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PHOTO: Tessa Bonnema

## Michael Moore directs performances and now an entire school

Meet BJU's new dean of the School of Fine Arts and Communication

**Zachary Edmondson**  
REPORTER

Maybe you've been in one of his classes. Maybe you've been in an orchestra or choir he directed. You've likely seen him in chapel directing music. Now, Dr. Michael Moore is settling into his new role as the dean of the School of Fine

Arts and Communication at Bob Jones University.

Dr. Moore's time at BJU began in 1986, when he was a fifth-grade student at the academy. He earned a bachelor's degree in music education from BJU, as well a PhD in music education from the University of South Carolina. For 20 years, he served BJU as head of the Division of Music. He conducted a

number of musicals, operas and concerts in that time, including Saint-Saëns' "Samson et Dalila," Rossini's "La Cenerentola," "A Tale of Two Cities: The Musical," "Little Women: The Musical" and "Titanic: The Musical." In 2019, he earned first place in The American Prize for conducting Donizetti's "Lucia di Lammermoor."

Outside of work, Dr. Moore

is a train enthusiast. He loves both real trains and models, and he has a model railroad at his house in Taylors. He doesn't spend much time indulging this hobby these days, though the railroad has been a great way to connect with his four children. Dr. Moore also enjoys mountain biking, and

See **MOORE** p. 4 >>

## Seminary student's ministry of redemption in Uganda

Shadrach Nyeko prepares to launch a school to train church planters

**Emily Fennett**  
REPORTER

Through the Timothy Scholarship, Shadrach Nyeko attended Bob Jones University and established a ministry in Uganda, spreading hope and redemption to his war-torn homeland. Now he has returned for seminary training to teach more church planters, despite personal hardships.

Guerilla warfare ravaged

the Northern Region of Uganda and surrounding East African countries during the 1990s into the 2000s, led by Joseph Kony, who now faces war crimes charges before the International Criminal Court. Kony's militia retaliated against corrupt government officials, led by President Yoweri Museveni. These warring factions terrorized millions of Ugandan citizens, many of whom moved into displaced persons camps in southern Uganda. Kony led massacres through these

camps, kidnapped tens of thousands of children and conducted raids on area churches.

Nyeko's family fled to the south as refugees and then returned after a few years to participate in a church plant. His plans to study engineering fell through, so after ministering in his church for a few more years, he decided to pursue full-time ministry.

"As I went out and started sharing the gospel, I saw people embracing the gospel message and Christ," Nyeko

said.

For instance, he recalled the time a village drunk turned to Christ and remembers feeling a great burden for the hurting people and for the proclamation of the gospel in the northern part of Uganda, a place that had become ravaged by this conflict. It was lagging behind the rest of the country, in terms of development.

See **UGANDA** p.5 >>

# Letter from the Editor

**Olivia Adams**

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

With this fourth print edition, we close in on the end of another great year of hard work and creativity at the Collegian! As I look back over my first year as editor, two things stand out to me.

First, I see the immense grace that God has given our team in providing just the right people at exactly the right time. He brought together an incredible team of students for the 39th year of the Collegian, providing strength to persist through long nights of writing, drawing, designing and editing. For that, we are all truly grateful.

Second, I see all of the intense work that my team put into this year. Behind every "leader" is an awesome team of people that never get enough credit, so I would like to bring to the reader's attention some of the awards the Collegian won this year in South Carolina's statewide collegiate newspaper competition.

In the individual categories, Jonathan Rose won second place in sports stories with his Bruins baseball story from last semester; Amelia Morris won second place in the sports photo competition; Tessa Bonnema won first place in the sports photo competition and third place in the overall photography competition; Julia Wright won first place in special page layout; and Andrew Figueroa won the Collegian's first award in the comics competition in several years.

In the staff category, the Collegian earned third place for our social media use; and the Bob Pod won first place in podcast use, a back-to-back win for our podcast crew.

These awards demonstrate only a portion of the dedication the entire team has shown in pursuing honest storytelling and real reporting for the glory of God. Thank you for your continued support of our content, both in print and online! We will see you next year for the 40th year of the Collegian!



PHOTO: Hannah Glass



PHOTO: Elaina Willis

## LISTEN TO



THE BOB POD!

## INTERESTED IN STUDENT JOURNALISM?



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SPORTS

# Will Stark takes second place at NCCAA indoor track and field championship

## Stark's finish is best ever for BJU student in the 400-meter at national championship

Elizabeth Pfeiffer  
REPORTER

**W**ill Stark, a junior kinesiology major, won second place in the 400-meter race in the NCCAA Indoor Track and Field National Championships for the Bob Jones University Bruins track and field team. It marked the first time a Bruin has ever earned a podium spot in the 400-meter race at nationals.

