urban Promise, Camden, NJ YACHT (Youth Against Complacency and Homelessness Today) Eastern/Philadelphia

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suffer together regardless of what comes our way. Suffering together may well be one way God uses us for a new gathering of the people of God.

BACK INTO THE WORLD

Rinally, we come to the issue of cultural renewal, or what in theology is called the "cultural mandate." I can only hint here at what that might look like.

The devotional masters write much about training the heart in two opposite directions: contemptus mundi, our being torn loose from all earthly attachments and ambitions, and amor mundi, our being quickened to a divine but painful compassion for the world.

In the beginning God plucks the world out of our hearts—contemptus mundi. Here we experience a loosening of the chains of attachment to positions of prominence and power. All our longings for social recognition, to have our name in lights, begin to

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appear puny and trifling. We learn to let go of all control, all managing, all manipulation. We freely and joyfully live without guile. We experience a glorious detachment from this world and all it offers.

And then, just when we have become free from it all, God hurls the world back into our heart—amor mundi—where we and God together carry the world in infinitely tender love. We deepen in our compassion for the bruised, the broken, the dispossessed. We ache and pray and labor for others in a new way, a selfless way, a joy-filled way. Our heart is enlarged toward those on the margins. Indeed, our heart is enlarged toward all people, toward all of Creation.

It was amor mundi that hurled Patrick back to Ireland to be the answer to its spiritual poverty. It was amor mundi that thrust Francis of Assisi into his worldwide ministry of compassion for all people, for all animals, for all Creation. It drove Elizabeth Fry into the hellhole of Newgate prison, and prompted William Wilberforce to labor his entire life for the abolition of the slave trade. It sent Father Damien to live and suffer and die among the lepers of Molokai, and propelled Mother Teresa to minister among the poorest of the poor in India and throughout the world.

And it is amor mundi that compels millions of ordinary folk like you and me to minister life in Christ's good name to our neighbor, our nigh-bor: "the person who is near us."

RICHARD FOSTER is author of many books, most recently Life with God. This article is a condensed and edited version of a talk given at a conference on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of Celebration of Discipline. This article first appeared in Christianity Today Magazine in January, 2009, and is used here with their permission and the permission of the author. Richard Foster has been a guest speaker at Eastern University.

Studying with the Mind in the Heart by Chancellor Christopher Hall

The danger exists that the growth of a gifted mind may outdistance a corresponding growth in character. The phrase "studying with the mind in the heart" comes from ancient desert monastic communities. Our monastic friends warn us that all Christian communities can become warped if the search for knowledge is not wedded to a spiritually disciplined life in which each individual is increasingly formed into the image of Christ. We need to continue to ponder how the formation of our character – individually

and corporately - can be an ever-

deepening aspect and emphasis

of our institutional life as we allow

(as the monks put it) for our minds to descend gracefully into our hearts.

Especially during these turbulent, uncertain times, I have been meditating on this ancient phrase. For many, these are the most troubling of times, but these early Christians, who were no strangers to tough times, challenge us to be motivated and strengthened by taking a long, faith-filled perspective. In both good and turbulent times, I am deeply grateful to have teachers like these ancient encouragers, along with my Eastern University colleagues – people long on life experience and deep in the Christian faith. Together, we will weather this storm and emerge from it stronger.

Speakers Share their Insights

Eastern University invites a diverse group of speakers to address the campus community on important social, academic and religious issues of our times. This is just a small sampling of recent guests.

FAITH FORUM 2009



Eastern welcomed the president of Christians for Biblical Equality as the 2009 Faith Forum speaker. **Dr. Mimi**

Haddad is a founding member of the Evangelicals and Gender Study Group at the Evangelical Theological Society. She has written numerous articles and contributed to seven books. Dr. Haddad is an adjunct professor at North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL, and lives in a mixedincome, inner-city housing development committed to creating greater financial stability in Minneapolis.

CONVERSATIONS THAT MATTER



Bishop Alexis Bilindabagabo's personal story of remarkable rescues during the 1994 Rwandan genocide is told

in his book, *Rescued by Angels* (with Alan Nichols, Acorn Press 2001). The book was featured in a BBC radio documentary series. In 1994, he and his wife, a medical doctor, were on death lists when the genocide broke out, and they fled to Zaire. After securing safety for his family, Bishop Alexis flew back into Rwanda and established

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a foster care agency for war orphans. He and Chancellor Christopher Hall discussed the Bishop's book and his work towards peace and reconciliation in post-genocide Rwanda.

"LORD, SAVE US FROM YOUR FOLLOWERS" FILM

Eastern students and guests had the opportunity to meet writer and director **Dan Merchant** and check out the movie that is taking American colleges by storm. Though 9 of 10 Americans claim a belief in God, public expression of faith is more contentious than ever. This is sort of "Michael Moore meets Monty Python style." This is just one of the many thought-provoking events sponsored by Student Activities of the College of Arts and Sciences.

METANEXUS LECTURE SERIES



The 2008-2009 Metanexus Senior Fellow Lecture Series co-sponsored by the Templeton Honors College of Eastern

University presented "Why There Almost Certainly Is A God: Doubting Dawkins." **Dr. Keith Ward** considers some of the Big Questions in science and religion. In this lecture, Dr. Ward addressed Richard "The God Delusion" Dawkin's claim that there is no God. Ward considered the flaws in Dawkin's arguments and made a rational case for the existence of God.

FAITH AND SCIENCE LECTURE



Eastern University welcomed internationally known scholar of science and religion, **Dr. Karl**

Giberson, to speak about his book, Saving Darwin: How to be a Christian and Believe in Evolution. His discussion honored the 200th anniversary of Charles Darwin's birth and the 150th anniversary of Darwin's publication of the Origin of Species. He engaged students in the conversation on how and why you can believe in both God and evolution. The "faith and science" lecture was sponsored and organized by the Chemistry Club and Dr. Jeanne Bundens. "We found a lot of our students were surprised to hear from a scientist who is both Christian and at peace with evolution. Giberson sees that the controversies between some Christians and some atheistic scientists are more of a culture war than a conflict between faith and science," said Bundens.

Giberson's lecture was well received by over 100 students, faculty and community members.

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Web Site Sees Eastern Students as the Solution

Injustice is overwhelming, and for many Eastern students, the problems of poverty, environmental decline, and lack of community support seem too large to tackle. However, a small effort of awareness is a good place to start.

