



LU Newsletter

For Students, Alumni and Friends of Living University

September 15, 2017

From the President's Desk

This summer I took the occasion to volunteer in the LU library. My task was to help organize the University Archive. Here rest original editions of the literature of the Living Church of God as well as its antecedents—Global Church of God, Worldwide Church of God, Radio Church of God and to some extent the Church of God (Adventist). Our intent for the Archive is the collection, cataloging, and preservation of the literature of the Church of God, both physically and electronically.

To my surprise, the Archive houses a great deal of Ambassador College and Ambassador University publications and other items including memorabilia as well. There is even personal correspondence such as letters from Dr. Herman L. Hoeh regarding history and Biblical chronology. One of my more delightful discoveries were copies of *The Porfolio* (the student newspaper) from all three AC campuses illustrated with the artwork of American cartoonist and illustrator, and elder Basil Wolverton. I have scanned some of them but need to upgrade the scanner.



For many years I had personal copies of the Ambassador College Catalog in a bound edition. When I left the post of Dean of Faculty at Ambassador University I gifted my catalogs to the new dean. Our LU archive has only a couple of copies of AC catalogs and we would like a complete set. If you have any, please consider donating them to the LU library where they will be curated and scanned.

This summer the University launched a wholly redesigned library website thanks to the LCG Internet Department. The faculty and staff join me in saying thank you to Wyatt Ciesielka and his team for the website's 21st Century look and sleek professional design. The software engineers targeted their design to make comprehensive library services available to our online students and they certainly more than met that goal.

LU has an agreement with EBSCO to provide electronic access to our library patrons (students, staff, faculty and LCG headquarters personnel) to nearly 1,600 active full-text journals and magazines and over 160,000 e-books. This electronic addition to our library coupled with our existing physical library collection provides both online and on-campus students with immediate access to library resources. Our goal is to provide our students and other library users with access to a comprehensive collection of library materials in support of their academic study and research. Our library now provides significantly more library books, journals and magazines than provided by the Ambassador University Library at its height.

We are entering another exciting academic year of service to God's people worldwide. Please pray for our success.

—Michael P. Germano

LU Enrollment Down a Little

As of the official census date for LU, we have 175 students registered for classes (8 on-campus, 117 online and 50 auditors). Our overall enrollment is down a little over last year as the result of a renewed effort by state governments to regulate postsecondary institutions offering online education. Nevertheless, we have achieved our second highest registration of "for credit" students in our eleven year history. Moreover, this is our most international semester so far! Our students this semester represent 23 different nations. Overall, this is quite encouraging.

Board of Regents Install New Chair

At an installation ceremony on June 21, Evangelist Gerald Weston formally became the new chair of the University's Board of Regents. Chair Weston succeeded the late Dr. Roderick C. Meredith who served as the University's first board chair from 2007 to 2017. Ordained a minister of Jesus Christ in 1971 Mr. Weston and has served congregations throughout the United States, Canada and Europe. He has been a *Tomorrow's World* telecast presenter, a frequent writer for Living Church of God publications, has trained many ministers over the years, and has been a long time member of the Church's Council of Elders.



The University's Bylaws provide that the permanent Chair of the Board of Regents shall be the Presiding Evangelist of the Living Church of God (International). As President of the LU Corporation, Dr. Michael Germano presented Mr. Weston with an engraved gavel, case, and sounding plate emblazoned with the University Seal.

Following the installation, the board met in regular session. The Articles of Incorporation provide that all power and authority conferred by law on Living University as a North Carolina non-profit institution to be exercised by or under the direction of the Board of Regents. The Board adopts, alters, revises, or repeals legislation concerning the broad structure, policies, and procedures of the internal operating organization of the University known as the Statutes of the Board. These guidelines provide for the conducting of business of the Board and the general governance of the University. The Board normally meets three times per year.

The LU Pictorial

This week the University launched a new annual publication called *Pictorial* featuring all of our students enrolled in courses for credit. It also contains a photograph and a short professional biography for each of our faculty members. We hope *Pictorial* will facilitate comradery, communication and community. You can view *Pictorial* on the LU website and download a personal copy. Select **About Us** on the website menu and then select **University Publications** on the dropdown menu. We hope we will be able to publish next fall a print version which includes photos of our auditing students as well.

