

**75 YEARS OF INTER-CHURCH COOPERATION THROUGH THE IDAHO INSTITUTE OF
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, INC. SPONSOR OF THE CAMPUS CHRISTIAN CENTER AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO**

First Decade: Creativity during the Depression Years

Development of a Christian Fraternity:

“A group house on campus” is mentioned in the Nov. 17, '30 minutes. This developed into Chi Alpha Pi, an Institute sponsored Fraternity. The minutes imply that Dean J. Glover Eldridge, Presbyterian, wrote the ritual. The old Sigma Nu house on Blake was purchased for \$11,000. A cook and a housemother were hired. The record suggests that the house started with 15 boys and by 1934 it had 27 residents. Dean J. Glover Eldridge reported that the Ritual for Chi Alpha Pi was copyrighted in August of 1934. The Chi Alpha Pi Fraternity continued until the end of the decade when it joined the Tau Kappa Epsilon National Fraternity.

Launching Religious Studies Courses at the University of Idaho and Lewiston State School:

Dr. Carl Douglas Wells, (Disciple of Christ) was hired to teach Religion courses in 1931. By the end of the school year ('31-'32), Dr. Wells reported 191 students had taken courses offered by the Institute in both Moscow and Lewiston.

From the minutes of June 9, 1934, “During the past few months, Dr. Wells escorted a splendid young men’s quartet, the Idaho Institute Serenaders, on a singing tour of the State.” Two of the students were from the University of Idaho and two from Lewiston Normal School

Dr. Well’s, in summarizing his work, reported 350 students enrolled in classes to date (1934). The Annual Meeting held in June 1935 received the following telegram from the Episcopal Priest in Lewiston: “Sorry to be absent, in accord with all you are doing.” – the Rev. E. Burlison.

Maintaining the Program through the Depression:

Following the loss of Dr. Wells in 1934, the Board of Trustees had great difficulty finding the financial resources to keep the teaching program staffed. Dr. Charles Tenney was hired as Director from the spring of 1935 until the spring of 1936. His contract was not renewed because of the “uncertain future of the Institute”. It is quite clear that the program would have folded in the mid-Thirties if the local pastors of the cooperating churched and university faculty had not volunteered their time and talents in order to continue the teaching program. The Rev. Dr. Clifford Drury, Presbyterian, served as Acting Director in 1937. The Rev. Dr. O. Leroy Walter, Presbyterian was elected

Director “officially” at the Annual Meeting on June 10, 1939 “without salary” after having served as Acting Director for a year.

Review of the 1st decade:

The two main developments during this 1st decade of inter-church cooperation were the establishment of a Christian Fraternity and the launching of a teaching program in religion at the University of Idaho and Lewiston Normal School. After a highly successful launching of the teaching program, the Board had difficulty gaining a replacement for Dr. Wells who left in 1934. Thanks to Pastors and faculty of the cooperating churches the teaching program was maintained throughout the decade on a volunteer basis. The Christian sponsored fraternity went national in 1940.

Unfortunately, the decade that this cooperative effort was launched was essentially the depression era! The first President of the Board of Trustees was Professor W. Wayne Smith of the Methodist Church who remained in that position throughout the decade. Illustrative of the difficult economic setting within which the Institute developed during its first decade, is the following excerpt from the May 6, 1937 Board of Trustees meeting: “The president called our attention to the fact that we need about \$300. And had but \$5. in the treasury.”

At the end of the decade Dr. Smith presented a communication to the Annual Meeting (June 16, 1940) from President Dale of the University of Idaho expressing his regrets at not being able to attend the meeting and expressing his personal interest in having the Institute continue to operate.

1st Decade Leadership by Denomination:

BAPTIST: The Rev. Mrs. Mable Stephens Burton (presided until the election of the first Board of Trustees and signer of the Articles of Incorporation), O. R. Gossett (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), W. Harley Smith and the Rev. the Rev. J. E. Hughes,

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST: Dean Francis G. Miller (signer of Articles of Incorporation). Alonzo Martin (signer of Articles of Incorporation), and the Rev. Carroll Fairbanks.

EPISCOPAL: The Rev. Dr. H.H. Mitchell (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Abe Goff (signer of Articles of Incorporation), Mrs. I. N. Carter (signer of the Articles of Incorporation) and the Rev. A.E.F. Anderson.

LUTHERAN: The Rev. R.P. Oliver, First Lutheran (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), the Rev. Edward M. Hegge, Our Saviour's Lutheran (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), A.I Rollefson (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Victor N. Ramstedt (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), and Ellen Peterson (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Professor Julius Nordby, Allen Ramstedt, the Rev. Reuben E. Norling, and the Rev. A.L. Svensen.

