the Collegian

Vol. 35 No. 1 | collegionosiine.com

Bob Jones University, Greenville, SC 29614.

BJU gives back to honor 75th year in Greenville 2021

Nathaniel Hendry

Bob Jones University enters its 95th year and its 75th year in Greenville with major plans to continue serving its community. The University plans to complete 75 community service projects in honor of the anniversary during the 2021-2022 academic year.

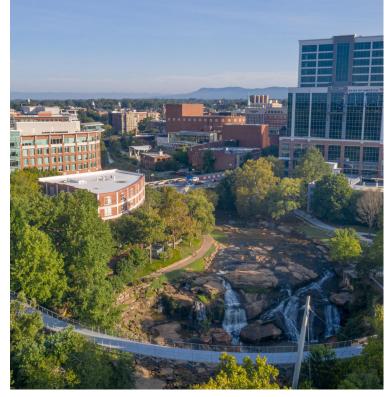
The types of planned projects vary widely, and the University is still identifying places to serve. Service projects in past years included places such as Piedmont Women's Center, Phillis Wheatley Community Center and Miracle Hill Ministries.

David Lovegrove, Chief Marketing Officer for BJU, along with the Student Leadership Council is overseeing

the projects. Some service projects will be completed by individual students from across the University, and residence halls and societies will choose their own projects.

Based in Greenville since 1947, BJU is a prominent contributor to the Greenville community. Randy Page, BJU's chief of staff, said BJU is the only higher education institution in the City of Greenville. BJU is also one of the largest employers in Greenville County, with about 1,100 people employed by BJU, BJU Press or Bob Jones Academy.

Mayor Greenville Knox White recently praised BJU's service mentality. "That's what this community's always really been about," he said. "It's about this University



The Liberty Bridge in Falls Park is an iconic Greenville landmark. **Photo: Nathaniel Hendry**

and the faculty and administration, the people coming here from all over the United States—all over the world, really—and playing a big role in the community."

BJU's community involvement has grown significantly in the past few years with the addition of the Center for Global Opportunities and its coordination and oversight of service and ministry projects.

BJU competes in intercollegiate athletics as an NCAA DIII school, which is also opening opportunities for athletes to serve in sports programs for

neighborhood youth. The University is regionally accredited and recently joined a consortium of independent colleges and universities in South Carolina.

The University, then Bob Jones College, relocated to Greenville in 1947 when it outgrew its campus in Cleveland, Tennessee. Thousands of applications from returning soldiers, funded by the G.I. Bill, flooded BJC. The Cleveland campus had no room to expand and was surrounded by houses. BJC had to move.

Cities across the

See ANNIVERSARY p.6 >>

@THECOLLEGIANBJU





As an Institution



Design: Zane Trively



BJU has been a prominent part of the Greenville community since 1947. Photo: Nathaniel Hendry

THE WEEK

GO WEEK

Global Opportunities Week starts today. A schedule is available at bjucgo.com/ goweek.

TRAINING

New students, faculty and staff must attend sexual abuse awareness training at 6 p.m. today.

CHAPEL

Students can look forward to a special chapel led by their peers on Friday.

IGNITE

Ignite will be held on Friday, Sept. 24, in the Activity Center from 10 p.m. to 11:55 p.m.



COLUMN



Ethan House STAFF WRITER

Over the summer, I received a piece of news related to my financial situation that caused me become exceptionally worried. Due to a series of events both inside and outside my control, I found myself with several thousand dollars in a bank account that I currently have no access to.

Obviously, this news changed my plans regarding this semester, as this money is key to helping me pay for the next several years of college. Upon hearing the news, I became rather anxious.

In and of itself, being anxious or worried is nothing new for me. I can remember multiple times over the past year where I was so worried about something I lost my appetite and felt physically

One particular moment that springs to mind is the last week before finals during the first semester when I was nervous about maintaining my GPA. However, this time was different because I realized the root of my issue was not my uncertainty about the future but my failure to trust God with my future.

For as long as I could remember, the future had

The Collegian Editorial

Compassion in tragedy

Republicans in Congress spontaneously joined together to sing "God Bless America" in the middle of a press conference.

