

**Report of the Regional Office - Latin America
The Methodist Global Education Fund for
Leadership Development**



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COGEIME – Instituto Metodista de Serviços Educacionais
The Global Methodist Education Fund for Leadership Development
Regional Office Latin America

R E P O R T

Since March 2009, based on the agreement for mutual cooperation between the **General Board of Higher Education & Ministry - GBHEM** and the **Methodist Institute of Educational Services - COGEIME**, I became responsible for representing the Latin American the regional office of **The Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development (MGEFLD)** under the auspices of COGEIME. This agreement is the result of a long and productive relationship between the both organizations since the 1980's.

PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES INVOLVING COGEIME AND GBHEM

The negotiations for the agreement started in the context of some activities on Methodist Education around the world, with the jointly participation of COGEIME and GBHEM/MGEFLD. We highlight these activities and meetings in chronological order, which mark the path that culminated in this agreement:

1. **Methodist Global Education Workshop:** on September 13-19, 2007, at the Wesley Mission, in Sydney, Australia. Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso participated in the workshop held during the meeting of the Education Committee of the World Methodist Council. He reported on ALAIME, the COGEIME, the deployment of Methodist Network of Education, and socioeconomic status in Brazil.



Meeting of the Education Committee (WMC), Sydney - 2007

2. **Meeting COGEIME-GBHEM:** lunch meeting on September 15, 2007, at the Swisshotel in Sydney, AU. The first meeting between Dr. Ken Yamada (GBHEM), Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (COGEIME) and Dr. Amós Nascimento (WMC) was held at that moment. In this meeting the plan of cooperation agreement between COGEIME and GBHEM for the development of MGEFLD programs in Latin America and also other activities of cooperation were explored.
3. **Higher Education Marketing and Branding Workshop:** on August 7, 2008, at Methodist University of São Paulo (UMESP), coordinated by Dr. Amós Nascimento and the Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso.



Dr. Scarborough, Dr. Nascimento, Dr. Moraes, Rev. Cardoso, and Dr. Bartlett

The workshop discussed about the brand marketing in Methodist Higher Education.

Participated Directors, Rectors and leaders in the area of communication and marketing of Methodist Institutions of Education in Brazil.



Dr. Bartlett



Dr. Scarborough

We relied on international consultants for the workshop: Dr. Elizabeth Scarborough, from the SimpsonScarborough - Intelligent Marketing for Higher Education, and Dr. Robert Bartlett. And also we had the especial presence of the Dr. David Rowe, from the LaGrange College, and Dr. Mark Davis from the University of Oklahoma.

The program was supported by GBHEM/MGEFLD, IAMSCU and the Education Committee of the World Methodist Council.

A General Report with conclusion was prepared and presented by the coordination of the workshop.

4. **IAMSCU Conference 2008:** on July 10-13, 2008, at the Ros Tower Hotel in Rosario, Argentina. Participation in the IAMSCU Conference 2008. Activities developed:

- a) Participation in the meeting of the Education Committee of the World Methodist Council (July/10).
- b) Presenting the results of the Higher Education Marketing Workshop, the panel was headed by MGEFLD (July/11).
- c) Lunch meeting between COGEIME and GBHEM; with the presence of Dr. Ken Yamada and Dr. Kenneth B. Bedell (GBHEM), Dr. Paulo Borges Campos Jr., Dr. Marcio de Moraes, Dr. Amós Nascimento and Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso. At this occasion, we continued the preparatory discussions for the cooperation agreement between the COGEIME and GBHEM;



Dr. Campos Jr., Dr. Del Pino, Rev. Cardoso, and Dr. Yamada

- d) Meeting between Dr. Marcio de Moraes, Dr. Amós Nascimento, Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (COGEIME), and Dr. Vivian Bull (GBHEM) about the deployment of technical assistance within the Network Methodist Education in Brazil and possible advisors in this area.

5. **Meeting COGEIME-GBHEM:** on October 21-22, 2008, in the headquarters of the GBHEM, in Nashville, TN.

The preparatory discussions about the cooperation agreement between the COGEIME and GBHEM were deepened. We analyzed the possibilities of establishing the MGEFLD regional office for Latin America.

The COGEIME presented reports about its activities and the establishment of the Methodist Education Network. The MGEFLD presented its strategic plan for 2006-2012.