METHODIST: The Rev. Dr. William Hints (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Professor W. Wayne Smith (signer of the Articles of Incorporation and first President of the Board of Trustees), Martin S. Mickey (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Dean J. F. Messenger (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Dr. C. F. Magee (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Professor J. Hugo Johnson, Allan C. Lemon, J. Robert Walker, the Rev. J. Edgar Purdy and the Rev. J. Owen Beadles.

PRESBYTERIAN: The Rev. Dr. Clifford M. Drury (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Dean J. Glover Eldridge (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Harry Whittier (signer of the Articles of Incorporation), Dr. Elton M. Gildow, Charles Flatt and the Rev. O. Leroy Walter.

Second Decade: The War Years

Feb. 1, 1940 (from the minutes) “The treasurer reported \$2.35 in the treasury, with \$30. due in back rent, and \$25, due the Institute instructors for supplies purchased during the year.”

Following the Annual Meeting on June 15, 1940, the Board of Trustees met and elected the Rev. Carroll Fairbanks, Disciples of Christ (Pastor of the local Christian Church), as Director of the Institute “without salary”. At the 1941 Annual Meeting Director Fairbanks reported that 39 persons had taken credit courses taught by himself and the Rev. Owen Beadles, (Pastor of the local Methodist Church).

At a Board of Trustees meeting on March 3, 1942 a resolution was passed stating that “after 12 years of continuous service: “the Board...feels justified in suspending classes of instruction until such time...as adequate financial support is forthcoming from the areas served by the Institute.” President Dale of the University of Idaho attended the next Annual Meeting (May 29, 1942) “He expressed the value of religion taught in the Institute, and his willingness, and the willingness of the University, to do everything possible to encourage the continuance of the work”. Nonetheless, the Board reaffirmed its resolve to discontinue its teaching program unanimously. However, by July 30, 1942 the Board of Trustees passed a new resolution: “In view of evidence of increased recognition [by the churches and the university]...the Board a of Trustees approve continued work by the Institute for the coming year.” Again in Jan. 22, 1943 having lost their “volunteer” Director, the Rev. Carroll Fairbanks, the Board voted to discontinue classes “for the duration of the present war”. At the June 2, 1945 Annual Meeting, the Board voted to resume classes in the fall of 1945.

POST WAR, ACQUIRING PROPERTY AND BUILDING:

During the fall of 1945 the Institute rented space for classes in the L.D.S. Institute and paid its instructors (local clergy) \$10.00 each per semester. At their March meeting in the spring the Trustees looked “with favor upon the idea of renting the Eldridge house [on the present site of the CCC] for use as headquarters during the next school year.” At the same meeting they voted to authorize Dean Donaldson to prepare preliminary sketches of the proposed Institute building.

Money raising efforts continued. The Rev. Dr. O Leroy Walter recommended “that the state be divided into four or five regions with a Moscow pastor in charge of each region. The minister in charge of a region would be given a leave-of-absence for a period of twenty days (two Sundays) in October and a similar period in November, with probably two weeks intervening between the two periods. The local churches would arrange to supply the pulpits during these periods and would pay the salary of their pastors during the entire time.” Although this recommendation never got implemented it led to some serious thought about substantial fund-raising efforts to provide a new building. The clergy leave-of-absence idea developed into an offer by the Board to the Rev. Willard E.

Stanton, Pastor of the First Methodist Church of Moscow to consider taking a year's leave-of-absence in order to raise funds for the Institute. At the Annual Meeting on June 1, 1946, the Institute employed the Rev. Mr. Stanton for one year, after taking a leave-of-absence from his church. By May 31, 1947, the Rev. Mr. Stanton reported raising \$29,732.39 in cash along with unconditional pledges bringing the total figure to \$40,367.96. At the July 2, 1947 Board meeting the Rev. Mr. Stanton was praised for the "meticulous care and efficient manner in which [he] carried on and completed his work while Executive Secretary of the Institute [invoking] praise and enduring gratitude from all members of the Board."

