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SAINT BONI
MIRACLE CAMPUS



BRIDGE

CROWN COLLEGE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



Julie Howe

EXTERNAL RELATIONS MANAGER

Mary Krupski

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT,
EXTERNAL RELATIONS

MEET US

JULIE + MARY

Julie has been part of External Relations for five years, and has grown to love Crown's community and mission. She is passionate about building relationships with alumni and friends of Crown. Julie is married to Dick, and while they love being parents to five children, they excel at being grandparents! She is active in her church and thrives on hosting gatherings and events. The Howes are always looking for adventure, traveling, playing golf, and fishing.

Mary has been married to Brian for 23 years and has three wonderful children. Allie is married and living in Minneapolis, Katey is a junior at Crown, and Joseph is a high school senior taking PSEO courses on campus. Mary loves to share Christ through hospitality, service, Bible studies, and prayer. After five years in the Admissions department of Crown, Mary has developed a great love for the Crown community and all the ways God is using our college to advance His Kingdom. While already embracing her role as part of the Crown family, she is looking forward to officially becoming a Crown alum when she graduates with an MA in Christian Studies next Spring.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

To paraphrase a popular contemporary writer — in every meeting there is the sorrow of parting; but in every parting there is some of the joy of meeting as well.

As you know, Kathy and I are finishing our eighth and last year at Crown. And I know for us, and I hope for you, there is in the parting some of the joy of meeting as well. We have memories too numerous filled with the joy of meeting many of you.

We are looking forward to spending more time with our children and grandchildren. Most likely our destination will be North Carolina where our daughter and her family live. I will certainly find something to do, but likely not as demanding as being the President of Crown.



But we also look forward to the future for Crown. I want you to join me in thanking our Lord for His sustaining hand of blessing on the college.

- › The college is experiencing its strongest financial condition ever.
- › New student on-campus enrollment jumped 13% this year, putting us among the top four Christian colleges in terms of percentage gain year-over-year.
- › Faculty and staff are working gladly with resilience to face the challenges of this year.
- › Recently, a Barna Group executive told us that he considers Crown “to be [one of the two] best examples of schools that are willing to pursue innovative means to ministry training.”

So please pray expectantly for the board as they undertake a careful and prayerful process to identify the next President.

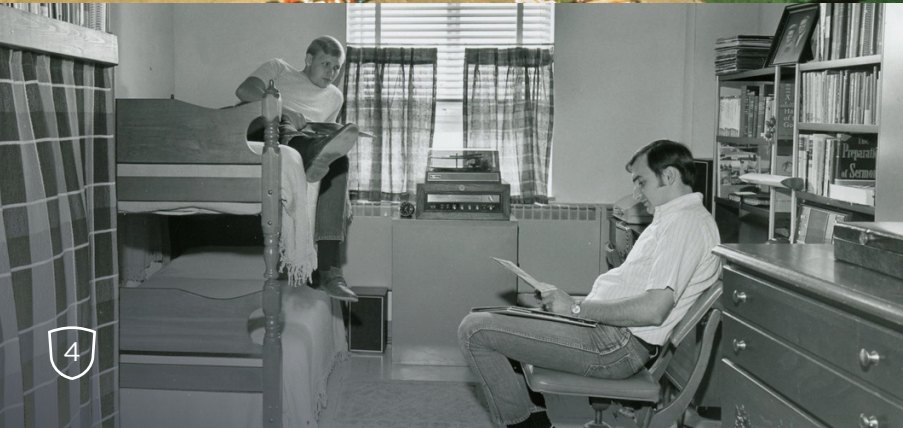
Joel Wiggins

PRESIDENT OF CROWN COLLEGE

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SAINT BONI
MIRACLE CAMPUS

crown.edu/50



50-YEAR CELEBRATION

MIRACLE CAMPUS

In 1916, a young man knocked on the door of J.D. Williams, a local pastor. The young man asked Williams to teach him the Bible — and Crown College was born. Originally named St. Paul Bible College because of the location in St. Paul, Minnesota, the institution was founded to prepare Christians to serve and influence the world.