The competition took place February 13-14 in Cedarville, Ohio.

Stark began running in high school after being encouraged by his father. During these years, he advanced to the state finals every year. He worked hard to improve.

"The best part about track

is hitting a new PR (personal record) and that feeling of looking at the screen and seeing a faster time next to your name," he said.

Will runs short distance, excelling in 400-meter races. After joining the Bruins during the second semester of his sophomore year, he experienced some injuries. Despite these injuries, he qualified for nationals his first semester on the team and ran a personal record in the 400 meters. Every 400-meter race he has run in college has resulted in a new personal record. Stark said he loves his experience as a Bruin.

"I love being a part of a team. Our team is very positive, and we push each other to try to get better each week."

He credits some of his success to his coach and team-

mates.

"Coach Roach taught me so much about track and how to get faster and stronger," Stark said.

He also mentioned other sprinters on the team, including senior business administration major Leo Mota, who did extra workouts and pushed him during practice.

Heading into nationals, Stark was excited and confident about his speed but a little more concerned about his endurance.

"My only thought for the race was to get out to a fast start," he said. "I knew that if I split the first 200 meters at a fast time that I would be able to hold on and run a PR race."

Going into the race, he was ranked fifth in the country.

"I knew that I was going to run faster than my listed



PHOTO: Breleigh Rebert

time, I just did not expect to run .9 seconds faster than my ranked time," he said.

Stark's college running career is not over yet. He plans to make the most of his remaining time as a Bruin.

"I plan on winning outdoor

nationals this year," he said. "I also plan on staying at BJU my senior year and winning indoor and outdoor nationals next year."

# Society sports spring up again

## Disc golf, pickleball, ultimate Frisbee and flag football round out the sports calendar

Elizabeth Pfeiffer  
REPORTER

**A**s the weather turns warm again, the Bob Jones University society sports shift from volleyball into basketball, flag football, disc golf, pickleball and ultimate frisbee.

The volleyball season lasted several months, beginning before Christmas break and finishing at the championship games held on Feb. 26 - 27.

In the men's championship game, the Alpha Theta Pi Razorbacks defeated the Phi Delta Chi Royals. In the women's championship, the Tau Delta Chi Kangas defeated the Sigma Lambda Delta Duskiess 3-0.

At the beginning of March, the jamboree kicked off the basketball season. In the men's championship league,

Theta Kappa Chi Stallions and the Beta Gamma Delta Patriots both lead with a 6-1 record. However, both of these teams' losses were to the Pi Gamma Delta Royals, who have a 4-2 record. A few instrumental players include Dylan Greene and Alex Hogsett for the Stallions, Davis McCarn and Eli Devon for the Patriots and Brady Price and Seth Abels for the Royals.

At the end of regular season play, two teams vied for the lead in the women's championship league. The Tau Delta Chi Kangas were 6-1 after their loss to the Duskiess. Some of the Kangas' best players include Madison Smith, Kelly Christ and Stephanie Burke. The Kangas earned first seed and a bye going into the playoffs. The Flames also ended with a record of 6-1, with one loss to the Kangas. Gracie Roland, Ella Gravley and Paige Dawson are key players for the Flames.

Recreational league basketball championships will be on April 14. Championship league finals will be held on April 17 with the women playing at 8 p.m. and the men at 9 p.m.

Disc golf, pickleball and ultimate frisbee began after spring break and



PHOTO: BJU Marketing

continue until the end of April. Disc golf includes three teams: the Basilean Eagles, the Anchorage Disc Golf and the Alpha Theta Pi Razorbacks. In ultimate frisbee, ten teams are registered. Pickleball is divided into five different sections: co-ed teams, men's and women's doubles and men's and women's singles.

Flag football also kicked off after spring break. Flag football was planned for the fall semester but was postponed due to electrical issues on the field. There are seven teams registered for the men and four for the women.

Despite the departure of Ryan McCarty, former society sports director, to become men's head

soccer coach at Bluefield University, the Intersociety Council Executive Committee athletic directors Torrie Thurston and Jon Hagenbush, together with Mr. Noah Weaver, Mr. Aaron Burk and Ms. Autumn Ware have all joined forces to make each of the beloved society sports possible this spring.

