



Compass Points

News



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Anglicans, CUAC and the MDGs

By the time this edition is published, there will have been a gathering in Johannesburg, South Africa in March 2007 of over 300 Anglicans from around the Communion for a conference called *TEAM: Towards Effective Anglican Mission*. It is to be an international conference that will look at Anglican Mission through prophetic witness, social development, HIV / AIDS, and to make exploration of the outreach work of the Communion that can help to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).



CUAC and MDGs: An Example

Madras Christian College, a CUAC member college, became heavily involved in long-term redevelopment work at Kokilamedu, a fishing village along the coast that was devastated by the 2005 Tsunami. One project was to get the fishing industry back in operation - and the college arranged for fishing boats and fishing nets to be purchased. CUAC was able to arrange for an Episcopal parish in the US to raise the money for such boats. Then in 2007, a cross-cultural expedition of six American college students came to India to study the redevelopment work and help launch the fishing boats.

The Millennium Development Goals

- ✓ Eradicate Extreme Hunger and Poverty
- ✓ Achieve Universal Primary Education
- ✓ Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women
- ✓ Reduce Child Mortality
- ✓ Improve Maternal Health
- ✓ Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases
- ✓ Ensure Environmental Sustainability
- ✓ Develop a Global Partnership for Development

At the Millennium Summit in 2000, world leaders committed their nations to address extreme poverty in its many dimensions - income poverty, hunger, disease, lack of adequate shelter, and exclusion - while promoting gender equality, education, and environmental sustainability. They underscored that the MDGs are also about basic human rights - the rights of each person on the planet to health, education, shelter, and security. A meeting of the Anglican Primates in 2001 joined this initiative by asking Archbishop Njongonkulu Ndungane, Metropolitan of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, to find ways of moving the Anglican Communion forward by addressing the vital social issues of poverty, trade, debt, HIV and AIDS. The TEAM Conference is to be a major step in achieving that result.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Rev. Rowan Williams has said: "International Development is not something that stands isolated from

mission, but is integral to it... [A]s Primates we committed ourselves through the Dromantine meeting [in Northern Ireland] in 2005 to playing our part in encouraging leaders of the nations to meet the Millennium Development Goals." Williams said. "How we prepare for the [TEAM] Conference and make our



various contributions to it will be of great importance in the coming months."

In September 2005, there was a Consultation on Religious Leaders on Global Poverty including Canon Kenneth Kearon, the Secretary General of the Anglican Communion and Archbishop Ndungane, which said: "we support the goal of 'global partnership for development' and believe that the churches can make a unique contribution to that partnership". The sort of thing that they thought churches could do was to develop new models for advancing a global movement against poverty, and use of the vast network of churches and church institutions to work with local communities.

The role of the MDGs was also a topic of the CUAC December 2006 Trustees Meeting, which included a discussion with the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori, the new Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church. She thought that there must be very practical ways in which colleges and universities could team up with similar institutions around the Communion, and work together at projects which could actually implement the MDGs. Practical examples emerged such as faculties of education addressing illiteracy, or business faculties addressing local economic development. The International Partnership for Service Learning and Leadership, CUAC's partner, is also interested in using its' network to promote student programs exploring the MDGs.

At the January '07 meeting of the American Chapter of CUAC (The Association of Episcopal Colleges), a paper was given by Hellen Wangusa, the new Anglican United Nations Observer from Uganda on "the UN and World Perspective of the MDGs". In her summary, she made the acute observation that the MDGs are not so much about poverty, as about wealth and wealth distribution. There is more than enough resource on this earth to sustain its population, but the issue is how is it shared. "Therefore if one part of the body is hungry, then the whole body is hungry. In terms of mission then we see this goal as asking us to respond to that part of the body that is hungry. In the same vein we ought to ask ourselves if a half a response is good enough. We must and can transcend this".

Wangusa suggested possible projects:

- using MDGs to develop literacy, advocacy, economic and literacy manuals and materials.
- developing gender guidelines for projects of the MDGs.
- theological reflections and Biblical bases for engaging and implementing the MDGs.
- exchange/exposure learning and sharing of experiences of the MDGs.
- research on alternatives to poverty: wealth redistributive methods
- direct projects:
 - nutrition projects.
 - sponsorship of girl children
 - library support for schools.
 - sexuality/health education for eradication of HIV/AIDS and malaria

Don Thompson, General Secretary for CUAC is to attend the TEAM Conference in March, and expects to come back with many ideas and contacts to share with CUAC institutions as to how to work toward the MDGs throughout the Communion. A page of the CUAC web-site will be devoted to the CUAC MDG programs.

