



January 2010

*Dear seminary friends,*

Happy New Year! I am sure each of you are anticipating difficult challenges and fresh opportunities as we begin a new calendar year. Many seminaries are at a crossroads, seeking funding, seeking students, and keen to keep striving for relevance and impact. Economic and global realities today put great pressure on seminaries. However, I am convinced that your efforts in developing HCD programs and in sharing what you are learning with other seminaries make a crucial contribution towards real-world relevance and impact on the future ministry of churches and on behalf of the children and youth of the world.

Hopefully in this second issue of the HCD Communiqué, you'll find inspiration and useful information. We've expanded the Communiqué by adding new sections on "Biblical Reflection" and "HCD News Around the World" as well as highlighting some noteworthy HCD developments around the world. By the way, we welcome any contributions of information, news or biblical reflections for upcoming editions of the Communiqué.

Finally as we begin the New Year, may I wish you all the best. I trust that this New Year will be one of greater growth in the number of programs and the availability of resources in this important new direction for seminaries. Please be sure that all of us in the Global Alliance, as well as in Compassion International, stand ready to assist in whatever ways we can to help you "forerunner" seminaries in the growing movement for Holistic Child Development programming and resourcing.

Warmly,

*Dan*

*\* Dr Dan Brewster is general secretary of the HCD Global Alliance and also director of HCD International for Compassion International. He has studied and written extensively in the areas of child and community development, missions, and missions strategy.*

The *Communiqué* is an electronic publication of the HCD Global Alliance containing news and information about the development and promotion of HCD programming around the world. It is published four times per year in English. For information, contact:

The HCD Global Alliance  
c/- Compassion International  
Leader Garden Apartments  
Block 1A, Unit 18C  
Jalan Chee Seng 13  
Tanjung Bungah 11200  
Penang, Malaysia

Email: [info@hcd-alliance.org](mailto:info@hcd-alliance.org)  
Website: [www.hcd-alliance.org](http://www.hcd-alliance.org)



## About Us

### The Global Alliance for Advancing Holistic Child Development

[www.hcd-alliance.org](http://www.hcd-alliance.org)

#### ► Who We Are

A voluntary group of seminaries, Bible schools, and other Christian academic institutions working together with researchers, trainers, practitioners, and other Christian leaders to create a global movement of academic programs in holistic child development (HCD).

#### ► Our Vision

In response to God's heart for children, programs in HCD will be an integral component of the ethos and programs of a majority of Christian educational institutions in every country and region around the world.

#### ► Our Mission

Encourage and enable seminaries, Bible schools, and other Christian academic institutions to implement contextually sensitive, academically rigorous, and developmentally sound HCD programs which will motivate and train practitioners, and inspire and equip church leaders, advocates, and other Christians to increase and improve their ministry and advocacy on behalf of needy children.

#### ► The Global Alliance Partners

- Encourage Christian institutions to implement HCD programs
- Contribute to the development of HCD resources
- Participate with like institutions to further HCD research
- Collaborate with like institutions to improve the quality of existing HCD programs
- Support the development of advocacy structures for advancing HCD programs
- Develop contextual curriculum for the training of trainers

*\* The HCD Global Alliance is a partnership between Compassion International and its member institutions.*

# Children as Agents *for* Mission

By Dan Brewster

**We know that most people who will ever make a decision to follow Christ will do so as a child or a young person. This is the basic premise of the "4/14 Window." It is no longer just a catchy phrase, but an established fact, and one which is now being understood and deployed in mission circles around the world.** In viewing missions as an adult-orientated pursuit, and underestimating the importance and the contribution of children in the Mission of God, we are ignoring the most fruitful mission field.

However our missiological interest in children is only because they are the most receptive of 'people groups.' They are also very effective *instruments* and *agents* for mission. A brief biblical note is illustrative. In the story of the leprous Naaman, (2 Kings 5:2), it is a little girl who recalls the prophet of God in Israel, and who encourages Naaman to see him. The little slave girl, a captive far from home might have been bitter or resentful in the home of the very General responsible for her captivity away from her family. But she simply and wistfully says to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria!" (2 Kings 5:3).

The King of Aram wanted to elevate the little girl's suggestion into something of an international crisis, or at the very least an international economic and political transaction. He prepares an embarrassment of wealth to be delivered to the King of Israel, somehow thinking that this can induce the king to cure Naaman. The king of Israel is dumbstruck and appalled, convinced that the King of Aram is provoking a quarrel.