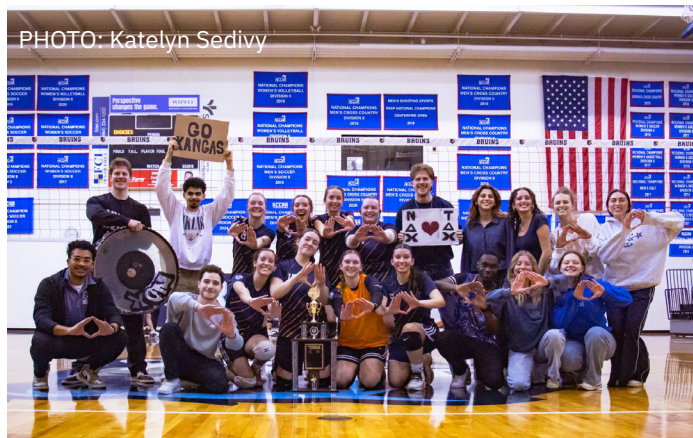


PHOTO: Katelyn Sedivy

## FACULTY

» From MOORE p.1



PHOTO: Derek Eckenroth

Dr. Moore directs the Thanksgiving Praise service on November 13, 2025.



PHOTO: Elaina Willis

you might find him braving the gravel trails of the North Carolina mountains near Hendersonville and Brevard. Also, it comes as no surprise that Dr. Moore enjoys poetry and songwriting. He has written a few songs that are often sung by students in chapel, songs that were inspired by his devotional Bible reading.

The new dean enjoys both sides of his work: the long office hours during the day and preparing performances with students at night. He sees his new role as an opportunity to equip and empower the fine arts and communication faculty to deliver their mission in the best possible way.

“It’s a privilege to be able to support our faculty,” Dr. Moore said. “And I’m enjoying getting to know more about the good work that our faculty are doing in the Division of Communication, Division of Art and Design. I’m pretty familiar with what goes on in the Division of Music, and I’m grateful for the opportunity to broaden my horizons, broaden my opportunities and abilities to support more of the mission here in a broader sense.”

As a child, Dr. Moore was fascinated with music. His grandfather bought his family a piano when he was nine years old, and he fell in love with it. However, it never occurred to him that he might teach music professionally until his high school band director asked him to lead a sectional rehearsal after class one day.

**“I’m enjoying getting to know more about the good work that our faculty are doing in the Division of Communication, Division of Art and Design”**

“That’s about the time that I realized that whatever skills and talents I thought I had were not ones that I had created, and that they were actually entrusted to me,” Dr. Moore said. “And if they were going to be of any good, I would need to give those back to God, so to speak. They were His to begin with, and I needed to acknowledge

that.”

For Dr. Moore, giving his gifts and talents back to God meant acknowledging that their ultimate purpose was to glorify Him.

“Romans 12:2 says you’re not being conformed to the world, but you’re being transformed by the renewing of your mind,” he said. “So, it’s a very counter-cultural look. Our culture says art is about self-expression, and it’s not. It’s about expressing the image of God. And the beautiful thing is that as we become window rather than walls, so to speak ... then we’re operating in a way that God designed us to, and we’re becoming more what he intended us to be, which is so much more satisfying.”

Moore works alongside his wife Deanna, who he has been married to for 28 years. They met at BJU as undergraduate students.

“The Lord has allowed us to continue to be involved in church music ministries over the years as we worked on our doctoral degrees at USC and then here in Greenville,” Dr. Moore said. “Deanna’s faithful, steady presence has been a solid rock for me and our four children (Charlotte, Wilson, Margaret and Connor). It is a joy to see God using her gifts for his glory and the good of others in gathered worship as well as the classroom,

studio, concert hall and of course, our home.”

As dean, Dr. Moore has a burden that BJU students, faculty and alumni would value the arts in the Christian life for the right reasons.

“I think that it’s easy to kind of put the arts in a silo as a special sort of treat or add-on, a luxury that we might stop and enjoy every now and then,” he said. “And it is that, in a sense, it can be thought of as that, but I believe that because of the way God made us as human beings and image bearers, there’s something structural about what the arts bring to the Christian life. It’s more than decorative. It’s more than diversion.

“When I look at Genesis 1, one of the things that just jumps out at me on the page is in the rhythm of God’s work. He doesn’t wait until the seventh day to pause. He actually paused at the end of every day and took time intentionally to view his work and assess it, reflect on it, and I think that’s an important part of the idea of what healthy work is. And I think the arts can help create those moments of reflection and facilitate that in a productive way in the Christian life.”

Dr. Moore will direct the BJU Symphony Orchestra concert on April 30, accompanied by GRAMMY award-winning conductor Richard Kaufman. Tickets are available on Showpass.



