Academics in Action: When Knowledge Intersects with Life

Students are doing more than just studying about the world – they’re going into the world to study through the World’s Classroom.

Reverse Culture Shock

Students see their country with new eyes after returning from overseas.

WHO WROTE THE BOOK ON CHRISTIAN HIGHER EDUCATION?

Union University announces the release of Shaping a Christian Worldview: The Foundations of Christian Higher Education, a collection of essays addressing the key issues facing the future of Christian higher education. The book is the first of its kind with the contributing authors all from one university addressing the critical questions of mixing faith with academics in any area of vocation, whether the arts, sciences, education, business or communications.

“This lively volume displays the intellectual energy made possible when faith and reason work with, not against one another. The essays are written in a style that makes them accessible to laypersons and scholars alike. A welcome addition to an ongoing cultural debate.”

– JEAN BETHKE ELSHTAIN, The Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Social and Political Ethics, The University of Chicago

Available at LifeWay Christian Bookstore, Amazon.com and other major book stores.
Sixth Annual Scholarship Banquet brings record amounts for scholarships and a helpful look at history

More than $400,000 was raised for student scholarships from Union University’s Sixth Annual Scholarship Banquet this year featuring keynote speaker James R. Baker, former secretary of state under President George H. Bush, held Tuesday night. An additional $402,000 was raised by the university since the announcement was made last spring that Baker would be speaking, bringing the total amount raised for scholarships to over $592,000, the most ever raised for one scholarship banquet at Union.

“More grateful we are for the generous support by the friends of Union University,” said Union President David S. Dockery. “These generous gifts will help keep the excellent education provided by Union accessible to numerous quality students in coming years.”

Lead sponsors for this year’s banquet were BancorpSouth and Carl and Alice Kirkland. Premier sponsors include Chip and Rita Christian, Benny and Norma Fomines, First Bank, Jack and Zen Holmes, Jerry Kuykendall & AK Enterprises, Peritar Corporation, Shipley Enterprises, Inc., Gary and Lisa Taylor, Union Planters National Bank and White Investments LLC, Roy White, CEO/President.

In the pages of this Unionite you will read stories of many recent developments at the University. What an exciting time to be at Union. This past year, a record 3,670 people invested in the work of Union University.

In recent months, the return on investment has been remarkable—or “blessed” would be a better description. How grateful we are for the growing number of friends involved and invested in the work of Union University.

In the pages of this Unionite you will read stories of many recent developments at the University. In fact, marks of excellence can be seen across the university. The ongoing development of the campus is an encouragement to all. Union graduates have been accepted in the finest graduate programs in the nation. Union graduates are serving in Washington, D.C., as interns in Parliament, and are being hired by great companies in the region and beyond. Young business leaders, teachers, nurses, social workers, all grounded in a Christian worldview are beginning to make a difference in the world.

In the past 27 years since I’ve been out of prison, I’ve seen how God has used my broken experience for His greatest glory, and I’ve seen what it is to live as a Christian,” said Chuck Colson, to a packed Union chapel where a chair in his name was recently created. Union Christian studies professor Hal Poe was inducted Sept. 27 as the first Charles Colson Professor of Faith and Culture. The 71-year-old founder of Prison Fellowship and former ex-convict for his involvement in the 1970s Watergate scandal had a two-day visit at the university despite a busy schedule in his work as an author, speaker and taking time to visit prisons as chairman of Prison Fellowship, now in its 26th year of service with more than 50,000 volunteers worldwide. Colson remains passionate about the lives of prisoners as well as the fundamental beliefs of Christianity and the Christian worldview, particularly with future generations – one reason he was happy to allow his name to be used at Union.

“My first reaction when I was asked about the chair was no – it seemed silly to have my name on something,” admitted Colson. “But when I realized that there is one institution really committed to what I talk about everyday – that Union is one of the few universities in America that intentionally set out to bring a Christian worldview to bear on education and understanding, what better place if my name is used at Union.

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Chuck Colson leaves part of legacy at Union University
Union trustees elect new officers, vote to explore expansion for Germantown campus

In its annual fall meeting, Union’s Board of Trustees voted unanimously to look into the possibility of expanding the Germantown campus facilities within the next three years, almost doubling the space of what it currently being used. More than 500 students are currently enrolled this year at the Germantown campus, with future numbers expected to increase. A groundbreaking for the new science building will be held in October. New officers were elected to serve. They are: Mike Weeks, chairman of the board; Sam Shaw, vice-chairman, and Lisa Rogers, secretary.