Americans from every walk of life met at the National Mall in Washington, D.C., for candlelight vigils to mourn the tragedy. Major sports events were cancelled, and musicians organized benefit concerts to aid grieving families.

possible.

completely different. As the War on Terror, a two-decade conflict that began on 9/11, draws to a close, everyone is divided.

Democrats and Republicans agree that the situation in Afghanistan is a crisis, but they disagree on who should bear the blame or on what steps to take to solve it. The news is not flooded with stories of Americans singing patriotic songs or holding candlelight vigils. Unity seems further from us than ever.

Instead, the reactions are a symptom of division. Americans yell over each other, saying their preferred candidate would have done better, or what is happening is better than the alternative. The events happening in Kabul are teaching the U.S. to pass

"all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

When God promises that all things work together for good, He means it. That includes tragedies that fallible human beings can't even begin to comprehend, including the situation in Afghanistan right now.

In addition to resting in God's sovereignty, Christians have other responsibilities in crises. As disciples of Christ, we need to be wise about our speech. "Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof" (Prov. 18:21).

Instead of reacting angrily and lashing out at fellow human beings, Christians should be understanding. God's people should be gracious when judging others, tolerant of opposing viewpoints that do not contradict Scripture and respectful of all human beings because they are made in His image. In fact, a Christian's first priority should always be to meet the spiritual needs of those who do not know Christ.

The people suffering in Afghanistan, from the U.S. nationals who rushed to escape the country to the native Afghans who have nowhere to run, are not political props. God's people should have compassion for them, not use them to tear down the other side of the political spectrum.

"But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?" (1 John 3:17).

Believers may not have the power to help the entire country of Afghanistan, but they know the One Who does. Christians need to fall to their knees and pray when they see a sinful world marred by evil. Come before the throne of grace. Pray for Afghanistan.

the Collegian

Bob Jones University Greenville, SC 29614-0001

(864) 242-5100, ext. 2973 jgamet@bju.edu All contacts © 2021 Biob Jones UniVersity

Editor-in-Chief Vicki Olachea

Copy Editor Johnathon Smith

Design Editor Arianna Rayder

Photo Editor Andrew Pledger

Web Editor Timothy Martin

Social Media Videographer

Olivia Thomas

Staff Writers Ethan House Nathaniel Hendry Erin del Toro Hannah Bray Kirsten Oss Andrew Thompson

Sports Writer Jarred Scott

Staff Designers

Olivia Thompson Zane Trively Michaela Gonzales

Photographers

Lindsay Shaleen Nathaniel Hendry Melia Covington

Advisers Betty Solomon

Lewis Carl Hal Cook

Ad Manager Jonny Gamet

In the wake of the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001, the United States of America came together. Democrats and

For a brief moment, unity seemed

Twenty years later, the story is

The images of a thin perimeter of American soldiers guarding the Kabul airport as the Taliban took over the capital of Afghanistan have not brought the nation together as 9/11

the blame, not to grieve.

But Christians don't have to follow the majority. Times of tragedy are amazing opportunities to remember that God is in control and that He cares. Romans 8:28 reminds us that

See **COLUMN** p.3 >>

>> From **COLUMN** p.2

represented hope, something better than the present. This mindset led me to always look forward and plan down to the smallest detail. Anything that interfered with the way I envisioned things would happen would cause a petrifying sense of worry to overcome me.

This past summer when I was feeling anxious, my immediate inclination was to turn to my friends for advice first. One of the people I spoke to corrected my thinking by asking, "Have you prayed about it yet?" Reluctantly, I admitted that it had not even occurred to me.

The words of my friend convicted me, and I sought advice from God through prayer and the Bible. My mind was quickly drawn toward the words of Christ in Matthew 6:26-27. "Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?"

If God provides and cares for the animals and plants He made, what cause do I have to worry? No matter what happens to me, whether my future

plans come to fruition or I die in my sleep tonight, God is in control of my life. For someone like me who desperately tries to maintain control, this thought can be humbling because it means that I cannot maintain control since I never possessed it to begin with.

Later in the chapter comes instruction on what I should be focused on instead of my idea of the future. Verses 32 and 33 state, "For your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall

be added unto you."

When I was reading this, I could not help but remember what one of the officers in my society told me last year: "Focus on God, and everything else will fall into place how He wants it."