The Board moved rapidly with its increased financial resources. The Eldridge property, which they had been renting, was purchased from Dean Eldridge (March 19, 1947): "The Secretary was instructed to record the transaction at \$12,000.00 paid for the property, and \$2,000.00 received from Dean and Mrs. J. G. Eldridge as a contribution to the Institute and to issue a receipt for this amount. The actual check to Dean and Mrs. Eldridge was \$10,000.00" By September 1947, the Board had hired a new Director, the Rev. Oscar Adam (Methodist). Student enrollment for 1948-49 school year totaled 46 students the first semester and 26 students the second semester. By this time, the Board had terminated the services of Dean Donaldson as architect and hired the firm of Funk, Molander and Johnson of Spokane. At its October, 1949 meeting, it agreed to go ahead with construction and in December hired H. Halvorson of Spokane to construct the building. Programmatically, the old Eldridge building was already being used by local churches for their student ministries. The first Methodist student worker to use the facilities (the old Eldridge home) was Mrs. Mildred Bliss. This building was called the Christian Student Center. At the end of a turbulent decade, a new building was under construction and the Rev. A. R. Fike (Brethren) announced at the Annual Meeting, June 2, 1950 "that the largest ministerial association in the State of Idaho – that of Boise – had unanimously endorsed the Institute."

Review of 2nd Decade of Inter Church Cooperation:

This was a turbulent decade for the Institute and its cooperating churches. Several times during the "War Years" the Trustees threatened to abandon the project because of lack of financial support. Even the teaching program was shut down temporarily a couple of times. Its survival is due in large part to local pastors and university faculty cooperating by stepping in voluntarily to keep the program going.

An important step forward was the acquisition of the present building site from Dean and Mrs. J. Glover Eldridge, Presbyterian. Another important step was the willingness of the Pastor of the First Methodist Church of Moscow to take a year's leave-of-absence from his pastorate to mount a successful statewide fund-raising campaign.

With this success, the Board hired the Rev. Oscar Adam (Methodist) as full time Director at the end of the decade and began construction of a new building as it entered its third decade of Inter Church cooperation.

2nd Decade Leadership by Denomination*:

BAPTIST: The Rev. James Whitman, O. R. Gossett, the Rev. Walter Armantage, .C. C. Cowan and Dr. J. N. Garst.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST: The Rev. Carroll Fairbanks, served as Director (without pay), the Rev. Ronald Lemmex, Iver Longeteig, the Rev. Ernst Obert, J. E. Broyles, Dr. Joseph G. Wilson, Elmer Soniville and W. G. Eubanks.

EPISCOPAL: The Rev. John Bill, Geoffrey Coope, A. E. Whitehead, Dean Louise Carter, Louis Boas, the Rev. Warren E. Fowler, and the Rev. Norman Stockwell.

LUTHERAN: Dr. Harold W. Larson, the Rev. S. F. Veldey, V. M. Ramstedt, Joe Olson, the Rev. A. P. Westerberg, the Rev. Neale E. Nelson, R. E. Nordby.

METHODIST: Professor W. Wayne Smith, A. E. Jahn, the Rev. Owen Beadles, Dean D. S. Jeffers, Dr. Allan C. Lemon, J. Robert Walker, the Rev. Willard E. Stanton, Professor J. Hugo Johnson, Mildred Bliss, the Rev. Ernest P. Goulder, and the Rev. Oscar Adam, Director.

PRESBYTERIAN: Dean J. Glover Eldridge, the Rev. Dr. O. Leroy Walter, the Rev. Dr. John Furnas, served as Director (without pay), Fred Handel, C. L. Woodward, and the Rev. Don Clayton. K. Bonnett and Paul Eke.

* By the time of this writing, 2005, two denominations that had been a part of the Institute are no longer officially a part of it: the Church of the Nazarene and the Church of the Brethren both contributed dedicated leadership during the first two decades.

CHURCH OF THE NARENE: The Rev. J. N. Tinsley was Secretary of the founding meetings and signed the Articles of Incorporation, Mrs. Fred Sam, the Rev. Raymond Kratzer, and Charles Paul.

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN: The Rev. A. R. Fike, and Albert Kienholz.

Third Decade: Flowering of Denominational Student Groups:

The depression and the “War Years” were a difficult context for the development of a new cooperating church agency called the Idaho Institute of Christian Education, Inc. Its continued existence alone is a tribute to the dedicated leadership from the cooperating churches that persevered under such circumstances.

By 1950, the Institute was in a new building called the Campus Christian Center and serving as a place where religion could be studied for academic credit and students could gather into denominational fellowships. In 1952, Professor W. Wayne Smith, Methodist, steps down from the Presidency of the Board of Trustees after 12 years and is succeeded by Dr. Joseph G. Wilson, Disciple of Christ. A disagreement over the job description of the Director the Rev. Oscar M. Adam led to a change in Director. Dr. Adam served the Institute during a difficult period when it was constructing a building as well as constructing a new image on campus. He left an indelible impact on the Institute and its program. Dr. Lorell Weiss, Church of the Brethren, was hired in 1952. By 1954, Dr. Weiss was reporting over 100 students enrolled in Religion Classes.