Union University continues placement in top tier of U.S. News rankings

After welcoming seven more National Merit finalists and 31 valedictorians and salutatorians in this year’s class of more than 400 freshmen, Union University has announced that for the sixth consecutive year, Union has once again been ranked in the top tier of U.S. News and World Report’s 2002 issue of “America’s Best Colleges.” In addition, the university continues to see an increase in total enrollment for the Fall 2002 semester, with more than 2600 students on campus this term.

Formerly in the regional liberal arts universities category and ranking in the top 10 last year, Union was elevated last year to the current category — “Best Universities – Master’s” — that includes larger institutions which provide a full range of undergraduate and master’s level programs. For the second year in a row, Union is the only school in West Tennessee, outside of Memphis, to be recognized in the top tier.

Faculty and administration write new book on Christian Worldview

Union University has announced the release of Shaping a Christian Worldview: The Foundations of Christian Higher Education, a collection of essays that address the critical questions of mixing faith with academics and any area of vocation, whether the arts, sciences, education, business or communications— with the contributing authors all from one university.

Edited by Union President David S. Dockery and Greg Thornbury, director of the Carl F.H. Henry Center for Christian Leadership at Union, the book is written with the freshman college student in mind.

"This lively volume displays the intellectual energy made possible when faith and reason work with, not against one another," said Jean Bethke Elshtain, the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor of Social and Political Ethics at the University of Chicago. "The book is written in a style that makes it accessible to laypersons and scholars alike and is a welcome addition to an ongoing cultural debate."

The book, which went on store shelves Sept. 1, is available at LifeWay Christian Bookstore, Amazon.com and other major book stores.

Union offers students Career University

More than 350 Union University students got a jumpstart on the job market during the second annual Career University, sponsored by the university’s Office of Career Services, and held in October. The day included several 20-minute sessions for college juniors, seniors, and students in the BSOL and MBA tracks.

“Career U is a new, innovative and exciting approach to career success” said Jackie Taylor, interim director of career services at Union. “We will concentrate on empowering and equipping students with the right tools to search for, obtain and keep their ideal job.”

A variety of topics were discussed at the sessions including Jumpstarting U 211: Conducting the Job Search, led by Paige Holmes, SIFE advisor at Union University; Understanding U 411: Knowing Your Personality, led by Paul Drachman, director of counseling at Union and Marketing U 111: Selling Yourself During the Interview led by Kristy M. Atter, recruiting manager for Enterprise Corp. Bob Campbell, a Union trustee and president of Panther Oil Company, spoke on Entrepreneurship as a Career.

A pizza party and fashion show was also held, demonstrating the latest business wardrobe styles. Door prizes were also given out including an attaché case and a leather portfolio.

Art students display “Union in the Rockies” bronze sculpture

The work of seven Union University students was the focus of the Union Art Gallery’s fall exhibit, “Union in the Rockies.” Various bronze sculptures by Drew Porter, Rebecca Phillips, Kelly Barron, Ryan Schienmann, Brian and Amanda Bain, Allison Nolen, and Rob Alsobrook were on exhibit during the month of September.

The students, accompanied by Lee Barron, professor of art, and his family, spent one month of their summer in the mountains of Gypsum, Colo., on artist Bill Walders’ ranch, learning the art of bronze casting as well as the art of mountain life. “We had no electricity, great food, and nature’s beauty all around us,” said Rebecca Phillips, junior art major. “It was one of the most incredible experiences of my life.”
Union faculty welcome new additions for new year

Union welcomed 13 new additions to its distinguished faculty when the Fall 2002 semester began. The recent additions were made in the departments and areas of art, business, Christian studies, communication arts, engineering, English, international Studies, and music. “The Fall 2002 class of new faculty at Union is a talented group of educators,” said Union University Provost Carla Sanderson. “Some bring research expertise while others bring years of experience in higher education. Each one brings to Union a fresh perspective and new approach that will complement the work of our faculty body and stretch our students in exciting ways.”

Full time faculty include: Donald Christensen, associate professor of business; Mark Dubis, associate professor of Christian studies; Gene Fant, chair and associate professor in the Department of English; Richard Joiner, chair and professor of music in the Department of Music; Andy Madison, assistant professor of biology; Derek Underwood, Bruno Martinetti, and Chima Abakwue averaged over double figures in points last season. Newcomers Michael Palmer, a transfer from Bevil State, and Pierry Valmera, a Newcomers Michael Palmer, a transfer from Bevil State, and Pierry Valmera, a

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Many Union students are finding that their classrooms do not look or feel like the typical college lecture hall. In fact, many of them are not on campus or even in the United States. Study abroad opportunities have steadily increased in recent years. With programs in Canada, Belize, Spain, China, Hong Kong and other countries around the globe, Union students learn not only to apply their education but to do so in an intercultural setting.

