

# Dave Walters reflects on his journey at CU

**Jesse Harp**

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Dave Walters, who has worked at Campbellsville University since 1994, is retiring. He announced his retirement in December of 2016.

Walters last served as vice president for admissions and student services.

Alongside Nancy, his wife, Walters initially came to Campbellsville as a residence director. During his employment as a residence director, the Walters used their time to minister to students who, in turn, ministered to them. The students they touched continue to have strong and enduring relationships with the Walters.

“My time at CU has been an amazing journey,” Walters said. “Nancy and I have felt extremely privileged and blessed to be a part of such an incredible institution. The strong Christian heritage and the amazing people are what make CU such a wonderful place.”

“Dave Walters has demonstrated exemplary Christian servant leadership to the Campbellsville University community,” Dr. Michael V. Carter, president of Campbellsville University, said.

“I, along with our entire university faculty, staff and coaches, wish him the very best in the days to come and know that God will continue to use Dave in kingdom advancement and ministry.”

Scott Necessary, director of dual credit and assistant to Walters at Campbellsville University, was once one of the students mentored by Walters.

After attending Lowell Avenue Baptist Church, of which Walters pastors, their friendship began to grow. Necessary said he has been greatly blessed by Walters’ presence in his life, and said that they bonded through their shared sense of humor.

“Dave has played a huge role in my life and has served as a daily reminder of how a Godly man should live his life,” Necessary said.

“He has been a role model for me over the past 15 years. It was a pleasure to find out that he would be working closely with me in admissions. Oftentimes a good leader is someone that listens and leads by example. Dave has definitely done that for me.”

Walters’ friends and colleagues have also been impacted by his leadership and caring spirit and will feel his absence as well.

“Dave always led by example, with patience and the ability to explain and demonstrate strategies clearly,” Gean Wright, Walters’ secretary of nearly two decades, said.

“He always sees the best in everyone and every situation and is one of the most patient people I know. His love for God, CU and its students shows in everything he does. I know God has great things planned for him and his family,” Wright said.

Dr. Donna Hedgepath, vice president for academic affairs at CU, has also felt the significant influence Walters has had on the campus.

“Dave is one of the most genuine people I know,” Hedgepath said.

“He is a team player who has a heart for students and ministry. His love for CU and its students is evidenced in every area of his work. I consider him a colleague, friend and mentor.

I will miss his leadership on campus, but I’m also excited for what God has in store for him, his family and his ministry.”

Paula Caldwell was hired by Walters eight years ago and has watched as he influenced the campus with his leadership while caring for people and God.

“Even with a mountain of responsibilities on his shoulders, he always conducted himself with grace, dignity and respect for others, all qualities of a great leader,” Caldwell said.

Caldwell was director of admissions under Walters.

Reflecting over the many relationships he’s built during his time at Campbells- ville, Walters said they have changed his life for the better.

“When you spend as much time together as you do working on a college campus, these friendships become very deep and meaningful,” Walters said. “There are folks at CU that have ministered to my family over the years and touched our hearts in ways that will never be forgotten.”

Walters has spent his past few years at Campbellsville University working to increase enrollment and outreach.

“Over the past several years, we have hit several record enrollments because of the hard work and dedication of everyone who works at CU,” Walters said. “We have always tried to stay out front

with marketing and outreach, but it is the personal element that makes the difference to prospective students and families and draws them here.”

Looking back on his time spent at the university, Walters said he and Nancy know that God had a divine purpose in leading them to Campbellsville.

He said he could never have fathomed the ways in which God allowed them to serve Him at an institution like Campbellsville that strives to impact the lives of students.

“I can say without hesitation that the Lord used Campbellsville University to change our lives dramatically,” Walters said.

“Not only did I begin to fulfill my calling, but I also had the opportunity to expand my calling in ways that I had never even imagined.”