The college went through name and location changes until settling in beautiful St. Bonifacius 50 years ago.

The move came with some challenges. First, the property was originally a Jesuit monastery, so there would need to be some modifications to go from an all-male complex to a co-ed Christian higher education campus. Second, the price was substantial. Purchasing 200+ acres in the Twin Cities metro is an expensive endeavor.

But God provided in the college's time of need. The Christian & Missionary Alliance district offered to buy what was the current property of St. Paul Bible College, which provided the down-payment funds.

Still, God was not finished. As Crown worked on fundraising to provide the additional money needed, God offered grace through the financial institution representing Crown. When there was uncertainty that the fundraising efforts would be sufficient, Midway National Banks' vice president said, "Don't worry, we'd honor the check even if the money was not there in time."

During this time, those who were present remember watching alumni and friends give sacrificially as they believed that God was doing something special. God gifted Crown with a miracle campus, and today, we still raise up and send out students of all types of vocations into the world for Kingdom change.

Over the next two years, our goal will be to raise one million dollars to improve our great campus. We know this is no small goal, but believe that God will provide. We plan to help more students to be able to afford college through a specific Fund the Gap scholarship campaign. We also want to improve the overall experience that students have on campus by updating our dorms, creating a premier learning space, and developing outdoor spaces where students can grow, study, and form deeper community. Lastly, we want to specifically look at the student-athlete experience by fixing our gym floor and the locker rooms.

All of these improvements cannot be made without the generosity of the Crown community. Whether you attended a few years ago or back when it was Saint Paul Bible College, we invite you to partake in this opportunity. Will you give the gift of education to the next generation, just as you had a chance to receive it?

God gave us a gorgeous campus 50 years ago; imagine what God will accomplish in the next 50 years!

CHANGE, RACE, + COMMUNITY

BY DR. BILL KUHN, VP OF STUDENT DEVELOPMENT AND
JOSIAH BONDY, CREATIVE / CONTENT STRATEGIST

“We are down on what we
are not up on.”

Bruce Wexler is professor emeritus at Yale University School of Medicine, and he studies the neuroplasticity of the brain — particularly how it relates to social norms and culture. He has discovered that we are prone to resist change. We all have a predisposition to prefer the familiar over the unfamiliar. We want to preserve the spaces/things/relationships that shape our lives. “We are down on what we are not up on.”

Wexler’s research suggests that we seek strong congruence of our inner and outer worlds. It shows that when information/people/events outside of the familiar come within our orb, we discount and dismiss the new information to protect our way of thinking.

This year, we received a jolt of unsettling news.

Ahmad Arbery was killed. Breonna Taylor was shot and killed in her home. Then, in eight minutes, 46 seconds of injustice on May 25, George Floyd cried, “I can’t breathe” until he couldn’t. These events set off a ripple of 450 major protests across the US and on three continents. This semester, we have been focusing on Going Deeper. Mya Hill and Chris

Strange shared their perspectives on the aftermath of the death of George Floyd during a chapel on community. “For me, it’s been challenging. It’s been tough. I’ve had different visions of my past,” comments alumnus and Crown Football coach Chris Strange. “Growing up as an African American, you learn about history, and you learn about Rosa Parks, Tillman, and all these people fighting for freedom, justice, and unity. Yet, they had to go through a lot of pain and hurt. As a kid, I was like, “I don’t know if I want to be Black ‘cause I don’t want to have to go through that.” It brought back these memories of me getting talked to like crazy by cops. So a lot of pain and a lot of hurts came back. It sucked to see that it’s still happening.

“I’m still healing from it. I am trying to run away from hatred because that’s not what we’re called to do; we’re called to love despite the challenges. In the Bible, it doesn’t say *if* you go through pain or hurt, it says *when* you face trials of many kinds. So we know that we’re going to face many challenges — this wasn’t a surprise to Jesus.”

Student leader Mya Hill added, “When I saw [the George Floyd murder] on TV — honestly, it happens so much that I was like “well, there goes another black man”

— which is terrible! I was upset. Angry. And the only thing that God was telling me was “you better not start hating people.”

