

University of Minnesota



Dave, a Faculty Commons staff we supervise, drives 200 miles weekly from his campuses in Wisconsin to meet with nonChristian professors and graduate students at the “U of M.”

“I have found grad students who are willing to meet each Tuesday in an investigative Bible study,” Dave says. “And they have great questions about Christ. **Recently one of them became a Christian.** Plus I am meeting nonChristian professors who also are willing to at least consider the need to investigate Christianity for themselves.”

Illinois State University



Andy is a professor who received his PhD back at Texas A&M. During his graduate school days there he established a ministry to other grad students. Now, as a tenured professor here, he leads a group of 20 Christian faculty who meet and work on ways to be more effective in their witness.

I met him for coffee when he was back in Texas for Christmas. **“I really believe that God has put me on this campus for a purpose,”** he told me.

“It’s encouraging to see what He is doing.” Lately they have been reading Tim Keller’s booklet: *The Freedom of Self-Forgetfulness*. It emphasizes finding our identity in Christ rather than achievements that yield accolades; faculty on other campuses have found it helpful in remembering to live for God’s glory rather than their own.

Texas A&M University



This past month **Alison** (*left*), a Cru staffer who works with undergrad students, began meeting with women faculty.

“The first woman I met was from my Sunday School class; as we sat in her office on campus, I found out how missional she really is, and what she has been doing to communicate the Gospel to her students,” Alison explained.

“It is a privilege for me to come alongside these women and help them be even more as a witness, **and to be their friend in the academic environment – where being a Christian can be difficult,**” Alison said.

Texas Woman's University



Sarah coaches a student-led ministry at TWU. This photo shows those leaders back in the heat of late summer, as they invited incoming freshman to be involved. One of the students she coaches is Sarah Strange (*far right*) a senior, who explained why she has been involved, and why she discipless other students:

“In my church youth group we learned the Bible and talked about sharing our faith, but I never really learned how. Through Cru I have shared my faith many times.

“When I came to college I wanted to make a difference. Discipling other women through Cru has been a great privilege, but it is also a humbling experience. I have to be surrendered to God in my own life first in order for Him to use me,” she said. “I can’t disciple them in my own strength.”

University of North Texas



This past week Kay (*left*) spoke at UNT’s Christian Faculty worship service and told the story of her spiritual journey from atheism to Christianity. “My parents were raised in very strict, religious homes and they wanted to get as far away from church and God as possible,” she told the audience. **“But when I was 17 I had a spiritual awakening and really wanted to know God and His Son, Jesus Christ.”**

Recently retired, Kay explained that when she was a faculty member in the physics department she would find ways to identify herself as a Christian on the first day of class. “This was the best time to speak of anything spiritual, and it opened doors. I had students thank me for identifying as a believer, and that led to further conversations.”

Louisiana State University



Later this month I will be on the LSU campus; there are 50 new Cru staff and interns from a four state area who will be on campus for training. While part of their time will be devoted to how to minister to students, they will also be learning how to minister to professors – and taking that training back with to their own campuses.

As always, thanks for making possible what we do – on behalf of you and for Christ!

Steve and Sarah