

# Our History

The CCO is a ministry that grew out of partnership with the church to reach college students for Jesus Christ within a 150-mile radius of Pittsburgh. CCO ministry has grown far beyond the dreams of the original founders, both in geography and in scope of influence. It has grown into a ministry that influences not only students for Christ, but universities and communities as well. We estimate that the ripple effect of CCO ministry has extended to over a million people all over the world.



The CCO's primary mission is to bring various ministries together with a unified vision to evangelize and disciple college students in cooperation with local churches. John Guest becomes the first Executive Director.

- The original four goals of the CCO are: evangelism, discipleship, local church involvement and working cooperatively with other ministries.



- Working with local churches is core to the CCO's mission. The first partnership with a church is established when Graystone Presbyterian Church partners with the CCO to reach students at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

## 1972



Bob Long comes on board as Executive Director of "the Coalition." He is 31 years old and has been heading up a vibrant campus ministry program at Bellefield Presbyterian Church, reaching out to students at the University of Pittsburgh. At the CCO, Bob finds six staff people on four campuses, no office space, and virtually no money. Bob's much-celebrated drive and tenacity are key to the growth of the CCO.



- God uses the work of Pete Steen to shape the CCO's distinctive emphasis that Christ is Lord over everything. Though common now, this idea seems revolutionary in the 1970s.



Terry Thomas joins staff. Over the years, Terry becomes a powerful communicator to CCO staff and students of the message that Jesus is Lord of everything.

## 1973



- Waynesburg College hires a CCO staff person to serve as a residence hall director, marking our first partnership with a college.



Jim Welch joins the CCO as Associate Executive Director. He develops most of the partnerships with churches and schools between 1973 and 1979. Jim is also the founder of Summer's Best Two Weeks, a camp that has transformed thousands of children for Christ.



- The Chatham Center Weekend, forerunner of the Jubilee conference, is sponsored by the CCO and area ministries.

- Demonstrating our commitment to reach college students who often do not have access to campus ministry, the CCO partners with two churches to bring a staff worker to Butler County Community College.

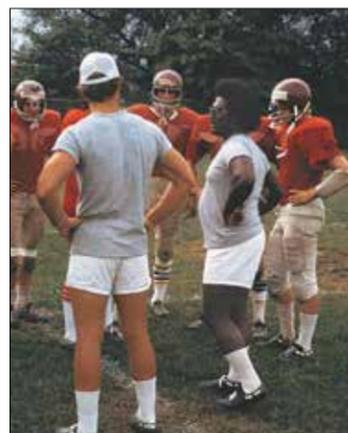
- The CCO establishes its first ministry at a Catholic university when we partner with First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant to reach out to Gannon University students.

## 1974



- Staff size doubles: 37 CCO staff people are reaching students on 27 campuses in Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia.

## 1976



- As the CCO's vision for campus impact expands, new kinds of positions are developed; staff serve as coaches, school nurses, directors of student activities, career counselors, assistant chaplains and instructors.

## 1977



- The CCO sponsors the first Jubilee conference at the William Penn Hotel in downtown Pittsburgh. By inviting Christian leaders and practitioners from a variety of fields, the Jubilee conference gives students tools to begin to integrate their Christian faith into all areas of their lives.



After leading a large, fruitful ministry at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Bill Painter comes into the CCO office. Over his 24 years of ministry with the CCO, Bill develops scores of new opportunities for CCO staff to reach students.

## 1978



- Over many years, the CCO's freedom to innovate attracts a number of strong and creative leaders like Paul Harbison. Paul develops the CCO's experiential education ministry.



Bonnie Liefer comes on staff as the CCO's graphic designer. She develops the CCO's card ministry, which eventually reaches people all over the world.

## 1979

- The CCO grows to 165 staff members serving on 39 campuses.



Influential Christian Senator Mark Hatfield is the keynote speaker at the Jubilee conference. Known for his years of service as a Christian leader, Hatfield is an excellent example for students.

- Because the CCO values biblical education, a cooperative graduate program is established for CCO staff with Fuller Theological Seminary; this program later shifts to Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary in 1986.

## 1980



Illustrating the CCO's drive for academic excellence, former CCO student and staff worker Byron

Borger establishes Hearts & Minds Bookstore with his wife, Beth. Byron has played an invaluable role in CCO ministry by



providing resources for staff and students at the Jubilee conference and at staff training events.

