

ENGAGING STUDENTS THROUGH SITE TEAM TRIPS

By Brittany Ascenzi '13

“Site team trips are exclamation points to the work of the Collaboratory,” said Collaboratory director Dr. David Vader. Site team trips may only be one part of the Collaboratory, but they make a big statement regarding the Collaboratory mission. At its core, the Collaboratory serves to combine profession with faith. Students have an outlet to use their majors in a professional environment, while also having the unique opportunity to discover how they can serve God through their majors. Site team trips then present an opportunity for students to travel to other countries to implement their own projects.

The vision for the Collaboratory is to “increase hope and transform lives through education, collaboration, innovation and service.” Site team trips work towards this vision by expanding the work of the Collaboratory to clients all over the world, but work begins in labs and classrooms at Messiah College. Students meet every week in order to perfect projects so that projects can then transform the lives of people in many underdeveloped countries. “Students put their heart and soul and time into these projects and during that time hear about their clients and the people that the project



Cortney Stelle '13 (second from left) and Darin Horst '14 (far right) collecting water samples for water testing in Mahadaga, Burkina Faso.

is impacting,” said Kate Johnstone, student operations leader.

Nate Kamban, project manager of the African Water and Disabilities Study (AWDS) group, highlights how the trips benefit clients. “For the client, site team trips give them the opportunity to communicate face-to-face with us. Without the difficulties of international correspondence, they are able to easily express the successes or failures of our projects.”

Site team trips have become an essential part of the Collaboratory.

This past January, the Collaboratory

sent two site teams to Africa in order to implement projects and continue research. The site team trip to Burkina Faso united members of various application groups: water, Bridging Therapy, Operations and Disability Resources. Disability Resources worked on updating three electric tricycles built by previous teams, while also putting the components onto a fourth tricycle. Bridging Therapy presented the Center for the Advancement of the Handicapped with a manual to assist physical therapy sessions, while also gathering feedback

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The Collaboratory for Strategic Partnerships and Applied Research

MISSION

The Collaboratory is a center at Messiah College for applied research and project-based learning, in partnership with client non-profit organizations, businesses, governments and communities in our region and around the world. Areas of engagement include science, engineering, health, information technology, business and education. Our twofold mission is:

- To foster justice, empower the poor, promote peace and care for the earth through applications of our academic and professional disciplines
- To increase the academic and professional abilities of participants, their vocational vision for lifelong servant-leadership and their courage to act on convictions

VISION

Increasing hope and transforming lives through education, collaboration, innovation and service.

IDENTITY

The Collaboratory is an organization of students, educators and professionals affiliated with Messiah College. We are Christians who aspire to obey the instructions of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to love neighbors as ourselves and to share his Gospel. As God enables us to serve others today, we seek to grow as disciples of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to serve as God's stewards over the resources of our academic disciplines and to bear witness to the good news of the Kingdom of God.

CONTACTS

Student Executive and Group Leaders

Student Director: Jean Zipagan
 Assistant Director: Lindsey Adomat
 Student Operations Leader: Kate Johnstone
 Communications: Stephen Powers
 Disability Resources: Seth Betteridge
 Education: Sarah Gilmartin
 Energy: Andrew Dowling
 Microeconomic Development: Dylan Thomas
 Transportation: Andy Breighner
 Water: Zachary Sizemore

Advisers

Director of the Collaboratory: David Vader
 Manager of the Collaboratory: Rodney Green
 Communications Technology: Randall Fish, David Owen, Nancy Patrick, Harold Underwood
 Disability Resources: Andrew Betteridge, Alex Brubaker, Jodie Haak, Angela Hare, Nate Kamban, John Meyer, W. Ray Norman, Barbara Ressler, Lamarr Widmer
 Education: Angela Hare
 Energy: Tom Austin, Craig Dalen, Carl Erikson, Liam Tanis
 Micro-Economic Development: J-Lynn Conrady, Connie Ostwald
 Operations: Rodney Green, Alyssa Heberlig, Jim Krimmel, Scott Weaver
 Transportation: Randy Jackson, Donald Pratt
 Water: Tony Beers, Robert Clancy, Bryan Hoover, Joseph Longenecker, Earl Swope, Ariela Vader, David Vader

