

# The Essential Character of IBC

By Dr. Jason Koppen, President

The Indian Bible College is in full pursuit of accreditation. (See newsletter from Spring 2014.) Accreditation provides transferability, need-based student scholarships, and a “stamp of quality.” It also helps us improve the excellence of what we offer.



One of the best things our accreditation process has done recently is to help us articulate more concisely who we are. Through our “pre-application visit” last November we realized that three words best describe who we are. Last June these words became the foundation of our new board-approved institutional goals. In the words of our students:

**Biblical** *When I got saved, I thought the Bible was just another book like every other book—just a bunch of stories. I couldn’t understand it before I got here. I just wanted to preach to everybody. When I came, my first class (Human Relationships) used a bunch of verses and stories and it became real. I could put myself in the place of the Bible characters. I used to think the Bible characters were perfect, but now I know they were like me. I understand we have the same emotions and the same sin.* (Fredricka, Navajo)

The Bible is the foundation and provides the mandate for everything we do. We are passionate to help students know, interpret, and apply the Word of God for themselves and those to whom they minister. The revealed truth of God defines and permeates every class we offer, every discipleship group that meets, and every decision we make.

**Relational** *Before coming to IBC, I had seen relationships done many different ways, and mostly poorly, even in the church. We always had to be right. We couldn’t even LIKE other churches, let alone work with them. However, when I came to IBC, one of the first things emphasized was the relational aspect of the Christian life. Jesus was all about relationship; He even said that others would know us by our love for one another. Being at IBC has taught me how to form, grow, and maintain relationships. It is that teaching that makes me love IBC the most. There is no doubt that I am loved here and they also teach me how to make sure people don’t doubt that I love them back.* (Connie, Seneca/Wichita)

Jesus sums up the entire Old Testament with one word: Love—love for God and love for others (Matthew 22:37-40). The Bible calls us to prioritize godly relationships that are filled with kindness, forgiveness, servanthood, and truthfulness. We work very hard to model and teach what healthy relationships look like so that our students develop and maintain healthy, God-honoring relationships themselves, which is critical to their effectiveness in ministry. Truth flows most effectively through relationships which are open and honest.

**Transformational** *During this past summer, I visited my father in New Mexico. My father and I had not seen one another for over a year. A significant change in my demeanor and stature is what he noticed. With a smile on his face and tears in his eyes he proclaimed, “Joshua, my son.” He said this new title properly suited my new character and attitude rather than my former identity, “Josh,” whom he was more than familiar with before I started attending Indian Bible College.* (Joshua, San Juan Pueblo/Navajo)

The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) makes it clear that knowledge of God’s commands is not enough—it is obedience to them that marks us as His disciples. IBC is passionate about the transformation of students’ minds and hearts into Christlikeness.

If we are teaching and applying the Word of God (Biblical), and developing deep relationships with students through which they can be open and honest about their struggles (Relational), we have the best possibility of seeing lives changed by the Spirit of God (Transformational). **Pray for us as we seek to be Biblical and Relational so that we might also be Transformational!**



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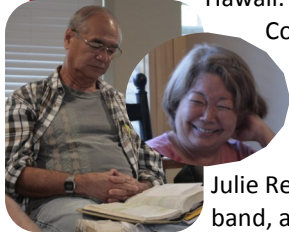
The IBC Epistle

## New Staff at IBC

Who would have imagined there would be six new staff members on campus this fall?! From as far away as Hawaii and Australia and as close as New Mexico and Alaska, God has sent staff to serve "for such a time as this."



Harold (Hal) and Pam Givens come to IBC from Alaska Bible College where they served for the past 20 years. Hal completed seminary at Trinity in Deerfield, Illinois. He and Pam ministered in Nebraska and Indiana before moving to Alaska. Hal is IBC's part-time facility manager as well as instructor of Christian Education and a new elective on *The Chronicles of Narnia*. He is a hymn-story buff with an enthusiasm for life and love for people. Pam has taken Coreen's place as registrar, freeing Coreen to spend more time with the students as Dean of Women. Pam and Hal are both willing workers with a passion for God and a heart for Native peoples.



Another couple God has brought to IBC this fall is Dexter and Gail Teruya. The Teruyas are originally from Oahu, Hawaii. Dexter was involved in youth ministry from 1974 until 1980. He and Gail served at Pacific Islands Bible College in Chuuk, Micronesia, until 1995. Following this, the Teruya family returned to Hawaii to minister at Kahului Union Church. Dexter earned a Master of Divinity degree with a cross-cultural emphasis from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, in 1988. Dexter is Dean of Men, discipleship group mentor, and Instructor of Contemporary Theology while Gail serves as part-time receptionist.



Julie Reynolds hails from Australia, though she was born and raised in England. After the passing of her husband, and with all her children grown, Julie struck out on a path to fulfill a dream which began when she was a grammar school student in boarding school. Though she did not know Jesus till later in life, she never forgot her fascination with the Dakota of the U.S. Plains. Now as a "retiree" she has embarked on a second career, joined the mission organization Pioneers and is serving in an on-loan capacity at IBC in hopes of transferring to a team among the Dakota people within the next two years. Julie is leading a discipleship group and is serving as Administrative Assistant to the President.



Joshua Manning is another new addition to our support staff. He, his wife Heidi, and five children live in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where they serve under Western Indian Ministries (WIM). Josh taught his first IBC class this summer, under the oversight of Clint Ross. Josh works with a Native church in Albuquerque and has many opportunities to disciple individuals. He enjoys teaching and is IBC's New Mexico Director of Extension Studies. In addition he is developing a resource center for Navajo believers in the Window Rock area under WIM's direction.

