



CCCU Student Programs ride the cutting edge



By studying with the Middle East Studies Program, this student spent a semester in Cairo, Egypt, learning the Arabic culture and language.

BestSemester.com launched this fall as the new portal site for the ten student programs offered by the CCCU. The new, flash-enhanced Web site features photos from the programs, student testimonials, online catalogs and downloadable applications.

"This site is almost as colorful and dynamic as the programs themselves," said

Kimberly Spragg, Student Programs Manager for the CCCU. "Students won't want to leave before checking out what each program has to offer and registrars and academic officers will be just as pleased with the at-your-fingertips information."

With the launch of BestSemester.com, enrollment is expected to increase even beyond this fall's record high of 256 students participating in eight semester programs around the world, including the newest addition, the Contemporary Music Center in Martha's Vineyard. The previous enrollment high was 219 students in the fall of 2000. Last academic year, 425 students enrolled in CCCU student programs.

The Council's ten student programs now span six countries: U.S.A. (Los Angeles, Martha's Vineyard and Washington, D.C. China, Latin America, Russia, Egypt and England. 




Josh Graber of John Brown University (AR) is a student in CMC's artist track.

Contemporary Music Center preps students for careers

The CCCU's newest student program, the Contemporary Music Center (CMC), opened its doors for the first time this fall to 30 students who are spending the semester gaining hands-on experience in recording, performing, producing and marketing contemporary music while

earning academic credit. Students have chosen to study within either an artist track or an executive track.

The twenty students in the artist track of the program study song writing, studio recording and performance. These students also spend the semester composing their own music in preparation for a concert tour which will take place November 12-20 at various venues from Wood's Hole, Mass. to Nashville, Tenn.

The ten students in the executive track study artist management, artists & repertoire and music, marketing and sales. These students comprise the Offshore Entertainment Group, a management, booking and public relations group created by CMC to market the students in the artist track. Offshore is responsible for promoting and scheduling performances at mainstream, secular venues for the artist track students during the November tour. 

ON THE WEB...



Check out www.bestsemester.com to see the latest look of CCCU Student Programs.


Witnessing American history

Forty-one students arrived in Washington, D.C., September 3 for an unforgettable semester called the American Studies Program, one of ten student programs offered by the CCCU. Faculty and staff prepared them for learning, living and working in the nation's capital. What the students experienced eight days later, however, was something none of us ever could have been prepared for.

The date was Tuesday, September 11, 2001. Shortly after arriving at their internships that morning, the students learned that America including the city they called home for the semester had been attacked.

Four hijacked airplanes brought both World Trade Centers to the ground, gouged a flaming hole out of the Pentagon, killed thousands of civilians and taught our country what it means to have our security threatened by a faceless enemy.

While the country watched the news from their living rooms, our students watched it through their windows. Our students were a part of it.

To read the stories of two ASP students who were working at the Pentagon and Meet the Press on the day of the attacks, visit www.cccu.org/news 

IN THIS ISSUE...

Christian University GlobalNet becomes independent nonprofit

RenewedMinds releases book on religion and politics

Oxford seminar participants put their research to use

CONTACTING THE COUNCIL

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— 2001 —

November 8-10, 2001
 Career Services Officers Conference
 Montreat College (NC)

— 2002 —

January 10-12, 2002
 CCCU Critical Concerns Conference
 - Chief Enrollment Officers
 Embassy Suites, Phoenix, AZ

January 10-12, 2002
 CCCU Financial Aid Administrators
 Conference
 Embassy Suites, Phoenix, AZ

January 17-19, 2002
 CCCU Chief Student Development
 Officers Conference
 The Beach Resort, Monterey, CA

February 2-3, 2002
 CCCU Board Meeting
 Loews L'Enfant Plaza,
 Washington, DC

February 3-5, 2002
 CCCU Presidents Conference
 Loews L'Enfant Plaza,
 Washington, DC

February 14-16, 2002
 Chief Institutional Advancement
 Officers
 The Fairmont Waterfront,
 Vancouver, BC

February 20-23, 2002
 Campus Ministers Conference
 Biola University (CA)

