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Pennsylvania's Proposed Budget

On Tuesday, March 8, Governor Corbett delivered his proposed budget for Pennsylvania. The budget includes a 50 percent cut in funding for state schools including Millersville University. In response to the proposal, Millersville University President Francine G. McNairy issued the following statement:



We are deeply troubled by the proposed budget for Pennsylvania, which cuts funding to state universities including Millersville, by more than 50 percent. Our number one priority at Millersville University is our students, and it is the students who will suffer the most if this proposed budget is approved. We hope that the legislature will see fit to restore some of the cuts to higher education.

While we were not expecting an increase in funding, the massive cuts are upsetting. Hanging in the balance is access to quality, affordable higher education for the children of Pennsylvania. These deep cuts will change the programs and services we can offer to students, and it will affect their ability to graduate in four years.

Millersville University has kept tuition increases at an average of 4.3 percent over the last 10 years. In addition, we have cut \$11.6 million from our budget in the last three years. We have been good stewards of the taxpayers' money. The proposed budget means higher tuition rates will be necessary, and the gap between revenue and costs means that services will be reduced.

We at Millersville are encouraging our students and their families, our faculty, staff and alumni to contact their local legislators and urge them to advocate on behalf of public higher education in Pennsylvania. Tell them the proposed budget doesn't work, and we need their help. The future of Pennsylvania's children is at stake.

Francine G. McNairy
President

Millersville's Council of Trustees Set Room and Board

Millersville's Council of Trustees (COT) approved room, board and fees for the 2011-2012 school year at their regular meeting on March 16.

The COT approved a 5.2 percent increase in room and board, a \$217 increase per semester. The total for room and board for 2011-12 will be \$4,366 per semester. In

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addition, the COT voted to increase fees for undergraduates by 3.2 percent, a \$26.75 increase per semester. The total fees per semester will be \$859.

“The University and the Trustees were mindful of these difficult economic times and worked hard to keep the costs down. The 5.2 percent increase for room and board is less than last year’s 6.9 percent increase. The increases reflect anticipated costs with utilities and personnel costs,” said Roger Bruszewski, vice president for finance and administration.



Tuition costs are set by the Board of Governors of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education generally in June of each year.

In other action, the COT approved a \$5,000 contribution to the Millersville Fire Company and emeritus status for Dr. David Hill, psychology (1986-2010); Dr. Richard Johnson, industry & technology (1982-2010); Dr. Nancy Smith, educational foundations (1987-2010) and Dr. Barbara Stengel, educational foundations (1985-2010).

New 2011-2012 University Theme

For the 2011-2012 school year, the University community can look forward to the implementation of a new University theme, “Seize the Opportunity: Create, Innovate, Engage.”



The committee decided to adopt as its recurring theme the identity signature, “Seize the Opportunity,” and combine it with the words “Create, Innovate, Engage.” Millersville University-Lancaster, at 42 N. Prince St., has the words “Creativity, Innovation, Engagement” on the outside wall of the building. The purpose of the new theme is to create more coherence between the various marketing initiatives on campus

and to solidify the relationship of the theme to other events and programs on campus.

The committee will be looking for faculty, staff and students to develop events and activities that highlight how creativity and innovation can stimulate learning as well as lead to strong, vibrant programs and opportunities within the community.

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A new program that the committee has implemented is called “Scholars-in-the-Classroom,” which allows faculty to apply for grants to bring a scholar or expert citizen practitioner into a specific class or group of classes to interact directly with students. The first round of grants were submitted in December 2010 and the second round in January 2011.

Dr. Dominique Dagit, assistant biology professor, recently received a grant from the committee to bring artist Ray Troll to campus on March 15, to spend the day with Dagit and lecture to her “Evolution” class.

“We are excited to have the chance, through the auspices of the theme, to offer students a way to learn from an expert in their field,” said Dr. Beverly Schneller, acting chair of the University Theme Committee. “Also, almost all the scholar-practitioners are local, so this has increased the visibility of Millersville students in the community.”

