



ACUCA NEWS

ASSOCIATION OF CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES IN ASIA

“Committed to the mission of Christian higher education of uniting all men in the community of service and fellowship.”



Volume VIII No. 2

July-December 2008

ACUCA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

HONGKONG	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 St. Andrew's University J.F. Oberlin University Tohoku Gakuin University Seigakuin University
KOREA	Ewha University Sogang University Soongsil University Yonsei University Keimyung University Hannam University Jeonju University Handong Global University Hoseo University Myongji 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 Saint 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	Payap University Assumption University Christian University Of Thailand Mission College

Special Feature: The ACUCA in Manila

Educating Christians in the 21st Century The ACUCA faces the challenges of today's world



The Leong Hall of Ateneo de Manila University, site of the ACUCA Conference

Unlike in the Philippines, Christians in many Asian countries are often the minority among Muslims, Buddhists, Taoists and other Asian religions. Thus in 1976, the Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia (ACUCA) was established to support and further the cause of Christian education in seven Asian countries: Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan, and Thailand. To date, it has 56

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member institutions. Its mission is the development and maintenance of the Christian character of its member schools through encouragement and mutual support. Member institutions help each other fulfill their shared goal of forming students committed to living out their Christianity by engaging social realities and contributing to nation building.

Maintaining a Christian identity in today's world

Last October 16 to 18, 2008, the ACUCA Biennial Conference and 17th General Assembly, as well as a Student Camp, were held at the Ateneo de Manila University. Ninety-six university leaders and faculty members from 40 member institutions participated in talks and discussions centered on the theme “Christian Universities: Identity and Challenges in Today's World,” chosen during the October 2007 management conference held in Keimyung University. The tasks set before the body were to share best practices

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ACUCA President Bienvenido Nebres, S.J., opening the conference



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and determine how ACUCA could assist its members respond to the challenges they face.

The conference opened with a dinner at the Ateneo college covered courts. The Bukas Palad sang religious songs and the Bayanihan Dance Troupe presented the best of the Philippines' native dances.

Best practices in Taiwan, Thailand, and the Philippines

Three plenary speakers shared their universities' stories as they tackled the challenges of growth, visioning, and student formation in the context of a rapidly changing and increasingly diverse society in which other countries and segments of society have been left behind, resulting in so-called competitiveness and poverty gaps.

Leading and Managing the Change: Dr. Haydn Chen, President of Tunghai University in Taiwan, traced the history of Tunghai from its inception to its present structure and thrusts.

The Role of Ministry in a Changing World: Rev. Dr. Pradit Takerngrangarit, President of Payap University in Thailand, spoke of the paramount significance of chaplaincy in Christian higher education institutions.

Forming Professionals for Others, Building the Nation: The Ateneo's own President Fr Bienvenido F. Nebres, SJ, spoke on how the Ateneo has faced the dual challenges of being a Christian university: the challenge to be excellent,

and the challenge to be excellent in fidelity to our Christian mission. He enumerated initiatives to address the competitiveness and poverty gaps.

Parallel talks highlight challenges and recommendations

Three parallel sessions discussed the challenges brought on by postmodernism, multi-religious environments, and the demands of the job. Dr. Chin-Seng Chen, President of Chang Jung Christian University, spoke on "Christian universities responding to the challenge of maintaining identity in a postmodern and materialistic world." Dr. Leung Philip Yuen-Sang, Head of the Chung Chi College of the Chinese University of Hong Kong spoke on "Christian universities responding to the challenge of maintaining identity in a multi-religious environment." Dr. Norihiko Suzuki, President of the International Christian University in Japan, spoke on "Christian universities and the challenge of maintaining balance between pursuing mission and responding to the demands of a student body focused on the job market.

Five challenges emerged from the parallel talks and the discussions that followed them: revisiting the role of the university; revisiting the role of ministry, the discontinuity of values, the diversity in religions, and diversity within Christianity itself.

Integration and balance were the key recommendations



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in addressing the five foregoing challenges. Integrating what is common across the different branches of Christianity is more important than emphasizing the differences between them. A balance between fidelity and flexibility is needed in order for Christian educational institutions to stand united. In order to remain relevant in the 21st century, it is this shared Christian faith that will guide ACUCA's members to implement programs to form their students to become Christians committed to living out their faith through excellence and service.

The conference ended with a tour to the Aquino Center and Museum at the hacienda Luisita in Tarlac.

Student camp

A Student Camp was held alongside the conference, which brought together 68 students from ACUCA member schools. They discussed their values, character, and their understanding and experiences of Christian stewardship and mission, and how these are influenced by their countries' culture, technology, music and arts.

A highlight of the camp was a presentation of country reports in which participants from each of the seven member countries shared what it was like to be young and Christian in their countries.

The students also presented to their University leaders attending the biennial conference and general assembly a cultural show on October 17, 2008 showing off their countries' songs, dances, costumes, arts and crafts.

