

# the Collegian

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Bob Jones University | Greenville, SC 29614

## Arkansas official to address students in leadership series

Andrew Thompson

STAFF WRITER

Tonight at 7 p.m. Arkansas Surgeon General Greg Bledsoe will address the student body in the FMA as part of the 2021 Presidential Leadership Series. He will use his experiences of working in politics to share with students about the importance of living by faith in a non-Christian work environment.

Bledsoe, who graduated from BJU in 1995, went on to become an emergency medicine physician. He worked for five years in the Johns Hopkins Department of Emergency Medicine and received the teacher of the year award in 2005 from the department.

Bledsoe has also been involved in several American diplomatic missions, including serving as the personal doctor for President Bill Clinton during the administration's tours to Africa. He has served as the Arkansas Surgeon General since his appointment in 2015 by Gov. Asa Hutchinson, another BJU alumnus,

and is currently running for lieutenant governor in the 2022 Arkansas gubernatorial race.

The BJU president's office presents the Presidential Leadership Series, an annual event in which a guest speaker addresses a modern-day issue. This year's event will be the fifth since BJU President Dr. Steve Pettit revamped the series.

The series allows students to interact with influential people, and tonight's event will include an optional Q&A session afterward for students interested in asking Bledsoe questions.

Randy Page, BJU's chief of staff, has been collaborating with Pettit to organize the event.

"The president selects speakers that he believes the student body needs to hear from on a wide variety of topics and issues," he said. "Essentially, as a Christian liberal arts university, we want to expand the horizons of our students so that they can hear about



Earlier in the COVID-19 pandemic, Bledsoe gave daily briefings to his state.

Photo: BJU Today

and see different issues that will have a powerful impact on how they approach life."

Courtney Montgomery, the BJU public relations assistant responsible for setting up the event, believes the Presidential Leadership Series is an important event for students to be a part of. "Go into it with an open mind," she said. "Often students think of these events as just some boring VIP person who's in politics or government," she said. "A lot of students are not interested in those areas of thought, but it's these unique opportunities you only get to have in college."

"These people are in high-profile positions, and many have worked with presidents and with the Supreme Court and will get to be a part of pivotal moments in this nation's history," Montgomery said. "Even if history is not your thing, these speakers have insight about many important life events, and there's a lot to learn from them. It's kind of like living history."

Montgomery enjoyed her

involvement in planning the event. "[The selected speakers] are thought leaders, whether they're people who are in politics, over major organizations or involved in some other way that directs public thought," she said.

"We start talking to possible speakers six to eight months before the event is scheduled. They don't just have openings on their schedule. If we tried to schedule a speaker any time closer to the day of than six to eight months out, they probably wouldn't be able to commit."

Page echoed this sentiment. "The world's a big place, and you need to consistently be open to hearing other perspectives," he said. "And I think for so many of our students, they don't think that government or the political process affects them directly, but it does."

At the last Presidential Leadership Series in 2019 Paul Isaacs spoke about the Save the Storks organization. ©

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2021



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### THE WEEK

#### ORCHESTRA

The University String Orchestra will perform *The Number 13*, featuring music from Mozart, Haydn and Grieg, today at 5:30 p.m. in War Memorial Chapel.

#### ARTIST TALK

A+D Artist Talk: Kathy

Bell will discuss her legacy and her work in Palimpsest: Exploring

#### CONFERENCE

The Summer Ministry Conference will present summer

#### CELEBRATION

The ULA and ISO will host games, serve food and discuss Hispanic Heritage Month



Montgomery has worked as a public relations assistant at BJU for three years.

Photo: Melia Covington



Design: Arianna Rayder



## COLUMN



Kirsten Oss

STAFF WRITER

While working at a coffee shop this summer, I had the opportunity to talk about my faith with my coworkers. One conversation stood out above the rest. I was asked why I didn't act like other college students, and I had the opportunity to share how the Gospel transforms your desires.

Before I could tell her about Christ, my coworker interrupted. "Oh, that's right, you're the Christian girl," she said. With an eye roll and a hair flip, she avoided me for the rest of our shift.