Send in your ideas for inter-college projects implementing the MDGs to the link found MDG Page on the CUAC web site at www.cuac.org.

Trustee Plans and Decisions 2006

The Board of Trustees of CUAC met twice in 2006, first at Chung Chi College of the Chinese University of Hong Kong on May 21st-22nd, and secondly at the Episcopal Church Center in New York on Dec. 7th-8th.

Both meetings dealt with future planning for CUAC, especially for the 2008 Triennial to take place in Hong Kong.

At the Hong Kong meeting, the Trustees stayed at the Royal Park Hotel, Shatin, which will be one of the accommodation sites for the Triennial. It is a short one-stop ride on the subway to the CUHK.

Founded in 1951 by the representatives of Protestant Churches in Hong Kong to fill the need for a local institution of higher learning that would be both Chinese and Christian, Chung Chi was formally incorporated in 1955 under an ordinance of the Hong Kong Government.

CUAC 6th Annual Triennial Conference

Distinctiveness and Inclusivity: Challenges to Anglican Colleges and Universities

Tuesday, May 27 to Sunday, June 1, 2008

**Chung Chi College
Chinese University of Hong Kong**

The conference will explore the educational relationship of Anglican/Christian values and tradition, with the cultural/academic expectations of a university. It will highlight those challenges in the context of higher education in the Far East and the Pacific Rim. It will look at opportunities in education, technology, diplomatic and church service that have become possible there for new global relationships in higher education.

The Conference will begin with an overnight trip to the Chinese mainland to Sun Yat-sen University (originally known as Zhongshan University) in Guangzhou. The Conference will feature addresses and workshops in the regular areas of interest – chaplaincies, service learning, student and faculty exchanges – but also will explore the mission of a Christian university set in Asia.

There will be presentations from CUAC's Pacific Chapter members-- Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, the Philippines and Japan--on the history and cultural encounter of Christianity within Asian societies and cultures.

There will likely be smaller post-Conference trips available to further destinations of interest – Taiwan, Korea, Japan, and the Philippines –arranged by those colleges and universities.

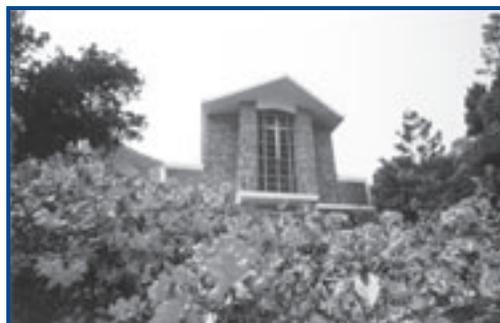
In 1963, CCC was incorporated as one of the three foundation colleges of CUHK. It continues to this day along with the two other colleges – with two more to be added shortly.

CUHK has over 5,200 staff, approximately 10,000 undergraduate and 2,000 research postgraduate students. Of these students, some 2,500 are from 45 countries and regions outside Hong Kong. There are over 90,000 alumni.

The Trustees were greeted by Prof. Peter Leung, Head of CCC, and his Chaplain, the Rev. Dr. Andrew Ng. They were given a tour through

the College and then were welcomed with other guests during a traditional meal in the Faculty Club.

This was the first CUAC meeting for the Rev. Andrew Ng as well as for Dr. Henrique Topka, Cuttington University; The Rev. Dr. Maher Spurgeon, Madras Christian College; and Mr. Nevin Brown, of the International Partnership of Service Learning and Leadership.



Chung Chi College



Sun Yat-sen University

The Trustees reviewed the 2005 Triennial in Great Britain, and the evaluations given of it. The general consensus was that it was an excellent conference, with the only drawback being its high cost, and some logistical problems due to there being two sites.