Although this was only one small incident in my life, I hope I will remember

it going forward whenever I come across something I cannot handle alone.

I imagine this will be difficult, and I will need constant reminders, but I want to focus my life on God and let Him do what He wills with my future regardless of where that takes me.

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

-Matthew 6:32-33

Bob Jones University completes annual student handbook review

Kirsten Oss

Each year members of the Student Life staff discuss and update handbook policies that the previous academic year proved no longer functional or clear for the students at Bob Jones University.

The staff form a committee and read through the hand-book to observe the policies they noted are in need of attention with the goal of making the policies as clear and functional for the current student body as possible.

A member of this committee, Jon Daulton, the director of Student Life, said the questions the committee asks during the process target the purpose the policy is achieving, if it is accomplishing its intended goal and if it needs reevaluation.

"And as a result of that, we either maintain the policy, we might tweak it slightly or might get rid of it entirely," he said.

One policy changed this academic year is jewelry. Men may now wear rings on their fingers, wristbands and a necklace tucked under their shirt.

Additionally, women may have a nose stud. The policy adjusted for these changes after reviewing the line between professionalism and personal expression.

"Personal expressions like piercing and jewelry have differing cultural perceptions that change over time; this has a bearing on their relative value professionally," Daulton said.

"In our revision process this year, we determined that a small stud in a lady's nose and a necklace worn under a man's shirt are a more acceptable practice in the work environment."

Junior media technology major Alicia Cannon shared her thoughts on the updated jewelry policy.

"I think that was a good change because I believe jewelry such as nose rings shouldn't dictate what makes you a 'good' Christian or not," she said. "Jewelry is a simple way to express yourself."

The committee does not leave students out

of the process of changing policies. While the committee is entirely composed of Student Life staff, student input is heavily used and referenced as they look through the handbook for less effective or unclear policies.

The members of Student Life are careful about the input students give. To make sure that no student's comments are forgotten, Deneen Lawson, the women's director of Student Life, writes notes in red ink directly onto a copy of the handbook so she can easily reference students' comments at the policy meeting and remember their exact ideas.

Student input comes through a variety of channels. "Students will oftentimes express things either through letters to Dr. Pettit or conversations with their supervisors or Student Life officials," Daulton said.

These suggestions have their own vetting process to filter the ideas that make it to the committee. But Daulton stipulated that not all the ideas go through formal vetting.

"What we do some-



Jon Daulton has served in BJU's Student Life office since 1993.

Photo: Robert Stuber

times after receiving those suggestions we'll vet them with somestudents,"hesaid. "That isn't a formal process that we follow every time. It's more of an informal process."

One policy that went through the informal process is the new earbud policy. Students may now wear earbuds or headphones around campus as long as they are not worn during class, chapel or other public assemblies.

"While we still strongly encourage students to engage with each other rather than isolating themselves in their own world via technology, we chose to focus the restriction on those events which are crucial to our mission such as chapel, concerts, campus assemblies, etc.," he said.

Sophomore graphic design major Alana Stonewall already sees the benefits in the earbud policy change.

"I like it because it makes my 8 a.m. walk to class more enjoyable," she said.

Sometimes clarity affects how functional a policy is, such as wording in the handbook being up

See HANDBOOK p.6 >>

News The Collegian

Students grieve with Haiti

Andrew Thompson

STAFF WRITER

Bob Jones University students are praying for the future of Haiti as the nation has been crippled by multiple catastrophies that climaxed with destruction caused by a 7.2 magnitude earthquake and a tropical storm in the month of August.

Dr. Mark Vowels, chair of the division of ministries, shared that Haiti has long been a troubled nation. "Haiti seems at times to be cursed," he said. "Hurricanes, earthquakes and political turmoil are frequent realities there."

The small Caribbean nation was shaken on Aug. 14 as the unexearthquake pected robbed many Haitians of their homes or lives. The death toll surpassed two thousand.

Tropical Storm Grace followed the earthquake, further damaging the tion only two days later. It caused more landslides, property damage and flooding homeless many Haitians were still mourning the dead.

Bevheena Eliacin,

a BJU sophomore international studies major from Haiti, is shocked by the stories of death coming from home country. her

"I heard a story about a hotel in Haiti," she said. "The hotel collapsed during a big business conference, and all the cars remained in the parking lot for days. All the owners were dead. The rows of cars were not going anywhere."

