

# IMPACT

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## REDEFINING LIVES

### THROUGH THE GIFT OF EDUCATION

**D**a'qwone Hill felt alone in the world. Growing up as one of two sons in a single-parent home meant he often had to work through life's challenges on his own.

"My mother had me at the age of 15, and then had another son at the age of 20," he shares. "She had to provide for two children and pay the bills all by herself. There were certain things we could never have because we just couldn't afford it."

Despite these setbacks, Hill worked hard in high school, becoming student president, graduating with honors, and serving in his church and community.

When it came time to think about college, Hill, again, was on his own, as his mother worked to make ends meet. In pursuit of his dream of higher education, he visited different colleges, filled out applications

and met with scholarship committees. At the suggestion of his pastor, Hill decided to explore Regent University.

From the moment he set foot on campus, he knew that this was the college for him. But when he met with a financial aid counselor and discovered that he didn't have enough financial aid to attend, he broke down in tears.

Upon hearing his story, the counselor said she was meeting with the financial aid committee the next day and would see what she could do. Hill immediately called his family, friends and pastors, and asked them to pray.

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The next day the counselor called to inform him that he had been awarded a scholarship. This grant, along with the other financial aid that he had already received, not only covered his tuition but also room and board. Thanks to these financial aid programs, Hill is the first person in his family to attend college.

Many students like Hill desire to attend college, but they need help to reach their goals. Sadly, each year millions of students are forced to trade higher education goals for a crushing load of student debt.

In fact, recent reports indicate that student loans have topped \$1 trillion.

To reduce this burden, each year Regent provides millions of dollars in tuition

discounts to students like Hill—students who otherwise would never have the chance to achieve their dream of a college education.

Jacob Ragsdale, who was awarded the Scholars Weekend Award Scholarship, says receiving the award meant he could focus

on his studies instead of the weight of financial burdens.

“It removed the anxiety of pinching every penny to make sure I could get through,” he explains. “With two younger siblings who also want to go to college, receiving

this scholarship has also lifted a huge burden from my parents.”

Another student who is living her dream thanks to these vital programs is Rebecca

**“I AM ENORMOUSLY  
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ALUMNI AND FRIENDS  
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POSSIBLE,”**





Clark. Clark knew that her only hope for attending college was to qualify for scholarships.

Working through a special program at her high school, she applied for assistance to attend Regent. “I love the Christian foundation at Regent, and that was a huge reason why I wanted to attend,” she shares.

Clark received word from the program director that she would receive a scholarship and that the grant would cover her full tuition to Regent. “I could hardly believe it! Not only was I going to attend the college of my choice, but I was going to attend on a full scholarship!” she says.

For Sarah Drury, a third-year law student studying human rights and international law, receiving scholarships was critical to reaching her goals.

“Human rights and international law is not a very lucrative field,” she admits, “so I knew I had to find a way to pursue my degree without incurring overwhelming debt. I can honestly say I would never have been able

to come to Regent without the scholarships I received, but God just worked things out.”

You can make a difference in the lives of students like these by becoming a World Changer Sponsor. In partnering with Regent, a preeminent global Christian university, you will help continue and expand these crucial programs, ensuring the next generation of Christian leaders can have access to education that changes the world for the better.

“I am enormously grateful to Regent alumni and friends who help to make these vital programs possible,” says Regent’s founder, chancellor and CEO Dr. M.G. “Pat” Robertson. “We may never know until we get to heaven how many lives have been touched and changed by these future leaders—leaders who may never have fulfilled their calling without the help of financial grants and scholarships.”

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# INTRODUCING LUXVERA

— ONLINE EDUCATION FOR THE WORLD —

Regent University is proud to announce the launch of LUXVERA™ — a new educational platform offering a broad range of exceptional courses, from humanities and philosophy to ministry and technology. This exclusive platform for massive open online courses (MOOCs) opens in January 2014. LUXVERA stands for “light and truth,” with the mission of bringing the light of wisdom to the fingertips of every person. The new platform will offer high-quality, interactive Christian higher education courses online to anyone with Internet access, with content provided by Regent’s award-winning faculty and partners.

“LUXVERA fits perfectly with the mission of Regent University, which is to provide transformative Christian education to all parts of the world,” says Dr. M.G. “Pat” Robertson, Regent founder, chancellor and CEO. “Early on, Regent recognized that online learning would change the landscape of higher education. Now, as the first Christian university launching a MOOC on our own proprietary platform, we will be able to teach the world, offering a robust, meaningful, innovative learning experience.”

Initially, LUXVERA courses will be free. As the program evolves and grows, Regent plans to offer certificates of completion or actual college credit at the university as paid options. Also in discussion is the possibility of implementing full associate’s or bachelor’s degree programs.

Dr. Gerson Moreno-Riaño, dean of Regent’s College of Arts & Sciences (CAS), is director of the university’s MOOC.

“Students in higher education today are not just seeking to learn skills, they are seeking transformation,” he says. “If we can give them both, so that they walk away enriched from LUXVERA, then that’s a winning combination.”

The content for LUXVERA will be presented in a highly innovative fashion with lectures and video material provided by Regent, the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ), and others.

LUXVERA’s first class will be “Who Is Jesus?”—developed by Dr. Corné J. Bekker, chair of the Department of Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry in Regent’s CAS. The course will explore the divine inspiration, authority and readings of the Biblical New Testament writings—the Gospels—that are the primary source for understanding the life and ministry of Jesus. With new insights, students will be able to consider the identity, relevance and challenge of Jesus for the 21st century.

LUXVERA’s courses will include content featuring industry experts in fields such as education, media, government, the arts, cultural analysis, law, psychology and counseling, world politics, and religion and spirituality.