Along with growth in class enrollments, the growth of the Center as a rallying point for denominational student activities. First, the Methodists, then the Presbyterians and then the Lutherans utilized the Center for their student worker leadership. By the late fifties there were four full time staff working out of the Campus Christian Center plus secretarial help. Student fellowships ranged in size from 20 to 60. Most of the denominational student groups met in their local church but used their office at the Center to organize and promote their activities.

The Board of Trustees wrestled constantly with the operating budget. Gradually the regional bodies of the cooperating denominations began to provide financial support. Towards the end of the decade the Institute received several bequests that enabled it to liquidate some of its debts and made possible the purchase of a manse for the Director. Dr. Weiss resigned in 1957 after giving the Institute steady and creative leadership for five years. The Board hired Mr. Stanley W. Thomas (Methodist) who had been giving leadership to the Methodist student group, Wesley Foundation, as well as teaching a credit course for the Institute. By 1959, the three full time staff was: Mr. Allan Dieter for the Lutherans, the Rev. Ronald Hummel for the Methodists and the Rev. Charles Doak for the Presbyterians.

Review of 3rd Decade of Inter Church Cooperation:

This decade saw the flowering of both the credit course teaching program as well as the denominational student fellowships. The Institute moved into a new building with the help of Dr. Adam and his wife. Dr. Adam was the first Director in the new building and help set the tone for future Directors.

The 3rd Decade continued to be a wrenching one for the Board of Trustees as they sought to gain recognition and the funding that should go with it so as to stabilize the financial basis of the Institute. Several bequests towards the end of the decade, One from Miss Tracy Censky of Lewiston for over \$28,000 and one from Charles E. Lilly of Moscow providing \$3,000. In cash and property valued at the time at \$15,000. The decade ended with strong student fellowships in our churches and course enrollment over the 160 mark.

3rd Decade Leadership by Denomination:

BAPTIST: C. C. Cowan, the Rev. Kenneth Holmes, Earl Humphry, the Rev. Max Ullom, the Rev R.H. Moorman, Elwyn Schwartz, Mrs. Warren Pope and S. J. Jensen

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST: Dr. Joseph Wilson, the Rev. Carmen R. Mell, Gertrude Orcutt and the Rev. Floyd Chapman.

EPISCOPAL: The Rev. Norman Stockwell, Abe Goff, Elizabeth Winegar, Dean Louise Carter, the Rev. Hervon Snyder.

LUTHERAN: the Rev. Sigurd T. Lokken, Rudolph E. Nordby, John Blum, Ed Morken, Dr. Duane LeTourneau , the Rev. Emil Gustafson, the Rev. Leonard Nelson and the Rev. Sam Babington

METHODIST: W. Wayne Smith, the Rev. Ernest Goulder, the Rev. Oscar Adam, Director, A. E. Jahn, the Rev. David Seaman, J. Hugo Johnson, Clifford Dobler, Fred Hagedorn and the Rev. Ellsworth Tilton.

PRESBYTERIAN: The Rev. Don Clayton, Dean J. Glover Eldridge, the Rev. Warren Prall, Mrs. Lola Clyde, and Dean Don Hart, Robert Jonas, and the Rev. Harry Johns,

Fourth Decade: Divided Society – Alienated Youth

Participation in the ministry program (student fellowships and the teaching program (credit courses in religion) peaked in the late fifties. The early years of the sixties witnessed diminished interest in both denominational fellowships and the credit course instructional program in religion. Paradoxically, denominational staff for serving student grew during this decade and the three teaching Institutes (Catholic, Protestant and L.D.S.) merged into the Idaho School of Religion.

Early in the decade the Institute welcomed the Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship to use its facilities. The Baptist brought a full time Campus Pastor, the Rev. Bill Goding to serve both W.S.U. and Idaho campuses. The Episcopalians started up their own (1960) independent ministry but remained fully cooperative with the Institute's program until rejoining the Institute (1972). United Methodists, Presbyterian and Lutheran denominations all supported full-time campus ministers. The Methodists provided the Rev. Ronald Hummel, the Rev. L. T. Hathaway and the Rev. Donald Yates in that order. After the Rev. Donald Yates left in 1966, the Methodists did not fill that position. The Presbyterians were served by the Rev. Chad Boliek throughout the decade. The Lutherans were served by Mr. Al Dieter, the Rev. Donald Lee, and the Rev. Edward Weiskotten.

