

Greetings from the Chancellor

Mac Lynn, Chancellor

My wife and I have travelled to many countries. We have seen the beauty of the majestic Alps, the expansive Sahara desert, wild animals in their natural habitat in Kenya, the ice fields of Greenland, and the lush vegetation of Hawaii. We have also been privileged to see human accomplishment, such as the remains of ancient Persian cities, the pyramids along the Nile, the bridges of



Seoul, the Roman forum, the temples of Athens, and the Eiffel Tower. But there is hardly a greater witness to God and his goodness than what meets us when our eyes open to greet each morning. From our own bedroom, we see silhouettes that begin to appear with the early morning sunrise. Gradually the silhouettes give way to greater details of God's creation. We hear singing birds, watch rabbits hop across the yard, and are fascinated with the playful squirrels that jump from limb to limb among the large trees. In summer, the spectacle is accented by colorful flowers. Oh, what a world! And, oh, what a God!

We are indeed blessed by God, who showers us with friends in over 140 nations. Although we may never have seen most of you face to face, we feel like we know every one of you. From time to time, you send greetings suited to the season. You express your gratitude for your studies with NationsUniversity. You demonstrate firm faith in God. You overwhelm us with your thoughtfulness and your expressions of love. Oh, what a world! We all belong to God!

As we approach the end of 2010, we extend to each of you a beautiful holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

Name the Newsletter

And the winner is . . .

The Voice of Nations, sent in by Kato David Kabiito of Uganda. David has been a student since 2009 and is working toward his Bachelor of Religious Studies. He will be featured in the next edition.

In June, we asked you to send in suggestions for renaming *The Student Newsletter*. More than 50 ideas were sent in, then narrowed down to three by the staff. From September to November, you, our students, cast your votes.

"We are so pleased with the response to and participation in this event," said Marty Lynn, Director of Student Services. "Having never done anything like this before, we couldn't be certain how it would work out. It is thrilling to know that our students are interested in being involved."

NationsUniversity appoints new president

On March 1, 2011, Dr. Alan Cooper will assume the role of president and C.E.O. of NationsUniversity.

Dr. Cooper and his wife, Lisa, have two grown sons. His educational experiences at Freed-Hardeman University, Sunset International Bible Institute, Harding University Graduate School of Religion, and Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies have prepared him academically. His work with "One Nation Under God" and several local churches across the U.S. and overseas has equipped him well for the task that lies ahead.



As president, Dr. Cooper will be responsible for funding the institution. As C.E.O., he will be charged with directing the school toward the fulfillment of its mission.

For the past three years, Dr. Mac Lynn has performed most of the functions that are assigned to a president. Dr. Lynn will continue as chancellor and Director of Academic Affairs.

Reflections: A journey

Marty Lynn, Director of Student Services

Life is like a journey. We begin with enthusiasm and excitement for exploring new paths. As we travel on, each of us meets new challenges. The road may be bumpy as we step on fear, doubt, anger, and disappointment. These difficulties may steal the enthusiasm for travel we felt in the beginning. We tend to focus on the trials rather than on the joy of the journey.

The same is true with your academic journey. You began with a great deal of excitement and enthusiasm. Somewhere along the path, you met a challenge, and

you may have become discouraged. So whether you are just beginning or well into your program, all of us can stand a bit of encouragement. If you feel like you've missed opportunities in the past, remember that today is always a new day. If one dream dies, then maybe it's time to dream a new dream. As the year comes to a close, we thank God for the encouraging testimonies you send that remind us of the importance of spreading God's love through His word.

And thank you for joining us on this journey!

The Voice of Nations

A Publication of
NATIONSUNIVERSITY®

P.O. Box 3342
Brentwood, TN 37024
www.nationsu.org

Mac Lynn

Chancellor & Director of Academics
macl@nationsu.org

Joe Sloan

Director of Fiscal, Legal, & Public Affairs
joes@nationsu.org

Marty Lynn

Director of Student Services
martyl@nationsu.org

Ernie Clevenger

Director of Technology
eclevenger@carehere.com

Hank Davis

Director of Public Relations
hankd@nationsu.org

Melanie Anderson

Public Information Manager
melaniea@nationsu.org

John Casteel

Director of Prison Enrollment
jac@nationsu.org

Anastasia Cullum

Student Services
student.services@nationsu.org

Joye Jacobus

Office Manager
exams@nationsu.org

Awny Jad'on

I.T. and Middle East
awny@nationsu.org

New Director of Student Services

Beginning January 1, 2011, Dr. Martell Souder will serve as Director of Student Services.