COGEIME informed about the consent and the support of the College of Bishops of the Methodist Church in Brazil for the cooperation agreement with GBHEM.



Dr. Nascimento, Dr. Yamada, Dr. Espino, Rev. Cardoso, Dr. Moraes, Dr. Del Pino, and Dr. Campos Jr.

The General Secretary of GBHEM, Rev. Dr. Jerome King Del Pino, sent a letter on October 22, 2008, to the President of the College of Bishops of the Methodist Church in Brazil, Bishop João Carlos Lopes, and the President the Board of Directors of COGEIME, Prof. Paulo Borges Campos Jr. This letter symbolized the institutional intention to accomplish the cooperation agreement with COGEIME during the GBHEM Board of Directors Meeting, on March 19-21, 2009.

6. **Andean Consultation on Theological Education:** on October 23-25, 2008, at the American College - Callao High School in Lima, Peru.

COGEIME was invited to be a consultant agency by the Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church of Peru, Bishop Jorge Bravo-Caballero.



Consultation participants

The consultation was attended by representatives of the GBHEM (Rev. Dr. Saul Espino), the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM), the COGEIME, the Wesleyan Heritage Foundation, the American College - Callao High School, the Methodist Church in South Korea, the Bishops of the Methodist Churches of Bolivia, Ecuador and Colombia, the President of the Methodist Church of Venezuela, representing the Bishop of the Methodist Church of Chile, and also from the Methodist Church of Peru, its Bishop, and their educational and administrative authorities.

The consultation had as objective to present and to discuss the project of creation of the Andean Wesleyan Theological Seminary in Lima, Peru, and also seek the support of the representatives that were present to install this theological institution.

7. **Global Consultation on Methodist Education in Central America:** on January 19–21, 2009, at Avalon Grand Resorts Panama, in the Panama City.



Consultation participants

COGEIME was represented by its Superintendent Director, Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso, who participated as an observer and adviser by invitation of GBHEM/MGEFLD.

8. **COGEIME-GBHEM Consultation about Church and University Relationships:** on March 18, 2009 at the Millennium Maxwell House, Nashville, TN.

The COGEIME was represented by: Bishop Stanley Moraes da Silva, Bishop Luiz Vergílio Batista da Rosa, Dr. Wilson Roberto Zuccherato (Chairman of the COGEIME's Council), Dr. Marcio de Moraes (Superintendent of COGEIME), Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (Executive of COGEIME) and Dr. Amós Nascimento (Advisor for international affairs). The GBHEM was represented by: Bishop Neil Irons, Bishop Jonathan Keaton, Dr. Ken Yamada, Dr. Vivian Bull, and Dr. Trudie Kibbe Reed.



In this Consultation a report on the State of Methodist Higher Education in Brazil the USA was presented. Also, we discussed about the possibilities of partnership and related budget agreement between COGEIME-GBHEM for the deployment of the Methodist Global Education Fund Office in Latin America.

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT – COGEIME-GBHEM

(Nashville, TN, March 19, 2009)

9. **COGEIME-GBHEM Partnership Agreement - Signing Event:** on March 19, 2009, at the Millennium Maxwell House in Nashville, TN, during the opening session of the meeting of the GBHEM Board of Directors.



After a brief word of introduction from Bishop Marcus Matthews, Dr. Jerome King Del Pino (GBHEM) and Bishop Luiz Vergílio Batista da Rosa, Dr. Robert Wilson Zuccherato (COGEIME), they signed the cooperation agreement between the COGEIME and GBHEM, whereby COGEIME started to work as the MGEFLD regional office for Latin America.

10. **Meetings COGEIME-GBHEM:** on April 22-25, 2009. Visit of Dr. Ken Yamada and Dr. Amós Nascimento to Brazil, for various activities. These meetings happened at the Methodist University of São Paulo (UMESP) and the National Headquarters of the Methodist Church:

- a) Mozambique Project on 22 April – Meeting with Prof. Dr. Paulo Bessa da Silva, Dean for Extension, Community and International Affairs of UMESP to attend to the cooperation in educational projects between MGEFLD, UMESP and the Methodist Church in Mozambique.
- b) National Headquarters of the Methodist Church on 22 April - Visit and presentation of the National Headquarters and the COGEIME's Office, with the participation of the Bishop Stanley Moraes da Silva (Executive of the College of Bishops), Rev. Joana D'Arc Meireles (Executive Secretary for Life and Mission of the Methodist Church in Brazil) and the Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (Executive of the COGEIME).
- c) Planning of the MGEFLD Regional Office Latin America on April 23 - with participation of Dr. Marcio de Moraes and Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (COGEIME), Dr. Ken Yamada (GBHEM) and Dr. Amós Nascimento. In this meeting the plans of work and the budget of the regional office were discussed. At the meeting it was decided to create an experimental program of Scholarships for leadership training, with financial support and responsibilities shared between the UMESP and the MGEFLD Regional Office.

11. **Presenting of the results of Methodist Research on Higher Education in Latin America:** on April 24, 2009, at Methodist University of São Paulo (UMESP) during the Administrative Seminar of ALAIME.

Dr. Almir de Souza Maia, research coordinator, presented the results and gave a copy of the final report, with a CD-ROM with the data collected. And all the institutions participating in the research received a copy of the material produced.

This research was supported by the GBHEM-MGEFLD.

12. **Scholarship Program:** The program was launched and registration was opened for candidates on June 4, 2009. The public call for applications offered two full scholarships, in an experimental phase, for studies at the higher education level at the Methodist University of São Paulo (UMESP) or in the Granbery Methodist Colleges, Juiz de Fora, MG.

The program's objective is to contribute to the formation of young Methodists, helping with scholarships for university courses (to the people that demonstrate the best potential to become leaders of high impact). The program seeks to contribute to the development of a future generation of Methodists leaders, to build leaders with high level of academic quality, dynamism, ethics, social

conscience, and guided by the principles of Christian faith and the Methodist tradition.

The program is being developed in an experimental form since the second semester of 2009.

At this moment we have two students participating in the program, studying Physical Education in the UMESP, and Administration - International Affairs at Methodist College Granbery.

The students completed the first four years of their courses and they are under evaluation now.

13. **Meeting with the leaders of ALAIME:** on June 26-27, 2009, in the Crandon Institute, in Montevideo, Uruguay. In a seminar we presented the MGEFLD, its model and its principles of action, and also the planning for the regional office for Latin America. We discussed with the President, Mg. Claudia Lombardo, and the Executive Secretary, Mg. Marcos Rocchietti, the possibilities for cooperation between ALAIME and the Methodist institutions of Education in Latin America.

14. **Meeting with Dr. Vivian Bull:** on September 15, 2009, at the Methodist University of São Paulo, UMESP.

At the meeting, a summary report about the progress in the implantation of the Methodist Network of Education was presented, by the Rector, Dr. Marcio de Moraes.

Dr. Vivian Bull mentioned the importance of this evaluation of Methodist Institutions of Education; she also reminded institutions about the project developed by IAMSCU, which is a tool to perform this assessment.

The plans of the MGEFLD Regional Office were presented and we discussed how they could be achieved. Dr. Vivian Bull talked about the next goals to be achieved in the general planning of MGEFLD.

15. **Seminar of Leadership Development in Brazil:** on September 16-18, 2009, at The Methodist University of São Paulo. We had the advice of the Development Associates International (DAI).

This Seminar worked with the participation of 33 leaders of the Methodist Church in Brazil: Bishops, members of the General Missionary Action of the Church, the High Council of Administration of COGEIME, Directors and Rectors of educational institutions of the Methodist Education Network.

Dr. Vivian Bull and Dr. Amós Nascimento also attended the Seminar as external observers.



Dr. Nascimento, Rev. Cardoso, and Dr. Bull

The seminar had a very positive evaluation by most participants that indicated the need of continuity.



The costs of this seminar were divided between COGEIME, the Educational Institutions of the Methodist Church in Brazil, the MGEFLD Regional Office, and GBHEM.



16. **Meeting and Workshop of the Education Committee of the World Methodist Council:** on September 20-25, 2009, in Santiago, Chile. This happened during the meeting of the Executive Committee of the WMC. The Education Committee invited us to represent the MGEFLD Regional Office and COGEIME. Dr. Marcio de Moraes presented a report regarding COGEIME and the development of the Methodist Education Network in Brazil, and Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso presented a report about the activities of the MGEFLD Regional Office in Latin America.
17. **V ALAIME General Assembly and Conference of Formation and Teaching Update - *The Methodist Education and its role as generator of hope in the face of global change*:** on October 1-3, 2009, at The Crandon Institute, Montevideo, Uruguay.