The theme was established nearly two decades ago to act as a showcase for enriching curricular and co-curricular learning on campus. “We decided last semester to integrate the University’s theme into larger programming efforts on campus in an effort to streamline the promotion of the events and activities,” said Schneller.

31st Annual Holocaust and Genocide Conference at MU

Millersville University’s 31st Annual Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide will be held April 6-8.

“The conference is very important for all participants,” said Dr. Victoria Khiterer, assistant professor of history and this year’s conference director. “The audience can become acquainted with new research on the Holocaust and genocide, share their memories and teaching methods on these subjects.”

The conference opens Wednesday, April 6, from 7-10 p.m., with a concert featuring Jewish music, performed by Millersville music professor Dr. Anita Boyle Renfroe and internationally acclaimed pianist Ioannis Potamouis. The concert will take place at Millersville University-Lancaster, 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster.

On April 7- 8, the 31st Annual Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide will take place on Millersville University’s main campus in the Bolger Conference Center.

Registration of invited conference participants begins at 9:30 a.m., Thursday, April 7. Sessions will run from 10 a.m. – 5:45 p.m., followed by the keynote speech at 7:15 p.m. by Trinity College



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Professor Samuel Kassow, "History as Cultural Resistance: Emanuel Ringelblum and his Archive."

The Holocaust and Genocide Conference will continue on Friday, April 8, from 9 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

"More than 50 scholars from the top research universities from the U.S., Canada, Great Britain, Germany, Brazil, Australia, Albania and Romania will participate in the conference," Khiterer said.

All conference events are free and open to the public. For more information on the 31st Annual Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide, contact Khiterer at 717-871-5525 or Victoria.Khiterer@millersville.edu, or, visit the Holocaust and Genocide conference website, www.millersville.edu/holocon/.

Recital at Millersville University-Lancaster

Millersville's music department presents a recital featuring pianist Christopher Shih, March 20. The event will be held at 4 p.m. in Steinman Hall, Millersville University - Lancaster, 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster.



Shih has performed in major venues in more than a dozen countries around the globe including France, Germany, Austria, Hungary, Taiwan and Canada, as well as numerous cities in the United States. His festival appearances include the Aspen Music Festival and the Banff International Chamber Music Festival. Shih has soloed with many orchestras including repeated engagements with the National Symphony Orchestra in Washington, D.C.

When he's not performing, Shih works as a board-certified gastroenterologist with Maryland Digestive Disease Center, a division of Capital Digestive Care. He frequently conducts clinical research trials, is actively involved in community service and is a Fellow of the American College of Gastroenterology.

Tickets for the concert are \$15 for adults, \$5 for students and free for Millersville University students with ID. Tickets may be purchased Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. at the Ticket Office or by calling 717-872-3811; online, at www.muticketsonline.com/ or at the Millersville University-Lancaster front desk.

For more information, contact Dr. Anita Renfroe, professor of piano, at Anita.Renfroe@millersville.edu or 717-872-3370.

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Volunteers Needed – Earn FREE Golf!

Millersville University and the Hershey Links have been selected to host the 2011 NCAA Division II Men's Golf East/Atlantic Regional Championship. The four-day event will be held May 1-4. **Volunteers are needed for each day of competition.**



Some of the volunteer needs include greenside reporters, scorers, starters, scoreboard operators, shuttle drivers, marshals and spotters. **Each volunteer receives a meal per work shift, and for two shifts worked, a volunteer receives a complimentary round of golf at Hershey Links.**

Established in 2002, Hershey Links is one of four courses that compose the Hershey Golf Collection. The Links has been featured in local and national publications including Golfweek, Golf Magazine and GolfStyles Philadelphia. Additionally, the 18-hole course was included in the list of America's Top Golf Courses in the 2009-2010 Zagat Survey.

For more information about volunteering, contact Jim Reed, volunteer chairman, at 717-648-4769 or jreed@hersheypa.com. If interested, fill out the [Volunteer Application Form](#).