Dr. Souder will bring 36 years of teaching experience along with skills in leadership and curriculum development. She completed her Master of Arts in Education at Murray State University and received the Ed.D. in Leadership and Professional Practices from Trevecca Nazarene University.

Marty Lynn, who is vacating the position, will continue as the administrator over Student Services and can still be reached at the same e-mail address, martyl@nationsu.org.



Dr. Martell Souder

Our mission to Pokot and Turkana

Protus Sibukule, Kenya

Edited and printed with permission.

Earlier this year, my friend and I went out to evangelize in Pokot and Turkana in the Northern Rift Valley 350 km from our homes in Eldoret. These areas, especially Pokot, are war torn areas mainly known for cattle rustling. The people there had never heard about Jesus Christ. There are many orphans in this region.

The lessons I am receiving from NationsUniversity are very useful. I have been encouraged and blessed by them. In this regard, therefore, I prayed to God to help me reach to our brothers and sisters in Pokot and Turkana. I had visited there six years back, and as time progressed, more problems arose there. Many preachers were afraid to go to that area, but we really thank God for His grace and favour that we were able to visit and teach there.

We evangelized from house to house starting at the home of the area chief who, with his family, accepted the Lord. The chief then helped us to reach his people. By the end of our stay, 35 people had been baptized. We planted the first church ever in that region, and it now has 40 members. The challenge is that the church is so young and members need a lot of teaching. There are two brothers who are teaching and really doing well. We pray for God to help us reach more people who need the gospel.

Thank you very much to NU for the lessons and the impact they have made on my life. My purpose now is to share this with others.



Protus baptizing a young man who was once a Pokot warrior.

News and Announcements

Portfolios. Beginning in January, 2011, you will be required to keep ALL of your written assignments in a portfolio. Your portfolio may be a file on your computer or a paper notebook (for incarcerated students).

When you come across an assignment that instructs you to write something, then you will want to keep that assignment in a file and label it (course number, module number, unit, etc.). Your portfolio of written assignments will be reviewed by a professor or staff member near the end of your program.

If you have questions about this new procedure, please contact your advisor.

Spiritual Inventory. The Spiritual Inventory is NOT an exam but rather a measure which is for your own personal growth. The highest score possible is 75, but this score has no bearing on your GPA.

The entry for Spiritual Inventory on your user report will always show an incomplete. This is necessary to prevent the score from appearing on your official transcript and the score from affecting your grade point average.

Accreditation Progress. An updated and expanded Self-Evaluation Report was submitted to the commission that is guiding NU toward accreditation. By the end of this year, we should have a firm

Changes just keep coming . . .

Many of you already know that we have a policy that disallows another inmate from serving as a proctor. If finding a proctor is a problem, then contact me, and I will help you to find someone. Just keep in mind that we will not be sending any exams to another inmate proctor.

There are a number of students who have not been active for the last few

idea of what improvements should be made and a timetable for the next steps. The next major phase of the process will be to submit forty-four courses for evaluation by course specialists. The specialists will suggest needed improvements.

Communication. If you need to contact your advisor or program director, please do so by e-mail.

months. If there is a problem I can help you with, please let me know. Even if you think I cannot help, share with me anyway.

John Casteel

Director of Prison Enrollment
NationsUniversity
513 E 16th Ave
Stillwater, OK 74074

A student's story

Printed with permission. Edited slightly for length.

My name is Israel Hernandez, and I am 28 years old. I was 23 years old when I came to prison. I didn't want this Christian walk and this journey that I am now on. I came to prison young, and I just wanted to do my time: I had a lot of time to do. At first, I was involved in the prison gangs. I never really thought that one day I would become a Christian. No! I was pretty set on just doing my time then go back to the things waiting for me when I made it home.

Many Christians tried to get me to go to church and go to Bible studies, and I would show them and tell them what it is that I did. They would just leave me alone after that. In my life I had known many people who always wanted to hide behind the Bible, and it made me mad to use GOD in that manner. Did I know about GOD? Yes, my parents are Christians, and my father would preach in church on Sundays. If we couldn't make it to church, he would hold services with us at home. I had a good childhood. I was

just a bad kid, and things didn't change for me when I got to prison. I still thought the same way as when I was free. I thought that my prayers at night were enough to grant me eternal salvation.

