



Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) Overview

Answering the Church's call for a New Evangelization, FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students, is a national outreach that meets college students where they are and invites them into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith. FOCUS was founded in 1998 at Benedictine College by Curtis Martin. Since then the organization has grown from two missionaries on one campus to more than 660 missionaries on 137 campuses, located across 38 U.S. states and at three international locations (two campuses in Austria and one in England):

<https://focusoncampus.org/find-my-campus>.

FOCUS sends teams of missionaries (four on average) to college campuses and universities around the country to reach out and meet college students, inviting them to examine the meaning and purpose of their lives. FOCUS missionaries are recent college graduates who make a two-year commitment to return to campus and evangelize their peers. They raise their own salaries and rely on support from generous benefactors.

Why college campuses?

FOCUS believes it is important to evangelize college students because many fall away from the faith during the college years. Therefore, the college campus is a significant leverage point as students go out into the world. Rooted in sacred Scripture and sacred tradition, FOCUS was born out of a passion and zeal to share how a relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic faith can transform the world. Beginning with our nation's future leaders, FOCUS sends teams of young, trained missionaries to campus to reach students with the gospel.

In partnership with the university parish and/or Newman Center, FOCUS missionaries host large group outreach events, lead weekly Bible studies and offer one-on-one mentoring with student leaders. Missionaries welcome young adults from all walks of life and religious backgrounds to FOCUS events. Through the missionaries' personal investment and dedication, FOCUS helps to build a joyful, Christ-centered community and support network on each campus where we have a presence. Students are encouraged to join the missionaries at daily Mass and in prayer, the most vital commitment missionaries make each day.

Mission Statement

To know Christ Jesus and to fulfill His Great Commission.

The Main Thing

Inviting college students into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church, inspiring and equipping them for a lifetime of Christ-centered evangelization, discipleship and friendship in which they lead others to do the same.

FOCUS Founder and CEO Curtis Martin wrote the white paper "Making Missionary Disciples," which highlights the three habits that open up the opportunity to transform lives and foster a culture of encounter: Divine Intimacy, Authentic Friendship and Clarity and Conviction about Spiritual Multiplication. The document explores the three-phased "Method Modeled by the Master" — otherwise known in FOCUS as "win, build, send," which are echoed in Pope Francis' terms of encounter, accompaniment and Spirit-filled evangelizers. The document is at focus.org/missionarydisciples.

Additional Outreach Programs

In addition to our collegiate outreach effort, FOCUS has programs that work with athletes ([Varsity Catholic](#)) and Greek life ([FOCUS Greek](#)). FOCUS facilitates numerous global trips with [FOCUS Missions](#) and provides online formation and mentorship through FOCUS [Digital Campus](#) for students who are not on FOCUS campuses.

[FOCUS Alumni Relations](#) equips, encourages and inspires alumni to be agents of the New Evangelization. The FOCUS [Love Life](#) initiative helps students embrace and share the value of life at all ages. The Beauty Initiative within FOCUS encourages creativity in all its forms; as a part of this initiative, the FOCUS Worship Team released the album "[Origin](#)" in December 2015.