



Alumni Association Grows!



On April 25, as Sterling College celebrated its 117th Commencement, the Alumni Association grew by 110 members. As I watched these graduates receive their diplomas, I wondered, *Will these new alumni continue to mature in their faith? Will they stay connected to the friends, faculty and staff who encouraged them to grow here at Sterling? In ten, twenty, forty*

years, will they continue to have relationship with the College, joining us in continual preparation of Christ-centered servant leaders?

These recent graduates need to be supported in prayer. Please join me in praying for them, your fellow alumni. Please pray with me as well that Sterling College will stay strong in the pursuit of our mission.

Sterling's alumni are the greatest proof of that mission. Additionally, current students, growing in their talents, their academic fields, their walks with Christ are further proof that SC's goal has not wavered.

It is wonderful when alumni get to see this proof in living flesh rather than just in words on a page. This happened recently for two alumni chapters. The Mississippi Valley Chapter, which meets twice a year, celebrated its 60th anniversary on April 17, meeting together at the First Presbyterian Church in Galesburg, Ill., where Sterling College alumni David and Sarah (Mark) Parker are senior and associate pastors, respectively. The 23 alumni and friends who attended the event enjoyed an address from SC President Dr. Paul Maurer and a recital by the Sterling College Highland Singers.

The next evening, on April 18, the Missouri Valley Alumni Chapter held the first of their two annual meetings. This chapter met at West Hills Church in Omaha, Neb., and the Highland Singers performed again for a crowd of 30 alumni and friends.

If you are not part of an alumni chapter, please contact me. I would love to connect you with one in your area or help you start one if there is not a chapter already active. Then you, too, can have opportunity to see, in living flesh, the continuation of the Sterling College mission.

- David Earle '88



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- [Students Travel Overseas for Mission Trips](#)
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Upcoming Events:

- May 16
Alumni Council Meeting
- May 20
Topeka Area Alumni and Friends Event at the Shawnee Country Club
- May 25
Memorial Day (offices closed)
- June 18
Colorado Springs Alumni and Friends Event
- June 20
N. Colorado Alumni and Friends Event in Estes Park
- June 28
Wichita Area Alumni and Friends Event
- Oct 23
Presidential Inauguration
- Oct 24
Dedication of McCracken Field and McCright Track
- Warrior Athletic Celebration
- Homecoming

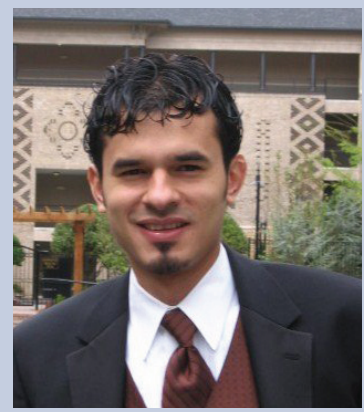
Former SC Student Wins First Prize at Brazilian International Press Award

On May 7, Fabricio Silva, former Sterling College student, will accept the first place trophy at the Brazilian International Press Award for his feature article, "The Brazilian Diaspora in the United States," about the 1.5 million-strong Brazilian community living in the U.S.

Silva conceived of the idea for the article in his job as a reporter at *The Brasilians Newspaper*, where he was hired in January of 2008. To complete it, Silva took to the streets, interviewing Brazilians living in New York City and Newark, N.J., about their dreams, struggles, and life stories. He says, "I'm truly thrilled to win this prize, first because of its importance, second because it's confirmation that journalism is really what I need to do. It strengthens my determination to seek and report the truth." Silva is now *The Brasilians Newspaper's* associate editor and editor of the Portuguese section. He plans to complete his master's in journalism degree at New York University in December of 2009.

Because Brazilian law requires journalists working in Brazil to have a degree in journalism, Silva transferred from Sterling College to Mercer University in Macon, Ga., during his senior year. However, in Silva's own words, "I took most of my core journalism courses at Sterling under the teaching of Dr. Isaacson, and in my current job, I employ every single concept he taught me. Now, one semester short of completing my master's degree in journalism, I cannot stop thinking that everything started at SC. The classes I took there were the genuine foundation of what I'm advancing now."

"Sterling College is still a crucial part of my life. I learned more than a major there; I learned a life lesson, one that's based on companionship, solidarity, community service, fraternity and generosity."



SC Students Begin Summer Break Serving in Ghana, Africa

A team of nine students and one alumna from Sterling College left April 29 for Takoradi, Ghana, for a two week mission trip. The team will work with a local ministry, leading church and worship services; evangelizing on the street; planning and carrying out youth variety shows; and teaching elementary school children math and English. They will also have the opportunity to speak about evangelism on SKYY, Ghana's national television/radio station.