All this destruction comes on the heels of a year of political chaos in Haiti, including the COVID-19 pandemic, the assassination of President Jovenel Moise and a wave of gang activity.

BJU senior nutrition major Lyndie Coulanges, who hails from Haiti, expressed concern for her home nation.

"There was a lot of structural damage to many homes," she said. "I think the earthquake exasperated the political situation that was already happening in Haiti."

government. "The it's really shaky because they're still figuring out what to do next with us," she said.

"There's not a clear answer after the president has passed," she said. "So now, who's going to take control of Haiti? We don't know. Is it the police, or is it the government itself?"

Eliacin said the political events in Haiti have left many people feeling unsafe, including her own family.

"People don't feel safe right now. When my mom goes to work, she never goes by herself anymore," she said. "My dad has to drive with her now to protect her. The events this year really changed her lifestyle."

Coulanges believes gang rule is a major issue. "Even if you want to bring help to people ... if the gangs don't want you to go in, they block the roads and tell you no if you arrive on a bus," she said.

It is estimated that one-fifth of the population now lives on gang-controlled land.

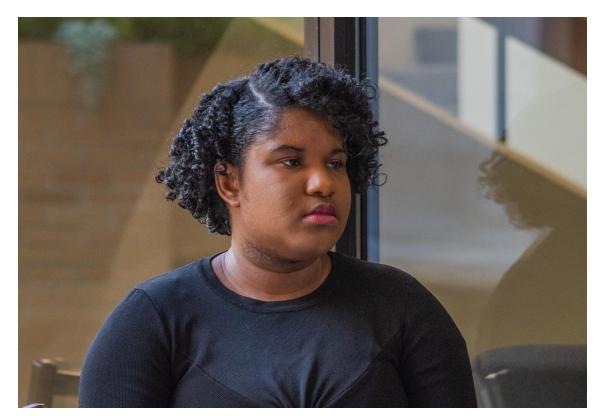
Coulanges, however, remains positive about the future of the country. "Haiti is a resilient nation," she said. "I think we had a lot of things coming toward us, but still we were al-



Design: Arianna Rayder

It was really the Lord's providence, things that lined up in ways that I never could explain.

-Dr. Meyer



While studying abroad, Coulanges remains invested in her home country. Photo: Robert Stuber

ways a joyful and hope- that God orchestrates ful people. I am optimistic of the future."

"One thing I did see in 2010 when the first earthquake happened, there was a revival after that," Coulanges said. "A lot of people came to Christ."

She believes natural disasters remind Christians of where they truly belong. "I'm not home here [at BJU] ultimately," she said. "I'm not home in Haiti... my home is in heaven."

Vowels echoed this sentiment. "We know

the events, even the calamities, of life for His greater purpose."

"We should pray through sufthat fering the people of Haiti will seek the favor of their Creator and cast themselves upon His eternal care for temporal deliverance and eternal salvation," he said.

<u>Sports</u> September 20, 2021

Bruins athletics turns 10

collegiate sports was

that it would be a uni-

fier for the institu-

tion, that we'd all be

cheering for the same

team, same colors

for a game," he said.

inter-

program for

Jarred Scott STAFF WRITER

Bob Jones University celebrates another special birthday this year: the 10th anniversary of the intercollegiate athletics program.

BJU's intercollegiate sports, conceived in 2011 by then-president Stephen Jones established 2012, rounds the corner of 2021 with a decade of effort and growth under its belt. progress goes beyond started the athletics athletics. He attributed its success to God.

"God has allowed us to serve over 800 student athletes, complete thousands of hours of community service, witness over 250 spiritual decisions directly related to camps and mission trips, win 15 National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association (NCCAA) Champion National ships and receive five consecutive Pres-

Gamet said that while students came for a BJU education, the student body did not cheer for one team but many different society teams. "Now we have an intercollegiate program where we're one team, ... and it's the team that represents us as a school rather than all the different societies," he said. Gamet said the beginning of the program

was an exciting time. "Aug. 31 came with our first soccer games, and we had over 7,000 people in attendance at Alumni Stadium, and we had to bring in extra bleachers. ... From the overwhelming response that we got from our students, our faculty and staff, we knew that it was the birth of something special."

