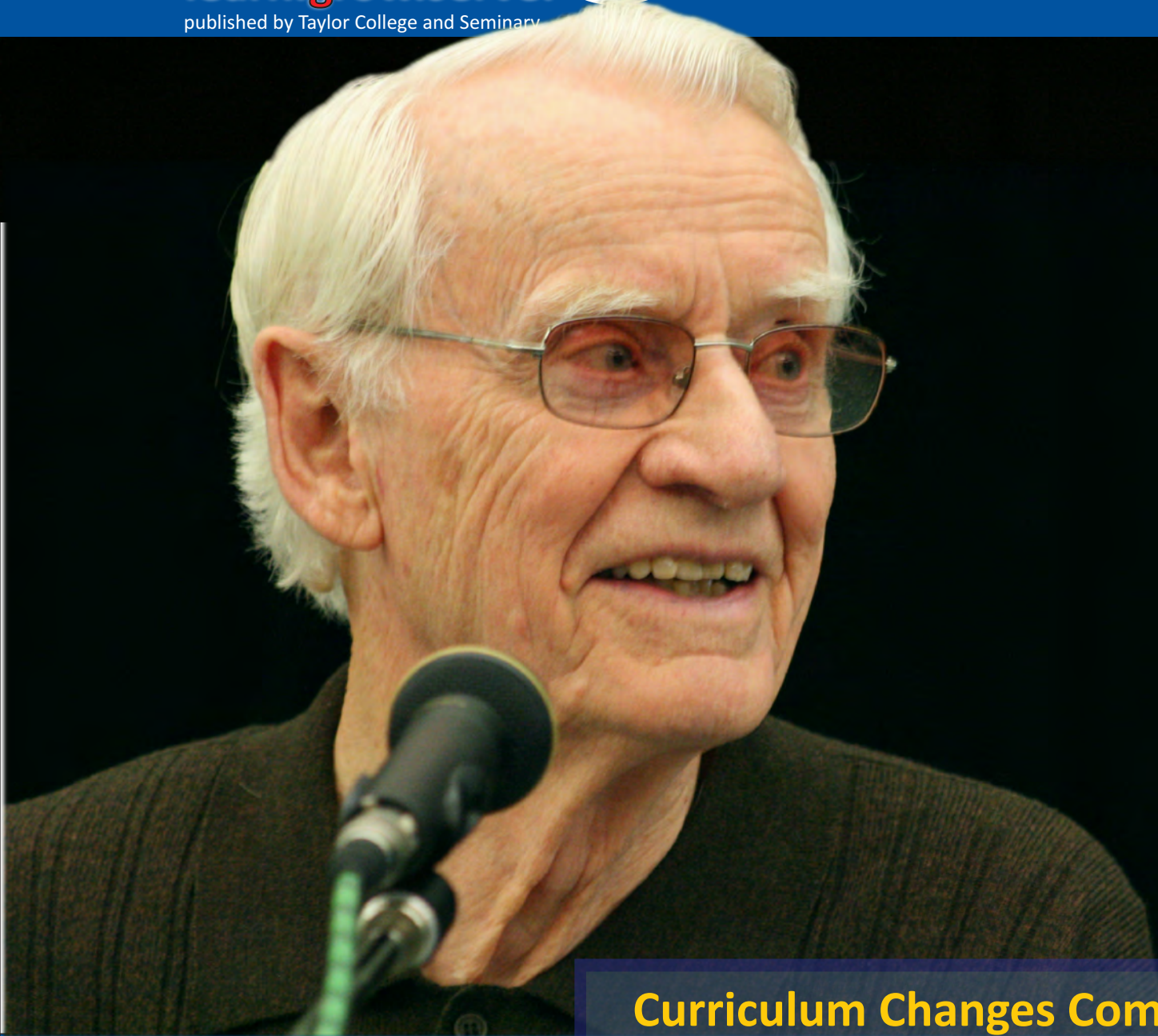


The Bridge

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Curriculum Changes Coming

New 77-hour MDiv; new TESOL Major; other Changes, pg. 3

E P Wahl Centre Update

Encouraging Response, pg. 4; Upcoming Events, pg. 11

Taylor Alum in War Zone

Edmonton's Dr. Floria Tsui serves in Afghanistan, pg. 6, pg. 11

COVER: Dr. Willy Muller launches a new Bible exploration at Taylor's E P Wahl Centre

A Note from the President



I remember studying history back in my college days and dreaming of what it would have been like to have been part of the historic events I was studying. The past seemed so exciting—full of adventure, risk, and reward as compared to the present, which seemed to be uneventful and filled with drudgery. It was not until I was in my Seminary studies that I began to realize that we too live at in a time of major change which will no doubt be looked back on as decisive,

for better or for worse, in the flow of what God is doing in the world. The world is changing in massive ways. Without question, these changes bring the pain of loss and uncertainty, but they also bring significant opportunity for renewal and revival.

