

CENTENNIAL INSTITUTE

Colorado Christian University

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW



Faith ★ Family ★ Freedom ★ Future

Donald J. Trump speaking at WCS16

Director's Message



A year ago, when I joined the Centennial Institute at Colorado Christian University, I was honored to be following in the footsteps of Institute co-founder, the Honorable John Andrews. He left us with a fantastic template and model to build upon, and this past year has been remarkable. The next President of the United States, Donald J. Trump, spoke at the 7th Annual Western Conservative Summit. We had our largest turnout ever and the Summit was covered by all major national media outlets. We increased the number of activities on campus and in our communities, became a national voice in the media on important conservative issues, and grew the Centennial Institute to be one of the most influential think tanks in the nation. The best part — we're just getting started!

We are raising up a generation of young conservative leaders that will shape this nation for decades. Through our 1776 Scholars program, we are mentoring young men and women to become national conservative leaders. Colorado Christian University hosted its third annual Young Conservatives Leadership Conference led by Hugh Hewitt, where two hundred young people from across the country spent a week learning about the conservative worldview from top experts.

The Centennial Institute exists to impact our culture in ways that strengthen traditional family values; honor the sanctity of life and protect our most vulnerable citizens; exercise compassion for the poor; limit government; encourage personal freedom and free markets; and promote the Bible, natural law, and the original intent of the Constitution and Western civilization. Supporters like you allow us to proactively respond to critical public policy concerns and impact our culture.

We hope you enjoy reflecting on the 2016 Year in Review, and we welcome your support and involvement in the year ahead.



God bless you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeff Hunt". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Jeff Hunt
Vice President of Public Policy
Director, Centennial Institute

By the Numbers: Social Media

Facebook

 **20,000+**  **LIKES**

4.6MM+  **PEOPLE REACHED**

 **TOTAL FAN INCREASE
IN PAST YEAR**
235.3%

 **6.2MM**
IMPRESSIONS

 **3,128.7%** **TOTAL FACEBOOK
ENGAGEMENT INCREASE
IN PAST YEAR**

Twitter

 **2,500+**  **FOLLOWERS**

136.8%
ENGAGEMENT INCREASE

 **764k+**
IMPRESSIONS

10k+
ENGAGEMENTS

47%
FOLLOWER INCREASE

YouTube

 **480+**  **VIDEOS
ONLINE**

**AVERAGE
VIDEO IS
WATCHED FOR** **8:16**

 **1,285**
SUBSCRIBERS

 **1.3MM+**
VIEWS

1.5MM+
**MINUTES WATCHED
LAST YEAR**



Speaker Timeline

October '15

CCU Distinguished Speaker Series with Dr. Ben Carson – author, neurosurgeon, and presidential candidate



December '15

CCU Distinguished Speaker Series with Dick Cheney – 46th Vice President of the United States, eminent statesman, and patriot



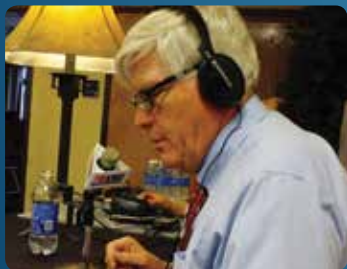
February '16

Issue Monday: Debunking the Progressive Myth with Lawrence Reed – president of the Foundation for Economic Freedom



April '16

Issue Monday: Suicide by Doctor Panel Discussion – Carrie Earl, vice president of Government and Public Policy at Focus on the Family; Carrie Ann Lucas, J.D., CWLS, founder and executive director of Disabled Parents Rights; and Michael Norton, J.D., president and general counsel of the Colorado Freedom Institute



November '15

Issue Monday: 2016 Campaign Preview with Hugh Hewitt – Salem radio host and CCU visiting professor



January '16

Issue Monday: Economic Issues of Campaign 2016 with Brian Domitrovic – professor at Sam Houston State University in Texas and visiting scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy at the University of Colorado at Boulder



March '16

Issue Monday: Immigration and our Nation's Survival Panel Discussion – Linda Chavez, first Latina ever nominated to a U.S. Cabinet post; Isabel Ontiveros, field director for the LIBRE Initiative; and Hugo Chavez-Rey, chairman of the Colorado Hispanic Republicans

