



## ACUCA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

### HONG KONG

Chung Chi College, CUHK  
Hong Kong Baptist University  
Lingnan University

### INDONESIA

Parahyangan Catholic University  
Petra Christian University  
Satya Wacana Christian University  
Universitas Kristen Indonesia  
Maranatha Christian University  
Duta Wacana Christian University  
Soegijapranata Catholic University  
Universitas Pelita Harapan  
Krida Wacana Christian University  
Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta  
Sanata Dharma University

### JAPAN

International Christian University  
Kwansei Gakuin University  
Meiji Gakuin University  
Nanzan University  
Doshisha University  
Aoyama Gakuin University  
Momoyama Gakuin University  
J.F. Oberlin University  
Tohoku Gakuin University  
Seigakuin University

### KOREA

Ewha Womans University  
Sogang University  
Soongsil University  
Yonsei University  
Keimyung University  
Hannam University  
Jeonju University  
Handong Global University

### PHILIPPINES

Ateneo de Manila University  
Central Philippine University  
De La Salle University  
Philippine Christian University  
Silliman University  
Trinity University of Asia  
Filamer Christian College  
Philippine Women's University  
Miriam College  
St. Paul University

### TAIWAN

Fu Jen Catholic University  
Soochow University  
Tunghai University  
Chung Yuan Christian University  
Providence University  
St. John's University  
Chang Jung Christian University  
Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages

### THAILAND

Asia-Pacific International University  
Payap University  
Assumption University  
Christian University of Thailand

## ACUCA's Support for Thai Member Institutions

Since the end of July, floods in Thailand affected more than 2.3 million people. Although ACUCA member institutions in Thailand were not directly hit by the floods, they have been engaged in various relief activities for flood victims. In order to support these efforts, the ACUCA Executive Committee decided to send donations of US\$5,000 to each of the four Thai members; Payap University, Assumption University, Christian University of Thailand and Asia-Pacific International University (AIU).

Several ACUCA institutions shared with us the news about fund-raising activities on their campus, including Wenzao Ursuline College, Fu Jen Catholic University and Lingnan University.

The following is a report from AIU about their flood relief efforts.

### AIU Flood Relief Efforts in Ayutthaya Province

The recent months have been challenging for the Kingdom of Thailand. The country has been hit by the worst national flood disaster in over 50 years. More than 60 provinces including Ayutthaya, Pathum Thani and Bangkok have been heavily inundated which led people to evacuate hastily to save their lives.

However, there are many people who do not have the option to vacate. They are left stranded in their homes by the deep water and are unable to move around. Parents have difficult times to get basic necessities, such as food and water for their family. Daily-wage workers are struggling to survive as they either cannot travel to their workplace, or it is closed down because of the flood. Thus, a call for donations to provide relief packages has been made to help this critical situation.

In response, Asia-Pacific International University (AIU) has been actively involved in three flood relief efforts. The target area is the province of Ayutthaya:

October 16	Ten AIU students and two AIU staff delivered 500 supply packages together with Thailand Seventh-day Adventist Mission (TAM) and Adventist Development & Relief Agency (ADRA) to three flood-affected areas in Ayutthaya. A boat was used to transport goods to the locals.
October 21	Within 7 hours, over 48,000 baht was raised to assist TAM and ADRA to deliver 107 urgent packages to a stranded village in Ayutthaya.
October 30	Together with TAM and ADRA, 22 AIU students along with AIU faculty and staff dispatched 500 relief packages to two flood-affected areas in Ayutthaya. Each package contain 5 kg of rice, 6 packs of instant noodles, 6 cans of canned fish, medicine, candles and lighter, sanitary pad and 2 dozens of bottled water.

In total, an astounding amount of over 185,000 baht has been raised for the flood relief projects and more than 1,000 packages were delivered to the flood victims.

Presently, AIU is still continuing with flood relief efforts and are inviting other universities and organizations to collaborate in a fundraising effort.

The relief effort would not have been possible without the kind and generous contribution, whether in financial or physical help, from ACUCA and member-institutions, AIU academic and service departments, and AIU faculty, staff and students. "We thank you for your generosity in helping the people affected," expressed Dr Loren Agrey, AIU President in his appreciation. "Please pray that our efforts will be blessed and that the people in need will benefit from the necessities that have been and will be supplied to them."



AIU & ADRA team  
with the packed donation items

## Report from Atma Jaya Yogyakarta on Mt. Merapi Aftermath

In November 2010, it was decided at the Executive Committee Meeting to donate US\$5,000 to four ACUCA member institutions in Indonesia, which were affected by the eruption of Mt. Merapi. Recently the ACUCA Secretariat received a letter from Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta (UAJY), reporting how they used this fund:



UAJY together with the local people  
rebuild homes for Merapi survivors

1. To repair the houses of staff and lecturers, total of 6 people, that were damaged by Merapi. The amount of aid depended on their economic conditions and the levels of damage.
2. To pay the costs of study for six students whose parents were affected by Merapi, for the period of two semesters.
3. Post-disaster reconstruction in the area around Merapi, for purchasing of seeds for planting Merapi perennials. This activity was coordinated by Research and Community Service Center – Universitas Atma Jaya Yogyakarta.