I see Taylor as a microcosm of what is happening globally. As the world and our respective nations slowly emerge from the catastrophic financial crisis of 2008, Taylor, too, is emerging from our crisis of the last year. As we recover from these events we are not moving hastily—we believe that such action would be unwise—but we are moving strategically, intentionally, and powerfully toward the future into which God is calling us.

Since my installation last October, we have been talking about the new day that is dawning at Taylor. That day continues to dawn and many of the things that have been in development are taking shape. The Board of Trustees met in mid-October and made a number of strategic decisions that will continue to move us into that day. In the pages of this edition of *The Bridge* you will hear more details about those decisions which include:

- Approval of new seminary curricula which will allow us to better serve the educational needs of those interested in graduate theological education;

- Approval of a new venture in conjunction with Vanguard Bible College that will make each school more effective.
- Establishing a formal relationship with Fusion International which will allow us to become the North American training centre for Fusion programs as well as the preferred provider of theological education for Fusion's worldwide staff and friends;
- Approval to go forward in working together with the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton to bring lay theological education to our churches through cooperative work in the E P Wahl Centre.

Beyond these landmark decisions by the Board, in these pages you will also read about the exciting new programs that are coming forward from the emerging E P Wahl Centre, the impact our institution is having around the world through our alumni, and last but certainly not least, an update on where we are in the process of selling a portion of our property.

Change is hard: it is painful and full of anxiety, but at the same time full of promise. We serve a God who is in control of that change and is working all things toward the end which God has chosen. From where I sit, I couldn't be more excited about the future that God is unfolding before us. The re-tooling this is taking place here will put us in a position to continue the work that was begun 70 years ago. The dream that Rev. E. P. Wahl had when he founded C T I is alive and well, and is being renewed, revitalized, resourced, and repositioned for another 70 years of developing Christ-minded leaders that make a difference in the world.

Shalom!



David Williams, Ph.D.

President, Taylor College and Seminary
Director, E P Wahl Centre

Editor's Note:

During a recent staff prayer meeting, we were encouraged from Ephesians 5 to give thanks in all things. Surrounded by change and challenge, we can easily forget how blessed we have been. In that meeting, I found myself overwhelmed by thankfulness for my colleagues: for people who wrestle with important concepts and ideas, who value spiritual transformation, and whose lives exemplify the faithfulness we admire. I was also grateful for every student that has a heart for ministry, and who is studying with us to be prepared for a life of service. When you read the extraordinary account from Taylor alumna Dr. Floria Tsui on page 11 and read her profile on page 6, I think you'll feel the same way.

We are also thankful for the *extended* Taylor family; you, too, have known change and challenge, and your example of faithfulness has inspired us. Thank you for encouraging us with your prayerful support through a momentous year. We are excited about what lies ahead, and your participation is more vitally needed and gratefully received than ever.

Tim Willson
Editor, *The Bridge*

The Bridge

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friends and supporters.

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Changes at Taylor Seminary

by Tim Willson

The trustees of Taylor College and Seminary voted recently to move forward with some strategic decisions that will strengthen the institution and make its educational offerings more accessible to students, as well as more contextual. The changes, made during the October 2009 board meetings, reflect emerging trends in theological education, and align Taylor's programs with those of Carey Theological School in Vancouver.

The major curricular change is to the length of Taylor's MDiv programs, which have been approved at a new length of 77 credit hours (they are currently 96 hours); the board's decision will be official after review by our accrediting body, the Association of Theological Schools. ATS is expected to review these changes by February.

A number of seminaries are moving in this direction. The trend is for students to spend more-focused time in the classroom, as most are already actively working in ministry. Of course, students would have fewer elective courses in a shorter program, and it is expected that they would be able to take those courses as life-long learners once they have begun serving actively in full-time ministry.

Carey Theological College of Vancouver, with whom Taylor is beginning to work more closely, has already moved to a shorter MDiv. The Carey board believes

the shorter program is advantageous to students because the degree requires a more manageable investment of time and money; these changes are intended to give more students the opportunity to study for an MDiv, and to serve effectively in vocational ministry.

Both Taylor and Carey continue to work (together and separately) on ways to serve the ministry practitioner with ongoing educational opportunities, especially through online and modular courses.



Vanguard College is an Edmonton-based Bible college that comes out of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC).

There were several other significant decisions made by the trustees, notably the establishment of a new TESOL concentration in Taylor's MDiv program, in conjunction with Vanguard. Once again, working cooperatively made the most sense for the two institutions.

