



# INTERVARSITY AT SOUTHWESTERN



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Spring 2010

## Looking Back...

When I look back on the 2009-1010 school year I can't help but notice the ways that God broke through on campus and in the lives of the students.

Here are some highlights to this year:

- 400 students met at club day
- 3 students going on missions this summer
- 2 recommitments to following Jesus
- 1 first time decision to follow Jesus
- 1 Southwestern alumni joining InterVarsity Staff

These are just numbers, but behind each number is a life and

a story. Some examples are: Pancho going to Urbana and growing in his heart for justice, Carlo becoming a Christian at Soul Food and Aaron a Southwestern alumni deciding to go into full time ministry with InterVarsity. These stories prove that God has been and is continuing to work at Southwestern College. Even in a year of transition I can't deny that God is still transforming lives, renewing the campus and developing these students into people who will change the world. **Thank you so much for being a part of God's work at Southwestern!**



Spring Break Mark 1 Class



Southwestern  
Old & New @ Urbana



## Carlo Says "Yes"

Transformation through Jesus is not just one moment in someone's life but rather a series of decisions and saying, yes to Jesus. During our fall conference, Carlo said his first yes in deciding to follow Jesus. Since then he has taken steps to

continue to be transformed by God.

One day in the spring semester I met up with Carlo in the hopes that he would say yes to being a leader. He had been attending leadership meetings and had been growing in his faith for a few months. But he was still scared about praying let alone sharing his faith with his friends. When I proposed to him the idea of helping plant a new

small group, he sat there in silence for a bit. After a few moments he looked back at me and asked, "So is this what you meant about taking risks for Jesus?" I nodded, yes. After another slight pause he responded with a smile, "I'll do it!"

Since then Carlo's heart for the campus has been growing. In addition his heart for Jesus and saying yes to his call is even more apparent. This summer Carlo is taking another risk by going to Manila on the missions trip I am directing.

*Please continue to pray for Carlo and for the other students who daily have choices to say yes to Jesus. Also pray for Carlo and his missions trip to Manila. This is the first time he is going to the Philippines and as a Filipino-American this can be a powerful experience for him.*

### *Praises*

- For the growing excitement for next year.
- For the Southwestern alumni who will be joining InterVarsity Staff.
- God providing 92% of my budget for this year.

### *Please Pray*

- For the 3 student leaders who will be going on missions this summer.
- That God would protect and continue to grow all the students during the summer.
- For Southwestern College on Probation.
- For the \$3000 I have yet to raise.



### *Southwestern on Probation*

Colleges and Universities are required to go through an accreditation to ensure the quality of the institution. This year Southwestern College underwent the accreditation process which evaluated education, administration, etc. Following the evaluation Southwestern College was placed on probation which means they have until October 2010 to improve in several areas. If they don't improve then there is a chance that the college will lose its accreditation and its status as a community college. This is very rare but does happen. It is apparent that God needs to breakthrough on this campus even more, not just in the students but also in the faculty and administration.

*Please be praying that the campus would improve and also that God would breakthrough in this situation.*



### *Hope for Next Year!*

Next year instead of starting with only two student leaders, which was the start of this past school year, we will possibly be starting off with four. Each of these students are excited and ready to reach their friends next year and yearn to see God move even more than he has already. This summer three of the four leaders will be going on a missions trip. Two will be going to the Philippines and one will be going to Panama.

*Please be praying that all four of these students will grow in their faith this summer and that God will grow their heart in reaching other students. Also be praying for their emotional and spiritual health as they will be away from their communities this summer.*

### *Personally Speaking*

A character in the Bible that I have reflected on and admired this year has been Moses. I have especially related to Exodus 3 where Moses was called to lead the Israelites into the promised land. Moses reacts to the call with insecurity and doubt of his own ability, but God responds to this with encouragement and more importantly the promise of His presence. Like Moses this is naturally how I respond, but rather than holding back out of fear I have pushed forward this year with the knowledge that God is at Southwestern and is leading us into a great place. I personally may not understand how this will happen or how I may be used in the process, but I am willing to push forward. I continued to fight for the students when I felt like I could do so no longer. I said yes to directing the

missions trip to Manila this summer. I continue fundraising in the hope and promise that God will provide for the campus. Looking back I know that the students were transformed, but now I can look back and say with certainty that I was changed as well. I am more confident in myself but more importantly more confident in God than I have ever been.