## Report on ACUCA Management Conference 2011

### ACUCA Network Model of Sustainability Education, Student Mobility Scheme and E-learning

The ACUCA Management Conference 2011 was held at Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan on September 15-17. Around 70 people from 50 member institutions and the United Board participated, and enjoyed networking and renewing friendship through lively discussion during each session.

#### Reflection on the ACUCA Management Conference

Anne Ofstedal, Director of Fellowship and Scholarship Programs, United Board

I was delighted to have the opportunity to attend the ACUCA Management Conference in September, to enjoy the wonderful hospitality of Kwansei Gakuin University and International Christian University, and to be inspired by the commitment of so many university presidents, chaplains, and educators to Christian higher education and to the mission of ACUCA. For me, the conference was also an opportunity to be reminded of the shared program interests of ACUCA and the United Board. The pilot program of creating e-learning modules on sustainability and faith bears similarities to the United Board's programs in environment, local knowledge (which emphasizes digital learning tools such as eportfolios), and interreligious understanding and peacebuilding. I am eager to learn about the results of the pilot stage of the e-learning project and hope that it will reach more classrooms at more and more ACUCA member institutions. This program has the potential to reach large numbers of students at ACUCA member institutions and to provide a unique international experience and an opportunity for them to exchange views and information with their peers across much of Asia. It seems to me that ACUCA is an ideal platform from which to launch this type of project.

A valuable part of the conference were the frank conversations regarding the challenges which many ACUCA member institutions face today, including the challenge of international and national university rankings. How can ACUCA members, and especially those smaller institutions which emphasize the liberal arts and undergraduate teaching, but which are not in the same league with large research universities, convey these strengths to their stakeholders and the greater community? Rankings don't capture the values that ACUCA member institutions strive to instill in their students, such as

pursuit of truth and justice and capacity for compassion and love. There are no quantitative measures which convey the value of service-learning and community involvement or the critical importance of professors who devote their careers to teaching and mentoring their students. I am thankful that the missions of ACUCA institutions go far beyond metrics, but recognize that international rankings and other pressures create an endless challenge of balancing competing priorities and communicating the successes and strengths of ACUCA member institutions. Clearly, ACUCA conferences provide an important forum for addressing this and other tough questions.



Participants gathered for a photo shooting after the parallel session.

Petra Christian University, Indonesia

### Community Outreach Program of Petra Christian University at the Slope of Mount Wilis

For about one month (July 7th – August 1st) students from five countries participated in a live-in Community Outreach Program (COP) to build the reGENCY of Kediri and worked together as a team on a project held by Petra Christian University (PCU) in Surabaya.

"The fifty-four PCU students who joined COP 2011 consisted of twenty-nine students from Dongseo University, South Korea and Inholland University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands; ten students from Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong; four students from International Christian University, Japan; one student from Momoyama Gakuin University, Japan; and four students from Chinese University of Hong Kong," said Herry Christian Palit, M.T., the Head of Community Outreach Center of PCU (Email: ka-ppm@peter.petra.ac.id, herry@peter.petra.ac.id).

The students not only built the stage for doll performance, but also worked together to lay the foundation of a kindergarten in the area called Jatiwekas of Kedawung village, located in the sub-district of Mojo in the reGENCY of Kediri.



Students put up a street light.

The students from South Korea also helped install Solar Cell and the street lighting since the roads and the little mosque in the village had been dark at night. The building of the bridges and the water channel funded by the government of Kediri were also done by COP participants. They also took part in educational programs by sharing their skills with the people, such as teaching English, cooking *ote-ote* (Indonesian food) with *kemchi* (Korean food) as the main ingredient, also preparing a Korean cuisine, singing, and playing "water rocket." A lot of things can be done to help the society and this proved that this kind of service learning can be an alternative. (Aj)

Assumption University, Thailand

### The title of Rector Magnificus Bestowed on Assumption University's Rev. Bro. Bantha Saenghiran f.s.g., Ph.D

Rev. Brother Sirichai Fonseka, the Provincial Superior of the Foundation of the Montfort Brothers of St. Gabriel in Thailand and concurrent Chairman of the Assumption University Council, the University Council and the Assumption University Alumni Board, Rev. Brother Dr. Prathip Martin Komolmas, Ph.D, FSG, the President Emeritus of Assumption University and the Assumption



Rev. Bro. Bantha Saenghiran at the Ceremony.

University Academic Community have been overwhelmingly appreciative of the role and the work of Rev. Bro. Bantha Saenghiran f.s.g., Ph.D as the incumbent Rector of the University, since November 1, 2002.

On the academic front, Rev. Bro. Bantha Saenghiran has helped streamline and improve the performances of many programs. Overall the number of degree programs initiated at the university during his tenure has entrenched the educative mission of Assumption University to serve the national and international communities.

The title of Rector Magnificus was bestowed on Rev. Bro. Bantha Saenghiran at a solemn Academic ceremony on November 1, 2011 at the Assumption University Suvarnabhumi campus in the ornate Chapel of St. Louis Marie de Montfort (founder of the Montfortian Brothers of St. Gabriel).



## ACUCA Student Mobility Scheme

The following are reports from three students who recently participated in the ACUCA Student Mobility Scheme.

Ms. Heldiora Pramestika Windaru and Ms. Livia Indah Lestari are students at Petra Christian University, Indonesia, and both went to Kwansei Gakuin University (KGU) in Japan from March to July 2011.