Midway in the decade, under the stimulus the Rev. Don Lee, Lutheran Campus Pastor, the staff mobilized to reach out to alienated students by means of a coffee house named the Burning Stake named after the martyrs who died for their faith in the Middle Ages. This was not a unique program direction because many campus ministries across the country were seeking to help alienated students. The "Stake" became quite popular in the Sixties in some ways supplanting the popularity of the denominational fellowship groups of the previous decade. However, the divided society also meant that the coffee house program came under criticism and campus ministry funding throughout the country experienced a serious set back reflected heavily in decreased support in the following decade.

At the end of the decade, the credits for courses in religion taught by the Institute staff were counted in the student's grade point average. Dr. Thomas (who had been awarded his PhD in 1960 from Boston University) was now offering a religion course at Lewis and Clark State College in Lewiston. The Institute's relationship with the Roman Catholic Center (St. Augustine's) had greatly strengthened (Sister Joan Fallen attended the Institute Annual Meeting in 1970). The Seventh Day Adventist's had asked to become a part of the Idaho Institute of Christian Education, Inc.

During the last half of this decade the organizational structures supporting the Institute were seriously challenged by the development of an inter-Church agency called: the Campus Christian Ministry in Idaho (CCMI). This organization had taken shape as campus ministries began developing both in Boise and Pocatello. For over a decade, the Institute had received significant support from southern Idaho judicatories primarily

United Methodist and Presbyterian. CCMI challenged this successfully and by the end of the decade the Institute suffered a severe loss of funds.

Review of the 4th Decade of Inter Church Cooperation:

Despite the loss of Episcopal participation, the decade of the sixties can probably be called the most ecumenical in the history of the Institute. Not only did staff cooperate more with St. Augustine's Catholic Center in major campus-wide events such as the memorials to Kennedy and King but joint inter-staff meetings were held to discuss the needs of students. The new School of Religion brought together the faculty of the L.D.S. Institute, the Idaho Institute and St. Augustine's Catholic Center. By the end of the decade even the staff of the Institute was functioning according to their capabilities rather than on the basis of their denominational background. The Rev. Chad Boliek ran the Coffee House, the Rev. Ed Weiskotten served as pastoral counselor, and Dr. Stanley Thomas taught Religious Studies credit courses to all students. We had lost the Episcopalians but had gained the Seventh Day Adventists. Because of our sensitivity to alienated students we had also jeopardized our financial support. This combined with the CCMI development in southern Idaho had a crippling effect upon ministry potential in the Seventies.

4th Decade Leadership by Denomination:

BAPTISTS: The Rev. Max Oliphant, Earl Humphrey, Stewart Schell, the Rev. Earl Gosa, John Baker and the Rev. Richard Crader.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST: Dr. J. G. Wilson, (Chairman of the Board), Gertrude Orcutt, The Rev. Loren Arnett, the Rev. Jack Adams, the Rev. Richard Skoogland, John McClure, and John E. Kelleher.

LUTHERAN: The Rev Sam Babington, Duane LeTourneau, William Biggam, the Rev. Don Lee, Dean Vettrus, Mrs. Rose Weber, Robert Giles, Erik Thompson, Mrs. Ella Shaw, the Rev. Karl Koch, the Rev. Edward Wiskotten and Donald Duncanson.

METHODIST: A. E. Jahn, Clifford Dobler, Stan Thomas, the Rev. Ellsworth Tilton, Warren Pope, the Rev. Rudolph Anderson, the Rev. Ronald Hummel, the Rev. L. T. Hathaway, Mrs. William Mortensen, Lee O'Neil, the Rev. Raynor Smith, the Rev. Donald Yates, Leo Ames, Dean Everett Samuelson, Paul Dalke, the Rev. David Almon, Yvonne Slutz and George Belt.

PRESBYTERIAN: Dean J. Glover Eldridge, Byron Henry, the Rev. Richard Lundy, Mrs. Lola Clyde, the Rev. Joe Anderson, Robert Hosack, Alvin Weise, Lambert Erickson (Chairman of the Board), the Rev. Chad Boliek, Philip Coffman, George Hespelt, Robert Jonas, Will Heflin, L. L. Edwards, Robert H. Seale,

