

the CORNERSTONE

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE UTS ALUMNI/AE ASSOCIATION

JUNE 2007

President's Message

by Dr. Tyler Hendricks



At its October 2006 Retreat, the Board of Trustees called UTS to the primary mission of inter-religious peace building. By this, the Trustees took the school back to its 1975 founding statement of purpose, which opened with the statement that "The Seminary seeks to promote interfaith, interracial and international unity."

At its May 2007 meeting, the Board adopted a new five-year Strategic Plan, with the strategic vision: "UTS will equip and empower interfaith peacebuilders, serving its sponsoring movement and the wider society through theological vision, professional expertise and a commitment to inter-religious peacemaking."

Today the seminary is building a religiously pluralistic community of teaching, learning, serving and spiritual formation. This interfaith seminary is emerging within a spiritual movement of organizations and communities, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF). The UPF is creating

Continued on page 7

Love Lives On for Class of 1977

30th Anniversary Reunion Celebrated

"It was like a dream, a taste of heaven," these heartfelt words spoken by Takashige Sakozono described his experience of the Class of '77 30th Reunion held at UTS over graduation weekend, May 19th and 20th.



Bento Leal enthused, "it was a truly marvelous, excellent, stupendous time we shared together this weekend! It went way beyond

what I had imagined and hoped for."

A new tradition was established as members of the class marched in the graduation procession immediately behind the Board and Faculty, adding a sense of history to the ceremony and emphasizing the integral role alumni play in the life of the school. Also, Bento Leal was one of four former graduates who were awarded degrees after upgrading their diplomas.

The main event with fellowship and sharing was the reunion dinner on Saturday evening. The delectable menu included caviar, sushi, shrimp, lobster and filet mignon, and of

Continued on page 3

Spotlight on Alumnus: Andrew Davies *(based on an interview with Gillian Corcoran)*

Enfolded within history lie the stories of many unsung heroes, but with a dedication to his passion, Andrew Davies (UTS '91), has been bringing the tales of many such heroes of the Unification Movement and beyond, to the screen.

Andrew and his Austrian wife, Ingrid, recently brought their three children over from the UK on a



holiday to America and stopped off at UTS. As well as being "three of the

best years of his life", Andrew describes his experience at UTS as serving as a platform from which he could launch many projects, including fulfilling his long-time desire to make films. His first, "Winds of Change", which documented the travels and experiences of Russian students to the United States in the early 90's, was filmed at the end of his second year of

studies at UTS.

For his Divinity thesis he traveled to Japan three times to research the enormous deprogramming situation there and later presented his findings as a report to the World Council of Churches in Geneva. After graduation, he worked as a professional video

Continued on page 4

“Shifting Trends in Ministry in the 21st Century” *by Kathy Winings*

Third Conference in the UTS series, “Conversations in Ministry.”

“Shifting Trends in Ministry in the 21st Century,” an invigorating day-long conference, sponsored by the Unification Theological Seminary and the American Clergy Leadership Conference, took place on Saturday, April 28th in the heart of mid-town Manhattan. The conference featured Dr. Harold Dean Trulear as its keynote speaker. Dr. Trulear is the Director of the Doctor of Ministry degree program as well as an assistant professor at Howard Divinity School in Washington, D.C. Trulear is also the President of G.L.O.B.E. Ministries and a consultant for the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Taking his lead from the two recent books by Fuller Theological Semi-



nary professor Eddie Gibbs, *Church Next* and *Leadership Next*, Trulear

focused his remarks on the issues and challenges to ministry as presented by our postmodern culture together with effective ways to respond to such challenges.

According to Trulear, the main challenges of postmodernism are its emphasis on efficiency and efficacy over the truth of the Gospel, fostering a therapeutic culture rather than encouraging empowerment as God’s sons and daughters, encouraging personal fulfillment and self-actualization over and against discipleship, and focusing on success to the exclusion of encouraging godly

Continued on page 5

Honorary Degree Recipients

at UTS 31st Annual Commencement

Dr. Hamdi Mohammad Murad and Bishop Abel Tendekayi Muzorewa were awarded honorary degrees at the 31st UTS Commencement, held May 19th 2007.

