Background on the film; original announcement:

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: **UCA University Relations and Creative Services** <urcs@uca.edu>
Date: Tue, Oct 3, 2017 at 11:30 AM
Subject: Who wants to be in a movie?
To: student@cub.uca.edu, FS <fs@uca.edu>

We are pleased to announce that a movie crew will soon be on campus to shoot a few scenes for the movie "God's Not Dead 3"!

There will be signage around where the crew will be shooting but here are the locations that will be featured on Monday, October 9 and Tuesday, October 10:

* Wingo, President's Office
* Outside Old Main (front steps)
* Student Center (eating area)
* Sidewalks in front of Student Center to McCastlain
* Hughes Hall

A portion of the Wingo parking lot will be closed on October 9th and a portion of the parking lot behind Hughes Hall will be closed on October 10th.

If you are interested in being a VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND EXTRA in the scenes shot on the UCA campus, send an email to the following email address: gnd3moviecasting@gmail.com

Students, faculty and staff are welcome to submit.

Emails should include:

-Head shot (non professional no filter)
-Bodyshot holding a card with todays date
-Must be over 18 (unless a parent/guardian is available to sign an image release on behalf of the student)
-Phone number
- Please include “UCA - VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND” in the subject line

The Extras Casting Director will reach out to those interested in participating via email to confirm dates, times, wardrobe details, etc.
————
Also, anyone interested in interning with the production can submit their resume to gnd3movie@gmail.com with “UCA - INTERN RESUME” in the subject line.

Thanks!

Exchange with Christina Madsen:

On Wed, Oct 4, 2017 at 10:02 PM, Christina Madsen <christinam@uca.edu> wrote:

Hey!

Yes, the movie crew will be covering expenses related to the shooting of the movie. We've done a location agreement similar to other ones that we do from time to time throughout the year. What we're most excited about is the hands-on experience our film students (and others) will get as interns and maybe even paid extras for actors. There really won't be much of a publicity angle because UCA won't be presented as UCA. It'll be a fictitious university with orange as their school color.

Thanks for passing along your thoughts! I hope that helps!

CM

Anonymous constituent concern:

Christina,

Please tell me we're getting compensated appropriately for this religious production utilizing a state-funded institution's grounds/property. This needs to be a contracted, paid thing (if at all). We're a secular, state-funded organization. We are not a religious institution.

If I had my druthers, we'd have nothing to do with it. These things tend to play to a particular segment of society (the Christian religious groups), while ignoring or diminishing others' belief systems/religions. We don't need that "publicity.”

Exchange with President Davis:

I spoke on the phone with President Davis on the evening of October 4 after receiving several concerns, questions, and calls.

Here is the typed response he sent to me this morning:

Dr. Duncan,

As you and I discussed today, I am aware that many have strong opinions regarding the filming of several scenes of a movie called "God Is Not Dead 3" on our campus.  While I cannot say that I saw either of the first two installments of this film, I do know enough from IDMB, Rotten Tomatoes, and pop culture to know that the previous two films' themes explain why some people are either thrilled to know that filming will be done and others are outraged that UCA will be the site of any filming.  Following our discussion regarding my responses to one person's questions, I thought that this email might be good for you to have and to share with anyone that you choose.  I have copied Dr. Hargis so that he also has it for the same purposes.

To clarify, the use of our campus for portions of the film was arranged via the State Film Commission.  As I mentioned at the Campus Talk on Tuesday, the state's process for considering locations for films can involve the use of state facilities.  Campuses can be asked - as state facilities - to make portions of the campus available with the expectation that no classes will be disrupted.  This was something that is more common in my former state of Georgia because of the sheer number of films being shot in that state.

As for the suggestions regarding banning ideas or content from campus generally, I have great concerns as an advocate for higher education with those type of thoughts. The same person that claims that this film's content has no place on our campus would probably expect for me to defend other content on campus that others find just as offensive.  Virtually every speaker, concert, art installation, social justice initiative, or cultural program that is held on our campus draws several complaints from some group of constituents - internal and/or external - about UCA's involvement in that topic/content.  No matter the political, cultural, or societal topic, I can rely on someone charging that UCA (and sometimes me personally) should be ashamed and should ban that idea from our campus.  With as much respect toward the person or group as possible, I take that opportunity to reiterate that the academy makes room for a wide range of thoughts and beliefs.

Whether this movie or any other movie, I appreciate all concerns for anything that might portray UCA or our identity in any negative light.  As mentioned earlier and from the conversations this week, I know that we have members of our community that are excited about this film and some that think that it has no place on our campus.  Both perspectives will probably be surprised to see how far that the crews will go to make the location non-identifiable.  For example, the filming will avoid any details in the background that identify UCA, no logos, mascot or symbols will be in shots, and the colors of the fictitious college will be orange as opposed to our purple.  While there will be two days of filming here, I am not certain where the rest of the film is being shot.  Again, whether someone wants our university to be recognizable or not, I am confident that our campus participates as a generic background.

Again, I very much appreciate you taking the time to discuss the information that had been shared with you.  While I am certain that this communication fails to address all issues, I do hope that it aids you in responding to any further questions.  As mentioned, please feel free to share as you see fit.

Houston

Houston D. Davis, Ph.D.

President

University of Central Arkansas

[201 Donaghey Ave](https://maps.google.com/?q=201+Donaghey+Ave&entry=gmail&source=g), Wingo Hall, Suite 207, Conway 72035

hdavis@uca.edu