

HAPPENINGS

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY'S STAFF & FACULTY ONLINE NEWSLETTER

Belay Receives Change the World Award

The faculty and staff of the College of Educational Studies (CES) presented Chapman Public Safety officer Michael Belay with its inaugural Change the World Award during the CES Honors Reception on Friday, May 22.

"This award is the result of the CES's desire to acknowledge those people who affect the world in meaningful ways but do so quietly," said Don Cardinal, Ph.D., dean of the CES. "Your dedication and work in Ethiopia has changed our world for the better, and we want you to know how much we appreciate you. The impact you've made will outlive you and will benefit generations to come." Belay is the founder of Hands Across the Planet for Poor Youth (H.A.P.P.Y.), a registered non-profit organization that raises funds and collects in-kind donations for his hometown of Tembien,

Ethiopia, a desperately impoverished village. In recent years, H.A.P.P.Y. has built a village school (Belay sold his family's house in Southern California to put the proceeds toward the school) and is now working to raise \$2 million to install a water purification system so the people of Tembien don't have to drink from a polluted river. For more information and to support Michael's important cause, please visit <http://www.happyinethiopia.org/>.



*Michael Belay with
CES Dean Don Cardinal*