

cece 
Comunidad de
Estudiantes Cristianos
del Ecuador

Annual Report
2017

Comunidad de Estudiantes Cristianos del Ecuador

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Words from our National Director

"...[he] walked faithfully with God..." These are the words registered in the book of Genesis to describe Enoch (Genesis 5:24^a). Living faithfully before God is central to what CECE does with its university students and professionals. Our purpose is to cultivate a generation of disciples who walk faithfully with God, which means unequivocally walking in faithfulness with the resolution to create *shalom* for everyone, everywhere, in Jesus Christ. We will explore this and so much more in the coming year, 2018, as we dive into Genesis, the book we will study nationally throughout the year.

But it is no easy task to remain faithful to God and His purposes. As this year ends, upon exploring the Pastoral Letters with students and professionals throughout 2017, we have been challenged by Paul's call to Timothy to remain faithful to God, to Paul, and to his own pastoral vocation (2 Timothy). Paul reminds Timothy of the 'resources' that he has on hand to keep his faithfulness alive and well: the gift of God, the Holy Spirit, the Scriptures, the teachings he has received, etc.

As it is our calling as well to walk faithfully with God, so must we celebrate God's faithfulness to us. If we have walked faithfully with God, it is because He has been faithful to us first. Our faithfulness is only an expression of His faithfulness. And this is exactly what I want to invite you into through your reading of this year's Annual Report.

We celebrate that the Lord has been faithful in deploying his missionaries – university students – with distinct callings on their campuses. We celebrate that the Lord has been faithful in providing accompaniment for His missionaries through staff workers. We celebrate that the Lord has been faithful in giving guidance to CECE through our National Board and National Direction. We celebrate that the Lord has provided through generous and sacrificial ministry partners for His work.

May you enjoy reading this year's Annual Report and may you join in on our prayer of gratitude to the Lord for all of his goodness with the ministry of CECE in 2017.



Josué O. Olmedo Sevilla

National Director

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Ministry Life



In 2017, we have seen a lot of growth in the reach of CECE's ministry. The foundation to this growth is what we do in the day to day, or better said, what our students do day to day on their university campuses. Through special events for training; interinstitutional and global partnerships; and initiatives put forth by our students and student leaders, new students are being invited

to explore the Bible for themselves and to come to know Jesus Christ personally.

In 2017 we focused nationally on the Pastoral Letters with the theme, "Legacy & Life: The DNA of Jesus Christ" which has challenged our Christian students to deepen their study of the Word and live with righteousness – searching for an integral faith.

Student Initiatives

Proxi

The proxi is a tool from the IFES movement in the United States (InterVarsity/USA) used to start and open up spiritual conversations in the university context. We have adapted this resource to begin to have more contextualized spiritual conversations with students throughout the universities of Ecuador. This year we saw two proxis created – the Suffering Proxi and the Christmas Proxi.

The Suffering Proxi is an adaptation of the first proxi we developed in Ecuador to use as a response after the earthquake here in 2016. We decided to open up the theme to include any natural or man-made disaster – any form of suffering. We have been able to share this resource with our brothers and sisters throughout Latin America.

Within these last few weeks of 2017, we were also able to finish a second proxi to help students start spiritual conversations around the theme of Christmas. "What does Christmas mean to you?" and "What are your expectations/desires regarding vacations, family, presents, and faith during this time?" are just a few of the questions used to start and deepen the conversations being had on campuses. This resource has also been posted to our website and shared on our social networks so that it can be used throughout Ecuador and throughout Latin America as other movements see fit.



Narnia Project

In the city of Quito students have developed the Narnia Project which is a presentation of a contextualized version of "The Chronicles of Narnia" by C.S. Lewis adapted to the realities within the university context. Due to difficulties in being granted permissions within the National Polytechnic University, we have been unable to present the final work on campus this year, but we currently have an assigned date to present the play on campus on January 5, 2018. We hope that this effort and that the discussion afterwards will have a profound impact in the lives of the students in this educational center.

The Narnia Project will also be presented at a couple of churches throughout the city of Quito in these coming weeks.



