Western

Missions in a Rapidly Changing World

San Jose Celebrates New Campus

Creating a Multicultural Ethos in the Local Church
Letter from the President

Gospel-Centered Transformation Goes Global

In the famous words of the Lausanne Covenant, “Evangelization requires the whole church to take the whole gospel to the whole world.” This charge sets the theme for our second issue of Western Magazine, which provides examples of the Western community contributing to the world mission mandate.

Our first issue focused on the message entrusted to us by affirming and illustrating the unique mandate. Our second issue is a natural complement, exploring representative case studies of the who, how and where dimensions of gospel proclamation.

We want this magazine to be more than an instrument of reader edification than of institutional promotion. So it is our prayer that you receive from it both encouragement and equipping related to your own role in the Great Commission. We hope that you will learn how to be an even more faithful and fruitful global Christian, both individually and congregationally. You will see how our great God uses people in an amazing variety of roles and settings to further his redemptive purposes. You will be introduced to the more resources that can refine and deepen your thinking about some issues of current controversy (e.g., “mission” vs. “mission,” evangelism vs. social activism, contextualization vs. accommodation, etc.), discovering in many cases that what God intends to be a both/and has sadly been reduced to an either/or.

As we put together this issue, we empathized with the Apostle John who struggled with sufficient space to capture adequately all the wonderful things that Jesus did (cf. Jn. 21:25). It didn’t take much research to unearth many more stories of how the Lord is using members of Western’s community to bless others around the world than even a greatly expanded magazine could hold.

We are drawing upon our distance education expertise and are launching an innovative new program to strengthen local churches. Learn how we are using technology, immigration, politics, and media to effectively reach today’s world with the gospel.

So we created an “overflow” section on our website where you can find additional illustrations; just go to www.westernseminary.edu/News/WSNews/WS_Alumni_Magazine_Fall2010.htm to find them. While we hope that our website provides you with further sources of information and inspiration, we also trust that within the pages of this issue you will be both surprised and pleased at the breadth and depth of the global impact being made by Western personnel. The prayer and financial support of key friends is used by God to help all this ministry happen, so I would be remiss if I did not once again thank all of you who invest in His work here.

Your co-laborer in the gospel,

Randal Roberts
President

Western Seminary

Smaller Seminary of the West

A Fresh Approach to Missions in a Rapidly Changing World

Technology, immigration, politics, and media are all shaping today’s cultural climate – a world in which people groups migrate and mingle like never before. How can we adjust our approach to evangelism to effectively reach today’s world with the gospel?

Sacramento Campus

Adjunct Professor Models Missional Living as Chaplain, Pastor, Activist

Adjunct Professor Sherwood Carthen explains how the gospel motivates him to reach out to the rich, the homeless, and the next generation of Western students.

San Jose Campus

Celebrating Our New Campus Location

After many months of prayer and planning, our San Jose campus has opened at a beautiful new site in Santa Clara. We’re delighted with God’s provision and confident that this move will lead to more strategic partnerships and training opportunities in the years to come.

Portland Campus

The Center for Leadership Development: Training Lay Leaders for Effective Ministry

Staff and faculty are launching an innovative new program to strengthen local churches. Learn how we are drawing upon our distance education expertise and ministry partnerships to equip thousands of lay leaders.

Creating a Multicultural Ethos in the Local Church

What does it look like for a church to cultivate a global mindset? Is it really possible to involve members from diverse ethnic backgrounds in one congregation? Professor John Johnson reflects on lessons learned while serving as lead pastor of Village Church.

Western’s International Students

A Strategic Opportunity for Kingdom Impact

Today’s international students serve as tomorrow’s leaders for kingdom movements overseas. They also face a set of unique challenges while studying in the States. Discover how you can partner with us in providing them with relational support and strategic ministry training.

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Western Magazine is published semi-annually by Western Seminary and is sent to alumni, supporters, and friends of the Seminary. Western Seminary strives to serve as a catalyst and resource for spiritual transformation by providing, with and for the church, advanced training for strategic ministry roles.

Western Seminary strives to serve as a strategic opportunity for kingdom impact. Did you know that Western’s professors and graduates minister in more than 70 countries? Sample firsthand accounts of their work and consider Western’s influence around the world.