February 28 - March 2, 2002
 Critical Issues in Christian Higher
 Education Conference
 (Comprehensive Assessment Project)
 St. Anthony Hotel, San Antonio, TX

March 2-5, 2002
 Chief Academic Officers
 St. Anthony Hotel, San Antonio, TX

May 14-17, 2002
 CCCU Technology &
 Communications Officers Conference
 Abilene Christian University (TX)

May 15-21, 2002
 Regional New Faculty Workshop
 (Southwest)
 Westmont College (CA)

May 27 - June 2, 2002
 CCCU National Disciplinary
 Workshops – Psychology
 Wheaton College (IL)

June 6-11, 2002
 Regional New Faculty Workshop
 (Great Lakes)
 Taylor University (IN)

For more information about any of
 these CCCU events, contact Kristin
 Parker, CCCU conference manager,
 kparker@cccu.org



Sixty Bethel College (MN) students
 volunteered at a state-wide memorial
 service.

CCCU schools from coast to coast respond to terrorist attacks

Along with the rest of the world, the students, faculty and staff at CCCU's 156 campuses across the globe gathered during the week of September 11 to pray, meditate and reflect. But when the moments of silence ended, CCCU schools sprang into action to organize relief efforts.

Dozens of schools held prayer vigils and sponsored blood drives, while many directed their energy toward other efforts. Geneva College (PA) announced that it will cut tuition by 40% for all US Airways employees furloughed because of the attacks. The tuition cut also extends to the employees' spouses and dependant child-ren. US Airways is the largest employer in Beaver County, where Geneva is located. George Fox University (OR) sent two

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faculty to New York City to provide grief support.

For more highlights of what our campuses are doing, visit: www.cccu.org/news/.

Council grows to 156 campuses in 19 nations

The CCCU welcomed two new affiliates on October 10, 2001, bringing the Council to 101 members and 55 affiliates in 19 countries worldwide. The new additions are Ohio Valley College in Vienna, W.Va., and Cornerstone Christian College, our first South African affiliate in Capetown.

Christian University GlobalNet becomes independent nonprofit

Christian University GlobalNet (CUGN), founded by the CCCU in 1998 as a supporting organization to assist CCCU campuses with their distributed learning needs, is in the process of becoming an independent nonprofit ministry. This decision comes after recent meetings of the board of directors for each organization.

This shift brings about three major changes:

- The campus services previously performed by CUGN will now be served by the CCCU's new Instructional Technology Initiative.
- Dr. Dan Klassen, who had been working at CUGN, joined the CCCU staff as the director for the Instructional Technology Initiative on Oct. 11. He will continue to provide services to more than 40 CCCU campuses who signed up for CUGN's Campus Associates Program.
- With only a few registrations by the deadline, CUGN's "Master Teachers Online" courses were suspended. No decisions have been made

regarding whether the courses will be offered in the future.

RenewedMinds releases third book on religion and politics

The September release of *In God We Trust?* marks the third book published by RenewedMinds, an imprint of Baker Book House, in cooperation with CCCU.



In God We Trust? is a collection of 12 essays written by 14 experts who explore the connection between religion and the history of American politics. Corwin E. Smidt is the editor.

Nominations for Racial Harmony Award due by December 3

At the Feb. 3-5, 2002 CCCU Presidents Conference, the Council will again recognize a campus which demonstrates a "best practice" program in the area of racial/ethnic diversity with an award and \$1000.

CCCU faculty and administrators are encouraged to send nominations by Dec. 3 to Ron Mahurin at rmahurin@cccu.org.

Nominations should be five pages or fewer and include the following:

- a summary of the program(s), with specific details including measures of the program's effectiveness,
- any supporting materials which directly relate to the nature and scope of the program or initiative,
- a cover note from the institution's president and
- a brief overview of the institution's commitment to

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FROM YOUR COUNCIL

The future of CCCU study abroad



The student programs of the CCCU are alive and well at all eight sites, including our five sites abroad. Reports from the various relevant higher education associations indicate that students continue to apply to study abroad programs around the world and that existing programs have been closed only in certain global "hot spots." During the early 1990s when the CCCU board was discussing the addition of new semester programs in Russia and Egypt at one of their meetings, some board members raised the question of risk and liability. To this issue, board member Bud Austin (LeTourneau University) responded that this is a risk that we must take in light of our mission in Christ-centered higher education. That sense of mission continues today, especially with our board mandate for internationalization.