In January 2009, the Web site, www.iam-thesolution.org, was launched by Families First, a nonprofit organization in Atlanta, GA, to encourage people to participate in creating change in their communities. On the Web site, individuals have the opportunity to make a resolution, set goals, and track their progress.

The campaign believes that everyone can be involved in the process of social change by asking this simple question: "What would happen if people made one resolution to improve the lives of others?" This site motivates people to share their problems and resources with one another for the benefits of communities all over the world.

In April, the Web site featured Eastern University students in its Solutions Tracker Newsletter.

Eastern students took the lead by participating in this nationwide initiative through a class project. Rebecca Lauren Gidjunis, affiliate professor of English at Eastern University, assigned her students a "problem solving essay" in her College Writing classes. For instance, first-year student Tim Wotring discovered that very few among the homeless in Philadelphia's SEPTA stations have access to information about shelters, soup kitchens and support programs. Tim would like to create a brochure or handout with the resources that they might need.

By contrast, first-year student Vanessa Rodgers (below) is conscious of the environment and the ways that Eastern students can live a greener lifestyle. She discovered that all of the "to-go" lunches at Eastern's Dining Commons are served in plastic bags. She would like to suggest a more environmentally-friendly alternative and outlines her plan through Gidjunis' assignment and the Web site.

Amadly Cruz grew up in Camden, NJ and noticed that many young people grew up without a positive mentor in their lives. She'd like to change that by volunteering at Urban Promise and showing children what they can do with their lives.

The Eastern students narrow down their topics in specific ways so that they can find the causes of the problems, evaluate them using outside resources, and take practical steps to solve their problems. The students take advantage of diverse resources for their essay, researching professional journals and newspaper articles, interviewing people involved in the problems, and visiting places of interest. This project motivates students to contribute their time to their communities, schools and neighborhoods. Jon Prete, the

marketing and

by Sunyoung Lee and Rebecca Gidjunis

communications manager of Families First, and Kinetra Smith, their public relations manager, believe that the Eastern students are good role models. They hope to pitch the Eastern stories to other media outlets in Philadelphia and beyond.

This is a great opportunity for Eastern University and its mission of faith, reason, and justice to demonstrate the concept of "practice what you preach." Through this project, Eastern students are honored for their positive influences in the hopes that other individuals, small communities, colleges, faith-based organizations and nonprofits will see positive resolutions in their own environments.

Healing in the Aftermath of War By Gwen White, Psy.D., Chair of the Graduate Counseling Department

On this rather inconspicuous bridge, (below) the first casualties fell in Sarajevo in 1992. Across the entire region of southeastern Europe in the former Yugoslavia, war, ethnic cleansing, and brutality of every sort brought trauma to an entire society. Muslims, Catholics, and Orthodox Christians all turned to fear and destruction in a chaotic decade of violence. Today, Bosnia-Herzegovina consists of two self-governing entities, the Bosnian Serb Republic and the Muslim (Bosnjak)-Croat Federation, a compromise situation brought about by the American-negotiated Dayton agreement. The beautiful city of Sarajevo wears its scars still. Renovated buildings stand adjacent to the empty shells of bombed buildings. Unemployment is near 40%. People still feel the tensions and mistrust that led to numerous wars in the 1990s and before. Many groups feel the urge for revenge as they nurse wounds of being victimized at some point in the past, or defend their group's actions as justified responses to threats, perceived and real. And it seems that just about everybody still worries.

On my trip to Sarajevo last fall, I became friends with Amela Puljek-Shank, who was a refugee with her family dur-



Faith & Practice

ing the war years, and has since returned to coordinate the regional work of the Mennonite Central Committee, a relief and development agency of the Mennonite and Brethren in Christ Churches. She has completed graduate studies in peace transformation in the United States and along with her husband, Randy, is now diligently working to help her young country and the surrounding countries find new ways of relating for the future. Following her experiences of violence, she reflected, "The next step was acceptance of reality and rebuilding of my life inside as well as outside of myself. What I do know is that I have a vision/dream/hope of peace where Bosnia would be one country made up of many different national groups that live peacefully together, side by side, and accept each other with all their similarities and differences. I dream of a nation that will be dedicated to cultivating a culture of peace. I hope to see us, the people of Bosnia, uplift all that is beautiful, caring and loving in our culture: respect for elders, closeness with one another, intimacy of our relationships, our passion for dance and celebration of life. I hope to see us becoming aware of our destructive nature where our passion,

a precious jewel, when unchecked turns into a dark force with enormous capacity for hurting each other. Becoming aware of our dark forces and their powers would help us learn how to tame and transform them into a power for life, not against it."

A major focal point of the work going on in the region is psychological. The cycles of violence and upheaval have left a legacy of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and rising rates of domestic violence and drug and alcohol abuse. The 'violence without' becomes the 'violence within' and the cycles tragically repeat. I met with numerous young psychologists across the territory who are working in Trauma Centers that have been established to offer psychological services to those in need and education in non-violent interaction to the public. The possibility of providing encourage ment and further training for this growing community of mental health professionals became a passion for me. I'll be returning to Sarajevo in August with my colleague, Dr. Susan Edgar-Smith, to provide training and support, and to stand with these helpers in their efforts to stem violence and promote healing within individuals, families, and across their society.

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Whyte's Economic Development Off to a Running Start

in International Economic Whyte is a whole lot closer to putdence and self-reliance among the dent in 2001 that left her immobile from the neck down.

Whyte, a native of Jamaica, earned his BS in Business attending Eastern. During his tenure internship in India with a business

this internship that Whyte learned

sion to help others through devel-Through Eastern's MBA program, ment. Through living in India, he was

After graduating in December, Whyte said, "I want to do economic friends are working to launch a nonprofit organization, Belief in Rectitude and Divinity (B.I.R.D) LLC.



there must be a lot of thought and planning. Eastern has also taught me

For more information about Eastern University's MBA in International Economic Development program, visit sld/index.html.

Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove '03 is the author of the most encouraging of all is the huge upsurge of young people who are learning to hear the Gospel from what salvation means."



Women'sLacrosseTeam **MissionsWorkinCostaRica**

The Eastern University women's lacrosse team traveled to Costa Rica over spring break. The Eagles served through an organization called Patronato Nacional de la Infancia (PANI), working at two schools and with orphans. Head Coach Camrin Azzarano and her husband, Michael, had worked in the region and developed a heart for the people before she returned to Eastern to coach. "This is a great opportunity for our team to grow together as we serve these children," Azzarano said. "We are so grateful to the many people who have supported us in our fundraising efforts for this trip. We have dedicated ourselves to trusting in God's plan and purpose."

