

The News

Coalition for Christian Colleges
& Universities

May 1998

First "National Forum" Makes Coalition History

Over 700 participants from across the Coalition attended the first-ever National Forum on Christian Higher Education in early April. This event was the largest gathering of Christian college faculty and administrators in the Coalition's 22-year history.

Campus teams from each of the 91 member institutions and 28 affiliate institutions gathered with a threefold purpose:

- to celebrate the movement of Christian higher education,
- to assess the realities facing this

sector of higher education and to think together about the impact CCCU institutions can have on society.

Participants called the Forum a watershed event for Christian higher education and an energizing experience for attendees. "We all came to the confer-



Academics from across the Coalition gather in Indianapolis in April.

ence anticipating that something significant would take place. I believe no one came away disappointed," wrote one participant.

Arthur Holmes Receives Hatfield Leadership Award

A "senior statesman" of Christian higher education is this year's recipient of the Mark O. Hatfield Leadership Award. Arthur F. Holmes, professor emeritus of philosophy at Wheaton College (IL), received the award at a banquet the closing



Arthur and Alice Holmes accept the Hatfield Award.

evening of the National Forum on Christian Higher Education.

Holmes is perhaps best known for his 1975 book *The Idea of a Christian College* — required reading for the Coalition's annual "New Faculty" workshop. In an essay distributed at the Forum, "The Idea of a Christian College Revisited," Holmes brings the themes of his book up to date.

Holmes challenged the Coalition audience in an address entitled "Building the Christian Academy." His speech, wrote one Forum participant, "was worth the trip. It was exceptional, informative, shaping and inspiring."

Holmes is the first recipient of the Hatfield award, named for the former U.S. senator and former CCCU board member.

Conference activities

George Gallup, Jr. of the Gallup Organization delivered the Forum's keynote address. He discussed the current state of our society and a trend toward revival that could reverse the moral slide. Gallup said Christian colleges and universities will be a major force for change in the years to come.

During the next two days, participants attended plenary sessions on a range of topics, including:

- "The Grace of Great Things: Reclaiming the Sacred in Knowing, Teaching and Learning" by Parker Palmer
- "Faith and Learning: One Model" by Gaylen Byker and Cornelius Plantinga, Jr.
- "Looking at the Future: Unity in Our Diversity" by Bob Andringa
- "Funding Christian Higher Education in the 21st Century" by

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National Forum

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Bill Pollard, Roberta Ahmanson, Larry Grazio and Wes Willmer

- “Three Roles in Spiritual Leadership” by Melvin Dieter, Julie Jantzi and Jay Kesler

Other activities included peer group workshops, 18 issue-specific workshops and group worship. Workshops included the following topics:

- Academic Advising
- Retention Project Findings
- Tuition, Pricing and Discounting
- Models for Fostering Christian Scholarship
- Racial Reconciliation and Christian Higher Education

For many participants, the Forum was an opportunity to

reaffirm their commitment to Christ-centered education. As one participant said, “The Forum has given me a renewed zeal for Christian higher education. Most of all, it has allowed me to see in a big way that God has been truly faithful.”



Chief academic officers converse at their peer group workshop.

Cain Named President of Judson College

Dr. Jerry Cain has been named the fifth president of Judson College (IL). He succeeds Dr. James W. Didier. Cain served for nearly 20 years at William Jewell College in Liberty, Missouri — most recently as collegiate vice president.

Cain has a B.S. degree from Eastern New Mexico University and an M.A. from Baylor University. He has completed additional studies at Oxford University, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and St. Paul School of Theology.

He has also received honorary doctoral degrees from William Jewell and Central Baptist Theological Seminary.



Dr. Jerry Cain

CCCU Members to Receive up to \$10 Million in Scholarship Aid

The CCCU and the Mustard Seed Foundation have established a new CCCU Scholarship Initiative funded and administered by the Mustard Seed Foundation. Starting this fall, ten CCCU member schools will each receive up to \$50,000 annually in scholarship money to be awarded to Hispanic, Native American and African American students.

The purpose of the scholarships is to increase enrollment and graduation rates for students in these minority groups at selected CCCU schools. Priority will be given to the 14 institutions that participated in the CCCU’s Racial and Ethnic Diversity Initiative from 1991 to 1994.

The grant was announced at the opening ceremony of the National Forum on Christian Higher Education in April.

Board Approves 28th Affiliate

The Coalition board of directors approved Denver Theological Seminary as an affiliate. Located in Denver, the seminary is the Coalition’s 28th affiliate institution in 11 nations.

