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AROUND THE WORLD--In 1975 the late Nelson Mandela was still in prison; the Women's International Year began; Margaret Thatcher defeated Edward Heath to take up leadership of the British Conservative Party; India sent its first satellite to the earth's orbit; Ethiopia's 3000-year monarchy came to an end; Cuban government passed law making childcare and housework equal responsibility of men and women; Angola gained its independence from



Portugal; and IAPCHE hosted its first international conference in South Africa under the auspices of Reformed Institutions for

Christian Higher Education. And with that conference begun a long challenging but fruitful journey for an organization that would be critical in promoting integral Christian higher education around the world. At IAPCHE we believe that higher education is an important catalyst for shaping the minds and hearts of people; it shapes social norms, attitudes, aspirations, and ways of doing things; it provides opportunities for students to be formed professionally and to form lasting bonds with peers. We would like to inject in that socialization and formation the power and love of Christ so that graduates can see their work as part of Kingdom work. Moreover, by equipping their faculty and staff members through our training programs, conferences, and networks, we help students gain necessary skills and dispositions that influence their worlds positively. IAPCHE's work may, therefore, be seen as touching one faculty me-

## IAPCHE's 2nd Biennial Internationalization Conference at Calvin

If you have not already signed up for IAPCHE's Second Biennial Conference on internationalizing Christian Higher Education that will be at the Prince Conference Center on the campus of Calvin College, June 4 - 6, 2015, you better do so otherwise you will miss a great time of fellowship, exchange, and learning from others. This year we have once again put together a lineup of great presentations including a number by student panels that will help us get a glimpse of how our work as instructors, leaders, and advisors helps shape student lives at home and abroad. The conference begins on Thursday June 4th with two concurrent workshops that are free to all registered participants. The first workshop titled "Aligning Global and Christian Outcomes with Institutional Missions and Strategic Plans," will be led by Dr. Brett Everhart and the second titled, "Using the CQ Assessment™ to Measure the Development of Cultural Intelligence (CQ) among Students Studying Abroad," will be led by Dr. Sandra Upton. These are sessions that will give participants hands-on experiences on specific tasks that they can apply to their immediate contexts in their institutions or later in their own work abroad. During our welcome dinner Dr. L. Gregory Jones, vice president and vice provost for global strategy and programs, Duke University, will give our keynote speech that he has provocatively titled "Getting Ahead of the Curve: Internationalizing Christian Higher Education in an era of Disruption," emphasizing the need for us to see this time of great technological change and innovation as an opportunity rather than a threat to the work we do. Each morning will start with worship led by Greg Scheer who did such a great job in 2013 that he is back by public demand. Come ready to learn songs and tunes from different parts of the world as we kickstart each conference day with contemplation, worship, and seeking God's strength and guidance. For more on the conference and to register please visit <http://iapche.org> or email us at [iapche@calvin.edu](mailto:iapche@calvin.edu).

member at a time directly but the results of such work extend to students, colleagues, and communities in which they end up serving.

**Reflection as a Healthy Way of Living**Mwenda Ntarangwi, *Executive Director*

We dedicate much of this edition of CONTACT to highlighting IAPCHE's forty years of existence. It is a time of reflections as much as it is about looking into the future to discern what

God has in store for the organization. Reflection is one critical virtue in the lives of individuals and institutions because it allows for moments of pausing and of taking stock of the past. Such reflection allows us to make sense of or come up with certain "meanings" of past experiences or actions, and then move us to make interpretations of them with more clarity. When we use those interpretations as a guide for decision-making or taking action, we end up learning from those past events and experiences that we then apply to current and future decisions. We also get clarity on how God has used our gifts and talents we are daily called us to serve our members, our institutions, our communities, and the entire world. We also learn about our place in the world and how our unique abilities can be used to advance God's kingdom around the world through higher education. IAPCHE has had many opportunities to reflect on its work and in the process used those moments to make a number of changes in response to what has been learned. I share some examples of the outcomes of such reflection. I see the development of regional governance and representation as one example of such change. Prior to the 2000 international conference held at Dordt College in Iowa, IAPCHE had mostly focused on membership from institutions and individuals predominantly in North America, Europe, and parts of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. After that conference in 2000, however, IAPCHE made significant steps to both recognize current trends and adapt its structure to a changing membership. Among the most important structural changes made was to tie the board of directors for the Association to five specific regions and mandate that the election of those members be based on votes cast from their respective regions. This meant that each of the regions represented on IAPCHE's

board--North America, Latin America, Asia-Oceania, Europe, and Africa--were themselves a reflection of the choices made by members in their regions. This has been an important strategy for IAPCHE in focusing on specific challenges and opportunities within specific regions in the area of Christian higher education. Four years later, in 2004, the IAPCHE board accepted the Regional Development Initiative, which extended these initial steps and concretized their operations by laying guidelines for regional associations. Currently IAPCHE has regional leadership in Latin America, Africa, and Asia-Oceania. Talks are underway to evaluate the feasibility of regional leadership for Europe.

Another change I have seen is the expansion of professional meetings from just one every three to five years to many meetings held annually and in different locations of the world. These annual meetings that include national, regional, and international gatherings, continue with the initial purpose articulated in 1981 during the formation of International Council for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education (ICPCHE), which later became IAPCHE. The initial purpose was to bring together participants to discuss ideals in teaching and research as they are implemented at Christian universities, colleges, theological seminaries, and research centers. The basis of the Council was a recognition that academic work was an expression of life of commitment to God the Creator, through Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. It understood that science and scholarship cannot have a neutral, uncommitted character but be pursued from a biblical perspective. This early basis and purpose continues to date even though the Association has tended to serve Christian universities and colleges more than it does seminaries. Another strategy born out of reflection came in 2008 with the introduction of faculty enrichment programs (FEP) that have allowed IAPCHE to directly shape the work of faculty and administrators in various institutions of higher learning around the world. In my own judgment I see the (FEPs) as the most important part of IAPCHE's global function. They are responding to an increase in the number of Christian universities and colleges around the

world that are seeking to affirm their fidelity to Christ through their character and services. In today's world this is no easy task and IAPCHE has tried as much as possible to provide foundational training especially for faculty on how to project Christ in their work and in response to their unique cultural contexts. The first FEP was held in November 2008 in Bangalore, India. This opened up opportunities for many other programs including those undertaken in Manila, Philippines; Queretaro, Mexico; Seoul, Korea; Lagos, Nigeria; Nairobi, Kenya, Colombo, Sri Lanka; Jakarta, Indonesia; and Tauranga, New Zealand. In 2013 IAPCHE took on a slightly different approach to FEPs, moving them from a forum that brought together participants on a voluntary basis to one that was targeting developing capacity so that each region will have a team that is well equipped to respond to specific training needs of the region. We also added to the training an emphasis on leadership training that acknowledges that student learning takes place holistically and staff in students development as well as senior leaders play a key role in advancing the entire mission of the institution. This aligns well with IAPCHE's goals of equipping members to do integral Christian work. As I have stated in past issues of CONTACT that project culminated in a pilot program in East Africa with six institutions. It turned out to be a very successful program that the board adopted it as a key strategy for future programming at IAPCHE. We can find other examples of change when we look at books and copies of CONTACT that IAPCHE leaders and members have been putting out over the years. Through these records one gets an interesting glimpse not only of IAPCHE's history but that of the world at the time. What struck me most, for instance, looking at the conference proceedings of 1975 was Dr. Bingle's introductory remarks in which he makes reference to "the neutral as well as the Christian university." Today many scholars agree that no institution is "neutral" in any of its identities or offerings and as the 1981 IAPCHE statutes show, all forms of education have an agenda and a philosophy that shapes its content, assumptions, and offerings. Institutions that provide education are therefore guided by philosophies and agendas of those who founded them

and run them. However, Dr. Bingle's comments endure because not all of us working in Christian institutions see all universities and academic disciplines as advancing specific agendas.

If we shift gears and move from reflections that give us a view from the past to a focus on the current status, we see that the organization has expanded its operations beyond Reformed circles to include institutions in other confessional denominations around the world. This shift was clearly indicated by the number of international participants at IAPCHE's conferences that represented different institutions and denominations especially in the 1990s and 2000s. Without compromising on its focus on seeing all of creation as subject to God's dominion, higher education included, IAPCHE has gone about its work embracing people from all walks of life and emphasizing the

need to pay attention to their various accents that accompany their fidelity to Christ. This service and engagement of a broader membership base has meant that IAPCHE is also learning a lot about Christianity and Christian higher education not



only from the experiences of many institutions that it did engage in the past but also from the questions being asked by those newer institutions seeking to be faithful to their Christian mission. We are able to share with them the lessons learned from the past even as we together work through current opportunities and challenges to serve our constituencies better. We hope that as the title of the 1987 conference held in Lusaka Zambia (see photo above) IAPCHE will continue to be a rainbow of light and hope in a fallen world. Happy 40th IAPCHE!