We participated representing COGEIME, and also on this occasion we presented a report about the MGEFLD Regional Office and made some contacts with Methodist institutions of participating countries (Argentina, Uruguay, Chile, Bolivia, Peru, Panama, and Mexico), to seek opportunities of joint and cooperation with the goals of the MGEFLD Regional Office.

In the Assembly the new board of ALAIME that was elected. It was composed by: Mg. Claudia Lombardo (Argentina) as President, Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (Brazil) as Vice-President, Mg. Lupita Salmon (Panama) as Secretary, and Dr. Job Cezar Romero (Mexico) as Treasurer. In the Assembly, were also elected the members of the Board of Directors: Prof. Roberto Pontes da Fonseca (Brazil), Lic. Mercio Nilton Meneghetti (Uruguay), Dr. Rolando Yanapa (Bolivia), Mg. Adriana Murriello (Argentina), Lic. Juan Arevalo Oñate (Chile) and Dr. Guillermo Yoshikawa (Peru). Mg. Marcos Rocchietti (Uruguay) continues as Executive Secretary.



Dr. Yanapa, Lic. Rocchietti, Mg. Salmon, Mg. Murriello, Lic. Oñate, Dr. Bigham (IAMSCU), Mg. Lombardo (President Alaime), Rev. Cardoso, Dr. Romero, and Lic. Meneghetti.

18. **Hemispheric Congress of Fundraising - The Best Practice for Fundraising:** on 6 - 8 October, 2009, at the Rio Branco High School, The Rotary Foundation of São Paulo, SP. The congress was held by the Rio Branco College and the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP).

We had participation in the conferences and in the following workshops: Schools & Universities – Alumni Fundraising; How to Develop Win-Win Corporate Partnerships; How to Reach the State of Creativity & Innovation & to Get Great Results; How to Set Up a Development Office.

By participating in this event, Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso explored fund-raising opportunities for the Regional Office.

19. **Semiannual Meetings of evaluation with the students in the Scholarship Program:** We realized evaluation meetings in the end of the first semester of studies with both students in the Scholarship Program. We tried to verify the academic progress and the personal development achieved in the semester, and also understand the difficulties and needs for improvement in the following semester.

The Students experienced some degree of difficulty in the beginning of their courses. But both of them demonstrate willingness to learn, desire to study more, and devote more hours to study in the next semester. We evidenced that both are working in their local churches, especially with the youth, and that they exercise leadership roles.

20. **Meeting with the Dr. Almir de Souza Maia:** on January 29, 2010, at the Center for Documentation and Research (CDP), in Piracicaba, Brazil. We presented the strategic planning of the MGEFLD Regional Office and we talked about some possibilities for cooperation and participation of Dr. Maia. Issues discussed:

- a) The continuity of the research about the Methodist Education in Latin America, and mapping the institutions of basic education (elementary / high school);
- b) The Experimental project of institutional evaluation under the model developed by IAMSCU;
- c) The Development Program of Methodist leaders in Latin America, a multidisciplinary team with cultural experience in the Latin America for planning and developing this program.
- d) The Planning of visits and meeting with the Rector of UniPalmares, first university for Afro-Brazilians, which has received support from UNIMEP and UMESP since its inception.

21. Seminar of Leadership Development in Peru: on February 16-18, 2010, at Scripture Union camp in Lima, Peru. With the consultancy Development Associates International (DAI).

With the presence of lay people and pastors, with a majority of young, totaling 40 participants. We also have Bishop Javier Rojas Terán from the Methodist Church of Bolivia, in the end of the seminar he made an invitation for the same seminar to be developed in Bolivia.



Dr. David Johnson (DAI)

The seminar had a very positive evaluation by most participants that indicated the need of continuity.

The costs of this seminar were divided between COGEIME, the Educational Institutions of the Methodist Church in Peru, the MGEFLD Regional Office, GBHEM and COGEIME.



