

THE STATESMAN

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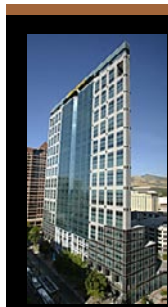
On Campus Seminars:

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| Feb 15-17 | Rethinking Leadership |
| Mar 2-3 | The Declaration of Independence & The U.S. Constitution |
| Mar 17 | Thomas Jefferson Ed. Forum |
| Apr 16-21 | Statesmanship Invitational 2007 |
| May 1-26 | Psychology |
| May 2-25 | The Founders' Constitution |
| May 21-22 | The Anti-Federalist |
| Jun | European Field Experience |
| Jun 7-8 | Core & Love of Learning |
| Jun 7-16 | Youth For America |
| Jun 11-12 | The Love of Learning Transition To Scholar |
| Jun 14-15 | Scholar Phase |
| Jun 4-Jul 28 | Latin |
| Jul 27-28 | How to Read a Book |
| Jul 9-28 | The Mountain Seminar |
| Jul 18-19 | Liber League Summit |
| Jul 9-Aug 3 | Freshman Prep |
| Aug 13-29 | War |

For the complete list of all GWC on campus Seminars [click here](#).

For a Face to Face with Greatness seminar in your area, [click here](#).

For a Statesmanship Seminar in your area, [click here](#).



Upcoming
Philanthropic Society Gala
in: Salt Lake City, Utah

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A Physician's Experience at GWC



by Michael Wilson

I stepped into this world 3 years ago: this world of classical, leadership education; of studying statesmen and history; of philosophy and theology; of life-changing literature and earth-shattering realizations. Three years ago I stepped out of credentialed, canned education; of expediency and superficial, trivial information; out of the status quo and “the box.” These last three years have given me a new purpose, and renewed dedication to changing the world.

As a medical student, I studied 6-10 hours daily and learned many fascinating things. I learned how we understand the body’s ability to function, dysfunction, heal itself, and when it requires outside intervention to heal. I learned how to demonstrate compassion; how to analyze a myriad of data points and draw a conclusion. However, mostly I learned how to agree with my teachers who were “experts” and would gladly tell me as much. This is how to be a successful medical student. However, I was left with a void.

Residency training encouraged more exploration of what the data points really meant and really proved. Questioning was encouraged as long as the debate

remained within the prescribed paradigm. Because I love biology and I love providing medical care for others, I have continued in my chosen profession. However, I still had a void in my mind and my soul. There was so much knowledge and wisdom out there that I had never learned. I had occasional teachers, and even mentors, along the way whose efforts to inspire me at times fell in fertile soil, but most came to rest on rocky terrain created by almost two decades of a system that expects, even demands—conformity. I didn't feel I was doing what I was created to do: something was missing.

As I explored what I wanted for myself and my family, I realized that I wanted to learn how to think, how to solve problems, how to change the world; and I realized that I wanted my children to have those same capabilities and opportunities. My wife and I made a decision to move to Cedar City in order to experience these learning opportunities through the Thomas Jefferson model of education and the opportunity to be close to George Wythe College.

Initially I was planning on attending the occasional seminar and dipping my toes into the ocean of liber education. The water just felt so good I had to jump in with both feet. Within a year of moving to Cedar City, I was enrolled full time as a graduate student in education, reading the Federalist Papers, Democracy in America, War and Peace, Uncle Tom's Cabin, The Annals of America (a fantastic study of U.S. history) and William Shakespeare. This dip into the ocean has at times felt like drinking from a fire hose due to the volume of knowledge and the velocity at which it comes; however, it has been one of the most intellectually and spiritually rewarding times in my life.

My idealism has found a home. I am able to explore and express without fear of the scoffer or the mocker; without the fear of the “expert” expounding what is true or right. In place of that fear resides a freedom of thinking that is unmatched in any other institution I know. Although some of my ideas and perspectives may not be widely shared at George Wythe College, I feel like a fellow scholar on the road to statesmanship. Nowhere else that I know of can you have a free discussion of the merits and

fallacies of Marxism or Nietzsche while invoking the power and influence of a Supreme Being. It has been an invigorating and liberating change to go from a specialized professional education to a liberal leadership-style education that encourages thinking: I know thinking is a novel idea, but if we spread it widely enough, it just might take hold.

Dr. Wilson holds a Bachelors degree from Brigham Young University and graduated from University of California, San Diego School of Medicine. He served his residency at University Medical Center in Tucson, Arizona and specializes in emergency medicine. He now works in the emergency room at Dixie Regional Medical Center in St. George and Valley View Medical Center in Cedar City. Michael and his wife Jenni are raising a family in Cedar City, Utah.

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