

the **COMMUNIQUE**

communication arts alumni magazine
fall/winter 2008

4 freezing time
Daniel Folkers

6 news of hope
Danielle Parker

10 new cooke book
Phil Cooke

12 news travels fast
Krista Hemme





Professor Laura Holland
department chair

Greetings to all alumni! This semester has been productive and exciting, especially for our journalism area. Some of you have known student publications has not been “housed” in communication arts for several years.

This spring, student publications and communication arts have hired Kevin Armstrong to be the director of student publications and a full-time faculty member in journalism. Kevin brings an expertise and enthusiasm that is contagious, and our students are benefitting from his leadership both professionally and spiritually.

Our advisory boards for communication arts are active this semester. The Organizational/ Interpersonal faculty hosted a luncheon for experts in human resource management, training and development, law and consulting and recruitment. Mass Media faculty also met with professionals in the field. These meetings with our advisory boards are a wonderful time of sharing as well as of helping keep our faculty and curriculum current. We are very grateful to all who participated and look forward to a long relationship with the board members.

We produced our first Fine Arts Faculty Showcase. Courtney Sanders and Chris Crawford presented a one act entitled “An Infinite Ache” in partnership with Playhouse Theatre Company. Living Water Dance Company, directed by Amy McIntosh which included Jessie Dolezel and Rachel Bruce Johnson, three of our dance teachers, performed several dance pieces. Christopher Martin, theatre faculty, performed stand-up comedy. We have very talented faculty, and I hope this is only the beginning of an annual tradition.

The performing arts area of our department has a very challenging season this year. We opened our theatre season with Shakespeare’s “Hamlet,” which was performed to over 2,000 high school students as well as public audiences. The music and drama departments produced Puccini’s opera “Gianni Schicchi,” the University Dance ensemble presented a dance concert called “Motility,” and the theatre area staged “Moonlight and Magnolias” for the first time in the Liddy Doenges Theatre at the Tulsa Performing Arts Center.

The Theatre Directing class presented three evenings of Showcase Theatre. It is thrilling to see all the performing arts areas growing in numbers, talent and excellent creative work.

Please continue to support our school with your prayers and gifts. Stay in contact because we cherish hearing from you and are uplifted when you share what you are doing now. It gives us examples we can use to persuade current students to dream big dreams for God’s Kingdom.

Laura Holland

The Communique is a product of the Oral Roberts University communication arts department for its alumni.

To be informed of university updates and address changes, contact alumni relations at alumni@oru.edu.

To receive job listings or post an open position to recruit alumni applicants, e-mail Dr. Even Culp at eculp@oru.edu.

To provide feedback on the magazine or submit story ideas on successful alums, contact cputman@oru.edu. The adviser would like to hear from others in the field.

Professor Laura Holland
communication arts chair

Chris Putman
communique adviser

Jenna Schario
editor in chief

Special thanks to:
Dr. Even Culp

Contact us:
cputman@oru.edu
The Communique
c/o Chris Putman
ORU GC 2C-03
7777 S. Lewis Ave.
Tulsa, OK 74171

Cover photo/courtesy
Cooke Pictures
Cooke’s story on page 10
Graphic/courtesy StockExpert

From impersonating the Apostle Paul on tours in the Holy Land to owner and operator of an Internet company, 1975 Organizational and Interpersonal Communications graduate Rob Moritz's life can be characterized as nothing short of a wild ride on a rollercoaster to discovering the purpose God has in store for those who follow after Him. What most dream of doing for the Kingdom of God, Moritz is about doing.

Growing up, Moritz never really understood who Christ was or any other biblical figure. While at the University of Missouri, he found himself pondering the origin of life. Moritz pulled his pen apart, realizing even his writing utensil had a purpose; surely he did too, and he



dramatically speaking

rob moritz, walking in the steps of apostle paul

hoped to uncover it. Wandering the university chapel, he stumbled upon students discussing the book of Romans.

"I had no idea what Romans even was," Moritz said. "So I just asked, 'What are you guys talking about?' For the first time I knew the gospel, and I became a believer."

After transferring to Oral Roberts University, Moritz became involved with Youth for Christ. Upon graduation he continued his work with YFC in Kansas City.