PANI is an organization that protects the rights of children and adolescents (visit www.pani.go.cr).



visit www.goeasterneagles.com.



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Faith Practice



For more information about Eastern University athletics,

Photos: Linnea Davis

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Improving Water and Education in Haiti

Ruth Entwistle, 2008 graduate of Eastern University's MBA in Economic Development program, is the founder of Deep Springs International, a nonprofit organization that is devoted to improving access to potable water through small business and education in Haiti. On November 13, 2008, Deep Springs International was one of the 16 groups to receive the Templeton Freedom Award (chosen from among 170 applications from 58 countries), a \$10,000 grant given by the Atlas Foundation to help Deep Springs International advance its mission of improved water treatment.

Deep Springs International has three facets to its mission: 1) partnering with Haitian organizations to treat impure water and to turn it into healthy drinking water, 2) teaching high school students how to properly treat water and help them find jobs in water treat

ment, and 3) teaching high school graduates entrepreneurial skills in business management.

Deep Springs developed a partnership with World Concern to train 37 teachers who are now educating students in eight schools in southern Haiti. Entwistle has also made professional contacts and gained financial support through many individuals and organizations.

A native of Stratham, NH, Ruth always dreamed of being involved in Kingdom building. Her dream came to fruition as an undergraduate at Grove City College when Ruth developed Deep Springs International. Upon receiving her 501(c) 3 status, Ruth knew she needed to further her education to successfully run her ministry. That's when she turned to Eastern's MBA in Economic Development program.

"Sure, I knew the country needed help, but Eastern really helped me gain preparedness, the ability to help and a strategic way to go about it," Entwistle said. "At Eastern, I had a great deal of exposure to international development, and I learned about development approaches and theories. The program gave me the network of my classmates,

who continue to support me although I have graduated," she said. "We are all still connected."

Entwistle and her husband, Ryan, returned from their three-month trip to Haiti in the beginning of November. They spent their time in Haiti observing the implementation of the educational program, building relationships, and working with the teachers they have trained.

"It was very rewarding to finally watch the successful execution of what we've been planning for years," Entwistle said. "We had huge success. The teachers are remarkable, and are doing so much more than we could have dreamed."

While Deep Springs International still remains a young ministry, its young founder (age 23), Entwistle has big dreams for her organization. "I want to provide solutions in areas that aren't being served," Entwistle said. "By working and building partnerships, I want the entire population to have access to clean water either by us or by someone else. We have thoughts about expanding and going into the Dominican Republic or India."

To learn more about Deep Springs International, visit www.deepspringsinternational.org. For more information about Eastern University's MBA in **Economic Development** Program, visit www.eastern.edu/sld.



SERVING IN GUAM

Melissa Heck '06, counseling psychology graduate, serves as dean of women in Guam at the Pacific Island Bible College. She reports, "Not only do I assign rooms, make sure the students kept them clean and in working order, but I also get a chance to spend time with the

teach my favorite subject, personality development. After two and a half years here at Pacific Islands Bible College (www.pibc.edu), I feel a sense of peace that I am exactly where I was meant to be." You can visit Melissa's blog which chronicles her journey and adventures in Guam to serve God at www.missionarygirl-guam.blogspot.com



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students using my counseling skills to help them with homesickness, conflict management, or any other problems of a personal nature. My duties include helping the school enforce discipline, mentoring, organizing daily devotions, and even helping with transportation. Having my master's degree also gives me the opportunity to

Dr. Nate Corbitt spoke on the arts in transformation in Norway, and worked with a group of Eastern graduate students with children in Asia. Read more about his experiences in Malaysia at: www.somewherebridge.blogspot.com.

Drick Boyd, CCGPS faculty, participated in "Heeding God's Call: A Gathering on Peace" held in Philadelphia in January. He cofacilitated a workshop entitled "What Binds us Together as We Work for Peace in the World and Peace in the Streets?" which looks at the common concerns between peace activists and urban justice activists. He participated on the planning committee for the January Action on Gun Violence, and preached on the gun violence issue at Frazer Mennonite Church, PA.

HE URGES US TO "TAKE JESUS SERIOUSLY"

Shane Claiborne '97 has been taking his message of "taking Jesus seriously" all over the world in his writing, speaking and videos. He is one of the founders of The Simple Way community in Philadelphia, PA, and part of a movement that is called the new monasticism. This summer Shane is representing Eastern

> In March he spoke to students at Bethel College in Kansas and recounted his experience working directly with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, India, an internship he sought during his time at Eastern. She often said, "There are Calcuttas everywhere. The lepers, the lonely, the hurting and the untouchables are all around. Find your Calcutta and go there and serve.

Shane described the characteristics of Christian communities like The Simple Way as economic sharing, breaking down racial divisions, caring for creation, celebrating celibacy and singleness equally with marriage and families, and being committed to peacemaking. He concluded, "We're all on a journey... let's keep pushing each other toward Jesus."

Learn more about The Simple Way at: www.thesimpleway.org.

Faith & Practice

A Passion for Social Justice in Russia

interdenominational, international

working I can initiate things on my own," said Troncale. Dr. Bronkema



Students Organize Microfinance Conference



Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) hosted the first Microfinance Conference at Eastern University on finance Consulting; and Richard and Economic Development for

nance, SIFE students organized the members. SIFE is all about involving us in projects that benefit our com-Eastern, where faith-based initiatives are encouraged?" said Jessica High, Eastern SIFE member.

- Rebecca Druckenmiller

Human Rights Award Recipient Inspired by Tony Campolo

Leena Lavanya of India is the 2009 recipient of the Baptist World Alliance (BWA) Denton and Janice Lotz Human Rights Award. Referred to by some as the "Baptist Mother Teresa," she is being recognized for her work among the poor and dispossessed of India. Her Serve Trust organization operates several ministries, including homes for the aged, lepers, and adults and children living with HIV/AIDS. Lavanya began her ministry after attending the Baptist Youth World Conference in Harare, Zimbabwe, in 1993, in response to a challenge by renowned speaker Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Campolo for youth to fully surrender their lives to Christ.

