

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



Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso

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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

In October 7th, 2010 the GBHEM-COGEIME Partnership Report was presented at GBHEM Board Meeting, presenting the programs and projects developed by the Latin America's Regional Office of The Methodist Global Education Fund for Leadership Development. In that occasion, COGEIME's delegation was composed by Bishop Stanley da Silva Moraes, Dr. Wilson Zuccherato (President of the Director Council) and Rev. Luis de Souza Cardoso (Executive Coordinator of the Regional Office of the Global Fund for Latin America).

Afterwards, in December 21st, 2010, we have sent to Dr. Ken Yamada the financial report of the projects developed in 2009-2010.

We send now this short report, regarding the activities developed from October 2010 to May 2011, as well as the arrangements already set for the rest of the current year.

1. **ALAIME's Pedagogic Congress:** October 14th to 16th, 2010, at Pan-American Institute (IPA), Panamá.

On October 14th a meeting of the Director Council of ALAIME was held, opportunity when the synthesis of the report of activities of the Regional Office of the Global Fund for Latin America was presented.



ALAIME's Pedagogic Congress – IPA

2. **Leadership Development Seminar:** October 20th to 23rd, 2010, at the Pan-American Institute (IPA), Panamá.

The seminar counted with the participation of 17 Methodists leaders, from 5 Central America countries. Further information about the participants: 11 women and 6 men/ 12 lay and 5 pastors/ 12 Panama, 2 Honduras, 1 Guatemala, 1 Nicaragua and 1 Colombia. The first four modules of the course “Leadership: Making Human Strength Productive” of Development Associates International (DAI) were developed.

The seminar costs were shared between the churches which sent participants, IPA and the Regional Office of Global Fund (GBHEM/COGEIME). GBGM contributed with the spending of pastors from Honduras, Guatemala and Nicaragua. The Evangelical Methodist Church of Panama offered accommodation to the participants at their hosting center.



3. **Technical Assistance - Seminar and Consultancy about Distance Education at UCEL:** November 10th to 11th, 2010, at the University of Latin American Educational Center (UCEL), Rosario, Argentina.

Methodist University of São Paulo’s (UMESP) presented its experience of implantation and development of Distance Education, as well as the possibilities of implanting a similar project in UCEL. Member of the Rectory, Deans of Colleges, Course Coordinators, administrative staff of Academic Secretary and Information Technology participated. This program was arranged by UCEL by Dr. Stella Requena, Academic Vice-President.

The consultant’s team was composed by Dr. Fabio Botelho Josgrilberg (Assessor of the President for Distance Education of UESP) and Dr. David Nelson Betts (Information Technology Director of UESP), who participated through internet conference. The coordinator of the Regional Office of Global Fund also followed the activities at UCEL.

Distance Learning Seminar [EAD] Final Report

November 11th, 2010 – UCEL Rectory Headquarter

The Seminar was organized, as requested by UCEL, by the regional office of Methodist Global Fund for Education and Leadership Development (organization of the General Board of Higher Education & Ministry) and had as speakers Dr. Luis de Souza Cardoso, Executive Coordinator of the regional office of the referred Fund and Dr. Fabio B. Josgrilberg, expert in Distance Learning of the Methodist University in São Paulo (UMESP).

The following represented UCEL at the meeting: the rector, Dr. Ovidio Torres; the vice-rector Stella Requena, the dean Daniel Coria and Efraím Torres, the secretaries Lorena Sarasola, Fanny Godfrid, Rafael Beltramino and Martín Tranier. Also, representing several areas of the University, Arnolfo Martínez, Angel Pérez Cortés, Silvia Rivero, Florencia Lahite, Lorena Di Filippo, Andrés Pagotto, Lisandro Beltramino and Emilio Monti were at the meeting.

During the morning, Dr. Luis Cardoso presented the mission and how far Methodist Educational Institutions has gone and the place the UMESP represents in the context. Later, Dr. Fabio B. Josgrilberg spoke about the historic development of Distance Learning in UMESP.

In the afternoon practical activities took place involving all participants, including an on-line presentation from São Paulo, regarding the technological model for EAD of this university and Dr. Fabio B. Josgrilberg presented more deeply the pedagogical project and general operation of the Distance Learning courses.