## 1982

### Christianity Today

- Carl Henry, author and founder of *Christianity Today*, speaks at Jubilee.

- CCO staff member Bill Saxton begins a thriving ministry to international students at Penn State University. Bill and his wife,



Barb, have been instrumental in the formation of many international Christian leaders.



## 1983



- The Ocean City Beach Project debuts, bringing Christian students from various campuses together for a summer of intense discipleship and leadership development. God uses the Beach Project powerfully over the years to develop scores of Christian leaders.

- The book *All of Life Redeemed: Biblical Insight for Daily Obedience* is published, authored by four CCO staff people: Brad Frey, Bill Ingram, Tom McWhertor and Bill Romanowski. For many years, this book is used as a tool in opening up the fullness of the gospel for college students.



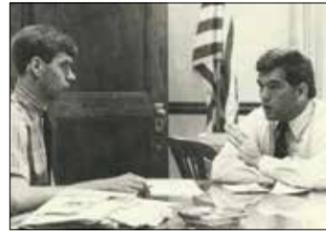
- Demonstrating the CCO's commitment to Christ's claim on all areas of life, CCO staff member Bill Romanowski develops a traveling rock-and-roll show to teach students a Christian perspective of popular culture.

## 1986



Ted Schumacher begins his ministry at Kent State University, where his primary outreach involves athletes and unifying black and white fellowships.

# Our History



## 1990



- Encouraged by the CCO's commitment to multicultural ministry, Gene Tibbs joins staff. Gene builds and maintains a thriving ministry at the University of Pittsburgh to black students from America and around the world.

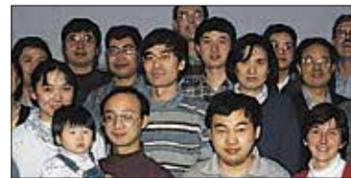
## 1991

- Another illustration of the CCO's culture of innovation, CCO staff member and Messiah College resident director Doug Bradbury establishes Issachar's Loft to strengthen student discipleship through mission and adventure experiences.



Veteran CCO staff worker Ken Wagoner begins ministry with Chinese scholars at Carnegie Mellon

University and the University of Pittsburgh. Another example of the CCO's passion for reaching students of all races, Ken has



reached hundreds of Chinese people who have gone on to be leaders back in their home country.



- TIME magazine foreign affairs correspondent David Aikman speaks to journalism students at Jubilee.

## 1992

**Pitt** The Pitt Fund is developed to reach athletes at the University of Pittsburgh. Ministry to student athletes is especially strategic as athletes are prominent leaders on campus.

## 1994

- The Master of Arts in Higher Education degree program is established with Geneva College to offer CCO staff further opportunities to understand and make an impact on university culture as they work among college students.

## 1995



- After having to turn students away two years in a row, RSVP splits into two conferences.



- Recognizing the effectiveness of experiential ministry, the CCO introduces Leadership and Discipleship in the Wilderness as a new summer ministry opportunity.



- Bill Roemer, CCO Board member and Chairman of Integra Bank, is instrumental in securing new office space for the CCO when Integra Bank gives us a three-story office building located in the East Liberty neighborhood of Pittsburgh.

## 1996

- The CCO has 157 staff reaching students on 43 campuses.



CCO staff member Steve Garber publishes *The Fabric of Faithfulness: Weaving Together Belief and Behavior*, based on his years of experience

ministering to college students and young adults. *The Fabric of Faithfulness* is voted one of *Christianity Today's* books of the year.



CCO staff member Michael Barbato establishes the Pisgah Program at Geneva College,

illustrating the CCO's commitment to the college as well as its students.

## 1997



- Denny Trimmer retires from a 30-year career as a UPS delivery man to fulfill his dream job: ministering to college students at Kent State University's Tuscarawas campus. Denny is the first of a wave of gifted men and women who join the CCO as a second career and go on to develop extremely effective ministries.

## 1998



- To demonstrate God's love, CCO staff and students at West Virginia University distribute free hot dogs to students returning to their dorms after a night of partying. This is the first of many late-night outreach ministries which have reached thousands of students over the years.

## 1999



Dan Dupe becomes President and CEO of the CCO, and Bob Long becomes Chairman of the

Board. Dan brings new energy and direction to the CCO as he leads a group of staff in developing the CCO Core Purpose (*Transforming college students to transform the world*) and Core Values:

- All things belong to God.
- Jesus changes people's lives.
- We love college students.
- Faithfulness is pursued together.
- We celebrate life.