Additionally, the board voted to keep Taylor's tuition at the rate of \$275 per credit hour, the level at which it has been since 2006-07. Trustees also took time to meet with the Anglican Bishop of Edmonton and with representatives of Fusion International, and affirmed the developing relationships between Taylor and these kingdom-minded groups. **TB**

Taylor and Carey to Become Extension Sites for Each Other

One implication is that a DMin will now be available at Taylor Seminary

The trustees of Taylor College and Seminary and of Carey Theological School (Vancouver) voted at their respective meetings recently to take the next step in an evolving cooperative relationship.

The biggest change is that each seminary will begin to serve as an extension site of the other – meaning that students will be able to take Taylor courses at the Carey site, and will be able to take Carey courses at Taylor.

The move will help the two institutions share resources (notably faculty). It also means that

students can now study at Taylor towards a DMin. (The DMin, or Doctor of Ministry, is a necessary degree for many senior ministry positions in various denominations.)

There are other resources that will be able to be shared, including technology.

This decision is part of a larger strategy to move theological education closer to where students are serving in ministry; this “contextualized education” puts learning and serving together, making each more effective.

E P Wahl Centre Takes Shape

Encouraging early steps for new educational initiative

by Tim Willson

Dr. Willy Muller first taught on the Book of Acts when he arrived at CTI in 1942 (CTI became NABC/NABDS and later Taylor). Since then, he has taught on Acts dozens of times in countries around the world – and recently spent over eight years studying Acts in depth, creating a stack of notes more than a foot high.

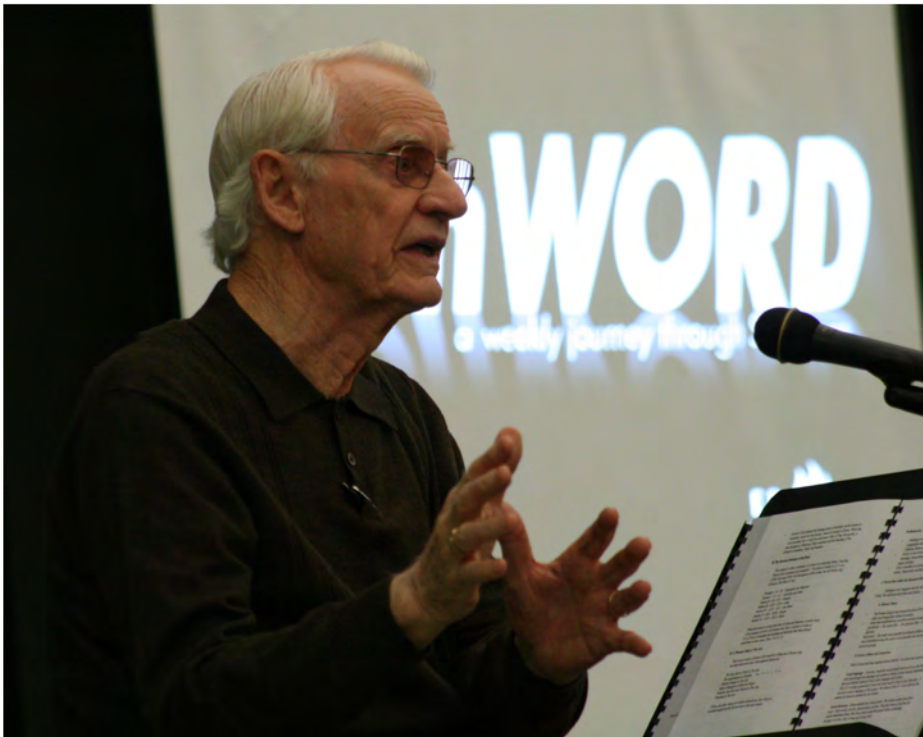
Now age 85, in his 67th year of public ministry, Dr. Muller has become the first presenter in the E P Wahl Centre's **onWORD** series, a weekly journey through scripture that is open to the public every Tuesday (no charge). Approximately 50 people were on hand as the series began, sitting in slightly awed silence as Dr. Muller spoke authoritatively on this important history of the early Christian movement.

Dr. Muller has created his own commentary on Acts, as well as his own encyclopedia/dictionary that covers the people, places and events of the book. He told the audience that he wrote these books as a gift to the pastors of Cameroon, whom he has gotten to know as colleagues since retiring from Taylor (then

NABC) in 1990.

The **onWORD** series has been planned as a way for believers to enjoy their Bibles more, to explore it with a variety of instructors from different traditions. Upcoming series will look at Wisdom literature, stewardship (during Lent), the parables of Jesus, and more (see page 11). The **onWORD** series, which is being recorded will be made available to wider audiences in the future (stay tuned for details on how you can enjoy this teaching ministry online).