Gospel-Centered transformation goes global.

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It would have been easy for Captain Gary Weeden to overlook the Nepalese barber quietly sitting and reading a Bible between haircuts at a U.S. military base in the Middle East.

Weeden (who later would be appointed chaplain over the entire U.S. Coast Guard) had been sent to the Middle East to minister to American soldiers on the front lines and participate in strategic military discussions with top-tier leaders.

The barber was just one of many men from developing nations such as Nepal and Sri Lanka who had accepted a contract at the base to cut hair, rebuild roads or prepare meals in the galley. It was menial work and a sacrifice to spend months at a time so far from home. But these contract workers earned more in two months on the base than they could during an entire year in their home countries.
As Weeden was soon to discover, however, much more than just earning money was on the mind of that particular barber. Intrigued by his Bible reading, Weeden began a conversation with him and learned that this humble man was a Christian who had established a vibrant church among the migrant contract workers on the base. The barber was sharing the gospel among men who had little or no opportunity to learn about Christ in their countries of origin. During the next several weeks, Weeden and his newfound ministry partner struck up a friendship – praying together, obtaining Bibles, and collecting other spiritual resources that would not be available in Nepal.

When Weeden’s orders eventually brought him back to the States, the two men exchanged contact information and continue to keep in touch to this day.

REACHING PEOPLE “FROM EVERY-WHERE MOVING TO EVERYWHERE WITH HOPE AND DESPAIR”

In seeking to understand how and why the world is changing, Wan points to immigration and globalization as the two most powerful forces at work. In an article for the Tokyo 2010 Global Mission Consultation, he wrote, “There is a global trend that the migrant population is moving ‘from south to north, and from east to west’ toward seven of the world’s wealthiest countries — with less than 16% of the total world population, yet 60% of the world’s migrant population is found in those seven countries.” He also noted, “From 1996 to 2000, immigration accounted for 75% of the population growth in the U.S.”

He listed “push” and “pull” forces at work in the world to move people from their country of origin.

“Push” forces may include:
- War
- Political persecution and abuse of power (including human trafficking and related exploitation of women and children)
- Natural disasters
- Man-made “disasters,” including psychological stress, social isolation, and political upheaval

“Pull” forces are comprised of such things as:
- The promise of political freedom and human equality
- Improved quality of life and economic opportunities
- Media exposure to stories of others who have immigrated and achieved success
- Media exposure to stories of others who have immigrated and achieved success

Technological advances have contributed to a homogenized world culture in which it is more likely than ever that an individual living in the developing world may be lured to the West by stories of political freedom, material wealth, or an overall better life. Wan describes this “push-pull” phenomenon as people moving “from everywhere to everywhere with hope and despair.” Whether they are fleeing internment in a refugee camp or pursuing financial stability, the result is that pockets of displaced immigrants from diverse cultures are showing up all over the world. Some of them are permanent. Others are temporary, such as the aforementioned Nepalese and Sri Lankan community of contract workers at the U.S. military base. The needs are different for each community. A transient group, such as the Nepalese contract workers, may be thirsty for spiritual resources. As they return to their countries of origin, they are then uniquely able to bring the gospel message into some of the least evangelized parts of the world. More permanent communities will have entirely different needs, ranging from practical living concerns to creating a new cultural identity that reflects both their country of origin and their new home.

Within the Doctor of Missiology program, Wan has discovered and developed leaders who study one particular diaspora movement and then develop a customized plan for evangelism and discipleship.

Beyond Diaspora: How Are Other Global Trends Contributing to New Ministry Approaches?

Dr. John Brummer is Associate Professor of Intercultural Studies and the chair of Western’s Division of Intercultural Studies. He further explained the current world climate through six commonly recognized global trends.

GLOBALIZATION Technology and immigration are homogenizing the world and helping us connect with radically different people groups in ways never before imagined.

BUSINESS AS MISSION Using marketplace opportunities to share the gospel and participate in discipleship.

MUTUALITY In contrast to former models, where the Western church is charged with importing resources and aid, the current world climate acknowledges that each people group comes to the table with unique skills, gifts, and resources to share.

