

# Embracing Global Best Practices in Our Disciplines

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# ❖ How Christian University Staff Can Embrace Global Best Practices in Our Disciplines

Inspired by Scripture and  
Contemporary Christian Higher  
Education

# Introduction

- ▶ The importance of embracing global best practices in academia
- ▶ Challenges faced by Christian university staff in a globalized world
- ▶ Opportunity to impact staff, students and society with excellence and faith

# WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

*For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin.*

Hebrews 4:15

# Biblical Foundation for Wisdom and Learning

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- ▶ Proverbs 1:7: "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction."
- ▶ James 1:5: "If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God..."
- ▶ Embrace best practices by seeking God's wisdom and guidance

# Embracing a Global and Diverse Context

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- ▶ Revelation 7:9: Vision of diverse peoples worshipping God together
- ▶ Contemporary example: Christian universities welcoming and including diverse cultures and perspectives
- ▶ Public Universities diverse
- ▶ Move beyond recruitment to true intercultural learning and respect

# Balancing Tradition and Innovation

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- ▶ Respect the historic Christian faith, including spiritual disciplines like prayer and contemplation
- ▶ Innovate in education technology, pedagogy, and research approaches
- ▶ Example: Use of online learning enriched with Christian formation practices

# Developing Intercultural Competence

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- ▶ Biblical call to love and serve all neighbors, including those from different backgrounds (Luke 10:25-37, Good Samaritan)
- ▶ Prepare students to navigate and engage pluralistic societies effectively
- ▶ Contemporary example: Cross-cultural immersion and service programs building culturally intelligent leaders



# Integrating Biblical Justice and Scholarship

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- ▶ Micah 6:8: "Do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God."
- ▶ Address real-world issues in scholarship: social justice, poverty, environment, peace
- ▶ Example: Christian social work and community development programs impacting local and global needs

# Spiritual Commitment and Prayer

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- ▶ 1 Thessalonians 5:17: "Pray without ceasing."
- ▶ Commit to prayer as foundation for embracing best practices and innovation
- ▶ Example: Prayer meetings among staff seeking God's vision and unity

# Some Specifics (Teaching Staff)

- ▶ Set exam questions and marking scheme at the beginning of the semester
- ▶ Start lectures on first day
- ▶ Update lecture notes regularly
- ▶ Publish at least once a year
- ▶ Get a research grant once in three years
- ▶ Engage in community service
- ▶ Effective use of AI
- ▶ Attend Conferences

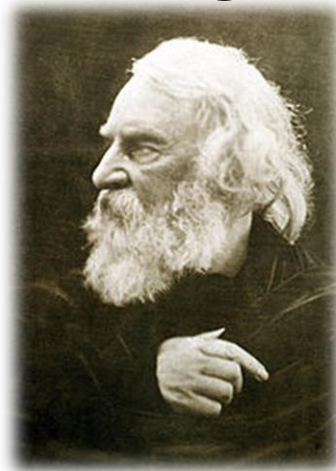


## Some Specifics (Non-Teaching Staff)

- ▶ Punctuality is the soul of business
- ▶ Effective use of AI (Secretary)
- ▶ MPH (Meritocracy, Pragmatism & Honesty)
- ▶ Attend Conferences and workshops
- ▶ Add additional qualifications
- ▶ Be innovative and creative

“The heights by great men reached and kept  
were not attained by sudden flight, but they,  
while their companions  
slept, were toiling upward in the night”.

*Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882)*



# Seek mentorship



If I have seen further than others, it is by standing  
upon the shoulders of giants.

(Isaac Newton)

izquotes.com

# SOME PRACTICAL STRATEGIES/STEPS







# “THE 5AM CLUB”

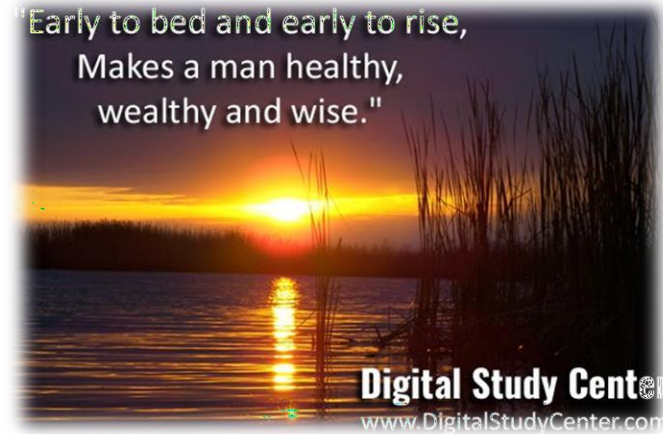


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'Early to bed and early to rise,  
Makes a man healthy,  
wealthy and wise.'