Faculty Guest on *TWNow* Webcast

In an effort to preach the gospel more effectively and reach a broader audience, Living Church of God presiding evangelist Gerald Weston commissioned the *TWNow* live online program March 23, 2017. You may view the program live on *Facebook* and *YouTube* on Thursday afternoons, 3:00 pm. EST and it is subsequently available for download. The program's tagline is "News, Prophecy, and Your Life. Big Questions. Real Answers." It uses the format of a host and two panel members and addresses pressing Bible, geopolitical, doctrinal and societal issues all through the lens of the Bible.



From the program's start, in addition to the contributions by other staff and ministry, Living University faculty members have played a significant role in this cutting-edge live web programming, both in the role of host and panel member. LU faculty member and *TWNow* program director Wyatt Ciesielka often hosts the program and serves as a panel member. Other LU faculty members who serve as *TWNow* panel members include Richard Ames, Douglas Winnail, Peter Nathan, Kenneth Frank and Scott Winnail. LU alumnus and Living Church of God elder Michael DeSimone has served as program host and as a panel member. The program coordinator is Ryan Dawson. Mr. Dawson is also an LU graduate and staff member in the TV department for the Living Church of God.

Since its inception, *TWNow* has aired over 25 episodes on a wide range of topics. According to *YouTube* statistics, the average view duration of its programs is just under 20 minutes, and there are an average of nearly 2,200 individual viewers for each program (these numbers do not include *Facebook* viewers). Only 62% of viewers are

from the United States and 38% are from non-US countries. The viewing audience of this exciting new program continues to grow as God blesses it and as the presenters and TV crew hone their skills and focus. One of the exciting aspects of this program is that it will allow the Church go “live” as breaking world events occur.

Dr. John Cole Joins Business Faculty

Dr. John F. Cole joins the business faculty as an adjunct assistant professor (also known as part-time or contingent instructor). He brings over two decades of experience working in various management capacities in Fortune 500 companies. In response to the events of September 11, 2001, his research led to the creation of U.S. Senate Bill 216, prompting an invitation to speak at the World Trade Center Investigative Hearings in New York, approved by the 109th U.S. Congress. He has also been involved in state legislative initiatives related to preventing domestic violence and repealing antiquated law, which negatively affected a local branch of a national charity.



Dr. Cole holds a Doctorate of Management in Organizational Leadership and a Master of Management with a Concentration in Public Administration from the University of Phoenix School of Advanced Studies. He also holds a Bachelor of Art in Business Management with a Minor in Political Science from Lenoir-Rhyne University in North Carolina. In recent years, he has worked as a licensed registered representative in financial management services including multiple lines of life and health insurance along with securities related to financial and retirement planning. He currently serves in the management of a major Charlotte based company. He is married with one son and serves in the Statesville, NC congregation of the Living Church of God.

Library News & Views

Libraries have traditionally collected and owned their books and journals. However, with the advent of the Internet and distance learning, academic institutions worldwide depend on online resources for their scholarly information. The Living University is no different. Providing adequate library resources to LU students both near and far often comes in the form of online electronic resources available at the LU library website www.livinguniv.com/library.



If you have not explored the Living University library website recently, you have a wonderful surprise awaiting you. The LU library website is now one of the finest collections of biblically related resources available anywhere and it is freely available to everyone, not just LU students. In addition to helpful Bible study tools such as commentaries, dictionaries and advanced study tools, there are popular newspapers and magazines, archived Living Church of God publications, free eBooks and much, much more.

You are encouraged to investigate thoroughly all that our new website offers and let our librarian, Douglas Lindly, know what you find most useful. You may phone the library at 704.844.1964 or email douglingly@livinguniv.com. Normal hours are

9:00 am to 5:00 pm EST with a closing of 3:30 pm on Fridays.