My coworker assumed I would preach at her out of a hateful, condemning heart. And she's not the only person who think this about Christians. As you live for Christ, you will encounter people like this yourself at your summer job, your internship or even after graduation.

Unfortunately, others

See **COLUMN** p.3 >>

## The Collegian Editorial

## After a week of silence

The pandemic brought loss. Whether that was the loss of a loved one, loss of a job or simply loss of stability, COVID-19 and its ripple effects shook our world. The American Psychological Association warned of a "growing national mental health crisis" in October 2020 following this loss. Now in 2021, many people are returning to what they hope is a normal life—but with newly acquired or worsened mental health problems. We must be prepared to deal with the mental health crisis seeded by the pandemic.

As Christians, the first place we should look for direction on mental health issues is the Bible. A prominent example of loss in the Bible is the life of Job. But for those of us looking for advice on how to help someone like Job, his story provides some distinctly negative examples—Job's friends, the "miserable comforters" (Job 16:2). Miserable though they may have been, we can learn both what to do and what not to do from Job's friends.

We recognize Job's friends gave bad advice. But before they spoke, Job's friends sat with him in silence, for a whole week (Job 2:11-13). In fact, they "made an appointment together" to mourn with him and comfort him. They took the admonishment "weep with them that weep" (Rom. 12:15) very seriously. We should not forget or discount the good we can do for our friends by simply weeping with them or sitting with them in support.

But after a week of silence, Job's friends went from fellow mourners to miserable counselors. Although they did wait for Job himself to break the silence (Job 3), they were quick to give their own opinions, and not God's truth, on Job's grief and what he should do about it.

Job's friend Eliphaz started by telling him to be more optimistic (Job 5). Although we should tell one another to "rejoice in the Lord always" (Phil. 4:4), we must remember

timing is important. Proverbs 25:11 tells us "a word fitly spoken" is valuable, even beautiful. Making a friend feel guilty for being unable to maintain a positive outlook will only add to their burden. There is a time for everything—including weeping (Ecc. 3:1-4).

Another of Job's counselors, Bildad, may have grown impatient over the week of silence. He decided to fix Job's problem himself by telling him to repent because his suffering must be caused by sin (Job 8). Although he seemed to blame Job for problems he couldn't have changed, Bildad did care about Job—again, he sat with him for a week. Bildad's mistake came from trying to simplify Job's problem to find a quick fix.

We care a lot about our friends and family who struggle with things like depression and anxiety. Like Bildad, we are willing to sit in silence with them for their weeks—to pray with them when they need help fighting off suicidal thoughts, to eat with them when they're too anxious to eat alone or to cry with them when a depressive episode keeps them from reaching their goals. But like Bildad, we can also become impatient and try to solve their problems with our own perceived solutions.

Although there is no perfect formula for dealing with mental health problems or emotional trouble, we learn a few valuable lessons from Job's friends. Simple support is always a good place to start with our friends in need. Praying for wisdom in how we respond can be the difference between a word fitly spoken and an extra burden for a suffering friend. And we should never try to force our own timetable on our friends' problems.

As Christians, we can and should use our community to support those in suffering. And we do this most effectively when we practice patience and discernment. ☪

## the Collegian

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Photos: Lindsay Shaleen

## TALKBACK

## What is your favorite place on campus and why?



Maleeke Harrison

Sophomore communication major

"I would either say The Den or Johnson third floor....All my friends are there. They're good hangout spots."



Kathi Reeder

Division of English Language and Literature

"The print shop parking lot mostly because that's where I traditionally—going back 25 years—have met people to go exercise. And we've sat there before and after and had many conversations with my now-husband there when we were dating in college."

» From **COLUMN** p.2

you will meet often base their perspective on bad experiences with those who claim to be Christians.

If you open your phone and scroll through social media, stories of hateful Christians will fill your feed.

