

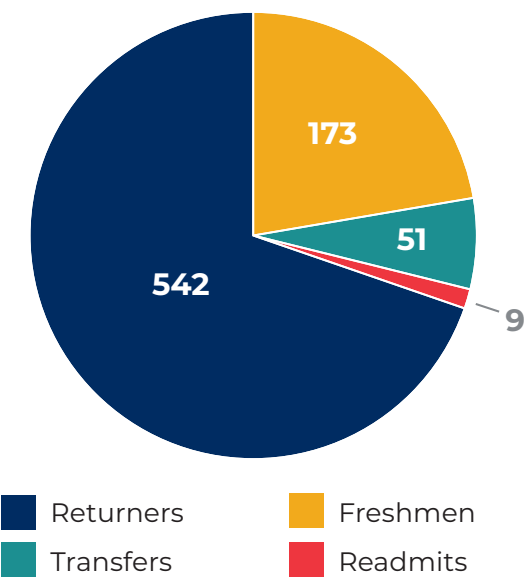
CORBAN

PRESIDENT'S REPORT
2021-2022

CONNECTION

EDUCATING CHRISTIANS WHO WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD FOR JESUS CHRIST.

Total Number of Students: 775



Top Majors:



NOTE FROM THE INTERIM PRESIDENT



Dr. Tom Cornman

The President’s Report is an opportunity to look back on all that God has done at Corban in the past year, to reflect on His faithfulness, and ponder how we can continue to serve our students with excellence. But even more than this, it provides an ideal springboard to the new academic year. And “new” is the perfect word to encapsulate all that is going on here.

So, what’s new at Corban? Let’s start with a new class of eager and enthusiastic students! Our students bring the energy that animates this beautiful hillside campus, and among them are Corban’s first agriculture science majors. As the only Christian college west of the Rockies to offer such a program, we can help meet the enormous workforce need in this professional area. Best of all, our students will be able to do so with Christian character and conviction.

This year’s University Cabinet includes three new members whose strong commitment to biblical values, student success, and creative problem-solving have enlivened our collaborative work. In addition to the Cabinet, we have many other new faces across the University, from Athletic Director to Campus Care. We thank the Lord for bringing those He chose to join in His work here!

We are also pleased to announce our hiring of a Nursing Program Director, Dr. Kathleen Kennedy. Her arrival allows us to seek state approval to initiate a nursing program. Student interest in nursing runs high, and it is an entirely missional endeavor. Please pray with us as we seek state approval to continue the program’s development.

My new role as Interim President has been packed with opportunities to meet many friends of Corban. It’s been gratifying and humbling to talk with committed alumni and gracious donors and learn

how Corban continues to impact hearts and minds, as it has for 87 years.

I’ve met many whose faith in Christ and professional path were shaped here. I’ve heard from dear community members who have assured me they’ve been praying for us. I’ve talked to student leaders, mentored by godly, role-model faculty and staff. I’ve worked alongside colleagues who give 100% because they believe in our pivotal role in the mission. I’ve talked to parents who have encouraged me that Corban was completely worth the investment.

Our faculty and staff gathered in August as Dr. Mark Turman (Denison Forum) presented ideas from *The Coming Tsunami: Why Christians Are Labeled Intolerant, Irrelevant, Oppressive, and Dangerous — and How We Can Turn the Tide*. We considered cultural changes and pending legislative actions that could impact how we operate as a Christian university. Our discussion focused on Generation Z, the age group of most of our undergraduate students. While they have faced pandemic learning interruptions, rapid social change, and increasing technological dependency, we have the privilege of guiding them toward a life of Christian discipleship.

We want to show them the difference Christ has made in our own lives and do so with transparency and vulnerability. We can help students understand both the power and limitations of technology and suggest how they might temper its influence with reasonable boundaries. And we can teach them, as our speaker reminded us, “You will never know the eternal significance of daily faithfulness.”

In today’s post-truth culture, Corban offers a rare experience in the Pacific Northwest. We help Christian students pursue academic and professional programs with excellence while discovering their calling and giftedness. That’s how we educate Christians who will make a difference in the world for Jesus Christ!