Auditors Complete Annual Audit

Last week, Cherry Bekaert L.L.P. (Certified Public Accounts), our independent auditor, completed their audit of the University for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017. Their report should come in the next four weeks. Upon receipt of our annual audit report, we publish it on the LU website along with IRS Form 990. Select **About Us** on the website menu and then select **Financial & Other Disclosures** on the dropdown menu. The Internal Revenue Code requires organizations exempt from federal income tax to make its annual Form 990 available for public inspection. The University Financial Controller, D. Jerry Ruddlesden, notified Cherry Bekaert L.L.P. representatives that for the next fiscal year that we plan to bid out the audit as part of our cost reduction effort.

Pate Named ASB President

Travis Pate, a graduating senior from Lakewood, Washington, will serve as President of the Associated Student Body for the 2017/2018 academic year. Travis will complete his third year as an on-campus student in May. He

has been active in the Charlotte Spokesman Club, serves on the parking crew at services and has been an active participant in both LU and local Charlotte congregation activities. For his work-study jobs Travis serves in the Television Department and is also a driver for Ground Transportation.

The Associated Student Body, through the Student Council, is the official agency designated to represent undergraduate students in matters pertaining to student welfare, activities, participation in University affairs, participation in university planning and administration, and in student opinion. The ASB consists of all matriculated, full-time undergraduate and postbaccalaureate on-campus students of the University. Governance of the Associated Body is through the Associated Student Body President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and a Student Council.

A Student Activity Fee of \$75 is assessed each full-time matriculated undergraduate student (including all full-time on-campus students enrolled in a second baccalaureate degree program) each semester for student welfare and activity funds including the operating expenses of the Associated Student Body. All matriculated students, online or on-campus, may join the Associated Student Body by paying the \$75 fee.



LU Emergency Plan Activated

On Wednesday, September 6, the University partially activated its emergency plan relating to the student Residence Halls and storm damage when projections of Hurricane Irma placed Charlotte in its path. Executive VP Scott Winnail briefed the RAs; they in turn briefed their residents regarding managing safety and security during the Hurricane Irma threat. The LU emergency plan is an outcome of a comprehensive risk assessment completed in May of this year in preparation of a Risk Assessment and Management Plan for LU. For protection of student health and safety, the plan establishes procedures for dealing with pandemic influenza and fire, storm and earthquake damage to the Residence Halls.

Biological Anthropology Lab Operational

With the fall semester launch of the new A.A. degree program, LU added ANTH 230L (Biological Anthropology Laboratory) to its course offerings.



Taken together, ANTH 230 and 230L, fulfill the natural science general education requirement for LU degree programs. The lab course consists of ten laboratory assignments including isolation of nucleic acids in a banana to see firsthand what DNA looks like, and lab exercises in cellular biology, inheritance, genetic forces, biological classification systems, and human variation.

This semester the University offers the course as a traditional course and the staff lunchroom serves as a venue for experiments. The next time LU offers the course it will be an online version. The course instructor is Dr. Michael Germano,

who among other things holds a master's degree in anthropology from Texas A&M University at College Station.

Spring Schedule of Classes

The LU *Spring Schedule of Classes* is in preparation and should be available later this month. Advisement and Registration for the Second Semester begins Monday, November 13. Classes include the following:

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| COMM 265 Advanced Public Speaking (3) | THL 327 Working with Christian Youth (3) |
| ENGL 262 World Literature II (3) | THL 345 Christian Men (3) |
| THL 110B Tomorrow's World Bible Study Course (2) | THL 380 Introduction to Biblical Doctrine |
| THL 136 Acts and the Writings of Paul (3) | THL 394 Senior Thesis (3) |
| THL 136S Hechos y escritos del apóstol Pablo (3) | THL 413 Epistles of Paul (3) |
| THL 212 Old Testament Survey II (3) | THL 422 History of Christianity II (3) |
| THL 215 The Lost Tribes of Israel in History and Prophecy (3) | THL 450 Introduction to Biblical Theology (3) |
| TLH 226 Christian Leadership (3) | THL 490 Practicum in Professional Ministry (1-3) |
| THL 320 Introduction to Church History (3) | THL 499 Independent Study (1-3) |