Mark Drama

In the city of Guayaquil, students have been preparing themselves for various months to present the gospel of Mark in 90 minutes with around 15 student actors, without any form of costumes or accessories, and without the help of professional actors. The Mark Drama is the gospel presented in a contextualized manner for the 21st Century which, at the same time, maintains the central message of Christ and challenges its viewers to think more



personally about the life of Jesus. This effort was performed in the city in a local church with an audience of 50 people. Currently the Mark Drama is requesting permission to present the play on the university campus, but have been unable to receive approval to do so. We pray to the Lord that everything needed will come together and that this work may have a lasting impact in the lives of students.

University Groups

University Groups (UG) are small gatherings of students which meet on university campuses in green spaces, open classrooms, cafeterias, etc. to host Bible studies around relevant themes and to thus create an impact in the lives of friends and classmates with the gospel of Jesus.

- CECE Ambato had one UG in 2017
- CECE Guayaquil hosted five UGs in 2017
- CECE Loja started up in the second quarter of 2017 with three UGs
- CECE Portoviejo continued in 2017 with one UG
- CECE Quito maintained its 13 UGs
- CECE Riobamba had one UG in 2017



Global Partnerships and Interinstitutional Relationships

InterVarsity –Kurt Thiel’s Visit

This year we had the pleasure of hosting Kurt Thiel, Director of InterVarsity Link. It is with this organization that we have signed a cooperation agreement for the following two years which includes the continuance of Brett Schaffner during this time as a staff worker in the city of Quito. We are grateful to God for His faithfulness and generosity in being able to count on Brett’s continued service for the next two years. We are certain that this will be reflected in the extension of the gospel throughout the universities of Quito.



TSCF New Zealand

Ruth Hick’s Visit to NZ



During the month of July, Ruth Hicks, staff worker in Quito, had the opportunity to travel to New Zealand to re-connect with the IFES movement there – TSCF – and share/teach at some of their national events. Ruth Hicks, TSCF staff worker, has served during the last 16 years with CECE in Ecuador in various local and national roles. Her time in New Zealand this year helped to maintain the partnership between the two movements and was also a

space for her to visit donors, friends, and family.

Simon Sim’s Visit to Ecuador

For one week during September, Simon Sim, TSCF staff worker from the city of Dunedin, visited CECE. It was a time to continue reinforcing the link between CECE and TSCF and to share stories of mission on the university campus. Simon spent time with CECE Quito, getting to visit a few University Groups throughout the city and later on during his visit he traveled to the city of Guayaquil to participate in the 2nd National Staff Meeting of the year.



Ecumenical Projects Committee

The agreement reached at the end of 2016 has been maintained this year with the Ecumenical Projects Committee as the operating entity of the COFA scholarships, from



which we have been able to continue providing scholarships to CECE students who would not be able to have access to a university education otherwise. This year all COFA scholarship recipients from all scholarship operators came together in the city of Baños for the first annual retreat to focus on using what they learn to give back to society.

New Life

Loja

In the second quarter of this year, a more formal agreement was reached with SIM for the creation of a CECE group in the city of Loja. Through this partnership, we were able to open up a new Local Group in the city. They quickly began with three University Groups in three universities throughout the city – the UTP, the National University, and the Conservatory – with the provisional accompaniment of SIM staff, Carlos Ruiz. Currently the group has started and maintained its first meetings and we are hopeful that this city in the south of the country which is an important academic center – with around nine thousand university students – may be impacted with the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Ibarra

In the white city, as its inhabitants call it, of Ibarra, we have begun conversations with the Liebenzeller Mission (German mission) to start a pioneering work in the city with the support of various churches and pastors in the area. We pray that this group can officially start in the coming year and that it may grow rapidly. This city is situated in the northern mountain range and represents the principal area for university formation in the north of the country.

Special Events

Fondotón



The Fondotón is a national event to raise funds for training spaces and evangelistic projects. This year marked the second consecutive year of the Fondotón as a national initiative and continued with its objectives to help make our work on university campuses known and to allow individuals to partner with CECE in prayer and financially so that the ministry on university campuses across the country can be sustainable. This year it was exciting to see the amount of people who participated – about 85 participants nationally – and that they are involving themselves in university mission in various ways. This year's Fondotón raised around \$8,000USD nationally!

