



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts: Kristen Arakaki, GIVE, 714-423-9753  
Erin Phillips, Cal Baptist University, 951-343-4355

Sept. 29, 2008

### **ENGINEERING STUDENTS CONNECT FROM ACROSS THE GLOBE**

*California Baptist University and GIVE host an educational delegation from Japan.*

*Riverside, Calif.* – Representatives from Toyo University in Tokyo, Japan, visited Riverside County recently as part of a weeklong tour examining green building and design principles in Southern California.

Led by Morihiro Kurushima, PhD., a Toyo University professor and program manager for Japan's New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization, (NEDO), the group of five female undergraduate students toured the award-winning sustainable development of Dos Lagos in Corona before visiting the Cal Baptist campus in Riverside, where they attended a "Sustainability Luncheon" to mingle with American engineering students and hear the latest updates on how Riverside County is going green.

"We're happy to see young women engineers sitting together at the same table from different points in the world," said Anthony Donaldson, PhD., dean of Cal Baptist's School of Engineering. The Sept. 25 luncheon featured Donaldson, Dos Lagos developer Ali Sahabi and Kurushima, each of whom expressed the global importance of promoting green technologies and sustainable building and engineering practices throughout the world.

"We need to care about what is happening outside of our region," said Sahabi, who in 2006 founded the Green Institute for Village Empowerment, a nonprofit that is spearheading a green-tech economic development program in the Inland Empire called the Green Valley Initiative.

Kurushima presented information on various alternative energy projects sponsored by the Japanese government through NEDO in other parts of Asia. The need to promote renewable energies is a global issue that extends beyond political borders, he said.

"We are all living in the same boat," he explained.

GIVE is a nonprofit organization established in 2006 to promote balance in the way people live, how their choices impact the environment and others in their community. GIVE hosts events and initiatives, and sponsors GIVE on Campus college chapters – including one at Cal Baptist University -- to educate the public on issues related to sustainability. For information,

visit [www.giveforthefuture.org](http://www.giveforthefuture.org). For information on the Green Valley Initiative, visit [www.greenvalleynow.org](http://www.greenvalleynow.org)

Cal Baptist University was founded in 1950 by the California Southern Baptist Convention. In 2007, its enrollment exceeded 3,700 students studying under 90 undergraduate and 22 graduate majors and credentials. The main campus sits on 103 acres in the heart of Riverside's historic Magnolia Avenue district just a short drive from popular beaches and mountain resorts. The college was named Best Master's College in 2008 by U.S. News & World Report.

Toyo University was founded in 1887 with the intent to give lectures to the general public to open their minds toward a new, rational way of thinking that might bring about change. Located in Tokyo, Japan, Toyo University has an enrollment of 26,439 undergraduate and 952 graduate students.

##