Dr. Murad is a professor at Al-Barqa University in Jordan, co-founder of the Jordan Interfaith Conference and a member of the Jordan Media Administrative Council. He is a voice for moderation in the Middle East who exemplifies the core teachings of Islam. Dr. Murad is also a member of the Presiding Council of the Universal Peace Federation, an organization deeply aligned with the vision of UTS.

Bishop Muzorewa led efforts throughout the 1970’s to forge a non-violent transition from white-ruled Rhodesia to majority rule in the newly renamed Zimbabwe. In 1979 he was elected his nation’s first black Prime Minister. Although imprisoned for a time by the Mugabe government, he continued to lead the Meth-



odist Church in Zimbabwe as a preacher and through numerous charitable works. He retired in 1992 yet continues to minister to the people of his nation, notably as patron of the Arauhan Mission Fellowship for the blind. Bishop Muzorewa is recognized as one of the outstanding African Christians of the twentieth century. 

Read more about Graduation on page 8

Peace Pole at UTS

In celebration of Earth Day, a Benefit Concert was held in the UTS Interfaith Chapel, featuring Cecilia St. King, followed by the “planting” of a Peace Pole at The Peace Sanctuary. Over 100 people then walked the labyrinth to pray for peace. The Peace Pole is now a focal point for group and global meditations for peace. 



Love Lives On for Class of '77 (continued from page 1)

course delicious desserts. Distant memories were stirred as class members watched themselves on a video of the first convocation. President Emeritus, David S. C. Kim, in fine form, had words of wisdom for everyone. Dr. Warren Lewis shared updates on his projects during an after-dinner gathering.

Bento continued, “to see brothers and sisters, many of whom I hadn’t seen for years, even since our graduation 30 years ago, was truly, truly special. And to feel deep inside how that class, along with the professors and support staff, are really a “family”, no matter what paths or “callings” we each pursued since graduation—some closer to the founder and the movement, and some now more distant—that regardless, when we see each other face to face, and look inside those now wrinkled eyes, and see the graying hair and paunchy tummies, we see the same twinkle and specialness of each person and what they mean to us as when we last saw them so many years ago. And also to think that for many of us, that 21-month experience (Sept. 1975 to June 1977) occurred at such a significant crossroads and seminal time of our lives, not only within the church, but in general, it truly is phenomenal. We shared something very special, and we

realize we are bound together in heart for eternity.”

Sunday activities included an walk on Father’s Trail, a Memorial Service for deceased class members Lokesh Ma-

“There was magic in the air as we “saw” each other again for the first time. It will remain in our hearts for a long time.”

zumdar and Daikon Ohnuki, and a breakfast with President Hendricks. Yanni and Jaime Maniatis expressed their gratitude for the reunion by saying, “There was magic in the air as we “saw” each other again for the first time! It was a very special event. It will remain in our hearts for a very long time.”

Bento’s words of encouragement urge us forward, as we plan for next year’s 30th anniversary of the class of ’78 . “Let’s keep this reunion thing going! I feel the 2 years at UTS were the “academic” preparation training, the next 30 years were the “practical” put-it-to-use training, and this weekend was another “graduation ceremony” to launch us into that next productive phase of our lives in service to the world, for we are now that very age Father was when he commissioned us way back in 1977. We’re at the starting

line one more time, and off and running! I feel young!”



Spotlight on Alumnus: Andrew Davies *(continued from page 1)*

director in London for 10 years, before going on a life-changing visit to Cheong Pyeong Retreat Center in 2002. As a result he determined to re-focus his attentions to developing Family Federation for World Peace and Unification (FFWPU) related programming.

Three months later he and Mike Balcomb (UTS '94) combined to produce "The Blessing" which involved traveling all across the USA to film the stories of ministers involved with the American Clergy Leadership Coalition (ACLC). A year later, Mike and Andrew's collaboration also led to the "Summer of Service" film about Ser-

vice for Peace in Miami.

mainly filmed by Andrew, it utilizes the bright young talents of Ajay Rai and Parmy Olson as co-hosts of the



Andrew Davies presents Margaret Thatcher with a portrait he drew of her 20 years ago

show who present the activities and people of FFWPU Europe to the wider society. Now shown across 40 nations, he has just completed the tenth issue, but due to a lack of funds he regrets this is likely to be the last one.