PHOTO: Derek Eckenroth

Dr. Moore conducts the symphony orchestra during the David Kim Concert Opera Drama Series on October 7, 2025.

FEATURE

»» From **UGANDA** p.1

Nyeko said Uganda was hurting morally as well.

“People stayed in the camps with no work to do, just sitting there, waiting for food from organizations and food programs.

“You can't go into your garden; you cannot do anything because it's not safe,” he said. “And so the moral lifestyle became bad. [There was] immorality of all kinds, drunkenness, which is something for people to pass the time. You could see that only the gospel of Jesus Christ can change lives. It doesn't matter how much water or clothing you give.”

Humanitarian aid can only go so far, he said.

that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.”

Nyeko joins scores of other Timothy students who are serving in their own homelands, Mr. Vowels said.

“I am convinced that the investment made in his life through the Timothy Scholarship and by the many faculty and staff members who have taught and coached him is one of the best investments we have made,” Mr. Vowels said.

**RETURN TO UGANDA**

After completing his undergraduate degree in 2017 and a master's

homes, meeting their parents, siblings, and other people. Yeah. And really in a very, very short time, I

**“You could see that only the gospel of Jesus Christ can change lives. It doesn't matter how much water or clothing you give.”**

now been trained and left to establish church plants in two other towns — Kamdini (Oyam District) and Lungulu (Nwoya District) — but more leaders need education, Nyeko said.

“The goal, right now, is to establish a school in Karuma,” he said. He plans to hold modular classes, since most students would be bi-vocational.

“They have to work and take care of families. So they can come for short times and go back.”

Within the last year, Nyeko completed online coursework for a PhD in Old Testament Interpretation from BJU Seminary. He completed as many classes as he could back in Uganda but returned to BJU for language study and exams before beginning his dissertation. His intense

PHOTOS: Provided by Shadrach Nyeko



A church service is held at Lebangakene Ministries in Uganda.

“So, for me, that was the burden that God put in my heart during that year that I was at home, as I was going out to do, speaking to people, and seeing how the gospel makes a difference.”

**TRAINING TO BE LIKE TIMOTHY**

Through a connection with missionaries as Nyeko pursued ministry training, he discovered BJU.

He eventually emailed an admissions partner and was connected to Mr. Mark Vowels, who told him about the Timothy Scholarship.

Mr. Vowels, the division chair of the division of ministries in the School of Theology and Global Leadership, described the Timothy Program as a scholarship fund for the purpose of training nationals to plant churches and providing future fundamental leadership for their countries.

A program candidate “must be a young man qualified for the work of the ministry by his life, his willingness to train in the United States and his commitment to return to his own nation in order to carry out the ministry there. This is a select group of potential leaders whose training will far surpass what is available in their own countries and who will be able to return to their countries to train Christian leaders for the future.”

The name of the program comes from 2 Timothy 2:1-2: “Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace

degree in 2020, Nyeko returned to Uganda, where he established Lubangakene Ministries Uganda in 2021.

“The aim is to plant churches and establish a school where we train church leaders and charge planters and send them out,” Nyeko said.

Nyeko related the story of how he moved into Karuma, a town where he did not know anyone. There he started building relationships through a soccer club while regularly playing with the local boys.

“That was a great beautiful connection for me. Eventually, I started being able to move out into their

knew a lot of people in that country,” Nyeko said.

After a few months, he established a church which met under a tree. During 2021, the church grew with new believers and started to look for land to purchase for a building. Nyeko began discipling the believers and inviting the community to church.

“So it was the same thing that had been doing years back in my hometown... go out, meet people, tell them about Jesus. And those who believe, invite them back to join the church.”

In 2022, Nyeko's ministry built a small church building, what he calls the first church, because he plans to establish more churches in the region.

“It's kind of like the mother church now that you function as a launching pad,” he said.

Two other men joined the team, and Nyeko began teaching them doctrine, interpretation and hermeneutics, with weekly classes.

He continued to teach, disciple and conduct the soccer team for the next few years while the church grew. Lubangakene ministers to the community through sports, discipleship and even its own agriculture products, raised on the church property for outreach sustainability.

**LUBANGAKENE MINISTRIES NOW PLANS TO TRAIN CHURCH PLANTERS**

Men from the community have



Nyeko and his wife, Cavine

work prepares him to establish the Bible school for Lubangakene Ministries.