Coach Mike LeViere, women's basketball coach and director of the intramural program, has been on the Bruins athletic staff since the beginning. Coach LeViere took the lead in restructuring the intramural program.

LeViere said he and his staff's goal was to make intraaccessible murals students. to more

"Things had to change because we brought the Bruins in," he said. "The intramural program here wasn't a true intramural program. ... Each society could have one team and exclusively one team in each sport, and so there have been changes philosophically, where now the

exclusive, skilled athletes on campus are intercollegiate players."

But LeViere expintraressed that murals are no less significant than the Bruins. "They've probably grown in importance on campus," he said. "We've opened participation that rate for each student and their societies; now they can have more than one team."

Jonny Gamet reinforced that sentiment. "If you wanted to play before the Bruins, there were some limitations on the number of participants in intramurals," he said. "Kids would try out for society teams and not make the cut."

Coach LeViere believes the changes made to the intramural system over the years have been positive. He said people participating in intramurals at the time thought intramurals would be ruined by the new emphasis on intercollegiate sports.

However, he said there are more people playing intramurals today compared to 10 or 12 years ago. As for the Bruins, LeViere thinks the goal to build a positive identity for the Bruins is evident from contin-

"We've been able to look back, see some progress in what we've been able to accomplish in that time."

ued student support.

Gamet is confident about the upcoming year. "It should be a memorable 10th year for Bruins athletics," Gamet said. "We're excited particularly for Homecoming and the events we have this year to celebrate anniversary." that

"We might bring back some of those original players who had such an impact building the foundation of Bruins athletics."

Victoria Glaze, a junior interior architecture major, said she and the volleyball team are excited to start this momentous season.

"I'm thankful we've been able to be a part of the building process of the program and the athletics as a whole to see how it's grown

See **BRUINS** p.6 >>



Kayla Oberstar anticipates the next play. Photo: Andrew Pledger

Dr. Neal Ring, the director of athletics since the program's beginning, recalled first hearing there would be intercollegiate athletics at BJU while working elsewhere.

"I told my wife in December 2011 that someone was going to get a great opportunity, but I wasn't interested after a recent move," he said. "I'm thankful [God's] plans were not my plans! These past ten years have remarkable."

Though the University and program have grown over 10 years, Ring said the idential Awards for Excellence from the NCCAA," he said.

The birth of the intercollegiate program comes from the vision of Dr. Stephen Jones. Jones brought in staff such as Ring to create a program that would help bring students together and offer the athletes opportunities for ministry.

One of the first Bruins staff members was Jonny Gamet, the current Assistant Athletic Director for Communications and Marketing.

"One of the main purposes Dr. Stephen Jones had when he



Gamet has been a Bruins staff member since the program's creation. Photo: Derek Eckenroth

News The Collegian

>> From ANNIVERSARY p.1

country invited BJC to come.

Dr. Bob Jones III, former university president and current chancellor, recounted that his grandfather, Bob Jones Sr., even visited Knoxville, Tennessee, to sign an option on some property. Right before signing, however, Jones Sr. received a phone call from E. Roy Stone at the Greenville Chamber of Commerce. "[Stone] said, 'don't sign anything till you come over here," Jones said.

Jones Sr. traveled to Greenville to survey the land, a farm at the time, located on Highway 29. The fourlane highway ran from Washington, D.C., through Alabama, providing visibility and accessibility. "They accessibility. called it a superhighway," Jones said.

"The thing that tipped the scales to Greenville was those three men [from the Greenville Chamber of Commerce] said, 'Dr. Jones, we need the Christian testimony of this school in our town.' And that was the only town that made a Christian appeal," Jones said.

Moving to Greenville required building 13 buildings in 18 months, an unprecedented project overseen by Dr. R. K.

Johnson, university business manager.

The first students were treated to a campus devoid of decorative trees and shrubbery or even grass. Students trekked over boardwalk paths amid a sea of red mud.

Since then, BJU has overcome other challenges throughout its history. Founded in 1927, BJU struggled to survive through the Great Depression. At times, faculty members received \$25 per month plus food—often garden produce given by families unable to pay with cash.