## NEWS FROM THE AFRICAN REGION

### CSUC Engages in Year-long Celebration of 40th Anniversary

KUMASI, GHANA--Christian Service University College (CSUC), in Kumasi, Ghana, celebrated 40 years as an institution under the theme "CSUC @40 years and Growing:



Renewing our Identity." CSUC, which began as a theological college in 1974, through the efforts of Ghanaian evangelicals and expatriate missionaries, has grown to offer programs in nursing, business administration, computer science, community development, communication studies, and theology. Efforts are underway to incorporate newer programs such as physician assistant studies and languages with teacher education. The year-long celebration began with a launch, in February 2014, that brought together alumni, students, staff, and well-wishers of the University community. In June CSUC hosted a conference of Stakeholders to discuss various ways to fund and support its operations. Several other events followed

including a student-organized float that went through some major areas in Kumasi to raise awareness about the institution and evangelize community members; a fund raising initiative to solicit support for three key projects for the university (completion of a library and ICT complex, completion of a clinical laboratory for the Nursing school, and scholarship fund); and donation of

medical items worth about \$4000 to a nearby community Health Centre in Trede. The climax of the celebrations was the 38th graduation and fundraising durbar held in December. Speaking at the function, CSUC's president Prof. Frances Owusu-Daaku (above), emphasized the need to uphold the college's identity as a Christian insti-

tution, academic program enhancement and research, staff development, networking and collaborations, funding and sustainability issues, quality assurance enhancement, and expansion in infrastructure and accessibility. As CSUC begins another chapter in the journey and mandate of training men and women to take up the mantle of leadership in all spheres of their endeavors, the institution shall remain steadfast in her motto "to know Christ better and to make Him better known" and will continue to uphold her core values of the Lordship of Jesus Christ, Integrity, Hard work, Good stewardship, and Mutual support and care.

### North-West University Establishes Office for Community Involvement in Potchefstroom Campus

MAHIKENG, SOUTH AFRICA--North-West University (NWU) recently established an Office for Community Involvement on the Potchefstroom Campus with the goal of providing support, coordination, and communication to community projects on campus. Prof Mariëtte Lowes (below), former Vice-Rector of Teaching-Learning, was appointed acting Director of Community Involvement for six months. Prof Lowes said that the office will attempt to ensure community involvement is integrated into the academic environment, rather than being handled as a separate activity. A central community involvement committee, consisting of representatives from faculties, the vice-rectors, the advisory board of the Student Rag Community Service (SJGD), marketing and communication, the director for community involvement in the Institutional Office, and other interested parties, will be formed. Prof Lowes added that, "With the establishment of this structure, an integrated approach to community involvement is emphasized. It will ensure that interested parties know with which communities the NWU interacts and that community involvement will not be seen as a separate activity, but rather as integrated within the academic environment."

For further enquiries regarding this office please feel free to contact the Community Involvement office at +27 182 852 428.



### **New Vice-Chancellor Arrives at St. John's University, Tanzania**

DODOMA, TANZANIA--Reverend Professor Emmanuel Mbennah has been appointed the new Vice Chancellor of St. John's University, Dodoma, Tanzania (SJUT).

Established in 2007 by the Anglican Church of Tanzania, SJUT seeks "to be a centre of excellence for developing humankind holistically to learn to serve." Rev. Prof.



Mbennah (left) brings a wealth of experience and training from academia and the development world. He received his Master's degree in Communications from Wheaton College, USA, a Ph.D. in Communications from

Potchefstroom University, and a Ph.D. in Biblical Studies from North-West University, South Africa. Rev. Prof. Mbennah served as a Senior Research officer at the Life and Peace Institute as well as a Senior Lecturer at Daystar University in Nairobi. After this, he served as country director for Compassion International from 2002-2009, and was head of communication in the Tanzania office for World Vision International. More recently, Rev. Prof. Mbennah served as International Director for the Africa Region for Trans World Radio. He was a postgraduate supervisor for the South African Theological Seminary (SATS) and an Associate Professor at Northwest University. Rev. Prof. Mbennah began serving as VC of SJUT in November 2014.-*Story by Rev. Isaac Mutua.*

### **President of Bilingual Christian University of Congo Awarded 2014 Scholar of the Year**

BENI, DRC--Dr. David Kasali, the founder and President of Christian Bilingual University of Congo (UCBC), was awarded the 2014 Scholar Leader of the Year by Scholars Leaders International. This award recognizes his outstanding achievements and contributions to higher education and holistic development in the region. Dr. Kasali earned his master's degree at Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology (NEGST; now Africa International University) and his doctorate at Trinity International University in Chicago. He served as Vice-Chancellor of NEGST for 8 years. He is ordained in the Africa Inland Church. In response to the devastating war in the Congo and compelled by a vision for transformation of Congolese society, Dr. Kasali and his wife, Kaswera, (pic-

tured below) formed the Congo Initiative. The Congo Initiative was formed as a nonprofit organization for advocacy, partnership, and resource development in the U.S. and seeks "to train and develop strong, indigenous Christian leaders to transform Congolese Society." In 2007, Dr. Kasali founded UCBC as the primary focus of the Congo Initiative. The 2014 Scholar Leader award was presented to Dr. Kasali at the Great Lakes Initiative, an annual week-long event hosted by the Center for Reconciliation at Duke



Divinity School in which of over 100 African leaders of uni-



versities, church denominations, and non-governmental organizations gather for reflection, prayer, and mutual encouragement.

In his remarks, Scholars Leaders Vice President Evan Hunger noted that, "David is a man of great vision. Where others saw limitation, challenge, and hopelessness, David and Kaswera returned to Congo, called by God with

a vision of hope." IAPCHE congratulates Dr. Kasali for this well-deserved award.-*Story by Rev. Isaac Mutua*

### **IAPCHE Africa Region Plans Conferences**

NAIROBI, KENYA--CPCHEA, the Africa region version of IAPCHE is planning a number of regional conferences in 2015-16 for Eastern, Central, Southern, and Western Africa. The goal is to have a larger conference, what IAPCHE's Africa regional director Rev. Isaac Mutua (below)



has termed an "All Africa Conference" in 2016. Plans are under way to host this larger program in West Africa. With IAPCHE having started in Africa, it is quite fitting that a number of conferences be held in this period when the organization is celebrating 40 years of its existence. Many things

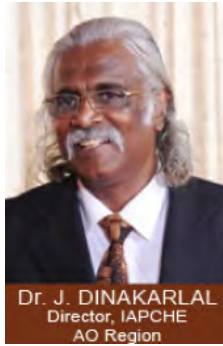
have changed in Africa's Christian higher education landscape since 1975. There are more institutions with a Christian identity now than there were 40 years ago and yet they continue to face similar challenges.



## ASIA-OCEANIA REGION

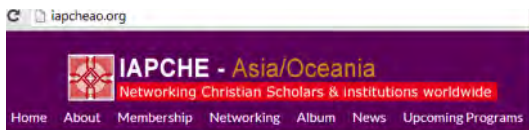
### IAPCHE Asia-Oceania Website to Improve Networking Launched

NAGERCOIL, INDIA--IAPCHE Asia-Oceania Region (AO) is happy to announce the launching of its new website [www.iapcheao.org](http://www.iapcheao.org). The idea of a website for the AO Region emerged at the November 2014 IAPCHE conference on partnerships and networking held in Melaka, Malaysia. One of the main aims of



the website is to help institutional and individual members explore concrete ways of sharing expertise, experiences, and other resources for the good of their students, faculty, and staff.

The website is accessible to all members and non-members alike but the "Networking" link is an exclusive privilege of individual members of AO Region and IAPCHE's institutional members worldwide. All participants of the Melaka Conference will have access to this link till the end of 2015. Members who want to make use of this link for networking are requested to click "Registration for New User" and register themselves to gain access to the link. Institutional members of all regions get the privilege of posting brief brochures and announcements. For more information please email Dr. J. Dinakaral, Director of Asia-Oceania region at [jdinakaral@gmail.com](mailto:jdinakaral@gmail.com).



### University Leaders Meet in Taipei to Discuss How to Address Needs of Expanding Chinese Student Population

TAIPEI, TAIWAN--At IAPCHE's Conference for Presidents/Principals and other Senior Leaders in Melaka, Malaysia, themed "Partnership and Collaboration in Christian Higher Education: Exploring Opportunities, Forging Strategies," several institutions expressed interest in collaborating to provide Christian higher education to the rapidly expanding Chinese student population. A first step in this collaboration occurred on January 8-9, 2015, when individual members from Baeksoek University, Handong Global University (both in Korea), and Christ's College (in Taiwan) met in Taipei. Given the tremendous expansion of Christianity in China, as well as the growth of the middle class, all participants agreed with Christ's College President, Quentin Nantz, who noted, "the question is not how to divide a small number of students, but how to serve a student body that far exceeds our capacity."