A professor emeritus of sociology at Eastern University, Dr. Tony Campolo is the founder of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education, which develops schools and social programs in the two-thirds world and cities across the

Evangelical/Catholic Dialogue on the Common Good



World Affairs at Georgetown University.

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U.S. Dr. Campolo, an alumnus of Eastern University and Eastern Baptist **Theological Seminary (now Palmer** Seminary), earned a Ph.D. at Temple University and served on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania before joining Eastern's faculty. He is a tireless motivational speaker who has inspired multitudes around the world to live their faith through committed activism.

Named by Christianity Today as one of the most influential preachers of the last 50 years, Dr. Campolo is also the bestselling author of over 35 books on religious and social issues. These include the recent Letters to a Young Evangelical, The God of Intimacy and Action, and Red Letter Christians: A Citizen's Guide to Faith and Politics.

> The third meeting of the Evangelical/Catholic Dialogue on the Common Good was held at Eastern University in March. Summoned by a commitment to justice, a small group of Evangelical and Catholic leaders are meeting annually to seek common ground on issues such as the sanctity of human life, economic and racial justice, strengthening marriage and family, care for creation, peacemaking and human rights. Dr. Ron Sider, Palmer Seminary professor and founder of the Sider Center and Evangelicals for Social Action, and Michael Gerson co-chair the group. Cardinal McCarrick and Rick Warren are senior co-conveners. Shown here (I. to r.) are Jo Anne Lyon, General Superintendent, The

Wesleyan Church; Father John P. Langan, S.J., Cardinal Bernardin Chair of Catholic Social Thought at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics, Georgetown University; and Chester Gillis, Amaturo Chair in Catholic Studies, Berkley Center for Religion, Peace and

community news

Dr. John Stapleford (Sort of) Retires

After over 23 years at Eastern University, Dr. John Stapleford is retiring from full-time teaching.

A professor of economic development and business, he will remain an emeritus professor of economic development.

Stapleford has served in many roles at Eastern, including the chair of the Department of Business (1995-1998), a professor of economic development (2001-08), the director of Faculty and Student Research (2003-04), the director of TSEDEQ (2001-08), and in the Athletics Department as the head coach for the lacrosse team (1997 to 2000). In addition to his tenure at Eastern, Stapleford has also worked with students at the University of Delaware, the University of Pennsylvania and Rider College, and served as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force (1969-73). Currently, Stapleford is a senior economist at Moody's Economy.com. Despite all of Stapleford's other roles and contributions to society, his time at Eastern holds a special place in his heart.

> "The commitment to social and economic justice

> > at Eastern is different from other universities and truly remarkable." Stapleford said.

"The majority of people in the world don't have the heart for social and economic justice, nor have even a portion of the desire to help others as the staff, faculty and students at Eastern do."

This commitment to justice was a driving force behind Stapleford's long tenure at Eastern. "It became increasingly obvious to me that God definitely uses all the folks at Eastern for advancing His Kingdom," Stapleford said. "For the faculty and staff at Eastern, work is a ministry. The same is true about the students. They are getting a graduate degree and are also going out and working in jobs that aren't lucrative. They aren't looking to advance themselves economically or materially-they genuinely want to help other people."

Stapleford has published several works, including a book entitled, Bulls, Bears and Golden Calves: Applying Christian Ethics in Economics (InterVarsity Press, 2002, 2008). His work has been featured in Christian Scholar's Review, Faith and Economics and the Journal of Markets & Morality, among others. In addition, Stapleford has published several book reviews, chapters in books, and has presented numerous papers at professional meetings.

Public service has also been a key component in Stapleford's life. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Caesar Rodney Institute and is on the Board of Directors for Nehemiah Gateway, a community development corporation at Shiloh Baptist Church in north Wilmington, DE. He has also served on the Board of Directors for the First State Community Action Agency, the Methodist Action Program and the Greater Wilmington Youth for Christ, and has served on the Board of Trustees for The Independence School and the Delaware Academy for Youth.

"Retire?" Stapleford said. "There's not a thing in the Bible that says you should be able to retire. I feel that God, through my whole life, has put me where He wanted me at different times. I see that is the case right now. I have no interest in traveling or doing other things people do when they retire. I really just want to continue to work on justice and economic issues. Those are the things that are important to me." Allison Auclair

Dance Selected at Regional Festival

Dr. Karen Clemente, Dr. Joselli Deans, and dance faculty members Janine Bryant and Saleana Pettaway took 16 students from the Eastern University Dance Program to the Northeast Regional Festival of the American College Dance Festival Association (ACDFA) at Penn State University over spring break. Eastern's faculty taught master classes and students attended master classes, panel discussions, and dance concerts. Dr. Karen Clemente's dance,



Learning about Freud

Dr. Stephen Gatlin developed an innovative course called "Sigmund Freud: Kulturkritik." He reports,

"As a youth, I pored over Freud's Introductory Lectures with no tutelage and with little profit. I found it imposing, impossible to comprehend. Vienna really was another world, and a very foreign one. And I gave up. Only decades later while doing the history of psychiatry did I begin to wrestle with Freud anew.

Reading some key books was crucial: namely Martin Wain's fine book, Freud's Answer: The Social Origins of our Psychoanalytic Century and John Murray Cuddihy's The Ordeal of Civility. These books show just how psychoanalysis developed. Briefly, with the Industrial and

French Revolutions and Napoleon's liberation of the Jews from Europe's ghettos (circa 1815), the entire population of Europe was traumatized, especially the Jews.

Full Woman, co-choreographed by guest artists Lisa Lovelace and MeLinda Tatum Kaiser, was adjudicated and selected from 48 entries to be one of 11 dances performed at the closing Gala Concert.

Eastern students who developed and performed Full Woman are: Kelsey Brennan, Jessica Bryan, Caroline Butcher, Kristen Davies, Chelsea Dotson, Emily Felkamp, Kristin Gianoukas, Joanna Halliburton, Natalie Landis, Heather Mahurin, Desi Shank and Sarah Umbenhauer.

They entered a state of crisis during their radical adjustment to mainstream Europe. By the end of the nine-



teenth century, Sigmund Freud, suffering this psychological/cultural crisis in his own person, labeled this maladjustment "neurosis" (literally, nerve disease). His psychoanalysis was directed originally at "hysterical" Viennese Jews (largely wealthy women). To be nostalgic for the old world (the Gemeinschaft) was to invite mental distress. To embrace the reality of the Gesellschaft (however stern and stark) ultimately was the path to sanity and success. The Jews have succeeded

Once my students began to see Freud in this light, the darkness and trepidation were dispelled. Freud, far

from being the elevated genius operating above the rest of us, taught his people to become the rest of us, even while retaining their distinctiveness."

mightily in the latter.