National Camp

In March, we celebrated our National Camp – one of the most important formation/discipleship events we offer – where for five days students from throughout the country are trained and encouraged in the Word to do mission on their campuses in their various cities. This year, this event took place in the city of Quito and had 108 participants from at least seven different cities. The focus for this year’s National Camp was the Pastoral Letters with the theme, “Legacy & Life: The DNA of Jesus Christ”. The main expositor for the event was our friend Ricardo Borges from Brazil who is currently serving with IFES as a member of the global team for Commitment to the Scriptures.



EFE



EFE, our Student Leader Formation Event, took place in the city of Riobamba, Ecuador with the participation of 57 students and staff. This event is more focused on Christian leaders so that we can develop themes to promote creative and effective evangelism in the university context. Once again we centered our study on the Pastoral Letters with our theme of “Legacy & Life: The DNA of Jesus Christ” but with a more specific focus for our Christian leaders. As is the tradition with this event, we had three main areas to study – Bible, Evangelism, and Healthy Interpersonal Relationships. This year’s EFE featured Erik and Ediana de Vásquez as the main expositors for the weekend event.

Students took away a lot of tools and trainings from this event – from how to listen better as God speaks in regards to our interpersonal relationships to how to create intentional spaces of dialog in their specific university contexts.

World Student Day

Every year on the third Friday of October, the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES) celebrates World Student Day. It is one day a year where every IFES movement (there are movements in more than 160 countries throughout the world) unite in prayer for the university.

In CECE, we saw the greatest level of participation this year with various events and spaces for prayer in six cities throughout the country. In the end, there were around 19 meetings solely focused on prayer for other IFES

movements around the world. We also took part internationally by sharing videos with prayer requests and creating prayer cards on the IFES World Student Day website so that other movements and ministry partners could pray for us as well.

IFES DÍA MUNDIAL DEL ESTUDIANTE 2017

ACTIVIDADES DE LA CECE PARA EL DÍA MUNDIAL DEL ESTUDIANTE

CITY	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
AMBATO	jueves 19 octubre 2017	11h30	UTA Campus Ingahurco
	viernes 20 octubre 2017	15h00	Universidad Indoamérica
LOJA	viernes 20 octubre 2017	11h00	UTPL - Sala de Inglés
	miércoles 18 octubre 2017	10h00	UDLA Park
QUITO	lunes 16 octubre 2017	10h00	UCE Dorado
	miércoles 18 octubre 2017	10h00	UDLA Park
	miércoles 18 octubre 2017	12h30	UDLA Granados
	miércoles 18 octubre 2017	13h00	UCE Ciudadela
	miércoles 18 octubre 2017	13h30	UPS Girón
	miércoles 18 octubre 2017	14h00	PUCE
GUAYAQUIL	viernes 20 octubre 2017	16h30	Universidad de Guayaquil
	jueves 19 octubre 2017	11h00	EPN
PORTOVIEJO	jueves 19 octubre 2017	11h00	Universidad Técnica de Manabí Área verde de la Facultad de Medicina
	jueves 18 octubre 2017	12h00	Los Hemisferios
RIOBAMBA	jueves 18 octubre 2017	14h00	ESPE
	jueves 18 octubre 2017	16h00	USFQ

Celebración CECE Quito
viernes 17h00 a 19h00 UPS Girón Capilla (Abierto al público)

