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GENERAL BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION &amp; MINISTRY

Preparing a New Generation of Christian Leaders

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## Campus Ministers, Chaplains Focus on Retreat, Connection

MICHAEL McCORD



Photos by Michael McCord/GBHEM

The Rev. Charlene Zuill (right), campus minister at the University of Hawaii, and the Rev. Narcie Jeter, campus minister at Winthrop University in Rock Hill, S.C., lead a discussion at the Retreat at Forum, May 27-30, at Shenandoah University.

CAMPUS MINISTRY LEADERS FOCUSED ON connecting with each other in a way that shares the great story of campus ministry—from celebrating in table fellowship to discussing issues surrounding the generational divide—they shared techniques and experiences.

United Methodist campus ministers and chaplains gathered for the Retreat at Forum at Shenandoah University

while hundreds of their students took part in Student Forum, held May 27-30 at the Winchester, Va., campus.

The Retreat at Student Forum is in its third year and continues to find new ways of connecting campus ministry professionals in a welcoming and retreat-like environment.

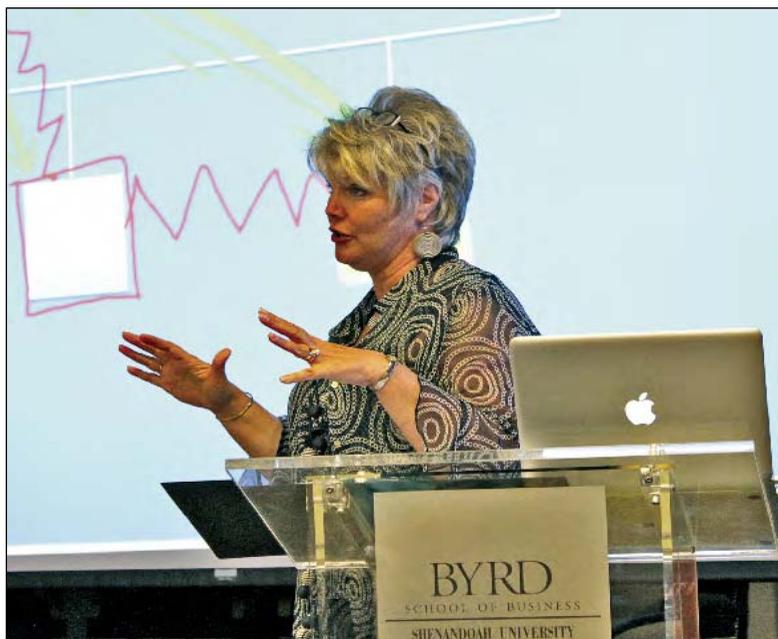
Susan Vuyovich, director of The Barn at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community

College and one of the designers of the event, said she looks forward each year to reuniting with old friends and meeting newly appointed campus ministers and chaplains.

“The reception party was a fun, informal way to kick off our time together. The morning devotions by fellow campus ministers at the beginning of each session warmed my heart,” she said.

Bridgette Young, assistant general secretary for Campus Ministry and College Chaplaincy, indicated that a time of retreat is part of the development of a campus ministry leader.

“Those in ministry on our campuses work long days, nights, and weekends while school is in session. Having the Retreat at Student Forum is a perfect opportunity to transition from the hectic activity of the academic year to a time of planning and reflecting with smaller groups of students and faculty during the summer,” she said. “As ministers, our own spiritual formation and growth is often sacrificed for the sake of serving others. This gathering is a reminder that we are better servant leaders when we take time for sabbath and to gain new tools for ministry.”



**The Rev. Dr. Rhonda VanDyke Colby, dean of Spiritual Life and co-director of the Institute for Church Professions at Shenandoah University, leads a session on campus ministry pastoral care.**

campus ministers are often the visible tip of larger family and societal anxiety. Over-scheduled + over-stressed + over-protected + over-served = overwhelmed. Campus ministers can be a calm presence, making space for students to think more clearly about

ship at Emory University, noted that the presentation helped to further convince him of the importance of learning students' family background.

“Knowing a student's family situation, and their reaction to or against it, is often a vital tool in helping them deal with

## **“This gathering is a reminder that we are better servant leaders when we take time for sabbath and to gain new tools for ministry.”**

Sessions focused on learning about particular aspects of ministry on campus. Rhonda VanDyke Colby, dean of Spiritual Life and co-director of the Institute for Church Professions at Shenandoah University, led a session on campus ministry pastoral care by discussing the importance of family stories and how they can help campus ministers bridge the often deep generational gap on college campuses.

“Only a small part of an iceberg is visible above the waterline. The issues college students share with their

the ‘anxiety de jour.’ Sometimes exploring their own family story as well as the biblical story creates healing connections for students,” she said.

Participants were led on a study of Jesus' family story and the relationships the biblical narrative reveals as means for thinking critically about students' family stories and the anxiety that they can produce. They then worked creatively to come up with ways of helping students deal with their past and mitigate the anxiety in their lives. Joseph McBrayer, campus minister at the Wesley Fellow-

everyday realities and problems—from spiritual matters to leadership development, from practical concerns to pastoral care,” McBrayer said.

As the event came to a close, participants joined as small groups to share in a meal at a downtown Winchester restaurant as a way of celebrating all that had taken place over the academic year and begin looking forward to next year.

*McCord is director of Campus Ministry Training and Resources, Division of Higher Education.*



Students stroll the campus of Shenandoah University during Student Forum 2010, held May 27-30 at the campus in Winchester, Va.

## Student Forum Participants Explore Key Issues

NEILL CALDWELL

WINCHESTER, Va.—Hundreds of United Methodist college students from around the nation examined serious issues and enjoyed fun fellowship at the 2010 Student Forum held at Shenandoah University.

