



COLLEGE *of* ATHENS

2022–23 Annual Report



Part I

• Foundational Statements



Core Values

- **A Strong Biblical Foundation**
- **An Abiding Relationship with the Trinity through Prayer**
- **Grounding each Person's Identity in Christ**
- **Practical, Experiential Learning**
- **Every Believer's Calling to Christ-like Love & Service**
- **Worship in Spirit & the Truth**
- **Unity in the Body of Christ**
- **Faith & Trust in God Alone**

To be a biblically-grounded, Holy Spirit-empowered, accredited Christian college that prepares men and women who will teach, reach, lead, and minister to others out of their identity in Christ through relational, hands-on training for life and leadership in the church, in the marketplace, and across the globe.

Mission Statement

Christian Philosophy of Education

The Goal of Kingdom-focused teaching is to develop students who will live and minister out of their identity in Christ as evidenced by transformed values, actions and capabilities including:

- An effectual understanding of who God is;
- An effective understanding, interpretation, and application of biblical Truth;
- A redeemed mindset, life focus, and Christian worldview;
- An abiding personal relationship with Jesus through the indwelling of His Holy Spirit;
- Joyful, obedient surrender to the will of the Heavenly Father and His Word;
- An understanding and effective use of their power and authority as believers; and
- The ability to lead and disciple others into Christ-likeness within community.

“Equipping heads and hearts to serve as Christ’s hands and feet.”

Part II

• Leadership

Board of Trustees

Mr. Matthew McRae III

Practice Manager, McRae Family Dental

Dr. Matthew DeLozier
Vice President for People Operations, Goodwill of TNVA

Dr. Marcia Wilbur,
(Secretary)
CoA President

Mr. James Warnes
(Chair)
Retired Attorney

Mr. Jeff Snowden

Partner, Snowden-Tatarski

Mrs. Annette Nelson
(Treasurer)
Owner/Manager, Annette A. Nelson CPA Inc.

Mr. Savior Anyidoho (Vice Chair)
Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Zax LLC

Mr. Blake Giles
Retired Journalist

Adjunct Faculty

Dr. Suresh Thomas, Christian Studies

DMin Asbury Theological Seminary

Dr. Rich Suplita Christian Studies

PhD University of Georgia

Dr. Howie Ohman Worship Arts

DEdMin Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Mr. Will Richardson Worship Arts

MPA University of Georgia
PhD (in progress) University of Georgia

Mr. Casey Birch Biblical Studies

ThM Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

Dr. Kirk McConnell General Education

EdD Liberty University

Dr. Ray Morris, Christian Education

EdD Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary

Leadership Staff

Dr. Marcia Wilbur, President

PhD The University of Georgia
MACT Michigan State University
AB The University of Michigan

Dr. Kurt Genteman, Chair, Undergraduate Christian Ministry Program & Chief Financial Officer

DMin Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
MPA Georgia State University
MBA Georgia State University
BS The University of Illinois

Mrs. Dee Pesaresi, Director, CoA Transformational Prayer Ministry Center

Shiloh Place Ministries Prayer Ministry Training
Elijah House Ministries Certified Instructor
Sozo Prayer Ministry
Restoring the Foundations Issue-Focused Prayer Ministry
Ultimate Journey
Immanuel Prayer Ministry

Mrs. Cynthia Berry, Operations Manager

BS United States Military Academy

Mrs. Cynthia Wilbur, Assistant Director of Program Services

MDiv (in progress) The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary
BA The University of Georgia

Dr. Jesse Colbert, Faculty

PhD Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
DMin The University of the South
MDiv Reformed Theological Seminary
BA Belmont University

Dr. Jesse Coyne, Chief Academic Officer

PhD New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
ThM New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
MA New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
BS The University of Georgia

Dr. Tim Harrison, Chair, Graduate Christian Ministry Program

EdD The University of Georgia
MEd The University of Georgia
MDiv Erskine Theological Seminary
BAA Emmanuel College

