



A Message from the Dean

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In 2010, Asbury College became Asbury University, for many reasons, but partly to reinforce the institution’s global reach and to support its increasingly wide array of undergraduate and graduate programs. Since then, the University has made great strides to reach more diverse groups of students from around the country and from all over the

world. Part of the move to become a university involved creating, and designating, different “schools”. By retaining the word “College,” the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences carries forward not only the perennial value of the institution’s historic Christian liberal arts mission—“the best of Asbury College”—but also a new vision for dynamic teaching, academic programming, faithful scholarship, and experiential learning. At its core, however, the “College” remains unwaveringly committed to an integrated Christian liberal arts education for transformation, not transaction.

As an example of this commitment, this fall all first-year students, for their Liberal Arts Seminar (LA 100), read Alan Jacobs’ book, *How to Think*. In the Introduction, Jacobs writes, “We can do better; we should do better. And I believe, thanks in part to my years of negotiating mutually hostile communities, I can help. I know what it’s like to make common cause with people who are in some ways alien to me; I know how such experiences can expand my understanding of the world. I know how they can force me to confront the narrowness of my vision and my tendency to simplistic thinking—sometimes not thinking at all.” This academic initiative reinforced the urgency for students to develop an authentic Christian faith, along with sharp critical thinking and communication skills, a penetrating moral vision, and a readiness to collaborate with diverse groups of people.

All across the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences, students are engaging in rigorous academic inquiry, while learning, and practicing, what it means to embody Christian faith to serve in professional fields and complex social and cultural environments all over the world. Whether studying as part of the Paris Semester, the Oxford semester abroad, or traveling to Germany on the human dignity tour, Asbury students are seeking new opportunities to learn, serve, and flourish, in and out of the classroom.

We invite you to partner with the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences to help us provide students with a transformative Christian education to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world.

BY THE NUMBERS:

No. 1 CHRISTIAN SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM

Recently, Asbury was named the No. 1-ranked Christian Social Work program in the nation by Social Work Degree Guide.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT:

Kyle Key '07



Kyle Key '07 is a third generation AU grad. Putting his Art Major and his God-given talents

to work, he’s the co-owner and founder of Keymaster Games, a board game publishing company. He knows that board games bring people together and saw this happen in real time as he went through his third open-heart surgery. Along with two partners, Key is building a business that allows you to spend time with your family and ultimately is giving people what they are looking for – connection.

With the introduction of their fifth game about hiking and celebrating our National Parks system, called “PARKS,” Keymaster has one of the top selling tabletop games in the world. It is currently in its second printing and is available through Amazon and Barnes and Noble.

“Go after what you are passionate about,” said Key. “That passion will give you drive. Be honest with yourself about what is important to you and use that drive to pursue it.” Key finds joy in family and being connected to others – this is of great importance to him.

DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Asbury Art Major Selected to be Copyist in Louvre Museum

Asbury University provides unique opportunities for students to get once-in-a-lifetime international work experience through Paris Semester. This year, Art and Design major Vivi Feiser '21 landed a particularly special opportunity through her Paris Semester independent study, Old Master's Technique. In Paris, Feiser has received special permission from the Louvre Museum to work as a copyist.

Asbury's Center for the Future of Work

Asbury's Center for the Future of Work (CFW) will prepare students for a largely unforeseeable future labor market. "The CFW aims to provide rigorous, relevant 21st Century education that uniquely equips our students to navigate the present and future complexities of a dynamic, unpredictable global economy," Asbury President Kevin J. Brown said. The Center will engage students through self-appraisal testing, critical philosophical and theological reflection, mentoring, service learning and interdisciplinary, application-based courses. Students will be challenged to cultivate a vision for productive work and become equipped with a set of competencies to meet the demands and opportunities of a largely unknown social, political and economic landscape.

For more information about the College of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences, visit:

asbury.edu/arts

To update your contact information or to share a class note, please contact the Alumni Office at **alumni@asbury.edu**



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT:
Dr. Mark M. Schell '87, DM

A graduate of Asbury and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Dr. Mark Schell '86 knew from a young age that he wanted to be a church musician, but he never intended to teach. That was until Dr. Gerard Faber was retiring from Asbury and called Schell to interview at Asbury. Schell interviewed with Ron Holz and was hired. AU gave Dr. Schell a wider reach as he works with students and alumni, utilizing his love of music and his gift as an accomplished musician. It became the perfect fit.

Dr. Schell enjoys giving people the opportunity to participate in music any way they can. From the Men's Glee Club to the Handbell Choir to the Hymn Sing at Reunion, he wants to give everyone a voice. His contagious joy and enthusiasm encourage students to be a part of his ensembles, just for the fun of it. Oh, it's hard work, but they love it. They are learning about our rich heritage as they sing/play classical pieces, cultural pieces and traditional hymns that are rich in melody and meaning. He refers to the reference in the Bible where we are told to "Sing a new song to the Lord" and that is what he hopes for his students. Schell wants his students to grow their passion of music and to share it -- that they will be ambassadors to their communities, churches, schools and families with an "understanding of the gift of music and a desire to pass it on. Music is a gift of God and it is for everybody."

Since 1990, Dr. Schell has been teaching music at Asbury, serving as the Chair of the Music Department for the last 12 years. He is also the Minister of Music at the Wilmore Free Methodist Church and in his free time, teaches private lessons in piano and organ.



STUDENT SPOTLIGHT: *Madeline Smart '20*

As a history and intercultural studies double major with an emphasis in cross cultural ministry, Madeline feels called to serve in Asia. Exposed to the Japanese culture while her parents served as missionaries and after serving with TMS

Global in Thailand last summer, she has a great love for these people and hopes to put her faith, education and passion to work. She will bring her experience living within a strong and vibrant community with her, as well as her experience in leading Bible studies for her Class and worship at a church in Lexington. With her gentle spirit and kind smile, she will draw people to her — pointing them to Christ.