There were workshops on a range of church-related issues, including United Methodist discipleship, call to ministry, campus ministry, evangelism, and opportunities for young people within the denomination.

Student Forum is an annual gathering of United Methodist college students which is coordinated by the United Methodist Student Movement and the General Board of Higher Education Ministry. There was also an event

resources such as Web links where they could find out more about the subject matter. VOICE, introduced this year by the steering committee, stands for: Vision, Openness, Interaction, Change, and Evolution.

“Through our VOICE groups, participants were educated on one of eight social justice issues and were challenged to look at the issue from ‘sufferer’ perspectives,” said Jessie Waddell, chair of the United

**“It was inspiring to witness students sharing their stories and ideas with other students.”**

Meeting throughout the May 27-30 gathering in small groups, just under 350 participants looked at eight issues that have regularly been in the news in recent months: civil and human rights, global poverty, global health issues, the impact of war and violence, immigration, human sexuality and the church, ecological justice, and affecting change for persons with disabilities.

for campus ministers and university/college chaplains going on at Shenandoah University in conjunction with the student meeting.

The main focus this year was the VOICE sessions. In each VOICE group, students look at what the Bible says about their specific issue, the positions and policies of The United Methodist Church on the issue, and other

Methodist Student Movement Steering Committee.

“Later students had opportunities to discuss ways they can be advocates for the issues through writing legislation to present at Student Forum next year. It was inspiring to witness students sharing their stories and ideas with other students.”

It did seem a little unusual at a gath-



**Jessie Waddell, chair of the United Methodist Student Movement Steering Committee, speaks at Student Forum.**

ering of college students to see stacks of *The Book of Discipline*, *The Book of Resolutions*, and copies of the church's *Social Principles* on hand for participants to use.

"These extended seminars gave participants the opportunity for in-depth learning about different social justice issues," said the Rev. Meg Lassiat, GBHEM's director of Student Ministries, Vocation, and Enlistment. "Many of the groups are making plans for bringing these issues to the attention of the 2012 General Conference so that student voices will be represented in the discussions.

"I was pleased with how the sessions turned out and the tools that students received for providing advocacy and affecting change in their home communities, as well as giving them ways to prepare for the legislation they will propose to General Conference."

Most participants agreed that the focus on key issues was a helpful way to empower participants to go back to their schools, campus ministries, or Wesley Foundation groups and lead discussions on the issues.

"Student Forum was a great success," said Jeremy Carter from

Philander Smith College in Little Rock, Ark. "We did do some things that were different from the past like in some of the worship settings." Carter was a small group leader and is a member of the Student Movement Steering Committee which set up the event.

Chase Pullum from the Western North Carolina Conference, a student at Guilford Tech Community College, was at Student Forum for the first time.

"I felt like it was an awesome time. I mean really, *awesome* is the only word to describe it," Pullum said.

"Forum truly was a time for young adults from all across the country to come together and worship with one another, and it really did . . . strengthen my worldview and open my eyes to things I may normally not think about."

*Caldwell is editor of the Virginia United Methodist Advocate, a monthly newsmagazine.*

## Campus Ministries at Community Colleges Reach Students in New Ways

### HELEN NEINAST

Their average age is 33. They come from different backgrounds, live different lives, dream different dreams. But they all share one thing in common: they are students at some of the more than 1,200 community colleges in the United States.

Talk to their campus ministers, to their student leaders, and you will hear stories of heart, leadership, and compassion. These are students and campus leaders who are changing the world. And The United Methodist Church, along with a network of community college campus ministries,

is there to support and challenge them all the way.

At Athens State University in Alabama, a two-year school of upper-level students, Sherri Bassham leads a Bible study "What Do You Do With Your Wait?" that explores what it is like to live your faith in the world, at college, and beyond.

"Students work on understanding their vocation. We talk about what it means to search out a Christian mate, about how to find a job that will reflect their values and mores," says Bassham, the director of the Wesley Foundation at Athens State. "We are a community focused on the faith. We are service-based, and we take that very much to heart. We also manage to have a lot of fun together. It's important for the church to have a presence on campus. We are grateful for the support The United Methodist Church gives us here at Wesley."

Community College Ministries in Virginia, sponsored by the Presbyterian, United Methodist, and Disciples Churches, found an important part of their mission when they were called to help bridge a gap in educational access and achievement for African Americans in their community.

The ministry set up Alliance for Excellence to work with children and to accompany them throughout and into their community college careers. In addition, whole families from the churches got involved in the project, highlighting the importance of a college education. Clergy and church members, campus ministers, and community college students have forged strong bonds on behalf of college and church.

While Alliance's work was built over a 20-year period, the mission and ministry of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College changed overnight. The devastation of Hurricane Katrina was



Students from the Wesley Foundation at Athens State University in Alabama took part in the Relay for Life.

tremendous, but, as difficult and toilsome as rebuilding was, these community colleges were about to face another tragedy and another call to be there for the community.

In January 2006, six students were killed in a car accident while returning to the Perkiston campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College from an evening in Louisiana.

“It just broke my heart to lose these students this way,” recalled Susan Vyovich, director of the Wesley Foundation. “No matter how successful the ministry had been prior to the loss of these students, I knew we were going to have to change the way we looked at outreach, witness, and nurture.”

And change they did. They renovated an old farm building, and the Barn provides a place away from campus where students can gather to eat, be with each other, and dance. The Barn has also launched a successful music group, Faith Renown.