Possible plans for the 2008 Triennial soon began to emerge. It was felt that there should be some opportunity for delegates to visit the mainland during the Conference. The best opportunity for that would be to begin with an overnight trip to the Chinese mainland to Sun Yat-sen University (originally known as Zhongshan University) in Guangzhou. In the early 1950s, Sun Yat-sen University merged with the former Lingnan University, which itself was originally Canton Christian College established by a group of American missionaries in 1888. It is an easy train ride to Guangzhou, and good and economical overnight accommodation would be available. It could also include a visit to Zhenshen, the border city in the Special Economic Zone.

As the meeting progressed, Trustees were able to take a short subway trip to Kowloon, and then take a ferry across the harbor to central Hong Kong. Amidst the many modern skyscrapers still stand some of the buildings from the colonial administration.



Hong Kong skyline

Up “Battery Path” was found St John’s Cathedral, home of the Diocese of Hong Kong (which will be one of the hosts of the 2008 Triennial). Finally they took a trip on the tram to Victoria Peak, which gives the most spectacular view of Hong Kong.

The next day of meetings the Trustees benefited by joining the Sunday Service at the college chapel – with continuous translation available in Mandarin, Cantonese, and English! Chaplain Ng gave the sermon. The Chapel will also be one of the central venues of the Conference. Nearby are both student hostels and Guest Houses for accommodations right on CUHK’s campus.



From left to right: Bishop Douglas Theuner, Dr. Francis Nishihara, Dr. Hu Shiu Ying, Dr. Joel Cunningham and The Rev. Dr. Andrew Ng after service.

After the service, the Trustees met various parishioners, including Professor Hu Shiu Ying, a world renowned botanist and former faculty of Harvard University, who is 101. She had received her Master of Science degree from the original Lingnan University in 1937. She maintained her Hong Kong residency throughout her life while teaching at Harvard, and shared with the Trustees what her earlier experience of Chinese Christianity had been before the war.

Much of the meeting was concerned with giving shape to the Triennial. Among the concerns expressed were that it should very much reflect the context of Asian Christianity and culture. It was hoped we could hear some of the history, including such valuable first hand accounts as Professor Hu.

Asia members have expressed the need for the a clear articulation of the Anglican tradition that should be found in an Anglican institution. It was agreed that the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Rowan Williams, should be invited to give a keynote address on that subject.



Left to Right: First Row-Trudy Cunningham, Nirmala Jeyaraj, Peter Leung, Henrique Tokpa, Andrew Ng; Second Row-Donald Thompson, Joel Cunningham, Gail C. Brandt, Francis Nishihara; Back Row-Maher Spurgeon, Douglas Theuner, Martin Wharton, Nevin Brown

There will be opportunities to explore the basic aspects of typical CUAC themes, such as chapel life, service learning, faculty and student exchanges, and cross cultural experiences. One of the resources noted was the new Lingnan University (Hong Kong), and also the Hong Kong office of the United Board for Christian Higher Education. It was felt that there should be further consultation on the Conference with other member institutions of the Pacific Chapter, such as Japan, Korea, and the Philippines (see the final announcement of the Conference on Page 3).

Other matters dealt with at the meeting were the financial reports, the performance review of the General Secretary, and the mutual agreement between CUAC and the International Partnership of Service Learning and Leadership (for cooperative programming, and regular communication between both Boards – this being the first meeting for the IPSL President, Mr. Nevin Brown).

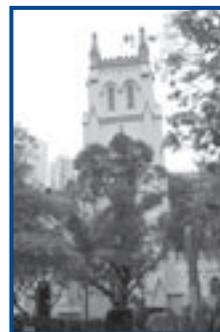
The Trustees met again in New York, December 7th and 8th at the Episcopal Church Center. The meeting convened with a celebration of the Holy Eucharist in the chapel by The Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Katharine Jefferts Schori. The Trustees also shared lunch with Bishop Schori and had a discussion about CUAC and its role in the Anglican Communion. She encouraged CUAC to use its resource as a network of the Anglican Communion to promote the projects of the Millennium Development Goals.

Trustees attending this meeting for the first time were The Rt. Rev. David Lai, Bishop of Taiwan (Pacific Chapter), and Prof. Michael Wright (Canterbury Christ Church University). Joint programming ideas were discussed between CUAC and IPSL, including some joint work in service learning with the Parliament of World Religions – which will be holding its next Parliament in 2009. CUAC and IPSL see the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as of good framework for international exchanges and visits, and it was agreed to explore mutual programming along these lines.