WORD FROM THE MANAGER



A well-known Rabbi named Jesus (Yeshua) went to his hometown synagogue in Nazareth to worship. There was a buzz in the air as stories circulated about his miracles. All eyes were on him. In the middle of the meeting, he publicly read part of a beloved passage from the Prophet Isaiah. If there was ever an opportunity to gain public support, this was the time. But in a matter of moments the hushed religious crowd transformed into a mob that dragged him outside to murder him. Somehow, he walked away from the scene unhurt. What is going on in this story?

Nazareth was a “settler town” of Jewish nationalists seeking to take back the land from

Gentiles¹. Jesus, having grown up in this community, would have known that they loved the passages in Isaiah that spoke of God's vengeance against Gentiles, as they felt oppressed and longed for physical deliverance and political sovereignty². But Jesus intentionally left out those passages, and focused on this:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, for He has anointed me	Spirit of God	
To preach good news to the poor	Preach	Proclamation
He has sent me to proclaim to the prisoners—freedom	Sent	Justice Advocacy
And to the blind—the recovery of sight	Sight	Compassion
To send forth the oppressed—in freedom	Send	Justice Advocacy
To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.	Proclaim	Proclamation ³

With these actions, Jesus was redefining their worldview and inaugurating a new Way, which included God's grace and love available for all people. Jesus claimed that this reality was being fulfilled in their midst and even used Gentile examples of faith to drive home his point.⁴ This confronted the prejudices and priorities of the audience, and they were willing to do anything to silence him.⁵ What lessons does this story have for us today?

First, we must be open to being redefined by Jesus in every way, changing how we see ourselves and the world. We can resist like Nazareth, or we can accept the new thing he is doing.

Second, we must be willing to follow Jesus as the Way—a synergy of proclaiming God's grace, and extending justice and advocacy to those in need with a heart of compassion.

Word – Deed – Heart. We have accepted His challenge here and now, seeking to nurture ability and faith to follow Him in heart, word and deed. From all of us at the Collaboratory, we give a heartfelt thanks to all of you who give gifts of prayer, time and money to make possible the proclamation of Good News through projects of justice advocacy and compassion, and the equipping of a new generation for service to Jesus.

Rodney Green, program manager

¹ Bailey, K. (2008) Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes, Intervarsity Press.

² Isaiah 61:2, 5-6

³ Luke 4:18-19 (as translated by Kenneth Bailey in Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes), in which Jesus edited Isaiah 61:1-2

⁴ Luke 4:20-28

⁵ Bailey, K. (2008) Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes, Intervarsity Press. Young's Literal Translation says in Luke 4:22, “and all were bearing testimony to him, and were wondering at the gracious words that are coming forth out of his mouth, and they said, ‘Is not this the son of Joseph?’” The “wondering” can be understood as negative or positive. Based on the context, it could be interpreted that they began to get angry at this point and brought up Jesus' working class background as an attack. When Jesus purposely responded using Gentile male and female examples of faith, their anger spiraled out of control.

DEVELOPING VISION THROUGH NEW LEADERSHIP AND ADMINISTRATION

Introducing Rodney Green and Shannon Walker

By Jessica Barnett '13

At the start of the spring 2013 semester, the Collaboratory transitioned into a time of strengthened vision through the fresh leadership of new program manager Rodney Green and administrative assistant Shannon Walker.

From his first moments hearing of the Collaboratory, Green identified with its visions, stating, "What's not to love? International development projects to empower the poor, students gaining real life application experience of their disciplines, a professional learning environment with clients and advisers, and a Christ-centered ethos—those elements together are a recipe for transformation."