The E P Wahl Centre held its very first event in the fall of 2008, and has been working steadily to develop the structures and learning opportunities that will serve the training needs of the church. Among the remarkable gifts to the Wahl Centre this year has been new Associate Director Myron Penner. Penner, who taught theology at Prairie Bible Institute for a number of years, was recently ordained into the Anglican priesthood. As part of his new role, Edmonton Bishop Jane Alexander assigned 20-percent of his time to the E P Wahl Centre.



onWORD

a weekly journey through Scripture

Dr. Willy Muller has spent almost seven decades studying the Book of Acts, and in October and November, he launched the **onWORD** series at the E P Wahl Centre with an overview of this important book of the Bible.

Photo by Tim Willson, 2009

One of the recent Wahl Centre events was a workshop for sound technicians. It was attended by approximately 30 people and will likely become a regular training course. **Sounds Great!** provided

sounds great!
audio boot camp for sound techs

volunteer sound techs with an overview of

the principles of sound, an introduction to common sound equipment, and answers to some of the frequent problems that arise in worship services.

Music continues to be a significant part of Taylor. The Wahl Centre has launched a children's choir, and Taylor's adult community choir (with 50-70 participants) as well as the Taylor Flute Choir (9 flutists) have continued. These choirs represent a way to develop music skills and build community, bringing diverse populations together and keeping alive the rich music heritage of the church. Participants also have the opportunity to serve in worship, as they perform at Christmas and Easter. Along with Advent and Christmas concerts at Taylor and at local churches, the Taylor Community Choir

has been invited to perform at the Alberta Legislature on December 23 (7 PM).

As President Dr. David Williams recently wrote in a letter to the Taylor community, "...I realize that most of what is happening this fall through the E P Wahl Centre is located here in Edmonton, but I assure you that though it starts here, it does not end here. Although we must first bloom where we are planted, we believe that God has called us to reach beyond Edmonton in serving the Church's educational and training needs and we are moving in this direction. This is true for both the E P Wahl Centre and Taylor Seminary as our students and graduates are everywhere. Your prayers, patience and support are greatly appreciated as this vision comes to fruition."

The Wahl Centre's training schedule is taking shape as quickly as resources allow, and so far there has been a very encouraging response. There are so many needs that can be addressed through non-credit life-long training, and we look forward to announcing more learning and service opportunities. **TB**



Choral Excellence:

A Taylor Tradition Continues – and Grows!

Music has been a very important part of Taylor's educational offerings, going back to the earliest days at CTI. That tradition is alive and well, as Taylor is offering three choir experiences through the E P Wahl Centre.

The Taylor Community Choir began several years ago as a service of the university college, and has included as many as 70 members. A second continuing choir is the Taylor Flute Choir, which has grown to nine members this year.

New this year is the Taylor Children's Community Choir, a non-audition choir for children aged 8-12. Many children are part of school choirs, but few churches are able to provide a choral experience for children. The Taylor Children's Community Choir aims to encourage a love of music and worship arts among children, to provide opportunities to perform and serve, and to give potential choir leaders the experience they need to launch similar ministries.

Choir registration is now taking place for the winter semester – visit www.Taylor-Edu.ca for details. **TB**

Three Advent and Christmas concerts are scheduled this season – we hope you'll join us!

Alumni Profile - Dr. Floria Tsui

by Tim Willson



Taylor alumna Dr. Floria Tsui ('06) recently returned from a six-month stint with the Red Cross in one of the most needy countries in the world, Afghanistan. The photo above was taken as she addressed Taylor supporters and board members at an October 2009 meeting.

Student: Taylor Seminary '06

Hometown: Edmonton, AB

Home Church: North Edmonton Alliance Church

“...act justly, love mercy
and walk humbly with God...”

Bombings are not uncommon in Afghanistan, and for Edmonton doctor and Taylor alumna Dr. Floria Tsui, seeing bombing victims at a Red Cross hospital in Kandahar was a common occurrence. A shortage of hospital beds and medical supplies, , poorly trained medical personnel, difficulty accessing the only regional hospital in southern Afghanistan because of war and poor road conditions made it a challenge to effectively treat casualties, and medical staff were also in constant danger. August 20, 2009—Election Day—the explosions began around 4 AM and were particularly frequent, some of them within 100-200 metres of the hospital and the living compound.

One of the explosions she experienced came a few days later during an online video chat with her husband in Edmonton; even on a webcam, he could see and hear the force of the blast several hundred metres away.