Currently UCEL develops as an experience project the hybrid learning of the course Bible to the Mission, for which Wesley Institute is responsible. The experience is based a Virtual web of learning, assessable through internet that allows the asynchronic communication through forums and on-line activities, and synchronic through chat. Monthly there are meetings between professors and students.

Also, in a project phase is the preparation of a distance program for the post-graduating course of Educational Management Specialization, which will be possible through Distance Learning. The proposal is likely to be presented next October and will be directed to national authorities for approval.

It is the deep wish of the ones who directs the University to make stronger the existents bounds between UMESP and UCEL to the development of combined projects of Distance Learning.

Ps. Stella Requena – Vice-rector
Dr. Ovidio R. Torres – Rector



4. **Visit to Ward School:** November 12th, 2010, in Ramos Mejía, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Taking advantage of the trip to Rosário, through Buenos Aires, the leadership of Ward School was visited and contacted in Buenos Aires.

As a result of meetings with pedagogic coordinators, the chaplain, international relations' staff of Ward School, secondary school students, members of the students' association, and thinking about the leadership development, it was suggested a students' meeting for the Methodists secondary schools from the Southern Cone.

Considering the nature of such a program, naturally we considered this possibility could be better deepened and explored. This subject is been discussed with ALAIME. It is possible that somehow the Regional Office of Global Fund could contribute to the realization of this project, considering its importance to the schools in pursuing the goal of young leadership development.



5. **Support to the visit of Dr. Jerome Jing Del Pino and Dr. Yamada to São Paulo:** November 14th to 16th, 2010. Both were in São Paulo to participate of the grant solemnity of the Black Race Trophy 2010, by Zumbi dos Palmares University.

Besides the logistic arrangements to their visit to Brazil, we also scheduled contacts with the Methodist Church, COGEIME and Methodist University of São Paulo (UMESP). Meetings were scheduled at the Methodist Church Headquarter with Church's authorities, as well as a visit to UMESP and a meeting with Dr. Marcio de Moraes, Superintendent Director of COGEIME and President of the University.



Black Race Trophy 2010

6. **Meeting with Brazilian missionaries serving UMC in USA:** December 12th to 16th, 2010, in New Jersey and Connecticut.

This meeting was organized by General Board of Global Ministries having in mind the exchange of experiences, planning and organization of the Work Team which coordinates Methodist Churches' ministries with Brazilian immigrants in USA.

We were invited to this meeting so that we could present updated information of educational organization of Methodist Church in Brazil to the missionaries, as well as to debate support and cooperation opportunities as far as education goes with the Methodist missionary communities working with Brazilian immigrants in USA.

The main needs presented by the missionaries were:

- a. Theological-pastoral training in Portuguese to Methodist Church's leadership of Brazilian immigrants in USA;
- b. Offer of Theology graduating possibilities through Distance Learning, to the members of these churches interested in becoming pastors;
- c. Other graduating possibilities through Distance Education to capacitate Brazilian immigrants in USA.

We also presented a synthetic report regarding the projects of the Regional Office of Global Fund for Latin America. We offered the possibility of organizing a Leadership Development Seminar to missionary communities in USA. The possibility was taken, but the first part of the training was not scheduled yet.



Brazilian missionaries serving UMC in USA and GBGM members

7. **GBGM's meeting:** December 17th, 2010, in New York.

The meeting with Rev. Jorge Domingues and Rev. Edgar Avitia was held in GBGM's office. We discussed requests presented during the meeting with Brazilian missionaries and the possibilities and difficulties of projects that could make their requests possible.

The conclusions obtained in this meeting were:

- a. It is easier and there are more possibilities of offering informal training, such as brief courses, workshops and seminars, on suggested subjects by the missionary communities; to do so there could be a connection and support between GBGM, GBHEM and COGEIME;
- b. Graduating courses, of Theology or other areas, through Distance Education and able to be recognized in Brazil need better evaluation from the legal, financial and operational points of view; both Methodist University of São Paulo (UMESP) and Methodist Church's Faculty of Theology in Brazil are willing to discuss how to help, but, at the moment Brazilian Federal Education Department does not authorize UMESP to create new Distance Education possibilities in Brazil or abroad; considering this information, any initiative in this direction won't be able to happen as early as expected; it's also necessary to clarify that in initiatives like this, eventual students would only have their courses recognized in Brazil;
- c. The requests need further debate between involved agencies; as far as COGEIME goes, we commit ourselves to take the requests to the Universities and Faculty of Theology so the needed studies can be developed; GBGM committed to discuss the subject with GBHEM.