On November 28, 1995, the Eagle statue located outside Walton Hall traveled from the Oxford Valley Mall in Bucks County to Eastern University's St. Davids campus. When Hecht's department store bought out Wanamakers, they disposed of the 10 Wanamaker store icons and Eastern was one of the schools vying for one.

The 1,000-pound Eagle with a 15-foot wingspan was donated in honor of the Eastern Eagles sports teams. Former baseball coach **Dan Hare** led Eastern's efforts to obtain a Wanamaker Eagle. Another Eastern connection to the Eagle might have been that retired vice president and 1953 alum William Zulker wrote a biography on John Wanamaker, which is available in Warner Library.

KOREAN PAINTING AND FAN

Donated by In Ho Oh family

As you walk through the main entrance of the library, to the left hang two pieces of Korean art that have much symbolism behind their donation.

On April 25, 1958, 26-year-old and 1957 Eastern alum **In Ho Oh** was brutally murdered by a street gang of boys in Philadelphia. At that time, In Ho was a graduate student at the University of Pennsylvania.

While Americans felt these young men should be punished severely, In Ho's family in Korea viewed their tragic loss differently. As they stated in a letter, they wanted to "turn their sorrow into Christian purpose" and hoped the young men responsible for their son's death

would be given "the most generous treatment possible within the laws of the government."

The Oh family decided to save money to start a fund to be used "for the religious, educational, vocational and social guidance of the boys" who murdered their son, calling them unsaved souls. They also created a Korea Memorial Center in Philadelphia.

In 1963, In Ho's cousin and uncle donated a painting by Korean artist Ki Chang Kim in In Ho's memory. The silk painting shows two large mountains with a row of trees and a cluster of

peasant huts. The mountains represent the barrier between Korea and the rest of the world and the fog making its way into the valley indicates that barriers can be overcome. The peasant returning to the village after his day's work symbolizes the Korean living with a knowledge of the mountains and the belief that the world will find its way into Korea.

In 2008, In Ho's brother donated a Korean fan crafted by Lee Ki-Dong. The fan was developed in the 12th century of the Korean Dynasty and used by Korean aristocrats.



Original Artwork on Eastern's St. Davids Campus



"ON A MARKETING DAY"

Painting by Byong Kuk Lee Donated by Korean Nursing graduates May 2006

In the reference room in the basement of the library hangs a true treasure. The rice paper painting titled, "On a Marketing Day" by Byong Kuk Lee was donated to Eastern University by the May 2006 graduating Korean Nursing students. Sung Chon Yoo, lecturer and coordinator of the Korean Nursing Program, and her husband played an important role in this effort.

"We wanted to find a painting that portrayed traditional Korean lifestyles and customs," Sung says. This, however, was harder than they expected, for most artwork portrayed the modern and industrialized view of Korea and not the more traditional. In 2006, Sung and her husband traveled to Korea to search for the painting.

"FOR THE DISAPPEARED"

Artist Kathleen Luchtan Donated by American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, PA

The Harold Howard Center is the home to "For the Disappeared," a sculpture created by Kathleen Luchtan in 1995 that focuses on the hardships and anguish of the indigenous people of Guatemala.

Between 1959 and 1990, the death squads of the Guatemalan government had over 100,000 people disappear or murdered. Entire towns were eliminated and mass graves were later found around the country. These Guatemalan people disappeared because they spoke out against the government's human rights abuses and resisted having their land taken.

Luchtan worked for three years for PEACE for Guatemala, an organization dedicated to educating people, and raising funds to support the people and projects in Guatemala.

At the top of the sculpture sits the quetzal, a bird that is unable to live in captivity. According to the artist, the coconuts represent the people "speaking, singing or crying out against the oppression and the grief." The pumice represents people who continue to strive for justice. The birds' skulls represent resistance to oppression.

According to Luchtan, the web of metal and organic material is an intentional reference to the lives of a people representing the web of community, land, life and spirit, which connects us all.

The sculpture was initially donated to the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) in Philadelphia. AFSC, however, had no place to display the sculpture and decided to donate it. Dr. David Bronkema, now Eastern's Director of International Development for the School of Leadership and Development, was AFSC's previous Latin American director and was one of the key people responsible in procuring the sculpture for the University.



community news



Dr. Walter Chung published a chapter, "Women with Disabilities: Special Issues in Rehabilitation," in the book Foundations of the Vocational Rehabilitation Process (6th ed. 2008). It presents how women with disabilities struggle in the

areas of employment, health concerns and health care access, sexuality and intimacy, motherhood, and abuse and violence. Concrete strategies to assist them are recommended.

Dr. Susan Edgar-Smith and Dr. Ruth Palmer, along with Josh Gill, a youth director from Covenant Presbyterian Church in Malvern, presented "Bringing Special Needs Children into the Church Youth Community: A Practical Guide" at the Annual Youth Workers Conference at Messiah College.



Dr. Lindy Backues, assistant professor of Economic Development, published "Interfaith Development Efforts as Means to Peace and Witness" in Transformation 26(2) April 2009. He also wrote a chapter in a book: "The Incarnation as

Motif for Development Practice" in World Mission in a Wesleyan Spirit, edited by Darrell L. Whiteman and Gerald H. Anderson (Nashville, Tennessee: Providence House, 2009).

In December, Dr. Ron Matthews released a new recording, The Glorious Sounds of Christmas, featuring Ron conducting The Jubilate Deo Chorale and Orchestra. Dr. Matthews was commissioned to compose a hymn celebrating the 200th anniversary of Park Street Church in Boston, MA. This summer, he has been invited to conduct The Jubilate Deo Chorale at the Orvieto Festival of Strings in Italy.

W.W. Smith Grant

Eastern University has received a grant of \$59,000 from the W.W. Smith Charitable Trust. This award is to continue to fund students who are enrolled as fulltime undergraduate students and have a financial need for the 2008-2009 academic year. All 26 recipients are permanent residents in the Delaware Valley.