Mr. Alex Fields, Director of Outreach & Student Affairs

MA Columbia International University
BA The University of Georgia

Ms. Amy Alred, Library Specialist

MLIS Louisiana State University
BA University of Louisiana Monroe

Mrs. Paula Riobo, Director, Lifelong Ministry Program

Georgia School of Ministry Pastoral Certification

Dr. Scott Borg, Chair, Transformational Leadership Program

DIS Fuller Theological Seminary
MA Fuller Theological Seminary
BA Moody Bible Institute

Part III

• Institutional Effectiveness

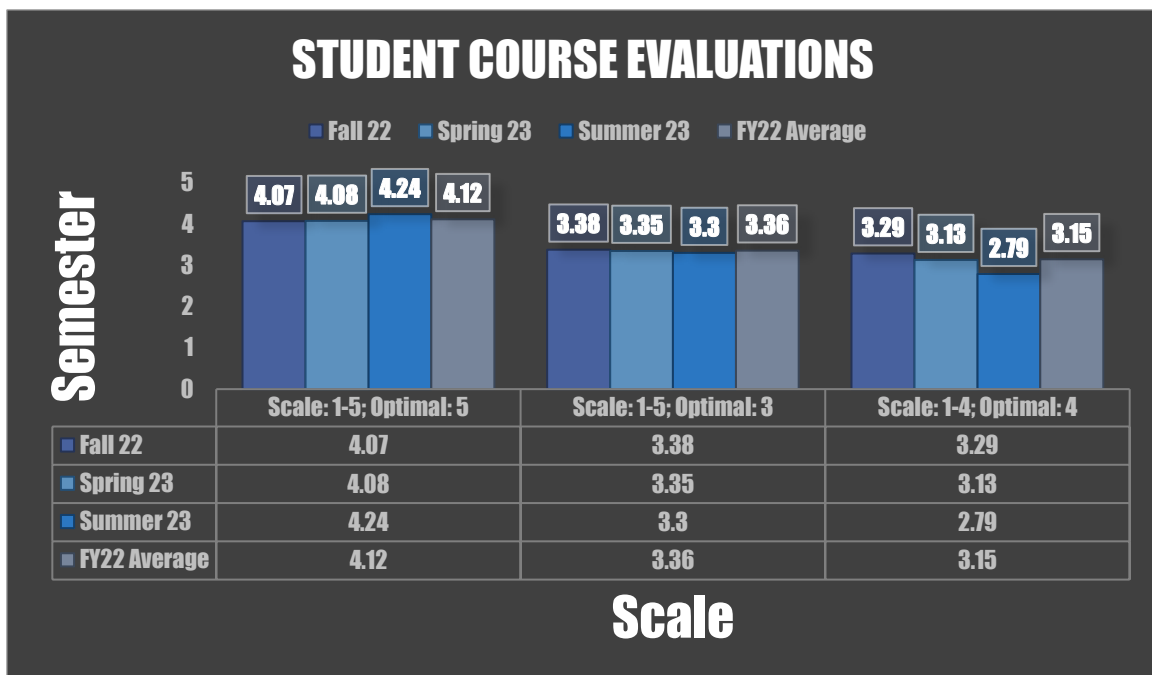
CoA employs both direct and indirect methods to assess its institutional effectiveness.

Assessment Data include:

- Students' grades
- Faculty observation reports
- Review of student artifacts
- Students' end-of-semester course evaluations
- Faculty Survey results
- Student Survey results
- Graduation Survey results
- Alumni Survey results
- Review of student portfolios