Participants discussed various efforts to reach students in China, their institutional strengths in these efforts, and ways to collaborate. All three institutions agreed to further develop various forms of collaboration, including faculty development, student exchange, and a twinning program.

Perhaps most important piece for IAPCHE members to take note of is that all three agreed to follow up these productive conversations in October 2015, with plans for a college fair and a broader conference on K-16 Christian education in Asia. If you are interested in participating, please contact Matthew Chu at [matthewchu@cct.edu.tw](mailto:matthewchu@cct.edu.tw) or Quentin Nantz at [quentinnantz@cct.edu.tw](mailto:quentinnantz@cct.edu.tw), Christ's College in Taipei.--Story provided by Nick Lantinga



### Conference on Student Leadership in India

BANGALURU, INDIA--IAPCHE Asia-Oceania Region in association with Student Christian Movement of India, is conducting a Student Leadership Program from 13 - 18 July, 2015 in SCM Student Centre, Bangaluru, India. The training program, whose theme is, "Let us Rise up and Build," aims at bringing together student Christian leaders from around the world who are poised to help lead the Church and other institutions into the future. Part of the training in this six day program will be to equip participants with Christian leadership skills that will help them rejuvenate the Church and make it a socially-responsible faith center committed to Christ. There will be stimulating discussions on burning issues, opportunities to study some Indian social realities, and a sightseeing trip to understand Indian culture and lifestyle. The theme of the program is derived from Nehemiah 2:17-18 where Nehemiah invited God's people to rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, a city that had seen much deterioration. Today we are witnessing a Church that is in disarray, faced with corrosion in faith and laxity in commitment to society. "...Yes, I see the church as the



body of Christ. But, oh! How we have blemished and scarred that body through social neglect and fear of being non-conformists," declared Martin Luther King, Jr.. The Church and Christian faith call for a reawakening and when we ask 'Who will rise up now?' we see our youth as the answer. This program seeks to equip Christian student leaders so that our campuses and the Church will rise up and be renewed so as to be responsive to the needs of God's creation. For registration information or if you have any questions about the program please contact Dr. J Dinakaral at [jdinakaral@gmail.com](mailto:jdinakaral@gmail.com).

### Annals of IAPCHE Regional Conference in Latin America Will Be Published in April 2015

SAN JOSE, COSTA RICA--The annals of the Fifth Regional Conference of IAPCHE in Latin America, held in



San José, Costa Rica from September 18-20, 2014, are being published under the title "*Misión Holística, acción interdisciplinaria y realidad latinoamericana*" (Holistic mission, interdisciplinary action and the Latin American situation). The conference was organized in alliance with the Center for Interdisciplinary Theological Education (CETI) and the Latin

American Theological Fellowship (LATF).

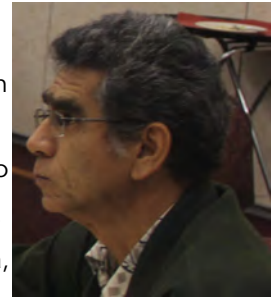
The book begins with a brief memoir of the event and features the inaugural address by Dr. Sidney Rooy, which provides a panoramic view of the work of IAPCHE in Latin America. The book has five main sections featuring papers presented at the conference across several disciplines and covering such broad issues as:

- Theology and Social Sciences: epistemological and hermeneutic convergences,
- Psychology's contributions to Latin American problematique of the family,
- The *amor mundi* and contributions of Political Science to the understanding of Latin America's reality,
- The need for a philosophical framework in scientific and technological work,
- Teaching-learning with mind, heart, body and spirit: educational scenarios and the need of renewal for Christian character formation, and
- Mimesis: literary creation, revelation and incarnation.

The final section features two collective proposals: first, "The Manifesto of San José on Holistic mission, higher education and interdisciplinarity in Latin America", which is the product of the synthesis of all the papers, conversations in panels, and the main discussions held before and

during the consultation; secondly, the "Regional Cooperative Project between Christian universities on social research in Latin America", which is an initiative aimed at giving continuity and permanence to the commitment of producing relevant knowledge to problems in the region from the context of Christian higher education.

The book is edited by Dr. Fernando Bullon (right), currently the IAPCHE Regional Director for Latin America, and is published by Libros Desafío, from Grand Rapids, Michigan. It will be made available to the public beginning in April 2015 and presented during the EXPOLIT annual book fair of Christian literature in Miami, in May.--Story by Fernando Bullon.



### Queensland University (UQ) Receives Legal Recognition from the Haitian Government after 15 Years of Existence

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI--The Haitian Government via the Ministry of National Education and Training Professionals, has delivered legal recognition to the Board of Queensland University to function in the Republic of Haiti. In the same year the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cults also delivered legal recognition to the Grace Evangelical Theological Seminary (STEG) of Queensland University (UQ).



Queensland University thanks God for His faithfulness during 15 years of education in Haiti. UQ has three mini-campuses in 3 departments of Haiti, Port-au-Prince,



Centre Department and Northwest, and Fort-Liberte.

Queensland University (UQ) seeks international partners to cooperate with in the development of its research and academic activities in the urban regions situated out of Port-au-Prince, Haiti. For more information, contact UQ via telephone at +(509) 42 44 93 77 or Email them at [uqueensland@gmail.com](mailto:uqueensland@gmail.com). You may also visit their website here for more information [www.uqstegnetwork.org](http://www.uqstegnetwork.org).

### Driestar Educatief Hold Conference on Faith and Christian Teaching

GOUDA, THE NETHERLANDS—On January 28 the Christian teaching lectorate organized a conference that sought to respond to the question “A Christian Language Lesson Doesn’t exist’: Yes/No?!” About 150 teachers working in primary, secondary and higher education participated in the conference and discussed the link between their confession and their profession. The conference featured three keynote speakers from three different countries: Prof. Trevor



Cooling of Great Britain, Dr. Piet Raes of Belgium, and Dr. Ewald Mackay of the Netherlands. Their unique speeches were unified by their common goal to inspire participants to consider how faith shapes the content of their teaching. Prof. Cooling emphasized that Christian teaching means

building Gods Kingdom and that the teacher should “frame” his/her lessons from a Christian worldview. He continued to note that teachers should encourage students to consider how to put in practice what they have learned. In his speech, Dr. Piet Raes said that giving a lesson of Christian character is giving sense or direction, and providing “orientation” for the lesson. He used language to demonstrate that a teaching method stops at *savoir* (knowledge), but a Christian teacher can add *saveur* (flavor) to it. The final speaker, Dr. Ewald Mackay, concluded the conference with a lecture titled “window to heaven” in which he explained that Christian teachers should use their opportunities to “open a window to heaven” during their lessons. Dr. Mackay spoke about life dilemmas, which can stimulate us to show courage. Besides the keynote lectures, the participants also attended workshops. Driestar Christian University invites members of IAPCHE to these yearly conferences on Christian teaching. The next conference will be on Wednesday, January 27, 2016. The program and names of international speakers will be announced later this year. For more information, contact [A.hofland@driestar-educatief.nl](mailto:A.hofland@driestar-educatief.nl).

**Note:** Picture above shows (L to R) Trevor Cooling, Piet Raes, and Bram de Muynck.

**Contact • March 2015**

### Károli Gáspár University to Host Conference on Supervision and Coaching in April 2015

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY--Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary invites members of IAPCHE to a conference on Supervision and Coaching to be held April 24-25, 2015, in Budapest, Hungary. The conference is co-organized by the Association of National Organizations for Supervision in Europe (ANSE) and the Hungarian Association of Supervisors.

The conference addresses the key importance of supervision and coaching, tailored to those who feel the need to strengthen the evidence base of their trade, enhance its credibility, reliability and legitimacy, and raise the quality of practice.