Millersville University Summer Session 2011

Millersville University's summer class schedule is now available online. Faculty should encourage students to take advantage of summer courses offered at Millersville. Summer 2011 will be comprised of three summer sessions: Summer I: May 16 – June 10; Summer II: June 13 – July 15 and Summer III: July 18 – August 19.



“Summer is an excellent time for students to get ahead in their coursework, take a course they have been unable to fit into their schedule or focus on a single subject,” says Angela Tekely, associate dean of graduate and professional studies.

Millersville offers courses taught during the day and evening, as well as more than 80 online courses. **Registration for summer session begins March 29.**

For more information, contact Tekely, at 717-872-3030 or Angela.Tekely@Millersville.edu.

Camp Will for the Young Shakespearean Actor



This summer, The People's Shakespeare Project, an organization designed to help promote a love of Shakespeare through performance, is offering a camp for middle school students at Millersville University, held in the Rafters Theatre.

Two University education students will be helping with the program this year. Jeff Wolfthal, a double major in social studies/history will serve as the assistant teacher for the camp

and Alyssa Rader, a double major in English/English theatre, will serve as a volunteer teacher for the camp.

This is Camp Will's fourth summer of theater instruction to middle school students, under the direction of Laura Korach Howell, the founder and executive director of The People's Shakespeare Project.

Camp Will is a three-week day-camp that gives students in grades five through nine the opportunity to explore the excitement of theater and genius of Shakespeare. The children will take acting, movement, voice, text and improvisation classes during the camp. Aside from instructional classes, they will rehearse for an abridged production of "Twelfth Night," which takes place at the conclusion of camp.

The camp runs weekdays from 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m., starting June 15, and runs through July 1. The final performance of Camp Will's "Twelfth Night" is July 1 at 3 p.m. in Rafters Theatre, Dutcher Hall. A second performance will take place at 7 p.m. in Steinman Hall, Millersville University-Lancaster, 42 N. Prince St., Lancaster.

For information about Camp Will and The People's Shakespeare Project, visit www.peoplesshakespeareproject.org/campwill.html.

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Hill Harper, Esq. Speaks at Millersville University

Hill Harper, Esq., actor and author, will give a lecture, “Motivating Young Men to Be the Architect of their Life,” at Millersville University, April 11 (**it had originally been scheduled for March 18**) at 7:30 p.m.

Harper is best known for his recurring role as Sheldon Hawkes in “CSI: NY,” a spin-off of the hit television show, “CSI: Crime Scene Investigation,” on CBS. He is also known for his role in “Married...with Children,” on Fox.

Harper wrote three books, one of which, *Letters to a Young Brother*, won two NAACP awards and was named a Best Book for Young Adults by the American Library Association in 2007. The book was written for young, African-American, at-risk adolescents who have questions but have no one to answer them or guide them.



The lecture is sponsored by Millersville University’s College Chapter of NAACP and the Millersville University Black Student Union. This event will be held in Pucillo Gymnasium and is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Dr. Rita Smith Wade-El, professor and director of African-American Studies, at 717-872-3090 or Rita.Smithwade-El@millersville.edu.

Author Marilyn Johnson Takes Center Stage at Spring Banquet



On April 4, the Millersville University Friends of Ganser Library will sponsor their annual spring banquet, which will feature author Marilyn Johnson.

Johnson is an accomplished journalist who has received much acclaim for her two recent books, *The Dead Beat: Lost Souls, Lucky Stiffs and the Perverse Pleasures of Obituaries* and *This Book is Overdue! How Libraries & Cybrarians Can Save Us All*. She has been a staff writer for “Life,” an editor for “Outside” magazine and an editor of “Esquire.” *The Dead Beat* was chosen for the Borders Original Voice Program and was a finalist for the Barnes & Noble Discover Award.

The evening begins at 5:30 p.m. with a reception, followed by dinner at 6 p.m. After dinner will be a presentation on the University’s Soar to Greatness Capital Campaign and

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library renovations scheduled for the next few years. Johnson's presentation will begin at 7:30 p.m., followed by a book signing.