Fifth Decade: Evangelical Renewal

The shift in the context for campus ministries in the decade of the Seventies was noticed early in the decade. The Director noted in his Annual Report of January 1972 “that unlike the ‘return to religion’ during the Fifties which had an enhancing effect upon church attendance, the new awakening seems unlikely to have a favorable effect upon the church as an institution [referring to mainline churches]”. Despite the fact that the Coffee House program maintained its momentum well into the Seventies, there was a new mood on campus. Religious Studies courses taught by the Institute were more popular than ever. In 1978, the teaching Institutes, Protestant, Roman Catholic and L.D.S. reported a combined enrollment 1,138 students during the past three years. The Center began, during this decade, to reach a broader spectrum of students by: 1) leading campus-wide drives to fight world hunger, 2) making its facilities available for a Crisis Phone Center (Nightline operated from 6:30 pm until 2:00 am) completely staffed by students; 3) providing a variety of non-credit Bible Study offerings by Nazarene, Lutheran and Seventh Day Adventist leadership; and by allowing its main lounge to be used by Campus Crusade on a weekly basis. The Center was a catalyst for weekly Faculty Forums and provided meeting space for Rural Ministry Resources serving small rural churches in Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho.

The support base of the Center had been narrowed at the end of the sixties by the development of the Campus Christian Ministry in Idaho (CCMI). Fortunately for the Institute, the Washington judicatories did their best to compensate for the loss of southern Idaho funds. In fact, a wave of ecumenical idealism was sweeping the churches and by 1973 five of the supporting denominations of the Institute had joined together in the northwest region to fund campus ministry through a regional ecumenical agency called: United Ministries in Higher Education (UMHE). Though founded with high idealism, a year after its formation four of the five denominations cut their campus ministry appropriation. This result, combined with the loss of southern Idaho support, was devastating to the Institute’s budget. The Sixties staff of four to five professionally trained campus ministers, working out of the Center, was cut to one or two and the program suffered commensurably with the loss of leadership. It was also towards the end of this decade that the Rev. Willard Stanton and his wife, Blythe, came by the Center to donate \$5,000. towards the initiation of an Endowment Fund. This money had to be matched and under the leadership of Dr. Duane LeTourneau (Lutheran) was more than doubled.

Review of the 5th Decade Inter-Church Cooperation:

This was another decade of challenge for the Institute as it sought to give faithful programmatic expressions to the cooperating churches it represented. Each of these churches themselves was being challenged by the new revivalism. Most of the cooperating churches began to lose membership and resources. In its programs, the Center increased its cooperation with St. Augustine’s Catholic Center. However, as the

financial resources of the cooperating denominations supporting the Center diminished, cooperative campus ministries such as the CCC experienced severe budget cuts under the rubric: “we must take care of our own programs first”. One of the significant financial resources that came to the aid of the Institute in this time of need were the local churches of Moscow that started writing the Campus Christian Center into their annual budgets. It is this writer’s opinion that the Institute would not have survived the Seventies without this support from the local churches of Moscow.

5th Decade Leadership by Denomination:

BAPTIST: Earl Humphrey, the Rev. Earl Gosa and Dr. Mel Taylor

DISCIPLE: Dr. Joseph G. Wilson, the Rev. James Dyson, Dr. Morris Southward, the Rev. Burton Brown, David Martin and Dr. Bob Leonard.

EPISCOPAL: Dr. Hervon Snyder, the Rev. Robert Beveridge, Doug Adams and Jack Sullivan.

LUTHERAN: Dr. Donald Duncanson, Dr. Larry Johnson, Mrs. Francis Anderson, the Rev. Edward Weiskotten, the Rev. Gary Brenna, Dr. Phil Gilbertson, Dr. Myron Molnau, the Rev. Loren Rude, Marva Sedore, Dr. Duane Letourneau, the Rev. Roger Pettenger, Bob Luhring, Dr. Kurt Olsson and Laurie Fox.

METHODIST: The Rev. David Almon, Dr. Warren Pope, Dr. George Belt, Dr. Paul D. Dalke, Hilda Pursley, Jan Hoffman, Leo Ames and Joan Britzmann.

PRESBYTERIAN: The Rev. Chad Boliek, Dr. Louis Edwards, Dr. Robert Seale (Board Chair), Dr. Robert Jonas, Professor Lambert Erickson (Board Chair), Professor George Hespelt and the Rev. Ervin Rymes.

Sixth Decade: The Feminist Revolution

The Nineteen Eighties opened with a celebration of the Institute's fifty years of existence and included some serious renewal efforts at refurbishing the Campus Christian Center inside and outside with new paint, carpet and furniture. In the late Seventies the Lutherans brought Laurie Fox to serve as their Campus Pastor and, in the early Eighties, the Methodists brought Martha Blumer as Campus Ministry staff. Later in the decade Kim Williams followed Laurie Fox and Kathy Williams followed Martha Blumer. It turned out to be a strong decade for women's leadership on the staff of the Center and also signaled the return of denominational staff following the cut backs of the Seventies. Creative programming flourished under this leadership with: 1) the development of a student-led Clowning Group that made regular visits to the nursing homes in the area; 2) the remarkable student produced publication, *Crossings*; 3) the continued leadership for campus-wide world hunger appeals (raised \$5,641.47 in 1985) and 4) the growth of peer ministries as a means of training college students for church leadership. The Center also provided space for the Southern Baptist Student Ministries as well as space for Alternative to Violence.