## 2000

- The CCO employs 195 staff reaching students on 50 campuses.

## 2001



The CCO begins ministry to students in Philadelphia under the leadership of Samuel Chez. Today, the CCO has a presence on 14 campuses in the Philly area.



- CCO staff members play a key role in FreshX at Ohio Wesleyan University. This freshman orientation experience helps first-year students to connect with each other and excel during their undergraduate years. The CCO has reached thousands of students through programs like these.

## 2002



As part of the CCO's ongoing commitment to multiethnic ministry, Wayne Younger is hired to serve as

Director of Multiethnic Ministries. Wayne develops a comprehensive, practical training program to equip all of our staff to reach students across races and cultures.

## 2003



- The CCO is recognized as the Best Christian Place to Work by the Best Christian Workplace Institute. We have gone on to win the award every year since.

## 2004



- The CCO establishes its first ministry in New York State by partnering with North Presbyterian Church to reach out to students at Elmira College.

## 2005



The CCO expands to the Washington DC area with ministries to George Mason University and Howard University students.



- Another example of the CCO's commitment to reaching an underserved student population, artist and CCO staff member Dayton Castleman pioneers a ministry to students at Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and University of the Arts in Philadelphia.



- Recognizing that over 60% of young people raised in the church will leave it during college, the CCO and the Center for Parent/Youth Understanding collaborate to develop a seminar that prepares thousands of Christian high school students for the college experience.

- The CCO is invited to join other college ministries on the Youth Transition Network's website to help high school students locate Christian fellowship opportunities.

## 2007

- CCO staff member Derek Melleby and CCO staff alumnus Donald Opitz co-author *The Outrageous Idea of Academic Faithfulness: A Guide for Students*, which continues to be used as a college textbook.

## 2008



Jubilee moves from the Pittsburgh Hilton to the David L. Lawrence Convention Center

to accommodate the growing number of participants. Close to 3,000 students attend Jubilee 2008, where Chuck Colson is one of the keynote speakers.

## 2009



- Recognizing the need for ministry to students at trade schools, the CCO establishes two new ministries; Mitch Marcello pioneers a ministry at Wyotech Blairsville and Dan Hayner reaches out to students at The Williamson Free School of Mechanical Trades.



Because of the impact CCO Chairman Bob Long had on his own life as a college student,

former University of Pittsburgh student-athlete Rod Schoon funds the CCO's expansion into the state of Indiana. In 2010, Ryan Miller moves with his family to Indianapolis to begin the work of building partnerships at churches and campuses.

# Our History



• CCO staff members Steve Lutz and Jonathan Weyer pioneer ground-breaking ministries to atheists at Penn State University and The Ohio State University.



The CCO begins a new ministry to football players and wrestlers at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania via veteran CCO staff member Sandie Starr Everhart. An All-American athlete herself, Sandie has worked with students at five campuses since first joining CCO staff in 1987.

## 2010



Bob Long retires after 38 years with the CCO.



President and CEO Dan Dupee becomes Chairman of the Board.

Executive Vice President Vince Burens becomes the Chief Operating Officer. A gifted leader, Vince leads

the CCO in developing a new infrastructure which we believe God will use to increase the impact of CCO ministry to the glory of Jesus Christ.



• The CCO's ministry to athletes expands to reach hundreds of influential student leaders.

## 2011

• CCO staff worker Derek Melleby's newest book, *Make College Count: A Faithful Guide to Life and Learning*, provides a valuable resource for graduating high school seniors.

• The CCO celebrates 40 years of ministry with 224 staff people reaching students on 90 campuses.



• We partner with 36 churches from 17 different denominations.

• 60% of our staff have either earned or are currently pursuing graduate degrees.

• Our Board consists of 33 business leaders, community leaders and pastors.

• The CCO begins ministry in Indiana, partnering with Big Brothers/Big Sisters to reach students at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne.



transforming college students  
to transform the world



## How a community college student became a nationally recognized leader



Paul Harbison was a freshman at Butler County Community College in 1975 when he

met CCO staff member Jay Brennan. Before he knew it, Paul found himself a member of the largest student club on BCCC's campus. "We went from zero to 56 members in two years," Paul remembers. "I caught a vision for the breadth and depth of the Gospel that changed my life."