PARTNERSHIP Intentionally connecting majority and minority world churches to work together for kingdom impact.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY Cultivating relationships with ministry partners as the basis for financial giving, rather than simply sending a check.

INVESTING IN LEADERS Looking for those who have been leading ministry efforts without outside help and then offering resources and relationship to maximize their impact.

We spoke with Kent Humphreys and Western alum Jeff Denlinger to explore how some of these trends have impacted their ministries over time. Humphreys addresses how the business as mission approach is being used in different cultural contexts on page 18.

Beyond Diaspora continued on page 8
Livingston (see p.16 for complete article), who is currently training and "approach. For example, Western Seminary graduate Adrienne diaspora groups. This allows tomorrow's leaders to take a "both-and" approach to ministry as God provides them within the moving targets of cultural isolation and develop a deeper appreciation for cross-cultural ministry opportunities.

Increased awareness is the key to recognizing new opportunities for ministry as God provides them within the moving targets of cultural isolation and develop a deeper appreciation for cross-cultural ministry opportunities. It can be an eye-opening experience. Branner recalled one student who confessed, "I realized I don't know a single American worldview."

"That started to change the way we did church planting," he explained. "It was not just not how many groups we could lead, but how many we were training who were then training others." It was a rich time for Denlinger in life and ministry. He was equipping Venezuelan church leaders by teaching a Perspectives on the World Christian Movement course and engaging in discipleship, applying lessons learned at D-Miss seminars through his missions work on the field. During that time, he was invited to take on regional leadership within World Venture, expanding his sphere of influence and ability to shape the organization's mission strategy.

Today, Denlinger coaches missions leaders around the world. He is excited to see how God is leading the Church to wrestle with the question of how to best communicate the gospel in each cultural context. "One of the really exciting things is how various churches around the world are engaging in missions according to how God's gifted," he said. "There's not just one way to do missions anymore. Now God has unleashed missionaries from national backgrounds. There's not just one way to do missions anymore. Now God has unleashed missionaries from national backgrounds.

On the other hand, he works with the homeless; with those out on the streets who are not looking for a handout but a hand up. Hard seasons of ministry have taught Carthen the importance of patience. "We are a 'right now' society," he said. "Everything I see that was accomplished in the Bible has taken some time. Those who will remain faithful and patiently wait upon the Lord, they are the ones who endure to the end."

This posture of faithfulness has caused Carthen to highly value teaching and preaching the Word. He's particularly passionate about this ministry because he sees a shortage in America of preachers who proclaim the gospel and fears that someday we might be completely without preachers who will proclaim the truth.

"I don't know that there is anything on earth as impactful, as meaningful, as the transformation of the gospel. To watch Western make a transition toward that – I feel really excited about it. And, I feel really honored that I can be a part of it," Carthen said.

Through preaching at his church and teaching at Western Seminary, Carthen believes he is able to pass the mantle on to future preachers who will proclaim the gospel. And this passing of the torch is evident in his former students' stories. Prior to taking a preaching course from Carthen, Master of Divinity student Gary Weston had walked through a particularly difficult season of ministry, which led him to struggle with clinical depression and seriously question whether or not ministry was where he should be. Through both the opportunities to preach and compassion extended by Carthen, this course renewed Weston's calling as a preacher. Weston said, "The greatest thing I learned from Sherwood was that when things get hard – when results don't go the way you want them to go – I can always remember I'm called to preach. This is what God wants me to do."
Celebrating Our New Campus Location

Since 1985, the Western Seminary San Jose campus has been hosted on the grounds of Calvary Church in Los Gatos, California. It’s been a wonderful partnership spanning a quarter of a century. However, two years ago, when the church approached Site Director Dan Ruiz about needing to reallocate space for greater ministry and staff use, he started asking the Lord for direction regarding a new location for our campus.

This fall, Western Seminary San Jose moves to University Station, a commercial building complex across the street from Santa Clara University. Strategically located next to a major mass transit center, University Station places Western at a key Bay Area hub. It’s five minutes from the airport and four major California freeways. Students can walk to restaurants and the local coffee bar for snacks between classes.

