

## John Decker – Bio

Since leaving his Aerospace business development career and volunteer work with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, John has helped create a national movement to reverse the 70% college faith drop-off by connecting every Christian high school student to college ministries and churches in advance. The goal is to help students have a sense of their career calling before selecting colleges, then land on campus ready to share the Gospel with other new freshmen, who are especially open during the first days and weeks. High school students learn to embed themselves on college campuses as culture changers.

John shared the concept with Campus Renewal out of Austin TX, who together for the past 4 years has developed and launched EveryStudentSent.org. The platform prepares high school students and connects them to ministries on nearly every university and college in the nation. The social network feature allows them to enter college already knowing a team of other incoming believers. As the Director of Ministry Partnerships John and the team have developed a coalition of major college ministries, youth ministries, denominations, Christian schools, and business ministries who have demonstrated the ability to meaningfully reverse the 70% drop-off in individual churches. This year's step is to create effective freshmen to freshmen Gospel movements on every campus. City-wide movements are emerging to involve the church, ministry, and business communities with a goal of increasing the number of Kingdom-minded Christian college graduates into the seven mountains of influence. Ministry partners assist students with finding the right career and avoid excessive college debt. Pinnacle Forum is collaborating to develop ways to transition college graduates to workplace fellowship and mentoring. See <https://pages.everystudentsent.org/pinnacle-forum>

John received a BS from Syracuse University and SUNY College of Environmental Science, and worked for 24 years in the US and internationally in business development for Lockheed Martin and Philips. He planted an InterVarsity Christian Fellowship chapter at Syracuse, and while developing the college transition ministry developed a branch of College Assistance Plus to help Christian families and financial advisors understand the business of college, negotiate lower tuition, minimize debt, and find the right career.

John is blessed with a wonderful wife of 43 years, three children and eight grandkids who are all close enough to get together often at their Syracuse home. You can reach him at [john.decker@campusrenewal.org](mailto:john.decker@campusrenewal.org).