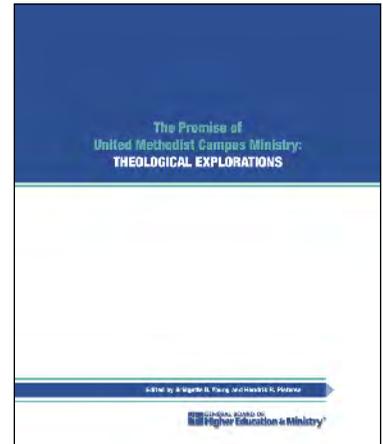
The Rev. Michael McCord, director of Campus Ministry Resources and Training at GBHEM, said communities, churches, and community college campus ministries can reach out to students and build relationships with them.

“Young adults, and students of all ages, are looking for connections that support them through the challenging and rewarding journey of life. Our community college ministries have a unique opportunity to connect students, who are often juggling work and family in the midst of school, to a deeper relationship with God and the church. In doing this work, the nature of community college ministry provides a great opportunity for local churches to make important connections with higher education. I encourage local churches to contact your local community college campus ministry and find out how you might work together,” McCord said.

If you would like more information about campus ministry or about how

your church can support a community college ministry, contact Michael McCord in the Campus Ministry Section at 615-340-7573 or [mmccord@gbhem.org](mailto:mmccord@gbhem.org).

*Neinast is an elder in the New Mexico Annual Conference and a former campus minister.*



## E-Book Explores Promise of Campus Ministry

Campus ministry can provide vital insights for United Methodists in interpreting and living their mission and ministry in a rapidly changing world—and a new electronic book from the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry explores that role with six essays from campus ministers, chaplains, theologians, historians, and agency staff.

*The Promise of Campus Ministry: Theological Explorations*, available for free downloading at [www.gbhem.org](http://www.gbhem.org), resulted from a consultation on campus ministry hosted by GBHEM in 2009.

“Our hope is that people will use the publication as a study guide and/or a resource for reflection on the theological foundations of campus ministry. I think it’s a good model for recognizing that the

ministry we do on college and university campuses is not merely programmatic, but grows out of a calling from God framed in the Wesleyan tradition,” said Bridgette Young, assistant general secretary in the Division of Higher Education’s Campus Ministry Section and one of the book’s editors. “The chapters, each of which contains an essay and response, may be taken together as a full book, or separately, based on the reader’s interest in a particular topic.”

Young said the book will be helpful for campus ministers, chaplains, annual conference Boards of Higher Education and Campus Ministry, and Wesley Foundation boards of directors.

“It can also be a great opportunity for bishops and their cabinets to get a sense of the ministry happening on campus and the issues faced there. We included questions for reflection to help spur discussion about the current state of campus ministry in our denomination and opportunities for providing greater institutional support of that ministry,” Young said.

The book’s other editor, Hendrick Pieterse, said theological reflection on campus ministry can be a crucial catalyst in illuminating and clarifying key dimensions of the character, scope, and form of faithful mission and ministry today.

“As such, campus ministry functions as a barometer of the encounter of faith and culture, church and world, higher education and ministry—often experi-

encing and wrestling with emerging questions, shifts, and challenges first—before those questions and challenges are on the radar of the rest of the church,” said Pieterse, a former GBHEM staffer.

Pieterse said such a conversation could stimulate transformation of both the church and campus.

The six essays explore such topics as campus ministry as a mission frontier, search for a holistic voice, and faith on campus, and campus ministry and leadership development.

The opening essay, by Russell Richey, the William R. Cannon Distinguished Professor of Church History at Candler School of Theology, Emory University, examines campus ministry in a historical perspective.

To read or download the book, visit [www.gbhem.org/publications](http://www.gbhem.org/publications).

## Korean UM Church Reaches International Students with Lunch Program

VICKI BROWN

About 85 international students at Ohio State University gather each Tuesday for fellowship and Korean food at a lunch provided by Grace Korean United Methodist Church.

“These international students could be future leaders in their own countries,” said the Rev. Miran Lee, pastor of Grace Korean UMC, which has a focus on campus ministry. “We do not need to learn their languages and cultures in order to reach out to them.”

Lee said there are more than 4,000 international students at Ohio State University in Columbus. More than three years ago, the church began sponsoring the luncheon program at

St. Stephen’s Episcopal Church, which is located on the campus, and allows the Grace United Methodist Women’s group use of the fellowship hall and kitchen to prepare and serve lunch. Many of the students who come are Buddhist or Muslim.

“We asked Grace Korean UMC student members to invite their classmates—both international, American students, their colleagues, and professors—to our luncheon fellowship,” Lee said. “While we are preparing Korean foods, we pray for the lunch participants to foretaste God’s love.”

Heana Park, an OSU senior who is also president of the young adults group at the church, said many of the students who come are not Christian. “We don’t force anyone to believe or anything, but they can feel that we are doing this for God,” said Park, a South Korean who joined Grace Korean UMC after she came to Ohio State to study.

Donghun Lee, a student and a member of Korean Grace UMC, said reaching out to international students is part of the church’s mission, but it was hard to find good contact points.

“We thought the campus luncheon would be a good way to deliver God’s love to non-Christian students. Even though we didn’t actively talk about Jesus and force them to come to our church, they knew we were from The United Methodist Church. What we hope is that they remember our hospitality and seek Jesus in their life sometime in the future,” he said.