With both a new location and lease secured, Ruiz and his team are now addressing the task of preparing the new 9,300 square foot suite. They have been working for several months with architects and contractors to customize the interior to serve students’ needs— including a library, classrooms, and kitchen.

The board of trustees, seminary leadership, and entire San Jose team are delighted with the new location. In addition to giving the campus greater visibility and access to improved resources, a larger space allowed them to add another classroom and expand the class schedule to include a Monday-only track. They also foresee hosting meetings and conferences for local churches and parachurch organizations who share Western’s passion for gospel-centered transformation.

Throughout the process of praying for a new site, considering possible locations, and negotiating the lease, Ruiz found personal strength in trusting God’s providence: “I get excited when I think about this journey over the last two years,” he said. “The Lord guided us to where we would land.”

With construction and the move now complete, faculty and staff are excited to host a series of campus preview days as well as an open house and dedication of the new campus. Details for these events can be found on the back page of the magazine or on the seminary’s website. Please join us in giving thanks to God for his kind provision.

The Center for Leadership Development: Training Lay Leaders for Effective Ministry

More than two and a half years ago, a group of Western Seminary faculty and staff started a conversation about the needs of the local church. They talked about lay leaders who serve as elders, deacons, small group leaders, and directors of ministries for men, women, students, and children. In Oregon alone, this group numbers over 40,000 men and women. They reflected on bi-vocational pastors, who often minister in rural communities or smaller churches with diminished access to financial and educational resources. They considered all that God has entrusted to Western—technological savviness, innovative staff, seasoned faculty, and a history of effective ministry training—and felt compelled to act.

Their response? The Center for Leadership Development, a training program in partnership with biblicaltraining.org designed to equip both lay leaders and rural pastors for increased ministry effectiveness. The Center for Leadership Development will build upon technology we’ve developed for our distance education courses and offer participants targeted stand-alone courses that are three to five hours in length and ministry-specific certificate options. Courses will cost around $10 each and have been beta-tested for the last year and a half by churches in several states.

Academic Dean Marc Cortez is working with Center for Lifelong Learning Director Jim Stewart, Coaching Director Chad Hall, and President Randy Roberts, among others, to develop curriculum. Western Seminary Research Professor and biblicaltraining.org creator William Mounce is also joining the effort to create and deliver low-cost, distance-accessible training for church leaders around the world. With more than 25,000 current registered users in over 225 countries, biblicaltraining.org will bring The Center for Leadership Development to more people than seminary faculty dreamed of during those initial conversations over two years ago.

During the next year, program designers are working with seminary faculty to create 165 hours of curriculum and publicize the program. Within the next three years, our goal is to provide this training for at least 1200 leaders within 100 churches, with half of the participants serving in rural congregations.

If you believe that your church would be interested in learning more about training offered through the Center for Leadership Development, please contact Jim Stewart at jstewart@westernseminary.edu or (503) 517-1898.
Western Seminary Faculty & Alumni: Real World Practitioners Ministering Around the Globe

Jesus called His followers to make disciples of all nations and our graduates take Him at His word. As a result, they are currently building God’s kingdom in each of the shaded regions on the map. When they’re not in the classroom, our faculty also travel the world to encourage missionaries, train high-level leaders, teach mentoring and ministry strategies, and otherwise participate in our work of providing advanced training for strategic ministry roles with and for the church. The red stars on the map illustrate the locations where faculty have recently served in ministry. Following, are highlights from ministries our graduates and faculty are doing around the world.

NORTH AMERICA
“It was over 110 degrees in the city of San Luis Rio Colorado in Sonora, Mexico. However, the locals were passionate about God and did not let the hot weather deter them. I preached a message of hope in Jesus Christ, and invited people to leave their cares at the cross. One person who came forward was a 12-year-old boy from our church. He told me that he often had to protect his mom and his sister from his dad, who could come home drunk, or very violent. I cried in my heart and prayed.

Four years later, God has been at work in bringing change and transformation to this family. The father received help through the local men’s ministry and our drug rehab center. The son is now a teenager using his life to bring the message of hope to the lost. He is part of the worship team and leads Bible studies. His sister, 15 years old, is now working as a middle-school tutor with Hope Alive! in Lima, Peru.

