

# THE INSIDE CONNECTION



## SPRING 2017

God is at work at CCU — changing lives and making His grace and truth a reality in the world. As part of our innermost circle of supporters and friends, this newsletter is for you. Your prayers are instrumental to our focus on transforming lives and impacting the world for Christ. Thank you for partnering with us in this important work.



# A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Friends of CCU,

My first few months as president of Colorado Christian University have been exhilarating as I have come to learn more about the history, people, and momentum of CCU. I believe that God is at work at CCU — changing lives and making His grace and truth a reality in the world.

By God's grace, CCU is well positioned for a promising future. This last fall, we welcomed our largest incoming class ever. We are watching as our new student center rises from the ground, slated to be completed this summer. We continue to bring in extraordinary speakers and thought leaders, and, we are charging forward with the Campus Redevelopment Plan initiated by our late president, Bill Armstrong.

Christina and I appreciate the warm welcome that we have received this past year, and we remain deeply committed to the mission, vision, and Strategic Objectives of Colorado Christian University. Thank you for the many ways you support and encourage the work here at CCU.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Don Sweeting". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Donald W. Sweeting, Ph.D.

## UP NEXT IN OUR CAMPUS REDEVELOPMENT

After seven consecutive years of record-breaking enrollment in our College of Undergraduate Studies, our most immediate need is a **second new residential building** to house students on campus. The Lakewood campus, which was originally designed to accommodate 600 students, is now home to more than 1,300 traditional undergraduates.

To celebrate God's faithfulness and honor the life and legacy of our late president Bill Armstrong, CCU is planning the construction of the **Armstrong Center**. Bill Armstrong led the University for nearly 10 years, overseeing a period of exceptional enrollment growth and transformation.

Due to our unprecedented growth and future academic needs, we are planning the construction of a **second academic building**. Enrollment in CCU's Natural Sciences and Mathematics department has tripled over the last five years — the academic building will provide for our increased science and technology needs.



Leprino Hall — CCU's first new academic building was completed in fall 2014.



Yetter Hall — Our first new residential building was completed in fall 2015.



Anschutz Student Center — Construction will be completed in summer 2017.

# ABOUT THE IVY WOMEN



*"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing." – John 15:5 (NIV)*



In 2014, a group of 10 women gathered to pray for God's guidance on developing a

women's ministry for the extended community of Colorado Christian University. Based on their experience with the women's ministry at another Christ-centered college, Ivy Women was officially founded in 2015.

Ivy Women is a place for friends, parents, and alumnae of CCU to connect, engage, and encourage each other and to celebrate the good things being done through this University. They meet monthly for a time of prayer and host events based on their four pillars: praying, learning, serving, and giving.

## PRAY



"The prayer pillar has been the most beautiful force to participate in for me, because when women gather in community and prayer, great things happen.

The Ivy Women meet once a month to pray for CCU, including the staff,

the faculty, the leadership, and the students. We've been inviting CCU alumnae, moms of students, CCU faculty, and CCU staff to join Ivy Women in praying for and supporting CCU."

*Kaye Lynn Fote*  
Co-Founder, IVy Women

## LEARN



"One of my favorite events has been the Ivy Women Challenge Race at Bandimere Speedway. Full of inspired competition and the camaraderie of learning something new, nearly 75 women gathered to enjoy breakfast, a powerful speaker, fellowship, and ... drag racing!

I grew up in a Christian family and have been involved in church ministry my whole life. At this point in my journey, I see the Ivy Women at CCU as sisters with whom it is a blessing to share life."

*Tami Bandimere-Shrader*  
Impact Team, IVy Women  
President, Bandimere Speedway

## SERVE



"When I was asked to lead the Ivy Women's monthly prayer meetings, it was an easy decision. I've been impressed with their commitment to serving Denver, the state of Colorado, and the nation for Christ. They are good stewards of what God has given them.

Being involved with Ivy Women has grown my faith because I have found a group of women who are devoted to building, expanding, and preserving God's kingdom. These women are serious about loving God, growing in community, and supporting CCU."

*Suzanne Chrisman*  
Prayer Leader, IVy Women  
National Prayer Coordinator,  
Women Doing Well

## GIVE



"Being involved with the IVy Women has encouraged my personal faith. I cherish the relationships that I've developed with these women who are also dedicated to Christ-centered education and fellowship.

While we host various events including lunches and garden parties, it's encouraging to see the generosity of fellow women. In only two years, the IVy Women raised nearly \$400,000 to support CCU and its mission; and that's exciting!"

*Idella Kercher*  
Co-Founder, IVy Women  
Former Vice President, J.D. Edwards

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Learn more about the IVy Women.  
Call 303.963.3330 or  
email [ivywomen@ccu.edu](mailto:ivywomen@ccu.edu).

# CCU'S NEWEST IVY WOMAN

Friends of CCU,

After learning about the four pillars of the IVy Women ministry at CCU, I was thrilled.

These IV pillars portray a holistic vision for life and ministry. They represent the mind, heart, and hands; all are necessary for balance in our own lives and in the life of our community. Without prayer, we tend to lean on self-sufficiency. Without truth, we can easily lose our way. Without serving and giving, we deprive ourselves of the joy of generosity.

In this day and age when the foundations of so many other universities are crumbling, it is a great privilege to hold up and affirm these four strong pillars that the IVy Women stand for. I am so excited to be a part of the IVy Women in their mission.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Christina Sweeting



## THE IVY WOMEN HOST TEAM



"This ministry is a chance to love generously as we engage together. Inspired by the legacy and servant's heart of Esther, we have the opportunity to reflect her journey, to discover God's harvest for CCU, and to celebrate abundant seasons of growth ahead!"

*Kathy Pettit*

*Co-Founder, IVy Women*

*Director of Development and Planned Giving*



"I am honored to be a part of the IVy Women. As we celebrate two successful years as CCU's women's ministry, there have been abundant opportunities to put our hearts into action. I look forward to God's great plan, and I'm excited to see where He leads us!"

*Jan Otteman*

*Co-Founder, IVy Women*

*Events Specialist and Administrative Assistant to Vice President of Development*

For more information on upcoming IVy Women events, visit [ccu.edu/ivywomen](http://ccu.edu/ivywomen).

## PRAYERS AND PRAISES

- Praise for this year's record-breaking enrollment with a total of 7,379 undergraduate and graduate students.
- Praise and prayer for the continued progress of the campus redevelopment campaign, including the opening of the Anschutz Student Center this summer.
- Prayer for the 21 CCU2theWorld student-led mission trips this spring and summer.
- Prayer for our future graduates as Commencement approaches — that they would be prepared, finish strong, and celebrate this momentous accomplishment.
- Prayer for guidance and wisdom for our new president, Dr. Sweeting, as well as our Board of Trustees, and Cabinet as they lead and serve Colorado Christian University.