National Board

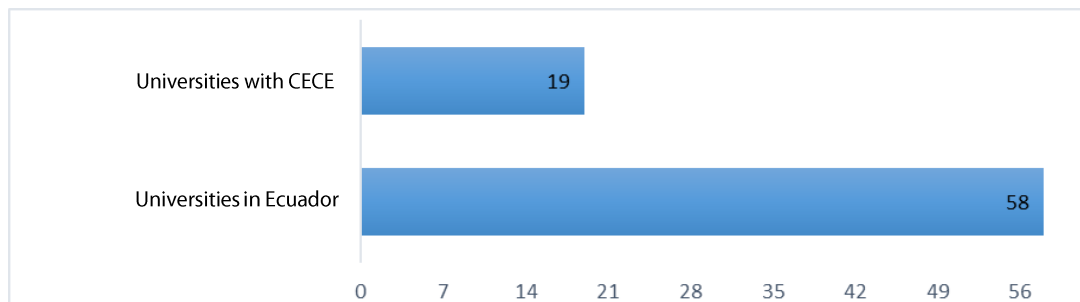
As a part of the governance of our organization, we have a National Board composed of nine members, including the National Director and a student representative. The National Board is in charge of the administrative and organizational health of CECE. They meet four times a year to review all pending tasks and to review the advancement of student ministry in the various universities throughout Ecuador. The National Board keeps watch over all required documentation to make sure that CECE complies with all government regulations and entities (Department of Labor, for example). The year ended with the National Board's ratification and with the payment of all pending taxes.



Edith Salvador, member of the National Board, represented CECE in the General Secretaries and Board Presidents' Meeting which took place in Chile in the month of November. The training she received for members of National Boards will surely render many fruits in the near future. The National Board has also taken the initiative to sign CECE up to receive the 2018 mentorship and workshops regarding governance and fundraising to be facilitated by members of the IFES Latin American Regional Team.

Our Growth

CECE's Presence in Ecuador's Universities

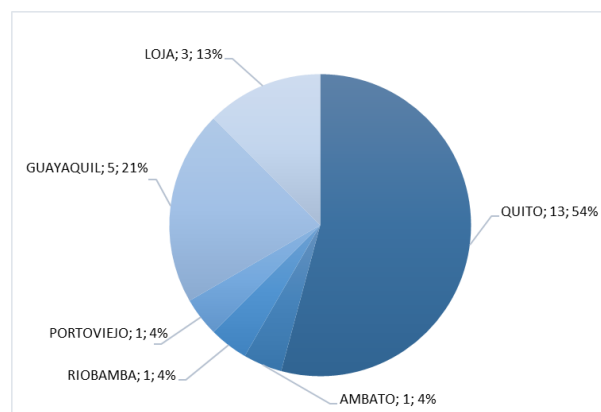


As this year ends, **CECE has a presence on 19 universities which each have at least one University Group** that is proclaiming the gospel. This means that **CECE currently exists on 33% of universities throughout the country!** We hope that in the coming year we can continue to carry the message of Jesus to even more universities throughout the country.

CECE Groups in Distinct Cities

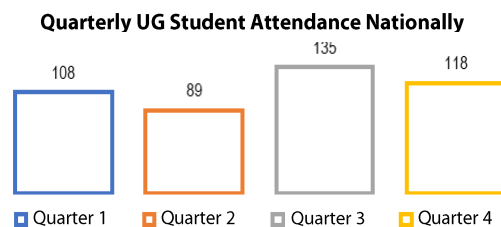
Throughout the year, around **24 University Groups** have been established on 19 universities, in **6 cities** throughout the country. These University Groups are facilitated by students.

With 24 University Groups, we have maintained the number of UGs in comparison with last year, adding one new Local Group in the city of Loja.



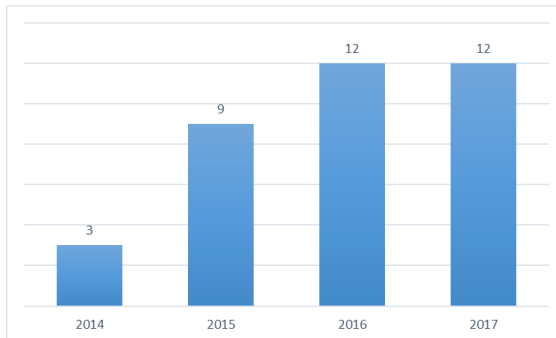
Participation in University Groups

This year we had 18 University Groups nationally in the first months of the year, growing to 24 UGs by the end of the year in 6 cities (Ambato, Guayaquil, Loja, Portoviejo, Quito, and Riobamba). In these groups where students meet weekly to study the Bible, we were able to share with **an average of 115 university students every month** of 2017.