Opposing voices clamor about topics such as feminism and abortion, the rights of women and unborn children. Clashing stances give way to angry arguments both in the digital sphere and off the screen. In the chaos, opinions and interpretations take centerstage over the salvific message Christians try to share.

Speaking truth is equated to hate speech or threatening and prejudiced communication.

In situations like when a Christian tries to share a biblical perspective, the cries of hate speech grow louder as people on the receiving end of the truth feel threatened by it, and Christianity is labeled as a hateful religion.

Sometimes, people who call themselves Christians voice their opinions—or even twist the truth of Scripture—in an arrogant, hateful way.

But the Bible teaches a different message—one of love.

“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Rom. 5:8).

God loved us even while we still lived in sin. Denying that by treating those lost in sin hatefully leads to the misunderstanding that God hates people who are not Christians.

So how can we set ourselves apart from the negative misconceptions caused by hateful groups claiming the name of Christ?

God gives us clear instructions in the Bible.

“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you” (Matt. 28:19-20).

As Scripture instructs, we need to share the truth of the Gospel. But while this remains true, we need to share the Gospel out of love, not out of an argumentative or hateful spirit.

And when our hearts are aligned with God’s love, they indiscriminately show His love to others, no matter how we are treated by them.

# Word from the Wise

A Biblical Perspective



Sharyn Robertson  
Editor of Communication

## The Truth Behind the Scenes

With this Hollywood-driven field, the things being produced are obviously not God-honoring—they are to influence us in whatever workflow they present, not in a biblical workflow at all. So, if you do not have or walk with God, you can be easily swayed to go their direction. This work is necessary especially in the film arts. We put truth out there from the Bible to counteract what movie truth is. We are in the field of influencing many people by something that we share. Many people say they're visual

learners. Well, we are giving visuals to a mass audience. Knowing what is out there and having gotten a degree at a secular university, I understand that recognizing what is right will make a difference. If you're a Christian, put Christ in your story. You don't have to give a Bible verse or a plan of salvation, but Christ needs to be evident in everything you do because people are watching and people will be influenced by your work.

The more we love God, the easier it is to love others as we are called to do.

—Kirsten Oss

“Charity doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil” (1 Cor. 13:5).

The more we love God, the easier it is to love others as we are called to do. And what decisively sets us apart from the hateful groups of people who claim to be Christians is the love we have for people that God gives us.

“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind,

and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these” (Mark 12:30-31).

God’s children are to be marked with a clear, distinct love for others.

“And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him” (1 John 4:16).

So as long as we follow God’s will and reflect His love, we will not be controlled by the hate Christians are sometimes thought to have. We will be a testimony of how God’s salvific love results in a selfless love for others, not hatred.

“Ye are the light of the world... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good deeds, and glorify your Father which is in heaven” (Matt. 5:14a, 16). ©

OCTOBER IS...

1 BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

2 NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

3 CAFFEINE ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH



# Bistro serves affordable comfort food

Ethan House

STAFF WRITER

The Bistro, a student-run eatery located in the Culinary Arts building, focuses on providing a culinary experience with the theme of “by students, for students.”

The Bistro is operated by culinary arts students as a part of the Culinary Arts Practicum course. Accord-

empowering our students to make food that they feel [confident] with marketing to the student body,” Miller said. “It’s a blessing that [this class] can produce what they can produce, and it’s a blessing that the student body wants to come in and enjoy it.”

At the start of the year, Miller presented the class

signed posters and used email marketing to promote the Bistro. They also manage the Bistro’s Instagram account, @bjubistro, which features student testimonials, introductions to the staff and pictures of menu items.

The UMA also has a few other promotional campaigns planned for later in the semester. “The theme this year is ‘by the students, for the students,’” Tewes said. “We’re trying to draw on the fact that you’re supporting your fellow students by coming.” According to Miller, the partnership with the UMA has been beneficial and contributed to more students visiting the Bistro in 2020 than in any previous year.

This year, the Bistro will take a slightly different direction than last year with the menu, including providing different options and focusing more on comfort foods. “We did some kind of vegetarian, vegan-friendly things like curry jackfruit and a couple of salads, and we found out those were just not popular,” Miller said. “The student body wanted comfort foods, so we thought, ‘Let’s

bring in the burger. Let’s bring in the gnocchi.”