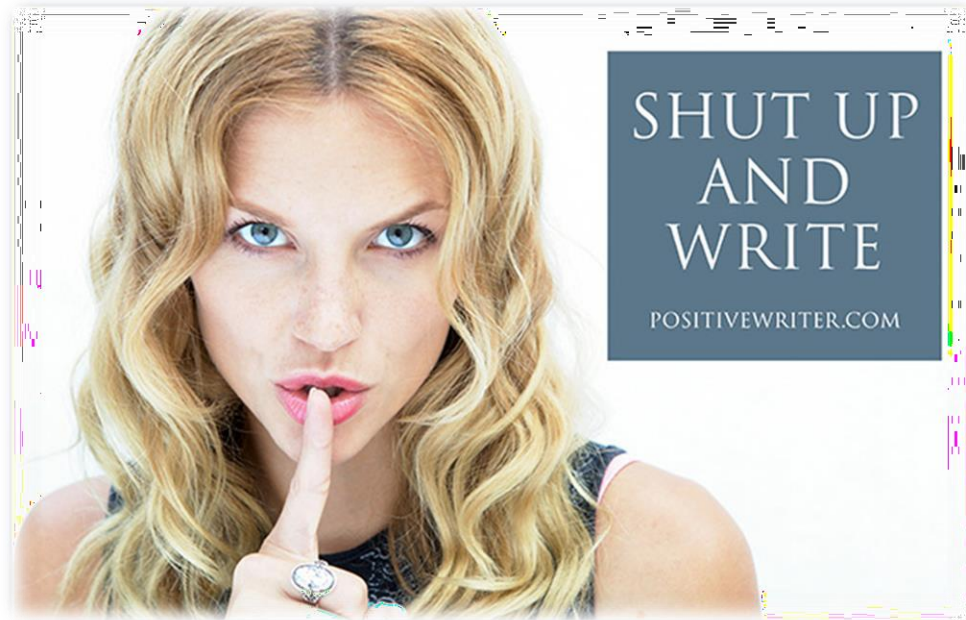




# “WRITING BOOT CAMPS”



# “SHUT UP AND WRITE”



# THE NIGHT CLUB!



At night, when the objective world has slunk back into its cavern and left dreamers to their own, there come inspirations and capabilities impossible at any less magical and quiet hour. No one knows whether or not he is a writer unless he has tried writing at night.

— *H. P. Lovecraft* —

AZ QUOTES

# THE REWARDS OF AUTHORSHIP

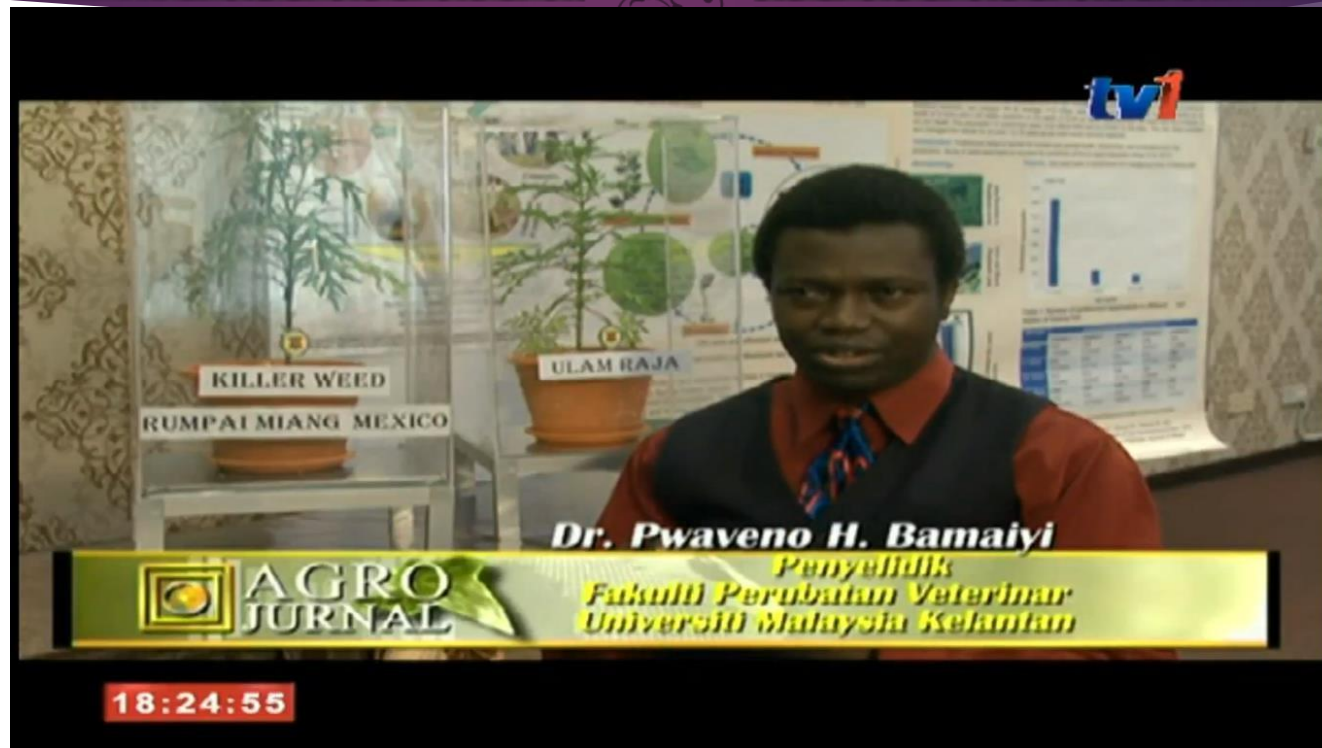


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Stray animals rely on the sympathy and kindness of strangers for survival. Photo: Filepic

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# Cry of the innocent stray cats

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- ❖ Procrastination
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# Call to Action

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- ▶ Commit to lifelong learning, humility, and openness to change
- ▶ Embrace global best practices as part of Christian discipleship
- ▶ Serve as global servants with truth, grace, and professionalism



# Closing Prayer and Blessing

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- ▶ Prayer for wisdom, unity, and vision for Christian educators globally
- ▶ Blessing for fruitful service that honors God and transforms communities