Both the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Archbishop of York, John Sentamu, have been invited as speakers. Other speakers and resources are being invited. It was agreed that Prologue would be published after the Triennial, to encompass the papers and presentations of the Conference. Compass Points would be published twice a year henceforth, but in magazine format.

The Board delegated Triennial planning details to the team of The Rev. Andrew Ng, the Rt. Rev. David Lai, and the Rev. Dr. Don Thompson. It is hoped that they will be able to convene a gathering of the Pacific Chapter, with members from Japan, Korea, the Philippines, Taiwan and China to consult with them about conference planning and program. The planning team is to report back to the Board with a full plan and pricing by June 2007.

The 2008 Triennial Conference was further explored, and its theme “Distinctiveness and Inclusivity – Challenges in Anglican Higher Education”. It was felt that most universities and colleges struggle to maintain their Anglican heritage and values on the one hand, but are at the same time pressured by the educational system of their country or culture to be inclusive with it on the other. Issues on both poles of the of the tension need to be explored. It was agreed that the MDGs would also form a framework for the Conference’s discussions and explorations.



St. John's Cathedral, Hong Kong

"Going to Our Roots"

St. George's College, Jerusalem



Studying Holy Scripture at the sites where Jesus, Paul, Abraham and the desert mothers and fathers lived and breathed. Meeting with and learning about the history, people and the breadth and diversity of Christian spirituality in the Holy Land.

12 days, 1 month or even longer with others encountering the roots of and the present reality of the Hebrew, Christian and Muslim experience in the Middle East. These opportunities are gifts from the work and ministry of St. George's College, Jerusalem, a unique center of continuing education in the Anglican Communion, offering short-term courses as well as facilities for individual reflection and study for both clergy and laity. Hosting successfully since 1962 participants from 92 countries and 96 Christian traditions, St. George's gives a participant in its programs or visits ample opportunity to meet and get to know a variety of fellow Christians and seekers while deepening one's faith, expanding one's knowledge and acquiring a "new family" composed of one's fellow pilgrims, instructors and the people of the Holy Land.

Five minutes walk from the Old City of Jerusalem, St. George's is conveniently situated not only to go and see major holy sites, but also to meet with local Jews, Christians and Muslims, as well as to gain some basic understanding of what is going on in the Holy Land today and how one might respond to the today's challenges in the Middle East context. The self-transformation and transformation in community that take place in each St. George's course invite different ways of understanding faith. New perspectives on old problems emerge; entrenched presuppositions are challenged and enlightening experiences enable growth and new life.

Tuition fees from USD2180-USD4000 cover from 12 days up to 1 month's worth of instruction, meals, accommodations and fees. Further, scholarship assistance is available. Course offerings include general introduction to the spirituality, people and places (Abraham Yesterday and Today, Palestine of Jesus, Ways in the Wilderness) and introductions to specific Christian denominations such as a course on Eastern Orthodox liturgical tradition (Holy Fire). For those attracted to St. Paul and his mission journey into Western Asia and Europe, there is a course which includes site visits to Turkey and Greece.

St. George's College, Jerusalem looks forward to hearing from anyone about their how St. George's can help illuminate and support an individual's or a group's spiritual growth and learning by offering on-site visit opportunities and quality learning. For the fastest response, please email them at registrar@stgeorges.org.il or fax them at 011-972-2-626-4703. And please visit their web site at <http://www.sgc.jerusalem.org> to view a full listing of their courses.

Dr. John Charles Bannon of St. Mark's College receives the Order of Australia

Dr. John Bannon, CUAC board member representing Australia, has received the second highest honor that can be bestowed in Australia: induction as an Officer of the Order of Australia. The Honorable Dr. John Bannon, AO is well known in the Asia-Pacific region for his leadership as Labor Premier of South Australia between 1982 and 1992. Dr. Bannon received this recognition "for service to politics and to the South Australian Parliament, to history, particularly through researching and publishing in the subject area of Australian Federation; and to the community through sporting, cultural and welfare organizations." Continuing to serve as a director or chairman of numerous organizations, including, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, Dr. Bannon continues to serve as Master of St. Mark's College, located in North Adelaide with a 200+ student population and conducted under the auspices of the Anglican Church of Australia.