Victims of war were a constant presence in the hospital where Dr. Tsui was serving, but as an obstetrician, she was there with a particular interest in treating and serving

pregnant women. Afghanistan has the second-highest maternal mortality rate in the world, with approximately 1,600-1,800 such deaths per 100,000 live births (in Canada, the rate is 10-12 maternal deaths per 100,000). Primitive conditions and supply shortages are chronic issues, but local customs and traditions present serious challenges as well. For example, women cannot be treated without their husband's permission, and sometimes they or their baby would die in the hospital waiting for a husband to arrive to approve an emergency caesarean. She also felt voiceless herself; despite her expertise, the medical advice and training she provided to patients and local doctors was often ignored because of resistance to change and corruption of the medical system.

“It was easy to become frustrated, especially when so much needless suffering could be eased or averted by adopting simple protocols,” she says. “But when I felt faceless and voiceless, I learned to trust and rely on God because I know He is present.”

Dr. Tsui was a busy and successful medical doctor when she enrolled at Taylor Seminary in 2001. She says she wanted to equip herself in ministry as she sees her medical practice as her ministry, and calls the experience one of the closest times she has walked with God. “Time at Taylor was like being in a sanctuary, a quiet and sacred time away from the hustle and bustle of the world,” she says.

Dr. Tsui spent six months in Afghanistan with the International Committee of the Red Cross in 2009, and while she was far from able to fix every problem she encountered, Dr. Tsui says she was able to live out her purpose: to act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with God.

When she speaks about her experiences, Dr. Tsui includes a request for her audience to remember to pray for Afghanistan. At war for over 30 years, she describes the country as “a wasteland of fear and despair.” She draws special attention to the fact that almost half of the population of 31-million is under the age of 14, children who will need our prayers if they are to lead their country in new directions. TB

Read more from Dr. Floria Tsui on page 11

Taylor Campus Sale Proceeding

The decision in the 1960's to establish the campus on agricultural land on the south edge of Edmonton is proving to be a tremendous blessing.

The 26-acre campus is located on what has become one of Edmonton's busiest roads, and it is now considered to be prime real estate. The partial sale of the campus will convert this significant financial asset into much-needed financial relief, accomplishing four important objectives:

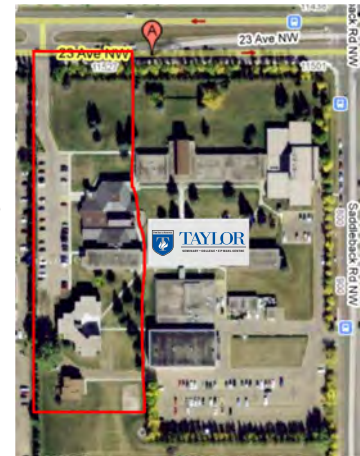
1. The sale will erase Taylor's debt, freeing the institution from a financial burden that threatened its mission and ministry.
2. The proceeds of the sale are expected to provide for an endowment that will help secure the institution's future. (These funds will not be used for operational expenses).
3. Taylor will continue to own part of the campus—a great blessing, given our circumstances.
4. The sale will see an educational partner located on the campus, sharing resources and opening up intriguing new possibilities for working together.

As previously announced, the institution's changing space needs and financial circumstances necessitated a sale. Following a competitive bidding process last fall, the Board of Trustees entered into a Purchase-Sale Agreement with Eminata, a privately-held company that owns CDI College, Reeves College, and other educational institutions. Eminata is currently in the due diligence part of the purchase process.

CDI College is already holding classes in rented space at the Taylor campus, and expects its student body to grow quickly. Eminata and Taylor are considering ways to work cooperatively in such areas as library services, maintenance, facilities— even a willingness to explore ways to cross-list courses and to create opportunities for athletics.

Though somewhat bittersweet, the sale of unused land and buildings represents a tremendous blessing. The recent rise in real estate values came at a very important time in our history because, without this significant asset, Taylor would have struggled to survive the recent financial crisis.

The sale of a campus is complex, and the Board has worked tirelessly on many different issues and scenarios over the past year. Much work remains to be done to complete the work, but the progress so far has been very encouraging. **TB**



This overhead view shows the four acres at the northwest corner of the Taylor campus – including the Seminary, Benke, Muller and the Mission House – that will continue to be home to Taylor.

Photo: courtesy Google Earth

Mortgage Bond Investment

In order to serve Taylor's financial stability during a time of transition, alumni and friends are invited to come alongside Taylor by making an investment with the purchase of Taylor mortgage bonds. Not to be confused with making a direct donation, purchasing mortgage bonds is a business transaction which meaningfully assists Taylor by providing the necessary bridge financing for the schools until the land sale process is complete. Secured by the value of the land, these mortgage bonds are returning a rate of 6% for a two year term.