Academics In Action

"It can be scary, but it is definitely worth the effort," says Pirsein. "You develop friendships and do mission-related trips, others are finding needs in their own back yard. This fall, a team of language and social work majors from Union will be working in a local elementary school assisting school administrators. The school has a large percentage of Spanish-speaking families with no school personnel fluent in the language. The tasks they will perform seem like ordinary things. However, these simple tasks turn into obstacles when there is a language barrier. Translating conversations, helping parents fill out forms or finding classrooms are just a few examples of how these students are meeting a real need in the local community. Study abroad programs and community projects are just two ways that Union students develop a Christian worldview through the combination of academics and experience.

Academics In Action

"I appreciate the beauty in the Buddhist culture," says Downing. "The temples are beautiful and the people are so warm and friendly. But as a Christian it breaks my heart to realize that without Christ these wonderful people won't be in heaven."
Union students follow Great Commission to answer callings

By Sara Horn

In just the last three years, more than 15 Union graduates have committed to short-term mission work right out of college, an incredible record says the staff in Union's Office of Campus Ministries. They attribute the growing trend to a change in philosophy - students aren't going overseas to meet the needs of the hungry or destitute - they're going because God said so. And that's enough.
b
before Rob Dixon ('00) went on his first mission trip as a Union student, he
never thought missions would be
something for him.
I thought missions was for supermen
and women who were like Billy Graham mixed
with Rambo who went out to save the world," says Dixon, who is from Gallatin, Tenn.
"I am so very glad I was wrong.

A business management major, Dixon
became active with the GO Trips offered
through Union's Office of Campus Ministries,
and it was on one of those trips that he felt
the call to missions.

"I'm a normal guy who had one thing going
for him - availability," says Dixon. "If you are
available, God will use you.

It's that availability and willingness to be
used wherever God wills that is the driving
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Union students make to go into missions work, says
Suzzanne Frost Mosley ('99), director of student
outreach at Union.

"When I was a student, there was a big push
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While sharing laughter and smiles with a couple of village children, Erin Joseph, a student at Union University, saw firsthand the hunger and poverty of the Marensé.
Whether through the classroom or the office of campus ministries, Union University in Jackson, Tenn., wants their students to have a desire to "go"—on missions that is. Since 1996, the school has expanded its missions program to give students more opportunities to travel and learn about missions overseas and around the country. Students participate through campus efforts known as GO Trips.

"When you step on the campus, we want you to see the passion and to catch the vision for missions," says Todd Brady, minister to the university. "We don't want to delegate missions to one department on campus. We want all of our [students] to have an understanding of why missions is important—to be convicted and to understand the motivation behind it."

Last year, the university sent 200 students on mission trips to 15 different locations around the world and in country, explains Suzanne Mosley, director of student outreach. This is a sharp increase from less than 100 students who participated in mission trips in 1995. Venezuela, Boston, Thailand, Indonesia, Seattle and Egypt were just a few of the areas spotlighted during the school's annual "GO Week" last fall. The event immerses students in opportunities to go on mission during the winter, spring and summer.

The university's office of campus ministries—which heads up the missions program—is different from similar programs because its ministry staff are employed by the university, says Mosley. "It's something that comes from inside," she says. "We want missions to be who we are, not what we do."
It is the middle of July and Union political science professor Ann Livingstone has just completed an 18-hour flight to Syria. Her first view of the countryside is one of a crater-like, greenless landscape, a result of the enormous amount of mining that takes place in this Middle East country. She has arrived in Damascus to participate in a faculty exchange program for 18 days where she will lead a faculty development seminar at Al Baath University in Homs and participate in a seven-member panel lecture series at the University of Damascus.

The realization that she is now in a different world strikes her hard as she passes through passport control into the waiting area where she is expecting to meet her escort. Women, veiled from head to toe, seemingly silent statues – invisible bystanders – a sharp contrast from the hugs and enthusiastic greetings the men are giving one another on the other side of the room. A good reminder to keep physical touching at bay for awhile, the usually affectionate professor thinks to herself. She walks towards the man holding a sign that reads “Livingstone.”

