

WHAT MAKES THE U OF N UNIQUE?

by Landa Cope

U of N is unique because...
It is not a place, it is a people—
A people seeking to know God and to follow Him.
A people seeking to follow His every mandate
Into every part of life,
Every area of society,
Every aspect of culture,
Every moment of the day.

U of N is unique because...
It is a people
For whom finding our weaknesses
Is the first step to victory,
The first step to glorifying God,
And needing our brothers and sisters.

Where education is not data,
 but personal wholeness;
Where maturity is not position or paper status,
 but attitude;
Where the heavenlies are our classroom,
 and God is our Tutor;
Where neither teacher nor student
 can possibly achieve our goals
 without constant interaction with God;
Where prayer is not the means to an end,
 but the end in itself: communion with God;
Where we cannot separate our life in the
 classroom
 and our life in our homes,
 our learning from our relationships,
 our education from our attitudes;
Where students seek to bless their teachers,
 rather than perform for them;
Where we seek to love fellow students,
 not compete with them,
 hope, long, even pray they will excel,
 and preferably surpass our performance...

U of N is unique because...
U of N is unique because...

While there are thousands of students
And hundreds of staff,
There is only one Head
And finally a singular Textbook.

It is a process, not a program;
A process where the master Tutor
Gives twenty-four hour attention to every pupil.
A process where it is understood
That no fellow student or instructor
Will be able to tell you
What you need to know
Or where your discoveries will take you.
A process where your teachers
Do not know the answers,
But may be able to help you define the questions.

U of N is unique because...
It is a university where grades tell us
Where God has gifted us
And how we can use those gifts,
 not whether we passed or failed.
Where a student never takes a test,
 writes a paper,
 gives a speech,
 or solves a problem alone.
Where you could memorize every text
 and every lecture—perfectly—
 and still fail.
Where there are no Samarias,
 no forbidden territories,
 no fields too perverted,
 too foreign,
 too unholy
To be invaded and transformed by the light of
Christ.

Missions is understood to be

not only geographical,
but vocational;
not only what you say,
but what you do,
how you do it,
And how you live.

Where we believe every Christian
Is a missionary called by God,
Called for a work,
Called and gifted,
Called to Africa or Europe or Asia,
Or other parts of the globe,
And called to Media-land, Education-land,
Or Performing Arts-land,
Science-asia or Humani-atia.

Where the President, the Board of Regents, Deans,
the VIP
Don't know what we are doing
Or where we are going,
but we know the One who does.
The One who called us,
who called you,
To seek Him in this way.

The U of N is unique because...
It is a people who believe
Tests and performance tell us where we are,
not where we are going;

Because we can do all things through Christ
Who strengthens us.

U of N is unique because...
We do not trust in education,
but in spiritual wholeness in Christ
to change our lives,
direct our future,
And change nations.

U of N is unique because...
If the Holy Spirit removed His presence,
we would not exist.
There would be no buildings built
because they are built by His people,
by His power.

There would be no staff.
We come because of His call.
We continue by His grace.
There would be no students
because none of you were recruited
because of literature,
or illustrious faculty,
or leadership fame.

You were recruited by the Holy Spirit.
He directed you,
called you.
He desired you to sit in His class.
He desired us to build His Kingdom.

U of N is unique because...
It is Jesus Christ "walked out" in each of our lives.