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EQUIPPED TO EMBRACE THE UNEXPECTED: DAVID AND HEATHER HOLCOMB



The Holcomb Family

“I don’t think it’s a coincidence that as soon as I grew in patience and accepted what God was showing me, this door opened,” says David Holcomb. “I learned patience watching Heather.”

David and Heather Holcomb are both Corban alumni. Married with two children, both have recently stepped into leadership roles they did not plan for or envision on their horizons. Since

graduating in 2012 and 2011, respectively, David and Heather have moved from self-described, “living on next-to-nothing with a new baby,” to unexpected ministries in new leadership positions. David transitioned from social studies teacher to the role of Instructional Mentor & AVID Coordinator at McNary High School, while Heather went from full-time mom to Development Director of Acres of Hope, a horse ranch that serves and offers mentorship to youth in need.

The opportunities were unanticipated, but their dedication to service and faithfulness to God’s calling on their lives gave them the courage to step forward. “It has taken a lot of risk on our end, but it has been so fulfilling, because we were confident in what God was doing,” Heather says.

In a few short years, Heather has seen Acres of Hope grow from a start-up nonprofit to a ministry that hosts 178 mentorship sessions a month. This past year, six of their programmers gave their lives to

Christ, including two who were baptized in a horse trough.

David’s new role has given him an expanded platform for service. “It’s opened up doors to being a part of all 2,000 kids’ classrooms,” he says. “I’ve had the opportunity to meet with struggling kids and their families and speak truth over them. That’s what I needed in high school. It’s what I needed at Corban, where I had incredible mentors. Seeing change happen at the family level is a door that God opened that I didn’t understand was even a possibility.”

For the Holcombs, their time at Corban was foundational to the work they are doing now. It was the bedrock experience that equipped them to step into God’s calling with courage and competence. “Corban has amazing faculty and phenomenal staff,” David says. “My professors, their service to Christ and their love for their students, how relational they were, made Corban’s faith integration come alive. The examples they set, we take with us every day as we serve in our careers.”

CORBAN AT A GLANCE: 2021-2022 STUDENT BODY STATISTICS



SNAPSHOTS OF SUCCESS: 2021-2022 ATHLETIC HIGHLIGHTS

Corban Claimed Its First THREE NAIA National Championships in School History



Women’s Beach Volleyball

Inaugural NAIA Beach Volleyball National Invitational Champions



Track & Field

Valerie Schmidt – National Champion in Decathlon
Robert Swoboda – National Champion in 10,000 meter



NAIA Champions of Character

Corban was named a Five-Star Institution for the 19th time for the school’s conduct in competition, academic focus, and character recognition and promotion.



Women’s Indoor Volleyball

Finished #11 in NAIA postseason poll, Avari Ridgway and Riley Troutman named NAIA All-Americans



“ Our team culture was a huge reason behind my success. We support each other like we’re one big family. Our shared faith is what brought us together this year, and that’s what’s so unique about Corban. Corban not only made it possible for me to attend, compete, and keep chasing my passions as an athlete, but to learn more about myself and to grow in my faith. ”

– Valerie Schmidt, ‘23

MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN THE WORLD: 2021-2022 GLOBAL IMPACT



Hebrew Language Institute Partnership

Providing accredited master’s degrees for scholars training to translate the Bible for 4.5 million people from unreached language groups



Africa Training Partnership

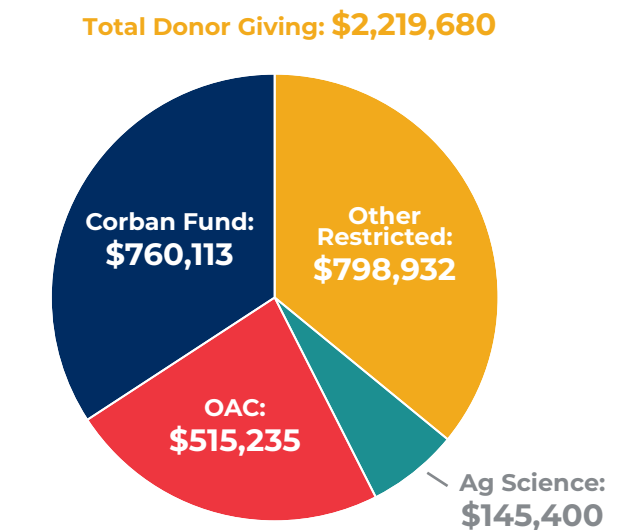
Cohort of 43 pastors in Uganda, involved in training 480 local ministry leaders



