

Academe

Celebrating Academic Leadership and Christian Scholarship



PRIME BLENDS EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE

PRIME

OVERVIEW

A unique part of the Huntington University Educational Ministries program is the PRIME Experience (Practical Research and Immersion through Ministry Effectiveness). The PRIME Experience occurs during the students' senior year in which they are immersed into field ministry settings for seven months, from May to December. Students who elect the educational ministries or youth ministries major must plan schedules carefully in order that the summer and fall immediately following their junior year may be devoted to this field ministry immersion. To be allowed to participate in the field ministry immersion, students must have completed specific courses within the Ministry and Missions and Bible and Religion departments, designed to give them a solid base of practical and biblical knowledge. During the PRIME experience, this knowledge is tested as the students participate in the stretching internships.

Playing sports, watching movies and taking road trip adventures sounds more like a summer vacation than an internship. But for Huntington University senior Josh Wood, it's all part of the job.

Wood, a youth ministry major from Mishawaka, Ind., is serving at First Baptist Church in Naples, Fla., as a high school ministry intern. Wood is interning there for his PRIME (Practical Research and Immersion through Ministry Effectiveness) experience, a seven-month immersion into ministry that all Huntington University ministry majors participate in during their senior year.

"There is a certain level of learning that must come with experience. My classes have helped me in certain areas of teaching and relating with students. During the time I have spent at Huntington, I have been pleasantly surprised with the overall mindset that I gained for how I approach situations in which there is no textbook answer."

Wood started serving in January and will stay through July. He helps with everything from keeping attendance records to creating and organizing events. "I also assist the youth pastor in preparing for the weekly services and planning for future events," Wood said. "We have different programs that reach students who are at every level of spirituality. We cover everything from people who claim there is no God to those who are the utmost quality of disciples."

But Wood's favorite part of his PRIME experience has been what he gains from working with the high school students. "They are all fun to be with," he said. "We play sports, eat, watch movies and just hang out together. Oftentimes, these informal meetings turn into deep meaningful discussions." Wood's favorite student memory to date was a road trip experience that provided time for some great talks with

students.

"We traveled to Orlando for the local high school's state championship girls' basketball game," he said. "It was only supposed to be a two and a half hour drive, but it took us over five hours to get there. We made it in time for the last three minutes of the game, turned around and came back. While on the trip, we talked about how we can be more effective at reaching their school for Christ and laughed and joked the whole time. It was a great quality road trip."



Josh Wood

Wood said his PRIME experience has taught him a great deal about how much youth ministry depends on the volunteer staff.

"The ministry cannot be built upon the pastor," he said. "It must be built upon the individual as being a part of the body of Christ. The leaders are very influential. If there is a bad leader, then that person can in turn hurt the progress of our students."

While Wood appreciates how his Huntington University classes and professors prepared him for youth ministry, he is most grateful for their emphasis on experience along with textbook knowledge.

"I think the number one thing that my professors and classes have helped me with was equipping me with the mindset that even after I finish all the courses and everything, I will not know it all," he said. "There is a certain level of learning that must come with experience. My classes have helped me in certain areas of teaching and relating with students. During the time I have spent at Huntington, I have been pleasantly surprised with the overall mindset that I gained for how I approach situations in which there is no textbook answer."

For Wood, his PRIME experience has confirmed his calling to youth ministry.

FACULTY & STAFF NEWS & NOTES



• Business professor **Dr. Ann McPherran** has been appointed to vice president for university planning and strategy. McPherran will report directly to the president and will be part of the

Senior Leadership Team. As a vice president, she will be responsible for the coordination, development, implementation and monitoring of the new strategic plan and process. Serving as vice president one-half time, McPherran will continue as professor of business and economics, teaching six hours each semester.

• **Dr. Jack Heller**, assistant professor of English, participated in a seminar panel on “Shakespeare and the Reformation” at the 2006 meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America on April 13-15, 2006. The paper he presented is titled “Inscrutable Grace in ‘Much Ado about Nothing,’” extending on an earlier work he had done on the same play.

• **Dr. Paul E. Michelson**, distinguished

professor of history, has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities for a five-week NEH summer seminar on “Venice, the Jews, and Italian Culture.” He also recently gave papers on “The Future of Romanian Studies” at the Romanian Culture Institute in New York and on “Nationalism and Nationality Issues under Carol I, 1866-1914” at the 11th World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities, held at Columbia University.

