

MAKING CHRIST KNOWN  
AMONG THE NATIONS

# Annual Report

2016



International  
FRIENDSHIPS

# Dear friends,

## We are in the right place, with the right people and the right purposes, facing a great opportunity to see the Kingdom of God grow among internationals!

According to data recently published by the Institute of International Education (IIE), the number of international students on US campuses increased 10% in 2015, the highest growth rate since 1978 - 79. Adding visiting scholars and those in English language programs bumps the estimate to 1.3 million internationals studying and doing research in the US and Canada.

To make the most of this great opportunity, we are continuing to mobilize the local church to welcome, befriend, serve, and win internationals into a love relationship with God through Christ. Doing this helps us partner with internationals to reach people back in their home countries or wherever God calls them next.

The 2015-16 school year was one of planning and transition for IFI, as we prepared for Rich Mendola's much-deserved six-month sabbatical. Now, we who have taken on Rich's responsibilities are seeking God's direction to position IFI to make the most of

the growing number of internationals studying in the US. We are actively seeking the best organizational structure and focus so that IFI's work can grow and make a difference on more US campuses. Our goal is sending disciple-makers to impact people in countries where most of us cannot go.

One conversation, one friendship, saying yes to God's call to serve --all of these can result in a returned international impacting their own people.

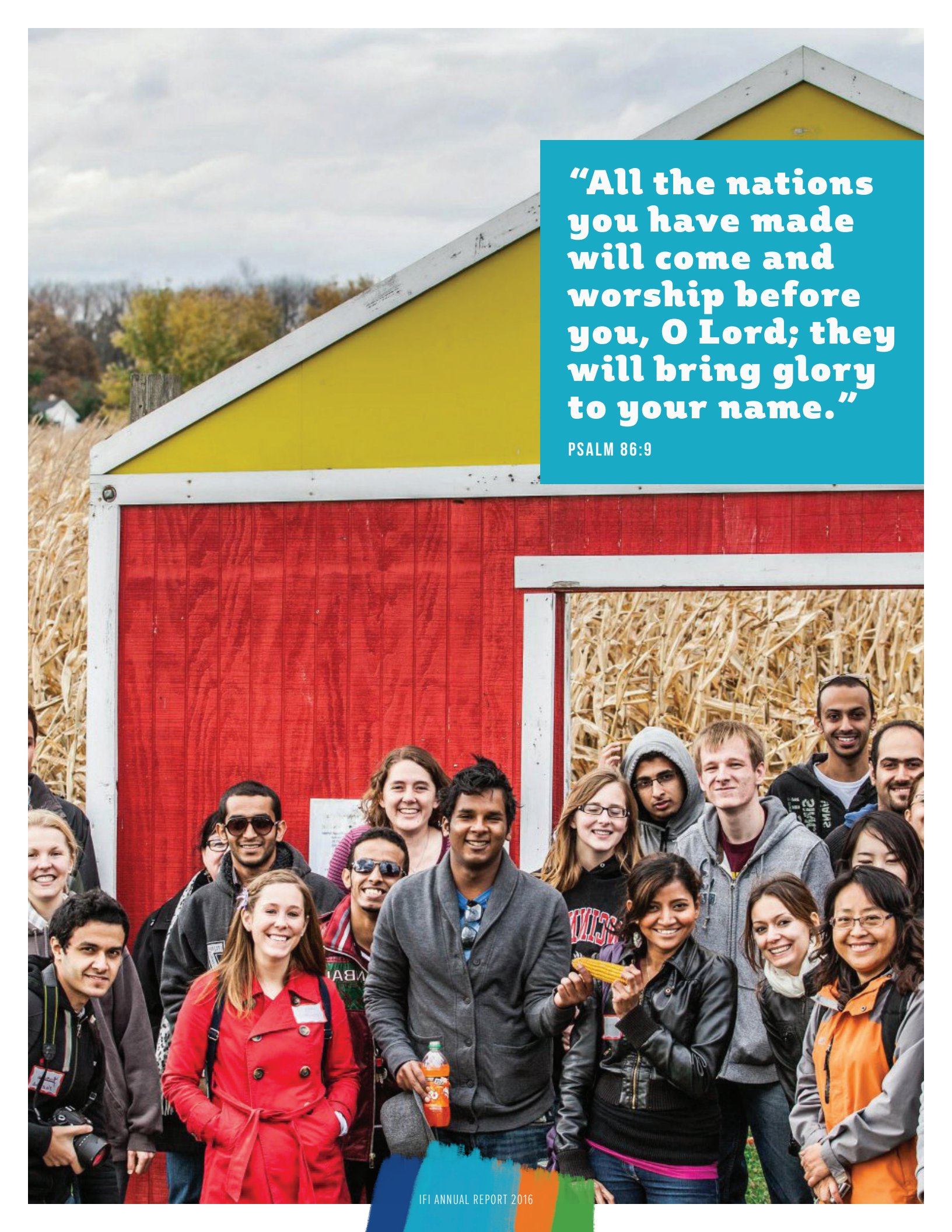
Your prayers, your service, and your financial support bring God-given visions into reality. Without you, this work would go undone. There is much more to do. Please join me in prayerfully following God's leadership to make His name known among the nations.