During this decade credit courses in religion were examined by a university committee and given a place within the university as a distinctive area of study called Religious Studies and located within the Philosophy Department for administrative purposes. This furthered the Institute's long-time goal of integrating the study of religion into the University curriculum but resulted in limiting the number and kind of courses offered.

Towards the end of this decade the Institute received a bequest from Edna Durbin (Disciple) of the United Church of Moscow most of which was designated by the Board to go into the Endowment Fund. Despite this, the decade could be characterized as one that experienced shrinking support from its organizational base, the mainline denominations. In the face of this, the Board held progressive dinners and auctions amongst the cooperating churches to help with its operations budget. The end of the decade also saw the retirement of two long-time employees of the Institute: Mrs. Yvonne Slutz, Administrative Secretary and Dr. Stanley W. Thomas, Director.

Review of the 6th Decade of Inter Church Cooperation:

The Fifth Decade of the Institutes began with the celebration of its 50 years of ministry to the university community and ended with the retirement of two of its long-time employees. In between, it experienced, for the first time, the substantial contribution of women as campus ministers. It also experienced the further integration of its credit course teaching program into the structure of the University of Idaho. The Board itself was more active in fund raising through its cooperative dinners and auctions. By the end of the sixth decade of its existence, the Institute remained relatively debt free with a building in reasonably good condition, its teaching program more integrated into the university and a broader program of service to the university community.

6th Decade Leadership by Denomination:

UNITED CH. Of MOSCOW (Bapt./DISC.): The Rev. Mike Burr
Dr. Bob Leonard, Dr. Alberta Hill and Edna Durbin

EPISCOPAL: Carolyn Hickman (Chair), Lewis Day, Dr. Doug Adams, Elsie Mann, Dr. Jack Sullivan, the Rev. Richard E. Dunham and Dr. Bill Klontz,

LUTHERAN: Laurie Fox (Lutheran Campus Pastor), Dr. Ed Michalson, Roy Pierson, the Rev. John Blom, Kim Williams, (Lutheran Campus Pastor), Allyn Larsen, Dr. Duane LeTourneau, the Rev. Roger Pettenger and Dr. Gordon Thomas

METHODIST: Martha Blumer (Methodist Campus Staff), the Rev. Eric Kallis, Dixie Ehrenreich, the Rev. King Rockhill, Dr. Warren Pope, Joan Britzmann, Yvonne Slutz, the Rev. William Jones, Kathy Williams (Campus Minister), Gerry Dacres, Barry Moffett, Dr. Norman Schaad, Larry Hodgson and the Rev. Robert Walker

PREBYTERIAN: Dean James Kraus, Prof. George Hespelt (Chair), Dr. L. L. Edwards, the Rev. Ervin Rymes, Robert Seale (Chair), Dr. Bob Jonas, June Kiilgaard and Dr. John Finney,

Seventh Decade: Recommitment

The Institute hired a new Director for the first time in many decades following the retirement of Dr. Stanley W. Thomas. The new Director was Dr. Bruce Wollenberg (Lutheran) previously on the campus ministry staff at the University of California Santa Barbara. Dr. Wollenberg served as Director for most of the decade (1990-97) teaching in the credit course program as well as offering short courses in local churches. Bruce innovated "Summer Break Idaho" a continuing education opportunity for local pastors throughout the area. In celebration of the 60th Anniversary of the Institute, Bishop Jack Tuell was invited to speak at a festive banquet. Bishop Tuell is the son-in-law of the Rev. Owen Beadles a former member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute.

Both denominational staff: Kim Williams (Lutheran) and Kathy Williams (Methodist) continued to serve until beyond mid-decade. They provided fellowship, Bible Study, social service opportunities for their students in addition to spiritual counseling. They were followed towards the end of the decade by: Stacey Rosavear (Lutheran) and John Morse (Methodist).

The Institute continued to struggle with a tight operating budget throughout the decade. Its over-all financial well being was strengthened by modest contributions to the Endowment Fund through the efforts of Stan and Dorothy Thomas travelling in southern Idaho as well as through substantial gifts from Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm Renfrew and the estate of the Rev. Willard and Blythe Stanton.