Global awareness

With the arrival of the 21st century and significant advances in telecommunication and internet technology occurring almost...
daily, the world as we know it is getting smaller. Buzzwords like ‘global’ view things that have gradually seeped into our streams of vocabulary and with it, an awareness and perhaps an awakening of just what it means. Now, more than ever, the Institute for International and Inter-cultural Studies at Union University is working to provide both faculty and students opportunities to experience other cultures, and in return, share a little of their own.

“Because we are who we are, we are extremely well received in universities around the world,” says Cindy Jayne, interim director of the Institute of International Programs at Union University. “We’re fortunate to have highly qualified faculty and excellent students with strong willingness to work as partners at other institutions around the world. Of all the things I know that the international academic community would like to see, that’s the thing they want most – the opportunity to dialogue, work and share intellectual experiences with one another.

More than 61 students and 26 faculty have traveled overseas in the last two years for academic endeavors. This doesn’t include the many that have participated in spring and summer international mission trips.

Jayne says it’s the values that the mission of Union represents – commitment, excellence, integrity, moral and ethical values – that have been welcome in every university’s country of origin.

“I find that in so many institutions that whatever is done internationally is done as an add-on. It’s not a big supporter of the work that Cindy Jayne, director of Union’s Institute for International and Inter-cultural Studies at Union, first began teaching Spanish at the university more than 20 years ago. Little more was done about international experiences until the mid-nineties, when Cindy Jayne, shaking his head with a chuckle.

“[teach six hours a day for the next six days. Wilm’s reputation is so well known that the universities – but we’re consistently invited to give up those cultural identity markers – it’s very hard for a 23-year-old to be teaching a powerful fundamental religion that is unwilling to give up those cultural identity markers – it’s very hard for a 23-year-old to be teaching a powerful fundamental religion that is unwilling to give up those cultural identity markers – it’s very hard for a 23-year-old to be teaching 61 students and 26 faculty member something new – even Pam Sutton had different challenges. Her science, and Pam Sutton, associate professor of computer science, and Pam Sutton, associate professor of English, seemed to have very different expectations that they each came away with similar lessons.

Wilm, who is himself, from Belgium, would consider himself a seasoning traveler, having visited Thailand, his wife’s home country, as well as Japan, Canada, Africa, and just about everywhere in Europe.

Assigned to teach at the university in Hohhot, the regional capital of Mongolia, Wilm’s was not too much concerned about the difference in culture as food or clothing, but in values.

“ar, including Dr. ‘Ann’ or ‘Teacher ‘Ann’ as her Syrian students are calling her, has met with her class of 15 students 9 days ago for almost an hour every day. The students were members of a group at the Institute for Foreign Languages at Al-Baath are primarily concerned with how to better teach English to their classes, made up of 200 to 300 senior faculty members. Bahir Al- Assad, the president of Syria, has determined that American-style English will be taught to everyone beginning in the first grade. “This is where it all started for me,” says Livingston. “Here on one hand, there is a desire to move into the Western environment, but for every desire like that, there is that powerful fundamental religion that is unwilling to give up those cultural identity markers – it’s very hard for a 23-year-old to be teaching

While the buildings at Inner Mongolia Electric Power University where Wilm’s taught for one and a half years were rapidly applied, the computer labs were amplitude up-to-date.

Wilm’s was a little unprepared trying to use the Chinese version of Windows and Office – even everything in Chinese characters,” recalls Wilm’s, shaking his head with a chuckle.

“[teach six hours a day for the next six days. Wilm’s reputation is so well known that the universities – but we’re consistently invited to give up those cultural identity markers – it’s very hard for a 23-year-old to be teaching a powerful fundamental religion that is unwilling to give up those cultural identity markers – it’s very hard for a 23-year-old to be teaching 61 students and 26 faculty member something new – even Pam Sutton had different challenges. Her science, and Pam Sutton, associate professor of computer science, and Pam Sutton, associate professor of English, seemed to have very different expectations that they each came away with similar lessons.

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It’s an all too common experience for anyone who’s ever traveled outside the United States—whether ministering to the poor or studying in an international setting, the cultural differences experienced abroad can be eye opening to world travelers. But the challenges experienced in another country such as different foods or different social customs can sometimes pale in comparison to the emotions felt on the return trip.

Back on American soil, reverse culture shock can quickly set in, causing those returning to view their own way of life with a new perspective, often feeling disconnected to a land they call home. Compared to most countries of the world, life in the United States is like no other place on the planet. American citizens have wealth, excess, privileges, opportunities, access, choices, and nearly unlimited resources. However, sometimes the contrast is too great and upon re-entry, those returning from another country may experience restlessness, negativity, uncertainty, or even loneliness.

