I remember thinking “Wow, what a view!” as I stood atop Council Bluff Circle and looked across the landscape. I had just hiked to an elevation of about 2200 feet with a group of Institute for Faith & Learning (IFL) sojourners and was in awe of the scenery. The hike up was invigorating and the perspective the vista offered was enlightening. "Invigorating" and "enlightening" are two words that may very well be the best way to describe my overall experience at Laity Lodge. Designed as a five day/four night retreat, the IFL sponsored event provides the opportunity to pause at the close of the academic year and gain greater clarity as to the important mission of Christian higher education in general and Baylor University specifically. To this end, Director Darin Davis and his staff created a powerful integrative learning experience that brought together thought provoking speakers, meaningful small group discussions, spirit lifting worship (led by our very own Burt Burleson), and ample time for renewal and reflection—all situated against the breathtaking backdrop of the Texas hill country. Oh, and I should also mention that the food was delicious and abundant—almost too delicious and abundant! Of the thirty participants, seven were from the Division of Student Life—Jordy Dickey, Shelton Lewis, Camden McClintock, Lori Genous, Chris Kuhl, Burt Burleson, and me. Also participating were faculty from Chemistry, Spanish, Great Texts, Physics, Modern Languages, English, Religion, Management, Engineering, Theatre Arts, Nursing and Social Work. It was a true gift to be able to spend time with such a diverse group of colleagues, and I left both invigorated and enlightened from the experience. I also had a renewed appreciation for the wonderful opportunities we have here at Baylor to impact students’ lives. And, my prayer is that we will continue to take full advantage of these opportunities as we prepare to welcome our newest Class of Baylor Bears and our returning Baylor Bears this fall.

Thank you for all that you do for the students of Baylor University!

Truly,

Kevin
Intramural Pictures and Winners

2009-10 ALL UNIVERSITY INTRAMURAL SPORT CHAMPIONS
Men’s: Kappa Sigma
Women’s: Pi Beta Phi

MEN’S SOFTBALL
Division 1: ZZZ
Division 2: The Griffey's

WOMEN’S SOFTBALL
Division 1: Chi Omega A
Division 2: Chi Omega C

TENNIS
Men’s: Trevor Miles (Delta Tau Delta)
Women’s: Anna Stainkback (Pi Beta Phi)
Doubles: Sarah Becknell and Will Scott

SAND VOLLEYBALL
Kappa Sigma and Chi Omega A

Compassion: The Heart of Student Development

Dr. Rod Hetzel, a staff counselor, and Kelsie Tatum, a PsyD student in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, are delivering a keynote address entitled “Compassion: The Heart of Student Development” at the upcoming Extraordinary Lives Colloquium in Fort Worth. The colloquium will be on June 7 and 8 and will be a great experience for any Student Life staff members who wish to attend.

For more information, visit http://www.commonslab.com/colloquium.php.

Student Learning and Engagement Student Leader Commissioning

On April 14, Student Learning and Engagement held its second annual Student Leader Commissioning Service for leaders holding positions in the Academy for Leader Development & Civic Engagement, Campus Living & Learning, and New Student Programs. Student leaders holding positions as BaylorBound Leaders, Baylor Line Camp Leaders, Community Leaders, LEAD Mentors, and Fellows were commissioned before their term of service at this special event. Dr. Kevin Jackson charged these students to engage in their leadership role as well as to lead with passion and excellence. Congratulations and good luck to these student leaders!
End-Of-Year Celebration

Cynthia Wall
Pillar of Baylor Award

Ashley Armstrong
James Huckins Award for Outstanding Graduate Assistant

Lee Ann Robelia
Customer Service Award

Beth Ingram & Sue Sowder
William Tryon Award for Outstanding Support Staff

Kelly Frazee & Emily Sandvall
Rising Star Award for Outstanding New Professionals

Jennifer Stanley
Outstanding Student Assistant Award

NOT PICTURED:
Paul Martens
Outstanding Faculty Partner Award

Linda Cates
To Light the Ways Award for Contributions to the Profession

Assessment Task Force (Joell Beagle, Shannon Dean, Tam Dunn, Lori Genous, Jim Marsh, Jennifer Perkins, Liz Palacios, Kristen Richardson, Brooke Sanders)
Team Award

Sinda Vanderpool
Student Advocate
Dr. Rod Hetzel delivered an invited preconference workshop entitled “Positive Psychology and Clinical Practice” at the annual meeting of the Christian Association for Psychology Studies. He also co-chaired a conversation hour about positive psychology with Dr. Shane Lopez. The conference was held in Kansas City from April 14 – 17.

We extend condolences to and prayers for Ramona Curtis and her family after the passing of her father on May 6.

Madeline Suzanne Byler, daughter of Kenny and Julia Byler, was born on April 19, 2010 at 2:06 p.m. Madeline was 7 lbs. 7 oz. and 20 ½ inches long.

Dr. Rod Hetzel is the lead editor on an upcoming book entitled “Positive Psychology on the College Campus.” It will be published by Oxford University Press and is expected to be released in 2012. The book will provide a conceptual and practical framework for applying positive psychology at colleges and universities. It will provide faculty and staff with practical resources and innovative strategies for promoting the total development and educational experience of students. A wide range of areas will be covered throughout the book, making it of interest to faculty, administrators, academic advisors, residence life directors, leadership programs, and other student affairs staff.

The 2010-2011 Engaged Learning Groups have been announced! In their fourth year, Engaged Learning Groups (ELGs) have been a strong partnership between Baylor faculty and Campus Living & Learning. This year, 12 faculty members will lead 4 new groups including:

- Animals and Human Society: Passions, Partnerships, and Perils
- Christian Narratives: The Intersection of Our Stories with the Christian Story in Texts and Traditions
- Prehealth: Learning Together to Serve Together
- Unlocking the Imprisoned Mind with a Digital Key: Bringing Great Books to a Lost Population

Incoming students may now apply online or while on campus for Orientation. All accepted students will reside in Kokernot Hall. For more information about ELGs, this year’s topics, or the faculty involved, please visit www.baylor.edu/ELG.

Students from the Hispanic Families in Transition ELG meet with one of their faculty members in the Kokernot faculty-in-residence apartment.