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Learn more and register for the first class at the LUXVERA microsite:  
[luxvera.regent.edu/](http://luxvera.regent.edu/)

Hear more from Dr. Moreno-Riaño on Regent’s MOOCs:  
[regent.edu/Luxvera-MOOC](http://regent.edu/Luxvera-MOOC)



# PRESIDENTIAL POWER

## HAS THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH GONE TOO FAR?

Political heavyweights from both sides of the aisle squared off at Regent University's 11th Annual Clash of the Titans® debate, addressing the provocative question — Presidential Power: Has the Executive Branch Gone Too Far?

From the left, the esteemed panel included former Obama Senior Strategist David Axelrod and former Obama Senior Adviser David Plouffe. The right was represented by former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich and Chief Counsel for the American Center for Law and Justice (ACLJ) Jay Sekulow. Former White House Press Secretary and FOX News co-anchor Dana Perino moderated the debate.

Setting the stage for the rousing 90-minute dialogue, Gingrich goaded, “The presidency is, in fact, second in the line of power outlined in the Constitution. The Founding Fathers wanted to avoid a dictatorship, so they invented a machine so inefficient that no dictator could rule it,” drawing laughter from the audience.

“We’ve decided to cut through the baloney and go straight to the top—the president,” he continued. “If we centralize, we can make decisions faster. But centralizing power is useful once, and then it becomes a problem.”

Axelrod noted that the issue of presidential power is not new, as it has been expanding over time due to an increasingly complex society: “Over time, what has really changed is not the level of power the executive branch has, but the role of Congress,” he said, citing “aggressive use” of

the filibuster in the Senate and the Hastert Rule in the House of Representatives.

Plouffe agreed, declaring, “A gridlocked Congress puts a lot of pressure on the executive branch.” He also raised the issue of presidential appointments made during Congressional recess, which he says “have become like a filibuster in opposition for either party. Democrats did this to Bush; Republicans did it to Obama. Much of it comes back to dysfunction in Washington.”



“I think you can challenge the policies of the president and still have respect for the office of the president,” Sekulow acknowledged. “But the president doesn’t get a pass. The president is not a monarch. It’s an elected office. You don’t get to hold on to it, and you

have to be very careful about what you do with that power while you have it.”

Sekulow believes the timing of this debate couldn’t have been better: “When you look at the situation going on in Washington right now with the Obamacare rollout being such a disaster, coupled with the ongoing IRS investigation—the ACLJ is involved in both of those with lawsuits—you know that Clash bared an issue that’s hitting the American people. This touches everybody.”

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Watch the report on the Clash of the Titans from CBN News:  
[cbn.com/tv/2776266487001](http://cbn.com/tv/2776266487001)

Learn about previous year’s Clash of the Titans at Regent University:  
[regent.edu/events/debate/previous.cfm](http://regent.edu/events/debate/previous.cfm)



# The Promise of Hope for a Better Tomorrow

Is America headed in the wrong direction? Seventy-five percent of Americans think so. Regent University offers hope—training thousands of leaders who are taking a stand for what is right and good in our nation and the world.

As a World Changer Sponsor you can help Regent continue and expand vital scholarship programs that give our promising students access to high-quality Christian education.

**Become a World Changer Sponsor Today!**

[regent.edu/worldchanger](http://regent.edu/worldchanger)  
800.335.4409



## REGENT WORLD CHANGER



### Steve Elliott

Co-Founder and President, Grassfire.com

A nationally recognized communications specialist, Steve Elliott '94 (Government) developed Grassfire in the fall of 2000 while searching for a way to use the Internet to expand the impact of conservative citizens. Elliott is co-founder and president of Grassfire.com, one of the largest and most active online networks of conservative citizens in the nation. He and his associates have rallied a vibrant network of more than two million participants across the country in support of traditional values. Approximately 10,000 new members join Grassfire.com each week. Elliott is also a frequent guest on talk radio shows across the country.

Through Grassfire, his influence has grown from one voice to that of hundreds of thousands of citizens who take action on issues that impact their lives. In his book *The Grassfire Effect*, he describes this fundamental principle of individual and organizational growth. Elliott hopes to show how tiny sparks of ideas can ignite world-changing grassfires.

Please pray for Steve Elliott and other Regent University graduates who work to change the world for God.

For more information, visit [www.grassfire.com](http://www.grassfire.com).

\$17M+

Tuition discounts provided each year by Regent



80%

Students receiving some form of financial aid



[regent.edu/impact](http://regent.edu/impact)

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## A Message From the Chancellor



Dear Friends,

In this season of giving, it is good for us to remember the greatest gift of all time—the coming of the Son of God to take away the sins of the world. As we celebrate His birth in a lowly stable, we recognize that our act of giving to each other is a reflection of this special gift from our Heavenly Father.

I am grateful to each of you who have faithfully prayed for and given to Regent University in this past year. I am particularly thankful to those who have given to the Regent University World Changer Fund to help provide scholarships for students in need.

The burden on students to finance college continues to increase. According to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, of the 20 million college students in the United States, close to 12 million—or 60 percent—borrow annually to help cover costs. Approximately 37 million student borrowers have outstanding loans today.

To help students in need, each year Regent University provides millions of dollars in tuition discounts. These funds come from friends like you who have a vision to raise up godly leaders in this hour.

Would you prayerfully consider making a difference in the lives of needy students by becoming a World Changer Sponsor? It is a wonderful way to make a tangible difference in the lives of students and those they will affect as they go out into the world in Jesus' name.

Thank you again for your support of Regent University. I pray that you and your family have a blessed Christmas and a joyous New Year.

In Christ,

Pat Robertson  
Chancellor/CEO  
Regent University