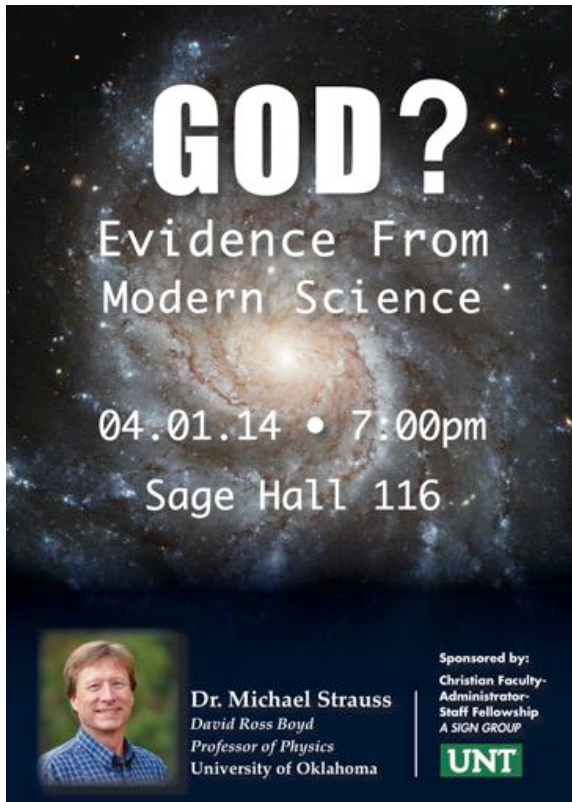


## ...Of God's Handiwork



*"I have been looking forward to this kind of meaningful, lively lectures that present the truth, especially to college and university students."*

-- Grace D.

Michael Strauss spoke at North Texas last month. Strauss, professor at the University of Oklahoma, is known for his work in high-energy physics: a collaborator on the discovery of the Higgs Boson particle in 2012, and a frequent researcher at the CERN facility in Switzerland. He is also unapologetically a follower of Jesus Christ. Some highlights:

- The universe is finely tuned – so many things “just happened” in the nanoseconds after the Big Bang in sequence that made life possible;
- All of these “coincidences” including our planet’s remarkable characteristics make life on earth possible;
- The most plausible explanation is that there was some Cause behind it all; the universe is not a cosmic accident, but a product of a Creator.

## ...Of Excellent Work

The next night a panel of four faculty members spoke to a Christian student group on excellence: “Always remember that you represent the Lord Jesus Christ in your schoolwork,” said Joseph Oppong, UNT professor of geography.

“Do your work with excellence, as unto the Lord, and don’t be sloppy,” he told them. “Attend every class; come prepared. Your work is the basis for your witness; you can’t talk to your professor about Christ if you aren’t being the very best student you can be.”

One student commented afterward, “Tonight really helped me to see that it really is okay to pursue God’s calling to graduate school, and to glorify God through being someone who takes their studies very seriously. I want to lead others to Christ, but even my work can be part of my witness.”





## Huntsville



Mention "Huntsville" and most Texans think of its prison: more than 500 executions have taken place here in the past 30 years. Last month I was across the street from that prison -- in the basement of a Baptist church -- with Campus Crusade students (*left*) who attend Sam Houston State, which is also in Huntsville.

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The Cru ministry is led by three people, two of whom are professors.

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Jeremy Bellah (*left*) is a professor of operations management. When we met he talked about his love for students, as well as his research work helping make others more productive.

He and his wife Jennifer were involved in what was then called "Campus Crusade for Christ" when they were students at Texas Tech. Together they juggle time with collegians: cooking meals for them, leading small group Bible studies, raising a toddler, and preparing for another child due soon.



Todd Primm (below) is a professor of biology. He was involved in Campus Crusade as a student at Texas A&M, and now he is giving back to students at Sam Houston State. His family is at a little different season of life -- his oldest is a junior in high school and trying to figure out which college to attend.

Todd spoke to the students much more as a father helping his kids navigate their way through collegiate life. As I listened to his teaching on John 3, I thought of how these students are benefitting from seeing people in the university live out their faith.

*Thanks so much –*

*Steve & Sarah*