8. **Meeting with Dr. Ken Yamada, during the Board of Directors of IAMSCU:** January 3rd to 5th, 2011, in Rio de Janeiro.

Brief meeting on January 4th, with the support of Dr. Amós Nascimento, to debate plans for the Regional Office of Global Fund for Latin America for the current year.

We also debated educational support requested by Brazilian missionaries in USA, registered above. It was agreed that informal capacitating and training can be possibly

arranged with the support of Global Fund, but the requests related to graduating courses recognized by universities is a subject that requires further debate.

9. **Technical Visit and Training on Distance Education Technology for the academic coordinators of Universidad Madero (UMAD), Puebla, Mexico: April 25th to 28th, 2011.**

Two teachers from UMAD were received in São Paulo in UMESP to know the distance education program of the Brazilian University, and its technological, academic and educational organization, in order to subsidize the development of UMAD's Distance Education project.

In the future there will be a seminar and consulting by UMESP's technicians in Puebla, Mexico, UMAD's staff.

The Regional Office of the Global Fund and COGEIME supported this technical visit by organizing the logistics and paying for some ground transportation from the hotel to UMESP in São Bernardo do Campo. UMESP offered personnel and infrastructure to monitor and guide the visit. UMAD have paid for travel costs, accommodation and food for their two teachers.

10. **Seminar on Leadership Development: April 26th to 29th, 2011, in Arequipa, Peru.**

Arequipa is Peru's second biggest city and is located in south-central region of the country. The seminar was attended by 23 pastors, theology students and lay leaders. Participants completed the first 5 modules of the course "Leadership: Making Human Strength Productive" by Development Associates International (DAI). The seminar was organized by Rev. Damian Rios Guillermo Venegas, Methodist Superintendent of the District of Arequipa, supported by Pastor Milton Winston Tajeda Hauatuco, President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Peru.

The costs of the seminar were shared between the churches that sent participants, Methodist and Lutheran churches, the Regional Office of the Global Fund (GBHEM / COGEIME). The Evangelical Lutheran Church offered accommodation for participants in its center, including hosting, class and equipment rooms facilities for the seminar.



11. **Seminar on South-South cooperation: the case of Brazil-Haiti:** May 3rd, 2011, in Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil.

We present during this seminar the case of educational cooperation for higher education of young Haitians, through the agreement between the non-governmental organization Haiti Global Vision Ministry and Methodist Universities: IPA (Porto Alegre) and Izabela Hendrix (Belo Horizonte, MG).

This program, in which 12 young Haitians have graduated in IPA, and maintains more than 21 students in Izabela Hendrix, and 2 students in the Federal University of Ouro Preto, covers higher education courses in management, health, engineering, communication and technology information. The program was selected among the 15 most successful experiences of South-South cooperation and is being studied by a team of researchers from the Universities of Brasilia and the University of Antioquia, Colombia, and will be presented at the IV High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness in Busan, South Korea, in November 2011.

The two Methodist institutions offer full scholarships for Haitian students to complete their studies. We have reported this case because it is an important initiative of the Methodist Institutions in developing leaderships and cooperation in Latin America and Caribbean.



Dr. Davi Barros – Izabela Hendrix’s President / Seminar on South-South cooperation Brazil-Haiti



12. **Seminar on Leadership Development:** May 25th to 29th, 2011 in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala.

A group of 20 pastors and lay leaders of the Evangelical Primitive Methodist Church in Guatemala participated of this seminar. Among the attendants was Pastor Mario Mardoqueo Chanchavac, National President of the Methodist Church. The group completed the first 5 modules of the course "Leadership: Making Human Strength Productive" by Development Associates International (DAI). The seminar was organized by Rev. German Ramirez, superintendent of the Quetzaltenango area.

