

FOCUS Leadership

Through prayerful decision-making and team-oriented collaboration, our FOCUS executive team members provide the strategic vision and day-to-day management for the organization as a whole.

Executive Leadership Group (ELT)

Curtis Martin, Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Curtis Martin is the founder and CEO of FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students. In January 1998, FOCUS piloted its first Bible studies at Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, with two staff members and 24 students. Later that year, Martin met with Pope St. John Paul II and shared the vision of FOCUS with him. In response, the pope's words to Curtis were, "Be soldiers." Through God's grace, FOCUS has grown across the country, with more than 550 missionaries serving on 125 campuses.

As an award-winning and dynamic speaker, Martin has the ability to help his audience discover a vision for life. Whether he is on college campuses, on television, speaking at conferences or working with corporate America, Martin engages his audience through humor, stories and his own captivating life experiences. In 2011, Pope Benedict XVI appointed Curtis as a Consultor to the Pontifical Council of the New Evangelization.

Martin holds a master's degree in theology, is the author of the best-selling book "Made for More" and co-hosts the ground-breaking show on EWTN, "Crossing the Goal." He serves as vice-chairman of the Augustine Institute in Denver, a Catholic graduate school dedicated to the New Evangelization. Martin and his wife, Michaelann, live in Westminster, Colorado, with five of their nine children. For more information on Martin, visit <https://www.focus.org/about/speakers>.

Craig Miller, President

Craig Miller is the president of FOCUS. Prior to joining FOCUS, Miller worked for Cisco Systems Inc. in San Jose, California, where he led sales and cooperative marketing efforts for Cisco's Global Accounts. In 2003, after a remarkably successful career in California's Silicon Valley and with a deep desire to give back to the Catholic Church in a meaningful way, Miller accepted Curtis Martin's invitation to help manage the administrative needs created by FOCUS' growth. Since then, Miller has overseen all aspects of operations, administration, development and finance as FOCUS has continued to grow from a presence on 15 college campuses in 2004 to serving on 125 campuses today.

Miller serves on the board of directors of FOCUS. In addition, he also serves on the board of directors for the John Paul II Adventure Institute in Boulder, Colorado, and is a board member of ENDOW (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Woman) in Greenwood Village, Colorado. He lives in Genesee, Colorado, with his wife, Melissa, and four of their six children.

Brenda Cannella, Vice President of Finance

Brenda Cannella is vice president of finance for FOCUS. Prior to joining FOCUS, Cannella was a principal in a privately held, Denver-based executive search firm specializing in finance and accounting leadership

roles. Cannella began her career in the Houston office of a Big Four public accounting firm where she held positions in audit, economic and financial consulting, and practice management. Cannella holds a Bachelor of Business Administration with emphasis in accounting from the University of Houston in Houston, Texas. She is a CPA formerly licensed in Texas.

In addition to her passion for the New Evangelization, Cannella is a student in the Denver Catholic Biblical School, a certified catechist for the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, a member of the finance council in her parish and a volunteer in a crisis pregnancy center and maternity home in Boulder County, Colorado. Cannella lives in Erie, Colorado, with her husband, Troy, and their five children.

Joseph L. Hensler, Vice President of Talent and Leadership Development

Joseph Hensler joined the FOCUS leadership team in 2012 to oversee all of Collegiate Outreach after having made significant contributions to FOCUS' Leadership Development Initiative in 2011. Hensler has been vital in growing FOCUS from 54 campuses in 2012 to more than 100 today. Hensler's wide range of experience from the business, non-profit and religious communities he has worked with — particularly his 19 years with Procter & Gamble — have benefited FOCUS greatly. Hensler began in marketing as a brand manager for P&G and achieved multiple year-over-year record sales growth for the Gain laundry soap brand. He established an online knowledge management strategy by launching a knowledge-sharing site to 6,000 users in one year (a P&G intranet record). Hensler also worked for human resources, where he led Global Learning & Development and was responsible for core skills training programs for 125,000 employees worldwide. As a part of this work, Hensler developed a training plan for 30,000 Gillette employees who were integrated into P&G as result of the \$54 billion merger.

Hensler holds a master's degree in business administration from Indiana University in Bloomington and a master's degree in pastoral ministry from the Athenaeum of Ohio/Mount Saint Mary's Seminary of the West. A native of St. Louis, Hensler now resides in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, with his wife, Becky, and their five children.

Fr. John Lager, National Chaplain

Ordained in 1979, Fr. John Lager, O.F.M. Cap., has served the Capuchins as an associate pastor, a high school campus minister and as the order's director of development/missionary activity. In 2001, he became executive director of Samaritan House for the Archdiocese of Denver, providing services to homeless families, veterans and single men and women. Fr. Lager is co-founder of Marked Men For Christ Ministry and regularly offers men's, women's and couples' retreats with Msgr. Ken Leone in the Archdiocese of Denver.

Fr. Lager was the vocation director for the Capuchin Province of Mid-America, providing discernment opportunities for those considering a religious vocation. He regularly offers spiritual direction for those in seminary and religious formation. In September of 2013, Fr. Lager was appointed as the first FOCUS national chaplain.

John Zimmer, Vice President of Apostolic Formation

John Zimmer is the vice president of apostolic formation for FOCUS. Zimmer has served in a variety of roles within FOCUS, including serving as a campus missionary and directing the national campus apostolate. In 2004, Zimmer founded a publishing initiative which created and distributed books and media. Zimmer speaks and teaches throughout the country on leadership, evangelization and apologetics.

Zimmer graduated with a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Washington in Seattle, and he holds a master's degree in business from the University of Denver. Prior to joining FOCUS, Zimmer worked in corporate technology sales. Zimmer and his wife, Barbara, live in Denver, Colorado, with their seven children.

FOCUS Board of Directors

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Founder and Chief Executive Officer of FOCUS

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President's Advancement Council (PAC)

Recognizing the need for a strong and stable base of continuing support, the President's Advancement Council (PAC) ensures that FOCUS has available the resources needed to fulfill its mission by giving generously, working to establish excellent fundraising policies and introducing prospective new benefactors to the organization. Since its inception in 2012, the benefactors who sit on the PAC have offered FOCUS their unique expertise and have helped the organization plan for and meet many strategic goals, including most recently the 100 Campus Initiative.

Frederick Clark
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