The events will be held on campus, in Lehr Room, located in the Bolger Conference Center in Gordinier Hall. This event is sponsored by the University Theme Committee, Millersville University's Honor College, Friends of Ganser Library and the Soar to Greatness Campaign. The Friends organization reaches out to the community in support of the University's Library.

Dinner tickets cost \$30 and must be purchased by March 28. *Note: The Johnson presentation is free of charge, no tickets are required.* For more information, or for dinner reservations, call the Alumni Office at 717-872-3352, or go online, to www.villealumni.com and click on events.

A Daffodil Thank You



The Millersville University Business Association (MUBA) would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the staff and faculty who supported the American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days. This year (2011) marks the 18th year that MUBA has helped with this very important fundraiser. Contributions from Millersville helped the group raise \$1,505.

3/17/2011 Faculty & Staff Activities



Here are the faculty and staff activities for March 17, 2011:

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Millersville Receives Bronze Award from United Way of Lancaster



Millersville University earned a bronze award from the United Way for the University's participation in the 2010 SECA campaign. Jennifer R. Melendrez, resource development associate from the United Way of Lancaster County (pictured far right), recently presented SECA committee members (L-R) Denise Weidman, development, Dr. John McLarnon, history, Dr.

Aminta Breaux, vice president for student affairs and Deb Pizzola, human resources, with Millersville's bronze plaque.

Millersville Staff Got Into Character



On March 3, students and staff from Millersville University dressed up as characters from their favorite fairytales and movies to read from their own fairytales and fictional stories for H.C. Burgard Elementary School students and their families as part of Family Reading Night. University staff member Denise Weidman, development, portrayed Mother Goose, while Claudia Caracci, University communications and marketing, portrayed Snow White.

Cinderella, Tinker Bell, Robin Hood, Darth Vader and the Millersville Marauder, were characters portrayed by five Millersville University students.

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Faculty and Staff Activities

Dr. Sandra Deemer, educational foundations, and Melissa Ostrowski, Penn Manor High School, recently presented a paper session, titled "A Postsecondary plan for every student: Results of a study on the impact of a required career oriented graduation project," at the Pennsylvania Association of Career and Technical Administrators conference.

Dr. Ginny Palmer, nursing, presented "Women and Heart Disease: What Cardiovascular Nurses Need to Know," at the South Central Pa. Chapter of the American College of Cardiovascular Nurses meeting at York Hospital, in York, Pa., March 1.

Dr. Beverly Schneller, English, had her biographical profiles of "Emilio Bacardi" and "Edward Cecil Guinness" published in *Great Lives from History: The Incredibly Wealthy*. An essay she completed for the late Betty Rizzo, "The Other Elizabeth Griffith," is published in *Teaching British Women Playwrights of the Restoration and Eighteenth Century*. Schneller is also serving as a Teagle Foundation Assessment Scholar at Washington College, in Chestertown, Md., reviewing their capstone projects across the curriculum.

Retired

Thomas Tirado, retired art, recently had his painting, "My Pantheon" (pictured left) accepted for admission into the "Regional Exhibition" at the San Diego Art Institute's Gallery of the Living Artists. And "Maguey #1" (pictured right) was accepted into the Southwestern Art Association's Show titled "Top 100 Artists."



Obituary

Dr. Dominick J. Fanani, 94, died February 27. He was professor of art at Millersville from 1961 to 1982. He taught pottery and established the jewelry program at Millersville. He served as president of the Millersville Faculty Association, as a faculty senator and as a member of several campus-wide faculty committees.

Ione LeVan Dorwart, 87, died March 8. She was a member of the physical education department at Millersville University. Along with her teaching duties, Ione coached the

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field hockey and girl's basketball teams. In addition, for many years, she served as the advisor to Millersville's Dolphin Club where she directed the annual synchronized swimming water shows.

Charles W. Hash, Sr., 91, died March 11. He attended Millersville Teachers College and later served the University for 29 years in state appointed roles including Chairman of the Council of Trustees. The University gave Hash an honorary doctorate and named a building in his honor.