CUAC Regional Meetings 2006

Report of the India Chapter Meeting at Bishop Heber College, Trichy - 3-4 November 2006

At the outset I must thank the director, Prof. D. Swamiraj and the Principal, Dr. Marcus Boominathan, Bishop Heber College, Trichy for the meticulous planning and conduct of the CUAC India Chapter meeting of the Principals. The theme of the meeting “Equity vis-à-vis Quality” was timely and very relevant in the Indian context when the nation is facing the questions of ‘reservations’ and ‘creamy layers’. The speakers, Christian Stalwarts in Higher Education, challenged the mediocrity into which Christian institutions seem to have settled and gave a clarion call to collaborate and promote quality with equity. Dr. Mani Jacob, General Secretary of AIACHE inaugurated the seminar. In his keynote address he highlighted the changes in learning styles brought about by interactive, student-centred and IT-based learning and asked us to rethink the Christian objectives in providing access to the poor and marginalized Christians, and to develop Servant Leaders drawing inspiration from the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

“Equity is not an option but an obligation,” said Fr. S. John Britto, former Principal of St. Joseph’s College. He questioned the Christian institutions as to what their identity and specific roles were. Globalization seemed to have alienated the poor depriving them of knowledge as a resource – renewable and easily transported. Students from the downtrodden strata of society must be accepted as they are, he said, and then supported with financial and academic resources encouraging them to attain their full potential.

Dr. Manikam, former Head of the School of Historical Studies, Madurai Kamaraj University, said that Christian colleges in their quest to educate and empower should not perpetrate gross social injustice and should not duplicate what is to be done by other institutions. Our admissions policy should favour the poor and marginalized members of society. He talked about the need for value-education and clarified that a combination of equity and quality would not bring down the educational standard of a college. He defined the role of faculty in Christian colleges as leaders of change with courage and commitment to work for the common good.

Dr. M. Victor Anthuvan of Loyola College confronted us with “Where are our students?” Why no leaders in industry, politics, agriculture, science and technology?” He challenged the Christian institutions to revamp their systems to produce leaders with values effecting total transformation of the country. He said, with the right kind of education in Christian institutions we need to be able to influence these significant indicators of progress of our country. Our education seemed useful only to the rich and the powerful – ‘Pilot, Annais,



Caiphas and the Sadducees’ not the ‘Samaritans’ (the dalits). Excellence, he said, is bringing out the best in oneself. We have to lose the ‘mission compound mentality’ and motivate our students to reach out to the community at large. The meeting was attended by about 25 principals or their representatives mainly from Christian colleges in the South – Kerala, Karnataka and Tamilnadu. The members thoroughly appreciated the theme and the way the venerable speakers handled it. (Reported by Nirmala Jeyaraj, Principal, Lady Doak College).

Report of a Meeting of CUAC Colleges and Universities in Britain in November 2006

Two members of the Board (Professor Michael Wright and Bishop Martin Wharton) met with representatives from almost all the Anglican Universities and Colleges in England in November 2006. The purpose of the meeting was to consult together about the formation of a new British Chapter of CUAC. To this end a small steering group was established consisting of: Prof. Muriel Robinson, Bishop Grosseteste University College, Lincoln (Convenor); Dr. Ruth Ackroyd, University of Chester; Canon Dr. Joe Cassidy, St. Chad’s College-Durham University; Dr. Jeremy Law, Chaplain of Canterbury Christ Church University; The Revd. Hugh Shilson Thomas, Church of England Board of Education.

The group will bring proposals to a meeting of representatives of all the British Colleges and Universities on 29th June 2007 in London. The aims of the British Chapter (which have yet to be accepted) could be:

- To promote the development and co-operation of Anglican Colleges and Universities in Great Britain.
- To actively encourage, support and promote the Anglican identity of member Colleges and Universities in Britain.
- To actively encourage cross cultural exchanges and visits between the member Colleges and Universities of CUAC.
- To develop opportunities for Service Learning in British Colleges and Universities.

Basic details of the CUAC Triennial Conference in Hong Kong in 2008 have been circulated, so that 2008 budgets can be prepared in light of the hoped for level of participation from the British Colleges and Universities (Reported by The Rt. Rev. Martin Wharton, Diocese of Newcastle).

