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Bookmarks: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

Furman University

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Commentary: Selected quotes and articles from Furman programs and personalities

“I believe the speed of change will continue to accelerate even faster in our world—and higher education must be defining and leading such change. The challenge for higher education is to clearly define its role for leading change, or risk being subject to the pace of change that questions both our value and relevancy.”

— CHRISTOPHER B. STEVENS, PRESIDENT OF COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY, IN ITS INAUGURAL ADDRESS

“I’m leery about placing very young children in any form of organized activity at a time of critical spontaneous play. Children need to have spontaneous play. Children need to have experiences where they develop a joy at their own pace. I don’t believe in teaching toddlers through formal instruction.”

— LORRAINE DURKIN, COORDINATOR OF THE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT’S EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS, IN A GREENVILLE NEWS STORY ON THE PRESS AND CONDS OF SOCCER PROGRAMS FOR PRESCHOOLERS.

“Mr. Obama’s challenge in 2012 is not the ideological fervor of Tea Party conservatives, working-class and middle-class voters that you’re an environmentalist.”

— ROBERT S. WILLIAMS, CALLED “THE FATHER OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE,” IN A CAMPUSS TALK.

“Do you drink water? Do you eat food? Do you breathe air? If you answered yes to two of those three questions, then you’re an environmentalist.”

— ROBERT S. WILLIAMS

“Sports teaches you about overcoming adversity and sticking with something when things don’t go well. Sports teaches that to ultimately succeed, there is a lot of work and struggle.”

— MILANNE SIJAMITE ’12, IN AN ASSOCIATED PRESS ARTICLE ON FURMAN’S RECREATION PROGRAM, WHICH CONVERTS ENERGY FROM ELLIPTICAL WORKOUTS INTO CARBON-FREE ELECTRICITY.

“Books: Featuring summaries of recent publications by alumni and faculty

JEFFREY L. DELA ’77, A Land in the Center of the World: An Ethnography of the Dinka Agaak of Southern Sudan (Mankatia Press, 2011). Between 20 and 50 years as a surgical specialist, the author developed a vision problem that caused him to lose his practice in Charleston, S.C., for the Sudanese bush, where he led teams of volunteer surgeons and nurses to build the largest medical facility in the region. He served as the first medical director for the facility while simultaneously obtaining a masters in anthropology from the University of South Carolina and a diploma from the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene. He also began formal ethnographical studies of the Dinka Agaak, and during 17 months of fieldwork he documented hundreds of stories, surveys, recordings and photographs of evolving conditions in the area. Currently Dela is director of anthropology and water studies for the Center for Global Health at the Medical University of South Carolina and director of Health studies for Water Missions International. He recently received a patent for a automated, mobile room decontamination system marketed by Lumakar Corporation under the name Tru-D.

MONTE DUTTON ’80, The Audacity of Dope (Newerland Publishing, 2011). Peter Farns, author of Last Call for the Living, describes this book as “both lyrical and folktale.” A Kerouacian road novel that’s also laugh-out-loud funny, featuring an anti-hero so potently iconic you’ll be surfin’ bally for “Wax Manfied” toes before long. Awesomely is the rare combination of satire and sentiment, a look at our country during its most divisive decade, and a toe-slapping yarn spun with threads so poignant you might get a contact high just reading it.”

MATTHEW L. GOODWIN ’83 B.S. (V), Dr. (Wonam–Clee V. Wit, Biomedical Physiology (Kendall Hunt Publishing, 2011). Goodwin holds a Ph.D. in physiology from Auburn University and is currently working toward a medical degree at Duke and Cornell Medical College in New York City. His co-author is a professor of biology at Duke University. According to the Auburn Alumni, a newsletter for the school’s faculty and staff, the book developed out of the copious notes Goodwin took while in Wit’s class. It covers the core principles of physiology that many med students are required to master for admission to medical school and general related professions. Learn more about Goodwin’s work at http://matthewgoodwin.blogspot.com. DOUGLAS MATHIS ’03, The Pastor as Scholar and Professor: Reflections on Life and Ministry (co-edited with Donna Stewart) and Thinking, Loving, Doing: A Call to Grify God with Heart and Mind (co-edited with John Piper). Mathis lives in Mineapolis, where he is a theological assistant to Piper and D.A. Carson is co-authors of The Pastor as Scholar, which challenges those in academia and in the pastorate to think critically and honestly about their calling. Piper focuses on the importance of careful thinking in his role as pastor, Carson on the importance of a pastoral heart in his career as scholar. Thinking, Loving, Doing is a call to holistic Christianity and features contributions from Rob Warner, Francis Chan, R. Albert Mohler, Jr., D.C. Sprain, Thaddeus-Apandwe, and Piper. Both books are published by Crossway.

“Women’s studies is the rare combination of women’s history, the copious notes Goodwin took while in

“Furman REPORTS

“Mark 2010 symposium “Successful Mentoring Strategies to Facilitate the Advancement of Women Faculty” and from the editors’ own National Science Foundation-ADVANCE project that involved the formation of horizontal peer mentoring alliances at liberal arts colleges. It features a collection of practices and insights about how mentoring has improved their professional and personal lives, and presents effective strategies for advancing women faculty. Wight, professor of chemistry at Furman, wrote about the project in the Summer 2009 issue of Furman. Her co-edited volumes are chemist professor at Harvey Mudd College (Karutikos), Defeaux University (Gourley) and Vassar College (Ross).

ECHEL LEE NIK., JR., Estee Lee Nix, Sr., and Anna-Mae Nix, The Inspiration of the Holy Spirit (South Books, 2010). The publisher says the book “seeks to instruct and to inspire by focusing on key verses in the scripture and by providing critical interpretations, scholarly information, and personal insights. The seminars in this book are meant to teach and to reach audiences, regardless of race, gender, or denomination. They are broad and inclusive, endeavoring to share a message of hope for people.” Estee N. Nix, Jr., an assistant professor of religion at Furman. He serves on the boards of the Baptist World Alliance (Commission on Ethics) and the American Normal Titch School Society (American Academy of Religion). His father is a minister, counselor, educator and evanangelist, and his mother, now deceased, was a church and community leader.