The most challenging time for Andrew came in 1999 when he decided to resign from the video company he worked for in London and set out on his own. Exemplifying the "if you build it they will come" motto, he

started a studio in his back garden, in the countryside, one hundred miles west of London. Amazingly, people did indeed come from all over the world and he continued to create programs for the corporate world. However, he is clear that he could not have gone on to make the transition to church related work two years later without the help and support of his Father who passed to spirit world at the beginning of this year, "It was in memory of him that we brought the children to see America", says Andrew.

Most recently, he has been asked to work on his first movie. In fact, he says he would love to start an international film festival at UTS with the theme of "film-making as peace-building", which he thinks could also serve as an outreach to new and existing contacts around the world.

"I still live off my experiences at UTS. It gave me so much – having a vision, dreaming big as well as some friends for life. In particular, President Kim was a great source of encouragement for me." 



vice for Peace in Miami.

Andrew then turned his attention to Europe from where he began a quarterly DVD magazine called "EuroFocus". Written, directed and

Development Corner *by Robin Graham*

The 30 year reunion of the Class of 1977 reminded us that it is the UTS alumni who are the bedrock, the real cornerstone of UTS. This was a shared sentiment of all who joined this remarkable gathering.

UTS is now positioning itself as the world's premier seminary for interfaith peace-building, providing a great opportunity for our alumni to support a renewed UTS. We welcome your support.

Alumni giving is a vote of confidence in the decision by the Board of Trustees to move UTS in this direction. It

is a vote of confidence in our President, Dr. Hendricks. It is a vote of confidence in the UTS Faculty.

If you are already one of our regular supporters, thank you. If you have been considering making a donation, but have been procrastinating, waiting for the right time, then this would be an excellent time to step up and make a commitment. You can give by check, credit card or online payment through the UTS website www.uts.edu

This vision of interfaith and peace is big, and UTS is the best organization

to achieve it. We can all play a role, and the Board and President of UTS welcome your help to bring about great success.



I also want you to explore other options and offer suggestions :

Continued on page 5

“Shifting Trends in Ministry in the 21st Century” *(continued from page 2)*

relationships of trust.

Resisting a simple “how-to” quick fix type of talk in the afternoon plenary, Dr. Trulear raised several points that effectively challenged the participants to look deeply at the guidance offered by the word of God through the Gospel. While stating that there is nothing wrong with success or being therapeutic, Trulear went on to explain that the problem begins when our ministries end at those points. Instead, he challenged, our ministries need to encourage strong relationships.

For Trulear, there are four levels of relationships needed in response to postmodernism which include: relationship with ourselves, where we take responsibility for our actions; strong and loving relationships between husband and wife; an effective stewardship relationship between ourselves and the rest of the created world, and finally, the most important relationship of all – that between ourselves and God.

“We don’t realize that the paradigm of power, greed, and alien-

ation that was described in I Samuel, chapter 8 is still present today,” said Trulear. He continued, “The real problem with our culture is that postmodernism is gradually teaching us to remove the locus of moral decision-making from oneself and projecting it elsewhere.”



Dr. Kathy Winings

Ultimately, Trulear noted, we need an “incarnational-focused ministry” if we are to reverse these trends, the basis of which requires that we study the scripture to become people of the word and so have a different view of the world, the we build healthy and appropriate relationships and, most important of all, that we serve.

Participants at the conference gathered in small discussion groups to look more deeply at the issues that confront

our diverse ministries. They remarked that it was a most stimulating program that challenged each and every person to reflect on their ministries in the metropolitan setting in light of the issues and challenges presented by postmodernism. As one participant noted: “I had been feeling these things for quite some time now, but I was not able to put my finger on what the real issue was until today. The speaker really crystallized for me what the real problem is in our communities. In seeking to fix our problems and each other, we have left God out of the picture.”

Another participant remarked that, “Relationships, discipleship and service to others – that is so true. Certainly the next generation in our church is hungry for those things.” As one discussion group summarized, “We need to ask ourselves this question: If my church closed down, who would miss it more – the people in the church or the people outside the church, the people in the community?”

The day was well-spent as each one returned to their homes and churches with a clearer understanding of the “shifting trends in ministry in the 21st century” and what they can do to meet those trends and challenges. 