The Methodist Church of Guatemala is the second biggest in Central America region, with 12,300 members and 86 pastors. The Methodist Global Consultation on Education, held by the Global Fund in Panama in January 2009 revealed that the greatest need of this church is specifically training for pastors and leaders.

The costs of the seminar were shared between the churches which sent participants, and the Peniel Methodist Church, which hosted the event and the Regional Office of the Global Fund (GBHEM / COGEIME).



13. **Technical Assistance - Consulting and Seminar on Distance Education at Universidad Madero (UMAD):** May 30th to June 1st 2011, in Puebla, Mexico.

It was presented the experience of implementing and developing distance education in Methodist University of São Paulo (UMESP), as well as an evaluation of the implementation of UMAD's project for Distance Education in UMAD. Participated of the seminar members of the Board of Directors, Deans of Colleges, Course Coordinators, and the administrative staff of Academic and Information Technology Department. This program was organized in UMAD as a request of Dean Dr. Job Cesar Romero.

Integrants of the team of consultants where Dr. Zacarias Gonçalves (Distance Education's Technology Advisor in UMESp), Dr. David Nelson Betts (Director of Technology & Information at UMESp) and Dr. Fabio Botelho Josgrilberg (Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in UMESp), who participated through a web conference. The Coordinator of the

Regional Office of the Global Fund has also monitored the activities in UMAD and had meetings with the President Dr. Romero to discuss other possible areas of cooperation.

The Regional Office of the Global Fund and COGEIME has paid the costs of air travel and UMAD offered hosting and food during the days of consulting.

UMAD should start its program of distance education in the second half of the current year on a trial basis. UMESP will continue to support and advice throughout this process.



Prof. Zacarias Gonçalves (UMESP), Dr. Job Romero (UMAD's President), Ms. Edelmira Romero e Rev. Luis Cardoso

14. **Seminar on Leadership Development:** June 21st to 24th, 2011, in Madison, NJ, USA, at Drew University.

The GBHEM, through the Global Fund, with support from the Regional Office for Latin America and Drew University, held a seminar for pastors and lay leaders of the Brazilian Ministries with immigrants in the United States, under the theme "Essential Doctrines of Methodism."

The seminar was held in the facilities of the Faculty of Theology of Drew University in Madison - New Jersey, and had the advice of Prof. Dr. Luis Wesley de Souza, of Candler School of Theology, Emory University (Atlanta, GA).

Coordinated the seminar Dr. Saul J. Espino, Division of Ordained Ministry Board of Higher Education, and Dr. Vivian Bull, of Drew University and a consultant to the Global Fund. The Faculty of Theology of the Methodist Church in Brazil has donated copies of the book "Methodist Doctrine: The Essentials" by Ted A. Campbell, translated and published by EDITEO (2010). The book was the basis for the studies developed during the seminar.

Methodism in the USA - In addition to the themes presented in the seminar, the participants also discussed the progress of the organization of the Brazilian Ministry in the U.S. and the educational needs that involve these communities. Informal talks were held on theological training, presentation of the demands of training new pastors and ministers from emerging vocations in their own communities and it was also surveyed the possibilities to support such needs for further development with Methodist Church' offices and agencies.

COGEIME was challenged again to take the concerns of these communities, both to the Faculty of Theology of the Methodist Church in Brazil, and the Methodist University of São Paulo, particularly with regard to the needs of technical and higher education of Brazilians

living in this area of USA. It is estimated that currently about one million Brazilian immigrants live in this country.

A multi-year partnership between the United Methodist Church, General Board of Global Ministries and Methodist Church in Brazil has enabled the development of the Methodist community of Brazilian immigrants in two U.S. states. In areas of New Jersey and Massachusetts there's a large concentration of Brazilian immigrants and missionaries assigned by Methodist Church in Brazil are working in the towns of Harrison, Howell, Kearny, Freehold (belonging to the Conference of New Jersey) and Saugus (belonging to the Conference of New England).



15. **Visit to Haiti and meetings with Haiti Global Vision Ministry:** June 25th to 30th, 2011.

We went to Haiti for meetings with Haiti Global Vision Ministry - HGVM, an organization with which two universities that belong to Methodist Education Network (IPA and Izabela Hendrix) have a partnership to receive students with scholarships on higher education courses.