Since the majority of the Bistro’s customers are students, affordability was also a consideration when designing the menu. Most of the items cost between \$3 and \$7, making the pricing comparable to many similar venues in the Greenville area. The Bistro accepts both cash and credit or debit cards.

Another new service the Bistro is testing this year

is to sell family dinners for takeout on Wednesday nights. The menu will be completely different. Miller hopes the restaurant can reach a different demographic with items and quantities that would not be as appealing to most students but would be perfect for families. ☺



Joe Beach, a sophomore culinary arts student, prepares pizza using the Bistro’s new clay oven.

Photo: Robert Stuber

ing to Chef David Miller, a BJU faculty member in the culinary arts department, the Bistro serves as a simulation of an *à la carte* restaurant in order to give students experience working in that type of environment.

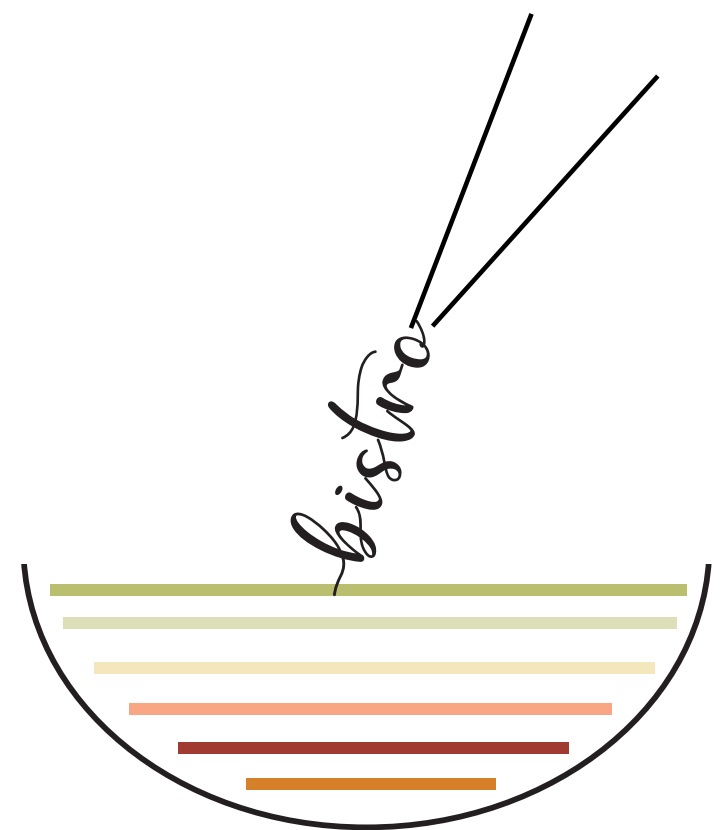
The Bistro reopened on Sept. 17 and will be open from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on Fridays for the remainder of the semester. The Bistro also includes a bakery, which features a selection of pastries, donuts and other desserts. The bakery is open from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. from Wednesday to Friday.

The students manage most aspects of the Bistro, from creating and revising the menus to preparing and serving the customers’ orders. “My idea [for the Bistro] is really about

with an initial version of the menu to discuss and make changes. Alison Bradley, a sophomore culinary arts major, said that by the second week, the menu was almost completely different due to student feedback and suggestions.

Another sophomore culinary arts student, Benjamin Rogers, said he was surprised by how much control he and his classmates were given over decisions for the Bistro. “I didn’t think they’d allow us to switch things up or customize it to what we think we’d want,” Rogers said.

For the second year in a row, the Bistro has partnered with the University Marketing Association for promotion. Aimee Tewes, the president of the UMA, said the organization de-



Design: Michaela Gonzales



Despite the challenges of COVID-19, 2020 was the Bistro’s busiest year.