• **Dr. Jeffrey Webb**, associate professor of history, was selected for inclusion in the 10th edition of “Who’s Who Among America’s Teachers, 2005/2006.” Selection is limited to teachers who have been nominated by students listed in “Who’s Who Among American High School Students,” The National Dean’s List, or The Chancellor’s List, and students may nominate only one teacher from their entire high school and college career. Webb was nominated by a Huntington University Department of History alumnus.

• **Dr. Cindy Steury**, associate professor of education, recently was elected to the Board of Directors of Resourcing Christian Education

International. RCE International serves educational ministries to reach the world for Christ. Steury attended the spring RCE International meeting on April 22, 2006, in Wheaton, Ill.

• **Prof. Rebecca Coffman**, professor of art, had two of her works chosen to be a part of a national exhibit at Pewabic Pottery in Detroit, Mich. The exhibition is titled “Teapots: Universal Adoration” and runs from May 19 to July 14, 2006. The opening reception will be held on May 19, 2006, from 6 to 8 p.m. For more information, visit www.pewabic.org.

• **Prof. Bryan Ballinger**, visiting instructor of digital media arts, had an entry accepted into Animago, a European Computer Graphics Festival, in the Robots category. To see his work, visit http://www.animago.com/animagoeng/06_details.asp?KAT=2;3;1;28;297. Ballinger also has a new children’s book titled “Barney Backhoe Loves to Build” for which he provided illustrations. See http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0762426314/sr=8-2/qid=1146502731/ref=sr_1_2/104-3747147-1479105?%5Fencoding=UTF8.

STUDENT LEARNS LESSONS ABOUT GOD, LIFE IN IRELAND *Study program teaches more than cultural awareness*

For Huntington University junior Erin Hudson, studying in Ireland this semester was much more than a cultural experience abroad. It was a way to connect with her family heritage. Both sides of Hudson’s family immigrated to the United States from Ireland during the devastating potato famine of the 19th century.



“I’ve always had the desire to travel to Ireland,” said Hudson, a psychology major from Rockville,

Ind. “I guess it mainly has to do with my family ancestry.” As a guest student with Taylor University’s Irish Studies program, Hudson studied in Greystones in County Wicklow, a tiny town south of Dublin and near the harbor. Hudson lived with other students in a YWCA Conference Center which had two houses and a classroom.

She took several classes this semester. Early on, she studied Celtic Christianity and Irish History.

During the rest of her semester, she took classes in Irish Literature, Irish Drumming,

Irish Dancing and Living Cross Culturally. “For most of our classes we take field trips to the actual sites where events occurred,” she said. “For example, we just got back from a trip to Northern Ireland and visited the places where Bloody Sunday happened.”

“We visited Belfast, and it is heart wrenching to see the hatred that exists between Protestants and Catholics,” she added. “It has gotten better than years past. However, the barbed wire, the political murals and the peace wall which divides the communities give a depressing aura to the whole town. It was hard for me to see how fallen and horrible the world can be and how cruel humans can be to each other.”

After seeing the tragic side of Irish history, Hudson found hope in the beauty of Ireland itself. “We visited the Giant’s Causeway and hiked along the cliffs, and it was just amazing how we could see God’s power, greatness and hope through His creation,” she said. “From seeing His power, it really gave me a sense of hope that we are not limited to our fallenness. We can have the courage and reassurance that God is in control.”

But in the midst of all her history lessons and Irish cultural experiences, Hudson also finds she has learned much about God. “This trip has just opened my eyes and made me see the world as a much bigger place,” she said. “While at

the same time, I have learned no matter where I am in the world God is always there. I never really thought before how scary it can be to go to a different place and culture where I did not know anyone. However, throughout this trip God has just showed me that He is right there anytime I call on Him. This trip has made me realize how much I really need Him in my life.”

Hudson’s awareness of her need for Christ was reinforced by her experiences in Ireland.

“I have learned especially how important it is to have a relationship with Christ,” she added. “In Ireland many youth today don’t go to church and don’t have an interest in the church. When we visited St. Patrick’s Cathedral, the tour guide ladies were so touched by our presence. They commented again and again how the youth of today don’t come to church. It seems that faith here is based more on works than on a relationship.”

For Hudson, the decision to spend a semester in Ireland has been well worth it, culturally and spiritually.

“It really has been such a growing experience, not just through learning so much more about a different culture, but also learning more about my relationship with God,” she said.

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

Women's Tennis: The Foresters concluded their spring season with a 6-3 loss to Cedarville University, but with a couple of breaks could have easily turned the match around. With the loss, the Foresters finish the year with a 10-10 record.

Men's Tennis: Although most matches were competitive, Cedarville University disposed of the Foresters 8-1 in HU's final match of the year. The Foresters conclude the season with a record of 6-10.