Development Corner *(continued from page 4)*

- Organize an alumni event in your city or region
- Invite a UTS professor to give a talk, and then invite your friends and colleagues
- Make UTS a part of your estate planning. Name UTS in your will
- Have a larger donation in mind? Call Dr Hendricks or me to discuss making an investment for everyone’s benefit
- Earn a D. Min
- Find a student who can benefit

from UTS repositioning in interfaith and peace; help to sponsor their education, by funding a Young Oon Kim Scholarship

- Plan to attend the next alumni reunion on Graduation Day 2008 (this will highlight the Class of 1978)
- Mentor a UTS student
- Get involved in creating the new UTS, make a monthly payment to the Annual Fund
- Create an internship opportunity
- Connect and catch up with alumni from your class

- Support UTS Community Relations with a \$1000 sponsorship
- Make UTS a part of your personal legacy

It’s a team game: asking for support is the responsibility of everyone who cares about the institution, the President, Board, Faculty, alumni, volunteers and other donors. 

Inspirations and Challenges: Reflections and Plans *By Don Sardella (UTS '80)*

As another incredible speaking tour is completed by Rev. Moon and his family, I have been reflecting about our movement and asked: *Are we using this time as an additional impetus to further substantiate our collective foundations for God?*

Are we as focused and effective as we need to be to become a healthy, responsible self-reliant institution?

What can I do to help create service leaders and programs that are highly relevant, marketable and sustainable?

UTS President Tyler Hendricks referred to Jim Collins's insight that any organization needs to focus on the one thing about which it is passionate, I believe Collins' work can help move people and organizations from "Good to Great", and that Franklin Covey's recent series of "Greatness Summits"

www.franklincoveysummit2007.com

couldn't be more fitting for a people like us or for a time in history like this. I suggest that we access and integrate all such help that we can get.

At the 53rd Anniversary of the Founding of HSA-UWC (a.k.a. the Unification Church) in Korea on May 1st, Kook-Jin Moon, said: *"In order to fulfill True Parents' words, there needs to be a suitable strategy and system in carrying it out. Only then, can our members and even the people of this nation and world see our vision; ...and this must be done based on the passion and mutual agreement of all those involved."*

I am inspired and challenged by those words. As we seek to move forward, I believe we are called to create breakthroughs and turn-arounds everywhere we go, with eve-

ryone we touch. I also believe that there are more resources available to help us do so now than ever before, if we seek hard and effectively collaborate, both within and outside our faith community.

As Bento Leal, UTS Class of 1977, declared about his 30th Reunion: *"I feel the 2 years at UTS were the academic preparation training, the next 30 years were the practical put-it-to-use training, and this weekend was another "graduation ceremony" to launch us into that next productive phase of our lives in service to the world."*

May we all be so inspired to freshly roll up our sleeves and hit the re-set button again, big-time. May we celebrate the process of hope, healing and harmony with fresh vigor and renewed energy and drink abundantly from the spiritual wellsprings to which we all have access. ☸

The Alumni Missions Fund *by Robin Graham*

A concerned alumnus alerted the office of Alumni Relations (AR) in 2006 about the situation of several UTS alumni currently serving in Brazil. They have been there since being asked to do mission work by the Founder in 1996, and several still have a difficult time making ends meet. They remain active and dedicated to the communities they serve.

As Director of Development (D), I discovered a small fund (a few hundred dollars) which had been invested to help build community support. It was effectively idle, and so the office of AR and D recouped those funds to launch the Alumni Missions Fund. The fund has already received a matching donation from that concerned, alumnus. It is still a

small fund, but with your help it can grow and we can honor those from our ranks who are in missions like the families in South America. It reminds us that our UTS alumni are actively working around the globe. They serve in Africa, Oceania, South Asia, the Americas and more. UTS alumni are on the front line serving the world. They are the building blocks of a True Peace Corps, serving not one or two years, but dedicating their whole lives to service.

The fund will give a modest donation every year to one or two families in need. The criteria are that they serve in a developing country, and that they are alumni of UTS Barrytown or the NYC Exten

sion Center. AR and D seeks to identify the alumni who are in the greatest need, and we look forward to hearing from you if you have contact with anyone from this tireless corps of frontline volunteers.

Please send us their stories (with pictures) to alumni@uts.edu

We want to build a record of the great work being done by our graduates, and share those stories with the wider UTS community of alumni and friends.



President's Message *(continued from page 1)*

spiritual communities through its conferences, service projects, educational programs and peace councils from the global level to the local level.