Mr. Pui Yin Dave Chan, originally from Hong Kong, is a student at International Christian University, Japan, and studied at Sogang University in Korea from March to June 2011. He wrote a letter to President Lee Jongwook of Sogang University and shared it with us.

You can read more students' reports on the ACUCA website: [http://www.acuca.net/student\\_mobility/](http://www.acuca.net/student_mobility/)

**Name:** Heldiora Pramestika Windaru

**Home University:** Petra Christian University, Indonesia

**Host University:** Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan

I'm really grateful that I had the chance to participate in ACUCA exchange program before I graduate from university. Moreover, I felt like my dream came true since I've always wanted to go to Japan. It was definitely the best experience in my life, where I met amazing people from various countries.

I've never lived separated from my family before but I didn't feel lonely at all since I lived with such a wonderful host family. I was worried about what to do if I ever get into trouble, but people were so helpful that I was always saved whenever I got into real trouble. Also, the host institution; KGU had such a well-established exchange program. I even had 3 Nihongo (Japanese Language)-partners so I could practice my Japanese conversation with them. They took me to several places, and it was really fun hanging out with them.

I think Japan is a tourist-friendly country because there are many maps located all over the city, especially in front of train stations so there's a small chance that you'll get lost. Moreover, public transportation is one of the best things in this country. Trains are everywhere so you can go wherever you want to go all by yourself.

Lastly, Japanese food is best eaten in Japan. I didn't know that the

Japanese have a high standard of appearance, including the food appearance itself. Almost all the foods eaten in the restaurant are nicely decorated. Not to mention the taste. You'll never want to eat Japanese food in your country after you taste the real Japanese food in Japan, ever again.



During my trip to Kyoto with my friends. I am third from right.

**Name:** Livia Indah Lestari

**Home University:** Petra Christian University, Indonesia

**Host University:** Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan

During my stay at KGU, I studied Japanese Language as well as other subjects related to Japanese culture.

Outside the class, there were field trips, parties, and special events in which exchange students can take part. We were also encouraged to join clubs or circles in campus.

KGU has a very good program for the exchange students. The staffs from the International Office are very experienced in dealing with students' problems. They helped us from our arrival, with accommodation, orientations, etc. If you want to study in Japan, I really recommend this university. Its campus is very beautiful too.

I chose homestay for my accommodation in Japan. During my stay, my host family helped me a lot not only in learning Japanese language but also getting a better understanding of Japanese lifestyle. They treated me like a real family.

I'm really glad I went to Japan. My experiences proved that all good things I learned from *mangas* and *animes* were true, if not



In front of the Clock Tower at Kwansei Gakuin.

better. Japan is also an enjoyable country for vacation. With a nice public transportation system, it's so easy to travel around.

Another advantage I got from the exchange program is the chance to meet people from different countries. It's really a good opportunity to learn other cultures from all over the world. I made a lot of new friends. This friendship is the thing I treasure most from my experience in Japan.

**Name:** Pui Yin Dave Chan

**Home University:** International Christian University, Japan

**Host University:** Sogang University, Korea

(An extract from my letter to Sogang University President Dr. Lee Jongwook)

Dear Dr. Lee,

Since I am already studying away from my home in Hong Kong, I have never thought of participating in overseas student exchange programme. However, this changed when I began room-sharing with my Korean friend. Suddenly, I realized that my knowledge towards the Korean Peninsula, being the immediate neighbour of Japan, was little to none. Through learning Korean at ICU (in which it is the most beautiful and the best language to me), taking courses about Korea, making more friends who are from Korea, and "annoying" them and asking them anything about Korean, last but not least effecting from the Korean Hallyu Boom. By that time, I know that I am ready to go to exchange in Korea - as my studying abroad while studying abroad.

To many, four months seems not enough for a rich and fruitful exchange experience, thus my main aim is to gain the maximum and achieve the greatest, by seeing, hearing, tasting, feeling, going to the most places, utilizing time efficiently, meeting many interesting people, furthermore making many Korean friends and international friends, so as to create a larger and a better social and interpersonal network, so I would not regret at all when I leave.

I often grasp every available opportunity and any good chance, therefore I always take initiatives to look for means to enrich my time in Sogang and in Korea, and the crucial approach to fulfill my objectives was to be active on campus and off campus.

Joining the Mini Bulb Volunteer Group in Sogang Voluntas and we did weekly visits to care home for children with mental development disability. I got to know another perspective of Korea in which foreign tourists, exchange students or even local Koreans never knew.

To gain an authentic and deep Korean living experience, I chose homestay and live with a native Korean host family. I especially like spending time with children so I chose a host family with children, three cute daughters aged 2, 6 and 9. Every day at home had been a happy and a very fun day with three daughters and with the family.

I definitely have no regrets after these precious four months, and this experience is certainly the climax of my university life as well as a great milestone in my personal life, extremely significant for my further study or for my future career. Nevertheless, I am desperate to go back to Korea and go back to Sogang University to meet my Korean friends and my homestay family again, and also I would like to reside in Korea, for my further study or for my future career.

CHAN, Pui Yin Dave



Deoksugung Palace Field Trip in <Korean Cultural Properties and Heritage> course with Professor Lim. (first right in the 2nd row is me)



## News from Payap University

### Internationalization of Payap University

Payap University in Chiang Mai, Thailand is undertaking a major effort beginning this academic year to reposition itself in five years in relation to higher education in Thailand. Payap's goal is to be recognized as the most internationalized university in the Northern region of Thailand.