Donghun Lee believes that giving without any expectation benefits those who prepare the food spiritually. “People might think our program is not worthy. They think that we spend a few hundred dollars every week but almost none of the students comes to our church. In this point of view, yes, it looks like we failed. However, we are

### COMING SOON

Books in production for 2010 and 2011:

- *Grace to Lead: Practicing Leadership in the Wesleyan Tradition* by Bishop Kenneth L. Carder and Lacey C. Warner
- *Ordained Ministry in The United Methodist Church* by William B. Lawrence
- *Grace Under Pressure: Negotiating the Heart of the Methodist Traditions* by Joerg Rieger



The kitchen stays busy during international student lunches at Grace Korean UMC. Shown, from left: Jiyeon Lee; S.B. Han; the Rev. Miran Lee, pastor of Grace Korean UMC; the Rev. Mike Pratt, pastor of Bethel UMC; Hyundo Lee; Soohyun Lee; Ji Eun Jang; Hyoju Jung; Do-in Lee, president of Grace UM Women and baby Abigail; and Kelly Lee.

not disappointed because we believe that at the right time in the future all of them will be Christians,” he said, adding that he sees some students stop by the sanctuary and stand there silently.

“I don’t know what they think, but the fact that they stepped into the sanctuary is a promising sign,” Donghun Lee said.

And the Rev. Lee said three OSU international students have been baptized after connecting with the church through the luncheon program.

The Rev. Lee says many diverse ethnic groups live in the city of Columbus and believes that with this globalization, the traditional concept of sending missionaries to other countries with intensive training in other languages and cultures is no longer the only way to have a world mission.

“The world mission can be achieved in our backyard, and the world mission field is everywhere, including the campus of Ohio State University and other colleges and universities within Ohio,” Lee said.

She said anyone can now work to fulfill the Great Commission Jesus gives in Matthew 28:18-20: “Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.”

Do-in Park said when she began helping serve the lunches two years ago after coming to the U.S. with her husband, about 50 to 60 students were served each week, and attendance averages 85 now.

“It reminds me of God’s love in giving us our daily bread, and it makes me thankful. Also, before preparing the food, all of us, including Pastor Miran, pray that every single student who comes to the lunch tastes God’s love and will someday open his or her heart to the Lord,” she said.

Do-in Park added that probably because the food is Korean, many of the students who attend are Asian–Korean, Chinese, Japanese, and Indian. “They seem to feel a close identity because they share a similar food culture. And because sharing a meal is such a powerful way of building community, I see many international students and American students becoming friends by talking about the food they are enjoying, asking how it was made, and of course, having ‘regular’, everyday conversations,” Park added.

The Rev. Roger Grace, an elected member of the General Board of Higher

Education and Ministry who is assistant to the superintendent in the Capitol Area North District of the West Ohio Annual Conference, recently visited the luncheon program as part of a conference audit team.

“One of the things that was most impressive to me was that while the lunch is designed to attract international students—Asians specifically because of the food and the volunteers who prepare it—the meal is actually open to all who come, international students or American, OSU faculty, staff, or students. The audit team was greeted by the folks from the church and made to feel welcome, even though they had no idea that we might show up,” Grace said.

*Brown is associate editor and writer,  
Office of Interpretation.*

## Colleges Train Poor to Help With Oil Spill

**KATHY L. GILBERT**

Not long ago, Freddie Redmond was homeless, living in the streets of Atlanta. Now he spends his days on a

beach in Mississippi, part of a team that will be cleaning up after the recent oil spill.

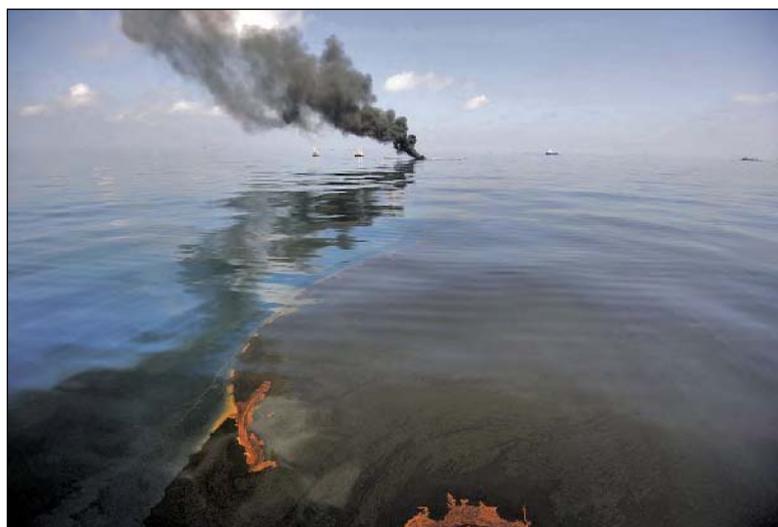
And he’s praising God for his new career.

Redmond is one of 75 low-income workers trained in hazardous waste removal by programs at two United Methodist-related historically Black colleges.

For the last 15 years, Clark Atlanta University’s Environmental Justice Resource Center and Dillard University’s Deep South Center for Environmental Justice in New Orleans have offered the training.

The Deepwater Horizon drilling rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico on April 20 has been an opportunity for the graduates to find new employment. The oil began washing up in Louisiana in late May and in Mississippi in early June. More than seven million gallons of oil has spewed out of the hole since the explosion.

Redmond, 40, and India Bass, 25, recent graduates of the program in Atlanta, are part of a crew in Mississippi.



Dark clouds of smoke and fire emerge as oil burns during a controlled fire of the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico.