Green and his wife of three years, Diana, recently moved to the Harrisburg area after years abroad. After earning an education degree from Central Michigan University, Green spent two years teaching in the United Kingdom and Mexico. He then applied community and student empowerment skills toward the contexts of poverty and exploitation, interning in community development initiatives in Ecuador for two months and working as a manager of a Community Center for a UK church for two years.

Green and his wife moved to India in May 2011 to aid victims of sex trafficking. He worked as a program associate in Advancement and Communications for an anti-trafficking organization, assisted in the creation of an award-winning documen-

tary, fostered inter-organizational relationships and strategic development, and participated in a couple rescue operations.

Green is currently earning a Master of Science in Global Development Management and is finishing a research project on inter-organizational relationships between actors working to rehabilitate survivors of sex trafficking. He anticipates applying these experiences into his work at the Collaboratory, an organization that synthesizes the "enthusiasm and dedication" of students, advisers, and professionals to "value those that have been forgotten" while "also receiving from the poor all the things they have to teach."

In addition to Green, Shannon Walker perpetuates a life of service at the Collaboratory. Ministering as a music evangelist with her husband for 15 years in the U.S. and abroad, the Walkers partnered with World Serve International drilling wells in Africa, raising awareness of water deprivation and encouraging churches to assist with well-drilling, and assisted the African community through building projects, such as churches and health facilities.

When Walker's husband accepted a position at Christian Life Assembly, she began "praying for employment that would be more than just a 'job.'" Walker states her new position fits "perfectly with [her] heart" and prior experiences organizing the logistics and finances for missions trips. She further states, "I am excited to be part of the Collaboratory and work with a team that is making a difference across the world."

Farewell to Tony Caito and Victoria Johnson

Rodney Green hopes to see the Collaboratory "increasingly adding value to diverse departments at Messiah College." This work has already begun with the departure of former program manager Tony Caito and administrative assistant Victoria Johnson who moved into other Messiah College departments.

Caito transfers his Collaboratory experience toward education. Currently teaching a Comparative Politics course, he is completing his doctoral dissertation and recently accepted a full-time faculty position at Corban University. Reflecting on his time at the Collaboratory, he states, "I had an opportunity that most educators would envy, getting to work with some of the most dedicated, compassionate, and academically and vocationally gifted students at Messiah College. I am sure I will apply elements of the Collaboratory student leadership and ministry model wherever I teach in the future."

Johnson lends her experience to the "great team" in the Office of Human Resources. She values the Collaboratory for doing "such powerful work—both internationally and in the hearts of students" and is thankful for the "valuable lessons about service and interacting with inspirational students, staff and faculty." Johnson continues to endorse the Collaboratory's values, knowing it "will continue to do amazing things and I will continue to support this organization in any way that I can."

SPONSOR THE COLLABORATORY

The Collaboratory could not achieve its mission without a broad team of sponsors.

To support the Collaboratory financially:

BY CHECK: Please make checks payable to *Messiah College*. Clearly indicate on the memo line or in an attached note that the gift is to support the Collaboratory. Mail checks to:

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One College Avenue Suite 3013, Mechanicsburg PA 17055