A similar vision drives the American Clergy Leadership Conference (ACLC), a key partner at the UTS Extension Center in New York City. Partnership with these organizations is at the core of UTS's future.

UTS-UPF partnership led to a Barrytown intensive this May 20-24, which brought together UPF Ambassadors for Peace, including notable scholars, spiritual leaders and political leaders from four religious traditions, with UTS students and alumni. Extension Center students with students from Barrytown, a Muslim from another regional seminary, two Buddhist monks, and a NAACP leader joined a UTS travel course that explored the interfaith roots of the American civil rights movement.

UTS scholars spearheaded the creation of World Scripture vol. 2 and are advising UPF on its interfaith curriculum. UTS is now engaging with the educational and peace-building efforts of the Middle East Peace Initiative (MEPI), as we explore possibilities for internships, intensives and field education in the Middle East.

Of greatest long-term import, the faculty has pioneered an interfaith concentration in the M.R.E. degree program that will be launched this autumn. We have had lively discus-



sions with local religious leaders regarding issues of décor and worship for a diverse student body. This summer an experienced peacemaker with a quarter-century experience in Israel will provide a workshop for UTS faculty and staff. UTS has established an office of Interfaith Development to manage and implement these programs and more.

The world is recognizing the need for a broad spirituality that embraces and affirms people of all faith backgrounds, taking into account the full spectrum of social and historical realities. Inter-religious peace-builders provide a special expertise in quelling religiously-based hatreds, sharing religious resources for peace, and bridging the barriers between religious communities.



I'd like to share a perception on this subject for a moment. Everywhere we read that religion is more a part of the problem than of the solution. All avenues of dialog and cooperation are secular: government, corporations, entertainment, sports, new age spirituality. They ask that people leave their traditional scriptures at the door. We old-time believers cringe at this. "Need we give up our salvation, our God, our holy traditions?" they ask. After all, many of us think that while other religions may be part of the problem, surely MY religion is part of the solution! And *that's* the problem!

The UTS vision entails creating a *religious* environment for inter-religious dialog and cooperation. A daunting task, but an argument can be made that such is the core Unificationist passion and what we can be best at in the world.

UTS is passionate about family and spiritual community transcending race, religion and nationality. We are among the most thoroughgoing "hippies of the religious right"

Many readers will be familiar with Jim Collins's insight that any organization needs to focus on the one thing about which it is passionate, at which it can be the best in the world, and for which people will pay because it meets a substantial need. In my view, UTS is passionate about family and spiritual community transcending race, religion and nationality. We are among the most thoroughgoing "hippies of the religious right," to refer to Preston Shires new book of that title.

So we can be the best in the world at creating leadership for such families and communities. We thereby can meet the growing need for inter-religious peace leadership in local communities, academia, corporations, the military, correctional institutions, government, the NGO world and so forth.

The world is changing dramatically, day by day, but the human need for love, for care and attention, for spiritual guidance and life vision, does not vary by time or place. It is universal. We believe that the human family is finally ready to fulfill this need in a universal way.



31st Annual Commencement May 19, 2007



Congratulations!

**Class of
2007**

**Master of Religious Education
Degree**

**Master of Divinity
Degree**

Certificate in Unification Leadership

Kyeongbok Bang
Anacleto Bivone
Damon Cabbagestalk
Tomonori Daimon
Dominic Katongo
Kyoung Hyo Kim
Takeshi Kitamura
Dongya Koh
Takeshi Yamamoto

Shuichi Kumagai
Soon Teck Lim
Shinji Nakano
In Chan Park
Hyongju Ryoo
Hiroshi Shiosaka
James Sleboe
Dmitriy Vilchitskiy

Sa Heum Byeon
Leander Hardaway
Shota Iwasaki
Shigenori Kanai
Matsuko Kumagai
Jae Hyouk Lee

Kolawole Ogunlola
Yuichi Satoh
Otilia Tanner
Hideyuki Teshigawara
Yukihiko Yamamoto
Carolyn Younger-Nolan

Jong Yong Han
Ki Man Lee
Hitoshi Urahama

Certificate in English Language and Seminary Studies
Takao Shimoda

Alumni/ae Upgrades from diploma to degree:

Diane Abendroth
Bento Leal
Lawrence Fong
Chieko Self

Peace King Path *by Chris Antal*

Seminary Students Explore the Civil Rights Movement from an Interfaith Perspective

Holy People; Holy Places; Holy Time. During the first week of April while Jews celebrated Passover and Christians remembered the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ, a group of seminary students embarked on a 3000 mile travel seminar visiting some of America's most sacred historic sites: the Lincoln Memorial, Historic Auburn Avenue in Atlanta, the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, the Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, and the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham. Their purpose was to understand the ministry of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. the Civil Rights Movement which he helped lead, and it's relevance for ministry in today's world.

