The College of Bible and Religion of Harding University seeks to lead all students to know, live and share God’s Word and to understand, love and serve God’s world through and beyond their chosen vocation.

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College of Bible & Religion

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The College of Bible and Religion is now the College of Bible and Ministry. Our new name reflects our firm resolve to equip our students to both know, live and share God’s Word and to understand, love and serve God’s World. Faithfulness to God in a pluralistic world demands those twin commitments. We take them so seriously that we have recently completed a major overhaul of our Bible curriculum, for both Bible majors and general students, to achieve those desired outcomes. For example, in response to declining biblical literacy, our freshmen and sophomores now take four foundational textual courses that guide them through both Testaments in two years instead of one. Trimming the total number of course offerings has enabled us to be more focused and more collaborative as a Bible faculty. Speak-

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Real World Experience

Joe Burns, candidate for The Bachelor of Ministry degree, May 2012

We have all heard the saying somewhere along the way: “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks.” It is good to know that Harding University does not enroll dogs, nor does it try to send anybody away with a bag of tricks. I am one of those “nontraditional” students who has returned to the classroom after successfully raising four sons, sending them through college, conducting weddings for three of them, and most recently having experienced the joy of being a grandfather. Now I am ready to graduate with a Bachelor of Ministry degree this May, and I am leaving impressed by both the in-class training and the ministry field work experiences provided to me by HU.

Even though I have been involved in ministry as a full-time vocation over the past
ing of faculty, when you visit the Jim Bill McInteer Center for Bible and World Missions, you’ll find a new cast of characters. The legacy of J. N. Armstrong, J. D. Bales, Jimmy Allen and Neale Pryor lives on in a new generation of teachers who share their devotion to the Word and to evangelism.

In addition to the items mentioned above, there are a number of other exciting changes that have recently taken place in the College of Bible & Ministry: The Louie Yingling endowed scholarships are allowing us to help more of our majors with scholarships than ever before; Donor generosity has also provided for a state of the art preaching studio dedicated in May of 2011; Missions students can now experience real-world simulation at the one-of-a-kind H.U.T. facility that is now part of Camp Tahkodah; The “priesthood of all believers” has inspired the efforts of the Mitchell Center for Leadership and Ministry to double the number of Vocational Ministry majors in a program now called “Leadership and Ministry.” In other words, the Lord continues to use Harding to raise up preachers, missionaries, youth ministers, and counselors who will bless the church with their service for generations to come.

— Dr. Monte Cox

Early morning meeting of H.U.T. students at Chang Cheng

32 years, there is always room for new ideas and learning. One of the most attractive elements of the Center for Advanced Ministry Training (CAMT) offered at HU is the combination of a solid Bible education offered by high-quality instructors coupled with actual in-the-real-world-of-ministry experience. In my case in particular, I am planning to completely shift my emphasis in ministry. I am planning to specialize in pastoral care as a hospital chaplain. While there is no specific discipline addressing this in the undergraduate studies program at HU, I was encouraged to create a personal ministry plan for helpful activity outside of the classroom. Each CAMT student is required to have four semesters of “Field Work.” These field work experiences have allowed me to receive training that will be invaluable upon graduation. Working with other chaplains and participating in grief recovery workshops are but two of these training experiences. This same opportunity has been extended to the other thirty-three students currently in this program. We have observed and assisted in weddings, funerals, managing church conflicts, preaching and teaching at area congregations, conducting premarital and family counseling, working with elders, and getting involved in global missions, to name a few. Experience. Nothing teaches like experiencing the theory.

Thank you Harding, and especially those who support the CAMT program!

— Joe Burns