## The 11 UM-related Historically Black Institutions

### Bennett College For Women

*Greensboro, N.C.*  
[www.bennett.edu](http://www.bennett.edu)

### Bethune-Cookman University

*Daytona Beach, Fla.*  
[www.bethune.cookman.edu](http://www.bethune.cookman.edu)

### Claflin University

*Orangeburg, S.C.*  
[www.claflin.edu](http://www.claflin.edu)

### Clark Atlanta University

*Atlanta, Ga.*  
[www.cau.edu](http://www.cau.edu)

### Dillard University

*New Orleans, La.*  
[www.dillard.edu](http://www.dillard.edu)

### Huston-Tillotson University

*Austin, Tex.*  
[www.htu.edu](http://www.htu.edu)

### Meharry Medical College

*Nashville, Tenn.*  
[www.mmc.edu](http://www.mmc.edu)

### Paine College

*Augusta, Ga.*  
[www.paine.edu](http://www.paine.edu)

### Philander Smith College

*Little Rock, Ark.*  
[www.philander.edu](http://www.philander.edu)

### Rust College

*Holly Springs, Miss.*  
[www.rustcollege.edu](http://www.rustcollege.edu)

### Wiley College

*Marshall, Tex.*  
[www.wileyc.edu](http://www.wileyc.edu)

"It is a real tragedy, and it will hurt the coastal areas for a long while," Redmond said. He said the instructors at Clark Atlanta prepared him well for this job.

"It is like they knew this would happen, and they gave me all the knowledge and tools I will need," he said.

Bass also praised her instructors and the program.

"I have gained a career," she said. "It really opened my eyes to some things."

Dillard and Clark Atlanta offer the minority-worker training programs with funding from the National Insti-

tute of Environmental Health Services. The minority-worker training program was established in 1995 with the goal to increase the number of minorities in the construction and environmental remediation industries.

The funding provides for basic skills training for residents of communities that are both economically and environmentally disadvantaged, said Myra M. Lewis, assistant director, Dillard University. "Funding also provides technical training in construction and environmental remediation [hazardous waste removal, lead abatement, asbestos abatement, and mold remediation]. All programs offer ongoing job placement and refresher training for program graduates."

"The premise of the program is not enough minorities are involved in environmental cleanup, yet most of the pollution is in low-income African-American communities," said Lisa Sutton, training director at Clark Atlanta.

Lewis said graduates work for companies cleaning beaches in Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida. The programs include a 40-hour hazardous waste worker certification that is standard for oil spill cleanup.

While the program is aimed at young adults ages 18 to 30, Sutton said there was a 61-year-old woman in the program this year.

The program is for non-traditional students, Sutton said. "It is for low-income residents, individuals who were incarcerated and in re-entry programs, for the unemployed or the under-employed."

Sutton said the university works with Transition House, a shelter for homeless veterans. "Freddie Redmond lives in the house and is a veteran from Desert Storm."

Redmond said he was standing in the unemployment line when someone handed him a flier about the program.

"I rushed to sign up," he said. "I prayed and prayed. I really needed something. Now I am in the green job industry; I help with the environment, and I am getting paid. That really feels good."

The instructors keep up with their graduates and offer them support and encouragement. "They call most days to check on us," Redmond said.

"We are so excited, many of our trainees were homeless, to be able to go to Mississippi and take part in this historic event means for a short time they don't have to worry about what they are going to eat, or where they are going to sleep, or if they will be safe. It is a miraculous thing," Sutton said.

Redmond agrees.

"God has moved mightily in my life. I am honored to be here, honored to serve the state of Mississippi and our country."

*Gilbert is a writer of 18-34 content for United Methodist Communications.*

## Africa University's Class of 2010 Tested by Crisis

### ANDRA STEVENS

OLD MUTARE, Zimbabwe—Graduation on June 12 meant an end to years of uncertainty and financial struggle for students who have faced food shortages, record levels of inflation, an extremely tight money supply, and the eventual demise of the Zimbabwe dollar.

Fungai Tsikira, a 23-year-old accounting major, said graduation was possible because the community stepped in and helped him "time and again."

Following the death of his parents in 2001, members of Tsikira's extended family provided for his basic needs and paid his school fees. However, as the economic crisis in Zimbabwe deep-



## How Can You Support the Black College Fund?

By encouraging your local church to pay 100% of its Black College Fund apportionment, you are supporting the BCF and the UM-related historically Black colleges and universities. You can also make a direct donation to any of the 11 Black colleges supported by the BCF. Those colleges and universities and their Web sites are listed in the sidebar on page 8. To learn more about the fund, visit [umcgiving.org/bcf](http://umcgiving.org/bcf). To order resources, call 1-888-346-3862 or visit [www.umcgiving.org](http://www.umcgiving.org).

ened, the family failed to cope. Tsikira was left with an unpaid fees balance in the middle of his third year. Desperate, he appealed to the university for additional financial aid.

What kept Tsikira in school was support from contributions by local companies to a fund for needy students. In July 2009, Tsikira was chosen as one of five final-year students to receive full scholarships from the Delta Corp., a leading Zimbabwean drinks manufacturer.

"I have a personal testimony of God's favor, and I appreciate the importance of others in my life," Tsikira said.

More than 300 received degrees at United Methodist-related Africa University's sixteenth graduation ceremony.

The class of 2010 included 248 undergraduate and 101 graduate degree recipients. With 21 African countries represented, it is the most diverse graduating class in the institution's history. It includes 39 graduates who make up the school's first class of masters of intellectual property.

Many of the students said the economic upheaval in Zimbabwe drew them closer together, unleashed incredible

**Africa University is supported by congregations and individuals across The United Methodist Church. Your church's 100% apportionment remittance means 100% support of the university's operational budget. You can also give to the Africa University Endowment Fund (World Service Special Gift #03-01-88). Interest income from the endowment is used to provide scholarships for AU students. For more information, contact the AU Development Office at 615-340-7438; [audevoffice@gbhem.org](mailto:audevoffice@gbhem.org). Visit their Web site at [www.support-africauniversity.org](http://www.support-africauniversity.org).**



Andra Stevens/Africa University

More than 300 graduates received degree certificates from Africa University on June 12. The Class of 2010 represents 21 African countries, the most diverse graduating class in the institution's history.

generosity, and fostered in them both perseverance and humility.