In 2004, I decided to study intercultural studies at Western. The program required me to do an internship, and this led me to Hope Alive! in Uganda. Hope Alive! is a relief and development ministry that works with about 500 students in four different areas of Uganda. Returned to Uganda in July 2009 for a three-year commitment as a mid-term missionary with WorldVenture serving at Hope Alive! I now serve as the education specialist, coordinating and teaching classes and other education-related activities.

When I was young I thought that being a missionary meant a life-long commitment: saying goodbye to everyone you have ever known and leaving for a far off place to live with aborigines and preach the gospel, never to return again. I have found, however, that spreading the gospel can happen in as many ways as people can think of — through teachers, aid workers, builders, lawyers, doctors, writers, etc. — and for varying amounts of time.

Nine years ago God invited me on an adventure with Him, and saying yes to Him was the best decision I ever made.” Submitted by Kate Segrin, who earned an M.A. (Intercultural Studies) degree in 2008.

AFRICA
Ken and Bola Taylor won the 2010 eXelerate Award from The Mission Exchange for their innovative work using black gospel music for evangelistic outreach and church planting in Tokyo. Self-described as “two Filipino ex-nightclub entertainers,” they were pursuing careers as recording artists when they came to faith in Christ. The Taylors married in the States and Ken earned an M.A. in General Ministry from Western in 1995 before moving to Japan. During the past ten years, their ministry has grown from one choir of 30 non-Christian Japanese performing gospel music to more than 40 choirs around Japan. More than 800 people participate in these choirs today, and 80 percent of them are not yet Christians. Read more about their innovative approach and partnership with the Japanese church online at www.themissionexchange.org/downloads/eXelerate2010.pdf

ASIA
Terry Burns is the director of Western’s Master of Arts (Intercultural Studies) degree program. He coaches top-level World Venture missionary leaders in both Europe and the Middle East, and he has taught at leadership development retreats in Germany, Switzerland, and Spain. Terry has worked with Italian church leadership and Bible school officials, teaching them how to effectively mentor others. He travels to Europe annually for leader development and mentors missionaries in Madrid, Spain; Rome, Italy; and Sao Luis and Sao Paolo, Brazil.

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AND BEYOND...
Chad Hall is the director of Western’s coaching program. He currently provides coaching and live training via webinar to individuals in the United States, Canada, Kenya and India.

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Nine years ago God invited me on an adventure with Him, and saying yes to Him was the best decision I ever made.” Submitted by Kate Segrin, who earned an M.A. (Intercultural Studies) degree in 2008.
I remember well my first taxi ride from the guest house in Manila to the nearby semi-nary where I was teaching wisdom literature. It was 1988, my first journey abroad, having been invited by Asian Theological Seminary to train some 45 students. I was looking out the window thinking how amazing it was to be so far from home. Little did I know it was just the beginning of many overseas journeys.

Something got in my bloodstream in Southeast Asia, and I have never been the same since. God has sent me abroad every year. Never did I dream I would end up taking my family and living overseas, which we did for seven years in Holland, serving in a multiethnic church. And now I serve part of my time in ministry at Village Church, which has to be one of the most global-minded churches in the nation.

I have had little to do with creating this ethos. I stepped into a missional church that was already determined to reach the unreached groups in the world. On any given week, different speakers, interviews, and video clips have kept us abreast of issues. We have focused on the suffering church around the world as well. All of this has created a heart for the world, generated significant giving, and planted seeds. We have sent people from all sorts of backgrounds into places like China, India, and downtown Beirut.

My role as lead pastor has largely been about encouraging what already is happening. I have attempted to do this by building on our missional awareness, giving theological weight to our global work with a careful exegesis of Scripture. When my board worked out the terms of my employment, I took a reduced salary with an insistence that I be sent abroad every year to get a global reading. It has turned out to be a good decision, both for me and the church. It has given me both passion and a greater sense of urgency.