In 2015 the trade agreements with the Association of South East Asian Nations will come into full effect, and that will bring about new ways of conducting businesses and professions.

Dr. Pradit Takerngrangarit, President of Payap University, is personally directing a transition of vision for the university toward an international perspective. "In the near future people in our country will identify themselves as not only Thai but as ASEAN," Dr. Pradit told a meeting of workers on October 31.

In order to facilitate the coordination of this change of vision Dr. Pradit has appointed Dr. Kenneth Dobson, former General Secretary of ACUCA, to be his Assistant for Internationalization. One aspect of this new era will be an increased need to communicate in English, ASEAN's official language. Payap has just established an English Language Enhancement Center (ELEC) to supplement its already strong program in English instruction.

Meanwhile, Payap has received word from the United States Department of Education that the university has been approved and will be listed in the next edition of the Directory of Postsecondary Institutions. This clears the way for US students to qualify for deferred payment of educational loans, and adds another international endorsement to Payap University's status, as well as removing a major hurdle for US students to study at Payap. We understand that Payap is the first institution in Thailand to receive this approval.

### The South East Asian Institute of Global Studies (SEAIGS) at Payap University is proud to announce the 2nd Lifescapes Southeast Asian Film Festival to be held 2-5 February 2012!

A lifescape is an expanse – life, livelihood, and reality – that can be seen in a single view. The Lifescapes Southeast Asian Film Festival screens contemporary films – documentary, docu-drama, or dramatized – to showcase thoughtful work with a social conscience. The festival's purpose is to raise awareness of regional issues through the medium of

film and post-screening discussions. Lifescapes creates a space which gives voice to filmmakers of mainland Southeast Asia who make meaningful social commentary with their work – showing the beautiful without flinching from grim reality.

Selected films explore regional issues and human rights struggles within mainland Southeast Asia: Cambodia, Laos, Burma/Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam. Audience members begin to see the intersections and differences between the people of this region through the medium of film.

Lifescapes is entirely interactive. It is not designed to be an individual experience, but rather a collective learning opportunity. It is a program where all participants – directors, producers, media representatives, NGO representatives, and audience members alike – join together in post-screening Q&A sessions, panel discussions, and evening functions throughout the duration of the program.

In February 2011, the first Lifescapes Southeast Asian Film Festival was held at Payap University. It was a great success with registered attendees from twenty different countries, film screenings with standing room only, and a number of speakers who fully contributed to the discussant nature of the entire four-day program.

Although the organizing team did not initially plan to run a second program, due to resounding feedback which asked us to hold another in 2012, we decided to venture a second project.

The Lifescapes team warmly invites all those interested to come and join us for the second program from 2-5 February 2012. Opening and closing receptions, film screenings, discussion panels, and presentations will take place on the Mae Khao Campus in the Sirindhorn Learning Resource Center at Payap University in Chiang Mai, Thailand. All activities will be free and open to the public.

For updates and more information, visit our website at <http://filmfestival.payap.ac.th> or find us on facebook at Payap Lifescapes. We hope to see you in February 2012!



Lifescapes Program 2011



Lifescapes 2011 Panel Discussion

Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages, Taiwan

### Wenzao International Events Review

Wenzao has held several international activities in October. On October 8 and 9, the Office of International Programs invited 34 international students on a trip to central Taiwan. Students have enjoyed themselves during the two days by visiting many renowned places in Nantou and Chia-Yi such as Sun Moon Lake, Tao-Mi Paper Dome, Singang Incense Artistic Culture Garden, Bantaoyao Crafts Studio, and Gwanghsing Paper Factory to make handmade fans. From this trip, students not only gained more background knowledge of Taiwan's culture and history, but also got a chance to understand and make friends with people from different nations.



Wenzao Sister School Week

On October 17th to 23rd, Wenzao Ursuline College of Languages held the first Wenzao Sister School week, drawing attentions from faculties and students of various departments. For this special week, Wenzao has invited four delegates from the United States – Dr. Charles McAllister from Southeast Missouri State University, Dr. Ben

Liu from Northwestern Polytechnic University, Prof. Charles Schomaker from Ursuline College, Pepper Pike, Ohio, and Dr. Frederick Lau from University of Hawaii, Manoa to participate in this event. During the Sister School Week, apart from departmental scholarly exchange, Wenzao has organized an International Forum with a focus on "Beyond the Local Campus". Four professors from Wenzao's sister schools and one Wenzao Professor have given speeches and presentations on their valuable experience on transnational researches, teaching strategies, and publishing scholarly papers on international journals or their experiences on serving as editors of international journals.

From November 19th to November 21, Wenzao held the 8th Northeast Asia Debate Open (NEAO). This English debate event has drawn about 200 foreign participants and 100 volunteers to the Wenzao campus. By hosting such an important international competition, Wenzao and Taiwan's international visibility has been raised. The ESL champion of NEAO is from Tsinghua University, China. Countries that break into the Open Finals are from South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong and Malaysia. The champion of the Open debate goes to the debate team from Chung-An University, South Korea. The NEAO committee of Taiwan would like to welcome everyone who is interested in English debate to participate in our future debate events.