The students visited a Gawad Kalinga community on October 18, 2008 and ended the conference with a historical tour to Intramuros, the Old City.

BELOW LEFT: Dr. Antonette Angeles, Academic Vice President, Ateneo de Manila University (left) with Dr. Janjira Wongkhomthong, President, Christian University of Thailand. BELOW RIGHT: (Left-right) Dr. Byungdoo Sohn, President, Sogang University; Mr. Kangyong Chung, Associate Manager, Sogang University and Dr. Ma. Luz Vilches, Dean, School of Humanities, Ateneo de Manila University



(Left-right) Dr. Norihiko Suzuki, President, International Christian University; Dr. Synn Ilhi, President, Keimyung University



and Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, S.J., President, Ateneo de Manila University

BELOW: Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, S.J. with Student Camp participants



RIGHT: Welcome dinner, "barrio fiesta" style

BELOW: Hong Kong students' presentation during Cultural Night



News from the Members

Sogang University (KOR) has new BOT chairman

Rev. Bonaventure Shi-chan Yu, S.J., has sworn in as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Sogang University on June 20, 2008. Fr. Yu succeeds Rev. Luke Hong Park, S.J., who had served as the Chairman for five years.

Fr. Yu studied journalism at Seoul National University and law at Korea University Graduate School of Law. After joining the Society of Jesus in 1990, he studied at Sophia University for his S.T.L. and was ordained in 1997. He is familiar with the university business since he has been serving as a member of the Board of Trustees for 10 years.

Dr. Yu starts 3rd term as Providence U (TPE) President

Dr. Matthew Min-Teh Yu started a third term on August 1, 2008 as President of Providence University. During his six-year tenure, Dr. Yu has made substantial efforts toward curriculum reform and research incentives while also ensuring that Providence University remains faithful to its Catholic mission.

His successes toward enhancing the Catholic tradition at Providence University include the founding of a Service Learning Center; the leadership for a pilgrimage to Rome in honor of the Canonization of Saint Mother Theodore Guerin; and an open door policy providing tuition scholarships for international undergraduate students from ACCU, ACUCA, ASEACCU and IFCU member institutions to study for up to one year at Providence University.

Lingnan University (HKG) appoints economist as VP

Professor Jesús Seade has been appointed as Vice President of Lingnan University for a term of five years starting September 1, 2008. Professor Seade joined Lingnan in January 2007 as a Sydney SW Leong Chair Professor of Economics and Head of the Department of Economics. He is also the Director of Hong Kong APEC Study Centre. A native of Mexico, Professor Seade received his Ph.D. in 1976 at Oxford University under Nobel Laureate in Economics Professor James Mirrlees.

Lingnan's Council Chairman Leung Chun-ying said that Professor Seade's "rich experience with international trade organizations, and his standing as a renowned economist will certainly contribute to his efforts in developing Lingnan into an internationally recognized liberal arts university."

Chung Chi College-CUHK (HKG) appoints new trustees

The Board of Trustees of Chung Chi College, Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), has reappointed the following new members effective August 1, 2008:

(i) Co-opted Trustees - Dr. Pang Yuk Wing Joseph and Dr. Leung Fung Yee Anita (3 years)

(ii) Representative of Chung Chi College Alumni Association - Mr. Hau Wun Fai Alfred (2 years)

(iii) Representative of Chinese Christian Universities Alumni Association - Mr. Leung Kwong Lam (2 years)

In addition, the Board has re-appointed the following trustees for a new term:

(i) Representative of United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia - Mr. Joseph Y.S. Lu (3 years)

(ii) Co-opted Trustees - Mr. John K.H. Li and Dr. Deanna Lee Rudgard (3 years)

(iii) Representative of Chung Chi College Alumni Association - Mr. Ma Siu Leung (2 years)

TaiCUCA (TPE) elects new chairperson

Dr. Wan-Lee Cheng, president of Chung Yuan University, was elected as the new chairperson of the Taiwan Christian Universities and Colleges Alliance (TaiCUCA) during its General Assembly on June 17, 2008. He succeeds Dr. Haydn Chen, President of Tunghai



University, who has led TaiCUCA for the past two years, since its establishment. TaiCUCA is an affiliate organization of ACUCA.

Dr. Wan-Lee Cheng has an undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering, Master's and Ph.D. degrees in Industrial Technology and Education with concentrations in Visual Communication, Statistics and Research. He spent 36 years in the United States as educator, researcher, and member of professional and community boards. At San Francisco State University, he served as Professor and eventually Dean of the College of Creative Arts.