Vice President Terry Fossen has been handling many of the inquiries surrounding these mortgage bonds, calls which reflect enormous good-will toward Taylor, as over \$1,000,000 of mortgage bonds have already been secured. "Many people continue to faithfully donate funds to help us meet our budgetary needs," Fossen says. "However, the

mortgage bond offering is another way in which our faithful supporters are expressing their strong belief in Taylor's on-going educational ministries. Of course, this is an investment, not a gift, but most of the bond purchases are accompanied with a clear indication of support...it's really very heart-warming."

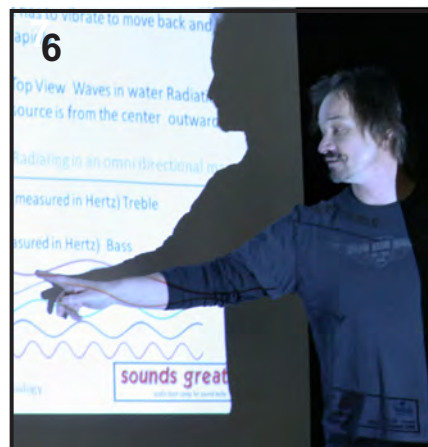
The Board of Trustees has chosen the sale of mortgage bonds as the best way to help Taylor meet its immediate financial obligations. As reported elsewhere in *The Bridge*, the Board is confident that the pending sale of part of the Taylor campus will generate more than enough revenue to clear all of Taylor's debt while helping to endow the future of Taylor's faithfulness in Christian education and service.

Details of the debenture are outlined in a prospectus that is available to any interested party. Taylor leadership urges any investor to consult an independent financial advisor before making this (or any other) investment. **TB**



1. Taylor president **Dr. David Williams** addresses the NAB Triennial Conference in Winnipeg in July, sharing the vision for rebuilding and strengthening Taylor College and Seminary. The **Taylor Choristers Alumni Choir** also took part in the conference, and Vice-President **Terry Fossen** was one of the emcees. An alumni reception was another highlight, with attendees from every decade of the school's history – and the attendance of two former presidents (see photo below).

2. Current Taylor president **Dr. David Williams** (left) had a chance to spend time with two former presidents during the NAB Triennial in Winnipeg. **Dr. Paul Siewert** (centre) was president of Taylor (then NABC/EBS) from 1988-1997 and **Dr. J. Walter Goltz** (right) was president from 1982 to 1988; the trio are pictured at the Taylor alumni reception at the Triennial. | **3.** Members of the **Taylor Children's Community Choirs** prepare for their debut performance – an appearance at a reception for Taylor supporters. | **4.** Seminary student **Aaron Au** flies through the air with the greatest of ease – riding the zip line during a student-faculty retreat at the beginning of the new school year. Theology professor **Dr. Jeff McPherson** is close behind. | **5.** Old Testament professor **Dr. Jerry Shepherd** (left) stands with students **Marine Kwan** (bottom), **Nick Thiessen** (right) and **Cheryl Krueger** (centre) with her husband **Gary** at the same REORIENT retreat. | **6.** Instructor **Dwayne Plishka** delivers an information-packed workshop for volunteer sound techs during an October training event called **Sounds Great!**, offered through the E P Wahl Centre at Taylor.



News and Notes



Becky Dewey, 1947 - 2009

In Sympathy

Becky Dewey, wife of former Taylor president **Marvin Dewey**, passed away on August 17, 2009 in Hutchinson, KS; memorial services were in Sioux Falls, SD and in Edmonton. After more than a decade in Edmonton, Becky and Marvin had just moved back to the Sioux Falls area when she was diagnosed with a recurrence of cancer. A school teacher for 19 years, she taught in Minnesota, South Dakota, Japan and in Edmonton, and also served with Marvin in youth ministry in Vancouver, BC. The family has requested that Becky's memory be honored with memorial gifts to Sioux Falls Seminary, the University of Sioux Falls, or to the Dewey Intercultural Studies Award at Taylor Seminary.

Taylor Seminary alumnus **Colin Berry** ('05) was killed along with his daughter **Rachel** in a traffic accident in North Dakota in August; Colin's wife **Lizyanet** was seriously injured in the crash. The family was returning to their home in Turkey after a 3-month visit to Edmonton.

A number of other members of the Taylor family passed away recently, including:

- Grace Faul**, McClusky, ND
 - Bob Heinrichs** ('61) of Sumas, WA
 - Len Johnson**, Edmonton, AB
 - Edna Kramer**, Regina, SK
- And, all from First Baptist in Leduc, AB:
- Lyle Fillenberg**, Leduc, AB
 - Elmer Grunwald**, Leduc, AB
 - Ray Ohlmann**, Leduc, AB

Celebrating New Life

Congratulations to Taylor Trustee **Cory Scheel** and his wife **Amanda** on the birth of Maggie Joy in September. Congratulations to **Angela Ferguson** ('99) (*nee* Lalk) and her husband **Blaine Ferguson** ('99) on the birth of their son Lance earlier this year.