The purpose is three-fold:

- To present researchers, scholars, practitioners and board members in the field of supervision and coaching an opportunity to meet and be informed about past current and future research on supervision and coaching in different European countries;
- To present contributors a platform to exchange, discuss and debate their experiences with design, methodology and findings of their respective research programs; and
- To enhance the cross border knowledge base of research on supervision and coaching, and to enable participants to network. This conference will be conducted in



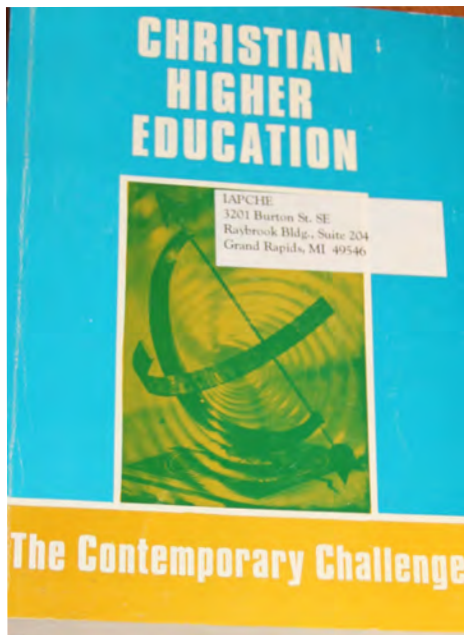
English at Károli Gáspár University in Budapest, Hungary. Registration is now open on this website:

[www.szupervizorok.hu/Programs](http://www.szupervizorok.hu/Programs) and will close on April 20, 2015. A detailed conference schedule is also featured on the registration website. Participation fee includes lunch, buffet, and welcome dinner, and is as follows: Participants: 80 € / 24.000 Ft  
Students of supervision courses: 40 € / 12.000 Ft  
For more information, contact Eva Nemes at [research@szupervizorok.hu](mailto:research@szupervizorok.hu).



## IAPCHE CONFERENCES IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

GRAND RAPIDS, MI--As we look forward to a number of conferences hosted by IAPCHE this and coming years, let's look back at IAPCHE's history through a window of conferences held in various international locations during its infant years. September 9-13, 1975 marked the first international conference of Reformed Institutions for Christian Higher Education held at Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education in South Africa.



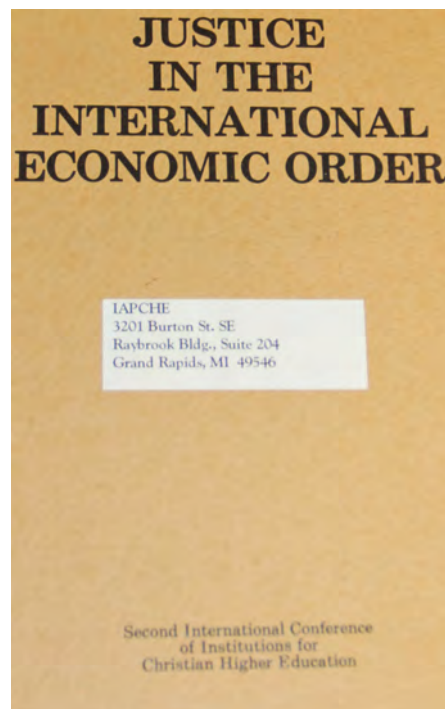
The conference whose theme was "Reformed Institutions for Higher Education as a Bulwark for the Kingdom of God: Present and Future," brought together 109 participants representing Australia, Canada, England, Germany, Japan, Indonesia, Kenya, Korea, Malawi, Nigeria, Netherlands, New Zealand, Rhodesia,

Scotland, South Africa, USA, and Zambia. Interestingly in a group picture of all participants that is published in the book of proceedings from the conference titled, "Christian Higher Education: The Contemporary Challenge," there is not a single woman who attended the conference. In his welcome address to the participants Prof. H J J Bingle, rector of Potchefstroom University, noted, "those who have come a long way with Christian education, have accepted as their own the problems experienced by those who are yet at the beginning of this struggle and in so doing have made manifest a helpful brotherhood in Christ." Out of the 33 papers presented at the conference, 19 were included in the book of conference proceedings.

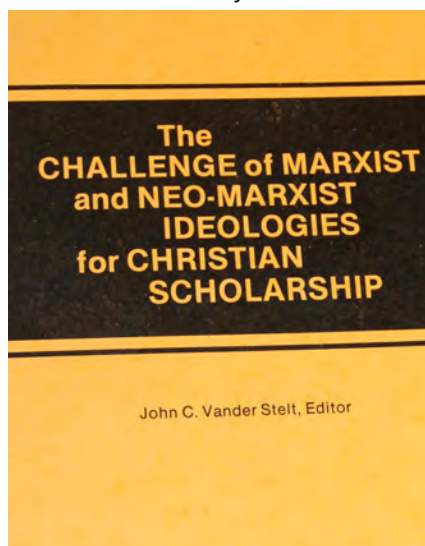
The second international conference of the Reformed Institutions for Christian Higher Education was held at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan August 13-19, 1978 with a focus on the responsibility of Christian institutions of higher education to justice in the international economic order. The proceedings of the conference were put together by Nicholas Wolterstorff with the title "Justice in the International Economic Order," in which a number of papers were included. It is quite interesting that the focus of these proceedings was justice, a topic

that has been explored widely and deeply by Wolterstorff. The next conference was held three years later and was referred to as International Conference of Institutions for Christian Higher Education (ICICHE).

This third conference was held August 13-20, 1981 at Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa on the theme of "The Challenge of Marxist and Neo-Marxist ideologies for Christian Scholarship." The proceedings were edited by Dr. John VanderStelt. It is at



this conference's business meeting where participants decided to terminate ICICHE and establish IPCHE (International Council for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education). Dr. John VanderStelt was appointed Executive Secretary of the Council with 9 elected council



members who included: Prof Elsa R. de Powell (Argentina), Dr. Lourens M. du Plessis (South Africa), Dr. E.D. Fackerell (Australia), Dr. Harry Groenewold (Canada), Dr. John B. Hulst (USA), Dr. David Lyon (England), Dr. Tom Tuma (Kenya), Dr. Susuma Uda

(Japan), and Dr. W. H. Velema (Netherlands). The mandate of the council was to be an independent organization representing no particular institution or group of institutions, but one that sought to serve all Christian scholars and institutions that identified with the council by, *inter alia*, contributing to it.

### Welcome to New IAPCHE Members

IAPCHE is pleased to welcome the following members to its family: **Institutional:** Silliman University, Philippines;



Christian Service University College, Ghana; and, LCC International University, Lithuania.

**Affiliate:** Accreditation Board for Christian Theology, India.

**Individual:** Agam Iheanyi-Igwe; Garry Morgan; Thomas Ridington; Rev. Mutinda Musyimi J; Andrew

Beaty; Frances Owusu-Daaku; Kofi Owusu-Daaku; Eniko Sepsi; Jamin Hubner; D. Keith Campbell; Brett Everhart; and, Ivan Chung.

### Professors Appointed to Leadership Positions in Hungarian Reformed Church and Universities

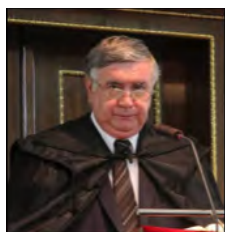
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY--February 2015 brought significant leadership changes in the Reformed Church in



Hungary and in Debrecen Reformed Theological University. Professor István Szabó (pictured left), professor at Pápa Reformed Theological Academy and the bishop of the Danubian Reformed Church District (both in Hungary) has been elected

Bishop of the

Synod of the Reformed Church in Hungary. He succeeds Professor Gusztáv Bölcskei (pictured right), who had served in the role for 18 years and recently appointed as new rector of the



Debrecen Reformed Theological University.



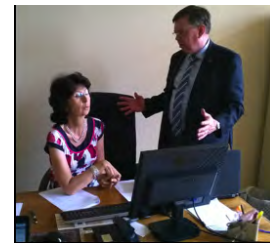
The former rector of the Debrecen Reformed Theological University, Professor Károly Fekete (pictured left), has been elected as the new Bishop of the Transibiscan Reformed Church

District in Hungary. May God bless these professors in their ministry of leadership.--*Story by Dr. Peter Balla*

### Intercontinental Cooperation on Religious Tolerance Research

GOUDA, NETHERLANDS--With the current global prominence of the religion in public, scholars of two institutional members of IAPCHE--Driestar Christian University in the

Netherlands and North West University, Potchefstroom in South Africa--are working on a research project focusing on religious tolerance worldwide. The project aims at generating proper theoretical insights and empirical data that will be useful to teachers and scholars in higher education. A focus on teacher education is necessary because future teachers are agents of tolerance throughout their work.



Based on a theoretical search by Professor Hannes van der Walt Driestar is constructing an online questionnaire for students in different countries and groups to be used in the project. A pilot survey is planned to be rolled out in the Netherlands, South Africa, and India. The questionnaire will be accessible to any researcher with English proficiency. Researchers wishing to apply the questionnaire will need to translate and validate it for their specific target groups; a task that should be done in conjunction with the developers of the questionnaire. Anyone researching the history and current status of religious education in his or her country, is encouraged to contact this research group. Information about this project can be found on the website <http://www.driestar-educatief.nl/research/religious-tolerance>.

### Opportunity for a Funded Writing Retreat

GRAND RAPIDS, MI--Do you have a project you would like to devote between two and four months of writing?