Nonetheless, during these times of world crisis, we hear legitimate questions of concern from our campus representatives and from parents. Please allow me to review the steps we take to provide for the well being of our students.

1. We are in touch with all of our programs on a regular basis from our Washington, D.C. office. All program staff and students were accounted for in a matter of hours after the emergence of the September 11th tragedies.

2. All of our eight semester student programs are required to have action plans for crises, emergencies and evacuation.

3. Students are informed at orientation and in subsequent conversations as to what their action should be in the event of a crisis.

4. Study abroad students carry an I.D. card listing phone numbers to call in the event of an emergency. In non-English speaking countries the I.D. also gives information about the student in that nation's language.

5. Student program directors are required to carry cell phones and students are supplied with these cell phone numbers.

6. Study abroad directors inform the local U.S. embassy or consulate of the names and whereabouts of our students.

7. We carefully monitor U.S. State Department announcements. In the event of a crisis, we would carefully follow State Department advice.

8. Student program directors abroad have staff from the host country or close relationships with nationals that help them monitor any given situation. These directors also speak the language of the host country and live long-term in the host country.

9. Our study programs are not conducted like tourist programs where "foreigners" are always obvious to locals. We do quite a bit of "blending in" with the local landscape, which serves to enhance safety.

10. In the event of an emergency evacuation we will endeavor to offer suitable alternatives for the completion of the full semester of study. Contingency planning is part of our overall design for student programs.

11. If a program is canceled, due to an emergency situation, we will refund tuition and fees if another suitable alternative site and learning setting is not available to us.

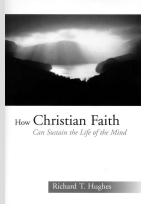
12. I convene an annual in-service meeting for our program directors, which includes a session on emergency planning and safety issues.

The events of September 11th allowed us to review and refine our emergency procedures. We consider the 250+ students in our programs as important as our own sons and daughters and pledge to do our best to provide an outstanding semester experience for them. We look forward to an excellent spring semester and pray every day for the safety and health of our staff and students in these programs.

Richard L. Gathro
Senior Vice President

RECOMMENDED READING

How Christian Faith Can Sustain the Life of the Mind
by Richard T. Hughes
© 2001 Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.



Can Christian faith equip us to pursue truth wherever that pursuit may lead? This is one of several formative questions which Richard Hughes asks in his latest book. Hughes makes the case for

both why followers of Christ are called to the "life of the mind", and capably summarizes how four different Christian traditions each contribute to a more dynamic understanding of God's world. He closes with a challenge to his reader to a renewed sense of humility, wonder and grace in the midst of the a faith which sustains the life of the mind.

If Richard Foster's "Streams of Living Waters" helped give us a better appreciation for the diversity and richness of the spiritual experiences and theological frameworks of several different Christian traditions, Hughe's book opens our eyes to how several of these same traditions can enrich our pursuit of God's truth.

Put this one on your must read list.

June 3-8, 2002
Leadership Development Institute (Women)
Cedar Springs Christian Retreat Center, Sumas, WA

June 8-13, 2002
Leadership Development Institute (Mixed)
Cedar Springs Christian Retreat Center, Sumas, WA

June 15-20, 2002
CCCU National Disciplinary Workshops – Biology
Gordon College (MA)

June 20-25, 2002
Regional New Faculty Workshop (Northwest)
Seattle Pacific University (WA)

July 27-30, 2002
Reunion for Presidents Institute
Cross Creek Resort, Frisco, CO

July 23-26, 2002
CCCU Alumni Professionals Conference
Taylor University (IN)

August 3-7, 2002
CCCU Board Meeting
Costa Rica

NOTE THESE CHANGES

Workshop Postponed
The Disciplinary Workshop in Theater originally scheduled for June 30 - July 7, 2002, has been postponed until the summer of 2003. More specific dates will be available in the spring.