## Miriam College's Int'l Learning and Teaching Conference Shows Collegiality at Its Best

Miriam College's (MC) first International Conference on Learning and Teaching (ICLT) proved to be a big success, gathering more than 400 participants composed of education leaders, scholars, and practitioners both in the Philippines and abroad. Held last October 5-7, the conference created a dynamic venue for all participants to teach and to learn from each other: educators from co-educators, students from teachers, and teachers from students. The first day saw a packed Marian Auditorium filled with delegates from different colleges and universities in the country; members of the MC community; and representatives from Ghana, Australia, Hong Kong, Korea, US, India, Japan, Nigeria, Nepal, Iran, Malaysia, and Tanzania.

Dr. Rosario O. Lapus, Miriam College president and ICLT convenor, welcomed the attendees and urged all to build upon the lessons and stories to be shared at the three-day conference and emerge from these "excited by the opportunities to innovate, effect change, and make a difference in our own classrooms, schools, and institutions."

Among the distinguished speakers at the conference were former University of the Philippines president Emerlinda Roman who delivered the keynote speech on behalf of Senator Edgardo Angara; Dr. Virginia A. Miralao, UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines secretary general; Quezon province Representative and Committee Chair on Higher and Technical Education Philippine House of Representatives Juan Edgardo M. Angara; Amb. Laura Quiambao Del Rosario, Foreign Service Institute director; Dr. Luis Maria R. Calingo, executive vice president and chief academic officer of the Dominican University of California, USA; Dr. Robert Mobley, retired professor of Deaf Education; and Fr. Jose

Ramon T. Villarin, S.J., Ateneo de Manila University president.

Dr. Calingo shared his experiences about school leadership in the US and emphasized the need for shared governance and communicating a value system by example.

Kabataan Party List Representative, activist and blogger Raymund DV Palatino spoke about the teacher as a visionary, challenging teachers to use the liberating power of education to teach students how to change the world instead of preparing them to be more competitive in the job market and convert them into "mere consumers who are interested on how to increase their purchasing power."

Taking a different perspective, the conference gave students their moment to speak and express their views about education. Participating schools were Miriam College, Miriam College-Southeast Asian Institute for the Deaf, Assumption College, and Philippine Science High School. The students, who represented different unit levels including the deaf, shared their struggles about juggling academic life and their social activities in school and the importance of their teachers' support every step of the way. They also recognized the sacrifices of their teachers who, like them, balanced multiple tasks despite minimum salaries. One student speaker even suggested that teacher's salaries should either be increased or shielded from government tax, earning applause among teachers in the audience.

Closing the conference was a sharing by Sr. Helen Graham, M.M. on Teaching God's Love in Action. Using the autumn rain as analogy for a good teacher of God's work, Sr. Helen astutely stated that "rain must be neither too overwhelming nor too spare to successfully water the land."

There were also performances by the ethnic music ensemble Kontra Gapi and the school's homegrown talents including MC High School Glee Club, Music Center, MCHS Cultural Classical Dance Club, Musikayumanggi, and the Halili Cruz Ballet Dance Group.

The conference ended on a high note, with Dr. Lapus acknowledging the community's efforts in making the event a success and announcing that the school will host the next ICLT in 2013.



Scenes from the ICLT 2011

Providence University, Taiwan

## The Best Place to Study Chinese in Taiwan- Providence University

The Chinese Language Education Center (CLEC) of Providence University (PU) was founded in 1996 and is one of the best Mandarin Chinese language teaching institutions recognized by the Ministry of Education in Taiwan. The CLEC at PU strives hard to provide an ongoing, quality education for all international students in a safe and comfortable environment. Students' learning and life are taken great care of so as to meet their expectations and to fulfill the educational objectives of the center.

The followings are the feedback of students or scholars from all over the world for 2011 Fall Semester. From their personal feedback, you can imagine how comfortable and friendly the learning environments is at CLEC. Aside from regular academic courses, more importantly, all incoming exchange students are offered to take 10 hours of Chinese class per week free of charge. Hence, we would like to encourage students from all ACUCA members to come and study at Providence University.

*The first warm welcome I got was from the ever shining sun then the wonderful people who welcomed me with warm hands into their homes. I was overwhelmed by the completely different environment and weird but*

*mouth watering food.* 何安朵  
Nothando Nkambule,  
Swaziland, 18

*I can feel certain air of pride and say it proudly that this institution has made me do things in an extraordinarily simple way, the ability to make myself do the thing which I had to do: learning Mandarin language. Teacher-student interaction, proactive learning and teaching quality are the most important factors for learning effectiveness. This institution has offered me this most effectively. Students from different parts of the world, interacting in a language of humanity, offering the smile of friendship is a view to behold and memories to cherish for life to come.* 劉安道

Leo Antong Pankiras,



Ms. Nothando Nkambule



Mr. Leo Antong Pankiras

International Christian University, Japan

## Call for Papers: Apocalypse Revisited: Japan, Hiroshima, and the Place of Mimesis

First international conference of the Japan Girard Association and the Annual International Conference the Colloquium on Violence & Religion (COV&R) will be held at International Christian University (ICU), Tokyo on 5-8 July 2012.

Anyone interested in the subject and in submitting a paper for the conference should contact Prof. Jeremiah Alberg at ICU (jalberg@gmail.com). More details can be found in the ACUCA website (<http://www.acuca.net/>) and the website of the Japan Girard Association (<http://japan-girard-association.org/index.html>).