Partnership with Universitas Pelita Harapan, Indonesia

280 graduates from UPH Teacher’s College and 36 from UPH International Teacher’s College

POWERED BY GENEROSITY: AN UPDATE FROM THE OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT



Alumni giving represents **16% of all donations**, and we saw an **8% increase** in the number of alumni who gave. The decade with the highest giving impact is the 1980s!

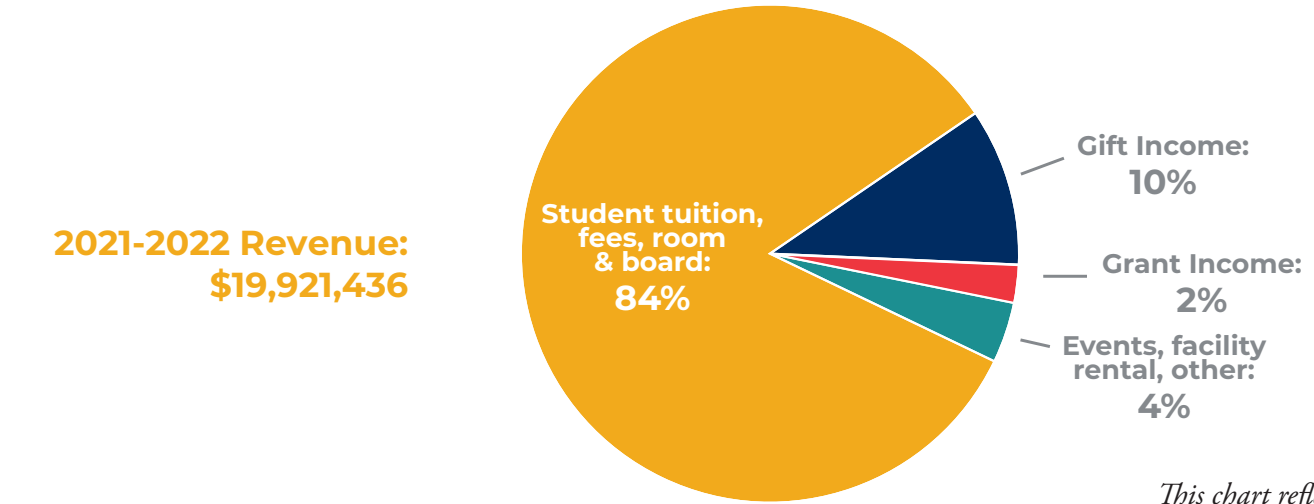
Our 1972 Golden Grads gathered on campus in late April to reconnect and reminisce about loading furniture and files into their cars to help move the campus from El Cerrito, Calif., to Salem. Many went on to be missionaries, pastors, and Christian school teachers or administrators. While most are retired, they all desire to stay active and involved in the work God has given them.

“ Having renewed contact with old friends who are now ‘older’ opens a new opportunity for a ministry of encouragement for those who were wondering what to do with themselves. It also gives opportunity to prayerfully support those who are still plenty busy. ”
– John McKeeth



'22 Golden Grads, listed alphabetically: Les Brittingham, Keith Churilla, Barbara (Grimm) Gilmore, Steve Hunter, Rhoda Hunter, Mark Jacobsen (not pictured), John Mangini, John McKeeth, Steve Parker (not pictured), Don Phipps, Andy Robinson, Elda Robinson, and Steven Yates

FISCAL YEAR BUDGET REPORT: 2021-2022 BY THE NUMBERS



Revenue from tuition does not cover the whole expense of educating a student. Donors make up the difference!

This chart reflects preliminary numbers prior to the final audited report.