Nyeko married his wife, Cavine, recently as well. Unfortunately, complicated visa issues prevented her from coming to the U.S. with her husband. He mentioned that they tried to obtain a visa a second time, but the appointment times were so far into the year and the appointment did not guarantee a visa.

While Cavine and Shadrach desired to be at BJU together, they video call through WhatsApp every day.

Commenting on Nyeko's return, Dr. Kevin Oberlin, dean of the School of Theology and Global Leadership, said, “We're so thankful to have him back for this time, but unfortunately his wife was not able to get a visa. Shadrach is an outstanding testimony of someone who has taken his training for ministry seriously and wants to use his gifts for the Lord and [the] church.”



A baptism at Lubangakene Ministries in Uganda



Shadrach Nyeko in front of the Seminary Building

## HISTORY

# How BJU chose its distinctive yellow brick Art Deco style

Dr. Bob III: World War II impacted color choice that defined the Greenville campus

Andrew Figueroa

COMIC ARTIST

Every day, students navigate the yellow brick buildings of Bob Jones University. Students scroll Canvas on the way to class, survey sidewalks for acquaintances or forecast the ever-changing Greenville weather. They rarely glance up at the curious concrete entrance of the Alumni Building or the permeable brickwork in front of Stratton Hall. Few think about the remains of the Administration Building while walking to the dining common. But hidden in the brickwork of BJU are 80 years of architectural history, making it a unique college campus in the Upstate.

The story begins in 1933, when Dr. Bob Jones Sr. led Bob Jones College from Bay County, Florida, to the heart of Cleveland, Tennessee. The student body enjoyed a small, stately campus featuring Georgian buildings made of red brick with stone quoins (decorative corners). Classical white pillars and large windows fashioned the buildings. The elegant campus was perfect for the school while it matured as a Christian liberal arts college.

After World War II, however, BJC grew substantially until downtown Cleveland couldn't support the needed expansion. After 14 years in Cleveland, it was decided that BJC must move once again. The administration looked to the sleepy town of Greenville, South Carolina, as the school's new home.

The move marked a significant change for the college. In 1946, construction began for the Greenville campus. The school built 13 buildings in 13 months. Original buildings included Rodeheaver Auditorium, the Alumni Building, the Student Center and the Administration Building. The following year, 1947, witnessed the transition from Bob Jones College to Bob Jones University. In the same year, Dr. Bob Jones Jr. became the school's second president. Meanwhile, 2,500 students flocked to the University's new campus.

Dr. Bob Jones III, the current chancellor of BJU, was 8 years old during the transition. He remembers hearing his father and grandfather discussing the relocation. In 2026, he might be the only one with the answer to the million-dollar question: why yellow bricks?

As it turns out, the answer correlates with World War II.

"I heard my father say that the yellow brick was chosen primarily be-



PHOTO: BJU Archives

cause that was what was available after the war," Dr. Jones said. Although yellow brick wasn't popular at the time, the choice came down to necessity. In World War II, military bases and other wartime building efforts had drained the market of red bricks. When the university began construction in 1946, yellow bricks were the best choice.

This choice made the architectural designs simple. The school's previous Georgian style buildings would never work here. Modern architecture in the 1940s, such as international style buildings, were usually utilitarian structures made of steel, glass and concrete. Traditional styles weren't flattered by yellow brick, and most modern styles were far too minimalistic for it. Instead, the BJU administration decided on an architectural style that would walk the line between old and new: Art Deco.

The style was born about two decades earlier, during a time of intense innovation in the decorative world. During a 1925 exhibition held in Paris, the name Art Deco, short for Arts décoratifs, was used to describe the new style. It quickly became a widespread architectural movement that also influenced interior design, furniture, fashion, clothing and even jewelry.

Art Deco boasts elements of both the old and the new. Ancient Egyptian influences are seen in the imposing vertical elements, usually made of cement. In the 1920s, archaeologists opened the tomb of King Tut, and the world was mesmerized by unearthed Egyptian history. Art Deco captures this time period's fixation with ancient architecture. It demonstrates timeless geometry and ornamental patterns that could be dated back thousands of years.

At the same time, however, Art Deco is a distinctively modern style. The architectural movement was quickly used as a medium of forward-thinking before World War II.

Streamlined structures and simplified, geometrical motifs replaced the classical grandeur of Greek revival, the traditional elements of Federal style or even the artistic intrigue of the Art Nouveau style from decades before. Sheer, vertical entrances were portals into the future; zigzagging ornamentation felt ancient but defiantly modern. This was architecture shedding its skin while keeping its dedication to beauty. The style was a perfect fit for Bob Jones University.