“People are broken. We are the only ones who have the knowledge and the love of Christ, and we should not be afraid to go out and do what God has called us to do. We need to wake up, and we need to get to work. You get the privilege to be able to pour into and love somebody. That’s what we’re called to do.”

While we may affirm that all people are created equal, it doesn’t mean that all people are treated equally. This string of events should compel us to pause and reflect personally, culturally, and nationally. For many, we sense something isn’t right, but we don’t know what or where to begin. Black people feel misunderstood;



white people don’t know what to say. Some people are angry. Others, confused. All are uncomfortable with the discussion. Regardless of how unsettling it is, we must not remain silent.

But, before we talk, we must listen. Before we listen, we must elevate voices. Before we elevate voices, we must acknowledge.

As one of the ways to aid the institution in our multicultural, international, and diverse operations at Crown, we have hired a full-time Director of Intercultural Learning and Experiences (DILE). R. Oliver Ferguson began service as the DILE on September 14, 2020. His responsibilities include overseeing Destination Serve trips, supporting our international students, working with the Campus Mobilization Team, and assisting Crown with issues of diversity and inclusion.

We are glad to add Oliver to the team, and we are prayerful that we, too, may be an institution that fairly includes all individuals.

Oliver Ferguson

**DIRECTOR OF INTERCULTURAL LEARNING +
EXPERIENCES**

MODULES FOR THE MODERN AGE

----- 8 WEEKS -----

MOD ONE

MOD TWO

MOD THREE

----- 16 WEEKS -----

How can we best educate the next generation of leaders and influencers for Christ?

In the modern age, flexibility and focus are intrinsic to a student's success. We have looked at switching up the semester setup for a while, and this year's pause allowed us to dive deeper into this option.

So here's the change. There are now three modules in a semester: a combination of 8-week and 16-week modules.

Did we make this change because of COVID-19? No, but the pandemic surely moved the transition along. One short-term benefit of this switch is the precautionary option of being able to switch to remote learning if needed. We see this change as positive, both short-term and long-term. Here are some reasons why.

Classes are taught in the format and length that fits the course best. The old ways of education are just that — old. We are switching things up to provide the richest educational experience possible.

Students can focus on a few courses instead of juggling five or six all at once. Some classes will still be 16 weeks, but most students will focus on only two to three courses at a time.

On-campus aligns with Crown Online classes to provide more class options. We are always looking for ways to better serve students, and aligning our online and on-campus schedules means increasing the flexibility of course options.

VP of Academic Affairs, Dr. Scott Moats, comments on the change: "In a culture that values individual choice and personalization, Crown College wants to be real and relevant and meet the needs of this generation. We believe that student choice can enhance engagement, which in turn leads to greater learning."

This is the year of change. And we are taking advantage of the opportunity to rethink higher education. We are constantly thinking of our students, and we believe changes like these are advancing our commitment to fully equip students for their futures.

READY FOR THE STORM

BY

Peter Ingraham

ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR FOR MARKETING +
PUBLIC RELATIONS



For years, students at Crown have clamored for a mascot. We heard their voices, and we are pleased to announce "Storm" the Polar Bear, the new Crown College Athletics mascot. There has never been a November football game too cold for a polar bear, and "Storm" is the perfect mascot to define the toughness our student-athletes have shown repeatedly on the field and court. We are not afraid to embrace our location in the North Star state. Sticking with the Storm allows us to honor our legacy, with 18 years of growth under the name in which we joined the NCAA Division III and added several sports.

Along with the new mascot, we recently inked a five-year extension with BIG Athletics and Adidas to be the official apparel sponsor of Crown College Athletics. We can't wait to see the new Storm gear that comes out of that incredible partnership.

Since the mascot name changed to the Storm in 2002, Crown Athletics has had a variety of logos from varied Storm clouds to the simple Crown crest. However, picking the new mascot was not an easy task. After mulling over several options, weighing legacy against originality among several other factors, the panel made up of faculty, staff, and current students decided to stick with the Storm but add "Storm" the Polar Bear to our graphic arsenal.

We are so excited to have a new mascot and invite all alumni to attend future games (whenever possible) and look forward to continuing the department's growth in the future.