BJU's financial struggles continued. Student tuition and room and board never covered operating costs. And unlike most colleges, BJU did not have an endowment safety net.

Nonetheless. BJUremains open, which Jones said is only because of the miraculous provision of God, for which he is grateful. "I think too much prosperity destroys the ability to live by faith," Dr. Jones said.

However, after 75 years in Greenville and 95 years altogether, BJU remains committed to its founding principles. That endurance sets it apart from some colleges that have distanced themselves from their religious foundations.

> Jones emphasized

that faithfulness to scriptural truth has always taken precedence over enrollment numbers. "There doesn't have to be a Bob Jones University," he said. "But as long as there is one, it must be faithful to the Lord and to His purpose for which he called us into

existence."

>> From **BRUINS** p.5

in the past few years," Glaze said. "I take a lot of pride in how we've done and kept our culture focused glorifying God through everything."

Hannah Prince, a junior early childhood education major, said she is also proud to be on the volleyball team for the anniversary. Prince said they hope the student body will be more involved and support them during the year.

Prince also voiced her excitement for the start of the upcoming season, giving credit to the underclassmen for stepping into their roles. "We've been able to pull it together in practice, and our core returners have been helpful to our freshmen girls," she said.

Jordan Crews, a senior accounting major, said the team culture affects him in ways bey-

ond the soccer field. "One way is work ethic," Crews said. "I think as you get older and mature, you realize just how important hard work is. That applies to the soc-

cer field and school."

Crews also said the Bruins program has helped him understand the importance of building relationships. "Now that we're seniors, we know each other more and can impact those guys that are under us now."

Crews said he hopes this relational mentorship continues through the program after graduation.

"I love we have reached our 10th year, but I can't wait to see what God will do next." Ring said.

>> From HANDBOOK p.3

for more interpretation than anticipated. Lawson pointed out

that some policies are once Student Life realizestheyarenotasclear as previously thought.

"If somebody comes in, and they ask something [such as] 'Well, I don't think this is very clear,' and I read it from their perspective, ... I can see that, so I'll circle [the] certain words the handbook] that make it unclear that the process is easier," she said.

The continued involvement of students in policy alteration gives

them the opportunity to ask questions and give their suggestions.

Cannon commentreworked for clarity ed on the student participation in the process. "If I had an idea, and I think it should be heard by [Student Life], then I would definitely say something about it," she said.

Daulton echoes the sentiment of freely speaking to Student Life about policies. "Don't be afraid to come and talk to us about why we have a policy," he said.

"Maybe [the policy is being changed] because the policy has

been there for a while and has served its purpose but is no longer necessary," he said. "And when we talk with that student and convene and discuss it together, it becomes one of those [rules] that we do away with."

Lawson is passionate about sharing the mission of Student Life: love. "We truly love the students," she said. "We're truly trying to help them for life."

S	l	1	d			K	1	l
		9	4			2		
	8		9				7	
		7				3	6	
9				5		6		4
9 1 4			3	5 4 9	6			4 7 2
4		8		9				2
	3 9	1				7		
	9				4		5	
		4			7	9		

September 20, 2021 **News** 7

Class of 2025 brings energy

Hannah Bray

Another group of freshmen arrived at Bob Jones University this fall, bringing unique experiences and perspectives with them. This class is composed of 672 freshmen. Of those freshmen, 578 are new this semester; the other 94 are second semester freshmen who began their education at BJU last semester.

One of the new freshmen is Gabriela Arevalo, a premed major. She drove with her roommate and her roommate's family for 20 hours to get to college. Arevalo heard of BJU at the private Christian school she attended.

"Most of my teachers were from Bob Jones," Arevalo said. "My school recruits from Bob Jones."

She said two of the reasons she likes BJU are the people that

came out of it and how kind they are, as well as the structure and safety she feels on campus.

"The people who come out of Bob Jones are so nice, and they have such a strong relationship with Christ," Arevalo said. "They actually got a good education and were able to get closer to God. It's just nice knowing that I'm here. ... You just feel safe to be here."

Another new freshman is Shannon Novak, an early childhood education major from Kentucky. She commutes around six and a half hours to college.