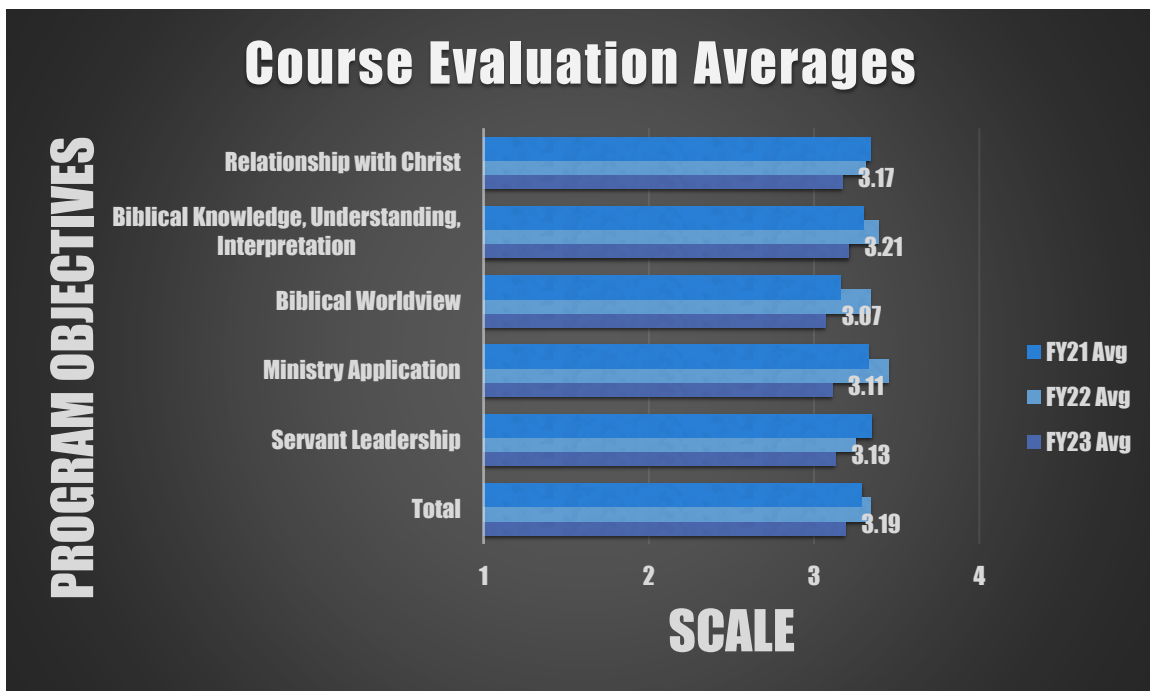
Student Course Evaluations

Students are asked to submit an online evaluation of every course they complete. The questions cover a variety of course objectives including content, instructional activities, and spiritual impact. The questions in the evaluations are scaled differently to account for the differences in content areas. All of the evaluation numbers are positive and consistent.