"Teenagers are where it's at," Moritz said. "They are the most profound mission fields in the world."

Over the course of a year, Moritz committed himself to understanding the passion of the Apostle Paul and launched his ministry. Today, he can be seen impersonating the Apostle Paul from the foothills in Turkey to churches all over the United States.

The goal of Moritz's ministry is to connect eye-to-eye with others and bring to life the person of the Apostle Paul. On biblical tours, the messages are conversationally delivered from the books of Philipians, Ephesians and Acts. For instance, if he's in Philippi, he'll present Philipians; if he is in Ephesus, he'll present Ephesians. However, if he is speaking in a church, Moritz will combine epistles into sermon form.

"I would ask myself, 'How would Paul say this line of scripture?'" Moritz said. "I wanted to capture the heart, intent and meaning behind it; and it went past my head straight to my heart."

Kansas City native Maribeth Griessel had the opportunity to attend Moritz's Pilgrim Tours Footsteps of Paul with her husband.

"Within a couple of minutes,

Bringing to life the Apostle Paul, Rob Moritz uses Scripture to engage his audience. Moritz performs on biblical tours and in churches. photo/charles abraham

we felt transported back nearly two thousand years in the presence of Paul himself," Griessel said.

In addition to his Dramatic Impact Ministries as Apostle Paul, Moritz owns and operates Cities Unlimited, an Internet company that hosts thousands of city guides at the actual dot-com versions of their names. Each city guide provides listings of local hotels, apartments, job openings and other helpful information.

Day job aside, when Moritz is functioning in the role of Paul the Apostle, he feels most fulfilled. And it all started when he disassembled a pen, realizing it had a purpose. Yes, Moritz, like the pen, found his purpose – touching lives for the Kingdom. ● story/jared clementz



in a snap

With an eye for creativity, Daniel Folkers is ever ready to capture the perfect shot. Equipped with God-given talent, Folkers' work reflected local and international sites. "It's coming up with the idea behind the picture that truly makes a good photographer," Folkers said. photo/chris putman

"We are coming into an age where there are a lot more avenues for Christians to be creative in the arts."

*-Daniel Folkers,
freelance photography*

freezing time

daniel folkers, a passion for pictures

Freezing time is the specialty of 2006 graduate Daniel Folkers. His degree in Multi Media Productions has catapulted him in his endeavor to capture moments using still photography.

On a missions trip to Mexico before graduating, Folkers was put in charge of documenting the trip. It was the first time he had really picked up a camera, and he hasn't put it down since. He went on to be the photo editor for student publications and then started taking pictures for a local newspaper, Tulsa Front Page.

Post graduation Folkers has been freezing the excitement of prewedding jitters on the faces of brides for about four years now. Finding the perfect angle, lighting and capturing the perfect candid shot is not always easy.

"Anybody can snap a picture," Folkers said. "It's coming up with the idea behind the picture that truly makes a good photographer."

It is this very task that distinguishes Folkers from his fellow photographers.

"Daniel captures the best in every subject he photographs," Sony Pictures Entertainment Senior Executive Assistant of International Theatrical Creative Advertising Doreah Dean said. "His eye for detail and perspective allows him to visually transport and connect people to distinctive moments in time with each flash of his camera."

These camera flashes are getting some attention. Ten photos from the first photo shoot Folkers held were featured on an episode of the popular MTV show "Engaged and Underage." Folkers hopes to be able to impact the masses and secular programs with his work.

"There are a lot of surreal photos," Folkers said. "I

would like to put a spiritual twist on my photographs. I want to influence people and remind them that there is a spiritual world."

Folkers has a passion for skillfully portraying Christ in his photos. Combining spiritual awareness with imagination and technical artistry is what Folkers is all about. He feels now, more than ever, doors are opening up wide for Christians to shine with the talent God gave them.

"I feel like a lot of creativity has been stifled by religion," Folkers said. "We are coming into an age where there are a lot more avenues for Christians to be creative in the arts."

Folkers' professional ability intertwined with his out-of-the-box thinking has aided him in reaching his current success.

