Title: Update Re InterVarsity and Urbana 2025

May 19, 2025

Greetings all,

Many of you have asked about the possibility of being on the Immanuel Approach ministry team for InterVarsity Urbana 2025. Peter Horton just sent an update for the IA community (included below). Sadly, the short summary is that InterVarsity will not be inviting IA community volunteers. In addition to praying for Peter as he requests below, please also pray for the Urbana 2025 leadership team as they discern whether to allow me to attend as a troubleshooting consultant for Peter.

Blessings,

Dr. Lehman/Karl

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Note from Peter Horton re IA ministry for Urbana 2025:

I wanted to explain why the leadership team for Urbana 2025 is not inviting volunteers from the Immanuel Approach community. I am grateful for all of you who were part of our Immanuel Prayer team at Urbana 22 and our staff conference in 24. Your efforts facilitated prayer for over 1000 students at Urbana and 500 staff at the conference in Orlando. The Lord did amazing things, and many were blessed. One student even approached the director of Urbana on January 1st and expressed that every attendee should experience Immanuel Prayer at the next Urbana.

For several reasons, the Urbana 2025 team has decided against IA community volunteers. First, our legal department advised against bringing in IA community volunteers due to security concerns at the center in Phoenix, which differs from Indy. Second, at Urbana 22, we had as many or more volunteers, staff, and non-students as students at the conference. The Urbana 2025 team aims to increase the student-to-non-student ratio, so they have halved the number of staff working the conference and restricted volunteers. Finally, the Urbana 2025 team sees this conference as an opportunity to train key campus staff in several skill sets, including discernment coaching, Bible study coordination, and Immanuel Prayer. 250 key staff will act as coaches, coordinators, and Immanuel Prayer facilitators for the 5000-8000 students we hope will attend.

Please pray for me. Over the summer and fall, I will be training the 250 staff guides to provide Simplified Immanuel Prayer to students. We will also have a team of 40 fully trained Immanuel Prayer ministers to offer full Immanuel Approach prayer as needed.

Peace,

Peter Horton
Associate National Director | Spiritual Formation
InterVarsity Christian Fellowship USA