



Autumn's Hope

September 2016

“I Can’t Compartmentalize My Faith”

Guido Verbeck, chemistry professor, told his faith story at our first event of the semester: of growing up a military brat; of becoming a pastor’s kid when his dad changed careers; and yet never having a life centered around Christ.

“I was full of myself... yet I was very broken,” he said. “I did well in graduate school, but God had to reveal that life was about Him, not me.. A lesson I continue to learn. Now when students spend any time around me, they know they will hear about Christ and evidence for faith.”



Guido

Answering Students’ Questions

I met Chad and Kaisa Young this spring at our faculty conference in Baton Rouge, LA. They are both professors of physics at Nicholls State who study low-mass star formation. After the conference, they began praying about ways to engage students with the claims of Christ.

Later this month they will host an afternoon session to answer students’ questions about faith and science. Kaisa explained to the student newspaper (which made it their lead story): “I would really like to know what students think about things...What do they think about scientists who are Christians?”

They have invited more than 250 students from their classes. Please pray as this very visible plan to talk with students can bring open doors – or opposition!



Chad and Kaisa

Another Chance At Life

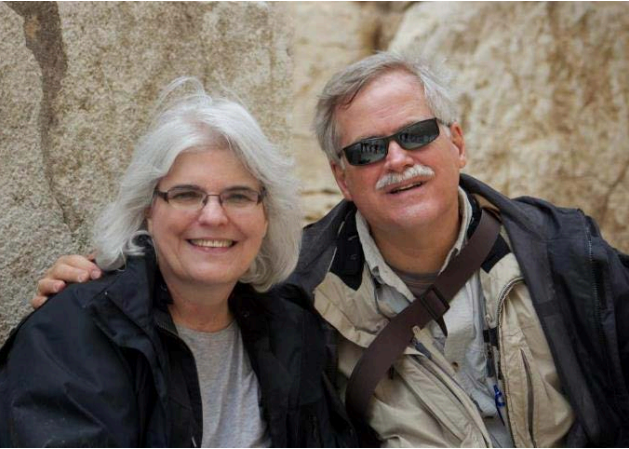
Rhonda Christensen is a research scientist in learning technology at North Texas. In 2007 she was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. After a few months of treatment and a long stay in ICU, she was too ill to continue the standard chemo regimen. Her only hope depended on the generosity of a perfect stranger through the National Donor Marrow Registry.

Her story is one of 350 on our website: MeetTheProf.com Students are much more willing to talk online (they find visiting faculty offices intimidating) about their struggles and their quest for answers to life’s meaning – as well as answers to the upcoming test...



Rhonda

Stillwater, OK to Budapest to



Dorsey and Renee

Dorsey and Renee McIntosh are both graduates of Oklahoma State in Stillwater. Dorsey was a new Christian (one of the few in his fraternity) at OSU when he went to a Campus Crusade meeting and heard a professor share his testimony.

“It was an important point in my spiritual life,” he said. “I was struggling with whether Christianity really was true. Here was this really smart professor talking about how Christ was the answer to life. Afterward, I met that professor and we became friends. It really affected me.”

For many years Dorsey and Renee were staff with Campus Crusade/Cru in Budapest, Hungary. They worked with college students and supervised staff members in a number of countries in Eastern Europe. They moved back to the U.S. two years ago to work with U.S. students and staff bound for Europe.

Now they are working with Faculty Commons, helping professors use their influence for Christ on international trips. One such professor is William Gallus.



William

William Gallus is a professor of geological and atmospheric science at Iowa State University (he studies thunderstorms). When it came time for his sabbatical, he contacted Faculty Commons and told them of his plans to go to Milan, Italy. He will be working with researchers at the university, and wants to be able to make his faith known.

For the past few years Cru has been sending teams of staff and short-term missionaries to Milan. Having professors like William Gallus there for a semester is often used by God to open doors – Italy is highly relational but often slow to trust newcomers – his presence as a professor can build doors for ministry to students who don’t know Christ.

Please Pray:

1. There are opportunities on many of the campuses in the 13 states Steve works with; please pray that we would be guided to the places He wants focused upon.
2. Sarah is working with Cru students at Texas Woman’s University. Pray as she coaches their student leaders that she will have wisdom and grace.
3. There are leadership groups of faculty now both at North Texas and Texas Woman’s University. Please pray that they will honor God both individually and as a group.

Thanks..

Steve & Sarah