"Daniel is a highly skilled, amiable professional," Dean said. "Through the course of each project he undertakes, not only is he efficient and timely, but he is personable with his clients to make sure their desires are accommodated and their experience is an enjoyable one."

Folkers plans, eventually, to expand his business to include the fashion industry and more globetrotting.

"It's always an adventure," Folkers said. "I love that I get to travel."

From exploring exotic places, such as Mexico and the Dominican Republic, to capturing that perfect moment in Folkers' own hometown, freezing time has proven to be the gift God has given him, and he intends to use that gift to touch others. ● story/mandy ritzheimer



Using a creative edge and spiritual influence, Daniel Folkers captures great moments. Folkers' plans include expanding to fashion. photo illustration/joshua polite

"I really try to bring a message of hope to my readers."

*-Danielle Parker,
Duncanville Today,
news editor*

news of hope

danielle parker, writing her destiny

Early in life, 2007 Print Journalism graduate Danielle Parker found her gifting: to touch lives in a positive way through the stroke of a pen.

She became involved with the Perihelion, the university yearbook, and then The Oracle, the campus newspaper. Upon graduation, Parker knew she had a love for writing but had no idea how to plug into her destiny. A start with an online magazine quickly springboarded into a job for a weekly suburban with Today Newspapers.

Parker interviewed and landed the job as news editor for Duncanville Today in Duncanville, Texas. Parker's job entails writing news, education and feature stories. She regularly attends city council meetings, school board meetings and community events while planning the layout and design of the newspaper.

"My favorite is feature writing," Parker said. "I look for features with people overcoming [obstacles]. I love meeting new people and telling their story in an interesting, creative way and going behind the scenes of whatever they're doing."

When working closely with so many new people each week, Parker is always able to put her love for people into practice, as managing editor of Today Newspapers Angel Morris said.

"She has dealt with the people in the community really well," Morris said. "She's learned to manage different personalities, especially of people she works with

on a weekly basis. She's learned even if your personalities don't match, you have to find a common ground."

Because of Parker's platform as a community leader, she can positively influence many of her readers.

"I've done stories on people who will call later and say, 'Thank you,'" Parker said. "They will say, 'Your story brought tears to my eyes; it really touched and impacted me.'"

Parker believes writing is her calling.

"It's not something that's just going to be a career but a ministry for me," Parker said. "I try to bring a message of hope to my readers. Wherever God takes me, whether in this country or around the world, I hope to leave a mark that shows I am really fulfilling God's mission. It's not about me; it's truly all about Him."

Parker's optimism serves as a motivator to her fellow coworkers.

"I think she has brought a sense of renewed enthusiasm, being straight out of college," Morris said. "I've just really been excited to have had the opportunity to

work with her."

So what lies ahead for such a gifted writer?

"I would love to break out into magazine writing," Parker said. "Because I really love feature writing, I want to start my own magazine in about five years, and 10 to 15 years out, I'd like to have my own publishing company that houses several magazines." ● story/grace witte



Writing features from the community is what Danielle Parker loves best. As news editor for Duncanville Today, Parker writes and plans a layout. photo/chris hudson

When evangelist Richard Roberts visited Zambia in 1994, he spoke to hundreds of people about the Gospel of Christ. Among the crowd stood a ten-year-old boy who had grown up loving two things: soccer and Jesus. When Roberts spoke about Oral Roberts University, the boy dreamed of attending the university and committed to doing whatever necessary to be a United States college student. It would not be an easy journey, but it would change him forever.

Prince Mumba grew up in the city of Lusaka, Zambia as a competitive soccer player. After a knee injury, Mumba began running track and became a top recruit for college track teams. After landing at Xavier University, Mumba was even more fixed on his desire to get to ORU.

The opportunity to grow spiritually, athletically and academically while majoring in Public Relations/Advertising solidified Mumba's choice in following his dreams.

"ORU changed my life," Mumba said. "I grew spiritually. I learned to trust in God totally."

olympic dreams

prince mumba, running the good race

Winning ORU Athlete of the Year two consecutive years, being named Most Valuable Player, receiving the President's Trophy and the Tulsa Sports Charities Scholar Athletes award and winning over 50 medals reflect his God-given talent. Mumba was also named The Fastest Man in Zambia in the 800 meters. Mumba, a 2007 ORU graduate, is a professional athlete in Santa Monica, California.