RIGHT: TaiCUCA General Assembly

News from the Members

CYCU (TPE) offers scholarships for international students

Chung Yuan Christian University (CYCU) offers scholarships to international students who would like to join its research workforce and become part of its campus community. Students with a background in science or engineering, good academic performance and English proficiency, and who are considering high-level industry positions are encouraged to apply. The scholarships include the following:

- ✦ DIGS-Distinguished International Graduate Student
- ✦ International Student Scholarship (undergraduate)
- ✦ Taiwan Scholarship (government-sponsored)

In the Essential Science Indicators (ESI) research ranking, CYCU is ranked No. 1 in the field of engineering among all private universities and No. 5 among all universities in Taiwan. CYCU currently offers 11 International Graduate Programs (with all courses instructed in English) for international graduate students seeking their Master's and Ph.D. degrees. For information, contact the CYCU Office of International Affairs, or visit their Web site: <http://oia.cycu.edu.tw>

Scholarship for International Peace Studies at UPeace



The International Peace Studies Dual Campus Master Program is a shared initiative between the Nippon Foundation and the UN-Mandated University for Peace, in collaboration with Ateneo de Manila University. It aims to provide students with an opportunity to pursue a Peace Studies post-graduate degree with a content-based language-training module.

The program offers support for individuals who do not have a proficient command of English to work in this increasingly common international language and to become comfortable in their professional abilities as they gain academic skills. As part of the program, students also have the opportunity to apply their academic and practical knowledge through a four-month internship at the end of the Master courses.

In this 19-month intensive academic program, the students take courses at Ateneo de Manila University in the Philippines as well as at the San José UPEACE headquarters in Costa Rica. It is accomplished in three terms which start at the end of the language-training module. The program begins in April 2009.

The Dual Campus M.A. Program has been planned primarily for students from several Asian countries where



UPEACE students at the Ateneo campus

English is not a widely used language, such as Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam. Exceptionally, students from other Asian countries may be admitted. For more information, please visit <http://www.upeace.org/academic/masters/sips.cfm>

HKBU (HKG) puts up 3 new research institutes

Hong Kong Baptist University has established three new interdisciplinary research initiatives. Established with the generous donation of HK\$10 million (US\$1.28 million) through the Lee Shau Kee Foundation, the Research Institute on Contemporary China Studies will conduct high-level scholarly research on the impact on China of its sustainable economic development and social reform policies.

The Institute for Computational Mathematics was established to promote research collaboration among mathematicians, engineers and scientists from across disciplines and broaden the range of practical and industrial applications of computational mathematics.

Established with the support of HK\$8 million (US\$1.02 million) from Sino-Forest Corporation and alumnus Mr. Allen Chan, the Sino-Forest Applied Research Centre for the Pearl River Delta Environment will study trans-boundary pollution in the Pearl River Delta region and conduct research in areas such as the Pearl River Delta Industry Environmental Performance Improvement, Policy Research and Community Environmental Education, and Waste Treatment and Recycling.



Dr. Lee Shau-kee (2nd from left) presents cheque to President Ng Ching-fai (2nd from right), VP-Academic Franklin Luk (right) and VP-Research & Institutional Advancement Tsoi Ah-chung (left).



News from the Secretariat

ACUCA welcomes 3 new member-institutions



The ACUCA officers and board members warmly welcome three new Christian academic institutions into the fold. As of October 20, 2008, Sanata Dharma University, Miriam College and St. Paul University, have been accepted into the now 56-member association.

Located in Yogyakarta, Java, Indonesia, Sanata Dharma was founded by the Jesuits in 1955 as a teacher-training college. It was recognized as a university in April 1993. Founded in 1907, St. Paul University is owned, managed, and operated by the Sisters of St. Paul of Chartres in the Philippines. The college department started in 1947 with a two-year Elementary Teacher's Certificate Course. The school was granted university status in 1982. Miriam College, formerly Maryknoll College, was established in 1926 to provide a teacher-training program for women in the Philippines. The school moved to its permanent campus in Quezon City in 1952.

Conferences of Interest

Presidents' Forum to be held in Manila in January 2009



Ateneo de Manila University will host the 2009 Presidents' Forum, a landmark gathering of presidents of universities from different parts of the world, on January 23-24, 2009. The forum will be held at the Loyola Heights campus and will carry the theme, "Universities at the Frontiers of Change."

The Presidents' Forum will be keynoted by John. J. DeGioia, President of Georgetown University, Washington D.C. Other featured speakers include Ng Ching-Fai, GBS, President and Vice-Chancellor of Hong Kong Baptist University, and Jean-Philippe Ammeux, Ph.D., Director of IESEG School of Management, Université Catholique de Lille.

"This is an occasion for Presidents from our partner universities throughout the world to share their experiences, views, and reflections about how they have confronted challenges to their mission and identity as institutions of higher learning in this globalizing world," says Fr. Bienvenido F. Nebres, S.J., President of the Ateneo de Manila University.

Further information on the 2009 Presidents' Forum may be obtained from the Web site at <http://presidentsforum2009.ateneo.edu/>



ACUCA NEWS is published four times yearly 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:

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