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A PUBLICATION OF THE CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AND GRADUATE PROGRAM

FALL 2005

# CU Classroom News

By Dr. Steve Gruber, Chair

Greetings to our friends in education! Wow! Where did the summer go and now most of fall? I am sure many of you feel the same as I that summer passed far too quickly. So now we are back in school and hopefully serving the Lord and making a difference in the lives of students.

Here in the education department we are adjusting to the absence of Dr. Sue Baker. Dr. Baker underwent an extensive surgery on her spine to remove a large tumor that had caused her to experience partial paralysis and the loss of the use of her legs. The surgery was successful, and the tumor was not

cancerous, for which we are praising the Lord. Her recovery and therapy continue at home, and we are looking forward to her return to the classroom in the Spring Semester. If you would like to send her a card or note of encouragement, please mail it to 143 Bridge Street, Cedarville, OH 45314.

In March 2006, we will be undergoing our on-site visit by the Board of Examiners of the Ohio Department of Education. See Page 4 for complete information on this visit. This visit is a requirement for teacher education programs that award Ohio teaching licenses. The department is working hard to be prepared for this visit so that we may demonstrate to the examiners that we are true to our mission as a department and a University. During the

last academic year, the University community worked together to update and expand our mission statement, which states that "Cedarville University is a Christ-centered learning community that equips students for lifelong leadership and service through an education marked by excellence and grounded in biblical truth." Please pray with us that this on-site visit would be used to glorify God by clearly demonstrating our commitment to fulfilling the University's Christ-centered mission.

Once again, please send us comments, information, or ideas that we can pass on to others in our professional community through *CU in the Classroom*. We always enjoy hearing from our education alumni!

# Spring '06 Graduate Courses

## Indianapolis Area

Foundations of Biblical Theology – Jan. 28, Feb. 11, Mar. 4, Apr. 22

We are pleased by the response to Cedarville's first-ever graduate education course offered in the Indianapolis area this fall. Thirteen students registered for "Bible Survey for Professionals," which was offered at the Bethesda Christian School campus at 7950 N. Co. Rd. 650 E., Brownsburg, Indiana. In the spring a second class, "Foundations of Biblical Theology," will be offered on four Saturdays – January 28, February 11, March 4, and April 22 from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

This class is a required course in CU's 34-credit M.Ed. program. It can also be used to satisfy ACSI or AACSB Bible certification requirements.

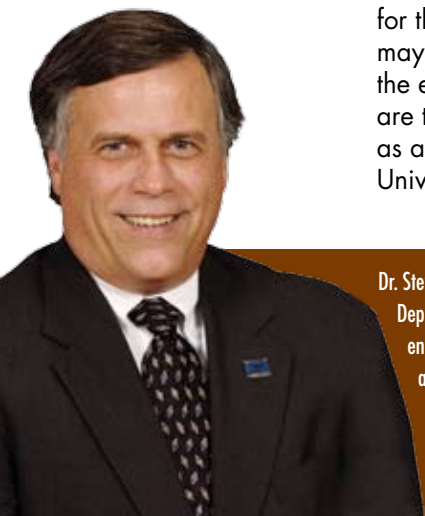
## Columbus Area

Bible Survey for Professionals – Jan. 21, Feb. 4, Mar. 4

History & Philosophy of Education – Jan. 28, Feb. 11 and Feb. 18, Mar. 18

In addition, we are also excited about the return of Cedarville's graduate education to the Columbus, Ohio, area. Two classes will be offered at Worthington Christian Schools' middle school campus located at 8225 Worthington-Galena Road, Westerville, Ohio. The classes are "Bible Survey for Professionals" and "History & Philosophy of Education." Both classes are required for the M.Ed., and the "Bible Survey" class can satisfy ACSI certification requirements. For more information, visit [www.cedarville.edu/graduate](http://www.cedarville.edu/graduate).

**CU's graduate education is returning to Columbus!**



Dr. Steve Gruber serves as chair of the Cedarville University Education Department. He joined the Cedarville education faculty in 2000 after enjoying a 26-year career in public education as a teacher, coach, and administrator. Dr. Gruber is a 1974 graduate of Cedarville with a bachelor of arts degree in social science. He completed his doctoral studies at Miami University in 1990.

(Main campus course offerings and all course descriptions are continued on Page 3.)

# Tips for Teachers:

## Display Patience with Your Students

By Steve Gruber, Ed.D.

The dictionary definition of patience is “willingness to put up with waiting, pain, trouble, etc.; calm endurance without complaining or losing self-control.” As teachers, your patience is being tested every day. It can begin at home as you interact with your spouse or children as you get ready for the day. Patience continues to be tested driving to school, waiting in lines, working with colleagues, and interacting with students and their parents.