June '16

Red Alert Politics National Under 30 Speech Contest – Ellen Densmore '18, double major in Business Administration and Social Science wins the national speech contest



August '16

Issue Monday: Next Steps for Education Reform in Colorado Panel Discussion – Debora Scheffel, dean and professor of Education at CCU and State Board of Education member; Pam Benigno, director of the Independence Institute's Education Policy Center; Brad Miller, J.D., counsel for large school districts and more than 20 charter schools



October '16

Issue Monday: Future of Conservatism with Francis Beckwith – newest visiting scholar in Conservative Thought and Policy at the University of Colorado at Boulder



May '16

Issue Monday: The U.S.-China Relationship with Randall Schriver – former deputy assistant secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs responsible for the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, Mongolia, Hong Kong, Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands



July '16

WCS16 with Donald J. Trump – the next President of the United States



September '16

Issue Monday: Who Wins the 2016 Presidential Election – David Flaherty, CEO and founder of Magellan Strategies, pollster, data miner, master of political data, campaign consultant and strategist; and Dr. Vince McGuire, professor at the University of Colorado at Boulder, teaching American government and political theory



November '16

Issue Monday: The Trump-Clinton Election and Bill Armstrong Legacy with John Andrews – founding director of the Centennial Institute

1776 Scholar Spotlight

ELLEN DENSMORE '18
DENVER, COLORADO
MAJOR: BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

In 2010, my dad brought my brother and me to one of the Centennial Institute's Issue Monday events at CCU — the first of many that I would attend. The speaker that night was Ralph Reed of the Faith and Freedom Coalition, speaking masterfully on the relationship between Christianity, politics, and the First Amendment; he emphasized the critical role that Christians must play in the political sphere if we want to keep the Liberty we enjoy in this republic.

I was just starting 8th grade, and I now know that Ralph Reed's talk was a catalyst that helped set my trajectory towards Colorado Christian University. It epitomized the values of faith, family, and freedom embraced by CCU and the Centennial Institute, and captured my heart. I continued to attend Issue Mondays, Western Conservative Summits, and other events throughout high school, and was consistently inspired to strengthen my own ability to communicate on behalf of this country's heritage and advocate for the values embodied in our founding documents.

The Centennial Institute has since become a core component of my identity as a CCU student; as an intern, I've been given opportunities to meet political and faith leaders, contribute to the '76 blog, conduct research, introduce speakers, and even speak on the main stage at the 2016 Western Conservative Summit. Most importantly, it has helped solidify my understanding of American heritage and my place in it as a Christian, and has equipped me to communicate with my generation about the tough issues of today. ★



Scholar in the World

JONATHAN FINER '13
EDINA, MINNESOTA
MAJOR: POLITICAL SCIENCE

It is one thing to have a zeal for politics; it is another entirely to focus that energy to influence society. Centennial Institute invests in students who are eager to take part in the political process, and it helps them channel their passion for politics. Speaking from personal experience, Centennial Institute afforded me opportunities to develop relationships with influential elected officials and intellectuals, and taught me a better understanding of the political process.

Staying in touch with professors and staff allows me to observe and appreciate the positive changes taking place each day, month, and year. Remaining involved with the ever-popular Western Conservative Summit has allowed me to meet the impressive speakers the Summit brings in, as well as work behind the scenes. The hard work of the previous year culminates in a weekend of celebration, education, and intellectual challenge. To me, this is the mark of an effective organization. It focuses on results instead of settling on prospective ideals. Look no further than the 1776 Scholars alumni and the positions they hold in academic, private, and governmental settings, and you will see the tangible results of Centennial Institute's vision of creating positive change in society.

Do not be afraid to take advantage of every opportunity you can, taking your own Indiana Jones leap of faith with your future. The relationships you build at CCU are exceptionally rare — nowhere else will you get the chance to set yourself up for success than the four years you are afforded at CCU, the entrance to the Rocky Mountains. ★

*Staff Assistant
United States Senate*



**WESTERN
CONSERVATIVE
SUMMIT**



SAVE THE DATE FOR WCS17

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MAKING GOODNESS FASHIONABLE – JULY 21-23; WCS17.COM