Would you like to get financial support, have access to a metropolitan urban center, local libraries, and a furnished apartment to aid in that writing? If your

answers are yes then please consider applying to a writer's retreat sponsored by the Issachar Fund based in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This program supports pastors, authors, scholars, and doctoral



candidates writing in any of the four areas of specific focus for the Issachar Fund (go here [www.issacharfund.org](http://www.issacharfund.org) for details). The fund provides airfare to and from your home, a furnished apartment, access to libraries, and a monthly stipend, among others.



## NORTH AMERICAN REGION

### Peace Corps Director Speaks at Calvin College

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN-- Director of the Peace Corps, Carrie Hessler-Radelet (right), addressed students and guests gathered at the Faith and International



Development Conference (FIDC) at Calvin College on Friday, February 6. Speaking to hundreds of participants at this student-run annual conference Ms. Hessler-Radelet emphasized the power of one person to make a difference in the world. She shared stories from her own experiences working and leading in the Peace Corps and spoke candidly about her own Christian faith, explaining why people of faith form an important part of the Peace Corps' mission. Despite the popular expectation that a government employee would not speak at a conference with "faith" in the name, Hessler-Radelet said that no one was asking Peace Corps volunteers to keep their faith separate from their work. "You don't have to check your faith at the door," she said, adding that, "It's part of who you are. Peace Corps does not mind at all if people practice their faith; in fact, we welcome it." Even though government employees cannot proselytize, she was confident that "individual Christians are able to live their faith and are able to participate in local faith communities as members." Hessler-Radelet shared appreciation for Calvin College's participation in service learning and added that she saw strong potential in Calvin students. "Calvin has some phenomenal statistics, ninety-nine percent of your students do service-learning – that's incredible. We are



looking for people who are motivated by service." She closed with words of invitation for students like the FIDC conference organizers and participants, "We want people who are willing to go where the need is great and work among people. I think that our organization and our volunteers are richer because we have people of faith." The FIDC was celebrating its 10th anniversary and chose "Healthy Humility" as its guiding

theme for the conference. Other speakers at the conference included Ravi Jayakaran (Integral Missions for the Lausanne Global Movement); Michael Woolcock (World Bank's Development Research Group); Scott Sabin (Plant With Purpose); Theary Seng (Center for Cambodian Civic Education); Susan Weaver Van Lopik (World Renew); Pauline Muchina (Activist and former Senior Partnership Advisor for UNAIDS); and, Kurt Ver Beek (AJS).

### Opportunity to Teach a Course on Worldview Studies at ICS

TORONTO, CANADA--ICS is seeking to increase the reach of its Master of Worldview Studies significantly, particularly outside North America. This effort would be focused primarily through online and hybrid courses (the latter involving face to face time).



ICS desires to partner with interested IAPCHE scholars to meet this goal. If you share ICS's vision, hold a Master's degree, and have an idea for a course, please contact President Doug Blomberg (dblomberg@icscanada.edu). For more information about the MWS program, go to <http://www.icscanada.edu/academics/master-of-worldview-studies>.

### Institute for Christian Studies' Just Faith? Production a Great Success



The Institute for Christian Studies premiered its play, *Just Faith?* on February 6 at the University of Toronto. *Just Faith?* is a one-act play based on data gathered in the ICS Centre for Philosophy, Religion and Social Ethics' research project titled Justice and Faith: Individual Spirituality and Social Responsibility in the Christian Reformed

Church in Canada. This project was in partnership with the Christian Reformed Church and the Centre for Community Based Research. Attendance was excellent and the performance sparked a vibrant and thoughtful discussion. The event marked the start of the "connection" phase of the research and plans are underway to hold several similar community forums across Canada this spring and summer. Visit [www.icscanada.edu/cprse/justice-and-faith](http://www.icscanada.edu/cprse/justice-and-faith) to learn more.--Story by Doug Blomberg.

Do you have a story about Christian higher education in your town, country, or region? Carrying out research on Christian higher education and want to share? Email it to [iapche@calvin.edu](mailto:iapche@calvin.edu) to be included in CONTACT.



## REFLECTING ON IAPCHE'S HISTORY

In the following pages we feature stories of IAPCHE members that have reflected over the kinds of influence IAPCHE has had on their lives both personally and professionally over the years. The reflections cover between 40 years and 4 months but they all tell a personal story. We ask that you also consider sharing similar stories with us so we can feature them in our newsletter throughout this year as we mark the 40th year of IAPCHE's life.

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**Dana Hanesová**, Slovakia.

Being a Christian and a pastor's wife I was forbidden to work as a professional in Slovakia until the fall of Communism in 1989. After the Velvet Revolution I was called to teach some elementary English at a local primary

school. Since 1993 I have been teaching at the Department of Evangelical Theology and Mission (DETM) at the University of Matej Bel in Banská Bystrica. After a few years, the Lord God allowed me to finish my PhD and habilitation degree, for which I am so thankful. I genuinely want to express thankfulness to God for the opportunity to see change in our country during my life - it is such a joy that the communist system collapsed and my generation was given a chance to freely study and work but especially to do it to God's glory! But for me it was not enough to study education sciences and various social sciences under teachers who themselves were brought up in the socialist times because it seemed like repeating several practices and approaches from that time that we had (hopefully) left behind. I needed something more, something different. And here is where IAPCHE played its crucial role in my professional life. At first I was invited by a friend to take part in the IAPCHE conference in the Netherlands in 2009. I was very curious to meet colleagues from Christian universities there. It turned out to be a very precious experience. For several days I stayed in their presence and experienced great healing of old wounds via wonderful acceptance by the IAPCHE team. I am still very thankful for the discussions, lectures, and

especially their prayers. I remember on the last day, just about 5 minutes before leaving, one brother who was in a career similar to mine approached me while I was already carrying my baggage and said, "This night I was praying for you and the Lord wants to encourage you," and then followed it up with some wonderful encouraging texts from God's word. At that time I did not know that I was just a short time away from a terrible nervous breakdown. It happened several months later. I had been too frustrated by several "not-moving" things and old practices at the university that literally suck all energy out of me. But thanks to God, that precious word of God together with the whole message of IAPCHE conference showed me some light into the future. I came to terms with what my profession was all about, what it means to be a professional, a scientist, and a Christian in the academic sphere. The Lord helped me through this process using, among other things, the reality of a loving IAPCHE network. Since that time I became a member of IAPCHE and later on a member of IAPCHE's board representing Europe. IAPCHE's help to me has been holistic - emotions of joy, acceptance, co-operation instead of loneliness, together with high cognitive experience as well as spiritual illumination! I praise you God for IAPCHE!

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**Nick Lantinga**, Korea.



When I joined IAPCHE as the Executive Director, I was delighted to join an expanding community of Christians from around the world who sought to connect our Christian inheritance to all of

life. My work with IAPCHE led me to care more deeply for the global Christian academic community and its struggle with the powers and principalities that challenge the supremacy of Christ. As a political scientist I had long been interested in the claims of states, but IAPCHE allowed me to witness the ways in which these powers usually deformed the institutions called to serve the Church and society. As my heart changed, so too did my "eyes" and the work of my hands has never been the same. Praise God.

## REFLECTING ON IAPCHE'S HISTORY

**Nicholas Wolterstorff, USA.**



I participated in the 1st IAPCHE conference, held in Potchefstroom, South Africa, in September, 1975. By that time I had thought a good deal about Christian higher education in the United States. I had written on the topic, and had spoken at a rather wide range of Christian colleges in the US. My only acquaintance with Christian higher education outside the US was with the Free University of Amsterdam. A number of institutions from Africa, Asia, and Europe were represented at the Potchefstroom conference. The conference was an eye-opener for me. In 1975, apartheid was still in full force in South Africa. A sizable number of scholars from the Netherlands attended the conference. They were both well-informed about apartheid and very angry about it. So they did whatever they could to bring apartheid into the discussion. Eventually a late night session was held in which apartheid was the sole topic. The Dutch vented their anger; a good number of the Afrikaners vented their anger, in turn, at the Dutch. Eventually each party had said what it wanted to say. It was then that the so-called blacks and coloreds from South Africa who were attending the conference spoke up; they described the indignities that were daily heaped on them, and issued a call for justice. I was profoundly moved. I have by now written and talked a good deal about justice. It all began from the testimony of those "blacks" and "coloreds." The next conference was held two years later at Calvin College. Again there were people from Asia, Africa, and various parts of Europe. Though there were presentations on other topics, those presentations were overwhelmed by the tensions surrounding apartheid, even more so than at the first conference. The next conference I attended was in Lusaka, Zambia. Here, for the first time, the topic of apartheid remained on the margins of the conference. The topic had, of course, been unavoidable. One could not possibly hold a conference on Christian higher education in South Africa in 1975 without apartheid being a topic of discussion and debate. But before Lusaka, the voices of those from Asia, from other parts of Africa than South Africa, and from other parts of Europe than the

Netherlands, were drowned out. Now, at last, they could be heard. And this, for me was an eye-opener in a different way. Many of these institutions were very poor; a good many of them were located in countries where Christianity was a distinctly minority religion. Though some of their concerns were, of course, the same as those of Christian institutions of higher education in North America, the differences in their situations meant that a good many of their concerns were distinctly different from the concerns of institutions in North America. My vision was expanded. That first IAPCHE conference opened my eyes to the fact that Christian colleges and universities must address issues of justice and injustice. The Lusaka conference opened my eyes to the fact that Christian higher education is necessarily shaped by its social and cultural context, and to the ways in which my own thinking about Christian higher education had been parochially Western.