Elisha steps in to defuse the situation, and through a messenger, makes a modest suggestion to Naaman. The important and powerful Naaman is insulted that Elisha does not personally attend to him, nor give him some 'great' thing to accomplish. But finally, in following the little girl's suggestion, and Elisha's unpretentious regimen, Naaman's leprosy is cured.

And here is the fun part. Note that now Naaman has that most important of spiritual and missiological understandings – "Now I know!" "**Now I know,**" he declares, "*that there is no God in all the world except in Israel!*" (v.15).

How important it is for mission leaders to grasp the reality and significance of the agency of children in their strategies and plans for effective mission!



**"How important it is for mission leaders to grasp the reality and significance of the agency of children in their strategies and plans for effective mission!"**

A promotional banner for the Cape Town 2010 congress. It features the Cape Town 2010 logo on the left, a central photograph of a cityscape with mountains, and the Lausanne movement logo on the bottom left. Text on the right reads: "THE THIRD LAUSANNE CONGRESS ON WORLD EVANGELIZATION In collaboration with the World Evangelical Alliance www.capetown2010.com". Below this, it says: "A worldwide movement that mobilizes evangelical leaders to collaborate for world evangelization. www.lausanne.org".

Cape Town 2010

THE THIRD LAUSANNE CONGRESS ON WORLD EVANGELIZATION  
In collaboration with the World Evangelical Alliance  
www.capetown2010.com

the Lausanne movement

A worldwide movement that mobilizes evangelical leaders to collaborate for world evangelization.  
www.lausanne.org

## Daystar University spearheads HCD movement in E Africa



**Child development specialist and education scientist Dr Harrahs Malinda (left) dreams of a time when children will be valued and treated**

**in light of what God has purposed for them.** She cites scriptural references illustrating that biblical society and parents really wanted and embraced children. Jesus modeled the way leaders should treat children in his own lifestyle. Not only did he welcome the children, he used them

to teach adults essential lessons and used their resource (fish and bread) to feed the hungry.

Dr Malinda is currently spearheading the East Africa Global Alliance initiative. Daystar University is currently the only University offering this discipline in Africa at the Master's level. Together with her colleagues at the university, Dr Malinda has also initiated a mentoring programme with the aims to increase the effectiveness of services to disadvantaged children who come from poverty stricken families, support all aspects of children's development, and develop students who can make

a positive difference in the lives of children.

"There is a lot that student mentors can do to improve the lives of disadvantaged children," says Dr Malinda. This includes being faith models to children, providing children stimulating experiences and opportunities to develop in a holistic manner, developing and maintaining good socio-emotional relationships with disadvantaged children, and facilitating a sense of responsibility towards disadvantaged children.

## AGST-APNTS launches PhD in HCD program in the Philippines

**On its 26th anniversary, the Asia Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary (APNTS) reached a remarkable milestone in equipping men and women for holistic child development (HCD).** From Nov 9-20, 2009, the first class of the PhD in HCD program was launched with five students attending the module *Qualitative Action Research* led by Dr Peter Malvicini of Cornell University. Dr Malvicini teaches at the University of the Philippines and is a regular faculty at the Asia Graduate School of Theology (AGST) as well as the Asian School of Development and Cross Cultural Studies.

The *Qualitative Action Research* module emphasized participatory

and action-oriented approaches in the context of the professional practice of holistic child development. Students worked through major stages of research design, data collection, analysis, writing/ presentation, and at the same time considered qualitative and some quantitative approaches to research.

The PhD in HCD program is a 60-unit multi-year, inter-disciplinary, research-oriented degree under AGST, hosted by APNTS in partnership with Compassion International. It is designed to meet the need of the church and society for competent child advocates, practitioners, and educators. Faculty include Dr Cathy Stonehouse of Asbury Theo-

logical Seminary, Dr Marcia Bunge of Valparaiso University, Dr Glenn Miles of Love146, Dr Linda and Romy Caringal, and Dr Fletcher Tink among others. Modules to be offered in the year 2010 are *Child, Church & Mission, Intervention Strategies for Children in Crisis, Child in Changing Contexts & Cultures, Transformational Leadership for Holistic Child & Youth Development, and Biblical Theology of Children & Childhood.*