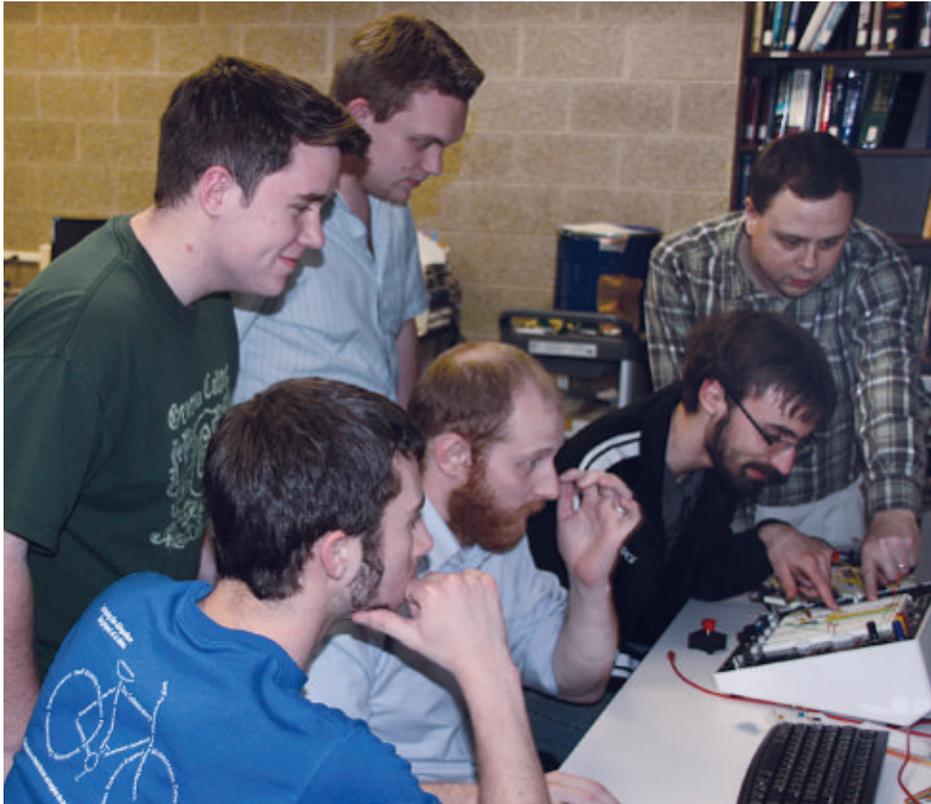
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INTELLIGENT WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT

By Shannon McKee '14



IWMS engineering members create sensors to monitor the health of hand pumps.

At any given moment, about 36 percent of the water pumps in Africa are nonfunctional. Clean water in Africa is scarce as it is, and without properly functioning pumps, the scarcity becomes even more alarming. The Intelligent Water Management System (IWMS) project came into being after World Vision endowed the Collaboratory with a grant to find out why the India Mark II hand pump, used in many of World Vision's water projects, breaks down so frequently. The grant also applied to redesigning the individual parts, in order to make them less susceptible to failure.

This project led to the Collaboratory's realization that there is a need, not only for more sustainable pumps, but also for well and pump evaluation. With no monitoring system currently in place, pumps throughout Africa remain unprepared for several days or even weeks, creating dire situations within the communities. Due to this insight, the Collaboratory came up with the idea of IWMS—a water management system that evaluates the function of each handpump and its parts. The project is the

first of its kind. "This is cutting edge," says Tony Beers, the project manager. "There is no commercial system right now that you can buy that does what this system will do. It's a known need, and we're getting close to the solution."

IWMS has an extensive role. It will monitor the pump and gather information about its efficiency. Field technicians in Africa will be automatically notified, via text message, of pump breakdowns. In addition, technicians will be able to see when a pump is close to failing or not properly operating. This will allow for timelier repair of pumps and more thorough pump failure prevention. Not only does IWMS benefit technicians, but the system also benefits the community, scientists and donors by informing them of cost of ownership, well water levels and effectiveness of investments.

The IWMS project involves various groups. Several Messiah classes work in partnership with the Collaboratory: computer science, engineering, entrepreneurial studies and graphic design. Rachel Morris,



Well technicians installing a hand pump in Niger.

a sophomore environmental engineering major who is working on IWMS explains, "Working on projects, alongside other students, [we] feel the passion, love and joy of what we do. Rather than just studying and working out equations we're able to use our gifts and passions for a bigger purpose, which is really exciting to see!"

Furthermore, outside organizations work with the Collaboratory. Alexandra Lutz, a hydrologist and researcher at the Desert Research Institution (DRI) in Nevada and an adviser to this project, echoes Morris' sentiment: "I have worked with some of the most amazing people on this project. ... This goes beyond working 8-5. People are actually dedicated. We have a really nice team, and that's not something you find often."