Please pass along the information to anyone who may be interested.



## Tunghai University Turns 56

November 2nd is Founder's Day at Tunghai University (THU). On this day classes were suspended so everyone could join in the celebration of Tunghai University's 56th anniversary. As dictated by tradition, the day started with a parade which immediately preceded the anniversary sports meet. Sporting events included cheerleading, ball games and track races as well as fun games like tug-of-war and relay races. There was also the traditional anniversary tea party replete with a



Students are getting ready for the performance.

variety of musical entertainment like country music, jazz, classical and scrap metal percussion. Tunghai U. also named five distinguished alumni during the anniversary celebration; heartfelt congratulations were extended to the awardees who in turn gave thanksgiving speeches acknowledging the fine

education they received while at Tunghai that had laid sound foundation in their respective careers.

Many alumni reunions were held at this time with alumni coming all the way from the U.S., Malaysia, Hong Kong, Japan and Indonesia. The third graduating class of year 1961 celebrated their 50th alumni homecoming. In honor of this event, they raised funds to build a fountain that will enhance the physical environment of the campus. THU President Chen acknowledged in a speech that alumni are one of the greatest assets of the university. He was touched by their loyalty and devotion to their alma mater, many of which were 70 years of age or over.

Last but not least was the inauguration of the new Faculty Housing Complex. The complex addresses the issue of housing shortage for faculty including newcomers and retirees. The complex is comprised of seven floors with a total floor area of 7,315 square meters. The complex will provide for 62 households—41 for new teachers, 21 for retired teachers. This is a timely gesture of appreciation to the faculty members, to provide comfortable housing so they can focus on educating the next generation of scholars and leaders.

Ateneo de Manila University, Philippines

## News from Ateneo de Manila University

## Ateneans trumpet the value of student formation at Global Leadership Forum

(<http://www.ateneo.edu/index.php?p=120&type=2&aid=10305>)

Eight students from the Loyola Schools represented Ateneo de Manila in the 4th Global Leadership Program (GLP) in Taoyuan County, Taiwan. Ateneans rubbed elbows and exchanged insights with other students from Fu Jen University in Taiwan, Sogang University in Korea, and Sophia University in Japan, all Jesuit educational institutions in the region.

A week-long seminar attended by select students from the mentioned universities, every year's GLP would open opportunities for the participants to discuss leadership values and principles. This year's topic centered on Character Education, which focused on specific issues such as Honesty and Cheating, Friendship Ethics, Professional Ethics and Self-Awareness and Social Responsibility.

This year's program, hosted by Fu Jen, opened with a keynote speech by Fr. Dan Bauer, SVD. He touched on Aristotelian philosophy to introduce insights on Friendship Ethics.

The participants soon took center stage when it was their time to talk about the program's central theme. The students from Ateneo de Manila presented to the plenary the significance of student organizations and of the Integrated Non-Academic Formation (INAF) Program in the life of an Atenean.

The students took pride in the Ateneo way of forming professionals-for-others who would be prepared to answer the call of becoming global leaders. As the other participants shared their own reports and views on this year's theme, each student widened the other's perspective regarding the role Character Education played in different Asian nations.

As this year's GLP drew to a close, after going through varied fieldwork activities in several NGOs and charitable institutions in Taipei, the thirty-two student delegates grasped quite tangibly what it would take to be at the forefront of global leadership: one must be keen of mind



Ateneans at the Global Leadership Forum

and heart to respect differences and to bridge gaps in a world beset by ever-changing challenges and embraced by ever-shifting opportunities.

## University president talks shop at LS leadership event

(<http://www.ateneo.edu/index.php?p=120&type=2&aid=10430>)

This year's inaugural Loyola Schools Leadership Circles talk saw faculty, administrators, and professionals listening to reflections from newly invested university president Fr. Jose Ramon T. Villarin, SJ. The talk, facilitated by Dr. Gina Hechanova, LS Coordinator for Leadership Development, was held on September 26.



Fr. Jett Villarin shares his thoughts

## Aspects of leadership

In his talk, Fr. Villarin mentioned four aspects of leadership he has experienced throughout the years—the leader as foot washer, first mover, enabler, and seer.

**Foot washer.** He warned of the intoxicating elixir of power. Leadership, he said, is not just being able to make things happen, but at the same time, having a sense of propriety over those you lead. He added that leaders must strike a balance between fear and love. Being firm may be called for in some situations, while in others, being charming may work best.

**First Mover.** Fr. Villarin shared that leaders are sometimes be forced to make the first move—to initiate change or introduce innovations to time tested procedures and to be accountable for the actions of their people and organizations.

**Enabler.** For Fr. Villarin, another key role of a leader is to be an enabler—to lead people into action, to devolve power, to show people the bigger picture and to give them a sense of ownership in helping the organization grow.

**Seer.** Lastly, he remarked that leaders should also be seers, able to inspire others to action by word and deed, with an eye to how the past and present of an organization will affect its future growth and directions.

## Insights

During the open forum which followed his talk, Fr. Villarin shared his insights on a few topics.

**Teaching what is right.** When asked for his comments on certain businessmen's suggestions of tolerating a little corruption in order to drive up the economy, Fr. Villarin explained that regardless of opinions such as these, those in the Ateneo community must continue teaching students to do what is right and to follow lawful procedures.