Teachers must be constantly aware of their attitudes towards their students. Remaining calm and composed during confrontation is imperative. Remember, you are modeling the proper Christlike behavior that you desire your students learn. We all need to evaluate our patience level with students by asking ourselves the following question: How do I view my students?

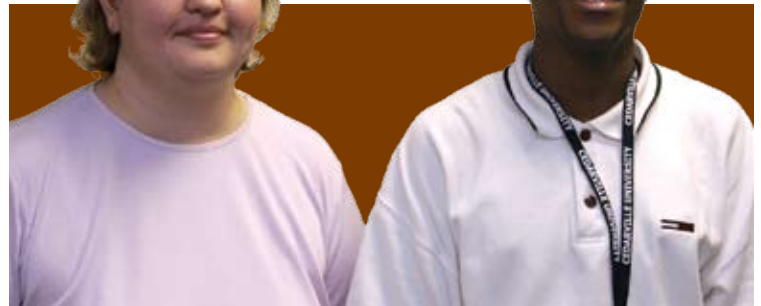
Do you believe that your students are interested in learning? Are they respectful to you and others? Many students behave in ways that are considerate. When these students misbehave or do poorly on a test, the first reaction should be to assess the problem and formulate a strategy to help. Our understanding and patience level for these students is high because of the students’ past behavior and performance.

What about students who demonstrate indifferent or lazy attitudes toward learning? How about the students who are manipulative or disrespectful? Do you provide these students with the same amount of patience as those who are already respectful and high performing? Unfortunately, many times our patience level is lower for those students who need it most. When these students misbehave, punishing their behavior is the immediate reaction.

These students sense your frustration. They learn from you how to be frustrated and bothered towards others. In many situations they are also learning frustrated and disrespectful behavior from observing their parents. If this is the case, you are reinforcing the behavior by not being patient.

We must invest an adequate amount of time and patience in all of our students. We must talk with them and try to understand their problems and frustrations. So, the next time your students misbehave, display lots of patience. Find out all the facts and reasons for their misbehavior or other problem before reacting to the situation.

Your students will appreciate your composure and learn from you. Patience is to be admired. It takes some people more practice than others to make it their way of life. But as believers we know that patience is a fruit of the Spirit. Let that fruit grow, and watch for the growth in the lives of your students.



## Summer Program Draws International Students

This past summer it was our pleasure to have two international graduate students (pictured above) taking classes. We asked them to write a brief introduction of themselves.

### Nadia Povalinska Kyiv, Ukraine

I teach Russian as a foreign language at the Kiev Christian Academy, a school for missionary children in Kyiv, Ukraine. As head of our foreign language department, I will be able to share what I have learned at Cedarville University with my colleagues.

Beyond our school, I will share what I have learned with other teachers who work at the national Christian and public schools at the ACSI-CEP conventions in the former USSR. Ukrainian teachers receive their teacher’s education at state universities. There is a need for developing biblical integration into the curriculum and a Christian perspective on education. My time at Cedarville will greatly benefit my personal and professional development as God leads us in fulfilling that vision.

### Duane Madden Westmoreland, Jamaica

Currently, I serve as the administrator of Fairview Baptist Bible College in Jamaica. I am a graduate of Fairview with an emphasis in pastoral studies. I also obtained a certificate in counseling at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica. I am involved with preaching, teaching, and youth ministries at home. Studying at Cedarville University has been a great learning experience for me. Personally, I hope to strengthen my administrative skills and, at the same time, use this experience to enhance the academic program at Fairview Baptist Bible College.

*Please pray for Duane and Nadia and for all Christian schools and teachers around the world. In many countries outside the U.S., Christian schools are used as a means of sharing the gospel as well as formal education. Pray that God will supply the needs of international Christian schools and give administrators and teachers great wisdom as they seek to share the truth and hope found only in Christ.*



# Why Take “Foundations of Biblical Theology?”

- to gain a clearer vision of what the Bible has to say to the major questions of our day
- to think carefully about how theology intersects with education and our culture
- to brainstorm how a teacher might apply theology to the practice of teaching
- to consider your own worldview and how closely it resembles (or doesn't resemble) a biblical worldview

## Faculty Focus: Scott Dixon, Ph.D

Dr. Scott Dixon serves as an associate professor of Bible. He earned his B.A. in Bible from Cedarville University (1984), his Th.M. in historical theology from Dallas Theological Seminary (1989), and his Ph.D. in education from Michigan State University (2001). Dr. Dixon has been teaching at Cedarville since 1997. Before that he served for six years as a youth pastor in Grand Ledge, Michigan. He has been a popular speaker for teen camps and retreats as well as churches.