*The PhD in HCD program is still accepting applicants. Please send your query to AGST dean Dr Theresa Lua [agstphil@gmail.com](mailto:agstphil@gmail.com) or APNTS associate program director Dr Nativity A. Petallar [npetallar@apnts.org](mailto:npetallar@apnts.org). For information, see [www.agstphil.org](http://www.agstphil.org) or [www.apnts.edu.org/hcd](http://www.apnts.edu.org/hcd).*



From left: Ponelyn Domingo, Teresita Chua, Dr Rogelio Macabuhay and Minnie Grace Sumili. (Photo: APNTS)



Students with facilitator Dr Peter Malvicini (seated right). Stella Bokare is seated far left. (Photo: APNTS)

### HCD program development

#### Plan for a distance learning HCD program in Ukraine

In Apr 2009, the Odessa Theological Seminary in Ukraine had a first exposure to HCD courses and programming. Under the leadership of the academic dean Dr Oleksandr Geychenko, the seminary is now planning to create a distance learning program throughout Ukraine using *Child, Church and Mission* as the base. Other seminaries in Ukraine have also expressed interest in adopting some form of HCD program in their curriculum planning. Also in Ukraine, plans are being made for a conference to champion the cause of needy children and youth. This conference would be a collaborative effort between the Odessa Theological Seminary and other seminaries in Ukraine, as well as the Nazarenes and Compassion International.

Contact: Dr Oleksandr Geychenko  
academic dean, [dean@odessasem.com](mailto:dean@odessasem.com)

#### STTJ to launch MTh in HCD in Makassar, Indonesia



Faculty and students. Dr Daniel Ronda is pictured lower right (Photo: STTJ)

Since 2008, Sekolah Tinggi Theologia Jaffray (STTJ) has been offering a Bachelor's degree in Ministry to Children and Youth. In 2009, STTJ began plans to start an MTh in HCD program. From Sept 27-28, 2009, ten individuals including STTJ principal Dr Daniel Ronda, Malaysia Baptist Theological Seminary HCD Institute director Dr Rosalind Lim-Tan and several HCD alumni met in Makassar, South Sulawesi province, to work out the full curriculum and details of the program. The program is expected to launch in Sept 2010 under the administration of STTJ. Established

in 1932, STTJ is one of the oldest theological institutions in Indonesia.

Contact: Dr Daniel Ronda  
STTJ principal, [sttjaffray@yahoo.com](mailto:sttjaffray@yahoo.com)

#### UNEV launches diploma program in HCD in Dominican Republic

In Oct 2009, Compassion International was invited to participate in the launch of an HCD program called "Defensoria de la Niñez" in the Dominican Republic. This diploma program is an alliance between Compassion International and the *Universidad Nacional Evangélica* (National Evangelical University). The broad 8-month program will be the first of its kind in the Dominican.

Contact: [unevdiplomados@gmail.com](mailto:unevdiplomados@gmail.com)  
[www.unev.edu.do](http://www.unev.edu.do)

#### Latin American Nazarene Seminaries consider HCD programming



An aerial view of downtown San Jose

In Nov 2009, Latin American Nazarenes convened a consultation of their Latin American seminaries in San Jose, Costa Rica. The Global Alliance general secretary Dr Dan Brewster and Latin Regional Global Alliance coordinator Enrique Pinedo joined in the deliberations. The seminaries agreed to continue the process of developing HCD program in their Spanish speaking seminaries. A person will be appointed to direct the process and consider possible program levels, curricula, professors and other needed resources. At the same time, they will liaise with Compassion International, Viva and other Latin experts for assistance in program development.

Contact: Enrique Pinedo, Latin Regional  
Global Alliance coordinator  
[epinedo@saa.ci.org](mailto:epinedo@saa.ci.org)

#### CFCD meetings, HCD book launch in Bangalore, India

On Nov 13, the follow-up Academic Programme Committee of HCD Curriculum meeting was hosted by the Christian Forum for Child Development (CFCD) in Bangalore to review and approve MA, MTh and PhD in HCD curriculum for seminaries in South Asia. The next day on Nov 14, CFCD convened its 2nd Annual Conference themed 'Schools and Education'. More than 100 participants, comprising teachers, parents, school managers and children, came to learn about issues and prospects of children particularly 4/14 Windows in schools. During the conference, the first resource book for HCD education in India, *Children at Risk: Issues and Challenges*, was launched. Jointly published by CFCD and ISPCK, the book contains 43 theological, contextual and missional articles on various issues of children written by scholars, pastors, teachers and practitioners. It is available at Rs400.