The program, which has been dubbed the PEACE KING PATH, brought together a group that was multi-faith, multi-generational, and international, including a Buddhist Monk from Tibet, a Muslim from the Islamic Council of Singapore, several Christians from Pakistan, as well as over a dozen religious leaders from Japan and South Korea, many of them attending Unification Theological Seminary (UTS) in New York. The youngest participant was 21; the oldest 65.

Students came to understand the impact of the civil rights movement on current ministries through interfaith dialogue with Jewish, Christian and Muslim religious leaders in Atlanta, Selma, and Birmingham. In Atlanta, students met with Dr. Lawrence Carter, Dean of the Martin Luther King International Chapel at Morehouse College, Pastor Mark Abernathy of New Life Assembly, and Dr. Gloria Wright, pastor of Simmons Chapel AME Zion Church. In Selma students marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge with Rev. Carl Rawls, pastor of Hopewell Baptist Church

and a member of the ACLC National Executive Committee. While in Alabama students had lunch at the Greater Birmingham Ministries, where a panel of local Jews, Christians and Muslims discussed the relevance of Dr. King to the current situation facing the Middle East. Students also participated in a dialogue with Buddhist and Christian monks



at Saint Bernard Retreat Center, in Cullman, Alabama.

Religiously motivated peacebuilders was one of the major themes of the course, and students learned that Dr. King was first and foremost a preacher and a minister. To add breadth to the course, during travel time, students watched films about other religious peacebuilders, including Gandhi, Tich Nhat Hanh, Dietrich Bonhoeffer, and Chiune Sugihara, a Japanese diplomat inspired by a faith in God to defy his superiors in Tokyo to issue thousands of transit visas to Jews escaping Hitler.

The Jewish contribution to the movement was a second theme of the course, which students discussed with the help of the book, *Shared Dreams: Martin Luther King Jr. and the Jewish Community*, by Marc Schneier, a New York City Rabbi. Henry Patrius, a Jewish Docent from the Birmingham Civil Rights Insti-

tute, provided a perspective different from Schneier, explaining from first hand experience the important role the southern Jewish community played in advancing civil rights for African-Americans.

The contribution of women to the civil rights movement was a third theme, and students gained new insight by meeting with Dr. Gloria Wright, author of *From the Back of the Line*, visiting the Rosa Parks Museum in Montgomery, and watching and discussing *Sisters of Selma*, a documentary on the role of Catholic nuns in the 1965 Selma-to-Montgomery March.

PEACE KING PATH is a program started in 2004 by Chris Antal, during his final year of the Master of Divinity program at UTS. Chris became inspired to retrace the life of King after learning that the Reverend Moon had identified Martin Luther King, Jr. as the greatest American of the 20th century, during an interview with Frederick Sontag in 1976. The program will be offered at UTS every year in the Spring.



My Dream Concerning Seminary Education by Dr. Young Oon Kim



Some years ago I urged Rev. Moon to start a seminary for the training of our future leaders. At first there was no way to see that dream realized but we never gave up

hope. So you can imagine how happy we were with the purchase of Barrytown and the actual establishment of the Unification Theological Seminary.

But there is more to a seminary than buildings, textbooks, the hiring of professors and the selection of students. As necessary as all these are, even more important is the purpose we have and the spirit we seek to create.

In my opinion, there is no need for another theological seminary like those the traditional churches now have. What value would there be in duplicating Harvard, Union, Chicago or Princeton? We must provide something different, something extra, a superior education for a new way of life.

To help you understand what our seminary's function should be, could be and must be, let me briefly remind you of what education has been in the past.

Because of the numerous barbarian invasions and the fall of the Roman Empire, the church was forced to become a school teacher. In the Dark Ages there was nothing but the church available to keep the light of learning from being extinguished. Therefore in the monasteries or attached to the cathedrals, schools were set up to preserve the wisdom of the past and transmit it to the younger generation. These schools were often only modest creations but they provided the foundation for what was to follow.