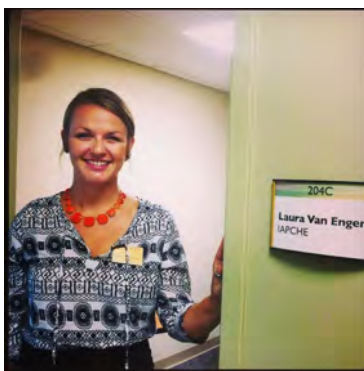
Dr. John Hulst (R) presenting Dr. John VanderStelt with a service award.

**Laura Van Engen, USA.**

I learned about IAPCHE during a class project at Calvin that paired students with non-profit organizations. Mwenda had been my advisor and mentor at Calvin, so I chose to work with IAPCHE. My partner and I met with him to learn more and found ourselves very impressed as Mwenda explained that IAPCHE supports and encourages Christians to project Christ in all that they do, in whichever field they work, and in whatever environment they live. He said IAPCHE boldly asks the question, "What makes you Christian?" and challenges members to look at their programs and attitudes in relation to this foundation questi-

## REFLECTING ON IAPCHE'S HISTORY

on. I felt very proud to attend a member institution that continually asks itself this question. I took this impression with me to my class presentation and found that the students were surprised they hadn't heard of IAPCHE and that they echoed my appreciation. A few shared that they felt lucky to have professors who sought to better their scholarship and mentorship abilities and admitted that they could see the evidence in their classes. Later, when I joined IAPCHE as administrative assistant I was able to see firsthand what Mwenda had shared with me and had presented to my class a few months prior. I read reports from conferences, learned more about individual members, and read articles from past issues of CONTACT, realizing that I had truly joined a community of individual and institutions who supported each other and sought to better one another as iron sharpens iron.



I am proud to be a part of IAPCHE's long-standing commitment to training those who shape and mentor future leaders. While I've never been a professor or administrator, I have the vivid and often helpful perspective of a recent graduate who was shaped by my Christian teachers at every step of my learning and in every subject of my liberal arts education. I want my experience to be common among the young people around the world. My desire is that Christian youth find every opportunity to pursue their passions and become leaders in diverse fields without ever setting their faith aside or compromising its centrality. I pray that these new societal leaders, having been recipients of Christian love and learning, continue to emanate Christ in their own spheres of influence, be they in churches, political offices, hospitals, court rooms, or business marketplaces.

I am convicted that the world is being made better by IAPCHE's work; we truly grow closer to shalom as we refine one other and build a community of Christ-like society-shapers.

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**Medard Ruyendo**, Uganda.

Of the 18 years that I taught at Makerere University (a secular institution in Uganda), I had never heard of IAPCHE and its role until I joined Uganda Christian University in

*Contact • March 2015*

2010. In 2013 I was elected as one of the members of IAPCHE' Board to represent the African region and through this role I have been given a greater opportunity to explore IAPCHE's mission of developing integral Christian Higher Education. As I reflect on what IAPCHE has meant to me in these last two years I want to use three key issues that I see as critical for IAPCHE: Christ-Centeredness in teaching and learning, networking, and integration of Christian faith in teaching and Scholarship.

*Christ-centeredness in teaching and learning:* Personally IAPCHE brought about a fundamental change in my understanding of education by making me aware that when we exclude Jesus from our teaching and learning,



we are not engaged in Christian education. This exposure to IAPCHE also showed me that most of our Christian Institutions are Christian Institutions by name and that they pay a lip-service to what it is to be Christian. Having known that and through various conferences, seminars and

workshops, I have included Christ-centeredness to my knowledge of the subject matter whenever I am teaching because even though I used to teach courses aligned to religious studies and theology, my content delivery was not as effective as it is now.

*Networking:* Before I joined IAPCHE I was not aware of professional networks that would boost my own professional life. Now I am in a network of many academics who have a passion for Christian education who have generously shared with me relevant materials for teaching and learning from a Christian perspective. I have also been involved in benchmarking Christian higher education in my institution and region. As a member of the IAPCHE board I was introduced to Skype, which I not only use for our meetings but also for my own professional and personal connects as well.

Thanks IAPCHE!



## REFLECTING ON IAPCHE'S HISTORY

*Integration of Christian faith in teaching and Scholarship:*  
Because of IAPCHE, faculty and staff from Uganda Christian University have had opportunities to participate in conferences and seminars that have exposed them to specific ways of projecting Christ in their work. As the Chairperson for the Institute of Faith, Learning and Service (IFLS) in my institution, I am aware that IAPCHE's goals align well with those of IFL. In its infancy, IFLS has promoted the passion for Christian education. To provide the best leadership in the institute I have also started to tune my scholarship to be Christ centered and have started working on publishing the work we do. TO GOD BE THE GLORY.

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**Sidney Rooy**, USA/Latin America.

The founding meeting of IAPCHE in Potchefstroom brought into contact Reformed educators from many nations. What a rich experience it was for me to enter this community in its formative time and to seek together principles and practice, theory and pedagogy, in our common vocation of education. The social and political



crises that enveloped us all thrust new demands upon curriculum and praxis alike. In Africa it was apartheid and post-colonialism, in South America dictatorships and liberation theology, in Europe secularism and consumerism, in North

America rising individualism and manifest destiny, in Asia political formation and national identity. There were challenges for new and meaningful educational strategies everywhere. The recognition that our calling as Christians to bring a focus that regards all of creation as God's vineyard to be cultivated and shared with his children in all lands inspired us to press forward. Providentially an invitation came through a friend for me to attend the first meeting. As the only person from Latin America, my privilege was to be on the continuing committee planning the next international meetings of IAPCHE. Other persons from this area became participants and in 1996 our first committee to consider the need in Latin America met. At the time few Protestant universities existed in our continent. However, many professors taught in National and

Roman Catholic universities but had little or no contact with one another. The first congress, held in Costa Rica in 1999 that brought together over a hundred professors, was a truly inspirational and participatory event.

Participants represented a wide diversity of disciplines from over twenty lands. Outstanding leaders have participated on the international board and continue to sponsor contacts, projects, and meetings. AIPESC, the acronym for IAPCHE in Latin America, embodies the only institution that promotes Christian Higher Education in our region. IAPCHE gave to me one of the richest dimensions to my calling and ministry and rewarded me with deep and lasting friendships across cultural, geographical and religious boundaries.

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**Emily Brink**, USA.

Not until beginning graduate school at a secular university did I begin to understand the importance of the Christian foundation I had received at Calvin College, from which I graduated more



than fifty years ago. Seeking to apply that foundation in every area of life and learning has been a joy throughout my teaching career at several secular and Christian institutions of higher learning. Over the last decade, I've also had opportunities to lecture internationally, especially in Asia. I've been grateful for the way IAPCHE has encouraged foundational Christian thinking and conversation among Christian scholars internationally in both teaching and institutional development. I am especially grateful for IAPCHE's initiative in sponsoring research that resulted in *Christian Higher Education: A Global Reconnaissance* (Eerdmans, 2014). That very helpful "big picture" of so many international efforts is a kind of capstone to IAPCHE's work of the last forty years. Blessings on the next forty years as we continue to learn from and with each other.

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*Throughout this year we want to share reflections from our members regarding the specific influence that IAPCHE has had in their professional and personal lives. Please share yours with us. Email us at [iapche@calvin.edu](mailto:iapche@calvin.edu)*

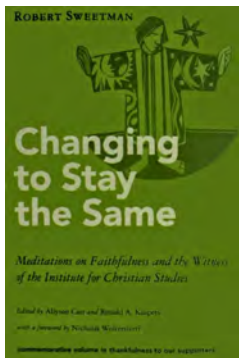


**Protestant Social Thought in Latin America: The Debate on Development**

By H. Fernando Bullón, Regnum Books, February 2015

This work is concerned with describing the bond of Protestant social thought to the processes of theorizing develop-

ment in Latin America, an aspect that has not received sufficient treatment in most recent literature. An assessment of the Protestant social thought is done not only to understand its own evolutive process, but as a product and in contrast with the more specialized context of reflection on social and economic transformation and change, as is shown in the academic and practical-political debate at the continental level. Latin American theologian C. René Padilla says: "This book is one of the outstanding works of evangelical literature produced to date on our continent."