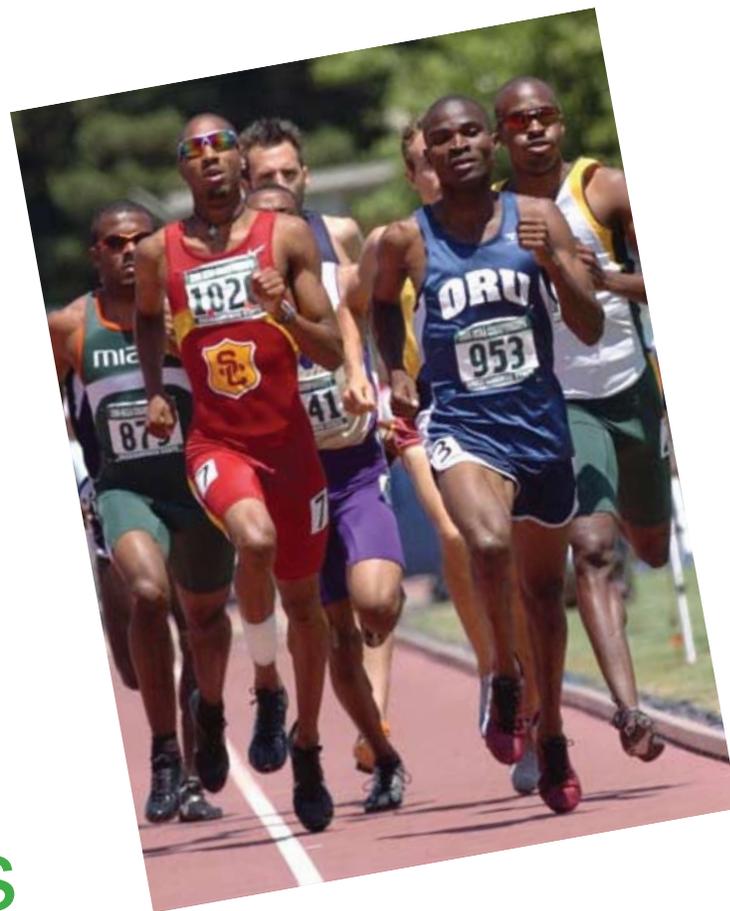
Mumba trusted God through wins and losses and in 2004 he stood as Zambia's 800-meter hero at the Olympic games in Athens.

"I didn't care what position I was going to get," Mumba said. "I just wanted to compete so badly. Going to the Olympics was absolutely my greatest accomplishment."

ORU track coach Alick Musakuma attributes Mumba's inner strength to his difficult upbringing.

"I tell my other athletes to strive to be like Prince both athletically and academically," Musakuma said. "Prince was well-rounded."

Mumba uses his platform to reach others. While at the Olympic games in Athens, he encountered a young woman asking for his autograph. Sensing her despair,



With God-given talent, Prince Mumba, number 953, excels on and off the track. The Olympic medalist uses his success to share God's love. photo courtesy/prince mumba

Mumba shared his struggles in life. She opened up to him, wept and accepted Christ. Mumba knows his true purpose is not just running but sharing with others the love of Christ.

"One thing I know, I am talented," Mumba said. "But I can never forget the One that put me here."

A hamstring injury before the 2008 Olympic games in Beijing prevented Mumba from competing, but Mumba's desire to compete in the 2009 World Championship in Germany pushes him on. His prayer life is what sustains him in the face of defeat.

"We have to let God guide our steps," Mumba said. "When I am down, I get on my knees and start praying."

Perhaps one day, when Mumba speaks to thousands of people, a ten-year-old boy in the crowd will be challenged to change the world. Mumba may go down in history as a great runner, but he will always be remembered as a great man. ● story/jamie bolley

While attending the university, Sarah Reichle (Strife) lived in the “ORU bubble,” a term she fondly uses to describe the safe haven the school provided to cultivate her passion for writing. Reichle graduated summa cum laude in 2005 with a bachelor’s degree in Mass Media Communications, with an emphasis in public relations/advertising. Since graduating, Reichle has made it her aim to be a light in the corporate world by embracing a little thing called a positive attitude.