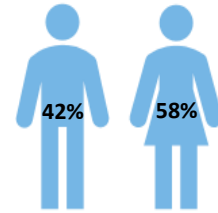
Pastoral Staff Team

Since 2014, CECE has seen growth in the incorporation of new staff workers working part- or full-time, which translates to a larger and more effective pastoral staff team to serve students



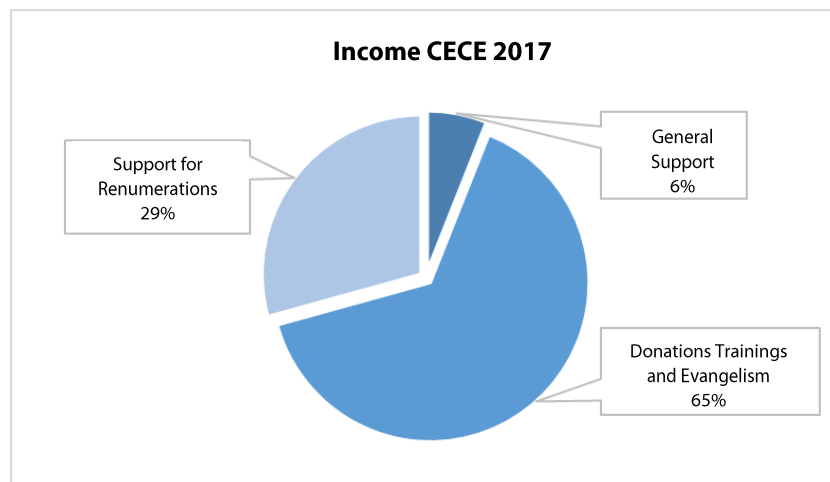
who continue to get involved in CECE. We are grateful to the Lord that this need for staff is being answered and we continue to pray that this current team can continue to be nurtured and grow to better serve the Kingdom of God in the universities of Ecuador.

Distribution of Staff

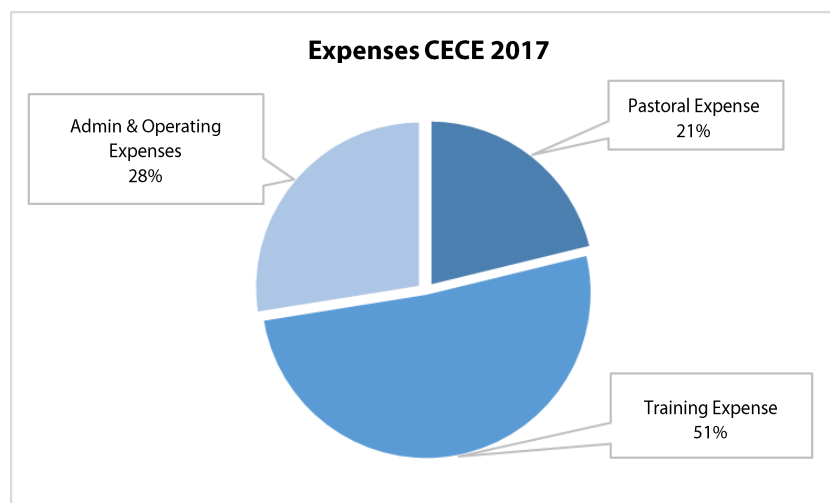


Finances

Income



Expenses



Calendar 2018

GÉNESIS

¿POR QUÉ ESTÁS AQUÍ?

January

- 20, Saturday, National Board Meeting, Quito
- 27, Saturday, Fondotón (National fundraising initiative)

February

- 12-13, Monday-Tuesday, Carnaval holiday
- Visit Local Groups

March

- 7-11, Thursday-Sunday, National Camp
- 30, Friday, Holy Week holiday

April

- 7, CECE's 27th Anniversary (month of Anniversary celebrations)
- 14, Saturday, National Board Meeting, Quito
- 23-28, Monday-Friday, IFES Latin American Regional Team Meeting

May

- 5-6, Saturday-Sunday, 1st National Staff Meeting, Cuenca
- 10 May-5 June, InterVarsity/USA Global Program
- 11-13, Friday-Sunday, Regional Consult, "Big Issues in the University", Panama
- 19-20, Saturday-Sunday, 1st CNE (National Student Leaders) Meeting, Loja

