

From the President's Heart



As an old story goes, I have good news and some not so good news. I am truly excited about recent developments regarding the movement into our future for training leaders and impacting eternity through Covington Seminary. We are expecting to begin On-Line studies with our students early in 2009 and with this potential we will be able to train our students through the vehicle of the internet. We have been working and praying toward this goal for many months and soon we will experience that reality. It is certainly rewarding to finally see that new students have the choice to study "on-line."

Also, in the good news department, we are finalizing a proposal and recent opportunity to join our school with the New Brunswick Bible Institute of Victoria Corner NB, Canada to continue their great work of training Bible students to serve Christ Jesus through churches, missions and evangelism. Through our union NBBI will offer a four year program with a bachelor's degree that extends beyond their current three year institute program. Covington will have the potential for those individuals to continue into our masters' study programs. For many years, NBBI students have worked to complete their four year program through Covington; however, now that relationship will be an official one. We are elated at the potential of this joint program to impact the kingdom of Christ.

Finally, I would request your prayers for our school regarding our financial income. For the first time now in thirty-one years, our school has had deficits in our enrollment and our income. The years 2007 and 2008 are the first years that we have not seen growth. We have had a continuing enrollment increase in all these previous years. But, with the gas crunch in 2007, we began to see a dramatic and steady decrease in our income. The decrease is at 25 % and climbing. That is more than significant for us, as we have dipped into our sparse reserves in the months of 2008. For these thirty odd years, we have maintained our commitment to offer the best quality Bible education for the lowest tuition rate possible. We have been faithful to that value.

I'm requesting your prayers as we are facing the need to adjust to these serious financial times. We are taking a position of not instituting a tuition increase. More than ever, our students need a financial break. Also, we have never charged a finance fee for those who make payments on their tuition and we will continue that commitment. Our stated value is to meet our students where they are in their need for quality Bible training and respond to them in most feasible way to aid their commitment to serve our Lord. You may help us by your prayers and by recommending us to those that you know that are seeking training for ministry service.

His richest blessings upon you as you honor and serve Him.;

Dr. Steve Sullivan