Jaykumar Piprotar, an accounting major, said, "The change from paying fees in Zimbabwe dollars to [paying in] U.S. dollars was a real challenge for my parents. Finances were hard from my second to third year at university and in my fourth year, I got financial assistance." Piprotar was honored with the Zimre Prize, awarded to the best overall graduating student, and several other prizes for academic excellence.

Lucy Nyamupanedengu, a graduate student in the Institute of Peace, Leadership, and Governance, faced similar difficulties.

"Sometimes I started the semester late because we couldn't raise the fees," Nyamupanedengu said. "It was a struggle, but it was worth it. The fact that you can discuss subjects with people from different countries enabled me to get deeper insights into what other countries have gone through and this has enriched my experiences."

"What you have gained must not only be of benefit to you, but also to your community, country, and continent," said Thomas W. Cole Jr., president emeritus of Clark Atlanta University and a former member of the Africa University board of directors.

In his commencement address, Cole said, "Remember that you will also be a part of this institution, and it will always be a part of you. Make your contribution because you inherited a legacy from others who gave you strength to reach this point and to change the world."

Speaking on behalf of the Class of 2010, Joe Samalenge, Democratic Republic of Congo, called on his fellow graduates to give back to Africa University.

"It is not enough to go out there and be ambassadors of Africa University and market it," he said. "Rather, what really matters is for us to stretch out our hands and reach out to our fellow students who have remained behind. It is my wish that we come together

## Upcoming Events

### New DS/DCM Training Event

Aug. 29 - Sept. 3, 2010

Lake Junaluska, N.C.

### Study of Ministry Commission

Oct. 4-6, 2010

Nashville, Tenn.

### Fall Board Meeting

October 7-9, 2010

Nashville, Tenn.

and build a scholarship fund for the needy students who are struggling to raise fees.”

This year's graduates joined more than 3,000 Africa University alumni/ae at work in communities across the continent.

*Stevens is director of information and public affairs at Africa University.*

## First Clergywomen's Consultation in Philippines

Organizers of the first national clergywomen's gathering to be held in the Philippines plan to use the event as a chance to gather information about issues facing clergywomen and determine how many women clergy are in the country.

“We are excited as we look forward to the first women clergy seminar and consultation,” said Bishop Rodolfo Juan, episcopal leader of the Baguio Area. “We claim that this historic event will be a time for bonding and fellowship, learning and equipping, and most of all, spiritual revival!”

The Rev. HiRho Park, director of Continuing Formation for Ministry, Division of Ordained Ministry, said the

event will celebrate, strengthen, and advance clergywomen's leadership ministries in the Philippines. The planning team met June 14-15 at Tarlac State University in Tarlac City, Philippines.

“We don't know how many clergywomen there are in the Philippines, so first we are gathering contact information and sending out a survey to determine what particular issues clergywomen there face,” Park said. Park said the survey will be sent out by the district superintendents.

Park said Priscilla Viuya, president of Tarlac State University and an elected member of GBHEM, arranged to host the planning team's meeting. Park said Viuya's direct involvement in planning the event furthered the goal of more collaboration between GBHEM directors and staff.

Viuya said she hopes the event will renew the clergywomen's desire for growth in their ministry.

“This really should inspire them to rise up as capable ministers of faith, to intentionally level out and learn the necessary and emerging skills needed in today's times and to lead on and minister with renewed confidence and greater awareness of what they can possibly do as women clergy,” Viuya said, adding that she also hopes activities related to the growth of the clergywomen's ministries in the Philippines will continue after the event.

The Rev. Nerissa Palafox, chair of the team planning the event, said the team requests prayers and is praying for “guidance, best of health, inspiration, and success in all our visions.”

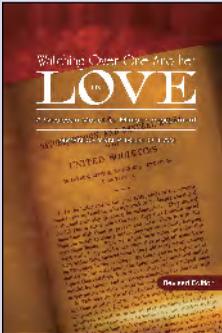
“I am really looking forward with anticipation to networking, a coaching partnership, and developing a directory for the Philippines clergywomen,” Palafox said.

Working toward the possibility of electing a woman bishop was one of the



The design team for the first clergywomen's consultation in the Philippines met June 14-15 to begin planning the 2011 event. Shown, from left: Dr. Priscilla Viuya, the Rev. Ester Nasayao, the Rev. Irene Respuesto, the Rev. Joshana Aben, the Rev. HiRho Park, the Rev. Nerissa Palafox, the Rev. Nehemia Allera, the Rev. Ednaly Guillermo, and Arlyn Angco, director, Office of Alumni Affairs at Tarlac State University. Design team members not shown: the Rev. Luz B. Dado, the Rev. Elizabeth Bautista, and the Rev. Flora Pajarillo.

## New Releases

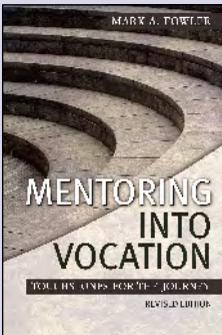


### Watching Over One Another in Love: A Wesleyan Model for Ministry Assessment – Revised Edition

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This popular book, first released in 2007, draws on Wesleyan themes of grace and responsibility to offer a covenant-based model for ministry assessment grounded in mutual support and accountability that edifies both pastor and congregation. Additional material in this revised edition reflects feedback the author received since the book was first released.

