



The Comenius Institute

Thank **YOU** for your patronage for our work through The Comenius Institute at IUPUI. Here are a few questions that have been raised in the classes I teach:



"What have we brought on ourselves?"

"Where can I look for what is good in life and share it with others?"

"How do I make a difference in the world?"

"What am I going to do?"

"What draws people to things that mean nothing in the end?"

Student questions in class allow me to offer an answer outside of class.

Here is one story among many I could share. A young Christian woman wrote me a long email expressing the oppression she feels in the classroom. Why? She is being taught theories which run counter to everything she believes. No opposing views are presented. My response to her email is on the next page.

Every semester. Every week. Every day. The opportunities to encourage believers in The Faith and attract unbelievers to the gospel continues. In addition to our university presence, our Warp&Woof radio show, Truth in Two videos, essays, and social media expansion, *we reach thousands.*

What can **YOU** do to help?



Our patrons have given \$15,000 toward our \$45,000 Comenius budget this year. **Your patronage makes our work possible.** For every new patron gift of \$100 or more received, I will gladly send you one of the most recent journal articles I have published on neurodiversity, 19th century abolitionism, science fiction, apologetics or my books on movies or education.

For the next generation of students and the faculty who teach them,

Dr. Mark Eckel, President, The Comenius Institute [501(c)(3)],
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Dear _____

Know of my commitment to you as a student who is a Christian, dedicated to her studies, who cares deeply for Truth in a world of error. I stand with you. YOU and students like you are the reason I have committed myself to the task of encouragement in the public university.

The stories you tell about only hearing one point of view in your course are not surprising. Still, the strain and drain on your mindset is something other students do not have to endure. You are the epitome of 1 Peter 2:11-17, 3:8-17, and 4:12-19. In our context 2000 years later, Peter's words continue to ring in our ears, no matter our time or place. You have been living all these words, consciously or unconsciously, in your classroom setting this semester. Read the verses again for encouragement. As Peter ends his lines, I think of and pray for you, "Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good" (4.19). The "good" you are doing is giving a distinctive Christian viewpoint in your online presence, that students would not hear otherwise.

Like many in the academe, faculty members work in the confines of their own assumptions and allegiances. Their teaching often blocks those voices raised in disagreement with their own, especially conservative, Christian perspectives. I have seen and experienced the one-sided instruction over and over in my work the past six years at IUPUI. I support you as you "hold fast" (1 Thessalonians 5.21, 2 Timothy 1:13, Hebrews 3.6, 4.14, 10.23; Revelation 2.25, 3.3).

Some might want to cast off the university as a lost cause. You and I see it as a "field ripe unto harvest." We see the "tares amongst the wheat," knowing that it is our job to "work for the night is coming." Your and my words, are seeds (Luke 8:4-18), planted on the soil of souls. Our responsibility is the casting of the seed, as much as we might like to will that seed into fruit.

Along with you I will continue to encourage faculty to (1) give opportunity for students to hear more than the progressive approach to their classes, (2) allow students to present positions opposing those heard in class, and (3) accept final projects that give a different point of view than their own without penalty.

Do not hesitate to contact me again for encouragement, for a caring, Christian academic-intellectual voice, one who labors in the vineyard of the university,
Dr. Eckel