PASSHE Travel Program Announces Fall 2011 Lineup

The Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE) Alumni and Friends Travel Program announces its fall lineup for 2011. Upcoming programs include:



London and three Continental Gems: October 19-28, 2011:

Enjoy a three-night stay in London plus a five-night cruise aboard Cunard Line's newest ship, the beautiful Queen Elizabeth. While in London, visit such sights as the Tower of London, St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abby and Buckingham Palace. You will then be transferred to Southampton, where you will board the Queen Elizabeth and sail to Amsterdam, with its bustling canals, world famous museums and historical sites. From there it's on to Zeebrugge, Belgium, your gateway to Brussels, Bruges and Ghent. The last port of call is Le Havre, France, from where you can visit such places as Normandy or Paris. You will then sail back to Southampton, where you will be transferred back to London for your flight home.

Prices start at only \$2,685 *per person*, including roundtrip air from Philadelphia to London; a three-night stay in London, in a four-star hotel including breakfast daily; a five-night cruise; all transfers and more!

Great Parks of Kenya: November 25 - December 5, 2011: Spend 11 days from U.S. to Nairobi on this magnificent vacation to Kenya. Visit amazing game reserves to see giraffe, cheetah, zebras, leopards, lions, elephant, rhinos, gazelle, hyenas, Cape Buffalo and more—all in their native environments. Among the many highlights of this tour are the Samburu National Reserve, with its diverse population of wildlife and more 300 species of birds, and the Masai Mara National Reserve, Kenya's most famous game area. You'll also be able to visit Amboseli National Park, which views of the impressive 19,341-foot Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa; Nyahururu Falls, a 243-foot waterfall and Lake Nakuru National Park, famous for its pink flamingos.

Prices start at \$2,966 *per person* (based on double occupancy), plus air from Philadelphia, available for \$1,300 round trip on British Airways (based on a minimum of 10 people). Please call about air from other cities. Round trip airport transfers: \$60 per person.

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Parks and Canyons Spectacular: June 23 – July 7, 2011: Reservations are still open (land trip ONLY). Travel from Denver, Colo., to Las Vegas, Nev., for this 15-day/14-night trip. Travel sites include Mount Rushmore National Memorial and Crazy Horse Memorial (S.D.); Black Hill National Forest scenic drive (S.D.); Deadwood: Sightseeing tour, visit Tatanka (S.D.); Little Bighorn Battlefield: Sightseeing tour and visit museum (Wyo.); Cody: Visit Buffalo Bill Historical Center (Wyo.); Yellowstone: Sightseeing tour (Wyo.); Jackson: Grand Teton National Park tour; chuck wagon cookout (Ind., Wyo.); Salt Lake City: Sightseeing tour (UT); Bryce Canyon: Sightseeing tour (UT); Zion: Sightseeing tour (UT); Lake Powell: Cruise; Grand Canyon: Sightseeing; overnight lodging on the rim (Ariz.); Las Vegas (Nev.): Sightseeing tour and a farewell dinner.

Pricing starts at \$2,999, plus air, which should run no more than \$500/double occupancy. This trip is operated by Globus Journeys.

For travel reservations or questions, please call our travel partners at Cruisin' Inc./Main Line Vacations at 800-506-7447, or visit our website, at www.alumnivacations.com/component/content/article/442.

The Pennsylvania State System Alumni & Friends Travel Program is open to all System alumni, faculty, staff, retirees, students and community friends. The PASSHE Travel Program was initiated in 1996 and has had more than 3,000 travelers attend more than 45 destinations throughout the globe.

Who Makes Millersville Special

This edition of Who Makes Millersville Special features Dr. Joseph Revelt, director of institutional research (IR) at Millersville University, who has been at Millersville since 1995.



Q: Tell us about your job as director for institutional research.

A: As the name implies, I research the institution – not the most inventive title I realize. Institutional research addresses many analytical needs to facilitate enrollment management, retention studies, grant applications, accreditations, program reviews,

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national rankings, accountability reporting, reporting to the government and ultimately to facilitate decision-making. But the most interesting aspect of my job has been researching student attitudes and performance studies.