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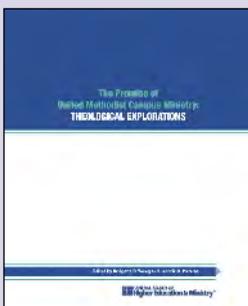
### Mentoring Into Vocation: Touchstones for the Journey – Revised Edition

By Mark A. Fowler

Updated to reflect changes made by the 2008 General Conference and with a new introduction, this book provides a comprehensive framework for guiding people into ordained and lay vocations from the perspective of United Methodist polity and theology.

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The two books listed above are available from Cokesbury at [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com) or toll free 1-800-672-1789.



### The Promise of United Methodist Campus Ministry: Theological Explorations

This new electronic book from GBHEM—with six essays from campus ministers, chaplains, theologians, historians, and agency staff—explores the role of campus ministry in providing vital insights for United Methodists in interpreting and living their mission and ministry in a rapidly changing world. *The Promise of United Methodist Campus Ministry:*

*Theological Explorations* resulted from a consultation on campus ministry hosted by GBHEM in 2009. It is available as a free download at [www.gbhem.org/publications](http://www.gbhem.org/publications).

topics discussed by the planning team, as well as the need for professional development opportunities, improved technology, and self-care, Park said.

“Europe has a woman bishop, so does Africa, and there are many women bishops in the United States, but none in the Philippines,” Park said.

The theme of the event will be “Clergywomen: Lift up . . . Level Out . . . and Lead On!” The site has not been selected, but the event will be held Oct. 5-11, 2011. GBHEM has committed to providing \$10,000 in funding for the event.

“We hope to be able to lift up the contributions of clergywomen in the Philippines, affirm their leadership, strengthen their network, and nurture their support system,” Park said.

—Vicki Brown

## Higher Education Institute Focuses on Educating Moral Leaders in World of Poverty

The role of United Methodist higher education in developing moral leaders in a world of poverty was the theme of the 2010 Institute of Higher Education in Santa Fe, N.M., in June.

The meeting, held June 16-18, was the third in a series that relates to global ethics, said Wanda Bigham, assistant general secretary of Schools, Colleges, and Universities in the Division of Higher Education. “The first was a general overview; last year we dealt with social justice; this year was poverty; and next year we will talk about leadership in the area of the environment.”

“We are trying to get beyond the band-aids that we apply to these problems and consider how the students and faculty at our educational institutions



Chaplains, church relations directors, faculty members, and college presidents who attended the 2010 Institute of Higher Education in Santa Fe, N.M., June 16-18.

can be a part of creating real solutions,” she added.

David Trickett, president of Iliff School of Theology, told the 44 chaplains, faculty members, church relations directors, and college presidents attending the meeting that one of the gifts of higher education “is the ability to think with sophisticated complexity, and to turn those reflections into behaviors that can actually make a difference.”

Trickett, in the opening address, warned that students see the whole structure of power and authority quite differently than many leaders in the faith and education communities.

“They [students] actually bring a commitment to service, to involvement in the wider community, that seeks to move past the ‘drive-by’ prophetic stance; indeed, they don’t want so much to lambast ideologies as very practically to change material—and, if we’re lucky, also emotional and spiritual—landscapes for the better,” Trickett said.

“What can we in higher education do to help the already-committed student populations we serve navigate the path forward?” he asked.

Trickett said General Electric developed a worldwide culture of excellence by naming, measuring, and perpetuating five key things: keep an external focus, think clearly, embody imagination and courage, promote inclusiveness, and develop expertise that is relevant.

“Don’t let our reference points be merely within the confines of academic rigor as traditionally understood; realize, among other things, that life is often messy and blurs categories—and if we support cross-disciplinary thinking and acting that sees education as a vehicle of privilege that is here not to serve itself but the wider world abroad, then we are contributing helpfully,” Trickett said.

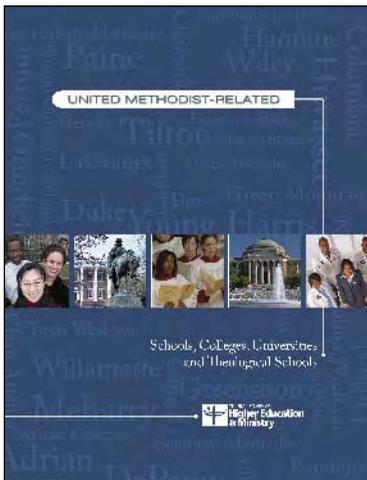
—Vicki Brown

## Hot Off the Press: New Guidebook Profiles UM-related Institutions

A new guidebook that provides a wealth of information about the 121 United Methodist-related schools, colleges, universities, and UM theological schools should help high school students easily compare tuition, degrees awarded, and possible financial aid.

*The Guidebook of United Methodist-Related Schools, Colleges, Universities, and Theological Schools* will be useful for students, pastors, youth leaders, and parents who want to learn more about United Methodist-related educational institutions.

“We hope local churches and youth leaders will make this book available to high school students to help with their college selection process,” said Wanda Bigham, assistant general secretary of Schools, Colleges, and Universities in



the Division of Higher Education. “The snapshot of information about each institution will help students find one of our colleges or universities that is the best fit for their journey.”

In addition to information about the 98 United Methodist-related colleges, the guidebook contains a sketch of the 13 United Methodist theological schools, and the 10 college preparatory schools. Each institution’s Web site, as well as contact information for the admission office, a list of degrees offered, and information about religious life on campus, residence halls, and sports are all included.

## Mark Your Calendar

### World Communion Sunday

October 3, 2010

### Fall Board Meeting

October 7-9, 2010  
Nashville, Tenn.