**Resilience.** When asked what keeps him going in the face of setbacks and difficulties, Fr. Villarin touched on some things that are helpful to him: prayer, community, recreation, and humility. He said he often prays for wisdom and for openness rather than asking God to tell him what to



do next. He also shared that support from friends, family, and the community help keep him going. He added that it is important not to amplify your professional role too much—to remember that when you are home, you are simply you.

**Learning on the job.** Fr. Villarin mentioned that he learned “mostly by being thrown into the water” and learning things as he went along. He added that making mistakes and having mentors helped him grow into his role as leader.

**The role of Jesuits.** When asked what the role of Jesuits is in the university, Fr. Villarin reflected that the role of Jesuits lies more in the formation of character. However, he also stated that this does not mean that they should be limited to that area.

In answer to a related question, he shared that he idolized St. Ignatius for his steady commitment to his administrative duties in the Society of Jesus, even as his brother Jesuits traveled to and worked in far-off countries. He noted that the work of administration is just as priestly as other tasks.

**Individual talents.** Fr. Jett mentioned that each person’s individual talents or “inner resources” can be used to inspire others and bring a community together. He shared how music was used to help bring the Xavier University community together, and commented on how much he enjoyed composing and “jamming” with fellow musicians there.

Text by Miguel Martin R. Vilchez

Photographs by Jessica A. Laroya

Soegijapranata Catholic University, Indonesia

## Research News from Soegijapranata Catholic University, Semarang

At the end of October 2011, one of the research teams at Soegijapranata Catholic University (SCU) received a research grant, amounting to US \$18,000, from the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia to continue research previously funded by the United Board in 2010. The initial research “Inter-Religious Understanding and Peace Building in Indonesia’s Pluralistic Society” is to be followed up with a study titled “Religiosity Teaching as a Model to Initiate Peace Building in Indonesia’s Pluralistic Society”. The research team (consisting of Trihoni Nalesti Dewi, M.Hum, Dr. Marcella Elwina, Dr. Octavianus Digdo H, Hermawan Pancasisi, M.Hum, Yulita Titik MT, and Bernadetta Resti, M.Hum) has developed a learning model of religiosity for students which has shown to be able to increase the inter-religious understanding of students and to initiate peace both within the educational environment and beyond. The second phase of this research follows up and evaluates findings of the initial phase by the developing the implementation of the educational module. The compiled module is already present in several member universities of the Association of Catholic Universities throughout Indonesia and several

other universities in Java and Bali. It is expected that the application of this module, along with on-going mentoring and evaluation, will be able to provide students with an ideal learning model for religiosity that will assist efforts toward the creation of peace amongst religions in Indonesia. Students, as agents of change, will be expected to bring their learning from this model into the wider community to enhance inter-religious tolerance and peace.

As further development of another research project initially funded by the United Board, “Coping With Climate Change: Integrating Carbon Footprint Solidarity into University Education through a Service Learning Approach”, SCU is now trying to promote the adoption of a service learning approach in environmental education in Indonesian universities through the development of an Environmental Service Learning Network. Further to this, in December of 2011 results from related research, funded by the DP2M of the Indonesian Directorate General of Higher Education, on Water Valuation Techniques will be presented in Surat, India.

## Campus Sustainability Initiatives

ACUCA News has begun a series of articles on campus activities and education programs on the theme of sustainability. Following the report from Silliman University in the last issue, Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan, Nanzan University and International Christian University in Japan have stories to share.

Chang Jung Christian University, Taiwan

## Vol. 2 Chang Jung Christian University Plays a Central Role in River Protection

Sitting right by the Erren River in Taiwan, Chang Jung Christian University (CJCU) has a unique opportunity to use the river as the resources for service, research, and teaching. The Erren River, notorious for being long contaminated by industrial wastewaters, has been listed as a priority river for rehabilitation. As CJCU has always committed to disseminating God-given love, respect, and service within the community, protecting the river is certainly one of our goals toward sustainable development. In 2002, the “River Restoration Center”, co-founded by the Taiwan Environmental Protection Administration (TEPA), was established on the CJCU campus. Over the years, the center has successfully played a leading role in coordinating public participation activities for the Erren River rehabilitation.

The “River Restoration Center” has been directed by Dr. Ching-Yi Horng and under whose vision of recovering the river back to its beautiful glory, the center has accomplished its initial mission of: (1) establishing a volunteer program for monitoring and patrolling the Erren River; (2) conducting volunteer training workshops; (3) integrating outside human and monetary resources with those of CJCU; (4) implementing an evaluation system for the effectiveness of the program; (5) creating a web platform (<http://210.70.176.225/river/>) for the program and the volunteers.

Over the years, the center has united citizen groups to form a network of strategic coalition for the watershed management. The aims are to raise public awareness and appreciation on the aquatic environment, and to promote public involvement in many levels of public policy development and enforcement. Thus, the “River Restoration Center” of CJCU has successfully served as a bridge between the government and the general public.

To acknowledge CJCU’s leading role in directing the Erren River Coalition Program and promoting public involvement in watershed

management, the 2011 Annual River Volunteer Convention invited President Chin-Seng Chen of CJCU to address to the audience on the citizen’s vision for the aquatic environment (picture). He talked about how the welfare of the Erren River is integrated to the welfare of citizens in the watershed, people in watershed both share the same fate and the future, and we should all work together for the vision to come true.