Reichle joined Ohio National Financial Services in Cincinnati, Ohio, five months after graduation. She began her career on the FASTeam, a product and marketing support team, and moved to Corporate Marketing Communications as Communications Specialist. Reichle is responsible for many of the multimedia functions of the Corporate Marketing and Communications Department. She blasts thousands of e-mails to field agents and orchestrates a monthly webcast, a conference held via the Internet with company representatives across the country.

After entering the workforce, Reichle recognized the stark difference between God’s light and the darkness of the world. It was the small lessons she learned as a student in Dr. Johnny Mac Allen’s mass media classes that helped her shine in the workplace.

“Dr. Allen has passed on now, but so much of what he taught me still comes to mind,” Reichle said. “He always had something uplifting to say, always reminded us that we can be someone and do something great with our lives. It taught me that’s the way I want to leave other people, too. What really makes you shine is your attitude.”

Others have observed Reichle’s

positive perception

sarah reichle, light in the corporate world

uplifting demeanor influence others around her.

“She has a contagious, positive attitude,” Ohio National Director of Distribution Jill Hartmann said. “In her job, she’s responsible for sending communications to our sales associates, about 10,000 of them nationwide. She keeps organized and keeps everyone informed along the process. Sarah approaches each new project or problem with a great attitude.”

As a student, Reichle learned many practical skills, but she also discovered how something as small as being genuine toward others can leave an impression on the corporate world.

“Even though some days my tasks seem to be little, I do know that I’ve made a difference for my clients,” Reichle said. “I’ve helped them to understand the right way to get some

things done, which only makes their projects turn out more successfully. I hope to impact people by keeping that good attitude and positive vision. It’s really cool to see how God has orchestrated getting me to where I am today. I’m amazed at where He has placed me, and I know He’s not done with me yet.”

Somewhere during Reichle’s four years of studying, homework, and interning, something crept into her very essence, and that little thing has enabled her to shine the light of God’s love into the corporate world and make a big difference. ● story/chelsea davey

Preparing for a company meeting, Sarah Reichle maintains communications at Ohio National. Driven by a positive point of view, Reichle strives to impact others. photo/jill hartmann





storytelling

With Cooke Pictures, Phil Cooke speaks the language of the culture. Cooke had worked with ministry icons Joyce Meyers and Joel Osteen. "We are telling the greatest story ever told. We have to rethink our message," Cooke said. photo courtesy/cooke pictures

new cooke book

phil cooke, his recipe for success

Growing up, Phil Cooke never imagined the home-made movies he created while in high school would lead him to a career of engaging our culture on the hallowed streets of Hollywood.

Cooke began his college career as a music major, but when he had the unexpected opportunity to show one of his films in an Oral Roberts University film class, his direction changed. Much to his surprise, his film was a big hit, and it transformed his life.

“If I could do something with a camera and make people talk [about it], that is what I wanted to do,” Cooke said. “I changed my major that day and never looked back.”

A 1976 graduate with a bachelor’s degree in Film and Television, Cooke moved on to other universities to earn a master’s in Journalism and a doctorate in Theology. Later, Cooke and his wife Kathleen, a 1977 ORU grad, founded Cooke Pictures, a production and media consulting company aiding faith-based organizations in telling their stories effectively to the culture through emerging and traditional media.

“One of the things I am most driven by is helping Christians to engage the culture more,” Cooke said. “We are telling the greatest story ever told. We have to rethink our message.”

With past work involving Joel Osteen and Joyce Meyers ministries, Cooke Pictures advises clients on using every possible media tool to reach potential audiences.



With a passion for media, Phil Cooke creates TV commercials for TWC Films. In addition, Cooke is a published author, filmmaker and consultant. photo courtesy/cooke pictures

“He has a heart to see media used in a right way to truly help people come to know Jesus as well as grow in their relationship with Him,” CEO of U.S. Operations & Media for Joyce Meyer Ministries Dan Meyer said. “He has a passion to see Christian programming and movies be as good as any other programming that is out there.”