**Changing to Stay the Same: Meditations on Faithfulness and the Witness of the Institute for Christian Studies.**

by Robert Sweetman, Allyson Carr, and Ronald A. Kuipers, editors. Institute for Christian Studies, 2014

This book collects fifty-two of Bob's reflection pieces that were written over the course of several years for

the ICS electronic newsletter Channel 229. They were each "incidental" in nature— dealing with the daily life and happenings of a fragile-but-resilient little institution called the ICS. Even though focused on an institution, Bob's words deal with the larger themes that we all experience in life: change, fear, hope, loss, grief, wonder, joy.

Moreover, his reflections see those experiences as part of a redeemed life as a whole, one that struggles to live faithfully in response to God's call and the circumstances in which one finds oneself. Though they started out as simply opening thoughts to ICS' news and prayer letter, they grew into something much deeper and richer: a window on one person's, and one institution's, attempt to live life faithfully, as a disciple of Christ. Organized according to the seasons of the church calendar, the collection is intended as a devotional companion through the year, and is dedicated with gratitude to our support community. Journeying with Bob, and with the ICS, as both he and the ICS are hit with the knowledge of creaturely frailty and limitations—fighting cancer on Bob's part and various economic and other difficulties on the part of the ICS—we can

see the shape of a life that always strives to live in service. To purchase a copy of the book directly from ICS please visit <http://research-portal.icscanada.edu/2014/12/changing-to-stay-same-meditations-on.html>.

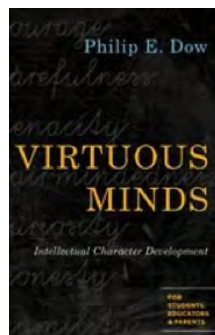


**Shaping a Digital World: Faith, Culture and Computer Technology**

By Derek C. Schuurman, IVP Academic, May 2013

Digital technology has become a ubiquitous feature of modern life. Our increasingly fast-paced world seems more and more remote from the world narrated in Scripture. But despite its

pervasiveness, there remains a dearth of theological reflection about computer technology and what it means to live as a faithful Christian in a digitally-saturated society. In this thoughtful and timely book, Derek Schuurman provides a brief theology of technology, rooted in the Reformed tradition and oriented around the grand themes of creation, fall, redemption and new creation. He combines a concise, accessible style with penetrating cultural and theological analysis. Building on the work of Jacques Ellul, Marshall McLuhan and Neil Postman, and drawing from a wide range of Reformed thinkers, Schuurman situates computer technology within the big picture of the biblical story. Technology is not neutral, but neither is there an exclusively "Christian" form of technological production and use. Instead, Schuurman guides us to see the digital world as part of God's good creation, fallen yet redeemable according to the law of God. Responsibly used, technology can become an integral part of God's shalom for the earth.



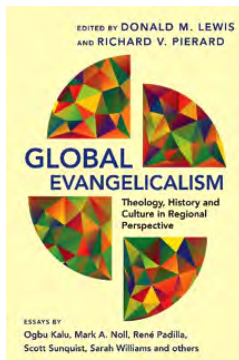
**Virtuous Minds: Intellectual Character Development**

By Phillip E. Dow, Baker Bookhouse, 2013

What does it mean to love God with all of our minds? Our culture today is in a state of crisis where intellectual virtue is concerned. Dishonesty, cheating, arrogance, laziness, cowardice--such vices are rampant in society, even among the

world's most prominent leaders. We find ourselves in an ethical vacuum, as the daily headlines of our newspapers confirm again and again. Central to the problem is the state of education. We live in a technological world that has ever greater access to new information and yet no idea what to do with it all. In this wise and winsome book, Philip Dow presents a case for the recovery of intellectual character. He explores seven key virtues--courage, carefulness, tenacity, fair-mindedness, curiosity, honesty and

humility--and discusses their many benefits. The recovery of virtue, Dow argues, is not about doing the right things, but about becoming the right kind of person. The formation of intellectual character produces a way of life that demonstrates love for both God and neighbor. Dow has written an eminently practical guide to a life of intellectual virtue designed especially for parents and educators. The book concludes with seven principles for a true education, a discussion guide for university and church groups, and nine appendices that provide examples from Dow's experience as a teacher and administrator. *Virtuous Minds* is a timely and thoughtful work for parents and pastors, teachers and students--anyone who thinks education is more about the quality of character than about the quantity of facts.

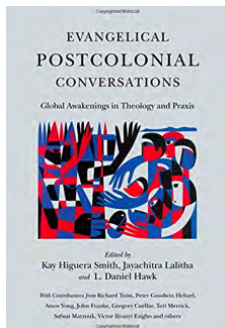


**Global Evangelicalism: Theology, History, & Culture in Regional Perspective**

By Donald M. Lewis and Richard V. Pierard, IVP Academic, September 2014

Evangelicalism is not merely a North American religiously charged ideology that dominates the popular mind.

Over the last century, evangelicalism has taken on global proportions. It has spread from its northern heartlands and formed burgeoning new centers of vibrant life in the global South. Alongside Islam, it is now arguably the most important and dynamic religious movement in the world today. This tectonic shift has been closely watched by some scholars of religion, though it is merely a ghost in our international news stories. Now, in *Global Evangelicalism* a gathering of front-rank historians of evangelicalism offer conceptual and regional overviews of evangelicalism, as well as probings of its transdenominationalism and views of gender.

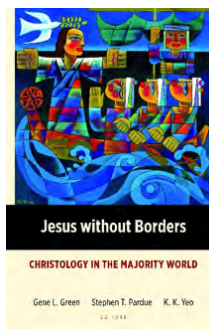


**Evangelical Postcolonial Conversations: Global Awakenings in Theology and Praxis**

By Kay Higuera Smith, Jayachitra Lalitha, and L. Daniel Hawk, IVP Academic, June 2014

Colonialism involves more than just territorial domination. It also creates cultural space that silences and disenfranchises those who do not hold power. This process of subjugation continues today in various forms of neocolonial-

ism, such as globalization. Postcolonialism arose in the latter half of the twentieth century to challenge the problem of coloniality at the level of our language and our actions (praxis). Postcolonialism seeks to disrupt forms of domination and empower the marginalized to be agents of transformation. In 2010, the Postcolonial Roundtable gathered at Gordon College to initiate a new conversation regarding the significance of postcolonial discourse for evangelicalism. The present volume is the fruit of that discussion. Addressing themes like nationalism, mission, Christology, catholicity and shalom, these groundbreaking essays explore new possibilities for evangelical thought, identity and practice. The contributors demonstrate the resources for postcolonial criticism within the evangelical tradition, as well as the need to subject evangelical thought to an ever-new critique to prevent the formation of new centers of domination. *Evangelical Postcolonial Conversations* models the kind of open dialogue that the church needs in order to respond appropriately to the pressing concerns of the world today.



**Jesus without Borders: Christology in the Majority World (Majority World Theology)**

By Gene L. Green, Stephanie Pardue, and K. K. Yeo, Eerdmans Publishing Co., Nov 2014

Though the makeup of the church worldwide has undeniably shifted south and east over the past few decades, very few theological resources have taken account of these changes. *Jesus without Borders* -- the first volume in the emerging *Majority World Theology* series -- begins to remedy that lack, bringing together select theologians and biblical scholars from various parts of the world to discuss the significance of Jesus in their respective contexts. Offering an excellent glimpse of contemporary global, evangelical dialogue on the person and work of Jesus, this volume epitomizes the best Christian thinking from the Majority World in relation to Western Christian tradition and Scripture. The contributors engage throughout with historic Christian confessions -- especially the Creed of Chalcedon -- and unpack their continuing relevance for Christian teaching about Jesus today. Emmanuel Katongole, University of Notre Dame, says this about it: "A well-written and much-needed book. Through these essays the reader travels around the world and gets a flavor of the rich theological ferment under way in world Christianity."



## BOOKS



### **Christ Across the Disciplines: Past, Present, Future**

By Roger Lundin, Eerdmans Publishing Co., Oct 2013

A diverse and dazzling look at the current state of Christian thought in *Christ across the Disciplines* a group of distinguished scholars from across the theological spectrum explores the dynamic relationship between the Christian faith and the life of the mind. Although the essays in this volume are rooted in a rich understanding of the past, they focus primarily on how Christian students, teachers, and scholars might best meet the challenges of intellectual and cultural life in a global world. This book ranges widely over the broad terrain of contemporary academic and cultural life, covering such topics as the enormous growth of political activism in late twentieth-century evangelicalism, the dynamics of literature and faith in the African-American experience, the dramatic implications of globalization for those who profess Christ and practice the life of the mind, and more! Mark Noll, University of Notre Dame, says this about the book, "This pace-setting volume offers a most helpful account of the effort to 'integrate faith and learning' as that effort has been understood by Christian scholars and Christian colleges since mid-century. Even more, it shows many and varied ways for moving beyond 'integration' to other fruitful practices for promoting scholarship as faithful believers. It is a compelling book of unusual insight."