Change of Dates
Dates have also changed for the workshops in psychology (now May 26 - June 2) and biology (now June 15-20).

For the latest information on all CCCU events, visit www.cccu.org/events.

SEEKING CONFERENCE MANAGER


The CCCU is looking for a conference manager to begin January 2002. This position coordinates approximately 25 events each year. For a complete job description, visit www.cccu.org/jobs/cccujobs.htm#conference.

For more information about any of these CCCU events, contact Kristin Parker, CCCU conference manager, kparker@cccu.org

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racial/ethnic diversity, and how the program relates to the broader institutional plan (e.g., the program's impact on retention). 

Consultants for UCCF find positive responses


According to CCCU President Bob Andringa, the United Christian College Fund (UCCF) is about 20% into the feasibility study. Ken Kemp and Kent Stroman, senior consultants for UCCF, have been interviewing focus groups to understand their reactions to the idea of the fund and to gain any insights into how it might operate at maximum efficiency both for CCCU campuses and for Christian higher education at large. So far, both consultants have observed positive responses to the concept of UCCF. 

First series of Oxford seminars ends, participants just beginning

Nineteen books, 56 journal articles, 58 lectures and 14 courses on science and religion have been born out of the John Templeton Oxford Seminars on Science and Christianity. The summer of 2001 marked the third and final session of the first series of the Templeton Seminars, but from what the participants are doing now, it's evident that they are far from finished with putting their research to use.

The participants now are engaged in a wide range of professional activities in the field, the design of courses, editing or reviewing for journals related to the field, serving on professional bodies and panels and publishing for mag-

azines and newspapers related to the field. Participants are also engaged in Web site activity and in making presentations to church groups. A selection of activities are described on the Web at www.cccu.org/news/.

The seminars, sponsored by the CCCU, involved 31 participants with backgrounds in biology, chemistry, physics, psychology, theology and philosophy. These participants met at Wycliffe Hall, Oxford, for three month-long seminars to study the relationship between science and religion. 

Andringa appointed as Chair of NACIQI

CCCU President Bob Andringa has been appointed as the chair of the U.S. Department of Education's National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI). The NACIQI advises the U.S. Secretary of Education on matters related to accreditation and to the eligibility and certification process for institutions of higher education. Andringa begins his term with the committee at their next meeting in December. 

DID YOU KNOW...

There are more than 500,000 students studying in the U.S. from other countries.
There are nearly 250,000 U.S. students who study abroad each year.



Council for Christian Colleges & Universities

CCCU News is a publication of the Council for Christian Colleges & Universities (CCCU), published each fall, winter and spring. The publication is mailed to members, affiliates and friends of the CCCU and is also available via e-mail and online at www.cccu.org/news.

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The Council for Christian Colleges & Universities is an association of 101 four-year, fully-accredited liberal arts institutions in North America, all with comprehensive curricula rooted in the arts and sciences. The CCCU exists to advance the cause of Christ-centered higher education and to help our member institutions transform lives by faithfully relating scholarship and service to biblical truth. Additionally, the CCCU includes 55 affiliate campuses in 19 countries as well as an expanding network of partner organizations.

SEEKING MESP DIRECTOR

The Middle East Studies Program is looking for a new director to begin work by early summer of 2002. The position involves providing leadership to MESP, a Christ-centered CCCU cross-cultural educational program based in Cairo, Egypt. The program includes travel components to Israel, Palestine, Jordan, Syria and Turkey. For a full position description, visit www.cccu.org/jobs/cccujobs.htm#mesp.

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PERSPECTIVES

Why I Teach and Study Literature

Susan VanZanten Gallagher, Ph.D.

*Professor of English and Director of University Scholars,
Seattle Pacific University, Seattle, Washington*



I am a Christian professor of English, a teacher-scholar. I have a vocational call to be a college teacher, helping students to learn more about how language and literature function, encouraging in them a love of reading and writing, assisting them to understand how their own faith commitments interact with their reading. Outside the classroom, my research and writing contribute to the abilities of others to read literature with perception and understanding. That scholarship may even persuade some to view life in a new way. My talents and training, the advice of my family and friends and the many doors that God has opened for me have confirmed my vocational call, which I attempt to fulfill with integrity as a way of praising and serving God.