But where on campus are the towering geometric wonders or the Egyptian influences? Where are the architectural elements from the Roaring '20s? The residence halls might transport students back to the 1920s, but what about the architecture? Where, then, is the Art Deco in BJU?

Architecture enthusiast Mr. Jay Bopp, a faculty member in the division of art and design, has been interested in the architectural history of campus for a long time. In 2010, he wrote a brief survey about BJU's architecture for the benefit of the ad-

ministration. He suggested that most of the original structures on campus were examples of institutional Art Deco. One characteristic of the institutional style of Art Deco is that the decorative features of a building are usually restricted to its façade – front facing side – or entrance.

The Alumni Building is a prime example. Unadorned windows surrounding the building focus attention on the entrance; concrete pilasters stand like sentinels beside the doors, and repeated chevrons decorate the cornice. In fact, Mr. Bopp said, the Alumni Building's façade looks remarkably like the Burtons building in St. Helier, Jersey, another exceptional Art Deco construction. Other original buildings on campus, such as the Student Center (now the Den) and the residence halls, also display the prominent concrete facades with stepped geometric elements.

Mr. Bopp also pointed to the former Administration Building as a work of Art Deco. It had evident Bauhaus influence, too. The circular design along with a sleek black protrusion created a bold look. Although it was demolished in 2015, the structure was a strong presence on campus for decades.

Campus has seen some changes since the 1940s. Modernist international style stepped onto the stage during the second wave of campus construction, and dozens of buildings were added since. Yet, through all the changes, the yellow bricks maintain a certain harmony among the buildings of Bob Jones University. Although you may live somewhere for years with indifference to its architectural history, you miss something profound in the process.



PHOTO: Elaina Willis

## STUDENT LIFE

# BJU opens ‘mock house’ lab to train students to make home visits

Josie Santopietro

REPORTER

Bob Jones University is hosting an open house for the Division of Education and Human Services’ home visiting lab. The opening includes cookies, giveaways and interactive activities on Monday, April 20, from 12 p.m.- 2 p.m. The home visiting lab was initially launched at the beginning of this semester. Located on the first floor of the Alumni building, this room is a mock house for students to practice home visiting for therapeutic and social services.

According to Dr. Julie Hartman, chair of the Division of Human Services, home visiting is “an umbrella term for any professional who offers direct services to a family, child or both in the home.”

The home visiting lab is used by 60 students of many concentrations, including speech therapy, early intervention and social work. Through the lab, they practice assisting families who are struggling with abuse, disabilities or other medical conditions. The lab focuses on equipping students to deal with critical incidents in a new and possibly uncomfortable environment. The lab also promotes ways for students to observe signs and incorporate prevention techniques in the home.

“You’re not looking for what they can’t do. You’re looking for what they can do and build on (that),” Dr. Hartman said.

Other professors who established the lab include Mrs. Abbie Lobach and Miss Cait Reid, both professors of the Division of Human Services. These professors recognized a gap in their students’ education and a need in the community for this kind of experiential learning and professional development.

“BJU sits in a unique position because we are ministry minded,” Dr. Hartman said.

With a growing need for human service professionals in the community, the lab develops students to support the needs of community partners. Dr. Hartman noted that approximately \$74.2 billion is spent annually by South Carolina to combat the effects of child abuse and neglect, and South Carolina now ranks 38th nationwide in child well-being. She also mentioned that counteraction measures, such as evidence-based home visiting programs, are estimated to reduce child abuse and neglect by 30-50 percent. Experience with the home visiting lab broadens students’ job opportunities and career competencies.

The idea was initially pitched two years ago at an advisory board meeting of community members and part-

ners. The lab received approval at the end of last semester. Furniture and resources were found at a low cost. Professionals were invited to observe the layout and procedures of the home visiting lab. These professionals included representatives from Miracle Hill, the Bayer Foundation and the South Carolina Children’s Trust. According to Dr. Hartman, this is the only program in South Carolina specifically preparing students for home-visiting work.

“Supporting healthy families reflects God’s design for community and gives us opportunities to share hope with the families we serve,” Dr. Hartman said.

The Division of Education and Human Services has important plans for this lab, but more work must be done to ensure a permanent location. Long term, the Division of Education and Human Services intends to establish

a location off campus. An off-campus location would increase accessibility to community partners, other universities and the community. An off-campus location would ideally provide multiple rooms with different types of home environments. Another goal for the lab includes a curriculum to link with the lab, specifically for the annual training for early interventionists in critical incidents, as explained by the Director of the Office of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.