Seminar participants

22. **XIX General Assembly of the Methodist Church of Peru:** on February 19-21, 2010, at the Maria Alvarado High School in Lima, Peru. The 40 years of Church autonomy were celebrated in the Methodist Church of Peru at this occasion. We participated in the General Assembly by the invitation of the Bishop Jorge Bravo-Caballero, as international observer and also had a brief statement about the MGEFLD Regional Office and the programs of leadership development for Latin America.



Bishop Moises Valderrama (México – President of CIEMAL), Bishop Javier Rojas Terán (Bolivia), Bishop Jorge Bravo-Caballero (Peru), and board members



Rev. Cardoso, preaching at the General Assembly in Peru

23. **Solemn tribute to the Methodist Church of Peru at the Congress of the Republic of Peru:** on February 22, 2010, in the “Raúl Porras Barrenechea” Hall, in the Congress Building, Lima, Peru. We were invited for this solemn session by the Bishop Jorge Bravo-Caballero and the Congresswoman Dr. Maria Sumire, member of the Methodist Church in Cuzco. We had the opportunity to make a greeting on behalf of COGEIME and MGEFLD Regional Office, at this moment, highlighting the importance of Methodist education in Peru and Latin America.



24. **Meeting of the Board of Directors of ALAIME:** on March 25-26, 2010, at The Methodist University of São Paulo. We presented a report about the MGEFLD Regional Office and discussed with ALAIME the plans of action and possibilities of cooperation.

During this meeting, Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso presented the possibility of partnership between the two organizations in an experimental project of evaluation of the Methodist institutions of education using the model developed by IAMSCU. Due to a past of resistance and criticism to specific initiatives of the GBHEM in Latin America – which had been focused on specific persons and events – the Regional Office of the MGEFLD has maintained institutional contacts and established bridges with several organizations (ALAIME, CIEMAL, COGEIME, and others) in order to gain support for its activities in the continent. The ALAIME Board of Directors has received a proposal to partner with the MGEFLD and is now considering a form of supporting and contributing to the Global Fund.



Board of Directors of ALAIME and Executive Secretary of CIEMAL, Rev. Joyce Torres Praça

25. **Educational needs assessment of the Methodist Church of Peru:** on May 10-13, 2010, in Lima, Peru.

We had as consultants and external evaluators Dr. Ken Yamada, GBHEM / MGEFLD, Dr. Stella Requena, UCEL, Dr. Fabio Botelho Josgrilberg, UMESP, Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso, COGEIME / MGEFLD Regional Office, Bishop Jorge Bravo-Caballero, Methodist Church of Peru, and the directors of Methodist educational institutions and national coordinators of the Education area of the Church.

The assessment team made the acquaintance of the whole educational structure of the Methodist Church in Peru, as well as their present and future projects. Visits were made for the recognition of three Methodist colleges in Lima: America Callao High School, Maria Alvarado High School and America La Victoria High School. There is also an institution inland of country, the American High School in Huancayo.

We had a general analysis and evaluation of educational projects of the Methodist Church of Peru, with an especial attention in the establishment of the Wesleyan Theological Seminary and the Methodist University project. The assessment team gave a report with several recommendations.

At the closing session of the meeting of evaluation, the Board of Directors of the Methodist Institutions of Education in Peru and the Bishop decided for the organization of The Methodist Network of Education, composed of all educational Methodist institutions in the country.

This was the first assessment team organized by the MGEFLD in Latin America.

- 26. Congress of Christian Education and Sunday School of the Methodist Church in Brazil:** on June 3-5, 2010, at the Methodist University of Piracicaba, Brazil. Participation and support.

We assisted and supported the participation of a delegation of educational leaders of the Methodist Church of Peru. These leaders also plan to hold a Congress of Sunday Schools in their country.

We relied on the presence of teachers César Bravo Tuesta, Pedagogical Director of America Callao High School and member of the National Coordination of Education of the Methodist Church of Peru, Anahí Arboleda, teacher of religious education in America La Victoria High School, and Juan Antonio Villena Martínez, teacher of religious education of Maria Alvarado High School.

The partnership with the MGEFLD Regional Office, involved the commitment to cover the cost and was responsible for participation of these representatives. The Methodist Church in Brazil released the payment of registration fee, meals and lodging for the Congress. The Methodist Church and educational institutions of Peru paid the cost of airfares. COGEIME paid the accommodation costs in São Paulo and the Piracicaba trip, and the MGEFLD Regional Office paid the transportation costs from Piracicaba to the International Airport of São Paulo, on the return to Peru.

