

Graduate Studies Programs



The choice for a Working Adult: career to classroom and back again

The first in his family to graduate from college, Salvation Army Captain Raymond Erickson-King is the first of Corban's Adult Degree graduates to complete dual degrees. He's the first SA Officer to complete the College for Officer Training and receive a degree from another institution (Corban) simultaneously. Furthermore, he's distinguished in his "dual career" as a Salvation Army Captain—a role which requires him to serve as both a local pastor and an administrator of its social services business.

Now the Salem native is close to receiving his MBA from Corban. The flexibility of this online program allows Raymond to complete coursework as it fits his schedule, so he and his wife, Captain Jennifer Erickson-King, can continue to serve their congregation and lead the Merced, California Salvation Army. This dual pursuit is no easy feat—he strives to be a successful student and an active career-and-family man. Former spearhead for two different building campaigns of \$2.6 and \$1.65 million,

Raymond says, "There's a lot that is expected from a Salvation Army Officer." Throughout the year almost 100 volunteers worked under Raymond in various capacities.

The accomplishments most precious to the Erickson-Kings are not numerical but relational. Recently eight donated brass instruments became the catalyst for Raymond to start teaching basic music classes like he was taught as a child: he learned cornet and came to know Jesus because The Salvation Army played outside his apartment one day. Named the co-top musician in his high school graduating class, Raymond also enjoys playing his horn for the 150-175 residents in the senior homes they visit each month. "They like simple stuff. You don't have to do anything extraordinary."

Since the Erickson-Kings value their work in caring for their community, they chose Corban's MBA program to help them serve more effectively. He has had a great experience in the Christian environment with

"We get quality education from caring teachers who are experts in the field that they teach or work in."

Captain Raymond Erickson-King

his professors who are not only professional experts in their fields, but also personable and available to each student. The greatest benefit of his coursework in the non-profit track has been applying its practical principles directly to his workplace. In the course, "Managing the Non-Profit Organization," for example, he learned to implement incentives. Facing the issue of low worker retention for The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Campaign, Raymond instituted a lunch voucher incentive for workers who met their Kettle's daily goal. The result retained more workers, and, because of this one simple change, Kettle funds increased from \$30,000 to over \$70,000 in one year!

So whether he's mentoring officer candidates or managing the in-school Discovery Club for elementary children, Raymond feels blessed. As he earns his Master's in Business Administration, it helps him accomplish his life-calling to preach the Gospel and meet human need without discrimination. He states that his graduate work has "brought more personal fulfillment for me that I never dreamed possible."

The Corban MBA

Start your MBA this summer!



Applications now being accepted for Summer semester starting in May 2009.

*Early application deadline:
Monday, March 16, 2009*

www.corban.edu/graduate/MBA