Student Course Evaluations & Program Objectives

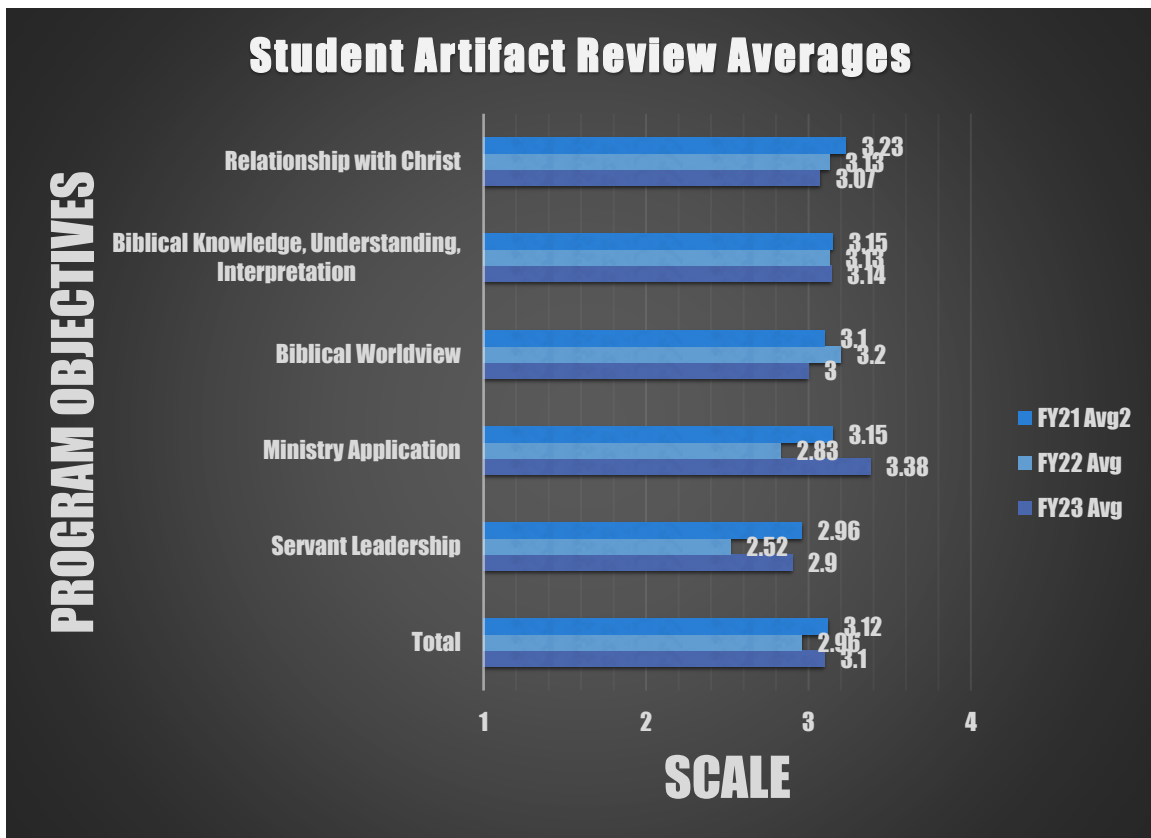
As part of the Course Evaluations, students are asked a series of 9 questions that correspond to the language of CoA's Educational Goals & Program Objectives about how the course impacted their understandings, beliefs, and abilities: 1 = Not at all; 2 = Somewhat; 3 = Moderately; 4 = Significantly. Some representative comments from the evaluations are listed below as well. The overall numbers are down slightly from the previous years, but the number and diversity of courses has grown significantly over the last year.



- "I loved the interaction with the professor and students. I loved learning about all the factors that can build up and potentially challenge a biblical worldview. There was so much history and an introduction of new terminology that I had not heard before. I loved the challenge to THINK!!!."
- "I really enjoyed all of the engagement in this course, we were free to ask as many questions as we wanted without being made feel crazy or less than."
- "I loved the material and the knowledge base of the instructor. We were always being pushed to think and that is so very much needed in this generation. I really did learn so much."
- "I have gained the strength and knowledge to the kinds of battles that will be thrown my way within my relationship."
- "This course gave me a better understanding of who I am in Christ. With learning what I did I believe it will help me with life and ministry to live more like Christ."
- "They showed me ways to minister to others more effectively."
- "It was really amazing to be able to have conversations with others outside of class about what I'm learning in class."
- "I applied what I was learning in my daily life and ministry."