Paul learned from Jay Brennan and itinerant CCO philosopher Pete Steen that Jesus cares for every single area of his creation, including what Paul especially cares about: experiential education.

For the past 33 years, Paul has been taking groups of students into the woods and teaching other staff how to provide experiential education opportunities. Now Paul leads a team of 27 adventure education staff. Paul estimates that over 100,000 students have been touched by the CCO's adventure ministry opportunities over the years.

The influence of Paul's transformation as a college student has had far-reaching effects, beyond the confines of CCO-specific ministry.

The CCO is a member of the Wilderness Education Association, a national outdoor education association that offers training and certification to instructors at colleges, universities and



organizations across the United States. The WEA is the highest profile organization of its kind, and the CCO has provided a model of what it means to do adventure education well. In 2008, the CCO received the Wilderness Education Association Affiliate Award, and in 2009, Paul was named Instructor of the Year.

"Our level of integrity and competency gives us credibility," says Paul. "Because we love and are committed to what we're doing, the way we model a relationship between our faith and what we do intrigues even people who are outside of Christ."

## What Drives CCO Ministry

From the very beginning, Christ's Lordship over all of life has been a central focus of the CCO's ministry. The love of Jesus Christ and the understanding that God cares about restoring all of his good creation to himself—and that we are to be his co-laborers in that effort—is what drives CCO staff members in their outreach and discipleship of college students.

This emphasis has its roots in Reformed theology, which has consistently sought to order the whole of personal and corporate life according to God's requirements in Scripture.

The reality that all things belong to God has permeated the way CCO staff members do ministry, from fellowship and discipleship meetings, evangelism, conferences and summer projects. The Jubilee conference, the Ocean City Beach Project, and the CCO staff training program are drenched with this emphasis on God's sovereignty over every area of life.



## The Jubilee Conference

Jubilee helps college students to understand the public implications of personal transformation through Christ. It's a gathering of thousands of college students learning how to worship God with their whole lives. The weekend is designed to help students catch a vision for how they might integrate their faith in Christ into their studies and future vocations—from engineering and science to art and music, law and politics, medicine and mission. Jubilee takes place every February in downtown Pittsburgh.

### A few prominent Jubilee speakers

These Christian leaders represent only a few of the hundreds of professionals who have come to Jubilee to model for students how to live out their faith in their workplaces and communities.



Chuck Colson  
Founder, Prison Fellowship and The Colson Center for Christian Worldview



Makoto Fujimura  
Artist and founder of the International Arts Movement



Gary Haugen  
President and CEO of the International Justice Mission



Michael Gerson  
Columnist, former speechwriter for President George W. Bush



Gabe Lyons  
Author of *unChristian* and *The Next Christians*



Os Guinness  
Author, social critic, and a Senior Fellow of the EastWest Institute



Kelly Monroe Kullberg  
Author and founder of The Veritas Forum



C. Everett Koop  
U.S. Surgeon General from 1982 to 1989



Mark Hatfield  
U.S. Senator from Oregon and author of *Between a Rock and a Hard Place*



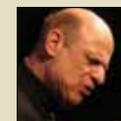
Donald Miller  
Author of *Blue Like Jazz*



Barbara Williams-Skinner  
President of the Skinner Leadership Institute



John Stott  
Author, theologian and Christian leader



Tony Campolo  
Founder and president of the Evangelical Association for the Promotion of Education



Kay Coles James  
Vice President for Policy of the Family Research Council



John Perkins  
Founder of Voice of Calvary Ministries and the Christian Community Development Association



*If it were not for the Jubilee conference, I would never have become the president of the CCO. In fact, I don't know where I'd be today.*

*Jubilee changed my life.*

*I was a freshman at Ohio Wesleyan University when my older brother, Dave, first invited me to attend Jubilee in 1978. I had yet to surrender myself to the living God of all creation. Dave knew that. I knew that. And at some subconscious level, I knew that going to a conference like Jubilee would wreak havoc on the status quo. But I went.*

*I showed up at the Pittsburgh Hilton on Friday afternoon, and by Sunday, everything had changed.*

*Jubilee weekend remains one of my favorite times of year.*

*I still get excited each February as I watch thousands of students gather to sing praise songs and to be challenged to live all of their lives for Christ. How many of them have walked in on Friday evening as one person and left Sunday with a whole new awareness of God's presence in their lives?*

*And where will they be 30 years from now?*



Daniel J. Dupee  
President & CEO  
Coalition for Christian Outreach