

BAKKE GRADUATE UNIVERSITY

REFLECTIONS AND PRAYERS

July 2009



FROM Lisa San Martin – BGU Receptionist/Assistant to Academic Dean's Office

Lisa is one of the newest additions to the BGU staff, having joined us on May 11, just in time to plunge right into graduation and Overture I. Now that is baptism by first by anyone's estimation. Her position is split between the front office and assistance for the Academic Dean's office. Among her many gifts is her ability to speak fluent Spanish and passable Russian.

After Bible school and ministry experiences that we loved in Argentina, my new husband and I wondered what God could have for us here in America – and especially, what we could learn here. My husband suddenly received a desire to learn something completely new to him: nursing. And as I sifted my past ministry experiences, I began to sense that in our future, I too would need to better integrate the truth and practical love actions of ministry, in some way. Yet where to begin? I kept these as thoughts for the future

Enter: a Craigslist job posting, and here I am at Bakke Graduate University. The last month, including graduation and Overture I Seattle, was a blur. But I'm so thankful for the unique things God has for me to learn here. Meeting the students and hearing about their countries and ministries was moving. The classes and events that I could sit in on were like taking a walk in thick woods near the sea bluffs of Seattle. Suddenly, you brush a branch out of the way, and there it is – the whole panorama of Puget Sound. You knew it was there, but it's closer and brighter than you expected! And just think, it connects to the ocean! Bakke is like that. It's about revealing a hidden panorama of ministry with depth and breadth, connected all over the world and through time like the oceans. I know I'm in the right place to keep learning!

Prayer Request

For the staff, that we would continue to feel the love of God in our hearts intensely as we do tasks of varying shapes and sizes . . . that God's grace and favor would rest on us and give us joy as we serve.

Lisa



FROM Venny Angshing– Doctor of Ministry Student (Davis, California and India)

As Venny says below, he has just started his Doctor of Ministry journey. And it is true that so far as DMin students go, he is young. So his position is somewhat unique, finding himself surrounded by a host of mentors who consider sharing wisdom and experience a two-way street no matter what the person's age happens to be. Although currently residing in California with his wife, Venny plans to return to India to pursue God's call on his life – a school ministry.

My trip to Seattle for Overture I was such an incredible exposure to urban realities. Seattle is the perfect context to study global urbanization. We were not only taught in the classroom but walked around the city, touched, felt and witnessed our subject matter firsthand. This two-week, intensive course was an eye opener to the needs within a city. As a result my whole perspective on the theology of the city has been changed. Some of the places we visited like New Horizons Ministry and Bakken (Ray Bakke's home) were definitely the highlights of the Overture I for me.

The professors and staff of BGU reflect servant leadership, and they teach the heart rather than just the mind. I also learned so much from my classmates, my being the youngest person in the midst of learned and experienced leaders from all over the world. I have just begun my journey into this process of global urban transformation, and I'm excited about it. I hope and pray that I become the word in flesh in my community.

Prayer Request

Please pray for my school ministry in India and my BGU D.Min. degree studies.

Venny

Bakke Graduate University strengthens ministry leaders who steward resources with and for vulnerable people and places, by means of contextual, Christian-based education innovatively delivered throughout the urban world.