MARCH 2007 CH ALPHA CAMPUS MINISTRICS - UNIVERSITY OF MICHNAN

Michael Simo, Freshman at The University of Michigan



My friends call me Seemo back in Staten Island, New York, and, not to my surprise, people have been calling me Seemo here in Michigan as well. The fact is, my name is Michael Simo (the 'i' is hard in this pronunciation), but the mis-

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pronunciation has followed me all the way to Michigan and, again, has become a sort of nickname. The funny thing is that "Seemo" is Chinese for "pastor," or at least I have been told this by many of my Chinese friends. Maybe that implies that God has as a plan for me, no matter the plans I

have made for my own life. Nonetheless, I am currently one of the million Michigan students trying to get into Michigan's Ross School of Business, a competitive Bachelors of Business Administration program ranked 3rd in the country.

After my acceptance into the U of M, since I was aware of Chi Alpha Campus Ministries, I looked up the University of Michigan's Chi Alpha online, and found the H20 Campus Church website. About a month and a half into the school year, I decided to attend H20's Sunday service because members Karen Olsen and Michelle Holliday came to my dorm and left my roommate with a paper bag of sweets for me. Ever since, I have only missed one Sunday service, and I am very grateful for all that H20 has been doing in my life.

H20 is a place different from how I believe most churches are run. Coming from an Assemblies of God church back in Staten Island, H20 wasn't much different in doctrine, but Pastor Nino and Tammy, and the rest of the Guarisco family, have taken me in as if I were a part of their family. The style and method of teaching is unique in H20. People aren't cautious to speak of sex, dating, drinking, and pornography in H20; they understand the temptations and struggles of college students, and aren't afraid to address these problems in order to help the church grow spiritually. This comforting environment has given me, and I am sure many other H20 members, a feeling of safety, and I have often confessed my sins with Nino, as well as other brothers in the church. I would like to offer my sincere appreciation for the many prayer and financial partners that faithfully support this ministry. Pastor Nino and Tammy have given H2O Campus Church their entire lives for the plans God has for them.

In relation to the Chinese meaning of my name, my business school struggles, and my uncertainty in what I really want to do for a profession, the truth is, only God knows what is in store. And this goes for all of us. As long as H20, and organizations like it, are around to bring people to God, and guide Christians on their bumpy and rough road to righteousness, there is hope for the University of Michigan.

Thank you for your love and support,

Michael Simo

Those wishing to give a special gift to our ministry:

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Nino and Tammy Guarisco