We have visited several projects and programs developed by HGVM, both in Port-au-Prince and on the Northeast Department. We have been to two cities near the border with Dominican Republic, where HGVM has its base of more intense activity.

Currently HGVM dreams and works to build a university and a hospital in Marie Ferrier, Northeast Department (see attached project). They already have an area for implementation of this project, there is interest from the Haitian government to support and seek support it, as well as the very HGVM is seeking for sponsors among churches and institutions abroad to carry out the project.

We met with the mayor and several city leaders in Marie Ferrier, which has 15 thousands inhabitants, and is part of the Northeast Department, whose regional population is 380 thousands inhabitants. There are many small towns and villages nearby; thereby Marie Ferrier is in a strategic location for irradiation of development.

The main needs in the area are: **education** - there is a lack of schools and qualified personnel to work in the existing ones; **health** - the nearest hospital is 7 miles away and there are no doctors interested to work in these small towns further away from the

capital; the major complaint is that everything in terms of health care is concentrated in the national capital or in the departments' capital; **infrastructure** – not even the town hall has proper facilities, the streets are not paved, the sewage runs in open pits, the municipality does not have machines and equipment for basic care; **safe drinking water** - there are few community wells and water supply is very limited; **urban cleaning** – there is no transportation to shift the garbage nor a suitable place for its storage or recycling; **Sports** - the municipality does not have sports equipment in despite of having a large young population in the mood for sports; HGVM is developing a mentoring program of sports, but all is very improvised because there is no equipment available and also very little access to sports equipment; IPA Methodist University, where studied one of the young Haitians that graduated in Physical Education sent a donation of balls for this project and that is all they have.

We are pursuing to articulate actions with the Division of International Relations of the National Front of Mayors in Brazil, trying to establish a program of cooperation, technical assistance and knowledge transfer on municipal management, with the support of a UN program, which provides connection between municipalities in Brazil and France to help municipalities in Haiti.

We have also visited the city of Ouanaminthe, which borders Dajabón, Dominican Republic. This is a better structured city, but with also great needs and which suffers with a cholera outbreak.

We had a meeting with then Senator Jean Baptiste Bien-Aimé (who attends to Baptist Church and is a member of HGVM's Council). He is very interested and active in seeking partnerships with Haiti Government, as well as with other public or private international organizations, to work on these development projects of the Northeast Department.

I was told us that most of the population migrates from small municipalities to the national capital or to departments' capital, making bigger the belts of poverty. In the countryside and small towns where life could be much healthier, unfortunately there are is no jobs and there are very few development projects. They are now working on a bill of exempt from some taxes, to make the location attractive for industries in this department.

The government of Dominican Republic is also sponsoring the construction of a campus for Université d'Etat d'Haïti, on the border between the Departments of North and Northeast (about 25 thousand Haitians study at universities in Dominican Republic).

In Port-au-Prince we also visited the Methodist School (linked to MCCA), whose facilities were affected by the earthquake in 2010. This school still continues to serve children and youth in tents used as classrooms, until they can rebuild their buildings that collapsed. They will need support from outside for this since Haiti's economy is very fragile and since they can't achieve the goal of reconstruction with only the financial sources of the school. Unfortunately it was not possible to contact the School's Board of Directors and the pastor of the Church, because both of them were in meetings in another location on the day we were there.

A photographic report of the trip can be viewed at:

<http://pt.scribd.com/doc/59977229/Relatorio-Fotografico-de-Viagem-ao-Haiti-25-30-07-2011>

The College of Bishops of the Methodist Church in Brazil has requested a report and proposals for cooperation with Haiti. We are working on this study and proposals. Also, the Methodist Education Network is likely to continue cooperating with HGVM on training young Haitians in higher education, however we need to improve this program, getting

new organizations or sponsors to help with the maintenance of students (food, housing, health plan) while they reside in Brazil to finish their courses.

Already 11 students have completed their courses, and eight returned to Haiti and are looking for work placements. Three students remained in Brazil to attempt to apply for Graduating courses. We still have 26 other students still completing their courses. The group is studying in areas such as health, education, communication, and information technology, various engineering, environment and agriculture. We hope to contribute to human development staff, but also with the development of Haiti, through the formation of these leaders.

São Paulo, July, 2011

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