Alum Named to the Order of Canada

CTI alumnus Victor Cicansky of Regina, who is one of Saskatchewan's great visual artists, was recently named to the Order of Canada for his work as a mentor, educator and sculptor. Some of his delightful sculptures can be seen at www.cicansky.ca.

Faculty and Staff News

Fossen Named Vice-President

Dr. Terry Fossen has been made Vice-President of Taylor College and Seminary, in addition to his roles as Director of Church and Alumni Relations and Associate Director of the E P Wahl Centre.



Rauser Book a Best-seller

Dr. Randal Rauser is the author of the just-released *Theology in Search of Foundations*, an academic text published by Oxford University Press. Also, his book *Finding God in the Shack* (2008) has sold over 20,000 copies and has been translated into Portuguese. Dr. Rauser teaches theology at Taylor Seminary.

Dr. Allan Effa in Bicol, Philippines

Intercultural Studies professor Dr. Allan Effa has just returned from the Philippines where he served as a guest instructor at the Bicol Centre for Christian Leadership; this was his third guest lectureship at the school.

New Taylor Controller

John Rhebergen recently joined the Taylor administrative team as a part-time controller, providing oversight for business and operations. He came out of retirement to serve here and brings a wealth of experience, having served as Vice-President of Operations for The King's University College in Edmonton from 1985-1998.



Alumni Updates

I invite you to share your news with us -- marriages, moves, careers... we want to note these important events! Please stay in touch by email: alumni@Taylor-Edu.ca, or Terry.Fossen@Taylor-Edu.ca.

Telephone: 780-431-5200



TAYLOR
SEMINARY

January Intersession – 3 modular courses offered

From January 4 - 15, Taylor Seminary will offer three intensives, perfect for the working student who prefers a short-term class schedule. Full-day classes take place at Taylor Seminary, and please remember to register for these courses right away (registration deadline is December 4, 2009).



Dr. Allan Effa teaches inter-cultural studies. A professor for many years, he also has extensive experience as a pastor and missionary, and continues to travel and serve internationally.



Dr. Larry Froese serves as a local pastor and an RCMP chaplain, as well as an adjunct professor of pastoral theology. He is an avid marathoner, and is a Taylor alumnus.



Dr. Jerry Shepherd is Taylor Seminary's Old Testament professor. He is in demand as a speaker and Bible teacher, and recently published a commentary on Ecclesiastes.

January 4-8

MI 543 The Healing Mission of the Church (Dr. Allan Effa)

An exploration of the holistic nature of the church's mission that addresses biblical, theological, historical, missiological and pastoral perspectives on physical, emotional, mental and spiritual healing, providing students with the conceptual foundations for a healing ministry through the local congregation. Two credits.

PT 531 Managing Controversy and Conflict (Dr. Larry Froese)

A study of the dynamics, methods, and resources of managing change and conflict in organizational settings, with special emphasis on the local church, utilizing the case study method. Three credits.

January 11-15

OT 517 Worship in Ancient Israel (Dr. Jerry Shepherd)

A biblical-theological examination of worship in ancient Israel with particular attention to the relevance of this material for the theology and worship practices of the Christian church today. Three credits.

Call to inquire about joining us for the Winter Semester, beginning January 18

Studying at Taylor Seminary

If these course listings caught your attention, consider joining us at Taylor Seminary! There are some important details for you to keep in mind, including:

Applications are being accepted now, and the Winter Semester begins January 18, 2010.

Intersession begins January 4, which is the first day after the Christmas Break. Please register early!

Former students of Taylor (CTI, NABC, NABDS, EBS, Taylor) can take advantage of a new alumni benefit: a free class! Call for details on this new offer.

Spouses of current full-time students can take up to three credits per semester for free (must apply and be accepted to qualify for this bursary).

Seniors (65+) qualify for a 50% tuition discount.

Please keep the following dates in mind:

Christmas Break (closed):	December 23 - January 3
January Intersession	January 4-15
Orientation (new students)	January 18
Winter Term - Classes Begin	January 18
Last Day to Add/Drop Classes:	January 29
Board of Trustees Meetings	March 4-6
Registration Period for Spring Session:	March 21 - April 1
Last Day of Classes (Winter Term):	April 23
Final Exams	April 26-29
Graduation Exercises	May 2
Spring Session	May 3-14

Ask About the New
TESOL CONCENTRATION
and the new 77-hour MDiv!