Creating a Multicultural Ethos in the Local Church

In addition to his role as an associate professor of pastoral theology and Doctor of Ministry program director at Western Seminary, John Johnson has been the lead pastor at Village Church in Beaverton, Oregon since 2000. Village Church is a distinctively multi-ethnic body, with specific ministries comprised of diverse groups including Korean, Chinese, East Indian, and Hispanic members. Known for its cultural integration and international involvement, Village is a church committed to pursuing Gospel-centered transformation among all people-groups locally and around the world. We asked Dr. Johnson to share some of the ways that God has created such a powerful heart for missions among the staff and members of Village and to provide some guidance for others seeking to cultivate a similar focus in their own lives and ministries.

Dr. John Johnson

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Village has this unique ministry of finding great partners abroad and working with them. We have tended to work with Operation Mobilization, Bible Societies, and various relief organizations—anyone who has a track record of doing effective ministry. Some are nationals, some are expatriates. We find out what they need in the way of resources, personnel, programs, etc. and try to accommodate.

We have sent a dental team to the Palestinian camps of South Beirut, medical teams to regions of India, pastoral teams to train pastors, and women’s teams to lead women, among others. All of these come as a response to what partners are asking us to do. This past May I took a businessman to a small community south of Damascus to encourage a church in its building project.

This past weekend, our most recent team gave a report to a packed house. What made it especially informative was the photography. Our Korean pastor used his skills to bring the streets of Lebanon into the room. And here is one of the more amazing things—we are beginning to send different ethnic ministers abroad. One Korean and one Hispanic are in the pipeline to head out to the Middle East shortly.

Village’s World Missions Pastor, John Jordan, has been out at the point leading us with great skill. He is very good at networking. Walking into his office, one is immediately aware of the energy. There is a steady stream of traffic. Each year, John puts together a conference that brings some of the best voices to inform, train, and inspire our people. If someone needs resources, John is a great contact.

Annually, we typically send 25-30 people to India in the early spring and the same number to Lebanon in the summer. Smaller teams go to other parts of the globe. I go ahead of some of these ventures, working with partners or teaching at a seminary.
Village Church’s Model in Action: One Student’s Story

“I’ve always been interested in culture,” M.A. in Intercultural Studies student Adrienne Livingston shared. “When I was in first grade, I bought a Spanish dictionary because this young girl in my class had moved to the States and didn’t speak English. I wanted to communicate with her.”

When Livingston later became a Christian, her innate love for people, travel, and adventure grew into an interest in cross-cultural ministry. She got connected with Western Seminary and Village Church through her friend Mythraie Gupta. Gupta, a graduate of Western’s M.A. Specialized Ministry program and a member of Village Church, introduced Livingston to Intercultural Studies faculty and church missions staff.

During the next several years, both relationships grew. Livingston was admitted into Western’s Intercultural Studies program and later traveled to Lebanon on one of Village’s short-term teams. When it came time for her to complete her seminary intercultural internship, she was invited to help coordinate the church’s short-term teams to India. She organized state-side training to prepare the teams and then traveled to India with them to provide leadership and documentation. The intern spent three weeks ministering in India next January.

What does this unleashing look like? In Indonesia, seminary students are required to plant a new church before completing their degree programs — applying acquired ministry skills in a practical context. In Africa, a historically Christian country is sending doctors to predominantly Muslim countries with dire medical needs. It’s reported that hundreds of people have come to faith in Christ as a result of that ministry.

How would Denlinger challenge American Christians to respond? “The question is: How does a local church grapple with the commands of Jesus and seek to obey Jesus in ways that are relevant to the world we live in and how God has called us to?” he asked.

He calls us to take heed of Wani’s observations of diaspora – even in our local communities — and to seize today’s opportunities as divinely orchestrated by God.

“If our mentality is ‘missions happens overseas,’ then we’re going to miss the opportunity to reach the lost that live here,” he cautioned. “That’s where U.S. churches have a mission force from one of the most strategic areas in the world: the Near East.”

Gospel-centered transformation is no longer regarded as the work of the few, expert missionaries trained to reach cross-culturally. Rather, it is to be regarded as part of the Christian charge to each believer. That said, reaching across cultures is hard work — it is worth it.

