

# *EXPECTATIONS!*

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## *Looking Ahead to a Consolidated University*

When I read about the General Council's plan to consolidate the three schools in Springfield, it was apparent that there were important reasons to take this action. As I thought about the steps needed to accomplish this change, I had two main thoughts. It is important that this consolidation occur while maintaining maximum harmony among all the affected stakeholders. Also, I felt the new Evangel University must maintain its full-orbed academic program that educated so many including high-level government officials, outstanding business leaders, teachers and educators, medical doctors, and outstanding pastors and missionaries in our church.

Our three daughters are graduates of Evangel. I have recruited many Evangel graduates for my company over the years and have been pleased to see how well they have competed with the graduates of what are considered the best schools in the country while showing the benefits of being educated in an environment that stressed the integration of faith and learning.

I believe my wishes for both harmony and continuing the comprehensive educational program at Evangel are being addressed by a program carefully structured to include the input of all stakeholders. A good example of this can be seen in the Presidential Search Committee. All three schools were represented including faculty, staff, alumni and board members. I was particularly pleased to see that Javier Rodriquez, the Evangel student body president, was included on this committee. His insight and thoughtful participation was outstanding.

I believe the new Evangel University will become the institution all of us have been wishing for that will maintain a high standard for spiritual and academic excellence. The priority of integrating faith and learning in all fields of study will allow the graduates of Evangel to continue to spread the Light of Christ in this fallen world.

Orville Mills

*Business man and Board Member for Evangel University*

*Consolidation subject to the approval of the Higher Learning Commission.*