As Christians, men of the Middle Ages believed that one should "love thy God... with all thy mind" like Jesus taught. Religion involves what you think as much as how you pray. So the schools were connected with the church, financed by the church and usually staffed by the clergymen.

In addition to such external characteristics of medieval schooling, education even in the humanities, was built upon a spiritual foundation and was designed to realize a spiritual quality of life. Wesley would say, you have to get your "heart strangely warmed" and keep it warm. In the last analysis, the Unification seminary will succeed or stumble on the basis of its spiritual atmosphere.

The eagerness to help others, a genuine concern for people, a sensitivity to others' needs and a readiness to serve others- these are the ingredients which create a magnetic personality.

I hope seminary will be the most memorable time in your lives, providing you with the dynamic vision and inner resources by which you can continually be inspired in the years to come.

Seminary can be and should be not only a fountain of knowledge, but also the source of lasting joy and inspiration. Use this time to seek truth and rededicate yourselves to noble goals. Become bosom friends with your fellow-students. Share your hopes and dreams. Sustain and strengthen each other in your times of doubt or difficulty. When you create a spiritual and intellectual atmosphere around you, you will experience great joy and be filled with dynamic power. That is the

kingdom you can have now and create for others wherever you go- even when you have to struggle alone.

The eagerness to help others, a genuine concern for people, a sensitivity to others' needs and a readiness to serve others- these are the ingredients which create a magnetic personality. All these are derived from one's deep experience with God and passionate love for Him. If you really feel what Schweitzer calls "reverence for life" and if you have a burning desire to love others, you will have discovered the secret of radiant living. If you can cultivate that kind of faith, then God can entrust you with any kind of mission.

If we were able to graduate fifty such dynamic leaders from our seminary, think of the effect they would have on our movement. Let me conclude with a few words about the need for magnetic leadership on the local level. Each center [church] should be a close knit, caring, growing and vital family built around a spiritual guide as well as an organizational leader. As you all must be well aware, the Abel-Cain model can easily be misused and often has been used to foster an egotistical authoritarianism. When people lack inner spiritual power, they resort to external things like their titles, positions or regulations in order to exercise influence. They try to force obedience rather than convincing people to cooperate voluntarily. Such coercive methods only arouse resentment and sooner or later make the leader despised rather than respected.

The ideal leader should never think of

Continued on page 11

Fundamentals of Interfaith Leadership New Course at UTS *by Chris Antal*

“The relationships that we have created are the most important result,” said Jana Robicheau, a Buddhist from Vermont, at the conclusion of a four day UTS certificate course, “Fundamentals of Interfaith Leadership” held at UTS from May 19 to May 24. “I have a Muslim Sheik from Lebanon who is my friend and a Catholic Priest from Jordan who is my friend. UTS is creating this environment, which is invaluable for interfaith.”

Mrs. Robicheau, Director of the



Yangsi Kalu Rinpoche Meditation Center, was one of twenty five students in the UTS intensive. The youngest participant was a twenty-year-old college student from the University of Maryland, who leads an interfaith group on her campus; the oldest was an eighty two year old

Bishop from the United Methodist Church, who felt “empowered” through the course to go back to his country, Zimbabwe, “with the knowledge of what to do, how to do



it, and with whom to do it with.”

Participants were not only diverse in age and experience, but also in nationality and religion. In all, fifteen countries were represented and five major religions: Judaism, Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Twelve of the students were Ambassadors for Peace with the Universal Peace Federation. About half of the participants were enrolled in a UTS degree program. The mix of young students and experienced religious leaders, together with the array of nationalities and religions represented, strengthened the program for all participants.

While some students, like Jana, found the relationships they made the most valuable part of the course, others found the practical skills to “drive interfaith dialogue and bring peace” the most meaningful. Adama Doumbia, from Cote D’Ivoire, called the course an “oasis of resources for the field.” Rev. Doumbia gained “incredibly valuable” training that he intends to utilize in order to address conflicts between Christian and Muslim communities in Africa.

