

August, 2007

Dear Friends,

August is on us, summer is nearly spent and fall looms large. It's been a fairly quiet summer here. We've been able to fit in some vacation time with good friends and get settled into our new home here in Wisconsin. Our son Connor is getting used to his new setting too. He's been meeting others in the neighborhood, at the gym and during football practice. April has spent most of the summer in Rochester and has already gone back to Colorado State in Ft. Collins for another year of school. She was anxious to see all her friends after a long summer. And yet, she has a heavy load of course work ahead of her this fall. Even though Kathy's yet to find a job that is a good fit for her, we're doing very well.



Things have slowed a bit in the President's Office too. President Alec Hill was in East Asia leading a group of InterVarsity donors and friends. They visited a few of our student ministry sites and projects. Late in the spring I was able to celebrate the re-instatement of our ministries at both Georgetown and the University of Wisconsin-Superior. This concluded a nine month process, working with our local staff, attorneys, and school administrations. Our student groups in both locations are now in a stronger position than before they were de-recognized as official groups on campus. At the same time, we've run into issues with the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I'm still working to resolve those issues before classes begin in a few days. In July, I attended a leadership seminar in Colorado as part of my Doctoral program and I found it immensely helpful. The content and the timing were absolutely perfect.



Sorority students at a recent Greek conference

The largest piece of news is another job change for me, although it is a temporary one. For about a year we've had an opening for a Vice President in one of our 7 departments (Advancement). The current Vice President for Strategic Ministries has been appointed to assume that open position. His move from Strategic Ministries creates an opening there. President Hill has asked me to serve as the interim Director for Strategic Ministries. Beginning in September I will leave the President's Office and begin to serve Strategic Ministries. This department has five distinct areas of specialized ministry including: Nurses Christian Fellowship, Evangelism, Greek (fraternity and sororities), International Students, and finally Staff Training.

This time of transition provides a unique window of opportunity for us. Our desire is to be as strategic and effective as possible as we pursue our Purpose, Vision and Mission.

How can we position ourselves for the future so that we can reach more students and faculty through our Strategic Ministries?

To address this question we have initiated a study and evaluation process to look at our current organizational structure. It is entirely possible that we'll leave the structure intact and we'll begin looking for a permanent Vice President and Director for Strategic Ministries. It's also possible that we'll consider some rearrangement of the structure. Until we have this study done and have implemented any changes, I will serve as the Director. It is my expectation that I'll return to my current role as Chief of Staff once this interim assignment is completed.

I greatly covet your prayers during these transitions of leadership. In particular, please pray for Strategic Ministries staff as they adjust to these changes. Pray for me as I shift roles. And pray for our Fellowship as a whole as we seek God's blessing on the calling we have received.

Thanks for your constant support and encouragement to us. It means more than you can know.



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A half million international students from 210 countries have come to the United States to study - most from the 10/40 Window, unreached people groups, restricted access and closed countries.