Cooke is a published author as well. With two books already in print, a third book, “Branding Faith...Why Some Churches and Nonprofits Impact Culture and Others Don’t,” was released in 2008.

“The concept of branding is simply telling a compelling story about your product or organization,” Cooke said. “But sadly today, Budweiser or Nike do a better job of telling their story than a typical pastor does.”

Cooke also engages the secular arena as well by cofounding Thomas Winter Cooke Films, a television commercial production company, with Executive Producer Mark Thomas and Feature Film Producer Ralph Winter. TWC Films recently produced two advertising spots that were broadcast during Super Bowl 2008 and revealed the new Chevrolet Volt at the Beijing Olympics.

Cooke is a valuable asset to TWC Films, and his passion and commitment to connect with his culture is appreciated by those he works with.

“Phil is one of the brightest minds in communications and a talented director and and producer,” “X-Men” cooke ● jump to page 16

“I’m all for popping the Christian media bubble and getting back to our original calling of engaging culture.”

- Phil Cooke,
Cooke Pictures and TWC Films

news travels fast

krista hemme, following the journey

To some, a goal proves to be a roadmap for life. For one Oral Roberts University Broadcast Journalism graduate, it is not about the destination but the journey.

Coming to the university, Krista Hemme (Flasch) was bent on acting on Broadway. She declared her major as a Drama/Television/Film major, but she felt a check. Sitting in her Announcing class, assistant professor of communication arts Mark Labash had the opportunity to critique her voice, and her gifting took him by surprise,

"I know talent when I see it," Labash said. "I just told her she didn't need to be in her current major and that she should pursue Broadcast Journalism. I then told her to go to the Leaders Institute just to try it out."

Taking his advice, Hemme set off to the Leaders Institute in Washington, D.C., an internship that gives students knowledge and professional experience in politics. To her surprise, the experience drove her to switch her major to Broadcast Journalism, and she walked across the graduation stage in 2002 and into her journey.

"Fear really keeps people from doing what they are called to do," Hemme said. "I think, take that leap of faith."

Sending out her audition tapes, she heard back from a news director in Charleston, South Carolina, who asked her to be an NBC Affiliate General Assignment Reporter/Producer. She packed her bags and headed to S.C. to follow her journey. Within a year, she was promoted to crime reporter.

"It's not about the destination, but it's about the journey. You have to live in the moment."

*-Krista Hemme,
KJRH reporter*

"Talk about stress," Hemme said. "Starting a new job, being a newlywed, I had no idea who anybody was, but it was a great adventure."

Toiling 60 hours, working holidays and low pay is not what many would deem as glamorous, but for her it's about getting the information out to the public to educate citizens and empower them with knowledge. Being a reporter takes commitment and proves challenging.

"Persistence and making several phone calls to a person several times a day [proves key]," Hemme said. "You just can't let up. You cannot let go. You have to be

creative and ask yourself who else can give me this information."

The journey does not end there. Hemme currently serves as a Tulsa-based KJRH general assignment reporter where she covers hard news with stories ranging from John Edwards' Tulsa visit in primary season to the BOK Center opening.

"I really enjoy covering politics and city hall," Hemme said. "Breaking news is fun, too, because there is an adrenaline rush when it comes to broadcast news."

Looking back, Hemme cannot help but ponder how God has influenced her decisions. Hemme lives life outside her comfort zone and embraces the unexpected. She doesn't worry about the future but trusts God has His hand in every step she takes.

"It's not about the destination, but it's about the journey," Hemme said. "You just have to live in the moment. You just have to do it." ● story/jessica dues



As a news reporter, life never slows down for Krista Hemme. In or out of the newsroom, Hemme enjoys the challenge of uncovering the story. photo/chris putman



up to the challenge
Using creative journalism, Krista Hemme is determined to capture her story. Hemme's talent was discovered while she was a student at ORU. "You have to be creative and ask yourself who else can give me this information," Hemme said. photo/chris putman



Kelly Wright

the wright step

The 2008 graduation ceremony held special meaning for graduating seniors and the commencement speaker, Kelly Wright. Wright, a correspondent for Fox News Channel was coanchor of “American Election Headquarters.”