Dr. David Bradstreet presented a paper at the American Astronomical Society in Long Beach, CA, in January. The title of the presentation, "Light Curves and Analyses of the Eclipsing Overcontact Binaries V1033 Her and V1044 Her" was based on data acquired at the Eastern University Observatory. The poster was coauthored by Steven Sanders (Observatory administrator), and senior astronomy majors Trayer Wiley and Christopher Plumberg, as well as senior physics major Darren Grau.

Dr. Bradstreet is also putting the finishing touches on the first two planetarium lessons to be released by Spitz, Inc. to all of their SciDome owners. These lessons, "Coordinate Systems" and "The Moon," will include computer graphics, computerized scripts and teaching suggestions. These are the first two installments in Spitz's Fulldome Curriculum Series with several more to follow in 2009.

Eastern students organized Advocates for a Better Philadelphia and sent close to 100 letters to Mayor Michael Nutter with their concerns and suggestions for his budget cuts. Student leaders were Cara May Neuenschwander, Carrie Stine, and Jennifer Elmer. Cara May says, "Among other things, we asked Mayor Nutter to create impartial cuts across the board. Let all Free Libraries share in this burden, not just the low-income areas. The idea of cutting hours for all libraries would take the strain off one group of people." Bettie Ann Brigham, vice president for student development, was advisor for the project.



Craig Keener, professor of New Testament at Palmer Seminary, and his wife Medine (from Congo-Brazzaville) spent several weeks in Congo last summer. He contributed academic articles to various publications, including "Some

Rhetorical Techniques in Acts 24:2-21," Paul's World (ed. Stanley Porter; Leiden: Brill, 2008) and "Three Notes on Figurative Language," Journal of Greco-Roman Christianity and Judaism 5 (2008). Dr. Keener also spoke on creation care at the Institute for Biblical Research and presented "What Is Truth? Pilate's Perspective on Jesus in John 18:33-38," for the John, Jesus and History Group at the Society of Biblical Literature, both last November.

Dr. Helen Loeb and Harry Gutelius presented at the Christian Churches Together in the USA Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD. They lead the discussion on "Improving Education." The focus of the entire three days was reducing poverty in America. Christian clergy across the country attended.



Dr. Jean Landis, assistant professor and director of Reading/Literacy Certification Programs at Eastern University, released Teaching for Change: Voices of Empowerment and Transformation in November. 2008 (Pen & Publish.

Inc./Education Press). The book includes a review by Dr. Morton Botel, a highly acclaimed expert in the field of reading.

Teaching for Change: Voices of Empowerment and Transformation, written for pre-service and in-service teachers, grew out of the inspiration derived from



continued on page 25

International Idol Competition

No, they weren't at "Hollywood Week" and they weren't judged by Simon, Paula and Randy, but two Eastern students did claim first and third place after

performing at the International Idol competition held at Villanova University in February. "I have never been taught formal dance, so what I know is freestyle," said sophomore Choni Selden from Bhutan. Selden's dance impressed the judges and she received \$100 and the first-place trophy.

Second place was awarded to a Chinese student from



Swarthmore College named Haichao Wu who demonstrated his talent in calligraphy.

Ji Hyun An, an Eastern graduate student

from Korea, earned third place. She played the piano and sang a traditional



Korean song called "Arirang." She also wore traditional Korean clothing, called Hanbok. "That was the first time I've ever been in a talent show," she said, "This is a fun part of my school life."

- Kathryn Doud

continued from page 24

graduate students in a multicultural literature course that Dr. Landis taught at Eastern University for several years. The theoretical framework of Culturally **Responsive Teaching and Reader Response Theories** provided an environment for lively stories of selfempowerment to emerge within class discussions and powerful student writing. Numerous teachers reflected on how their voices had been silenced by educational mandates, trends and scripts, noting countless urban students and their parents who saw little relevance to the schooling process. Aiming to keep hope alive, these graduate students infused life into their dreams to teach for change.

community news

"Eastern University's mission that integrates faith, reason and justice provided a platform for me to continue pursuit of my passion to teach for literacy justice," said Landis.



Dr. Chris Hummer, Missions and Anthropology, published "Early Woodland Pottery from the Williamson Site, Hunterdon County, NJ" in the Bulletin of the Archaeological Society of New Jersey (No. 62). He says, "We had the chance to analyze

ceramic technology in its experimental stage of development in a native peoples group living in the Delaware Valley 3,000 years ago."

Dr. Phil Cary reports that his course on The History of Christian Theology, consisting of 36 lectures on CD and DVD, has been published by The Teaching Company.

Dr. Calenthia Dowdy, associate professor of youth ministry and culture, co-presented a paper with Dr. Pamela Erwin (Prof. at Bethel University) at the International

Eastern University Signs Dual Admissions Transfer Partnership Agreement with Delaware County Community College

Eastern University Chancellor Christopher Hall (I. to r.) and President David Black formally signed a Dual Admissions Transfer Agreement with Dr. Jerome S. Parker, President of Delaware County Community College (DCCC) on

February 10. Also signing the agreement were DCCC Vice President for Enrollment Management Frances Cubberley, DCCC Provost Virginia Carter, Eastern Provost **David King** and Eastern Vice President for Enrollment Management David Urban.

Students who graduate from DCCC with an associate's degree are guaranteed admission to the Eastern bachelor's degree programs with junior status, providing they meet all requirements, and may transfer up to 89 credits. Get complete details at 800.452.0996 or ugadm@eastern.edu. Visit www.dccc.edu.



Association for the Study of Youth Ministry at Fitzwilliam College in Cambridge, England. She presented a workshop at the Heeding God's Call: A Gathering on Peace Conference in Philadelphia.

Dr. Julia Aguilar Stewart (Language Department) presented a paper entitled "Using E-journals to Increase Language Awareness during Study Abroad" at the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages National Convention in November 2008. The paper reported on a study she carried out on American students studying abroad during 2007 at the Universidad de las Américas in Puebla, Mexico.

Norris Square Neighborhood Project Dr. Helen Loeb, professor emeritus, reports that Norris



Square in North Philadelphia is working hard to help the community cope with these tough economic times. Dr. Loeb, who co-founded this project in 1973, says they continue to provide programs for drug and violence preven-

tion, community education, and vegetable gardens. Their mission is to involve children and their families in learning responsibility for self, culture, community and environment. Lear more about Norris Square at www.nsnp.com.

Contact Dr. Loeb at hloeb@eastern.edu.