Throughout my life, I knew what was right and what was wrong. I just wanted to be bad and do what I wanted to do. It was after meeting two brothers that I began noticing more of the things of GOD. I began asking them questions and watching them. YES, WATCHING THEM! After all they shall know you by your walk... After about three months of watching them from one cell to another praying and praising and reading and smiling and noticing their attitudes never changed, I realized they were living out what they proclaimed to be.

It was months after watching them that I approached them and told them that I admired them and saw that they were behaving as true Christians. They simply replied by asking me if I wanted to pray. We went to a two-man cell and they began to pray. I lost control and fell on my face weeping uncontrollably as I

cried out to God. I told God I would serve Him until the day I die and asked Him to use me in any way possible. My previous friends in the gangs would not accept this change in me. It took the life of Christ living in me to show them that it was real and many others were saved. Still others are watching to see if my walk is authentic. I pray every day that everyone can see Christ in me. My wife and three kids and other family members are now in love with God. They have grown through my experience, and they know that I am changed.

I came to know about NationsUniversity through a brother in Christ, and I use it as a means to grow and learn more about Christ and his church. God has a great plan for me. By waiting on Him, all is possible. I am his vessel being prepared for the master's use. Wherever He may send me, I will go. I will be going to Mexico which is my country when I am finished with this sentence, and I await it with the love of Christ and the joy that He gives me.

What the new year will bring

The accreditation process requires monitoring and improvements. Consequently, courses and exams are constantly undergoing review. Some textbook courses are being discontinued or merged. Students who are enrolled in any of these courses will be able to complete them.

If you are enrolled in a discontinued course, please contact student.services@nationsu.org for guidance. *Prison students should not be affected by these changes.* The end result will be a better defined curriculum, with improved course delivery.

Graduates since the last newsletter

Certificate in Religious Studies

Julius Odili Osaliuwe, Nigeria
Blanchard Basilwa Bankete, South Africa
Donald West, II United States
Séverin Zoglo, Cote d'Ivoire
Thomas Gann, United States
Frankie Conrad Deloach, United States
Derek Robert Erskin, United States
Michael Hitchcock, United States
Fernard Ramier, France
Alexander Larin, Latvia
Justice Mahope, South Africa
Petrus Miriyavhavha Nedzharata, South Africa
Nicole Watat, United States
Stacy Fullwood, United States
Mosokoli James Ngeleni, South Africa
Clement Ikechukwu Ijeh, Egypt
John Nganda, Kenya

Associate in Religious Studies

Daniel Ervin Luchtman, United States
Shanti Segaram, Malaysia
Michael Hitchcock, United States
Chinedum Nwankwo, Nigeria
Troy R. Washington, United States
All Bertho, Indonesia

Diploma in Religious Studies

Michael Hitchcock, United States
Peter Ngwa, Cameroon

Bachelor of Religious Studies

James Bachman, United States
Camillus Onah Nnaemeka, Nigeria
Lewis R. Thompson, United States
Roger John Donnelley, Australia
Sheila Moses DeNard, United States
Okot Stephen Okot, Uganda

Master of Religious Studies

Balbier Martinez Mendez, Mexico
B.S., Univ Technologico de Sonora
Anji Ezekiel Tigga, Nigeria
School of Biblical Studies, Jos
Philippe Cousson, France
Professor Certifie Academie de Poitiers
Gosa Eshetu Alemu, Ethiopia
B.S., University of Gondar
Arthur Likhanga Muyuka, Kenya
B.A., Kima International School of Theology
William D. Mehrhoff, United States
B.R.S., NationsUniversity

Funding

As we close 2010, we are soliciting funds to cover our annual expenditures.

Since August, we have been working to meet the demands of a \$50,000 challenge gift from a wonderful couple in Florida. They have given repeatedly to NationsUniversity, for they believe in the outcome of its work. To be eligible for this grant, we had to raise \$75,000 in uncommitted gifts. We have reached that milestone and are moving toward finishing the demands for the 2010 budget.

The Florida benefactors have agreed to make another matching gift for the first six months of 2011. If you have benefitted from the program and are in a position to send a gift, please do so online. Look for "Support NU" on the home page, www.nationsu.org.

*The administration,
faculty, and staff would
like to wish you all a safe
and blessed new year!*

NATIONSUNIVERSITY®

P.O. Box 3342
Brentwood, TN 37024-3342
U.S.A.