CCCU Receives Its Largest Grant Ever

The Coalition for Christian Colleges & Universities has received a \$1.5 million grant to construct a new building adjacent to its current headquarters in Washington, D.C. This is the largest gift in the Coalition’s history.

The donors, who are known to the leaders of the Coalition but prefer to remain anonymous, will give an initial \$500,000 to the Coalition by June 30, 1998.

The remaining \$1 million will be given over the next two years as part of a one-to-one matching program. While the donors’ funds will be used for the Coalition’s facilities, the matching component will be used to generate support for the following board-approved priorities:

- faculty development
- a new “making the case” program to help students, parents and church leaders better understand the options in Christian higher education
- programs to improve educational technology

“This grant is great affirmation of the quality of education offered by Christ-centered colleges and universities, and of our growing strength as an association,” says CCCU president Dr. Bob Andringa.

The grant advances the efforts of the Coalition — through its United

see Grant, page 3

Ten Factors for Our Future

by Bob Andringa, president

At our National Forum in Indianapolis, I highlighted the ten factors I believe are critical to the future of Christian higher education. I hope each campus will engage in dialogue about them.

From Your Coalition

CCCUCampuses will be stronger when we tackle these issues together.

Following, in brief form, are the ten. How is your campus doing? How is our Coalition doing? Is the trend in the right direction?

1. Putting God first. This is our common commitment — our distinct mission among the thousands of campuses in the U.S. and worldwide. When we seek His kingdom first, “all the other things will be added,” promises our God. But without Christ as the focus, is our work worth the effort?

2. Scholarship. Our mission is not health care, welfare, evangelism or missions. It’s education. Higher education. Quality scholarship by our 15,000 faculty is a large part of what makes tuition a value and donations a worthy investment. We need to fund, develop and honor scholarship.

3. Relevance. We serve the needs of diverse learners. Can we encourage our campuses to pursue a broader variety of goals? Can our colleges, for example, learn how to remain distinctively Christian while serving the economic development needs of their regions? In an era of perpetual learning, Christian higher education should embrace a variety of models to meet diverse needs.

4. Government relations. Almost every private college has become dependent on government student aid. Our campuses must be proactive in helping government leaders understand us. We must be involved. We must be nonpartisan. We must retain our distinctiveness while preserving full access to government student aid.



Dr. Bob Andringa

5. Self-confidence. CCCU campuses model the pursuit of truth, a concern for the whole person, the stewardship of scarce resources and the priority of teaching. Students are better prepared and more satisfied when enrolled in our schools than in any other sector of higher education. We serve the Creator of the universe. Let’s quit envying larger, wealthier campuses and realize that what we have others can’t even dream of attaining.

6. Denominational relations. Most CCCU campuses would not exist without visionary denominational founders. But some denominations are holding on with too tight a grip. As they grow up, offspring of ecclesiastical entities need more independence from the parent’s controls in order to excel. This topic needs friendly and open discussion in more places.

7. Cross-cultural experiences. All graduates enter a pluralistic, global community for which they must be prepared. Our student bodies and faculties must become more diverse. And we must offer a greater variety of off-campus educational experiences —

experiences flowing out of relationships with minority churches, missions organizations, our international affiliate campuses and inner-city ministries.

8. Marketing. The majority of sharp Christian high school graduates don’t know about our campuses, nor do they understand why we are distinctive. Their parents, youth leaders and pastors also lack this understanding. It’s even hard to find people who can define “liberal arts.” Old assumptions may not work in the next millennium. We have to become wiser both in our campus-managed marketing and in collaboratively “making the case” as a Coalition.

9. Technology. It’s here to stay. Incoming students and their parents expect us to be current. Employers insist on computer skills for research, project management and communications. We must learn from one another and make wise choices based on real needs, rather than spending for show.

10. Collaboration. The days of campuses succeeding alone are dwindling. While all CCCU campuses benefit from many state, regional and national associations, only the Coalition serves people on so many fronts from a Christian worldview. We have learned to work in unity while respecting and even encouraging diversity. The future will require more of this.

These are the mile markers I see along our road into the 21st century. What other “future factors” would you identify?

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bob Andringa".

Grant

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Christian College Fund — to raise funds benefiting all member

campuses. Any gift of \$10,000 or more qualifies for the United Fund.