- 27. Visit and meeting at the UniPalmares:** on June 10, 2010, in São Paulo, at the headquarters of the Institution. The UniPalmares University is first Brazilian university for Afro-Brazilians; its organization had received support from UNIMEP Methodist University of Piracicaba and UMESP – Methodist University of São Paulo.

We visited the UniPalmares with Dr. Almir de Souza Maia.

The reception was given by the Rector, Dr. José Vicente, who introduced us to the Institution, discussed the challenges and needs to consolidate the educational project, and the possibilities of support by COGEIME and MGEFLD.

UniPalmares is inspired on the model of Historical Black Colleges in the United States and the Rector has the interest of establishing a relationship and signing cooperation agreements with the Methodist Black Colleges in the USA. UniPalmares has received a visit from a group of students and professors from the Morehouse College, Atlanta and from the Clark Atlanta University and accompanied the work of GBHEM in the United States with interest.

A major challenge for the present and the future of UniPalmares is the development and consolidation of their courses. Hence the need for technical advice and support.

28. **II Consultation of The Methodist Church and Educational Leaders of the Central America:** on June 15-18, 2010, at the Hotel Bougainvillea, in Santo Domingo de Heredia, Costa Rica.



Consultation participants

The MGEFLD Regional Office was present with its executive coordinator, Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso, and supported financially the participation of Dr. Almir de Souza Maia, Brazil, and Mg. Claudia Lombardo, president of ALAIME, Argentina. Dr. Maia presented the research about Methodist education in Latin America, and Mg. Claudia Lombardo presented the history and programs of ALAIME.



We coordinated the presentation of programs of distance education at the Methodist University of São Paulo, UMESP, with Dr. Fabio Botelho Josgrilberg, who presented a seminar about this topic by a virtual system, the *Elluminate e-Learning*, from São Paulo; he interacted in real time with the participants of the Consultation in Costa Rica.

At this time, we visited the facilities and the educational projects of the Methodist High School and the Methodist University of Costa Rica. Partnership possibilities were discussed with these institutions.



Visiting the Methodist University of Costa Rica and Methodist High School

Seminar of Leadership Development:

In the programming, we had a particular highlight in the Leadership Development Seminar, as a sample, aimed at sharing the seminar contents with national leaders of the Methodist Churches in Central America. The seminar had the advice of Development Associates International DAI, with the participation of the Dr. David Johnson, who directed the activities.

After the seminar the leaders of the Methodist Churches in the region had a meeting with the MGEFLD Regional Office and DAI, to talk about the possibility of an extended seminar for leaders of Central America. The Methodist Church of Panama and the Pan-American Institute committed their support, the infrastructure, and accommodation for this seminar.

The seminar will be held on October, 20-23 in Panama City.

29. **Second Seminar of Leadership Development 2, in Peru:** on September 21 – 24, 2010, at Scripture Union camp in Lima, Peru. With the consultancy of Development Associates International (DAI).

We had the presence of 18 participants (12 pastors and 6 lay people; 12 men and 6 women). There was a reduction of 22 participants in comparison to the first

seminar, which was attended by 40 people. These 22 participants could not be present at the second seminar, for professional reasons, but they will study the material with those who attended the Seminar. So they will not lose this part of the training.



The seminar had a very positive evaluation. The third seminar will conclude the last 4 modules of the course on “Leadership: Making Human Strength Productive” and is already scheduled for February 13 – 19, 2011 in Lima, Peru.

The costs of this seminar were divided between COGEIME, the Educational Institutions of the Methodist Church in Peru, especially the America Callao High School, the Methodist Church in Peru, the MGEFLD Regional Office, GBHEM and participants themselves.

30. **First Seminar of Leadership Development in Bolivia:** on September 27 – 30, 2010, at American Institute - Methodist High School of Cochabamba, Bolivia. With the consultancy Development Associates International (DAI).