The freedom of plenty – and the responsibility

Chad Cossiboom, senior Christian ethics major, remembers a significant moment as he was coming back through customs after his most recent GO trip to minister in Afghan refugee camps in Rome, Italy.

“When the customs agent welcomed me home, I thought how wonderful those words sounded,” says Cossiboom, recalling how excited he was to be back on his own country’s soil and the patriotism he felt at the sight of American flags flying.

But in contrast with his recent witness to the hardships of displaced people from a country currently at war with the U.S, the freedom he felt on his return was almost one-sided.

“I’ve definitely become fully aware of the plight of people who are suffering all over the world,” says Cossiboom. “As American citizens, we enjoy rights and privileges and we fight to preserve and defend those freedoms. But I think the reverse experience is to view ourselves as world citizens who have the responsibility to recognize injustices and oppression and fight to defend the dignity of all people.”

Cossiboom understands that this feeling is something he must work through and allow its outcome to broaden his understanding of the world. After having served in China, the Philippines and Italy, he feels more aware of what others have to offer. He encourages his friends in America to have sensitivity to other cultures and people.

“We have much but that doesn’t necessarily mean we are the best.”

Called to serve, a broad and at home

Like Cossiboom, many of Union’s students who spend up to two to three months of their summers on foreign fields realize the gulf of difference that exists between the culture of their homeland and where they’ve been. Their experiences in an international setting heighten awareness of their world, broaden depth of character and deepen faith in such a way that coming home to the West is difficult. For them life will never be viewed the same again.

Students on short-term assignments, just like career missionaries, are purposefully prepared for the culture they are entering. They are told what they will see and experience and they understand the poverty and impoverished conditions they will see as well as the lack of many modern conveniences. They go, however, because they are called to serve and to give of themselves to others. A global experience is new and adventureome as well as exhausting and eye opening – and the return trip can be just as rich in new understandings.

When Union alumni Patrick (‘97) and Lana (‘96) Bead and their children returned to the U.S. from their ministry in Ethiopia, they were shocked at how much excess and waste there seemed to be, in a country where they had given little thought of waste before leaving for overseas.

“Just going into a store and seeing an entire aisle of breakfast cereal was amazing,” says Patrick Bead. “We were literally stunned – we couldn’t make a simple decision with so many choices.”

Bead also recalls going to a buffet restaurant shortly after the family’s return and being totally unprepared for the sight of diners with heaping plates of food, going back for more and more – meals that back in Ethiopia could have lasted weeks if not months.

“Other people groups don’t resent us because we are free, rich, or even Christian,” believes Bead. “Instead, I think they are appalled at our excess and stuff that we seem to need in the U.S.,” says Johnson. “The people are more reserved and softer in contrast to our stereotype of loud and energetic Americans.” After several years at home again, she says the experience has still brought a change in her life and has helped develop her character more fully.

Union student Lauren Webb, junior chemistry major, served in Venezuela for several months and found that she was prepared and ready to come home. She felt deeply blessed by all the opportunities to serve. For her, culture shock was going – not returning.

“I’m thankful for what we have in the U.S — it’s not just the cars, conveniences and luxuries,” says Webb. “My appreciation has really deepened for things like the opportunities to achieve and succeed.”

Webb’s desire is to return to foreign fields as a medical missionary. She feels she gained much more from her experience than what she gave and maintains the most important lesson in re-entry is to keep what was learned.

“It is imperative to never give away the place that country has gained in your heart,” stresses Webb. “Continue to faithfully pray for the people and their needs and rejoice in all that God has done.”

The challenge for those who return home and for the ones who hear their message is to gain an understanding and balance of who we are as citizens of the world or more importantly as citizens of the Kingdom, says Beard. He offers insight into this by pointing out that no culture—in our own country or in foreign countries—is all good or all bad.

“In making an honest assessment of our own selves and culture, we acknowledge that every culture in the world opposes God,” says Beard. “The good message for all people is that God, in his grace, works restoration through Christ.”

www.uu.edu Fall 2002
As more and more Union graduates begin to live and work in other countries, the common link of a Union education is reaching, literally, to the ends of the earth. Here are just a few of the alumni who are studying, working and ministering in other parts of the world.

JOSHUA DRAKE ('01)

Where are you now living?
“Glasgow, Scotland.”

What was your degree?
“BA, English and M.A. in Library Science.”