## Summer Work Crews 2014

By Bob Richardson, Business Administrator

We praise God for the five work teams we had this past summer. They were from Spokane, WA; Phoenix, AZ; and Beaumont, Hemet, and Colton, CA.

Over the course of the summer a concrete sidewalk was completed and a swinging gate installed; two lawnmowers were purchased; paint, wallpaper, carpet, and a concrete ramp were added to one of the dorms; an electrical circuit was installed, furniture purchased, and quilts created for the ladies' dormitories. In another building, basement storage was increased. Crews also improved drainage, applied exterior paint, ran network cables, installed a new vanity top, and installed additional lighting. Trees were trimmed, a swing set repaired, a shed reoriented and sealed, and a fence repaired/replaced. The RV was maintained and new batteries were installed and many more projects were accomplished! One of the highlights of the summer was having work team members help offer a neighborhood outreach Kids' Club. THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME AND SERVED!

There will be another list of projects we hope to get done next summer. Some will require strength, others knowledge and skill. Most will require money for supplies. What do you have planned for your summer vacation? We are asking the Lord to provide more teams as we prepare for further facility expansion. Could you and your church plan a one-week trip to northern Arizona to serve the Lord at IBC? Please start praying now and contact Hal Givens, our new facilities manager, if the Lord is calling you to come. Thank you.

## One Fateful Choice . . .

We prayed it would never happen at Indian Bible College . . . but it did. No one had detected any hint that she might end her life early that Friday morning. Reconstructing the events that led to her fateful decision, it was probably a spur-of-the-moment choice, a nearly thoughtless action with irrevocable results.

The IBC campus erupted with wailing when the news broke. Classes were put on hold as the entire community rallied, crying out to God, reading from His Word, comforting one another. At first there was a sense of hopelessness as the finality of Mary's (not her real name) choice hit home. But, gradually, hope returned. She had performed a foolish and sinful act, but God's grace was greater.

She left behind an open wound that is healing slowly. It is likely she had no thought of the injury she would cause. Her anguish was unrelated to the school. In two short weeks the staff and students had come to love and value Mary. We're finding that God is great enough to bring healing even in this.



Tuesday after that fateful day, students and staff were provided opportunity to prayerfully walk through the dorm into the room where death occurred. It was a major defeat for Satan and a statement of faith in God's power that every single student and staff member chose to walk through in spite of the many taboos and superstitions associated with death.

IBC will never be the same. By the grace and power of God, we will be stronger, more united as God uses this tragedy to bring glory to Himself and good to His people. Please pray for continued healing and God's glory to be manifested.

## Extension Studies

*By Dr. Kevin Newman, Academic Dean*

For years, a hope and dream of Indian Bible College has been to offer the quality education found on our Flagstaff campus to those who may not be able to travel to our main campus. Last year that dream became reality as we reinstated our Extension Studies Program. God made it happen by providing the resources to add an online component and by adding Josh Manning to the staff of IBC. (See article on new staff.)

The challenge in developing this program was different for IBC than for many other colleges. IBC is passionate about transformational discipleship. But can real discipleship happen at a distance? Our solution: simulcast classes live over the internet, while Josh provides on-the-ground discipleship. In the future, Josh and others will be able to provide courses in various other locations. We had our first class in Albuquerque, NM, this last July!

At present, our focus is on offering the six courses in our Christian Ministry Certificate (CMC) for 16 credit hours. Upon completion of these courses, the students will be able to participate in the Flagstaff commencement ceremony.

More information can be found on our website or you can contact Daniel Esplin at [desplin@indianbible.org](mailto:desplin@indianbible.org) or 928-774-3890, ext.16.



## Expansion Update!

*By Gail Teruya, Receptionist*

We are excited to announce that in June 2014, IBC purchased "The Barn"! With the help of board member and realtor Michael Ezell,



the purchase was made and a 10-year loan acquired; this is the second expansion in three years!

During the previous year when we leased The Barn, the business operations staff set up the bookstore in the reception area and were able to get better organized in their new office. They found that these changes have helped them service students more efficiently.

Please thank the Lord with us for His wisdom. The Board depended on it to make decisions about this purchase. And praise the Lord with us for His provision of The Barn. Our hearts rejoice in His faithfulness in providing for the needs that have accompanied IBC's growth. *Great is His faithfulness!!*

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## Members of :



*A higher standard.  
A higher purpose.*

## Praise and Prayer:

Praise the Lord for all the student lives that are being transformed into Christlikeness!

Praise the Lord that half of our full-time students are serving in student leadership!

Praise God for all the new staff!

Pray for the Lord's help for them as they adjust to Flagstaff and IBC.

Pray that the Lord will provide the funds to pay off the mortgage on our new property ("The Barn") so we can prepare for the next stage of campus expansion.

Pray for our efforts to get through the applicant stage of accreditation in just three years.

Please pray for the growth of our extension program; we hope someday to have hundreds of students in IBC extension studies.

Please pray that God would continue to bring victory and spiritual growth on our campus following the recent crisis.



Student Leader Training

## IBC Fall Conference October 27-30, 2014

We are excited about the opportunity to host a conference on multi-ethnic ministry this fall. If we are to fulfill our vision of seeing Native America "cease to be a mission field and mobilize as a missions force" (see Spring 2013 newsletter) then we must help our students relate to other cultures.

Our main speaker will be Dr. Mark DeYmaz, a nationally known leader and speaker on multi-ethnic ministry. Our four morning chapels will be held at Mountain View Church on the "why" of multi-ethnic Christian ministry, and evening leadership training seminars will be offered in IBC's chapel. Mark is the founder of the Mosaic Global Network, a published author, and will be a "main stage speaker" at the Atlanta Catalyst conference.



Please consider joining us! More information is available on our website.