In service to my Lord Jesus,



Ken Barker  
Chief Operating Officer

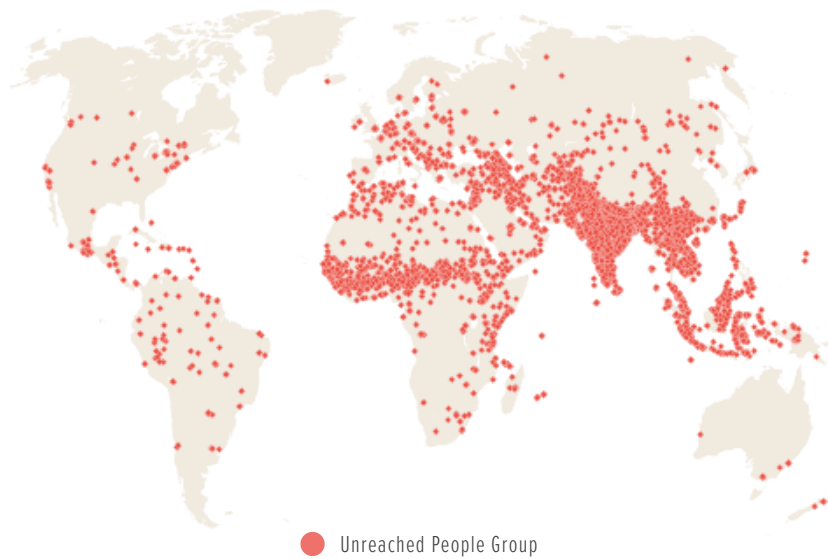




**“All the nations  
you have made  
will come and  
worship before  
you, O Lord; they  
will bring glory  
to your name.”**

PSALM 86:9

# The Need & Opportunity



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*A large percent of the world's population has little or no exposure to Jesus' gospel.*

Some of the finest students from all over the world – many from hard to reach parts of the globe – come to the United States to prepare for their future.

IFI is working to show these students the love of Christ and equip them to carry hope and truth back to the farthest corners of the world.

# IFI's Mission:

**WE SERVE INTERNATIONALS AND PARTNER WITH THEM  
TO MAKE CHRIST KNOWN AMONG THE NATIONS.**

## **We**

IFI staff, volunteers, local churches, and financial partners

## **serve**

love and befriend through showing hospitality and meeting practical and spiritual needs

## **internationals**

students, scholars, postdocs and family members, representing some of the world's finest

## **and partner with them**

discipleship, encouragement and training, so they will be prepared for a lifetime of ministry.

## **to make Christ known among the nations**

The end goal is to make disciples of all nations, and we are preparing these students to return to their homeland or wherever God may lead them.



# IFI by the Numbers

## WHO IS IFI?

9

Board Members



**James Trzcinski, Board Chair**  
Director of Management Services,  
The Ohio State University Medical Center

**Harry Anderson, Treasurer**  
Department of Business Administration,  
Cedarville University

**Brian Brooks**  
Pastor, Haven Community Church

51

Campus Ministry Staff

16

Administrative Staff

2,000+

Active Volunteers

75+

Church Partners

1,900+

Financial Partners

**Jerry Cable**  
Professor, The Ohio State University

**Peter H L Hamer**  
VP of Business Development,  
EcoChem Alternative Fuels LLC

**Richard Mendola**  
Executive Director, IFI

**Cindy Schmidt**  
Missions Director, New Life Church of  
Gahanna

**Matt Stenger, Secretary**  
Senior Financial Analyst, DHL Supply Chain

**Sophia Chang**  
Magistrate of Court of Claims Ohio

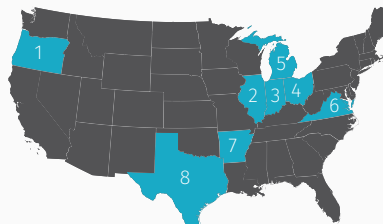
## WHERE IS IFI?