What are you currently doing?
“I’m pursuing my Ph.D. in musicology at the University of Glasgow.”

What do you hope to do?
“Though the future is still very much God’s alone, I would hope to be involved in teaching of some sort, either at the university level or, given the right situation, at the secondary level.”

What’s your favorite Union memory?
“I received a Bachelor of Music in sacred music.”

What advice would you give to current Union students?
“Definitely take advantage of the opportunities offered to you. It only gets harder to find them once you graduate.”

BEN PETTY ('73)

Where are you now living?
“Kong Kong, China.”

What was your degree?
“BSBA in management.”

What are you currently doing?
“I work for the Saskatchewan Government Board, teaching English in a Chinese secondary school. Elizabeth is now attending school in Texas.”

What’s your favorite Union memory?
“An English major, one of my favorite classroom experiences was with Mrs. R. Helen Blythe. I studied Shakespeare under her. Mrs. Blythe was an inspirational teacher; she made Shakespeare live for me. Her commentary on the “To thine own self be true” passage from Hamlet has influenced me to this day. Another favorite memory was the opportunity via BSU (as it was called then) to serve on weekend revival teams with fellow BSUers. What wonderful experiences of spiritual growth those times were for me!”

What’s the biggest lesson you learned in college?
“I learned during university studies that the more one learns, the more one realizes how much more there is to learn. My days at Union get me off to a good beginning on the journey of life-long learning.”

What advice would you give to current Union students?
“Be true to yourself and stand up for what you believe. Keep your eyes on your goal!”

LAENA BULLER ('97)

Where are you now living?
“A country in the Western Pacific.”

What was your degree?
“B.S., in Forestry.”

What are you currently doing?
“I am currently working in student services with the University of Alaska Southeast.”

What’s your favorite Union memory?
“The events themselves didn’t impact me any more where I was than they would have were I home in Tennessee. I was devastated beyond belief. Being abroad did make me aware, however, of the way American media gives one side of issues while there are several other positions left untouched. I found the hearing of these other positions at first painful and then liberating.”

What’s your favorite Union memory?
“Though the future is still very much God’s alone, I would hope to be involved in teaching of some sort, either at the university level or, given the right situation, at the secondary level.”

What advice would you give to current Union students?
“Definitely take advantage of the opportunities offered to you. It only gets harder to find them once you graduate.”

APRIL FRANK ('99)

Where are you now living?
“A country in the Western Pacific.”

What was your degree?
“B.S., in Forestry.”

What are you currently doing?
“I am currently working in student services with the University of Alaska Southeast.”

What’s the biggest lesson you learned in college?
“I learned during university studies that the more one learns, the more one realizes how much more there is to learn. My days at Union get me off to a good beginning on the journey of life-long learning.”

What advice would you give to current Union students?
“Definitely take advantage of the opportunities offered to you. It only gets harder to find them once you graduate.”
Mary Ann and Ron Malvin ('62) are the Park County Colorado chairman for US Senator Wayne Allard's reelection campaign. They are both on the Park County Republican Central Committee. Mary Ann serves as Secretary of the PCRCC and the 60th House District Central Committee. They love living in Colorado. Address: P.O. Box 104, Guffey, CO 80820-1014. E-mail: sylvia805@yhotmail.com

Odis Weaver ('78) along with his wife Joann are now in Joliet, IL with the Three Rivers Baptist Association. Odis assumed the new position as Director of Missions for Three Rivers Baptist Association on January 1, 2002. He previously pastored for 21 years. Address: 621 Prestige, Joliet, IL 60435. E-mail: toddis39@msn.com

David Head ('84) is a minister at Lakeside Baptist in Birmingham where he has been for five years. He also is chaplain and coach with the football team at Spain Park H High School, a new public school just opened in the fall of 2002. He is in his last year of the M.A.Ed. program at the University of Alabama- Birmingham and will finish his second graduate degree in four years. He and his wife, Tonya, have three children, Abigail, 7, Micah (girl) 5, and Noah, 3. Address: 4916 Cox Cove, Hartsburg, AL 35080. E-mail: davidhead@cox.net

Stacy and Brenda Goodwill Campbell ('84) are living in Jonesboro, GA. Brenda is a music teacher at Pointe South Elementary School and has just received a master’s degree in Administration and Supervision from the State University of West Georgia. Stacy is a registered Respiratory Therapy and is currently pursuing her Master’s degree in Psychology at Augusta University. They have two children, Elizabeth, 16 and Jordan, age 13. Address: 2113 Fairridge Court, Jonesboro, GA 30236. E-mail: IM4UT@attbi.com