Student Course Artifacts

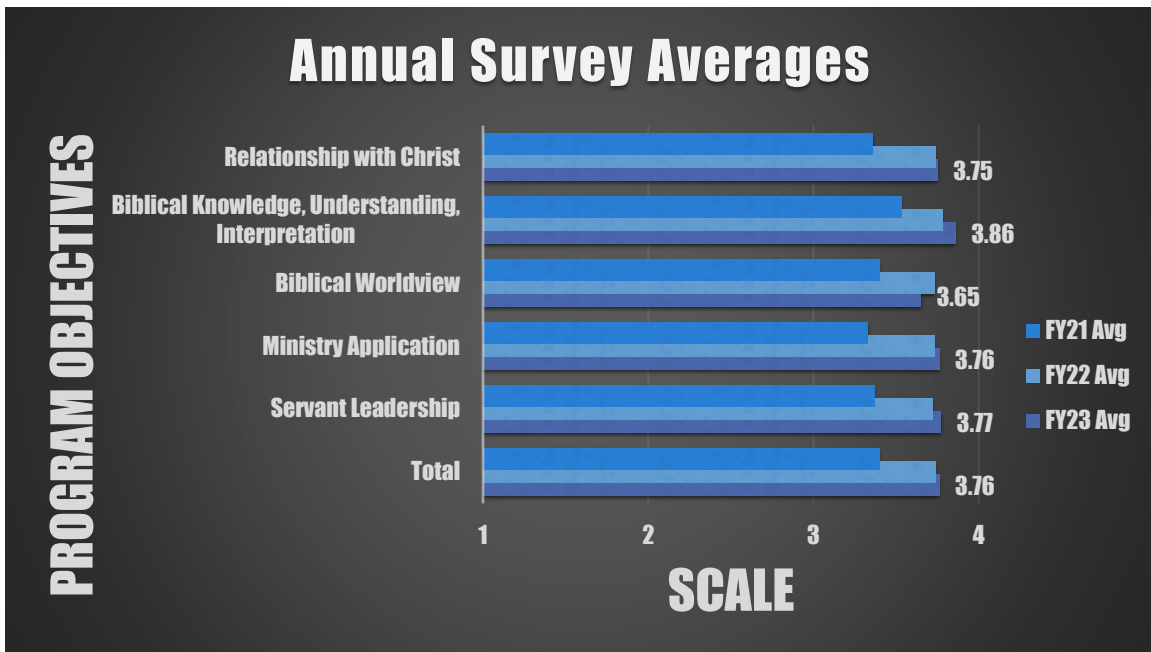
For the artifact review process, CoA Program Objectives have been summarized into five categories for the purpose of evaluation. Those categories are: Relationship with Christ (RC); Biblical Knowledge, Understanding, and Interpretation (KUI); Biblical Worldview (BW); Ministry Application (MA); and Servant Leadership (SL). Each category is evaluated on a scale of 1 to 4, with a 1 indicating minimal alignment and a 4 indicating strong alignment. The review is based upon a comparison of actual student work (artifacts) compared with the stated Program Objectives. At the end of each semester, the artifacts submitted by faculty members are evaluated by a faculty committee to determine alignment with the five main categories against a specific rubric. The data for FY23 continue to demonstrate strong and consistent outcomes with notable improvement in the areas of Ministry Application and Servant Leadership from the prior year.



16 of the 27 courses taught in FY23 underwent Course Artifact Review. 10 of the 16 courses were reviewed for the first time. 1 of the 16 courses was reviewed for the second time, but it was taught by a new instructor. 5 of the 16 courses were evaluated for the second time with the same instructor. The data indicate that CoA courses are largely accomplishing the objectives as articulated in our Educational Philosophy and Program Objectives and that steady improvement is being made for repeated offerings of a course but also for the incorporation and training of first-time instructors.