But my teaching and scholarship have also been inherently shaped by my faith and by my Christian worldview, the narrative that informs and inspires my life. When I help my students grasp the beauty and power of Herman Melville's description of Captain Ahab as "a mighty pageant creature, formed for noble tragedies," I do so from a belief that language, metaphor and imagery are good gifts of God. When we marvel together at Hawthorne's precise construction of *The Scarlet Letter* and Melville's baggy assembly of *Moby-Dick*, we do so understanding that the very structure of any narrative beginning, middle and end is built into our temporal life through God's creative act. When we reflect on the questions of faith and doubt explored in Emily Dickinson's anguished poems, we do so because faith and doubt are crucial issues in our own lives.

My Christian faith thus prompts me to study particular topics. For example, in my dissertation I examined Melville's use of prophets and prophecy; in another essay I published about teaching Charlotte Bronte's *Jane Eyre*, I argued that a closer consideration of the Christian tradition and the novel's text demonstrates that Bronte is not equating patriarchal oppression and Christianity (a common critical assumption). While non-Christian critics certainly might have addressed either of these topics, I suspect that my sensitivity to the biblical tradition of prophecy and my belief that Christianity is not inherently oppressive to women contributed to my willingness to tackle such arguments in the first place. In neither my dissertation nor this essay did I speak overtly from the grounds of faith (i.e.; I'm a Christian and this is what I believe), but nonetheless both arguments were faith-filled and faith-formed.

Beyond treasuring the aesthetic aspects of literature and being drawn to particular topics because of my faith, I have also found that I am more sympathetic to certain critical approaches over others because of my faith in a God of creation and history. I appreciate the beauty of literary works, but I

attempt to see these works in their contexts against the full complexity of the human, historical, social, and cultural worlds in which they were formed and are employed. Because my God is not a Gnostic, I view texts as grounded in reality: produced in historical times and places, composed by real people, taking on lives as material objects when they are printed and published, embodying actions that can be employed for good or for evil. Because my God has directed me to love my neighbor, I have been drawn to read, teach and write about texts that help me to hear unfamiliar voices, such as *The Narrative of Frederick Douglass* or Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*. After all, when asked by the crafty lawyer to define "neighbor," Jesus responded by telling a gripping story and then asking for the lawyer's response (Luke 10).

I believe that my primary call as a Christian professor of English is not necessarily to be unique but rather to be faithful. One of the most rewarding aspects of teaching at a Christian institution lies in the fact that my faith can explicitly inform my teaching. I discuss with my students why, how, and what Christians should read (issues that are all treated in *Literature Through the Eyes of Faith*). In the world of scholarship, however, my faith more often operates as a crucial subtext, not overtly pronounced, but nonetheless prompting and shaping my scholarly agenda. Although I often speak to and occasionally write for Christian audiences, most of my publications during the past 15 years have been directed toward the secular scholarly world. I believe that if Christian scholars did not attempt to participate in these critical conversations, significant issues and points of view might not be addressed.

My most recent research has considered the impact of the Christian confessional tradition on South African literature and society. In *The Confessional Mode in South Africa Literature* forthcoming in 2001 from Heinemann Press, the primary publisher of academic books about Africa, I argue that confessional discourse is not oppressive and can, in fact, be liberating. In opposition to postmodern theories that deny the existence of the "self" and understand human beings as mere intersections of power and rhetoric, I suggest that a Christian understanding of sin, guilt, confession and forgiveness more adequately explains the existence and effectiveness of certain South African texts.

My Christian commitments thus inform and permeate all my activities as an English professor. I couldn't do one without the other. 

Susan VanZanten Gallagher is professor of English and director of the University Scholars Program at Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, Wash. She holds a bachelor's degree from Westmont College, and a master's degree and doctorate from Emory University, in Atlanta, Ga. A member of the CCCU Faith/Learning/Living Commission, Gallagher is the co-author, with Roger Lundin, of Literature Through the Eyes of Faith, along with numerous other books, critical essays and articles..