College of Arts and Sciences Employment Report Graduating Class of 2008

Of the most recent (traditional undergraduate) graduating class, a total of 96% are involved in post-graduate education, working, full-time

volunteers, or not looking within six months of graduation. Of those working, 70% are employed in a field directly related to their major.







In Memoriam



Head Softball Coach Mark Ambler passed away on January 28, 2009, at the age of 57. He had served the Eastern softball program for the past 10 years and led the Eagles to the PAC Playoffs twice. Coach Ambler earned Coach of the

Year honors in 2004. He is survived by his wife, Eileen, and their four children. Athletic Director Mark Wagner said, "We are grateful for all that Mark contributed to the lives of so many in our program and in the community."

Chancellor Chris Hall is completing Worshiping with the Church Fathers, the 3rd volume of a 4-volume set for InterVarsity Press; editing the last volume of the Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture (29 volumes) InterVarsity Press; and continuing work on Through a Glass Darkly: Theology and the Mystery of God, with Steven Boyer (Baker Academic).

community news

Charter School Approved

The Philadelphia School District's administration and the School Reform Commission gave the go-ahead for the Eastern University Academy Charter School to open in the fall of 2009. Eastern University Academy Charter School will begin its first semester in September with 102 students from grades seven and nine. The Charter School, located in East Falls, plans to add a grade each year to reach a capacity of 350 students between grades seven and twelve. The students will be given the opportunity to earn as many as 60 college credits by the time they graduate from the Charter School. Each student will have a program tailored to his or her particular interest. Students will work with teachers in developing a personalized learning plan, including an internship in a related field.

"We are elated. It's been a long time coming for Eastern," said Yvonne Turner, Director of the Early College High School Program at Eastern University

The students at Eastern University Academy Charter School will experience a holistic, college-integrated learning community dedicated to the education of each student in the context of his/her unique interests. The school will provide students with an environment of excitement and early expectation through an integrative, discovery-based learning experience that will develop logical reasoning, critical thinking, and purpose driven global citizens. The school will graduate self-directed, self-aware learners, many of whom will have successfully mastered college level work.

Eastern University began the application process for the development of the Charter School in 2006. In addition to EU's Charter School, six other charter schools were given the greenlight by the Philadelphia School District.

For more information about the Charter School, visit: www.eastern.edu/academy.

SAVE THE DATE

Generations of Pride Linking Past, Present, and Future

G/SUMMER 2009

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2009

October 9-11

Reunions for classes of 1954, 1959, 1954, 1959, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1939, 1994, 1999, 2004

2009 Alumnus of the Year Colonel Douglas V. Mastriano '86

Colonel Douglas Mastriano '86 is recognized for the dedication to service and justice that he has demonstrated since joining the United States Army after graduating from Eastern University in 1986.

Mastriano has served in the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment in West Germany, where he witnessed the end of the Cold War, and was on the front lines of Operation Desert Storm. More recently, he has been deployed to Afghanistan three times. It was after the return from his second deployment that he was troubled by the thought that he didn't have a direct and personal impact upon any Afghanis. Not long after, he found out his headquarters was to deploy to Kabul. Once in Kabul, he briefed his large multi-national staff of soldiers and asked them to write home to friends and family for donations. The first place they visited to distribute the donations in Kabul was an orphanage that housed over 150 children. "The children were elated and overwhelmed. They had never had so much and to see their faces light up was priceless. My soldiers were really touched and in my heart I knew we had to do this type of work often," said Mastriano. They conducted 12 relief missions to help some of Kabul's neediest.

"If nothing else, these children saw a side of the When asked about being the recipient of the Alumnus U.S./Canadian/European soldiers, and the generosity Award, Mastriano says, "I am honored and humbled. I of our people, that they are never told about in their hope students who read this article do not think of me as society," said Mastriano. Currently, Mastriano is in some old, distant, irrelevant guy, as I was not much dif-Heidelberg, Germany, working as the Senior ferent from the typical Eastern student of today. I drove Intelligence Officer in NATO Land Headquarters. a bit too fast up and down Eastern's streets delivering Mastriano has also spent the past six years focusing pizza, worked the grill at the snack bar, and sought on a project of personal significance, researching the God's will for my life." accomplishments of U.S. Sergeant Alvin York. - Rebecca Druckenmiller and Kathryn Doud

alumni news

Mastriano admires York's deep Christian faith and his miraculous success in a battle in the Argonne Forest, France, in Oct. 1918. "I watched the Sgt. York movie with my father when I was young and was struck by this story of a reluctant Christian hero." Records of the battle and of York's trust in God were lost over the years, and Mastriano's research was able to uncover mostly German records of the event. Through these records, he was able to prove the location of the battle where York earned the Medal of Honor. At this place in the Argonne Forest, York led seven men to suc-



cessfully take a machine gun nest, four German officers, 128 men, and several guns. Thanks to Mastriano's work and generous donations, a memorial called





"The Sgt. York Historic Trail" now stands so that anyone who visits the Argonne Forest has the opportunity to "follow the footsteps" of the

brave men who fought for freedom.

alumni news

1950's

Elinor (Banks) Warren '59 lives in Williamsburg, VA, where she works as the writer/editor for the 400-year-old Shirley Plantation. She wrote a history of the plantation to be published this year, and is the author of a children's book published by Red Farm Studio. Her husband, Harry M. Warren (EBTS '64) pastors Dendron Baptist Church, VA. They have two sons and seven grandchildren.

Richard R. Robinson '59 and his wife, Patricia, recently celebrated their 50th anniversary. They have two children, Gary and Cynthia. Richard received his master's degree in history in 1977. He taught in public school for 33 years and was a coach for 25 years. Richard is now retired, but is still very active; he plays golf and tennis, bowls, and plays in a senior softball league.

Jean Carol Say '59 retired in 1996 after more than 30 years of teaching high school English and coaching. After retirement, she sold her house in Phoenix to move to La Jolla, CA, to take care of her mother. Jean also recently finished showing her new AKC champion Alaskan malamute, Tookoo. In addition to RV traveling, she does designer knitting, and at home, she attends College Avenue Baptist Church.

1960's

Fred Ansell '67 retired in October 2006 from the Executive Ministries of American Baptist Churches of the Central Region. He serves on the board of trustees for Ottawa University and Bacone College, the Board of Directors of Bethel Neighborhood Center (Kansas City) and received an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Bacone College in 2007.