Annual Student Surveys

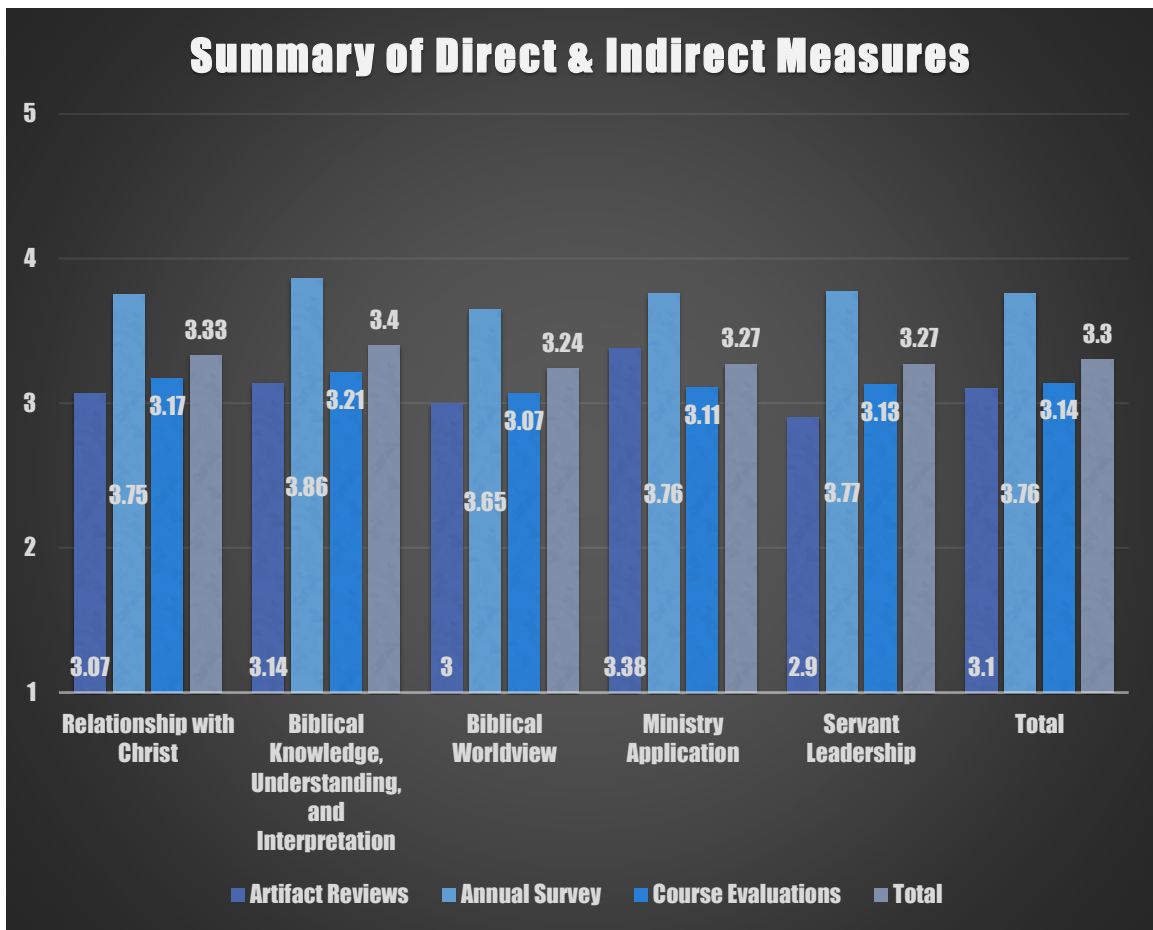
The College of Athens issues its Annual Student Survey each April at the close of the Spring Semester. The Annual Survey covers a range of items from Campus Life to Academics. As with the Course Evaluations, several questions within the Annual Survey have been correlated with the 5 categories represented in the Educational Goals and Program Objectives. Some representative comments from the surveys are listed below as well.



- "I love my experience at CoA. I stepped out in faith following the direction of the Holy Spirit for the direction of my life. CoA has been instrumental in helping shape and guide me toward the calling God has placed on me for furthering his Kingdom."
- "Christian love at its best!"
- "The entire staff cares about my growth, gives positive feedback and genuinely seems to be in a good mood. I like the staff's interaction with students and their willingness to pray with us."
- "Praise to the faculty and staff for their love and compassion for every single student who attends. Some of the students come from difficult home lives but have received love from mother and father figures who have spoken into their lives and encouraged them in their studies."
- "The staff has shown that this college is more than a place for a title to be given but a place of true growth and maturity in relationship with Christ first and others secondly. I have yet to have an experience with staff that was upsetting in any way. The differences in opinion whether my own or a moment that I have witnessed have been handled gracefully. The emphasis on prayer and dependence on God is impactful and can be seen throughout various aspects of the college administration/day-to-day function. This college as it is set up and with each staff member resembles the kingdom of God and makes me excited to be a part of the kingdom. It is not to say there is no room to grow but that each person administratively is keen on the growth of students and vulnerable about their own growth in a way that is a good example of what loving and needing the Lord looks like as a body to also be led by Him and for Him and His people."