A pledge to river restoration: President Chin-Seng Chen of CJCU (first on the right) and government officials left their palm print on the argil tile. Standing third from the left was Taiwan’s President Ying-jeou Ma.

In the future, CJCU will continue to unite its campus with the sustainable community, fulfilling a responsibility to the world with love, faith, and good stewardship. We will promote public involvement in the river corridor management and the aquatic ecosystem restoration. The faculty members of CJCU with biology, ecology, and environmental sciences backgrounds will devote their teaching and research to the river. We will also involve CJCU students on public outreach, ecological monitoring, and wetland restoration activities. Through these practical works, the students will be aware of the local environmental issues, and participate in the problem-solving processes.

We are grateful that God has placed CJCU at this strategic position



and given us the opportunity to play a central role in promoting public involvement for the health of the river and the community. We are also proud to share the river-restoration experiences with other Asian Christian universities through the link of the ACUCA E-learning project.

Wenjau Lee, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Department of Bioscience Technology  
Ching-Yi Horng, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Department of Occupational Safety and Health

Nanzan University, Japan

### Vol. 3 Sustainable Development

It has become obvious for quite a while already that a narrow focus on economic growth, combined with an uncritical faith in the power of technological innovation, has endangered not only a huge number of animal species but also the survival of humankind. Thus, the concept of "sustainable development" has attracted a good deal of attention and it is becoming an integral part of the curriculum across many faculties and departments. Although this holds true for almost everything being "taught" at a university, it is especially important when it comes to sustainable development: much more needs to be done than just "teaching about" this issue. The learning environment for our students should be in harmony with what is being taught.

Nanzan University was founded after WWII by the Society of the Divine Word, a Catholic religious order originating in Germany, and it seems that the layout of the present Nagoya campus reflects the traditional high regard for trees and forests in German culture. Forests are mostly in the public domain, open to all citizens, and cutting down trees is considered to be a last resort, to be done only after a thorough discussion of all alternatives.

This special concern for the environment was spelled out in the directives given by the board of administration to the architect entrusted with designing the new Nanzan campus (completed in 1964). The directives were rather specific. Cutting down of trees would always need the prior approval of the chairman of the board of directors. The layout and design of the campus should put special emphasis on harmony with the natural environment. Finally, several thousand trees were to be planted, choosing the kind of trees to be planted in consultation with experts.

Since 1964, the Nagoya campus has added many new buildings to the campus, the learning environment for about 7000 students. However, the original directive - "no cutting of trees" - is still very much alive. The result is that even now, about 30 percent of the Nagoya campus is covered by trees or lawn. (Incidentally, this is also the percentage of the area covered by trees in Germany.) Nanzan University hopes that this will help to remind students and faculty alike sustainable development is a common goal dependent upon the conscious and constant effort of everybody sharing our common human habitat.



Campus of Nanzan University

International Christian University, Japan

### Vol. 4 Environmental Studies Workshop

**Environmental Studies Workshop: Students' Suggestions for an Eco-friendly Campus** was held at International Christian University (ICU) on October 22, and the President, the Vice Presidents, faculty and staff members gathered.

Several students who took the general education course "Environmental Studies" in the spring term continued their research on 7 different topics: Global Warming, Radiation, Life Style, Power, Water at ICU, Waste, and Business & Economy, and made presentation on each issue with both local and global perspectives.



A student shared her ideas for an eco-friendly campus.

After the presentation, a brainstorming session followed, in which each participant came up with various ideas to make ICU campus more environmentally sustainable. Everyone agreed that ICU should take a step further and make a concrete action plan for creating an eco-friendly campus, and an idea to organize a committee for this purpose with faculty, staff and students as its members was proposed.

ICU would like to share further development on this issue with the ACUCA members.

ACUCA NEWS is published four times a year by the Secretariat of ACUCA. It is published primarily for circulation among member institutions. Hence, contributions from members are most welcome. Organizations and scholars interested in obtaining a copy may contact:

Dr. Johannes Unsok Ro  
General Secretary, ACUCA  
International Christian University  
3-10-2 Osawa, Mitaka-shi,  
Tokyo, Japan  
Tel +81 422 33 3002  
Fax +81 422 33 3355  
E-mail: [acuca@icu.ac.jp](mailto:acuca@icu.ac.jp)

ACUCA  
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#### Editor's Notes

- Four issues of the newsletter "ACUCA News" are published each year. If you have any stories to share, please send them together with print quality photos by e-mail to the ACUCA Secretariat ([acuca@icu.ac.jp](mailto:acuca@icu.ac.jp)) no later than the end of February for the next issue.
- The application deadline for the SMS subsidy is approaching: February 15. If you have students who will participate in the scheme in spring of 2012, please check the ACUCA website and follow the instructions.
- In Japan, 絆 (*kizuna*), meaning bonds between people, was selected as 2011's *kanji* (Chinese character) of the year. The earthquake and tsunami reminded people of importance of *kizuna*. Presence of *kizuna* was also felt through the support for institutions in Japan and Thailand, which suffered disasters, by ACUCA and its member institutions. I hope that 2012 will be a peaceful year for everyone. (ni)