Contact: Dr JB Jeyaraj, CFCD director  
[bjeyaraj@hotmail.com](mailto:bjeyaraj@hotmail.com)

#### CFCC offers PhD in HCD in Bangalore, India

The first cycle of the PhD in HCD program was launched by the Centre for Contemporary Christianity (CFCC) in Bangalore, India in Aug 2009 with a module on research methodology. In Feb 2010, the first batch of students will continue their program with the module *Christian Education: Its Roots and Branches*, and later in the year, *Child at Risk – Global Survey*, and *Global and Non Governmental Attempts towards HCD*. In the same month, the first batch of MTh in HCD students will also begin their studies. Founded in 1994, CFCC opens as a post graduate research study center in 2009, offering MTh and PhD studies in Missiology and HCD.

Contact: Dr Siga Arles, CFCC director  
[sigaarles@gmail.com](mailto:sigaarles@gmail.com)

## LBC starts three 2010 HCD programs in Sri Lanka

The Lanka Bible College (LBC) Centre for Graduates Studies in Sri Lanka is offering three HCD programs at certificate, diploma and bachelor levels beginning 2010. Modules to be covered in the first term (Jan-Mar) of the

year includes *What the Bible says about Children, Christian Parenting, Pastoral Care of Children and Families, Child and Mission, and Major Religions and Child*. Established in 1970, the interdenominational LBC is accredited by the Asia Theological Association and has a particular emphasis

on preparing leaders to reach the unreached rural areas in Sri Lanka.

Contact: Pastor Upul Nishanta  
[eupul@slt.net.lk](mailto:eupul@slt.net.lk)

## HCD events

### HCD/Church leadership conference in Jamaica

In Nov 2009, Dr Las Newman, the president of the Caribbean Graduate School of Theology (CGST), opened and co-hosted a major event highlighting the needs of children and youth in Jamaica. Also participating in the event were several national church councils as well as church organizations and ministries involved in the welfare of children. This remarkable gathering also attracted interest from the highest levels of government in Jamaica and received extensive coverage in the press. The consultation raised awareness of the needs of children

from a variety of perspectives, and helped promote the HCD training program offered at CGST.

For information on the on-line HCD program offered by CGST, contact Dr Anthony Oliver, academic dean  
[aoliver@cgstonline.org](mailto:aoliver@cgstonline.org)

### Upcoming 3rd GA global consultation in Bangalore

Invitations will soon be going out to key HCD seminary leaders for the third global consultation of the HCD Global Alliance in Bangalore, India in Mar 2010. The specific objectives and agenda items will be finalized (hopefully with input from some of you) in the next few weeks. Our top-

ics will surely include things like: review of progress of HCD implementation in each region; review of specific HCD programs and materials; reprioritizing key areas of strategic collaboration; expanding collaboration and partnerships with Overseas Council International, the Child Theology Movement, the 4/14 Window ATT track, and the upcoming Lausanne Cape Town event; and also planning advocacy and awareness raising activities with churches worldwide.

Contact: Dr Dan Brewster  
Global Alliance general secretary  
[dan.brewster@yahoo.com](mailto:dan.brewster@yahoo.com)

## Other developments

### A lab for PhD in HCD students

In Dec 2009, Overseas Council International (OCI) approved a total fund of US\$11,200 for the implementation of a seminary related "compassionate care project" in the Philippines that will provide basic education for poor women and children who are not in school. The *Alternative Learning System (ALS) for Women and Children* project is a joint partnership between Asia-Pacific Nazarene Theological Seminary (APNTS) and Asia Graduate School of Theology (AGST), and will be carried out in Taytay, Rizal in collaboration with International Christian Fellowship. The project will also enable students and faculty to care for people in the community while serving as a laboratory for PhD in HCD students who will be working on their practicum.

Contact: Dr Nativity Petallar  
APNTS associate program director  
[npetallar@apnts.org](mailto:npetallar@apnts.org)

### 4/14 Window mid-year reflection and follow-up



There has been much positive feedback on the 4/14 Window conference held in New York in Sept 2009. Many tracks are moving ahead on developing strategies for empowering the next generation. In April 2010, members of the Academic and Theological Transformation track (pictured above) will join others in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for on-going planning, integration, and alignment of strategies. This meeting will be timed to include the Ethiopian 4/14 Window conference and all Africa Regional 4/14 Window Summit.