Currently teaching classes in youth ministry, Christian education, and theological integration, Dr. Dixon's study interests include youth culture as well as how a biblical worldview is lived out in the pressing questions of our day.

Dr. Dixon and his wife of 20 years, Sara, have five children ranging in ages from 10 to 19 and one dog named Max. When not attending a game or match to watch his kids, Dr. Dixon enjoys playing golf and reading biographies and history in his spare time.



### Main Campus

History & Philosophy of Education – Jan. 21, Feb. 4 and 25, Mar. 4  
 Special Topics: Abstinence Education – Jan. 28, Feb. 18, Mar. 25, Apr. 8  
 School Finance – Feb. 11, Mar. 18, Apr. 1 and 22

These are the spring classes and meeting dates. All courses are offered on Saturdays from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

## Spring 2006 Graduate Course Descriptions

### EDU-6100 History & Philosophy of Education

Why does a Christian educator view history and philosophy differently from a secularist? What constitutes a distinctly evangelical philosophy of education? In this course you will examine a biblical worldview and its application to the development of a philosophy of education.

### ECS-6550 Special Topics: Abstinence Education

As abstinence education becomes increasingly recognized as a viable option within the spectrum of sex education, the importance of having trained instructors is critical. Abstinence education with biblical mores provides a healthful alternative to most sex education curricula. Practical assignments are designed for use in the classroom, community, or church.

### EDA-7100 School Finance

This course provides a study of the historical issues, constitutional issues, sources of revenue, state aid distribution methods, and the budgeting process for K-12 schools. It is designed for the practicing school administrator and will focus on Ohio public schools.

### BEGS-7250 Foundations of Biblical Theology

This foundation course is designed to introduce the student to a Christian worldview created within a biblical framework. Attention is first given to the definition, function, formation, and evaluation of worldview. Then, Christian responses and applications will be developed from a survey of biblical theology with emphasis upon the teaching of the Bible, God, man, and salvation. Through course assignments, the student will be able to use the skill of worldview development to examine basic issues in education as well as in life.

### EDU-6250 Bible Survey for Professionals

This course provides a comprehensive perspective or “big picture” of the Bible. Students will develop and apply inductive Bible study methods and principles for developing theology while increasing their Bible content knowledge and awareness of Bible study tools. Students will strengthen their biblical worldview as it relates to their field, enabling them to assist colleagues, parents, and students in applying biblical principles.

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*CU graduate courses are convenient, economical, and taught from a biblical worldview. To register, call 1-888-233-2784 and ask for Bruce Traeger, director of graduate admissions, or visit [www.cedarville.edu/graduate](http://www.cedarville.edu/graduate).*

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# Current Trends in Education:

## Board of Examiners to Visit Education Department

By Deborah Mallonee

The Cedarville University Education Department is currently in the midst of preparing for its state approval visit this coming March 25-29, 2006. This will be the first approval visit since the 1998 licensure revisions in the State of Ohio, and many changes have occurred at the state and legislative levels since the last review.

Currently, all institutions in Ohio preparing teachers for licensure must meet the standards of the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), whether or not they choose to become NCATE accredited. NCATE has six standards, *all* of which must be met for the institution to be approved to prepare teachers in Ohio.

### **Standard 1: Candidate Knowledge, Skills, and Dispositions**

This standard requires the institution to provide data from key performance assessments proving that candidates graduating from licensure programs have the content knowledge, professional and pedagogical knowledge, and assessment skills to help all students learn.

### **Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation**

The department must show that it has an effective system for evaluating candidate progress and unit functioning and that it uses assessment data for program improvement.

### **Standard 3: Field and Clinical Experiences**

To meet this standard, the department must show that it collaborates with school partners to design, implement, and evaluate field and clinical experiences so that candidates develop and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help all students learn.

### **Standard 4: Diversity**

The diversity standard requires the department to design, implement, and evaluate curriculum and experiences for candidates to acquire the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help students from diverse backgrounds learn.

### **Standard 5: Faculty Qualifications**

This standard looks at faculty qualifications; performance in the areas of teaching, scholarship, and service; and how the department administers professional development.

### **Standard 6: Unit Governance and Resources**

The department must show that it has the appropriate budget, personnel, facilities, and resources to meet the professional, state, and institutional standards.

In addition to the NCATE standards, each individual program area must show that it meets the national standards of its specialized professional association (SPA).