Another strength of the course, identified by many participants, was the balance of theoretical and experiential education. Each day started with lectures by Dr. Frank Kaufmann, who drew upon his thirty years experience leading interfaith programs around the world, and concluded with site visits. Students also learned from each other as they discussed

Continued on page 12



Seminary Education *(continued from page 10)*

himself as the dictator. Instead the ideal leaders should function as a wise, considerate and loving parent. Sensitive to his children’s needs, providing them with intellectual and spiritual food, inspiring them to grow in the warmth of his affection, the leader serves as a father and mother figure for the center members. Can you imagine what that kind of leadership could do for our movement? Can’t you see what value you would be for God if you became that kind of

leader?

In Korea we have a proverb:

“If you plan for your life for one year, plant grain; if you plan for your life for 10 years, plant fruit trees. But if you plan for 100 years, then plant people.”

*Article first published in:
the Cornerstone, February 1977
Vol. 1 Number 8*

the Cornerstone is published by the Office of Alumni Relations.

Gillian Corcoran

Robin Graham

Photographs by:

Chris Antal

Chung Hee Bessell

Henry Christopher

Special thanks to John David Doose (UTS’83) for editing

Interfaith Leadership *(continued from page 11)*

and site visits in small groups during meals, traveling, and in the dedicated time for reflections at the start of each day.

Since students resided at the Barrytown Campus they were able to take full advantage of the religious diversity of New York's Hudson Valley Region. In just four days students explored six living traditions directly with the people who practice them. Religious sites visited were: the Temple Bethel Synagogue and Quaker Friends Meeting House in Poughkeepsie; the Masjid Alnoor Mosque, Hindu Samaj Temple, and Mid-Hudson Sikh Cultural Association, Inc., in Wappingers Falls; and the Tsechen Kunchab Ling Buddhist Temple in Walden New York.

Religious leaders at each site welcomed the class with warm hospitality, many learning from us as we learned from them. Dick Hathaway, from the Quaker Friends Meeting House, commented, "I was very impressed with your group. A big "wow" for them. It was evident that we have much to share in the Spirit."

"Fundamentals of Interfaith Leadership" is one of several new courses UTS is launching as part of a new Master of Religion Education Concentration in Interfaith Peacebuilding. The intensive will be offered regularly as a stand alone Certificate Course or as a credit bearing course towards a fully-accredited Masters degree from UTS. For information on Admissions and available scholarships for the MRE Concentration in Interfaith Peacebuilding, contact Henry Christopher, Director of Admissions, hchristopher@uts.edu.



"The course provided a great opportunity to be with nature, [study as] one family, and experience religions that are all seeking for God and for heaven.

Father Joseph Saghbini, Lebanon

"This class is quite important and very stimulating. I would like to do something like this when I go back to Thailand. I recommend other people to attend this class."

Napong Nophaket, National Human Rights Commission of Thailand

"This class is very challenging; crucial and ambitious. Religion has made problems in human history [so] this interfaith program is very crucial for peacebuilding."

Rev. Eiji Tokuno, Universal Peace Federation, Africa

"This was an oasis of resources for the field. Many people in the field could use this kind of training. We are always

faced with practical situations. This program provided practical education--not just theory. Incredibly valuable for me and I can do a lot with it."

Adama Doumbia, Universal Peace Federation, Africa

"The atmosphere at UTS physically, religiously and spiritually is to be highly commended. Fellowship and friendliness were the order of the day. The course was set up in such a way that it was conducive to learning. The lectures were complemented by trips outside. We actually witnessed what we read about. The worship experiences were tremendous. The lectures empowered us to go to our respective places with the knowledge of what to do, how to do it, and with whom we should work."

Bishop Abel T. Muzorewa,

United Methodist Church, Zimbabwe



A Publisher's Note

"Reverend Sun Myung Moon is the Founder of UTS. Several Cornerstone contributors recognize him with this title. Others may use the terms True Parents, True Father, or Father. These are various expressions of personal faith that Rev. Moon is fulfilling the mandate of Heaven to establish a Kingdom of Peace on Earth and that he and his wife are the first to establish a family centered on God's original ideal. The alumni/ae of UTS

are a diverse group who relate to and understand Reverend Moon in diverse ways. We appreciate your consideration when reading the newsletter."

Additionally: the views and opinions expressed within do not necessarily represent those of UTS, UTS AA, its faculty, administration or its supporters. The UTS AA Newsletter seeks to promote robust, healthy, productive and authentic dialogue for the sake of honest self-reflection and responsible improvement"