Photo: Robert Stuber



# INTRAMURAL SOCCER



BJS  
 INTRAMURAL  
 SPORTS PROGRAM  
 ENCOURAGES TEAMWORK,  
 LEADERSHIP, SOCIAL  
 AND PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT.  
 ALL STUDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE BY  
 PLAYING THE SPORT OR  
 CHEERING FOR THEIR SOCIETY  
 MEMBERS. CHECK IN WITH  
 THE COLLEGIAN FOR SOCIETY  
 SPORT UPDATES



# New center coordinates biblical worldview across BJU divisions for faculty and students

Nathaniel Hendry  
STAFF WRITER

Bob Jones University’s newly inaugurated Center for Biblical Worldview seeks to unite faculty and students from all disciplines around biblical worldview principles through Gospel conversations, curriculum coordination and Q&A sessions.

The Center for Biblical Worldview will focus on helping faculty members and students integrate a biblical worldview into all aspects of campus life. Dr. Renton Rathbun, a faculty member in the Division of Biblical Studies and Theology in the School of Religion, is the director of the center.

Currently housed in Room 200 of the Alumni Building, the center includes a bookshelf lined with worldview-related books and a table for group meetings. “The whole focus for the Center for Biblical Worldview is collaboration with faculty and staff,” Rathbun said. Collaboration, he said, is critical to finding innovative ideas and opportunities. “The best ideas for biblical worldview [come] from the faculty and staff,” he said.

“Our mission is to sup-

port the faculty and staff by providing opportunities that will enable them to incorporate biblical worldview in the classroom, in their lives and in their mentoring work with the students,” Rathbun said.

Before serving as director of the Center for Biblical Worldview, Rathbun spent 22 years teaching, primarily at the college level. He earned his bachelor’s degree in English education; master’s degrees in interpretive speech, creative writing, philosophy and theology; and a PhD in apologetics.

Rathbun said his diverse education helped prepare him to serve in the center. “All these weird degrees that seemed to make no sense at the time seem to culminate in this position to be the most effective I can,” he said.

The Center for Biblical Worldview will also host opportunities for students to sharpen their worldviews. Rathbun, who teaches the undergraduate Apologetics & Worldview class, said he plans to create more apologetics-type opportunities for students outside of his class. For example, he hopes to plan evening Q&A sessions to answer anonymous student questions.



Rathbun earned his PhD in apologetics from the Westminster Theological Seminary.  
Photo: Nathaniel Hendry

The evening Q&A sessions would allow students to talk about topics not covered by their classes or that need more explanation than a class setting allows. “While [students are] thinking about their faith and wrestling with really hard ideas ... they can feel free to ask whatever is truly troubling them or something they never really felt they got a good answer to,” Rathbun said.

The sessions would be open to anyone. To gauge interest, Rathbun asked his class whether they would be willing to interrupt their

evening and study time to attend such a forum. “I think almost every hand went up,” Rathbun said.

Rathbun is working with faculty to standardize a one-sentence definition of biblical worldview. Students writing papers that are graded on worldview can expect the same rubric criteria for biblical worldview elements, regardless of the class or discipline.

Other plans for the center include developing relationships with other local universities that can spark spiritual discussions. For example, BJU could invite

students from a philosophy club at a secular university to discuss how different worldviews account for the problem of evil.

Rathbun said the center’s goal is to embed a biblical worldview that reaches beyond people’s minds into their hearts. “There has to be spiritual success in your hearts so that there is spiritual success in your biblical worldview,” Rathbun said. “You can’t fail inside your heart, in your Christian life, and then express to everyone what a good biblical worldview is.” ©



The Center for Biblical Worldview is currently housed in Room 200 of the Alumni Building, where Rathbun holds conversations about biblical worldview with students and faculty members.  
Photo: Nathaniel Hendry

sudoku

			6				1	
2				1		9		
		3	9					5
8	6				2		7	9
		4	7		5	1		7
7	5		8				3	6
1					6	2		
		7		3				4
	3				8			



💡 FACULTY SPOTLIGHT 💡

# Shirley applies childhood love of nursing to BJU teaching position



Shirley prepares for her teaching career with nursing students.