“Every marriage is cross-cultural, so we’re already doing this,” Denlinger said with a good-natured laugh. “Yes, it is hard work. Incarnational living is not easy! It is the way of Jesus. We are to become all things to all people, so that by all means some might be saved.”

Incarncational living is not easy, but it is the way of Jesus. We are to become all things to all people, so that by all means some might be saved. It’s hard work, but that’s the life that Christ has called us to.

“Dietrich Bonhoeffer said, ‘When Christ calls a man, he calls him to come and die.’ That’s not just for pastors, or for missionaries. It’s a challenge, but in Christ, we can do that.”
Marketplace Ministry Around the World

Keet Humphreys is president of the business as mission organization Fellowship of Companies for Christ International (also known as Christ@Work). Humphreys refers to himself as an ambassador, rather than president, and has been a pioneer in the business as mission approach. We asked him to share some of the things he has seen God doing in the global marketplace.

Missions are changing today and doors are opening for all of us in the body of Christ. As a business leader and CEO of a workplace ministry, I have been able to travel to 35 nations around the world, speaking with workplace and church leaders. Business leaders are using their platforms to share Christ and go places that missionaries could never go. In Kenya, a pastor of a church in the slums has an HIV clinic in a nearby town. An entrepreneur with several businesses has started a church. In China, local business leaders are working with civic leaders to pass out Bibles. Baptisms are taking place in factories with workplace and church leaders. Business leaders are using their platforms to share Christ and go places that missionaries could never go. In Hong Kong, Christian business leaders are having chaplains come into their companies to minister. In Malaysia, a 60 percent Muslim nation, Christians are meeting regularly seeking to integrate their faith and work. Christian business leaders from the Philippines are taking jobs in the Middle East in closed countries and sharing Christ in homes and businesses. Business owners in India, Indonesia, and South Africa are standing up against corruption publically. Traditional missions will continue but more and more of our overall strategy will include business as mission in both open and closed nations around the world.

Humphreys has written two books which draw upon his experience as a marketplace missionary. Shepherding Harbors: God’s Plan for Transplanting Leaders and Christ@Work: Opening Doors (Impacting Your Workplace for Jesus Christ). He has generously offered a complimentary copy of either book for Western Magazine readers as a tool for further equipping. To request a copy, please contact him at kent@fcci.org.

Resources for Continued Study

Introducing World Missions: A Biblical, Historical and Practical Survey
By A. Scott Moreau
This book introduces students to world missions as well as those interested in missions, this book provides a great introduction and broad overview of world missions. It is comprised of 5 sections; encountering missions in the Scriptures, in history, as a candidate, as a sent one or sender, and in the contemporary world.

Operation World: The Definitive Prayer Guide to Every Nation
By Jason Mandryk
This book is widely regarded as the definitive volume of prayer information about the world. Dr. Geoff Tunnicliff, CEO of the World Evangelical Alliance, says it best: “Operation World is a tremendously useful resource that I use personally, with my family, and in my ministry. No Christian family, local church library, or Christian leader should be without this vision building, prayer enhancing, information packed tool!”

The Mission of God’s People: A Biblical Theology of the Church’s Mission
By Christopher J. H. Wright
This volume is a theologically rich, immensely informative, and occasionally provocative exploration of the mission that God has assigned to the church. Being ‘missional’ is of limited value if the mission that we’re on in sync with the one described in Scripture. To that end, Wright’s work will be of great help in guiding how we read the Bible and how we live our lives, individually and corporately.

Transforming Worldviews: An Anthropological Understanding of How People Change
By Paul G. Hibbert
Changes in behavior and belief are considered major indicators that Christian conversion has, indeed, taken place. Hibbert asks readers to consider a third factor: worldview. He goes on to elaborate on its meaning and what we see as far-reaching implications.

ADVANCEMENT

Western’s International Students: A Strategic Opportunity for Kingdom Impact

Western Seminary’s international students face a unique set of challenges in entering seminary. Even if they are confident that God is calling them to study as preparation for significant ministry leadership, they have a whole host of questions to answer: How will they afford to move to the United States? Will they be able to secure the proper visa to study and work? Where will they live? How will they find a church? How can they navigate a new life and culture on their own?