Kerry W. Roa ('93) and his wife Stephanie are now residing in Fairview, TN. Kerry just finished his residency at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics. He is a speciality group in Dickson, TN. Kerry and Stephanie (Lambuth graduate) have two children, Kamakai, 5 and Madiottion, 3. Address: 7145 Chessington Dr. Fairview, TN 37062

Ronda Machalek Trent ('94) and her husband reside in Keller, TX. The couple is now expecting twins. Address: 9105 Peace St., Keller, TX 76248. E-mail: rondatrent@jcom.net

Wayne and Lisa Green Davis ('94) have recently moved to Douglasville, GA. Wayne is a high school American history teacher and football coach. Lisa is the offensive coordinator at Landmark Christian School in Fairburn, GA. Lisa, a former elementary school teacher, is now a homemaker and an independent sales consultant for The Pampered Chef and Close to My Heart scrapbooking supplies. They have one daughter, Addison Elizabeth, 4, and are expecting their second child. Address: 2775 Abbury Brook, Douglasville, GA 30135. E-mail: LGMamul@yahoo.com

Pamela J. Godwin ('93) was inducted into Whose Who Among America’s Teachers and has also been nominated for a Disney American Teacher Award. P. J. will soon start her fifth year teaching science and chemistry at the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham. She and her husband Richard have just moved into a new home. Address: 412 Walker Way, Fairhope, 36534. E-mail: pamelagodwin12@gmail.com

Kelli White Deere ('02) is currently teaching music at Caywood Elementary in Lebanon, Tenn.
Fall 2002

E-mail: Vnurse practitioner with MedSouth Healthcare University in 1997 and is currently a family nurse practitioner with MedSouth Healthcare University in 1997 and is currently a family nurse practitioner. Address: 8352-R Roswell Rd., Atlanta, GA 30350. E-mail: Amy.gerunere21@aol.com or Michael-FL@AOL.com.

Jennifer Whitwell ('94) was married July 28, 2001. They are both educators for the Henry County School System. Address: 9200 Cedar Haven Dr. #3, Louisville, KY 34108. E-mail: kelli.beth.dere@hotmail.com.

Michael and Kim Braden Denny ('88) are both educators for the Henry County School System. Address: 154 Perry Schoolhouse Rd., Henrietta, TN. 38321. E-mail: dennym@lextel.net. Lauren A. Bellg ('91) and Albert Bellg, a daughter, Taten Eugene, 7 lbs. / 15 oz., 21 inches, May 25, 2002. Tim is a salesman for Garden Homes and Tami is a Creative Memories Consultant. E-mail: tami333@laoi.net.

Scott ('95) and Susan Sharp Bell ('81) have a daughter named Kennedy Marie, 5 lbs. / 8 oz. / 6 lbs. / 7 oz., 13 inches, May 3, 2002. Tim is a sales representative for GE Supply in Memphis and Susan is a homemaker. Address: 1360 River End Circle, Germantown, TN 38139. E-mail: scott77@comcast.net.

Kelli Beth White ('00) and David Neil Dowe were married on March 2, 2002, at Mt. Gilead Baptist Church in Cedar Grove, TN. Kelli received her masters of education from Union in August of 2002. Kelli teaches kindergarten through fifth grade music at West Carroll Primary and Elementary Schools. Neal works for the manufacturer's industrial Group in Lexington, TN as a manager. Address: 384 Eastern Shores Dr., Lexington, TN 38333. E-mail: kelli.beth.dere@hotmail.com.

Mr. George Martin, Jr. ('Friend) was married August 1, 2002 Puleaski, TN.

Jennifer Whitwell ('94) and Bryan Patterson were married April 6, 2002, at First Baptist Church in Savannah, TN. Jennifer teaches secondary English and Paul is the athletic director and a coach. Address: 2345 Uriah Place, Murfreesboro, TN 37129. E-mail: jennywhit2@aol.com.

Mr. Charles B. Stutts ('42) was married April 22, 2002 San Antonio, TX.

Mr. Warren Koch ('64) was married August 2001 M etropolis, IL.

Mr. Scott Powell Birmingham ('71) was married November 13, 2001, Franklin, TN.

Mr. Mr. Jane Chester Pafford ('74) was married August 8, 2002, Jackson, TN.

Mrs. Sandra Lewis Fitzgerald ('79) was married August 23, 2002, Jackson, TN.