### United Methodist Student Day

November 28, 2010

For information on the Special Sundays with offerings and to order resources, visit [umcgiving.org](http://umcgiving.org).

A depiction of the student body is included: undergraduate and graduate enrollment, racial/ethnic enrollment, as well as what percentage of the students are male or female.

Order online for \$5.00 at [www.cokesbury.com](http://www.cokesbury.com) or call 1-800-672-1789.

## Coming Soon: Online Resourcing for Boards of Ordained Ministry, District Committees

A variety of resources for those who work with candidates for ordained ministry will soon be available on the Ordained Ministry section of the GBHEM Web site.

“We want to make training materials and other resources easily accessible in a variety of formats,” said the Rev. Sharon Rubey, director of Candidacy and Conference Relations in the Division of Ordained Ministry. “Also, using the Web site rather than printing the materials means we can quickly post new materials as developed and more easily update materials with any changes.” Any changes in the process approved by General Conference delegates result in *Book of Discipline* changes that must be reflected in candidacy materials.

The resources—which include PowerPoint presentations, training outlines and models with related materials for those events, and frequently asked questions about the various aspects of candidacy will be posted on the Boards of Ordained Ministry page, [www.gbhem.org/bom](http://www.gbhem.org/bom).

“Most of these resources have been used during both national and regional training events for Boards of Ordained Ministry, candidacy mentors, candidacy registrars, and district Committees, and

we are frequently asked for copies,” Rubey said.

“This puts all these materials just a click away for those who work with candidates for ordained ministry,” she said.

Among the most-requested materials are a PowerPoint presentation that gives detailed instructions for the online candidacy enrollment system, a PowerPoint that highlights how a candidate relates to various annual conference officials and committees as he or she works toward provisional status, and frequently asked questions about the process.

## Prospective Presidents Workshop Identifies Leaders

The third annual Workshop for Prospective Presidents, sponsored by the Division of Higher Education, was held April 21-23, 2010, in Charleston, S.C. Thirteen prospective presidents, nominated by current college presidents of the United Methodist-related higher education institutions were selected for participation in this event. Most of those selected are currently vice presidents or deans at private and public colleges and universities.

The Prospective Presidents Workshop has been held each year since 2008. Its purpose is to identify and develop a pool of leaders from which future presidents of United Methodist-related institutions might come. Staffed by current and former presidents of United Methodist-related colleges and universities and DHE staffers, the workshop consists of sessions on the characteristics of United Methodist-related educational institutions, the qualities needed for leadership, and the process of selection of a president.

Prior to the current year, 36 individuals have participated, and four of them have been selected for presidencies in the United Methodist network. The program also has as its purpose helping individuals to discern whether the presidency is the right path for them, and some have determined they did not want to be presidents. Since there is an average 10 percent turnover of the 121 CEOs in the United Methodist network each year, it is helpful to have information from and personal interaction with those who may be ready to be nominated for presidencies.

For more information, contact the Division of Higher Education at the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry.

## Lord Elected Associate General Secretary of Division of Higher Education

Gerald D. Lord has been elected associate general secretary of the Division of Higher Education of the General Board

of Higher Education and Ministry. His appointment was effective July 1.

The Rev. Dr. Lord has served for the past 19 years at the Commission on Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, in Atlanta.

General Secretary Jerome King Del Pino nominated Lord after an extensive search process, and board members elected him to the position in May. His bishop, Hope Morgan Ward, has approved the appointment.

"I am delighted that Dr. Lord has accepted this position of leadership of the Division of Higher Education and

## Second Methodist Global Education Consultation Held in Costa Rica



Twenty-seven participants, representing nine Methodist Churches and their educational institutions, as well as staff of COGEIME, the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry, Association of Methodist Educational Institutions in Latin America (ALAIME), World Methodist Council, and Development Associates International, a nonprofit that partners with GBHEM to conduct leadership training seminars, attended the June 15-18 meeting in San Juan, Costa Rica. A committee to advance the planning of future projects and meetings related to the educational partnership between GBHEM and the General Council of the Methodist Institutions of Education (COGEIME) was appointed at the Second Methodist Global Education Consultation in Central America. "The Methodist Church and educational leaders in Central America have created a strong sense of unity and ownership in planning and implementing a common vision and prioritization for the improvement and strengthening of Methodist Churches and their educational institutions that generate future dynamic leaders in Central America," said Ken Yamada, special assistant to the General Secretary of GBHEM for Global Education and New Initiatives.



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will contribute to the fulfillment of The United Methodist Church's worldwide mission in higher education," Del Pino said. "He brings significant experience and expertise that will assist our schools, colleges, and universities in achieving their mission as United Methodist-related institutions."

Lord is vice president at the Commission on Colleges, the unit of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools responsible for the accreditation of approximately 800 post-secondary degree-granting institutions in an 11-state southern region. Prior to his tenure with the Commission on Colleges, he held faculty and administrative appointments at Emory University's Candler School of Theology. He was on the



faculty at the University of Tennessee prior to serving at Candler.

He earned his M.Div. and a Ph.D. in religion at Emory University, an M.A. in

political science at the University of Tennessee, and a B.A. in political science and music at Millsaps College in Jackson, Miss. He is an ordained elder and member in full connection in the Mississippi Annual Conference and an affiliate member of the North Georgia Annual Conference. Active in church and civic affairs, he has served on numerous boards throughout his career.

"I am honored and delighted to be chosen to serve the church and church-related higher education in this capacity," Lord said. "It is a logical extension of my career thus far and a continuing response to my calling. I look forward to engaging the challenges of this important work."