The last half of this decade was given over to some pretty intensive introspection as the Board faced a change of Director and serious erosion of its financial base in the mainline churches that make up its identity. In order to give itself time for an in-depth self study involving the locally cooperating churches, the Board hired its new Director on an interim bases (2 years). With the help of the Rev. King Rockhill (Methodist) as facilitator, focus groups were run in each of our local churches where they shared common assumptions about the future of the church and considered the Campus Christian Center within the context of current trends and realities. This input was brought to the Board of Trustees, along with the facilitating skills of the Rev. Mr. Rockhill, to help it address its mission. The result was a new appreciation of our cooperative structure that led to a "Re-covenanting Service" held at the First Presbyterian Church of Moscow in the Fall of 1999. This brought together official representatives of each of the denominations participating in the Idaho Institute of Christian Education, Inc. to sign a Recovenanting Document. After her two-year interim Dr. Sharon Kehoe was hired as Director of the Institute. Dr. Kehoe has helped develop a very warm and accepting environment at the Campus Christian Center and continues to participate in the Religious Studies program of the University of Idaho with part of her salary now being paid by the University. Thus the Institute ended the 20th Century with a re-commitment of its several denominations to continue to work together to serve the students, staff and faculty of the University of Idaho on into the 21st Century.

Review of the 7th Decade of Inter-Church Cooperation:

This decade found the cooperating churches experiencing a new Director for the first time in many decades. Dr. Bruce Wollenberg was the first Lutheran to be Director of the Institute. His seven years was marked by teaching integrity and creative leadership in the area of adult educational opportunities. The strength of the women's staff at the Center was maintained during this decade. By the end of the decade the Institute had hired its first woman Director, Dr. Sharon Kehoe (Episcopalian).

Probably one of the most important events of this decade was the Re-covenanting Service of the cooperating denominations after almost 70 years of cooperation. This was not simply a ceremony but only came after months of introspection and focus group facilitation that made it possible.

7th Decade Leadership by Denomination:

UNITED CH.of MOSCOW (BAPT./DISC.): Dr. Robert Leonard, Lois Bradberry and Bob Barclay, Alberta Hill(Chair), the Rev. Roger Lynn and Dr. Oz Garten

EPISCOPAL: Elsie Mann, Meredith Guy, Bill Caradine, the Rev. Richard Dunham (Chair), Robert Snyder, Dr. Sharon Kehoe (Director), Florence Roberts, the Rev. John Grabner and Bob Parton

LUTHERAN: The Rev. Dr. Bruce Wollenberg (Director), the Rev. John Blum, Dr. Gordon Thomas, Dr. Jim Heaney, Byron Hansen, Kim Williams (Staff), the Rev. Dean Stewart (Chair), Karla Neumann Smiley (Staff), the Rev. Robert A. Peterson, Kurt Queller and Annette Erickson

METHODIST: The Rev. John Grabner (Chair), the Rev. Robert Walker, Betty Jackson, John Pool, Dr. Warren Pope, the Rev. Bill Green, Dr. Bob Trepepi, ImoGene Rush, Dr. Stan Thomas, Eben Sutton and Gerry Dacres

PRESBYTERIAN: The Rev. Jim Fisher, Joe Taber (Chair), Dr. John Finnie, Dr. Robert Seale, Prof. George Hespelt and Dr. Dale Everson,

Current Leadership

UNITED CHURCH OF MOSCOW (American Baptist/Disciple): Alberta Hill, the Rev. Roger Lynn, Dr. Robert Leonard, Dr. George Belt, Steve Talbot and Oz Garten

EPISCOPAL: The Rev. Rick Dunham, Bob Parton, Florence Roberts, Dr. Rob Snyder, Nancy Luebbert, Dr. Sharon Kehoe (Director), Nancy Lyle (Chair), Betty Hervey, Katherine Sterling and the Rev. Dr. John Day

LUTHERAN: The Rev. Dean Stewart (Chair), Annette Erickson, the Rev. Robert Peterson, Karla Neumann Smiley (Staff), Kurt Queller, The Rev. John Blum, Dr. Walter Hesford and Connie Paris (Secretary)

UNITED METHODIST: The Rev. Bill Green, Dr. Robert Tripepi (Secretary), Dr. Eben Sutton, Dr. Stan Thomas, Dr. Tim Prather (Vice Chair), the Rev. Dr. Susan Ostrom, John Morse (Staff), Douglas Wood (Staff), David Morse and John Pool

PRESBYTERIAN: The Rev. Jim Fisher, Joe Taber (Chair), Dr. Dale Everson, Prof. George Hespelt, Becca Palmer (Staff) and Dr. Malcom Renfrew