Q: What is the importance of gathering information about ratios and percentages of students at the University?

A: While IR obviously produces many basic numbers, the more interesting findings tend to be inferential statistics, or higher level statistics. These latter statistics convey with great confidence how students and employees perceive the University and how well the University is performing as a whole. While not all decisions can be based on such numbers, many decisions can be enlightened by such information.

Q: Have you found any interesting trends among our students who graduate in four years?

A: Actually, I have noticed several. First, only half of those students who receive a baccalaureate degree from Millersville do so in four years. Second, while half may not sound very positive, Millersville University's overall four year graduation rate is well above the national norm for comparable schools. Third, female students are much more likely to graduate in four years than male students.

Q: What is an interesting statistic you have come across since working here?

A: That it is entirely possible to use the same set of statistics to advance conflicting points of view.

Q: Did you always want to have a career dealing with math and numbers?

A: I did not consciously decide to pursue a career in math, and math did not come any easier to me than most. I mastered a lot of math due to a work ethic instilled in me by my parents. While math has been prevalent in most of my professional positions, it is the people and issues behind the numbers and the sense of making a contribution that I find both interesting and gratifying. I have also found that decisions based on numbers can be far more reliable and humane than decisions based upon emotion, politics, personal experience or other sources.

Q: Tell us about your involvement on campus.

A: While I sit on several University committees, two official campus activities I am enjoying enormously are Millersville's Mentoring Alliance Program and Millersville University's Sustainability Committee.

Q: What is your favorite thing about working at the University?

A: It sounds so cliché, but for me it is the people. The students are great, but I get to spend so little time with them. There are also so many employees of great integrity and who I respect. I like to say, "It does not matter to me what your job is, whether you are faculty, staff or management, what matters to me is how you do your job." I also appreciate Millersville's personable environment. A smile, a wave of one's hand or a brief conversation on a sidewalk means a lot to me.

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Q: Why did you choose to work at Millersville?

A: It was a great opportunity to create an IR office from scratch, and the Lancaster area offers a lot of activities for a (formerly) young family.

Q: What other jobs did you have before coming to the University? Did you have a favorite?

A: Other positions I have held were an institutional researcher at Shippensburg University and as an industrial engineer and a production supervisor with different companies. My favorite job was as a tutor/resident assistant in a summer program with the Greater Erie Community Action Committee. It was a program for educationally and economically disadvantaged high school students living near Erie, Pa.

Q: Where did you attend college? What did you study there?

A: I spent my undergraduate years at Carnegie Mellon University studying chemical engineering, industrial management and mathematics. Ultimately my degree was a double-major in the latter two fields. Pittsburgh is a great city to go to school.

Q: What do you miss the most about being in college?

A: Like many who went to college, I miss the freedom of being a full-time student. Except for 15-hours a week, my college schedule was completely flexible and I did not have many responsibilities outside my studies, so I did experience the “carefree” years.

Q: Have you ever seen the movie “21,” about counting cards and statistics? Have you ever tried it (In a purely fun setting of course, not in Vegas)?

A: I haven’t seen “21” and I never tried counting cards. Years ago I did devise a “system” for a different game of chance, so I took the bus to Atlantic City to test it out. After five minutes of observations I realized my “system” was “garbage.” I spent the day waiting for the bus ride home sitting on a pier, reading a book and eating Big Macs.

Q: What do you like to do in your free time?

A: Reading both fiction and non-fiction, camping on my parents’ farm, different community activities and dining out with my wife and daughters.

Q: If you could travel to any place in the world, where would it be?

A: Erie, Pa. Doesn’t everyone?

Q: What is your favorite home-cooked meal?

A: Steak, baked potato, asparagus and homemade apple pie.

Q: If you could have dinner with any famous person, living or dead, who would it be?

A: This is a challenging question for me. I immediately think of family and friends who have passed on and who would be my first choice, but I am assuming a more professional or developmental response is expected. In the spirit of this assumption, I would want to dine with Larry Burkett. He was an interesting combination of analytical and financial savvy but also of great heart and spirituality. But I’m open to suggestions.