Wright left ORU early, in 1977, to serve in the U.S. Army and afterwards moved on to many avenues in the media. At graduation Wright received his degree after nearly 30 years in the news field. The celebration was held in the Mabee Center. ● story/eden dukeman

pressing on

kevin armstrong, teaching it write

It was Valentine’s Day 1971. With a knock on the door, a young boy gave his spiel while holding a copy of The Allview News, a stapled collection of Xeroxed stories and artwork the 9 year old sold for five cents. Neatly tucked inside were three heart-shaped lollipops used as the holiday’s promotional tool.

More than a decade later, this young boy, Kevin Armstrong, graduated from the University of Missouri with his bachelor’s degree in Journalism proudly clutched to his heart, prepared but unaware of what might lie ahead for him.

Armstrong knew from a young age he would be a journalist. He drew inspiration from his father, Oral Roberts Evangelistic Association Director of Publications Bill Armstrong, who reported on Oral Roberts’ healing crusades for “Abundant Life Magazine.”

But Armstrong did not see himself working in Christian media markets like his father.

He felt something was missing—that engaging in the community was necessary. A summer spent in a six-week journalism program in high school and reading a book by Franky Schaeffer, “A Time for Anger,” further directed Armstrong’s calling.

“[There I was] at Missouri, at a secular school, and it’s like, ‘See, Kevin, this is exactly why you’re being called to this; it’s a mission field,’” Armstrong said. “I have regarded that as such, not to bully people or for me to preach the gospel in the secular press but certainly for me to be a light in the press.”



photo illustration/chris putman



KGEB Satellite Dish

KGEB and GEB

The KGEB and the Golden Eagle Broadcasting satellite station (GEB) are proud to announce the airing of ORU men’s basketball. Victory Christian Center’s

2009 Word Explosion will be broadcast live on both stations. They are continuing to work with Fox News to handle most of their national satellite uplinks and are seeking advertisers and people interested in a television broadcast. ● story/eden dukeman



Lake Evelyn Pavilion

campus upgrades

Summer renovations gave the campus a facelift. A new pavilion was built next to Lake Evelyn for student events. Dorm paint, electrical upgrades, microfridges and central air conditioner units were added. Ellis Melvin Roberts Hall and Claudius Priscilla Roberts Hall received new carpet, restrooms, a snack area, furniture and game tables. New carpet, theater/desktop units and an enlarged stage were also installed in Zoppelt. ● story/eden dukeman

Evelyn for student events. Dorm paint, electrical upgrades, microfridges and central air conditioner units were added. Ellis Melvin Roberts Hall and Claudius Priscilla Roberts Hall received new carpet, restrooms, a snack area, furniture and game tables. New carpet, theater/desktop units and an enlarged stage were also installed in Zoppelt. ● story/eden dukeman

His journey began, following God's call wherever it took him. He married, and a month later moved to Virginia Beach to work as a copy/layout editor for The Virginian-Pilot.

This new position suited Armstrong well in his early days. He worked his way up to assignment editor—his passion—and stayed with The Pilot for 24 years. In this role he developed stories in the community and ensured the reporters covered relevant information. Thanksgiving 2007 was the acceleration of another big move.

A love for Tulsa and ORU has been in Armstrong's heart since his family moved to Ohio when he was 5. After a family Thanksgiving and visit to Tulsa, Armstrong sent the communication arts department a letter explaining his background and his interest in a job. He later received a call from the department chair, and the rest is history.

Armstrong is still pinching himself in disbelief about his return to ORU. He has taken over as director of student publications, which includes The Oracle and The Perihelion. In addition, he is teaching journalism classes, a new way of being the light to the press.

While he is adjusting to his new job, he calls himself a freshman faculty member, balancing class schedules and curriculum planning with overseeing the publications.

"I want to paste a sign on my door that says, 'No dull days,'" Armstrong said. "Serving the Lord is an adventure. Every day is a new chance to learn."

Oracle editor-in-chief Katie Lucia describes Armstrong as an encouraging, passionate person. She has enjoyed working under him and boasts of his tenacity in printing relevant news.