The Collaboratory is hopeful that World Vision will be involved in the funding of IWMS. "Our goal is to have a rough-working prototype by the end of the spring [2013] semester and to have an implementable one by early summer," says Beers.

Morris speaks of the significance of bringing together "the Living Water and pure water." In combining a desire for justice with practical application, that is exactly what IWMS will be doing.

ENGAGING COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

By *Kaithyn Kulp '14*

Enthusiastic students and project innovation continue to characterize the Collaboratory's maturation. However, with this growth comes a greater demand: professional advising. "The number of students who want to be involved ... is outpacing our advising ability," said Director David Vader. To meet this need, the Collaboratory recently launched a program to recruit volunteer advisers from the local community.

Since many local churches, such as West Shore Evangelical Free and Dillsburg Brethren in Christ, have long-standing relationships with Messiah College, the program will facilitate connections between the Collaboratory and church members with professional experience. "We wanted to reach out to local churches and engage them in our vision," Vader said. "So far, local churches have been excited to partner with us as a way to give back to young professionals, and connect in an international context."

In the fall of 2012, the Collaboratory launched a pilot program focusing on recruiting advisers from West Shore Evangelical Free Church. There are currently three advisers working with the Collaboratory

as a result of this program: Steve Marquis, who is involved with the BioDiesel project; Bryan Hoover, who is helping the water group; and Randy Jackson, who is working with the transportation group.

The advisers have extensive and varied professional experience. Before his retirement, Jackson worked as a locomotive engineer and conductor, and as an inspector for the Federal Railroad Administration. Marquis works in construction as a consulting structural engineer and has worked with Wycliffe Bible Translators. Hoover is a civil engineer who designs roadways and manages a highway design program. These advisers apply their professional experience to issues such as strategic planning and communication with clients, working with group members in subjects that align with their own areas of expertise.

The advisers also work to encourage an atmosphere of professionalism in their groups. "I try to help the students see ... the similarity between their Collab work and the fast approaching post-undergrad work," Hoover said. "Much of what they experience in the execution of their project will be encountered in their normal job." There is

a strong mentorship aspect to the advising program as well. "It's fun to be back offering advice from the other end of the spectrum," said Marquis. "The students are ready to start their careers and I'm almost ready to retire. I'm able to provide insights that I wish I had at their age."

The advisers reflect positively on their work with the Collaboratory. "It's been a great experience," said Jackson. "I've learned a lot from the students and I think they've learned a lot from me. ... If other adults from the church community wanted to get involved it would be a great thing for these young people."

The Collaboratory plans to extend the advising program to other local churches. Doug Sider, executive pastor of Carlisle Brethren in Christ, said that he admires the work the Collaboratory is doing and plans to consider which members of his congregation might want to participate as advisers.

Through the advising program, the Collaboratory hopes to connect with the people in the community and give them an outlet to serve God within context of their professions. As Vader claims, "It's really a win-win for everybody."

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

MICHELLE CARRIER

By *Kevin Clancy '13*



Michelle Carrier, a 2008 marketing graduate, states that "The Collaboratory was one of [her] absolute best, and possibly most defining, experiences at Messiah." She joined

the staff group (now operations group) the spring semester of her first year at Messiah and was the staff group manager for her last three semesters. During that time, one of her fondest Collaboratory memories was her January-term 2006 trip to Mozambique for the solar install.

While participating in the Collaboratory, she also gained several life lessons. She learned to "pursue excellence" in both volunteer and vocational work and to "be intentional—to think about the words we say, the decisions we make, the way we spend money, the relationships we invest in." She also learned that "whenever you say yes to something, you say no to one hundred other things," personally and professionally, and lastly, that "poverty is multidimensional—encompassing emotional and social" aspects.