Photo: Lindsay Shaleen

**Hannah Bray**  
STAFF WRITER

Natalie Shirley, a true Southerner and lover of home-cooked Southern meals, started her full-time employment at Bob Jones University this semester. Unlike many of the BJU faculty, Shirley did not attend BJU as a student. She found out about the teaching opportunity at BJU through Bob Jones Academy, which all of her children attend. The school nurse, Sue Biddle, introduced Shirley to some of the people who work in the nursing department at BJU. This semester, Shirley is primarily preparing for the course she will teach starting this spring, Intermediate Medical-Surgical Nursing, a junior-level course. In the meantime, she also helps out with the Fundamentals of Nursing and Beginning Medical-Surgical Nursing classes and does guest lectures in a few BJU nursing classes.

Shirley was born in Tennessee but moved to South Carolina almost 25 years ago. “I’ve been here so long it almost feels like I’m from here,” she said. Her mom was a nurse, and her dad worked at a nursing home. Shirley said she practically grew up in the nursing home and loved helping take care of the elderly patients there as a child. “That’s probably where my heart remains, I just love that population and taking care of them,” Shirley said. She was able to help out at her father’s nursing home frequently, which she enjoyed. “They would let [Shirley and her brother] pass out ice in pitchers, wheel folks around in their wheelchairs and take them to activities. So I was just exposed to [nursing],” Shirley said. “I was just kind of born in it.” She earned her associate degree in nursing at Greenville Technical College and her bachelor’s at Walden University. She received her

master’s degree from Western Governors University. Shirley was an adjunct faculty member back in the fall of 2019 through 2020. Then she took a year off before coming back to BJU as full-time faculty. She works in the nursing lab and also takes the students on clinical rotations to the hospital. “It kind of gets them acclimated to being at the hospital,” Shirley said. “They learn to interact with patients, take vital signs and pass medications, that kind of thing. It’s fun to watch them as they learn how to do that interaction with the patients.” Before working at BJU, Shirley worked at Prisma Health for 14 years. “I did acute care setting, nursing, worked in cardiology, and in the float pool, where

they can pull you and send you to a whole bunch of areas,” Shirley said. She also worked in management for Prisma Health for a time before she said she felt the Lord calling her to teach. Since she was young, Shirley has loved cooking, just like the rest of her family. Her favorite things to cook are traditional Southern dishes. “I’m not much of a baker,” Shirley said. Her family’s favorite dish is cube steak and gravy. Her grandmother taught her how to cook everything, especially the “true Southern-type dishes” Shirley said. “It was very ‘beans and cornbread’ and some sort of fried vegetable.” A couple of Shirley’s favorite things about Greenville are the weather changes and the friendliness of

the people here. She lived in Florida for a five-year period and said there are definitely a few differences between the two. “There’s such a friendly atmosphere in Greenville,” Shirley said. “They have that Southern atmosphere that’s lacking in Florida.” She and her family keep several pets, five guinea pigs and a little Shih Tzu they got recently. Shirley said she really appreciates how the faculty help the students to grow in their walk with the Lord, as well as academically. “That I feel like you don’t have as much at other universities,” Shirley said. “I really love the heart that all the educators here seem to have for their students.” ©



Shirley worked at Prisma Health for 14 years in several positions, including in the ‘float pool,’ where nurses are pulled for various positions around the medical facility.

Photo: Lindsay Shaleen



# BJU and Answers in Genesis joint campaign promotes Christian values

Erin del Toro

STAFF WRITER

Bob Jones University and Answers in Genesis, the apologetics organization behind both the Creation Museum and the Ark Encounter, have partnered together since 2019 to promote one another and their shared mission.

The two organizations collaborate in several ways. For example, Ken Ham, the CEO and founder of AiG, has spoken in chapel and at conferences on campus; BJU sent a theatre team to the Ark Encounter to perform for the summer and BJU Press has published several of AiG's books.