The partnership between BJU and the South Carolina Children’s Trust spans over 10 years. BJU was always a part of the National Child Abuse Prevention Month celebration in April, and this year provides a unique opportunity to share the benefits of the home visiting lab with BJU students and members of the Greenville community.



PHOTO: Naomi Floyd

# Students create through social media to reshape Christian media

Katelyn Sedivy

PHOTOGRAPHER

The glow of a laptop screen is the only light left on in the room. It’s 12:03 a.m., and while most of campus is asleep, one student is still awake, headphones in, timeline open, dragging clips back and forth until it feels right. A voiceover plays softly in the background.

She pauses, rewinds, trims again.

By mid-morning, it will reach more people than she’ll talk to all week.

At Bob Jones University, a growing number of students are stepping into the world of digital content creation — filming movies, launching podcasts, building platforms — all with a clear purpose.

Student creators are reshaping what Christian media can look like. They are ultimately pointing to Someone greater than themselves.

Scroll through Instagram long enough or walk into student-led Christmas chapel, and you’ll come across a BJU student displaying their ability to create digital content.

Brothers Ivan and Tima Karpitskiy are attempting to redeem media

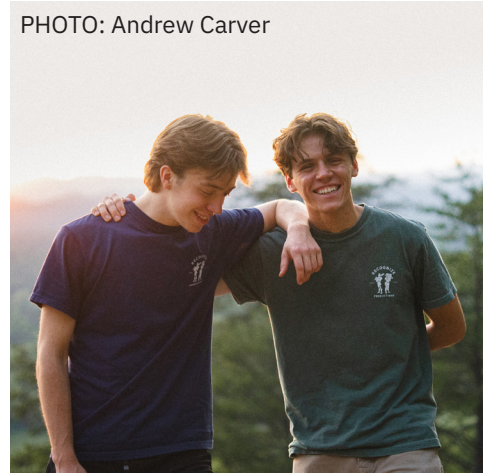
rather than mindlessly consume or reject it. Through their film company, Recognize Productions, the brothers extend the reach of their digital media projects that tell purposeful stories of faith through social media.

“We are the next generation of filmmakers telling life-transforming stories with eternal truths,” said Tima Karpitskiy, a sophomore ministry and leadership major.

Recognize Productions operates under this tagline: “Recognize His glory.”

“We want there to be a transcendent meaning behind everything,” Tima said. “It’s not just, you know, mindless entertainment.”

PHOTO: Andrew Carver



Modern digital culture emphasizes virality, constant stimulation and speed. Ivan, a biblical studies graduate, and Tima emphasize narrative, depth and reflection through their core values of creativity, quality, collaboration and integrity.

Content creation is just that—art. Artistic expression now has an outlet through technology. More people than ever before eagerly anticipate their favorite creator’s posts.

Capturing color, beauty and life for clients brings joy to Lauren Elwart, a senior photography major. She shares content on social platforms to market herself and gain clients.

“Being able to capture that moment so that they can remember that joy and give glory to God is just the sweetest gift ever,” Elwart said.

The connections built by student creators differentiates their work online and tangibly demonstrates God’s influence in their lives. Creating content is an extension of faith. Influencers can evangelize in a format that meets people where they are, no matter how big or small the platform.

What is happening at BJU is only the beginning. As digital platforms continue to shape how people communicate, these student creators are

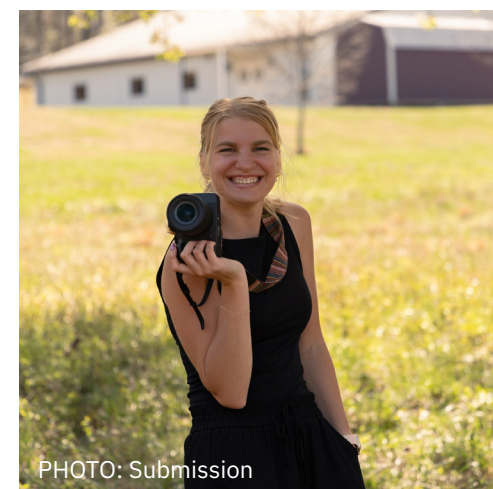


PHOTO: Submission

stepping into spaces that are always changing. The skills that they build could significantly influence the future of Christian media.

From missions-focused storytelling to full-scale media initiatives, the next generation of creators is already making an impact.

Back in the dimly lit dorm room, the laptop is finally closed. The video is posted. Another late night finished. Viewers comment and message their thanks.

But for this student creator, it was never about any of that, because what started as a creative vision became more than content. It became ministry.