Track & Field: The Foresters competed in the Mid-Central Conference Championships on April 28-29, 2006, and the men finished fifth with 69 points and the women were sixth with 93.5.

Baseball: The Mid-Central Conference announced its baseball awards for the 2005-06 season. Two Huntington University Foresters, sophomore Korey Grow and junior Andy Janzen, received All-Conference honors. Grow was one of four outfielders to be selected, and Janzen was the top third baseman in the MCC.

Softball: The Mid-Central Conference announced its softball awards for the 2005-06 season. Three Huntington University Foresters, senior Kaley Fode, sophomore Kendra Stahl and freshman Lauren Ward, were among the list of honorees.

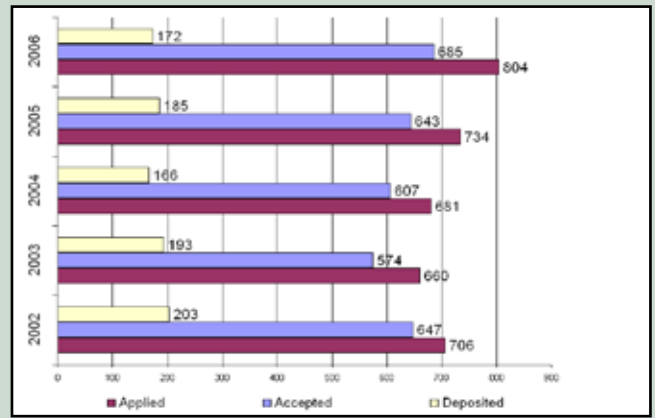
Golf: Heading into the third and final round of play at the NAIA Region VIII tournament, the Foresters were in fifth place, but just 10 strokes out of second. Unfortunately, HU carded a 322 for the last 18 holes and dropped to sixth in the final standings with a score of 961.

For news and up-to-date results of Forester Athletics, visit www.huntington.edu/athletics.



Sophomore Korey Grow was chosen by the MCC for All-Conference honors. He was one of four outfielders to be selected.

ADMISSIONS UPDATE



The chart above summarizes the number of prospective students who have applied and been accepted to Huntington University for the fall 2006 semester. The bars represent year-to-date comparisons over the past five years.

ADVANCEMENT UPDATE

As many know, the Advancement Office has been missing staff member, Rich McConnell. Rich continues down the path of healing from bypass surgery in March. He indicates he is following doctor's orders and is working to regain strength and stamina on a daily basis. He and Linda have appreciated your many prayers, cards and notes.

AROUND CAMPUS...

- Huntington University's first Grandparent's Day was held April 25, 2006. One hundred thirteen grandparents traveled from as far away as Pennsylvania and North Carolina to have lunch in the Habecker Dining Commons, tour the campus, as well as attend class and chapel with their grandchildren.

- Huntington University hosted its first "Global Night Commute" on April 29, 2006. The "Global Night Commute" is an event sponsored by the organization Invisible Children. The purpose of the organization and the event is to bring awareness to the "invisible children" of Africa. **Timothy Lee Taylor**, an alumnus of Huntington University from Kokomo, Ind., has been involved with the organization. Through him, sophomore **Tiffany Seiter**, a broadcasting major from Ashland, Ohio, was able to view the "Invisible Children" film. Seiter decided to try a campus-wide event to support the cause. The night began with a symbolic walk throughout campus and downtown Huntington, remembering the children who walk every night. Participants also wrote letters to President George W. Bush and Indiana's state legislators to express their concern and encourage the government to help Africa's children.

- In July, the Huntington University Department of Theatre Arts will host its inaugural Huntington University Summer Theatre Youth Camp. From

June 26 to July 21, campers ages 6 to 15 will learn basic theatrical training from theatre professionals and perform a fully produced musical theatre production. This summer's performance will be a junior version of the "Music Man" in which every camper will have a part. For more information, call Mike Burnett at (260) 359-4279. To obtain a registration form, call the Merillat Centre for the Arts Box Office at (260) 359-4261.

- Huntington University sophomore **Alicia Pyle** was selected as the featured pianist for the 2006 Fort Wayne Philharmonic Gala: A Grand Night for Music. Pyle, a piano performance major from Fort Wayne, Ind., was invited to be a part of the event by the Fort Wayne Philharmonic Friends.