EXCELLENCE AND IMPACT IN AND BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



“ The research I’ve been able to take part in at Corban and in the SCoPE Lab has enabled me to be around real, cutting–edge research and be a part of the real conversations and solutions to problems in a way that goes deeper than just reading about them. It’s been encouraging to not be a passive listener, but be able to contribute meaningfully. ”
– Abbygail Furrow, ‘23

 **Dr. Yufeng Zhao researches with Rice University**
Conducting groundbreaking new frontier research of sustainability in the field of material science

 **Corban’s first Murdock Research Scholar**
Asia Sage Jackson, performing cancer research at OHSU

 **Santiam Corban PCR Enterprise (SCoPE) Lab established**

 **Education Department receives AAQEP accreditation**

100% of accounting majors secured jobs before graduation

FINDING AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY ON CORBAN’S CAMPUS: CHRISTOPHER NOBLES



“I’ve learned so much about relationships, caring for people, and loving each other in community,” says junior business major, Chris Nobles. “It’s what makes Corban so beautiful.”
Chris first experienced Corban’s close community as a high school senior attending Corban Experience, the University’s overnight event for prospective students. “What I actually remember the most was watching Corban students sitting in the coffee shop together after the main concert, late at night, inviting everyone into their group,” he says.

“One girl had a ukulele, and they just started singing songs and worshipping together. That one little image sums up Corban so well.”
Once he arrived on campus as a fulltime student, that singular image became a daily reality. “I didn’t have a community like that in high school,” he says. “It’s so much easier to have the deep conversations about who I am in Christ here. I can share my struggles and insecurities and go so much deeper because of that shared faith.”
Now, whether in class, in his dorm, or as a part of Corban’s men’s basketball team, Chris encounters authentic, life-changing community every day. It has begun to shape the way he sees his future. As a business major, Chris aspires to launch his own business one day, creating the kind of culture that

he found at Corban. “God intended us to live life in community,” he says. “That doesn’t stop at Corban. Someday, through entrepreneurship, I hope to be able to build a work community that brings people together, gives them a place to belong, and helps to impact the world around us.”
As Chris looks toward his future, he is keenly aware of where it all began and the support it took to get him to this place. “I wouldn’t have been able to come here if it wasn’t for my scholarship support,” he says. “It was more than just money to me. It was the possibility of that dream I first saw at Corban Experience, to grow as a person in community. I have friends, professors, mentors, and opportunities that have changed me because of Corban. It’s been more than just a degree. It’s changed my life.”

A MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR, ROD HOFF

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” – Hebrews 11:1

As a Board, we are leaning into the truth that times of transition are often opportunities to trust God more fully. Changes in leadership always bring new opportunities. We have faith that God is already preparing His person to lead us as the next president of Corban University. His constant steadfastness to Corban is what gives us assurance. As we pray and listen for His will, as we are who we say we are and do what we say we will do, we are diligently preparing

for this transition. A major component of that is the formation of our Presidential Search Committee, comprised of myself as Board Chair, along with fellow Board members Valerie Webb, Patti Garrido, Craig Hardinger, Mark Hanke, and Joe Beattie, as well as Tom Cornman (Interim President), Emily Jackson (staff), and Sandee Flint (faculty). In the coming months, it will be our duty to help facilitate Corban’s presidential search.

We reviewed and interviewed search firms that can help us broaden our scope and strategically identify

the best group of candidates for our future. Dr. Jim Barnes of RPA, Inc., a former university president and successful higher education consultant, was selected to lead the search. While our efforts are geared toward having a new president selected by July of 2023, we will continue to rely on God’s timing, prioritizing the right candidate over a quick search. I am excited for the future, full of the kind of hope that can only come from faith in the One who remains constant through all the change in the world around us, the One we are wholly committed to—Jesus Christ.

CORBAN UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR 2022-2023

Board Chair: Rod Hoff, Bloomington, Illinois
VP Operations – Compensation and Benefits at State Farm Insurance (retired)

Rev. Sergio Aguirre, Salem, Oregon
Lead Pastor at West Salem Baptist Church

Karen Avinelis, Jefferson, Oregon
Co-Owner of Quiet Meadows Farm and Managing Director of Quiet Meadows Farm Dutch Warmbloods

Doug Beals, Salem, Oregon
National Account Manager at United Technologies Supra

Joe Beattie, Riverside, California
President of Harbor Pipe & Steel Inc.