Currently the department has submitted program reviews for early childhood (National Association for the Education of Young Children), middle childhood (National Middle School Association), and special (Council for Exceptional Children) education and has received approval under the national SPA standards. In addition, Cedarville has received approval to add a pre-kindergarten special needs endorsement to the Early Childhood License that will allow holders of the Early Childhood License to work with special needs students ages 3-5. Other program area reviews (adolescent/young adult and multi-age) are due in the coming years.

To prepare for the approval visit, the Cedarville faculty collaborated with their school partners, internal and external advisory councils, and other areas of the University. This collaboration produced sub-committees around each NCATE standard to analyze data, set goals, make appropriate decisions based upon the data, and evaluate progress.

We would greatly covet your prayers as we prepare for this visit in March 2006. It is our hope that God will be glorified through this process and that our department and candidates will be a true reflection of our mission.



# Alumni Spotlight:

## Loretta Phalen M.Ed. '04

When I started taking classes at Cedarville, I had no intention of completing the graduate program. The reason I decided to attend Cedarville was because it is a Christian university, and as a teacher in a Christian school, I felt I needed some formal Bible training.



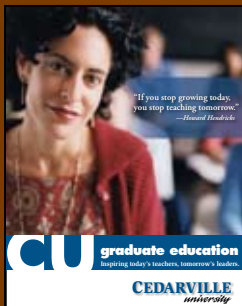
The Bible courses I took helped me immensely in teaching Bible to my students. While I was attending these classes, the enthusiasm from the professors and other students was contagious. After much prayer, discussion with my husband, and leading of the

Holy Spirit, I made the decision to become part of the graduate program at Cedarville.

The graduate program was not an easy one to complete and required both personal and financial sacrifices. The sacrifices were worthwhile, however, as I gained skills and understanding that helped me better fulfill my calling as an educator. The professors were supportive and provided extra time to complete assignments, understanding the many obligations of a graduate student.

The most challenging part of the graduate program was completing the thesis. Although this was one of the most difficult things I have ever done, I was assisted each step of the way by the Cedarville faculty, our heavenly Father, and my husband and daughter. The experience has been valuable to me as an educator. As a result of my research, I have been more proficient at meeting the needs of my students through technology. Also, I have shared with other staff members at my school much of what I have learned.

*Loretta is a first grade teacher at Fairfield Christian Academy in Lancaster, Ohio. She and her husband reside in Lancaster and are active in Fairfield Christian Church. They enjoy spending time with their three children and five grandchildren.*



Watch your mailbox for Cedarville's new graduate education brochure! This informative resource provides complete details on Cedarville's outstanding M.Ed. programs and includes an application.

## New Policy: Credential Files for Education Undergraduates

In keeping with current trends in higher education and the employment sector, new policies and procedures have been established for credential files for all Cedarville University education undergraduates. Cedarville's career services department will offer self-managed credential files starting September 1, 2005. Beginning with the graduating classes of December 2005 and May 2006, job candidates will collect their own reference letters and assemble a credential file to be submitted directly to an employer along with other job application materials. Career services will provide the forms and offer guidance but will not keep original copies on file.



Even graduate class breaks are exciting! Pictured here is Dr. Merlin Ager and Julie Beachy, one of Cedarville's summer school students.



## Mission

To prepare compassionate, professional educators who are committed to the integration of faith, learning, and life as demonstrated in teaching competence and Christlike character through leadership and service

Earn your M.Ed. at

**CEDARVILLE**  
*university*



Inspiring today's teachers, tomorrow's leaders.

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**1-888-CEDARVILLE (233-2784)**

The University does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, color, sex, or national origin. The University admits students with various disabilities.



Register for Spring Semester by January 3, 2006, and receive a **free** long-sleeved Cedarville University T-shirt.

Call Bruce Traeger at **1-888-CEDARVILLE** (233-2784) for more information!

## Cedarville Graduate Education **Quick Facts**

- Tuition – \$305 per graduate credit hour, \$153 per CEU
- Convenience – Complete in-class requirements in just four Saturdays.
- Content – relevant, thorough, distinctively Christian
- Designed to increase professional effectiveness
- 34-credit hour M.Ed. Teacher Leader Program (11 may be transfer credits)
- 49-credit hour M.Ed. Principal Licensure Program (anticipating approval in Spring 2006)
- 2-year and 3-summer completion options
- Bible classes satisfy ACSI biblical studies requirements.
- Meals may be purchased at faculty/staff rates in school dining hall (\$2.50-\$3.50).
- Accredited by North Central Association of Colleges & Schools ([www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org)) and Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI)

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