Novak was a homeschooler. Both Arevalo and Novak are residence hall students, along with 80% of the freshmen. Novak said some of the reasons she chose BJU were its education program, the feel of the campus and that her older sister went to BJU.



Arevalo and her older sister are both first-generation BJU students.

Photo: Melia Covington

2025 **Top 10 Majors Business Admin, BS Engineering, BS** 7% 6% **Nursing, BSN** 4% **Kinesiology, BS Premed/Predent, BS** 3% Biology, BS **Biblical Studies, BA** 3% Biblical Counseling, BS 3% **Criminal Justice, BS Sports Management, BS 3% Residence Hall 80% Day Students 20%** ISTERNATIONAL STUDINAL

Design: Olivia Thompson

"I liked the structure of life here, and I always felt very comfortable on campus and very safe," Novak said.

"I came and visited, did College Up Close, and I had several other colleges I was considering, but I eventually decided that ... I liked the education program here," she said. "It was the best of all the schools that I saw, and I really liked it."

Rebecca Weier, the Director of Student Engagement and Success, teaches Pathways to incoming freshmen. She said she enjoys being able to interact with them and help them during their first year here.

Weier said they are excited to be at BJU, especially given that some were not able to come earlier due to COVID-19 or other factors.

"They seem to be energized to be here," Weier said. "A lot of them have been waiting for several years to be able to come. The international students couldn't come last year because of COVID restrictions on travel. So it's a really big deal for them to finally be able to be here. And so it's exciting to be able to interact with them and help them while they're here."

Weier said her favorite part of interacting with freshmen is seeing their potential, even if they can't see it yet. News The Collegian

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT Meyer's leap of faith

Victoria Baker GUEST WRITER

From leaping out of an airplane to leaping down South to Bob Jones University, Dr. Bruce Meyer's dreams are coming true. Meyer, a new full-time professor in BJU Seminary, is one of the many new faculty making the transition to BJU this year.

People are often surprised to discover that the Seminary professor is a big fan of all things speed-related: roller coasters, flying and even sky diving.

Meyer had always wanted to go skydiving and found his chance to do so during his 19-year teaching career at Maranatha University. **Baptist** He attended an event called Bid on Milwaukee, which happened to have skydiving for discounted price.

"I went to some of the Bible faculty and said, 'would you like to go skydiving with me?" he said. "And

that said er guys 'yeah, I'll do that.'"

"We're sitting on the floor, [the instructor] says 'hang your underneath the aircraft," Meyer said.

"So my legs are underneath the airthen we just fell out. And it was so much fun." The experience was unexplain-

there were three oth- ing feel," he said. Meyer came to BJU

not because of one single event but because of a series of events.

"It was really the legs out and pull them Lord's providence, things that lined up in ways that I never could explain."

He and his wife craft," he said. "And loved Watertown, Wisconsin, home to both their family and Maranatha. Moving to South Carolina was not able for Meyer. "It something that origiwas the most thrill- nally seemed possible.



Meyer teaches courses in both the Seminary and School of Religion. Photo: Melia Covington

It was really the Lord's providence, things that lined up in ways that I never could explain.

-Dr. Meyer



Meyer specializes in counseling related to purity, addiction and abuse. Photo: Melia Covington

"Somewhere in there, the Lord kept working," he said. "I captured a glimpse of the vision of what they [BJU Seminary] were wanting to accomplish here, and that, I think, grabbed my heart."

Meyer is looking forward to teaching a variety of classes. "I get to teach counseling, I get to teach some systematic theology," he said. "I love teaching the Bible. I love teaching theology, teaching counseling."

Meyer's area of expertise is in counseling. "I'm still interacting with Scripture a lot, but we're talking about human problems and human personality and some of the issues related to human nature."

Along with seminary classes, Meyer will teach an undergraduate counseling class and Doctrines I. Meyer is looking forward to his interaction with the students.

Meyer said he was excited about teaching undergraduate classes to stay connected with students.

"When you're with the undergrad dents, there's an energy there that goes with the academics," he said. "The sports contribute to that ... societies, ministries, it kind of all works together."

The transition from Wisconsin to South Carolina brought a set of adjustments for Meyer, like traffic and a lack of snow. However, he fits right in at BJU.

"I think the greatest thing is being at Bob Jones, the colleagues I've already met and the students," Meyer said.