Rev. Marta Benavides '67 is based in El Salvador and is involved with several projects promoting a culture of peace as well as training on conflict transformation and values. She was one of the six Salvadorans honored by the international women's movement in the select group of 1000 Peace Women for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2005.

Calvin Best '61 recently underwent quadruple bypass surgery at Bryn Mawr Hospital and is involved in cardiac rehabilitation on an outpatient basis.

Graham Freeman '60 and his wife, Jean Marie, celebrated their 52nd wedding anniversary on January 19, 2009. Graham serves in the Craven County Jail in New Bern, NC, every Tuesday evening with Bible courses, and preaches to men in 24-hour lock down. He is a member of Calvary Baptist Church in New Bern.



Alum Joins Vertex Board Eastern graduate Susie Buffam '07 is the newest Board appointment to Vertex, an outsourcing and IT services company based in the United Kingdom. Even though she has worked as Head of International Operations with Verte

since 2007, her newly assumed role as Executive Vice President, Head of Shared Services, will present her with a new set of challenges as she sees the company through a new era of change and growth.

After earning her master's degree in education from Eastern, Buffam graduated from Columbia University with her MBA and then started her career at Goldman Sachs with assignments in both New York and London. She moved into the retail financial services sector and has held senior roles in Operations, Vendor Management, Finance, and Business Planning at RBS Card Services, Citigroup and Juniper Bank (now Barclaycard US).



Managing Change and Conflict in Congregations (The Alban Institute, Atlanta, GA). An associate professor of organizational studies at Eastern Mennonite University, Dr. Brubaker hopes his book "will help congregations avoid the pitfalls of poorly managed change and the resulting conflict, and outline steps toward building healthy interpersonal relationships and congregational systems."

1970's

Elizabeth Turner '72 went on her first trip to China in November of 2008. Elizabeth would like to share her Web sites, which spread the good news of Christ and celebrate China, with her Eastern family, www.JesuslsLord.org and www.olympicplatinum.com.

Barbara (Finnegan) Grugan '76 retired

from Pfizer Inc., after 20 years. She is now employed by Albert Einstein Medical Center as a Cardiology Practice Administrator in Philadelphia, and resides in Media, PA.

Wayne Lord '76 has retired after 21 years with the FBI and is now a professor of forensic science and biology at the University of Central Oklahoma. His wife **Debbie (Mayer) Lord '76** is working as a pediatric physical therapist. They will celebrate their 33rd wedding anniversary this spring. They have been blessed with three children, Ben, Jared and Emily, and a son-in-law, Patrick.

Jim McMahon '78 is the principal of JM Bear Advisors and Consultants, located in Sacramento, CA.

Jeannie (Lozzia) Harvey '79 has been married almost 10 years to Craig Harvey. They live in Gaithersburg, MD, and do a lot of traveling (mainly Caribbean cruises and trips to Hawaii) and are very active in Covenant Life Church. Jeannie works part-time with

Jessie Pettine '79 has four

Sovereign Grace Ministries.

children, who are all college graduates. One of her sons has earned his MA and her youngest son is a doctor. She has seven grandchildren; the oldest will be completing grad school this May; the youngest is 2 years old. Jessie is a retired staff nurse and supervisor from Collegeville Drug and Alcohol Hospital. She loves the surf and sand and has many hobbies including growing and arranging flowers, home decorating, and creative cooking and baking.

1980's- 2000's & CCCPS

In our effort to be good stewards of the environment, we are asking our "more recent" alums to go to our alumni Web page www.alumni.eastern.edu to view their class news.

In Nemoiam

Karl Fetterman '52 passed away after a four-year battle with Alzheimer's on November 11, 2008.

Florence Schwab '53 passed away on October 11, 2006.

Deborah Zimmerman '53 passed away in April 2005.

Rev. Donald Valentine '58 passed

away on February 21, 2009. Don was pastor emeritus of Grafton Baptist Church, Grafton, MA. He attended his 50th college reunion in May 2008. He and his wife celebrated their 50th anniversary in 2008. Survivors include his wife, Carol, and five children.

IN MEMORIAM



Rev. Dr. Thomas Ritter'59 passed away on January 17, 2009. He and his first wife, Betty, who predeceased him, had two children. Dr. Ritter came to Eastern Baptist College in 1954 after serving in the Army and as associate minister at Enon Tabernacle Baptist Church in Philadelphia. He was director of the North Philadelphia Youth Community Service and was co-founder with the late Rev. Leon Sullivan of the renowned Opportunities Industrialization

Church of Philadelphia, and presided over its growth, expansion of services, and move to Limekiln Pike. Rev. Ritter received numerous awards for his community service and was invited to serve on a number of business boards of directors. He served on the Eastern board of trustees from 1969 to 1999 when he attained emeritus status. Eastern University awarded Rev. Dr. Ritter an honorary doctorate in 1969.

CHECK OUT OUR ALUMNI WEB SITE

The Online Community of Eastern Alumni

Alumni Eagle's Nest

If you are one of the 1500 members who have already logged on, that's great. Keep coming back! For those of you who haven't...what are you waiting for?

The Eagle's Nest Offers:

- ONLINE DIRECTORY to search for classmates and friends.
- CLASS NEWS to catch up on what friends are doing now.
- PHOTO GALLERY to share your favorite photos with others.
- CALENDAR OF EVENTS with details and contact information.
- My **PROFILE** to update personal information and upload your photo. This links with Facebook.
- MAKE A DIFFERENCE by giving to the future of Eastern. Your participation counts.
- ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BENEFITS include discounts on auto, home and medical insurance.
- CAREER CENTER provides job opportunities and networking.
- EASTERN UNIVERSITY TRAVEL turns your vacations into donations. Use www.easternuniversitytravel.com and a portion goes to Eastern University.

www.alumni.eastern.edu



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This dynamic conference will be held at Eastern University 1300 Eagle Road St. Davids, PA

For more information: www.tdconference.org www.fh.org www.eastern.edu

August 7-9, 2009

Confirmed speakers include:

- RENE PADILLA President, Micah Network Executive Director, Kairos Foundation
- JAISANKAR SARMA
 Vice President for Transformational
 Development, World Vision International
- LISA SHARON HARPER Freelance writer; Speaker; Ethnic Reconciliation Consultant Executive Director, NY Faith and Justice
- TONY CAMPOLO Professor Emeritus of Sociology, Eastern University Founder of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education (EAPE) Author
- BENJAMIN HOMAN President/CEO, Food for the Hungry











and