After graduation, Carrier traveled overseas and volunteered with Jubilee Partners before completing her Master of Marketing

Research from the University of Georgia in May 2010. She now works for Johnson & Johnson Vision Care in their global strategic insights department. She recognizes how her Collaboratory experience prepared her for her career, such as working and communicating with diverse groups of people. "Working to learn to communicate the engineers' needs to the staff group, and the Staff's needs to the engineers, was great preparation for the work I currently do in communicating between research and development and global marketing." She also appreciates "having an example of servant leadership."

Ultimately, Carrier states that she values the Collaboratory because of "the relationships gained of both friends and mentors, the growth in [her] understanding of God and grace, the increased understanding of global social and environmental issues, the opportunities to learn hands-on and develop as a leader."



Ghana site team 2013, Front row: Evie Telfer, assistant College pastor (far left); Becca Brockman '13 (fourth from left); Chrissy Greulich '13 (second from right); Back row: Lamarr Widmer, math professor (second from right), Nate Kamban, project manager (far right)

on how to continue to help the Center. Water installed Hollow Fiber Membrane (HFM) systems in order to provide missionaries with more purified water. They also observed and tested current wells and pumps, and also observed the progress of the Survival Gardens project.

Though each application group had its own projects to work on, they all came together in order to assist the missionaries with various projects, such as drilling a well, organizing a guest library, installing windows, assisting with bookkeeping, evaluating the transportation options and installing the Kilowatt Hour project's meters.

A second site team headed to Ghana. This trip consisted of members and advisers of the AWDS group. While there, the group conducted World Health Organization (WASH) and Disability sensitization workshops to increase participants' awareness and exposure to the particular needs of persons with disabilities in the WASH sector; facilitated focus group meetings between persons with disabilities and World Vision staff in order to better understand the particular needs of persons with disabilities; commenced the design process of assistive WASH facilities (pumps and latrines) for the Ghana Rural Water Project (GRWP); and continued the production and testing of low-cost assistive WASH technologies with local artisans.

Both site team trips successfully fulfilled project requirements, finished projects and gathered new information from clients.

However, site team trips serve a greater purpose than to simply progress with projects. "A prerequisite for mission is first to go as 'learners' instead of 'doers,'" said Vader. While completing projects abroad, the Collaboratory tries to build connections across cultures and establish a "give and take" mentality. Visiting another culture means being willing to listen and consider another person's unique way of life. "Other cultures have different perspectives and understandings on the world than we do. It isn't one directional. We need our lives to be transformed as well," said Vader. In the process of serving others in the name of Christ, students end up being influenced too.

Forming enduring relationships also remains at the center of the Collaboratory site team trips. Unlike short-term mission trips, site team trip teams have the opportunity to get to know the people they are helping long-term. Clients have come to trust the Collaboratory. Even though every year different groups of students are sent out on trips, every member of the new site team is considered a friend by their clients before they arrive. Christ came

to earth to love people and build relationships; the Collaboratory seeks to do the same through site team trips by dedicating significant time to build loyalty and communication between cultures. Therefore, it is trusted not only for its successful projects, but for its willingness to extend a hand in friendship to clients.

These connections continue to impact students' lives long after the site teams return to Messiah. After participating in a trip to Mali, Collaboratory alumni JoAnna Larson, a leader of the Bridging Therapy project, now has a desire to be an educator of physical therapy in Third World countries. Other students grow to be more compassionate, to live generously, or to better understand another culture's way of life. "It is amazing to see how God uses these experiences time and time again to deepen the faith of team members," said Kamban.

Dr. Vader hopes that site team trips give students a chance to "find a focal point for their dreams. I hope that graduates leave with a sense of calling." These trips can give students a different perspective on how to serve God with their professions. "Being on a site team helped me to see that I can take my major and my career and use it to serve God and others while I am working in the professional world. All God asks for is a willing heart," said Johnstone. Site team trips serve as an exclamation point in providing an end for certain projects, but also in the way the Collaboratory will continue to exclaim the love of Christ abroad in order to build understanding across cultures.



Well-drilling in Burkina Faso an example of teamwork. Lindsey Adomat '14 helps stabilize the human-powered drill.