Bolivia is a multicultural nation in which around 30 ethnic groups live together, representing 30 corresponding different languages beyond Spanish, which is in a certain way spoken in the whole country. During the week before our arrival, Cochabamba had celebrated its 200 years of foundation, so that the city was in a celebratory mood. On the first day after our arrival we had the opportunity to participate in a beautiful festival called “Cochabamba Costumbrista”, organized by the American Institute - Methodist High School of Cochabamba (a Methodist school that will be celebrating its first centenary in 2011 and has around 3,500 students). During this festival, both students and teachers presented the local culture and traditional dances in more than 200 booths installed in the campus, showing the diversity of the food, agriculture, and farming produces of several cities within the Cochabamba County. More than 2,500 people attended this event, which was very interesting.



Rev. Cardoso, Bishop Rojas Tefán, Dr. Johnson

We had the presence in this Seminar of 56 participants (19 pastors and 37 lay people; 50 men and 6 women). The seminar had to face the challenge of adapting its content to the communication needs of indigenous cultures. The Methodist Church in Bolivia is made up in its majority by rural communities of Aymaras and Kechuas. It is a vibrant Church and very much involved in social justice and evangelization in dialogue with local cultures. Among the participants, more than 90% have Spanish as their second language. In their everyday activities they basically communicate among themselves using the Aymara and Kechua languages. Therefore, this was a rich and challenging experience for the coordination and the instructors, who had to learn more about these cultures and their way of life, so that a productive communication could be established.



The seminar received an outstanding evaluation by all participants and they were very much interested in learning more about the themes discussed, so that they can be better prepared to exercise their leadership. Many participants committed themselves to reproduce the contents of the seminar in their communities. We completed the 4 first modules of the course “Leadership: Making Human Strength Productive”, so that we will be able to conclude the whole course in two meetings.

Bishop Javier Rojas Terán will define, with his advisers, the best dates for a second seminar to conclude the program.



The costs of this seminar were divided between COGEIME, the Educational Institutions of the Methodist Church in Bolivia, especially the American Institute, the Methodist Church in Bolivia, the MGEFLD Regional Office, GBHEM and participants themselves.

31. **Methodist Relations Brazil – Peru:** We highlight the activities of the Regional Office of MGEFLD, for its coordination, encouragement and motivation in many areas of cooperation and support among the Methodist Churches of Brazil and Peru. As already noted, we held two seminars of Leadership Development, and also support the participation of the Peruvian delegation at the Congress of Christian Education and Sunday School of the Methodist Church in Brazil.

Moreover, the Brazilian Methodist Church sends missionaries to the development of Methodist work in the Peruvian Amazon, through our coordination and execution of an agreement of cooperation between the Churches. And also in the first week of October 2010, the Presiding Bishop of the Methodist Church in Brazil, Bishop Dr. João Carlos Lopes with a delegation of pastors of the 6th Conference of Brazil are conducting in Lima a Seminar of Discipleship Training for pastors and laity of the Methodist Church of Peru.

In the area of Education, we are conducting exchanges of students from three schools in Brazil with the America Callao High School, in Peru, with the purpose of teaching Spanish for Brazilians, and teaching Portuguese for Peruvians. Besides the great cultural exchange between the two countries, we will send a Brazilian professor, who teaches Portuguese, on a mission to work during some period in the foreign language teaching at the America Callao High School and Maria Alvarado High School, in Lima.

Another highlight in our activities was the joint support from the College of Theology of the Methodist Church in Brazil and the newly created the Wesleyan Theological Seminary Andean, in Lima. The College of Theology has donated, through its publisher, approximately one hundred books on several areas of

Methodist theology, for formation of the library of the Theological Seminary Andean.