### OCI to include HCD orientation for "Diaspora" Chinese seminaries



An aerial view of Taipei

Overseas Council International (OCI) has requested the Global Alliance general secretary Dr Dan Brewster to make presentations at a consultation in Taipei, Taiwan in Apr 2010. All Chinese speaking seminaries and institutions from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, and elsewhere will be invited. Pray for this opportunity to influence these important seminaries.

\* HCD News Around the World contains brief highlights of HCD development, events and other news connected to the global HCD movement. We invite you to share your news and updates with us at [info@hcd-alliance.org](mailto:info@hcd-alliance.org)

### HCD programs around the world

More HCD programs at [www.hcd-alliance.org/hcdprograms](http://www.hcd-alliance.org/hcdprograms)

#### Postgraduate Diploma in Child Development

Daystar University, Kenya

The postgraduate curriculum in Child Development is designed to equip individuals who work or wish to work with children who have lived under difficult circumstance with the requisite professional qualifications in Child Development. Among its objectives are equipping the student with relevant knowledge on child and adolescent development with special emphasis on the African child growing under difficult circumstances, to identify developmental needs and changes in children, and to explain various ways of handling the development needs and changes in children.



Entrance to Daystar University in Kenya, East Africa

#### Master of Arts in Child Development

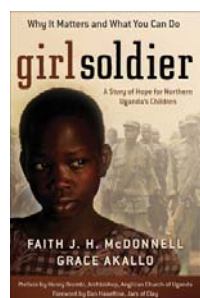
Daystar University, Kenya

This program responds to the need to reconnect children to the natural world and academic institutions. It is designed to help students understand child growth and development from a physical, socio-economical and cognitive perspective. Students are also trained to think critically about child and development processes and apply their training to real life situations through a variety of field work opportunities.

To find out more about the Postgraduate Diploma and Master of Arts in Child Development offered at Daystar University, see [www.daystar.ac.ke](http://www.daystar.ac.ke).

### Selected resources

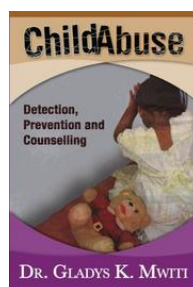
More at [www.hcd-alliance.org/resources](http://www.hcd-alliance.org/resources)



#### Girl Soldier: A Story of Hope for Northern Uganda's Children

Faith J.H. McDonnell & Grace Akallo  
(Grand Rapids, Chosen Books, 2007)

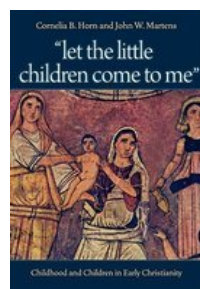
Grace Akallo, the former girl soldier, and Faith McDonnell, an American activist and writer collaborate to tell the story of Uganda's children who were kidnapped and turned into soldiers or sex slaves. Through first-person narrative, the book provides the history and current events of the East African country. Suitable for undergraduate to graduate level.



#### Child Abuse: Detection, Prevention and Counselling

Gladys K. Mwititi  
(Evangel Publishing House, 2006)

The African child faces the threat of abuse and neglect. Besides living with AIDS or bereaved and orphaned by the same, the child is thrust into the midst of war and conflict. Poverty has imprisoned many; while thousands of others are trafficked, exploited, or parentified. This book is written from a Christian counselling perspective and seeks to awaken the awareness of the reader to the world of the abused child.



#### Let the Little Children Come to Me: Childhood and Children in Early Christianity

Cornelia B. Horn and John W. Martens  
(Catholic University of America Press, 2009)

Although Jesus called on his first followers to welcome children in his name and to become like children, the lives of the first Christian children have remained in the shadows. This book explores the hidden lives of children at the origins of Christianity, drawing from insights gained from comparisons of children's experiences in ancient Judaism and the Graeco-Roman world.



The figure in the logo represents the child in our midst. The circle depicts God's image in the child at creation. Hence, spirituality is not a domain but the core 'being' of the child. The four colors symbolize the four domains of child development. Our mission is to motivate and inspire the Christian community to provide safe places where the continuing work of a creative God can be evident through the physical, mental, social and emotional domains of development.