

December 4, 2020

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A newsletter for alumni & friends of King University

THE E-TORNADO

King Christmas Gift Guide

Thank you to those of you that submitted your small business or online stores for the first ever King University Alumni Gift Guide. We hope that you enjoy shopping local this holiday season and supporting the incredible things King alumni are doing.

[Click here](#) to access the gift guide. Happy shopping and Merry Christmas!



King Magazine Online Edition Available Now

In our effort to be fiscally prudent and budget-wise considering the financial implications of the pandemic, we are publishing the Fall 2020 edition as well as the upcoming Spring 2021 edition of *King Magazine* online. This issue is packed with stories about students, alumni, faculty, and staff who are facing all aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic with God's love and grace. You will read of COVID-19 challenges, as well as wonderful accomplishments, triumphs, and blessings. President Whitaker gives an in-depth interview on COVID-19 and its impact on our students and the university community.



You will want to save the **King Magazine link** so that you can return time and again if you are unable to read it all in one sitting. We will also be featuring some of the stories on social media in the coming weeks. There will be a link back to the magazine as a reminder that it is there for you. It is also available through the **King.edu** website.

Save the Date - King Conversations

King Conversations is a new Facebook Live Q & A series that will feature various faculty. The second one will be on Tuesday, December 15th at 7:00 p.m. and you are invited to join us on *Facebook Live*. Kristi Reynolds, Assistant Vice President for Adult & Graduate Studies Enrollment Management will be interviewing Associate Professor and Director of the Communication Program, Dr. Alyssa Sloan. This is an opportunity for alumni to hear about exciting developments in the Communication department at King, how you can get involved, and ask any questions. See you then!



Tuesday, Dec. 15, 2020
7:00 p.m.



Kristi Reynolds
will interview
Assoc. Professor
& Director of the
Communication
Program,
Alyssa Sloan, Ph.D.



Alumni Spotlight - Juan Somoza

Born in Mexico City, Mexico, and relocating with his family as a teenager to Cancun, Mexico, Juan ('19) was no stranger to the ocean. He loved the water and felt very much at home when he was around it. It was inevitable that he would take up the sport of swimming and excel at it.



Juan initially enrolled in college in Cancun but decided that he wanted to swim in the United States. He started reaching out to coaches across the country, and King was one of the schools that reached out to him. "King found me," Juan said. But the more he learned about the school he felt it would be a great place to develop as a student and an athlete.

Though he said, it was a "huge transition" because of the climate difference and leaving the large urban setting for the smaller city of Bristol. But he fell right into life at King because of the close bond he had with his teammates, many being other international students. And King was a small enough school

where you were able to get around; everything was accessible. "I loved having everything so close together. I worked two jobs while I attended school.

"King has one of the most beautiful campuses," Juan says. It is a statement that you hear from current and former students when describing the school. Juan graduated in three years and became a graduate assistant at Delta State in Mississippi. He hopes to eventually become an assistant head coach somewhere and then a head coach.

"I want to thank Finley Green in particular. She was the person that helped me the most when I was at King," Juan said. His work ethic, determination, and gratefulness are attributes that make King proud to be his alma mater.

Faith & Culture Facebook Live Conversation



Frederick Buechner's *Godric* at 40

AN ONLINE CONVERSATION
WITH JEFF MUNROE

Author of *Reading Buechner*

ILLUSTRATION: JEAN-BAPTISTE-CAMILLE COROT, CALDWELL ART COLLECTION

DECEMBER 5 at 6:00pm
More info at king.edu/faithandculture



On Saturday, December 5, the King Institute for Faith and Culture will host a Facebook Live conversation (you don't have to have an account to participate) with Jeff Munroe, who was to have been our Buechner Lecturer. Jeff published *Reading Buechner* last year, an excellent introduction to Frederick Buechner's work and a fine companion to Dale's more in-depth *Book of Buechner*. Our topic will be the 40th anniversary of the publication of Buechner's Pulitzer-finalist novel *Godric*. Focused on an eleventh-century English saint, it addresses timeless questions of spiritual life, friendship, family, vocation, and what an actual saint's life might be like. This will be at 6pm Saturday. The event will be taped and available later, but live participation will allow for some conversation by way of questions in the chat box.

Please join us if you can; you don't have to read the book first! The link is:
<https://fb.me/e/1JJlc1YrS>.

Thank You for Your Support on Giving Tuesday



Thank you to those that gave a gift on Giving Tuesday. Every donation has a great impact on King University. We apologize for any inconvenience as the server was down in the morning of December 1st. If you missed Giving Tuesday and would still like to participate, [click here](#) to make a gift today.

Student's Giving Thanks



In case you missed it, please click the link above to see students at King discuss what they are most thankful for this year. Please note In case you were wondering, President Whitaker and all of the students featured wore face masks to and from the shooting location for this video and were socially distanced more than 12 feet from the face-masked videographer during production.

"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you..."

Isaiah 43:2



"When you give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed." Maya Angelou

Consider making a gift to King University and watch your blessings multiply in the faces of our students!

give.king.edu

King University | 800.621.5464 | alumni@king.edu

Get social!