### **Searching for a Universal Ethic: Multidisciplinary, Ecumenical, and Interfaith Responses to the Catholic Natural Law Tradition**

By John Berkman and William C. Mattison III, Eerdmans Publishers, Dec 2014

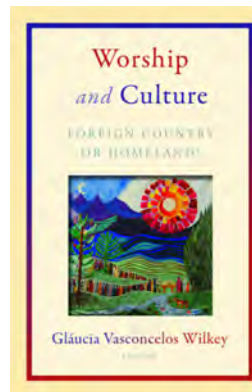
In this volume twenty-three major scholars comment on and critically evaluate *In Search of a Universal Ethic*,

the 2009 document written by the International Theological Commission (ITC) of the Catholic Church. That historic document represents an official Church contribution both to a more adequate understanding of a universal ethic and to Catholicism's own tradition of reflection on natural law.

The essays in this book reflect the ITC document's complementary emphases of dialogue across traditions (universal ethic) and reflection on broadly applicable ethical

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guidance within the Christian tradition (natural law). Among other things, the document situates the natural law ethical tradition within the larger search for a universal ethic. Along with its insightful essays, *Searching for a Universal Ethic* offers – for the first time in published form – the Vatican's official English translation of *In Search of a Universal Ethic*.

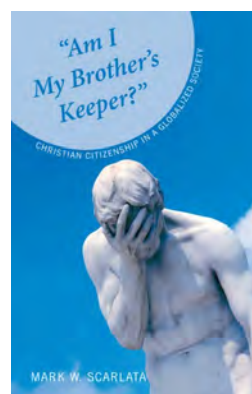


### **Worship and Culture: Foreign Country or Homeland?**

By Glauca Vasconcelos Wilkey, Eerdmans Publishers, Dec 2014

How are we to proclaim Christ in different cultures? This question was central to a landmark study on worship and culture conducted by the Lutheran World Federation between 1992 and 1999. Much has changed in the years since then: the world today more than ever is a multicultural global village. *Worship and Culture* revisits that LWF study and publication, shedding new light on the question from recent theological and sociological scholarship to expand and enrich the texts in the original three-volume work.

This book includes texts from the main statements that came out of the original project as well as updated essays from some of the original contributors. It also adds new essays, prayers, and hymns to the conversation, inviting readers to consider what the life of the church should look like in today's hybrid, multicultural world.



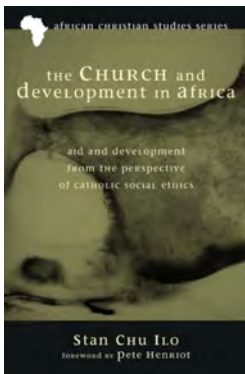
### **"Am I My Brother's Keeper?": Christian Citizenship in a Globalized World**

Mark W. Scarlata, Wipf and Stock, 2014

In a wide-ranging meditation on the Cain and Abel narrative, Mark Scarlata draws out theological motifs relevant to Christian discipleship in a modern Western context. Taking his cue from Augustine's *City of God*, Scarlata brings to light what it means for a Christian to be a citizen of the heavenly city in this midst of a twenty-first-century globalized society. He argues that Christians can no longer think of discipleship merely as a personal, individual undertaking, but must recognize their role and responsibility as citizens in a global community. Each chapter raises questions like: How do we offer our best in worship when we live in a world driven by consumerism?

## BOOKS

How can we love others through our participation in the global economy? Are our lifestyles treating the environment in a way that is pleasing to God? And, how do we authentically connect to each other in a digital age of social media and mobile technology? These and other issues are addressed in relation to scenes from the Cain and Abel story. Each discussion highlights ancient Jewish and Christian interpretation as well as how a particular topic is understood within the broader context of the Old and New Testaments. Scarlata then offers ways that Christians might respond to the cultural shifts experienced by this generation and encourages readers to rethink what it means to be a citizen of God's kingdom with a local and global awareness in every aspect of life.

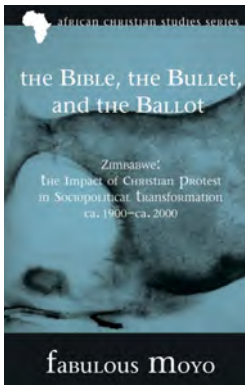


### **The Church and Development in Africa: Aid and Development From the Perspective of Catholic Social Ethics**

Stan Chu Ilo, Wipf and Stock, 2014

In this book, Stan Chu Ilo offers an integral theology of development and a critical social analysis of different development theories and practices in the world, especially in Africa.

Ilo offers a comprehensive biblical, anthropological, and theological foundation of the principles and praxis of Catholic social ethics from the Second Vatican Council to Pope Francis. Drawing from the social encyclical *Charity in Truth*, Ilo shows how Catholic social teaching responds to some of the challenging questions and concerns of our times in relation to human rights, ecology, globalization, international cooperation, development and aid, human and cultural development, business ethics, social justice, and the challenges of poverty eradication. He creatively applies these principles to the social context of Africa, and lays a groundwork for sustainable Christian humanitarian and social justice initiatives in Africa.



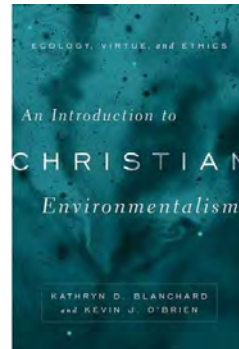
### **The Bible, the Bullet, and the Ballot: Zimbabwe: The Impact of Christian Protest in Sociopolitical Transformation, ca. 1900-ca. 2000**

By Fabulous Moyo, Wipf and Stock, 2015

This book provides a balanced account of the role of Christians, Christian organizations, and churches in sociopolitical transformation over the bedrock of colonial and national-

ist politics in the past century in Zimbabwe. The work explores the broader social and political impact of promi-

nent African Christian clergy who were sociopolitical activists such as Ndabaningi Sithole, Abel Muzorewa, and Canaan Banana. It also highlights the role of missionaries who contributed to the African struggle for independence such as Ralph Edward Dodge, Donal Lamont, and Garfield Todd. The work further explores the contributions of African nationalist parties and prominent politicians with Christian roots, such as Joshua Nkomo and Robert Mugabe, in the struggle for independence, and their contribution in the postcolonial era in light of their Christian heritage and the collective pre-independence nationalist ideals on nation-building and national unity.



### **An Introduction to Christian Environmentalism: Ecology, Virtue, and Ethics**

Kathryn Blanchard and Kevin O'Brien, Baylor University Press, 2014

Christians share a common concern for the earth. Evangelicals emphasize creation care; mainline Protestants embrace the green movement; the Catholic Church lists "10 deadly environmental sins," and the Eastern Orthodox Patriarch has

declared climate change an urgent issue of social and economic justice.

This textbook examines seven contemporary environmental challenges through the lens of classical Christian virtues. Authors Kathryn Blanchard and Kevin O'Brien use these classical Christian virtues to seek a "golden mean" between extreme positions by pairing each virtue with a pernicious environmental problem.

Students are thus led past political pitfalls and encouraged to care for other creatures prudently, to develop new energy sources courageously, to choose our food temperately, to manage toxic pollution justly, to respond to climate change faithfully, to consider humanity's future hopefully, and to engage lovingly in advocacy for God's earth. Readers will emerge from this text with a deeper understanding of contemporary environmental problems and the fundamentals of Christian virtue ethics.

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*\*Please note that the information shared here on books is taken from publisher's promotional material and should not be considered a review of the books by IAPCHE.*

# CONTACT

**Contact** is the official newsletter of the International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education (IAPCHE). It is published quarterly as a way of informing its members about news from across the many world regions in which IAPCHE operates. If you have any news items you would like to share with IAPCHE's members worldwide, please contact IAPCHE at

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## **ABOUT IAPCHE**

IAPCHE is a network of institutions and individuals worldwide committed to advancing Christian education through training, capacity building, scholarship, and networking in ways that reflect both the universal (shared view of Christ's centrality in our identity and work) and the local (attending to the specific realities and practices of where and who we serve).

**IAPCHE's Mission** is to develop a network that facilitates contact and mutual assistance, acts as a catalyst for research and training, and encourages biblical and contextual responses to the critical issues in contemporary society, so as to help people serve the Lord Jesus Christ in an integral way.

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