Before speaking at the STAND Education Conference at BJU in 2019, Ham wrote a blog post expressing his opinion of the University. "BJU is unlike the vast majority of Christian colleges," he said. "This school ... takes a stand on a literal Genesis. I'm thrilled to be speaking at a school that doesn't compromise the truth of God's Word and is excited to share the message of biblical authority with teenagers."

Dr. Bobby Wood, BJU's vice president for Enrollment and Marketing, said the planning for the part-

nership between Bob Jones University and Answers in Genesis began in 2018, when the University and AiG began to discuss how they could enhance their relationship.

"We presented ways that we wanted to serve and be a blessing to Answers in Genesis, and they have come back to us and reciprocated far more than we were able to do for them," Wood said. "It's really been a God-honoring, mutually reciprocating blessing to work with them."

Even before the partnership formally began, BJU had advertised with AiG and invited Ham to speak at the University. "And from there it's just been a progressively growing relationship," Wood said.

Wood said partnering with AiG has allowed BJU to connect with potential students who were unaware of the University. The relationship with AiG helps people know the University holds biblical positions on inerrancy and creation, a fact that attracts many Christians to BJU.

David Lovegrove, BJU's chief marketing officer, described the relationship as an informal collaboration. "It's not like an advertis-

ing contract," he said. "It's a partnership of two organizations that are on the same side of issues and supporting each other."

Lovegrove said the partnership between BJU and AiG is built on the organizations' agreement on the authority of Scripture and biblical inerrancy.

Lisa Keith, a staff member in BJU's admissions and enrollment department, said the University has partnered with AiG on a wide variety of projects.

For example, BJU set up a booth at AiG's Creation College Expo in November. Dr. George Matzko and his wife Darlene, BJU science ambassadors, spent the summer at the Creation Museum leading interactive science workshops showcasing the intricacies of creation.

Nathan Hutcheon, art director of BJU's marketing department, said he was assigned the project of designing a promotional display for AiG to put in the back of the Answers Center, a multi-purpose building added to the Ark Encounter in 2019. The exhibit is one of BJU's promotional efforts in conjunction with AiG. Hutcheon asked the engineering department to



Wood coordinated the relationship between BJU and AiG.

Photo: Robert Stuber

collaborate with Marketing to create an exhibit based on one of their autonomous vehicles.

The exhibit features an autonomous vehicle, which was donated by BJU's engineering department to the Marketing department to use in the exhibit. Hutcheon and his team were tasked with making the vehicle look presentable for the center. Dr. Bill Lovegrove, head of the department of engineering, and students in the engineering department added a camera and computing equipment that visually tracks people and objects in its path.

Hutcheon said the design process took them around six months from start to finish. "There was a lot of discussing things with AiG and making sure that all of their groups and people who might have had an interest in the project had the opportunity to sign off on it," he said. "We talked to some of their creative team to get input from them. And then we ended up talking to vendors to get estimates about sourcing some materials that we needed and that sort of thing."

Jeff Stegall, a faculty member in the theatre department and the principal designer for the BJU Clas-

sic Players and the Opera Association, said the BJU theatre team sent to the Ark Encounter this past summer is performing *Unbelievable: Stories of Faith*, an original play written by theatre faculty members.

"[The theatre production at the Ark] incorporates the actors with a 70-foot wide, 22-foot tall screen, probably very close to the largest IMAX screen that [can be made]," Stegall said. The students interact with the screen during the play, reacting to the backdrops and special effects displayed during each scene.

AiG was pleased with the performance. "They had about a hundred performances of it this summer," Stegall said. "When they were finished, Answers in Genesis asked if there was a possibility that we would field another team of actors."

The theatre department recruited students to act in the play with only a few weeks left in summer break. Joshua Stauff, David Janowski, Lydia Campell and Savannah Scott, current BJU students, are currently performing the play at the Ark Encounter. They will perform *Unbelievable: Stories of Faith* until Oct. 26. ©



The engineering department outfitted an autonomous vehicle for BJU's display booth at the Answers Center.

Photo: BJU Marketing