Ryan Dempster, Salem, Oregon
President & CEO of Willamette Valley Bank

Ed Dressel, Dallas, Oregon
President at RetireReady Solutions

Deanna Gardiner-Garcia, Watsonville, California
Owner & Partner at Lester, Roach & Gardiner

Patti Garrido, Bixby, Oklahoma
Community Volunteer

Rev. James Gleason, Hillsboro, Oregon
Teaching Pastor at Sonrise Church

Rev. Mark Hanke, Salem, Oregon
Pastor at Salem First Baptist Church

Rev. Craig Hardinger, Sacramento, California
Lead Pastor at Arcade Church

Valerie Webb, Aptos, California
Staff Pastor at Twin Lakes Church

Jim White, Tualatin, Oregon
CPA at James O. White, CPA, LLC



From left to right: Patricia Shelton, Dr. Brian Jaworski, Shannon Johnson, Dr. Tom Cornman, Mechelle Garrett, and Dr. Chris Vetter

DEDICATED TO SERVICE: MEET THE CABINET

Dr. Thomas Cornman, Interim President

After serving at Corban since 2019 as Provost, Dr. Cornman was appointed by Corban’s Board of Trustees to serve as Interim President, effective May 8, 2022. An historian by training, he taught historical theology, theology, and history for 19 years before moving into administrative roles at Moody Bible Institute, Cedarville University, and Trinity International University. This school year represents his fortieth year in Christian higher education.

Dr. Cornman and his wife, Sue, enjoy exploring the Pacific Northwest, attending campus activities, and representing Corban in a variety of settings.

Dr. Brian Jaworski, Vice President for Student Life

Dr. Jaworski joined Corban in June of 2022 after serving for five years as Dean of Students at Huntington University, where he focused on helping students create the best possible campus experience. He has also served in student life leadership at Trinity International University, Kansas State University, and Moody Bible Institute – Spokane. His doctoral dissertation focused on the contribution of residence life programming to student thriving.

Brian and his wife, Amie, have three children, and he enjoys landscaping, sporting events, playing slow-pitch softball, and working out.

Patricia Shelton, Vice President for Business

After a career in corporate accounting and management, Patricia Shelton followed her passion to serve the local church through CFO and operational leadership roles at Menlo Church, Willow Creek Community Church, Venture Christian Church, and Hume Lake Christian Camps.

Patricia served as Corban’s VP for Business and CFO from 2017 to 2019 and returned to this role in 2022. Her experience includes managing finance, accounting, human resources, IT, retail, facilities, and church operations. She enjoys using technology to improve processes throughout the organization.

Mechelle Garrett, Chief Diversity Officer

Mechelle Garrett joined Corban in July 2022, moving from the Chicago area, where she coordinated comprehensive support programming as the Director of the Thrive Center at Trinity International University. She oversees the Center for Global Engagement, Student Support, and Career Services, and serves as the chair of the University Diversity Committee.

Committed to rigorous academics, Mechelle is currently working toward a Doctor of Education from the University of Southern California.

Shannon Johnson, Vice President for Advancement

Shannon Johnson spent the first 12 years of her career in full-time ministry with NavYouth and Young Life, and then counseled youth in a community mental health agency. Shannon’s passion for changing outcomes for youth and unlocking opportunities through education led her to begin her career in fundraising for Christ-centered universities in 2013. She has served at Corban since 2021.

Shannon and her husband, Michael, have three active and gregarious children.

Dr. Christopher Vetter, Interim Provost

Dr. Vetter first joined Corban in 2009 as Registrar and Director of Institutional Research. He later assumed the role of Vice Provost for Enrollment Management. Now as Interim Provost, Dr. Vetter provides leadership for Academics and the Registrar, as well as overseeing the areas of Admissions, Marketing & Communications, and Financial Aid.

Chris and his wife, Marla, have four children who have all attended Corban.



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REACH OUT TO US

Do you have questions about this newsletter or suggested features for an upcoming issue? Let us know by email at advancement@corban.edu, or by mail.