Often, these men and women have faced incredible obstacles during the course of their ministry – including poverty, genocide, famine, and illiteracy. It takes careful and creative training, an understanding of the power of the Gospel to enact true transformation, the skills needed to resolve interpersonal conflict, and a support network of alumni and faculty to help them stay healthy in these challenging contexts.

At Western, we are committed to training students to serve as agents of spiritual transformation and believe that it will take leaders from countries around the world to effectively reach other cultures with the gospel message. Church growth in the developing world is accelerating, and the need for leadership is critical. We understand our responsibility as a seminary to include meeting the needs of those who lack resources, but are called by God to lead His church. And international students have a unique ability to enrich the cultural and learning environment at each of our campuses. For those reasons, we are committed to helping international students receive training – helping them with the practical aspects of moving to a new country, soliciting grants and financial assistance to offset their tuition costs, and facilitating partnerships with local churches.

A connection with local churches provides our international students with many benefits, among them:

• Another means of financial support for their educational goals
• Promotes relational, spiritual, and emotional support that the international students desperately need while dealing with the pressures of cultural adjustment
• Provides natural ministry opportunities, where international students can immediately apply the lessons they learn in the classroom to practical ministry contexts

Churches win too. Members are provided with an opportunity to exercise good stewardship, kingdom investment, and hospitality. They are exposed to Christian practices from a different cultural viewpoint. Their heart and interest for God’s work and missionary efforts naturally grows as they come to know and love brothers and sisters from other parts of the world.

One of these brothers is Julius Twongyeirwe, who completed a master’s program at Western and currently holds a national ministry position in Uganda. This past summer, Twongyeirwe had the opportunity to explain Western’s approach to transformation – the Strategy for Evangelical Renewal – in a culturally-relevant context to more than 550 African pastors. Twongyeirwe is committed to building other African leaders’ competence and confidence in doing God’s work, God’s way. He has been invited to join the faculty of an African training school, but will first need to complete a doctoral degree.

“While willing to spend an extended time away from his wife and children, if necessary, to do doctoral studies, he doesn’t have enough funds to do so,” President Randy Roberts said. “So he patiently waits and prays.”

Twongyeirwe is one of many internationals with the character and call representative of the strategic international leaders we are committed to training for ministry. We are grateful for the individuals, churches, and organizations (such as The Chotus Foundation) which contribute toward international students’ tuition costs. We also invite you to consider partnering with us in equipping these future work leaders – whether you offer financial assistance through a gift to our International Ministry Fund, develop a personal mentor relationship, or facilitate a partnership with your local church.
Upcoming Events

The faculty and staff of Western Seminary appreciate your partnership and prayers for these upcoming events. If you would like to join us for any of these activities, please contact Julia Seal at 503.517.1816.

January 5, 15, 22, 24, 2011
San Jose Campus Preview Day
Do you know someone interested in seminary? Invite them to one of our two-hour Campus Preview Day events. It’s an easy way to explore whether Western Seminary may be the next step for you. RSVP online at www.westernseminary.edu/sanjose or Tony Cruz at 408.356.6889, ext 416.

January 11, 2011
The Spurgeon Fellowship, Portland Campus
Meeting four times a year, The Spurgeon Fellowship aims to enhance the personal character and professional competency of pastors and, thus, by means of Word and Spirit, contribute to the renewal of local congregations. In January, Pastor Josh McPherson will share on The Missional Church and Pastor Cole Brown will share on The Missional Pastor. Find more information at www.thespurgeonfellowship.org.

February 3, 2011
Sacramento Campus Preview Day
Visit our campus, ask questions, connect with others who are considering seminary, meet faculty and staff, and learn about Western Seminary's unique approach to ministry training and where you might fit in. RSVP to Nate Cozington at 916.488.3720, ext 1.

February 24, 2011
Portland Campus Preview Day
Are you interested in seminary? Do you know someone who is? Discover how Western Seminary trains men and women to serve effectively in a variety of ministry contexts.

March 8, 2011
The Spurgeon Fellowship, Portland Campus
Dr. Jerry Bridges will speak on “The Bookends of the Christian Life”. Find more information at www.thespurgeonfellowship.org.