- Jenna Rodgers** was named Female Forester of the Year. **Andy Vaught** was named Male Forester of the Year. **Chad Pryor** received the prestigious Alpha Chi Award, given to an outstanding senior in the Huntington University Alpha Chi Honor Society and voted on by fellow Alpha Chi members. For the Outstanding Senior Awards, faculty chose one outstanding senior from their respective departments and then presented a plaque to the individual on Forester Night. Departmental recipients include **Lynsi Griffin** (fine arts), **Andy Vaught** (Bible and religion), **Emily Padilla** (biology), **Christi Shook** (business and

economics), **Amber Bowman** (chemistry), **Jeff Blossom** (communication), **Andrew Porterfield** (computer science), **Amanda Cline** (education), **Jonathan Stotts** (English and modern languages), **Kevin Krauskopf** (history and political science), **Ryan Darr** (mathematics), **Amy Cherry** (ministry and missions), **Rusty Eshleman** (music), **Nate Wood** (philosophy), **Ashley Gonterman** (physical education), **Betsey Bean** (exercise science), **Jennifer Pettit** (recreation management), **Tina Fox** (psychology), **Emily Smith** (sociology) and **Becca Rodgers** (theatre arts). Student Senate president **Ryan Darr** passed the gavel to **Justin Miller**. **Katie Jo Brown** won the Student Senate Impact Initiative Scholarship. Professor of the Year was **Dr. Mary Ruthi**, professor of sociology.



Students celebrate the annual Forester Night by dressing up as a favorite actor or character, including some of the cast and even a prop from "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe."

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			10 Semester Exams	11 Semester Exams	12 50-year Reunion/ 5:30 p.m.	13 Baccalaureate/ 10:30 am Commencement/3 pm
14	15	16	17 Summer Classes Begin	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 NAIA National Track & Field Championships/ 9 am (A)	26 NAIA National Track & Field Championships/ 9 am (A)	27 NAIA National Track & Field Championships/ 9 am (A)
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31	1	2 3-Credit Summer Classes End	3
4	5	6	7	<i>For a detailed calendar of campus events, visit www.huntington.edu/calendar.</i>		

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

This month, our campus concludes its first year as a University. The 2005-2006 school year has been a milestone in our growth and development as an institution of higher education. It has been a year of continuity and change. While we have continued to pursue our historic mission in Christian higher education, we have also embraced change so we can accomplish our mission more effectively. With the hard work and dedication of many individuals on campus, we have truly built upon our past successes and made strategic preparations for the future.

It has been a hallmark year in many respects. We have made a number of advances in broadening our curriculum and expanding our reach. Huntington University received a vital \$100,000 grant for our new nursing program from Parkview Huntington Hospital. Our new social work program achieved candidacy status from the Council on Social Work Education. Other new undergraduate programs in worship leadership, digital media arts and sports ministry continue to grow and develop, and our Master of Education program shows much promise. Huntington University opened its first "branch campus" for the EXCEL Program in Columbia City. These are strategic changes that will help Huntington University serve a greater number of students and continue to flourish as an institution of higher education.

Another important step forward was taken on April 21, 2006, when our Board of Trustees adopted a new Strategic Plan for Huntington University. The result of many months of work by our University Innovation Task Force, this new plan affirms our institutional priorities,

sets challenging goals and articulates key strategies for pursuing those goals.

The new Strategic Plan is founded upon our historic mission and offers a compelling vision for the future. The following excerpts describe that vision:

"The goal of Huntington University is to educate men and women to impact our world for Christ through high-quality, Christ-centered education. The University seeks to honor Christ through scholarship and service."

"It is our intent to provide a premier Christian college experience that integrates faith, learning and service. We will be a leading Christian university community of 2,000 students characterized by a strong national reputation for academic excellence, the ability to attract and retain outstanding faculty and staff, and high levels of satisfaction and engagement among students, faculty and staff."

"This is an ambitious goal which will require our innovative thinking and action to strengthen and expand high-potential academic programs, increase financial health and revenue, broaden reputation and consider alternative educational enterprises."

"The end result will be a University in the tradition of the liberal arts that is considered among the top CCCU institutions in the nation and one of the top Christian universities in the region. We will offer a highly personal environment in the midst of larger competing institutions. Students will consider tuition paid a



Dr. G. Blair Dowden
President of Huntington University

worthwhile investment. Huntington University will be known for a student-focused, Christ-centered campus, excellence and innovation in education, and a nurturing environment which encourages spiritual growth and faith-learning integration. Our graduates will be in demand in the marketplace and for entry into top graduate schools. And most importantly, our growth and development will allow us to more effectively impact the world for Christ."

I invite you to review the entire Strategic Plan online at <http://www.huntington.edu/slrp/lrp0510>. Please pray with us that God will guide and direct as we develop an exciting future for Huntington University.