1998 Calendar

May 21-24

Nurturing Reflective Christian Educators
Third Biennial Symposium
Wheaton College (IL)
Contact: Stephen Holtrop, (219) 356-6000 ext.
2030, sholtrop@huntcol.edu

May 22-24

Caring for God's Creation: Faith and the
Environmental Profession
The King's University College (AB)
Contact: John Wood, (403) 465-3488,
jwood@kingsu.ab.ca; or Harry Spaling,
(403) 465-8360, hspaling@kingsu.ab.ca
Website: www.kingsu.ab.ca/envsconf.html

May 27-30

CCCU Northeast Regional Faculty Workshop
Eastern College (PA)
Contact: Sara Miles, (610) 341-5893,
smiles@eastern.edu

May 29-31

CCCU Chief Financial Officers Conference
Point Loma Nazarene College (CA)
Contact: Denise Crum, (202) 546-8713,
denise@cccu.org

June 1-4

Association for Christians in Student Develop-
ment Conference: Toward Professional
Faithfulness
Calvin College (MI)
Contact: Sharolyn Christians, (616) 957-6453,
chrish@calvin.edu

June 1-5

25th Annual Write-to-Publish Conference
Wheaton College (IL)
Contact: Lin Johnson, (630)752-5931,
linjohnson@compuserve.com

June 8-13

CCCU Leadership Development Institute (ELDI)
Cedar Springs Retreat Center, Cedar Springs, WA
Contact: Denise Crum, (202) 546-8713,
denise@cccu.org

June 11-13

CCCU Public Relations Directors Annual Meeting
Regent University (VA)
Contact: Julie Peterson, (202) 546-8713,
jpeterson@cccu.org

June 11-13

The Center for Christian Women in Leadership
and The American Scientific Affiliation
Second Annual Christian Women in Science
Conference
Eastern College (PA)
Contact: Sara Miles, (610) 341-5893,
smiles@eastern.edu

June 12-14

Models for Christian Higher Education
Center for Continuing Education, University of
Notre Dame, South Bend, IN
Contact: Harriet Baldwin, (219) 531-7864

June 13-18

CCCU Leadership Development Institute for
Women (ELDI)
Cedar Springs Retreat Center, Cedar Springs, WA
Contact: Denise Crum, (202) 546-8713,
denise@cccu.org

June 24-27

CCCU 1997 CAO Reunion (ELDI)
Gloucester, MA
Contact: Denise Crum, (202) 546-8713,
denise@cccu.org

June 25-30

CCCU New Faculty Workshop
Westmont College (CA)
Contact: Denise Crum, (202) 546-8713,
denise@cccu.org

June 29-August 7

Calvin College Faculty Summer Seminars in
Christian Scholarship: Political Theory after
Liberalism
Calvin College (MI)
Contact: Anna Mae Bush, (616) 957-8558, fax:
(616) 957-6682, abush@calvin.edu

July 6-August 7

Calvin College Faculty Summer Seminars in
Christian Scholarship: Theology and the New
Physics
Calvin College (MI)
Contact: Anna Mae Bush, (616) 957-8558, fax:
(616) 957-6682, abush@calvin.edu

July 7-8

CCCU Quality/Retention Pre-Conference
Workshop
Hyatt Regency, New Orleans
Contact: Laurie Schreiner, (302) 376-0555,
lschrein@dpnet.net

July 8-11

National Conference on Student Retention
Hyatt Regency, New Orleans
Contact: Laurie Schreiner, (302) 376-0555,
lschrein@dpnet.net

July 16-18

CCCU Governance Institute
ServiceMaster, Downers Grove, IL
Contact: Mandy Osterhaus, (202) 546-8713,
mandy@cccu.org

July 16-19

CCCU Alumni Professionals Annual Conference
The Dellenback Center, Washington, D.C.
Contact: Julie Peterson, (202) 546-8713,
jpeterson@cccu.org

July 21-25

"Science in Theistic Contexts: Cognitive
Dimensions"
The Pascal Centre, Redeemer College (ON)
Contact: Jitse Van Der Meer, (905) 648-2131,
jmvdmm@redeemer.on.ca

July 24-28

CCCU Board Meeting
Cross Creek Resort, Frisco, CO
Contact: Mandy Osterhaus, (202) 546-8713,
mandy@cccu.org

July 30 - August 2

CCCU 1997 Presidents' Institute Reunion (ELDI)
Cross Creek Resort, Frisco, CO
Contact: Denise Crum, (202) 546-8713,
denise@cccu.org

August 12-15

Ways of Knowing, In Concert: Christian
Initiatives and Responses Conference
Calvin College, Dordt College, Institute for
Christian Studies, Vrije Universiteit
Dordt College (IA)
Contact: John H. Kok, fax: (712) 722-1185,
knowing@dordt.edu
Website: www.dordt.edu/knowing

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