OTHER ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE NEAR FUTURE

1. Experimental evaluation Project of Methodist Educational Institutions with the evaluation model of IAMSCU. We started the discussions with three institutions, a university, a high school and a theological seminary to develop this project; we are also discussing the formation of commissions with advisors and experts in Methodist education.
2. Continuity of the research project in Methodist Education in Latin America, analyzing Basic and Elementary Education. We are discussing with Dr. Almir de Souza Maia the possibility to continue this project.
3. VI Pedagogical Congress of ALAIME: on October 14-16, 2010, at the Pan-American Institute, in Panama City, with a report about the experiences of the seminars in leadership development by the MGEFLD Regional Office and DAI.
4. Primer Seminar of Leadership Development in Central America: on October 20-24, 2010, at the Pan-American Institute, in Panama City.
5. Visit and Technical seminar with Dr. Fabio Josgrilberg (UMESP – The Methodist University of São Paulo) and Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (International Affairs Coordinator of Methodist Network Education in Brazil) about distance education, for the academic direction of the UCEL – Universidad del Centro Educativo Latino Americano, in Rosario, Argentina, on November, 11-12.
6. Third Seminar of Leadership Development in Peru: on February 13-19, 2011, in Lima.
7. Second Seminar of Leadership Development in Bolivia: 2011, at the American Institute – Methodist High School in Cochabamba, Bolivia.
8. Second Seminar of Leadership Development in Central America: 2011, at the Pan-American Institute, Panama.
9. Visit and meeting in the Methodist Church of Colombia with the Bishop Juan Alberto Cardona, the date was not set yet, the goal of the meeting is understand the challenges and educational needs, for possible partnerships and implantation of programs.

10. Visit and meeting in the Methodist Church of Paraguay with the Bishop Pablo Mora, the date was not set yet, the goal of the meeting is understand the challenges and educational needs, for possible partnerships and implantation of programs.

Final Considerations

We are very thankful, first of all to God, who calls us and challenges us to contribute in a productive way to the goals of Methodist Education in Latin America. Secondly, we express our thankfulness to the GBHEM – General Board of Higher Education & Ministry – that shares with COGEIME – Methodist Institute of Educational Services – its mission to serve others by developing leadership through Methodist institutions of education around the world. We are honored and humble to be able to participate in this cooperation effort between GBHEM / COGEIME to represent and establish the MGEFLD - The Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development in Latin America.

In a very particular way, our experience of service and cooperation in Latin America and the mediation and support of the Global Methodist Education Fund for Leadership Development have produced a very positive impact in both educational institutions and churches in the countries we have visited. All the efforts and the investments made in these almost two years of work, since the cooperation between GBHEM / COGEIME started, were very positive. This is not our own evaluation, but rather the result of the objective assessment by those who participated in the meetings, consultations, visits for technical assistance, and seminars for leadership development. Therefore, this has been a gratifying work. Moreover, it has been made possible by the support of many other Methodist persons, institutions and churches in Latin America.

The philosophy and the model proposed by the MGEFLD, i.e., to share the costs among the parts involved in different projects, makes people more committed and dedicated to all aspects of the program. This is seen also in the case of the participants, who very often come from many regions that experience economic hardships. This model, therefore, is adequate and has shown great results. By means of this philosophy it has been possible to make great things with the little resources that each institution brings to the table in order to support the project. As we test this new model, we can already harvest good fruit, which is then shared with all parts involved.

It is very important that we mention and appreciate the effort and cooperation of several Methodist churches and institutions in Brazil, Bolivia, and Peru as well as the support of ALAIME – the Latin American Association of Methodist Institutions of Education and CIEMAL – the Council of Evangelical Methodist Churches in Latin America. Moreover, the School of Theology of the Methodist Church in Brazil, the Center for Documentation and Information led by Dr. Almir Maia, the Education

Committee of World Methodist Council, chaired by Dr. Amós Nascimento, and many other persons who have collaborated with us to develop and establish the Regional Office of the MGEFLD for Latin America in this period (2009/2010).

For the next years we plan on expanding our programs and projects, so that we can contribute more effectively with other countries and churches beyond those with which we have been working in this initial period of the cooperation between GBHEM / COGEIME.

We are certain that with the continuing involvement of several Methodist educational institutions in Latin America and churches in many countries, the collaboration of the GBHEM/MGEFLD and COGEIME, and the support of ALAIME we will be able to contribute in a decisive way towards the formation of future generations of leaders for the Latin American continent, leaders with a solid formation, based on Christian principles, guided by a strong ethics and deep commitment to our Church and the development of our communities.

In conclusion, we would like to register our deepest appreciation and thankfulness to Bishop Marcus Matthews, President of GBHEM Board of Directors, to Rev. Dr. Jerome King Del Pino, General Secretary of the GBHEM, and to Dr. Ken Yamada, Special Assistant to the General Secretary of GBHEM. Through them we express our best wishes and God's blessings to all the members of the GBHEM Board of Directors.

Thank you very much.

São Paulo, October 4, 2010.

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