CoA Correlation Matrix

In an effort to ensure alignment between CoA’s Christian Philosophy of Education, its Educational Goals, and the Program Objectives, the Leadership Staff created the College of Athens Correlation Matrix (below), showing the cross-connections between its Foundational Statements. The CoA Correlation Matrix provides a summary view of how well the institution is performing against its Christian Philosophy of Education, Educational Goals, and Program Objectives based on data presented earlier in the Comprehensive Assessment Report. The Correlation Matrix provides a comprehensive summary of direct and indirect measures of student outcomes.



Overall, the numbers from direct (student artifacts) and indirect (student survey and evaluations) data are consistent, and the collective numbers for all five categories are remarkably similar (3.24–3.40). The Artifact Review numbers and Course Evaluations are consistently below the numbers collected in the Annual Survey, but they generally scale correspondingly. Based on student survey responses, course evaluations, and student artifact reviews, CoA programs are highly effective in meeting their objectives. Students are being equipped to understand God’s will through Bible study, prayer, and discipleship, and they are able to apply that understanding in their own personal lives, in service to others, and through leadership in the Christian community.

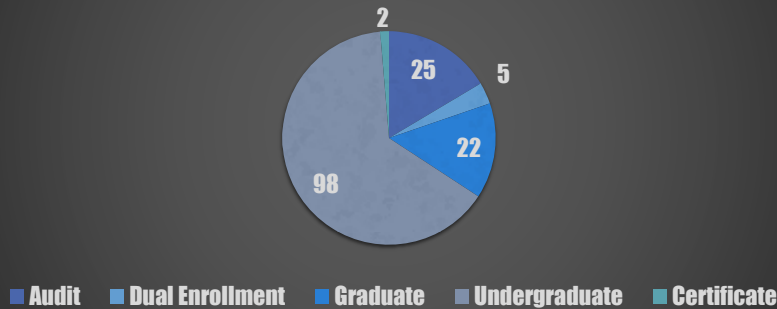
Recruiting, Enrollment, & Retention

CoA continues to see slow but steady growth among degree-seeking students at all levels of recruiting and enrollment. Increasing overall student enrollment continues to be the most important goal over the next 2 years. As CoA continues to expand its programs, degrees, and offerings alongside the development of its campus property, the expectation is that enrollment goals will continue to be met and exceeded.

Student Recruiting—New Students

Graduate	Undergraduate	Certificate
• 13	• 68	• 2

FY 23 Total Students Served



CoA 3-Year Retention Rates				
Program	2022–2023	2021–2022	2020–2021	3-Year Average
Associate*	100%	n/a	100%	100%
Bachelor*	80%	66%	n/a	73%
Graduate**	100%	66%	50%	72%

*Retention Rates for associate's and bachelor's programs are based on fall-to-fall, first-time, full-time student status.

**Retention Rates for Graduate programs utilize total fall-to-fall enrollment.

CoA 3-Year Graduation Rates***				
Program	2016 Cohort	2015 Cohort	2014 Cohort	Average
Associate	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Bachelor	0%	0%	0%	33%
Graduate	0%	0%	100%	33%

***The completion and graduation rates for certificates, associate degrees, and bachelor degrees are measured at 150% of the expected time for completion (e.g., bachelor degree rate is 6 years from first enrollment).

Note: The majority of CoA students during the years reported attended the college part-time. Further, transient student enrollment numbers are not included in the numbers reported, and CoA does not track graduation numbers for transfer students, which lowers the average significantly.

Part IV

• Lifelong Ministry Program

The goals of the Lifelong Ministry Program are:

- To help equip the saints for Christian life and ministry;
- To serve as a hub of unity among believers in the greater Athens, GA area; and
- To build awareness of the College as a trusted source of advanced ministry training and personal Christian growth.

The key Scripture for the Lifelong Ministry Program is Ephesians 4:12–13

“To equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.”