To learn more about studying at Taylor,

phone Admissions Counsellor Rick Heavenor at 780-431-5215, or contact him by email: Rick@TaylorSeminary.ca

We Do Not Know Her Name

By Dr. Floria Tsui ('06)

We do not know where she came from, only that she came from afar. She had her baby this morning at 5 am but the placenta would not come. She started to bleed and her family decided to bring her to M Hospital. It had rained overnight and the roads were very muddy. It was very difficult to travel, but they pressed on. She was wrapped in a thick green blanket, still wearing her blood-soaked pants. Her mother-in-law and other female relatives accompanied her. They tried to keep her warm and offer words of comfort. She thought about her newborn baby, now separated from her. It was just so far to travel to K City, but they pressed on. There will be help available at M Hospital.

Finally, they made it through the traffic jams in K City and arrived at M Hospital at 2 pm. At the entrance, they flipped her onto a stretcher and pushed her to the obstetrics ward. The ward was very quiet since all the labouring patients had delivered in the morning. The midwives were either napping or drinking tea. They did not come to receive the patient. The cleaner took the stretcher and the family to the delivery room and left them there. They were alone in an unfamiliar hospital, in an unfamiliar ward and in an unfamiliar room. They had probably never been to a hospital in the past but they had come for help. The Canadian obstetrician and the Kenyan midwife just happened to return to the ward and followed the stretcher to see what was going on. She was cold, pale and made one gasping effort. The expats could not feel a pulse. They called for help but no midwife came. Some said they were not assigned to the delivery room and would not come. Some said they

were going off shift and would not come. Some continued to have tea and chat and would not come. The on call doctor was male and could not come. The expats tried their best to revive her but they only had two pairs of hands. The extension cord to the oxygen machine could not be located. There was no stethoscope in the room to listen to her heart. She was in circulatory collapse and an intravenous could not be started. CPR was not very successful when there was no oxygen or venous access. The Canadian doctor had to go out to the hallway to yell to get anyone's attention. Her voice must have been full of desperation and anger that it attracted some attention. They said they would come but they continued to talk. It must have been at least five minutes before they showed up but by that time it was too late. She had died.

Her family started to weep. The mother-in-law kept signalling to the expats to resume pumping her heart. The expats could only express their regrets with tears in their eyes. The day had started with the celebration of new life but ended tragically with the loss of a mother, a wife and a daughter. They had come all this way for help but the system and the people in the system failed them. Silently and stoically, they bound her ankles together, tied her jaw shut and wrapped her once again in the thick green blanket. They will now make their long journey back to their village with her body. They could not find the help they needed in K City.

We still do not know her name. ^{TB}

Dr. Floria Tsui is an Edmonton obstetrician and a graduate of Taylor Seminary. Read more about her experiences in Afghanistan on pg. 6.

Upcoming at the Wahl Centre

November 28	7:00 PM	Taylor Chapel	Advent Meditation (free concert featuring three Taylor choirs)
November 29	3:00 PM	Lendrum M.B. Church	Advent Meditation (free concert featuring three Taylor choirs)
December 6	7:00 PM	Taylor Chapel	Angels are Singing Taylor Children's Community Choir (free concert)
January 5 – 16	7:30 PM	Stencel Hall	onWORD: Wisdom Literature of the Bible featuring three guest speakers – Mary Kassian, Dr. Jerry Shepherd and Neil Gordon
February 23 – 30	7:30 PM	Stencel Hall	onWORD: the Spirituality of Money – Lenten Stewardship series
March 30 – April 6	7:30 PM	Stencel Hall	onWORD: Understanding Easter , with Dr. Benno Przybylski
April 13 – 27	7:30 PM	Stencel Hall	onWORD: with Sherwood Park Alliance Pastor Greg Hochhalter
May 4 – June 1	7:30 PM	Stencel Hall	onWORD: TBA
June 8 – 29	7:30 PM	Stencel Hall	onWORD: Parables of Jesus , with guest speaker Dr. Richard Paetzel



Prairie Landscape,
Michael Weins, Oil on Canvas, 33" x 28"

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Michael Wiens ('00) is a gifted artist who loves to paint with oils as well as a variety of mixed media. The above image represents a scene common to any resident of the prairies— small towns marked by the architecture reflecting three common themes of the early settlers: worship, agriculture and family. This depiction of the fall captures a sense of open space and hints at a coming change in the weather, a perfect scene to include in a fall edition of *The Bridge*!

Michael studied at Taylor from 1997-2000, then again in 2006 prior to starting a BEd at the UofA. He and his wife Brooke are eagerly anticipating a move to San Francisco where Michael will begin a Master's in studio painting at the Academy of Art University.

Calling All Artists!

Alumni and friends of Taylor are invited to submit photos, paintings and other visual art projects for publication - please share!. Learn more at www.Taylor-Edu.ca/creative



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