DANA BRITTON, DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

By Abigail Ferenczy '14



Dana Britton, serving on the Messiah admissions team for 15 years, has been an active supporter of the Collaboratory since its formation. She re-

members the initial research that Dr. David Vader conducted in Africa and watched the Collaboratory expand from the engineering department to the wide-range of departments that it encompasses today.

As director of admissions, Britton plays a vital role in supporting the Collaboratory. She and the admissions team inform potential students and their families about the organization. "Our goal is that when a family visits, we're able to hone in on what makes the Messiah experience unique." At scholarship events and during personal tours of Messiah, "The Collaboratory is clearly spoken of as a distinctive. I see it

as an integral part of Messiah's vision to educate students who will become servants, leaders and reconcilers in the world," she says.

In addition to informing individuals and families of the Collaboratory's work, Britton puts together a student panel for the Pennsylvania Liberal Arts College Tour. At the event, the chosen students represent Messiah College to approximately 50 high school guidance counselors from across the state. Britton said she always makes sure there is an involved student who can speak on behalf of the Collaboratory.

Many incoming Messiah students demonstrate a desire to be involved in positive change, having participated in community service or honors programs in high school. Therefore, Britton takes advantage of every opportunity to inform them of the Collaboratory. "My hope as we get families invested is that they will start thinking bigger. I can talk to most students—no matter what their major—about opportunities in the Collaboratory. Our hope is that students will graduate from Messiah with a passion to make a difference in the world."

"I can talk to most students—no matter what their major—about opportunities in the Collaboratory. Our hope is that students will graduate from Messiah with a passion to make a difference in the world."

JOHN STUCKEY, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

By Jessica Barnett '13



Jon Stuckey, current director of development at Messiah College, works with alumni, parents and friends to gather funds that support not only the

mission of the College, but enhances the operation of the Collaboratory.

Since he started with the development office in 2000, Stuckey has used his position to serve the Collaboratory. One of his first projects was working on a grant sup-

porting the organization and has since "had the honor of working closely with both Dr. David Vader and Dr. Ray Norman on grants from the Keck Foundation and the Hilton Foundation." These grants benefitted both the College and Collaboratory and he found it, "very meaningful to see the good work of the Collaboratory... recognized with the awarding of these highly competitive and prestigious grants."

Further, Stuckey notes how the Collaboratory has also been a personal and campus-wide blessing by engaging

individuals such as Joni Eareckson Tada. He remembers how, during her visit to the Collaboratory in 2011, when she said, "It's all about making Jesus Christ real to those who need Him most." Stuckey values this sentiment, saying, "what a blessing it has been for me to be involved in a very small way to help bring funding to the Collaboratory so that it can continue in its vital mission. ... It is a wonderful reflection of our Christ-centered educational mission at Messiah College."

KIM PHIPPS, PRESIDENT



"I believe the work of the Collaboratory is a stellar expression of Messiah College's mission creatively and faithfully lived out on a daily basis. Through the efforts of students, faculty, staff, volunteers and donors, individuals and communities are being transformed." — Kim S. Phipps, Ph.D., President



THE COLLABORATORY FOR
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND
APPLIED RESEARCH

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SPRING 2013



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Prayer for the smooth transitions of Collaboratory adviser roles due to personnel changes in the engineering department in fall 2013.
- Thanksgiving for our new leaders and prayer that the mentoring and discipleship resources of the Collaboratory would expand and mature to effectively serve our growing membership.
- That we would both serve and receive from our partners overseas, especially during the site team trip to Nicaragua this summer.
- Prayer for the launching of a new advancement team this fall as we continue to strengthen our financial sustainability.
- Thanks for all of our investors in the Collaboratory, and prayer for additional investors to help make the equipping, planning and support services that our students and teams need to succeed fiscally sustainable.
- Praise for all of our class of 2013 graduates and their hard work and commitment to The Collaboratory. Prayer for them as they begin this new phase of life.