Mrs. Janet Duck Hanlan ('88) was married July 19, 2002, Bartlett, TN.

End of Term 2002

Dr. Bobby T. Holland ('53) was married July 1, 2002 O viedo, FL.

Mrs. Mrs. Phyllis Warren Koch ('64) was married August 2001 M etropolis, IL.

Mrs. Mrs. Charles M. Albright ('52) was married July 19, 2002 Little Rock, AR.

Mrs. Mrs. Laura Virginia Petty ('52) was married June 14, 2002 Lexington, TN.

Memoriam

Mr. Mr. George Martin, Jr. ('Friend) was married August 1, 2002 Puleaski, TN.

Mrs. Mrs. Frances Tomlin Tiggert ('Friend) was married July 19, 2002 Jackson, TN.

Mrs. Mrs. Fannie White Bancroft ('45) was married August 5, 2002 Jackson, TN.

Mrs. Mrs. Lacy Earl Williams ('47) was married May 10, 2002 Jackson, TN.

Mrs. Mrs. Margaret S. Bruce ('31) was married November 26, 2001 Tampa, FL.

Mrs. Mrs. Jessica Mae Anderson ('32) was married May 23, 2002 C andenn, TN.

Mrs. Mrs. Mildred J. Mann ('31) was married June 24, 2002 Austin, TX.

Mrs. Mrs. Lola "Virginia" Petty ('52) was married June 14, 2002 Lexington, TN.

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Swedish-born alum Gunnar Adalberth ('87) had an incredibly successful college career during his four years at Union as both student and athlete. He went on to develop an equally thriving career in business and has roamed the globe in his various roles with UPS International. Despite his world travels and enduring good fortune, his alma mater continues to cause him to look back and remember how it all started with a tennis racket and a hunger for knowledge.

**Gunnar Adalberth ('87)**

**Education:**
- B.S. in Business Administration, Union University
- MBA, Vanderbilt University

**Church:**
- International Baptist Church of Dusseldorf, Dusseldorf, Germany

**Union Record:**
- Top seed on Union's tennis team as an entering freshman
- Named to Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities
- Campus Favorite
- Member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Interfraternity Council
- Senior Class Vice President

“Gunnar has a tremendous capacity to relate to anyone – which is why I’m sure he’s been so successful.”

- Steve Maroney ('87)

“Gunnar is probably the most unique individual I’ve ever met – he has a tremendous capacity to relate to anyone, which is why he’s been so successful,” says Steve Maroney ('87), who roomed with the Swedish-born tennis player throughout their time at Union.

Presently the marketing director for UPS Germany, Adalberth along with his wife Marjut and their three-year-old daughter Adriane, currently live in Dusseldorf. In addition to the United States, they have also made their home in England and in Belgium during the 12 years that he has worked for UPS.

Growing up in Sweden, Adalberth came to the U.S. as an exchange student during his senior year of high school and attended Covington High School. It was there on the tennis team that his athletic talent was noticed by Union's then-tennis coach Rom Barry.

“Besides his tennis ability, I was very impressed first and foremost just with his level of education,” says Barry, who currently serves as chief administrator of public works for the City of Jackson. “I knew he'd be a successful student as well as a successful athlete.”

The number one tennis player at Union throughout his four years, Adalberth also was awarded the highest honor a senior receives at Union, the Elizabeth Tigrett Medal, as well as the Fred Delay Memorial award given to the athlete with the highest academic merit.

Though his days with the tennis team are fondly recalled, Adalberth’s most significant memory of Union is an eternal one – it was on Union’s campus that he met Christ.

“At first thought, you might say my tennis ability got me to Union,” says Adalberth, from his office in Germany. “But I know the real reason – God had a plan where I would become a born-again Christian. Tennis was merely the vehicle to accomplish His plan.”

A consistent donor to his alma mater since graduating, Adalberth sees his reason for lending gift support to the university as a very simple one.

“Union gave me a full tennis scholarship for four years – I feel obligated to repay what Union invested in me initially,” says Adalberth.

In addition to phone calls with friends and former roommates, Adalberth continues to stay close with the other men he played with on the tennis team, getting together occasionally to catch up and reminisce on days gone by.

“I’m proud of the fact that Gunnar has worked as hard as he has to keep in touch with the school despite living on the other side of the world,” says Maroney, currently president of Union's National Alumni Association. “It would be very easy for him to follow other pursuits, but whenever we speak on the phone, he always asks about the school and when he’s in Tennessee, he always makes a point to stop by and see the campus and its current development.”

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