Melissa Yarrow, an '09 alumna of Sterling College and leader of the trip, commented, "I am excited about this trip because I know it will open our eyes to what life is like around the world. We're often close-minded without realizing it, and trips like this one can change our perspectives." The team's goals include forming strong relationships with people in Ghana as well as with each other as team members. Yarrow added, "We want to be a team that is unified and bonded together by the Lord. I pray that we, as well as those we minister to and those who minister to us, will be changed."

The Ghana team members are Jake Bowser of New Bethlehem, Pa.; Marty Boeschling of Clay Center, Kan.; Christina Cheyney of Newton, Kan.; Jaclyn Coxwell of Orange Park, Fla.; Matthew Jaderston of Sterling; Emily Kennedy of Cushing, Ohio; Kimberly Kenton of San Diego, Calif.; Seth Swihart of St. Francis, Kan.; and Nathan West of Oklahoma City, Okla. The team leader is Melissa Yarrow of Morganville, Kan., with Boeschling serving as the assistant team leader.

To follow this team on their journey, visit their blog at <http://team-ghana.blogspot.com/>



Sterling College Students Travel to India on Mission Trip



Seven Sterling College students and two leaders left April 29 on Sterling College's first cross-cultural trip to India. For two weeks they will be working with three children's outreach programs in the city of Ongole in the state of Andhra Pradesh. One of the programs provides homes for abandoned/orphaned children; the second places special-needs children in foster family situations; and the third holds after-school programs for at-risk, impoverished children. The team will also visit some of the area's historical and cultural sites. Assistant Team Leader Michelle Sumption of Vinton, Iowa, says, "This trip will be challenging, but our goal is to share the love of Christ in verbal and

material ways with the children." Team Leader Will Best, a professor in the language/literature department at Sterling, adds, "We want to help in ways that our hosts think are best, rather than going with pre-conceived ideas of what we should be doing. This not only gives us guidance, it aids Global Infusion, the organization that planned our trip, in creating and maintaining good, ongoing relationship with our Indian partners."

Team members are Rev. Ron Sumption, Vinton, Iowa, Ashley Winters of Sterling, Kan.; Cara Spencer of Lyndon, Kan.; Anna Schnetzler of Spring Hill, Kan.; Salima Watson of Russell, Kan.; Susan Gates of Anthony, Kan.; and Stephanie Whitmer of Haysville, Kan. Team leaders are Will Best and Michelle Sumption.

Read their blog at <http://www.scteamindia09.blogspot.com/>

Sterling College partnered with Global Infusion (GI), an international foreign missions organization based in Louisville, Tenn., this year. To learn more about GI, visit their website at www.globalinfusion.org



Sterling's 117th Commencement Snapshots Starting at far left: President Maurer presents commencement speaker Rev. Mike Woodruff with an honorary doctorate of divinity degree. Alumnus Jared McGuire smiles after receiving his degree in English Education. Dr. Arn Froese, college marshal, directs the new graduates. Members of the McPherson Pipe Band play traditional Scottish tunes as they lead the students towards Smisor Stadium. photos by Karin (Lederle) Swihart '08

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Be sure to check out and join the two Sterling College group pages on Facebook. If you haven't joined Facebook yet, join the thousands of SC alumni and friends who have found Facebook a great way to reconnect and stay in touch.

 *Join our Fan Site!*

 *Join our Alumni Group!*

Keep Us Informed

Just as we share life at Sterling College with us, we want to share your life as well. Please let us know your recent life events so we can rejoice with you, pray with you, and share your updates with other alumni who want to do the same. Here are some specific kinds of information that will help us stay up-to-date:

- New phone number, address, or email
- Birth or marital/family changes
- Illness, injury or death
- Change in careers
- Accomplishments
- Prayer Requests

At your request, we will publish any updates in the Alumni News and Classnotes section of the *Sterling* magazine to keep your college friends updated as well. Email David Earle at dearle@sterling.edu with your latest news today or call him at 620-278-4228.

Sterling Magazine Available on our Website

The Fall *Sterling* Magazine is posted on our website for your viewing pleasure. Click here to read the latest edition of *Sterling!* If you did not receive a copy, please contact the Advancement office to confirm your current address.

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Contact Us:

Sterling College
125 W. Cooper
Sterling, Kansas 67579
www.sterling.edu

Alumni Relations Office
David Earle, Director
dearle@sterling.edu
620-278-4228

Advancement Office
620-278-4219

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