## COLUMN

# Column: A student's guide to BJU's unwritten rules

Jonathan Rose

PODCAST EDITOR



**W**e all know how to behave on campus. Every student read the abridged handbook in September, and every student follows it perfectly all the time. But there are other rules on campus you may not know about if you just memorized the handbook and called it good. These are cultural and social norms that don't exist in writing but still shape our existence as students. For the exceptionally disciplined student eager for a challenge, here are some extra, unwritten rules to add to your mental checklist. Don't worry, there's no quiz at the end.

First, let's start with the cornerstone of a day at BJU: chapel. If you are a Knight or if you are especially invested in the service, you may sit in

the gold section. Otherwise, you should sit in the green or blue sections. Often a group of students will appear on stage to lead worship or to pray. If a close friend or even a mild acquaintance is on stage, it is absolutely essential that you take a horrendous close-up photo of them and send it to a group chat with six other friends. However, this is the only permissible use of your phone in chapel. You must put it away and take out your paper Bible for the rest of the service. If the speaker references Ecclesiastes and the room includes academy students, you should laugh at every joke. This only occurs on Wednesdays. At 11:35 a.m. the speaker must wrap up and dismiss students. If the clock hits 11:36 a.m., you will probably hear murmurs and the rustling of paper Bibles being put away. In rare instances, you may see someone ride a bike out of the amphitorium.

Speaking of made-up words like "amphitorium," let's talk about some rules pertaining to unique BJU vocabulary. The Collegian and the Vintage are two different organizations. Don't mix us up. "Bruin" is a word that could either refer to the student body as a whole or to the people who play sports. "En 102" and "Essential Science" refer to BJU core classes, and their names invoke dread. "Dr. Ted Miller" and "Miss Kelly Walter" are professors, and their names invoke happi-

ness. This results in a weird clash of emotions when Miss Walter teaches En 102.

"Artist series" is the colloquial term for the plays and musical performances students are required to attend. Sometimes people forget whether a show was an artist series or not, so here are the conditions: If the play is more than 100 years old, the performers have a foreign accent or we stand to applaud at the end, it is an artist series. If none of these apply, it is not an artist series.

Let's do what every chapel speaker does and talk about dating. Since some people come to school with zero experience, the university graciously provides opportunities to date at artist series or Bible Conference. If you are a guy and don't ask a girl to attend with you, you will be made fun of. If you are a guy and do ask out a girl, you will be made fun of even more. Try not to take it personally. The university also provides a space for couples to talk away from their single friends' prying. I'm not referring to the former dating parlor, but the Gaston sidewalk. If you see a guy and a girl walking around the track, they're talking (whatever that means). If you see them sitting together in a booth in The Den or dining common, you should clear your calendar in case you're invited to their wedding. But you'll have to wait for official confirmation

because there are only four weeks out of the year when students are allowed to get engaged: Spring Break, New Years and the week immediately after each semester.

Finally, let's fly through some miscellaneous rules. Do not run to class; it will drop your social standing considerably. If something is broken, you should complain to your roommate instead of reporting it to maintenance. If something on campus can hold water, it won't hold water. If you pass a piano in the open, you must play "River Flows in You" or "Für Elise" before moving on. This is why most of the pianos are reserved for music students. If a line in the DC is long, you can find any person you've talked to in the last month and join them in line. If you have a question about an assignment, you should ignore the syllabus and email your professor late at night; they will appreciate it. If you order food in The Den, you must put the weirdest name you can think of on the receipt. If someone forgets their clean laundry in a dryer, you should take the clothes out and put them in the trash. The punishment doesn't seem to fit

the crime, but we care deeply about punctuality here. If a storm cancels class, act irresponsibly. If a conversation is dying, you should bring up generative AI ethics, your favorite VeggieTales song or any other conscience issue where good people disagree. If smoke comes out of the Sargent Art Building, that's pottery, not a fire. If smoke comes out of the Rodeheaver stage, that's a Shakespeare production, not a fire. If smoke comes out of a dorm, that's popcorn. The firetrucks will arrive in five minutes.

I hope this guide helps you maximize your time on campus. It can be difficult to live life when you don't have a list to tell you exactly what to do in every single situation. But as you navigate decisions, remember what Proverbs says: Find good counselors, discipline yourself, and most importantly, fear God at all times. In the world of chatbots it's tempting to want a how-to guide tailored to your experience, but we can't provide that. A list of rules won't satisfy; only your relationship with God will. And in case I wasn't clear, follow the handbook and don't run to class.

## COMICS | ANDREW FIGUEROA