"He comes in fresh from a real newspaper, so he's been challenging The Oracle staff to go beyond our personal standards," Lucia said. "He is good at explaining difficult concepts, so we can be on the same page. I appreciate his willingness to sacrifice in order to help his students improve."

Preparing the next generation of journalists for the changing media workplace is how Armstrong hopes to impact his students. Media is constantly evolving, and Armstrong wants students to be at the forefront of new technology while still being a light.

He shows no signs of slowing down anytime soon. Armstrong said this is what he will be doing in ten years, training young journalists to be lights in their worlds as they graduate. ● story/krista wells

academic outreach

Students in Journalism instructor Chris Putman's Advertising Layout & Design classes experienced the work world without leaving the professor's guiding hand. Students designed branding for three local churches and were responsible for creating a logo, letterhead, business card, newsletter, bulletin and print ad. Upon completion, students presented their work to the pastors and staff, who then picked the design most fitting. ● story/eden dukeman



Senior Natalie Sullivan presents her designs to a client.

telly award

A promotional video shown at the ORU Homecoming event reminding alumni of their adventure and growth received a Telly Award. University Media Production, recently changed from Educational Television Production, created the work. The purpose of the video was to praise alumni on their success of going into "every man's world."

● story/eden dukeman



Telly Award



vision renewed

Renewing the Vision, established by the Board of Trustees, has raised more than \$8 million since the beginning of the campaign. Every dollar donated by alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends will be matched by the trustees, up to \$25 million. The campaign's purpose is to renew the vision Chancellor Oral Roberts experienced to raise up students who hear God's voice and spread His Word. ● story/eden dukeman

cooke - continued from page 11

producer and TWC Films cofounder Ralph Winter said. “He is an out-of-the-box thinker and a thought leader.”

Cooke helped TWC Films develop a full-length documentary about William Wilberforce called, “The Better Hour,” outlining the life of the British Parliamentarian who fought to end slave trade in England.

But despite all of Cooke’s success in business, he does not attribute it to luck.

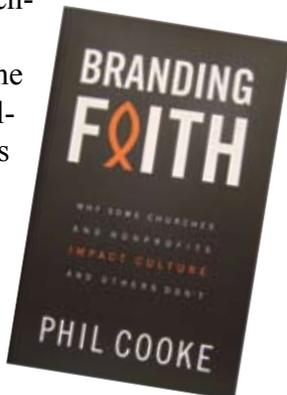
“For whatever reason, God has allowed us to keep paying our bills and continues to position us to help the Church navigate the media world,” Cooke said. “I believe that when Oral said to ‘Go into every man’s world,’ he meant it; so we keep pressing forward, being grateful for every day God keeps opening doors.”

Cooke’s future professional plans include releasing a new book in February of 2009 titled “The Last TV Evangelist: Why The Next Generation Could Care Less About Christian Media...And Why It Matters.”

“Its purpose is to wake up the church to what I’m calling ‘the open media revolution,’” Cooke said. “I’m all for popping the Christian media bubble and getting back to our original calling of engaging the culture.”

From a film class at ORU to the star-speckled streets of Tinseltown, Phil Cooke has found his place in today’s culture.

“I want to be remembered as the guy who helped the Church understand the culture shift.” Cooke said. ● story/jenna schario



Logan Craft

intelligent forum

The issue of Intelligent Design and Evolution has driven the world into a debate of right and wrong. A movie released in theaters was recently viewed and discussed at ORU. Producer Logan Craft of “Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed” attended the movie viewing and question-and-answer forum. At the discussion, Craft conferred about the film’s creation, content and controversy. Ben Stein was chosen to narrate the movie, hoping to lighten the loaded topic. ● story/eden dukeman



Advisory Board Luncheon

meeting of minds

Faculty met with professionals in the work world of radio, public relations, advertising, newspapers, television and graphic design at a luncheon hosted by the communication arts department. Professors inquired if current curriculum is truly preparing students for their prospective careers. As a result, latest industry trends, technology and relevant skill sets will be incorporated into the classroom. ● story/eden dukeman