### Local Growth



1. Cleveland
2. Wooster
3. Urbana
4. Dayton
5. Columbus
6. Marietta
7. Cincinnati
8. Athens

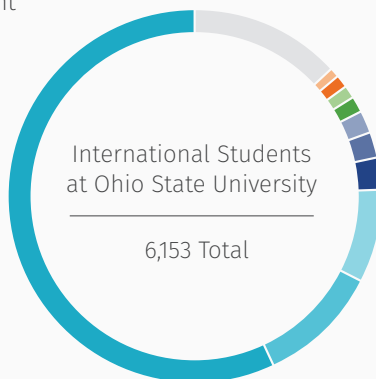
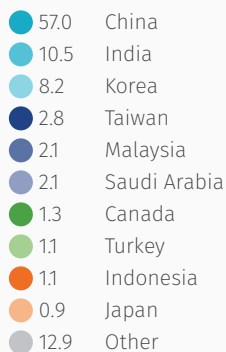
### National Growth



1. Portland OR
2. Illinois (2)
3. West Lafayette IN
4. Ohio (8)
5. Michigan (2)
6. Charlottesville VA
7. Arkadelphia AR
8. Texas (2)

## WHO IS IFI REACHING? A SNAPSHOT FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

### Country of Origin by Percent



**About 3 in 5**

of incoming internationals – or **1,143 Students** – were personally served by IFI at The Ohio State University

## STUDENT IMPACT 2016: A SNAPSHOT FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



**64% of new internationals were served by IFI**

Areas of Service



Airport Pick-up / Temporary Housing

**543**

English Conversation Partners

**231**

Lunar New Year Party

**173**

English as a Second Language

**130**

Welcome Party and Picnic

**750**

International Mom's Group

**38**

International Wives Group

**10**

Bible Study Groups

**30**

Students in Bible Studies

**475**

Discipleship Training

**35**

Areas of Impact



**6**

countries represented among students who came to faith in Christ through IFI: China, South Korea, Columbia, Taiwan, Italy and Mongolia

**40**

international students came to faith in Christ



# Lucy's Story

*Two local volunteers planted the seed, others watered, but God caused the growth in Lucy over nine years.*

"Lucy" was one of six Chinese students whom Gene and Phyllis Greene of Columbus OH hosted in fall 2007. All six attended the Greenses' Bible discussion, and one received Christ. Lucy did not, but she did volunteer frequently in the IFI office in Columbus. The staff found her very outgoing, her English quite good, and her help welcome.

When Lucy graduated from the Fisher School of Business at The Ohio State University in 2010, she got a job in the US. Several years ago, she went to Northwestern University for a master's degree. During her last year at Northwestern, she asked the Greenses for copies of the songs they had sung at their Bible study; those songs kept going through her mind, she said.

After she got her master's in 2016, Lucy

and her husband, an American, moved to Bloomington IL, where she started attending the local Chinese church and Bible Study Fellowship. In October 2016, Lucy wrote to the Greenses, "Everything I'm learning at the Chinese church and BSF agrees with what you taught us. It has started to sink in."

Just before Thanksgiving, she told the Greenses she had accepted Christ several weeks before. Her husband's parents had invited them to Columbus for Thanksgiving; could they stop by to see the Greenses?

Again and again, God shows faithful IFI staff and volunteers, "It's not important who does the planting or who does the watering. What's important is that God makes the seed grow." (1 Corinthians 3:7 NLT) Gene and Phyllis say "Amen!" to that!



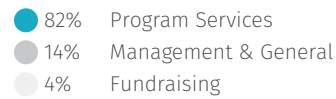
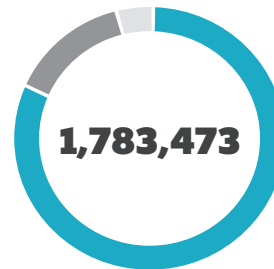


# Financials

## REVENUE



## EXPENSES



	2015-16	2014-15
<b>Donations &amp; Net Assets</b>		
Public Support Contributions	1,857,215	1,665,671
Other Revenue	145,472	108,633
<b>Total Public Support and Revenue</b>	<b>2,002,687</b>	<b>1,774,304</b>
Net Investment in Property	1,062,368	501,411
Net Assets Available for Ministry	110,426	452,169
<b>Total Net Assets at Year End</b>	<b>1,172,794</b>	<b>953,580</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Program Services	1,451,217	1,391,140
Management & General	256,738	198,779
Fundraising	75,518	88,161
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,783,473</b>	<b>1,678,080</b>

*Be part of a strategic movement to reach the nations at your doorstep!*

**PRAY, SERVE, GIVE**

[ifipartners.org](http://ifipartners.org)

**PARTNER FINANCIALLY**

**Online**  
[ifipartners.org/give](http://ifipartners.org/give)

**By Phone**  
(614) 294.2434

**By Mail**  
IFI, PO Box 82416  
Columbus, OH 43202

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## *Board of Directors*

Jim Trzcinski (**Chairman**)

Harry Anderson (**Treasurer**)

Matt Stenger (**Secretary**)

Cindy Schmidt

Pete Hamer

Sophia Chang

Jerry Cable

Rich Mendola

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