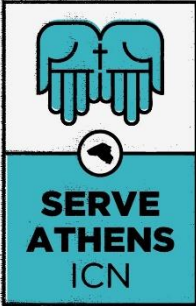



Programs & Seminars Offered

- **Sozo Prayer Ministry**
- **Redemptive Names of God**
- **Healing Trauma**
- **Coaching 4 Christlikeness**
- **Christian Leadership Institute**

In FY23, a total of 25 auditors enrolled in 6 different courses at CoA. We also offered 3 different seminars during the year with a total of 57 participants. The LMP also graduated its 1st cohort of 6 students from the Christian Leadership Institute and launched its 2nd cohort with 8 participants who will work together in this 18-month discipleship program. 13 individuals became certified coaches through the Coaching 4 Christlikeness Program. Below are a few representative comments from LMP participants:

- *“After I studied about my identity in Christ, I had new insight into what having the Holy Spirit means regarding what my purpose in life is, and the power I really have in Christ to do everything He wants me to do. I studied the person of Jesus in His divinity and humanity and how He has a wonderful plan that He is using His Body of Believers to carry out His purposes. My compassion for people has expanded, because we discuss different ways of seeing their needs through His eyes.”*
- *Being in a relationship with Jesus for 28 years, I’m always amazed at how much I need to learn. To know more about my relationship with Jesus and to better understand that relationship has been the growth that I have experienced. I can walk a bit stronger and more confident in the knowledge I gained. It’s kinda like school. First, you learn what simple math is. You know it, but next year you learn about multiplication and you are excited to know that. And each year you become better at math and your confidence grows. That is what CLI has been for me. Grateful to have been a part of it and getting to know the others that have walked this journey with me.*

Conferences & Special Events

Event	Day & Time	Description	Participants
 <p>Clarkston Mission Trip</p>	Saturday, September 24, 2022, 9:30AM–5:30PM	The CoA partner, Global Frontier Missions (GFM), hosted the CoA team for the day. The trip was concentrated on learning about Clarkston, the refugees and international populations there, and cultural immersion-through prayer walking, a mosque visit, an ethnic lunch and touring the community	7
	Saturday, October 22, 2022, 8:00AM–1:30PM	ServeAthens ICN (in Christ's name) is designed to bring together the body of Christ for a day of service in blessing our city and blessing others. After the group kickoff, volunteers divided into various teams to serve at 7 different sites in the Athens area, ranging from prayer walking and evangelism to landscaping.	76
	Saturday, January 7, 2023, 9:00AM–4:30PM	Our 10 th annual prayer conference had the theme "Giant or Grasshopper?" and was based on Hebrews 4:1.	72
	Thursday, May 4, 2023, 7:00AM–8:30AM	CoA sponsors and helps organize the NDoP in Athens each year. This year's attendees included the mayor of Athens, other elected officials, and many local pastors and community leaders. The keynote speaker was Dr. Mark Rutland.	600
	Saturday, June 10, 2023	This year's annual conference focused on the theme "Light of Christ." The 5 teaching sessions and times of prayer and worship were enjoyed by representatives from 22 area churches.	75

Transformational Prayer Ministry Center



15 Prayer Ministers served 126 ministry sessions for an average of 10.5 sessions per month. Over the course of the year, 90 different people in the community were served. Leaders from the Prayer Ministry Center also ministered multiple sessions per week at Sparrow’s Nest Job Readiness program. The Prayer Ministry Center also partnered with the organizations Never Alone and Fresh Wind Women Recovery Center to provide on-site ministry sessions. Data from the Transformational Prayer Ministry Center indicate that participants have an overwhelmingly positive experience. Below are a few representative comments:

- *“I now have an accurate view of the relationship with my father, and how I view God working in my life.”*
- *God has given me reassurance that He knows the desires of my heart and is with me. Also, that I am on the path He has created for me.”*
- *Jesus is enough for my forgiveness. Holding onto unforgiveness of others or myself is sin and will cause a gap or wedge between what the Lord is wanting to do.”*

Part V

• Financial Report

The College of Athens employs Forestall CPAs to conduct its yearly financial audit. The following financial data represent the fiscal year lasting from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Total Assets	\$1,628,444
Total Liabilities	\$665,733
Total Net Assets	\$962,711
Total Revenue & Contributions	\$583,720
Total Expenses	\$608,606