CROWN BEYOND NEWS



Barna

Barna Partnership

Crown College is the first higher education institution to enter into an Enterprise partnership with Barna. This partnership with Barna brings multiple opportunities to Crown College, most notably 300 interchangeable user-licenses for Barna Access Plus and webinars each semester with David Kinnaman, President of Barna. The first webinar will be hosted by Barna on October 29th and will be available to 3,000 people. Barna is co-branding marketing material with Crown College on this initiative. crown.edu/barna



Cultures of the Bible Free Online Course

Launching this fall will be a series of 13 mini-lessons on the Cultures of the Bible presented by Dr. John Holms, adjunct professor for Crown College in Omaha. This course explores the cultural practices, beliefs, geography, and chronology of the 12 Biblical cultures from Genesis to Revelation. The 13 mini-lessons will be delivered online over a period of 13 weeks. After the course has begun, participants can continue to register at any time for their 13-week course journey. Register for free at crown.edu/bible-backgrounds.

LAUNCH
RESIDENCY

Launch Multi-Church Residency Program

In partnership with several Alliance Southeast District churches in Florida, Launch is Crown College's first multi-church residency program. Residencies are crafted alongside approved churches in Florida to develop young, emerging leaders who are seriously considering long-term church ministry. The churches will provide a ministry stipend and host home or another safe, affordable option for resident housing. Alongside the residency experience, the students will pursue a Christian Ministry degree and an accelerated master's degree at an affordable price. Residency students will be in a multi-church cohort for peer encouragement, leadership development, and group coaching experiences.



Support Us

Would you join hands with Crown Online and Graduate Studies as we venture into new places? Please pray for God's hand of blessing as we seek to impact new audiences. We invite you to donate toward a project of interest, take advantage of our free courses, or expand your learning with additional academic coursework. The journey continues, and we need you to be a part of it! crown.edu/give

ALUMNI NEWS

Babies



Samuel Schmitt ('12) and **Lindsey (Burg '12)** celebrated the birth of their son, Leonidas Allen, on June 21, 2020.



Sara Moore (Spaulding '08) and her husband Andrew, welcomed their son, Miles William, on April 27, 2020.

Deaths

Cynthia Kay (Lord) Rast died at age 51 on December 18, 2019, in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Cindy graduated from St. Paul Bible College in **1991**. She and her husband, Joel, had been missionaries in Brazil for 22 years.

Louise May Colenso died on April 17, 2020. Louise was married to **Dick Colenso ('57)**. Louise faithfully served God as a pastor's wife and a missionary.

Jim Konold ('57) died on February 2, 2020.

We want to keep in touch

Moved? Changed jobs? Wedding, birth, or death in the family? Or do you just want to make sure we have the right information? You can update it at: crown.edu/update-info.

Celebrations



Scotti Moats, Chair of the Teacher Education Department, earned her Ph.D. in Higher Education! Fun fact – Scotti and her father, Scott Moats, both earned their Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota, both had the same advisor, and both earned the same degree!



Justin Winzenburg, Assistant Professor of New Testament and Greek, earned a Ph.D. in New Testament from the London School of Theology in the UK.



Melessa Henderson, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, earned her Ph.D. in Public Policy and Administration with an emphasis in criminal justice from Walden University.

Weddings

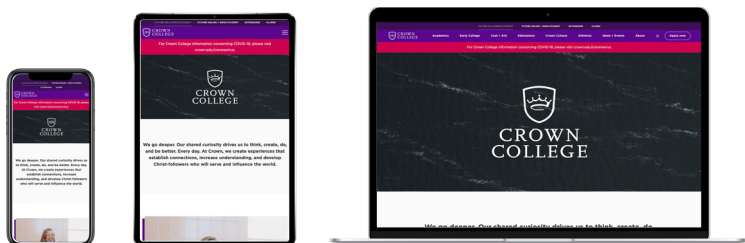
Hannah Leverich ('17) married Taylor Johnson on May 15, 2020.



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After many months of research, site map rebuilding, design modifications, and community feedback, Crown's newly renovated website has officially launched!



crown.edu