Book Review

Jeff Astley, Leslie J Francis, John Sullivan and Andrew Walker (eds)., *The Idea of a Christian University: Essays in Theology and Higher Education*.

In the United Kingdom, the experience of Christian higher education has been mainly restricted to Anglican and Roman Catholic colleges, originally founded for the training of teachers for denominational church schools. Some of these now have university status. So we do have some experience of the “Christian university” in the United Kingdom, and a number of the authors and editors of this volume have worked within such institutions. But the text reflects a wider context than this in three ways. First, it draws on broader reflections from scholars who have worked in both Christian and “secular” institutions in North America, Australasia and Continental Europe. Secondly, the authors and editors represent not only Anglican, but also Catholic, Protestant and Orthodox perspectives. And, thirdly, as its sub-title reveals, the book offers a wider theology of higher education that should be of interest to anyone concerned with creating links between the study of theology and the practice of education.

The theologically-grounded understanding of Christian higher education presented in the seventeen essays of this collection covers two dimensions. Part One of the book, “A Christian Calling?,” recognizes that the very idea of a Christian university is controversial. So this part addresses questions not only of aim and purpose, but also of desirability and justification; as well as offering some more general discussions of the criticisms, context and shape of the practice of Christian education. Part Two, “A Christian Curriculum?,” is more concretely focused on the nature of the curriculum of the Christian college or university, and the difficulties and opportunities faced by scholars and teachers who seek to deliver this from and out of a Christian perspective. Some highlights of the volume...

The first essay, by Ian Markham, presents an account of the key features of the Christian university. These include its ideological and education honesty in not pretending to be tradition-free and “neutral”, and in acknowledging its intention to transmit a tradition by educating its students into “faith-based values”. A Christian university will also explore the philosophical basis of the assumptions that underlie the subjects that are taught there, critiquing them from a Christian standpoint. Finally, it will function as a location where rationality and conversation are celebrated in the quest for truth, amid the diversity that God has created in the world.

It is therefore “a place in which a range of vantage points are encouraged to engage in conversation and learn in humility from the process.” In accordance with this final criterion, the unity-in-diversity that Anglicanism expresses may properly be applied to our understanding of all human learning.

The relevance of the Greek notion of *paideia*, understood here as the formation of people in a cultural heritage – is explored in illuminating ways in the piece by Andrew Walker and Andrew Wright, who see this concept as providing a plausible ground for defending the notion of a Christian university. As a Christian *paideia* includes the Christian duty to uphold the common good, the Christian university is called to “work towards the common wealth of all” as well as “bearing witness to the one true God and Father of all”.

The wider theme of teaching as a vocation is taken up by two of the editors. John Sullivan (a Roman Catholic) regards a strong sense of vocation in teaching as a valuable resource for and expression of responsibility, “a response to God that is made from within, with others for students”. Jeff Astley (an Anglican) presents this in terms of an analysis of teaching - including university teaching - as “a pastoral task and an exercise of Christian ministry.” In a nuanced but powerful essay, he articulates what it means to be a truly loving teacher, expressing a care for others (the learners) that is passionate yet disinterested. “We must . . . lovingly teach them for their sakes”, he writes. The Anglican empirical theologian, Leslie Francis, takes up another of Astley’s concerns: that of listening to and learning from the theological reflections of ordinary people (their “ordinary theology”).

Francis discusses a study of first-year undergraduates at a Church College of Higher Education, analysing the significance they place in, and their expectations of, a “Christian campus”; and comparing the views of those students who do and those who do not self-identify as Christians, and those who do and those who do not attend church regularly. Hard-nosed empirical data of this kind surely represent a significant resource for any informed discussion of the nature of a Christian university, at least for those whose concerns are pragmatic as well as ideological. Such as Anglicans, perhaps?

The Idea of a Christian University, edited by a team in Britain, has already attracted considerable attention in the United Kingdom, at a time when Evangelical Churches are asking radical questions about the role of Christians in secondary and higher education and at a time when several of the older Anglican Colleges of Higher Education have achieved university status. I commend this collection of essays to my Anglican colleagues concerned with higher education in other Provinces. (Review submitted by The Right Revd Anthony Crockett, Bishop of Bangor, Wales, UK, Co-chair of the St Mary’s College Trust)

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**We need stories, pictures and reviews for
the next edition of
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Please send them to office@cuac.org.**