June

- 2, Saturday, 1st National Communications Team Meeting, Quito
- 10 May-5 June, InterVarsity/USA Global Program
- 9, Saturday, Liturgy Workshop, Quito
- Visit Local Groups

July

- 14, Saturday, National Board Meeting, Quito
- 21-29, ECUA, Cochabamba, Bolivia

August

September

- 8-9, Saturday-Sunday, 2nd National Staff Meeting, Guayaquil

October

- 13, Saturday, National Board Meeting, Quito
- 19, Friday, IFES World Student Day
- 20, Saturday, 2nd National Communications Team Meeting, Quito
- Visit Local Groups

November

- 3-10, Saturday-Saturday, Staff Formation Event, Colombia
- 24-25, Saturday-Sunday, National Assembly y 2nd CNE (National Student Leaders) Meeting, Quito, Nacional Office

December

- No national events in December, local groups are encouraged to organize evangelistic activities to celebrate Christmas

Prayer Requests



Finishing up a year full of our Lord Jesus Christ's blessings, we are grateful for all that we have seen. We trust that God will continue using CECE to take the gospel to the universities throughout our country. It is with this in mind that we would like to invite you to join with us in prayer for the following requests:

- For the consolidation and expansion of the mission of University Groups in Guayaquil, Loja, and Quito
- For the strengthening and development of the mission of University Groups in Ambato, Portoviejo, and Riobamba
- For the consolidation of the pastoral work of the current staff team and for the new staff that may join in the coming year
- For wisdom and vision for the National Board and the National Director in their roles of guiding CECE
- For financial provision for all ministerial and administrative activities and for the continued development of ministry partners for individual staff workers

Join with Us in the Mission

We are very grateful for your support and interest in the mission we have to carry the gospel of Jesus Christ to the universities of Ecuador. We would like to extend a special invitation to you so that you can further partner with us in this mission. If you are interested in getting more involved with the ministry of CECE, there are various ways to do so. Two fundamental ways are prayer and financial support. We provided some prayer requests in the previous section that you can use to support us in prayer. You can even join us in prayer throughout the year by interceding for the events listed in the 2018 Calendar! The second way you can join with us in this mission is through financial partnership. If you are interested in giving to CECE, you can donate online at <https://ifesworld.org/en/give> by choosing to support "an IFES staff member/project/national movement" and entering "CECE Ecuador" in the input box. You can also donate directly to CECE's bank account with the following information:



C.E.C.E
Banco del Pacífico
Cuenta Corriente 518191-7

After donating, please send an email to donaciones@somoslacece.com to confirm your deposit/donation.

Vision for the Future

I hope that your reading of the 2017 Annual Report has brought to your heart and mind a sensation of gratefulness for all that the Lord is doing in and through CECE in the universities and in the hearts of university students.

For 2018 that is soon to start, we pray for and are preparing ourselves to consolidate our presence in the 19 universities where we currently operate throughout our country – may see qualitative and quantitative growth in the proclamation of the gospel among university students. It is also our prayer that the University Groups be guided by the Holy Spirit and generate new and better ways to bring about mission initiatives that make the gospel more accessible to their fellow classmates. May our evangelistic initiatives be multiplied: weekly Bible studies, conferences, public forums, proxis, Mark Drama, and more!

For the year that comes, we pray and are preparing ourselves for the planting of a ministry for our professionals – may it spark in the hearts of its participants the necessary guidance so that they can experience and live out their professional calling from the Christian perspective. May our spaces for student discipleship also grow this coming year: Discipleship Track, National Camp, and ECUA!

For the year that comes, we pray for and commit ourselves to the calling to model the human vocation of maximizing *shalom* for everyone, everywhere; so that we may deepen our service on the University campus, deepen our understanding of the relationship between faith and science, and deepen our understanding of the relationship of faith and work.

For the year that comes, we continue to cherish your accompaniment on this mission in the University, through both your prayers and your financial support.

May the Lord bless you.



Dr. Josué O. Olmedo Sevilla

Director Nacional

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