



AABC

Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges

Spring Issue
Vol. XLVII, No. 1
April 2003

Route To:

NEWSLETTER



Dr. Larry J. McKinney
Executive Director

From the Director's Desk



"CASTING A NEW VISION" A REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP

We are at a very significant place in our 56-year history as the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges. We are in the process of redefining ourselves in light of the major changes that are taking place in the church, the higher education accreditation community, and our own respective institutions. Although we are continuing to advance and assure quality biblical higher education, we are also considering a number of major changes that will potentially affect the ways we relate to a growing number of institutions. These proposed changes were a focus of discussion at our recent convention, particularly at our Annual Business Meeting on February 14.

This particular issue of the *AABC Newsletter* provides an update on these initiatives that are being considered by the membership. The information I am about to share will be of interest to those who attended the Annual Meeting as well as to those who could not be present. You may recall that there were four action items that were brought to the membership for a vote. Allow me to cover the proposals in the order in which they were presented, the outcome of the vote on each proposal, and the follow-up steps that are being taken:

(Cont'd Next Column) ⇨

• Proposal #1—Expansion of Services to Include an Affiliate Status

Outcome—MSC that the Association develop an affiliate status for non-accredited institutions with the guidelines to be established by the Board of Directors.

Action Steps—A "proposed" document on the affiliate status is being sent to the Board of Directors and the Commission on Accreditation for feedback. This document includes the benefits of the affiliate status, conditions of eligibility, an application form, and the tenets of faith. Final approval from the Board is anticipated by late spring in order that an initial mailing can be sent to potential affiliate institutions by early summer.

• Proposal #2—Expansion of Scope to Include Programmatic Accreditation

Outcome—MSC that approval be given "in principle" for programmatic accreditation with specific guidelines to be drafted and presented (i.e. criteria, changes to constitution and bylaws) for approval at a future meeting.

Action Steps—The first draft of programmatic accreditation standards will be developed by the Review of Standards Committee when they meet April 21-23 in conjunction with their comprehensive review of all Association standards. The next draft of the standards, which we anticipate will include criteria for programmatic accreditation, will first be reviewed by the Commission on Accreditation and the Board of Directors and should be available for distribution to the membership in early Fall-2003. A draft

(Cont'd Next Column) ⇨

of revisions to the constitution and bylaws has also been completed and will also be available to the membership for feedback by early fall after appropriate feedback/approvals have been secured from the Commission and the Board.

• Proposal #3—Expansion of Scope to Include Graduate-Level Accreditation

Outcome—MSC that approval be given "in principle" for graduate-level accreditation with specific guidelines to be drafted and presented (i.e. criteria, changes to constitution and bylaws) for approval at a future meeting.

Action Steps—A Graduate-Level Accreditation Task Force met on April 3 and 4 and developed the first draft of standards for graduate accreditation. The draft will also be reviewed by the Review of Standards Committee when they meet April 21-23.

(Cont'd, Page 2) ⇨

INSIDE

- From the Director's Desk Page 1
- 2002 AABC Evaluation Team Visits ... Page 2
- Leadership Development for Biblical Higher Education Page 2
- Leadership Development Conference for Newer Presidents Page 2
- 2003 Commission Actions Page 3
- Newly Elected Board & Commission Members Page 3
- Oxford & Yale Professors to Address The 2003 ICETE Consultation Page 3
- Annual Meeting Pictorial Highlights . Page 4
- A Second Reminder!...Campus Cares Page 6
- Ethnic Leadership Conference Page 6
- 2003 ACBC Conference Page 6
- Larry McKinney's Travel Schedule..... Page 6
- Review of Standards Update Page 7
- Mark Your Calendar Page 8
- Annual Meeting Update Page 8

2003 AABC Evaluation Team Visits

Under USDE regulation 602.27(d), recognized accrediting bodies must make public the dates when an institution's accreditation or preaccreditation (candidate) status is being reviewed in order to provide opportunity for third-party comment. In view of this requirement, notice is given that the following institutions are scheduled for evaluation during calendar year 2003. Persons wishing to submit third-party comments regarding any of these institutions should direct them to the AABC office at the following address: 5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Ste. 26, Orlando, FL 32822-1781; Fax: 407-207-0840; E-mail: exdir@aacbc.org.

(IA = initial accreditation; IC = initial candidacy; RA = 10-year reaffirmation)

Spring/Fall 2003

Alberta Bible College (AB) - RA

Fall Dates TBD

Allegheny Wesleyan College - RA

Fall Dates TBD

Canadian Bible College (SK) - RA

Fall Dates TBD

Columbia Int'l University (SC) - RA

March 16-18, 2003

Crossroads Bible College (IN) - RA

March 12-14, 2003

Crossroads College (MN) - RA

(Formerly Minnesota Bible College)

Fall Dates TBD

Eugene Bible College (OR) - RA

March 4-6, 2003

Full Gospel Bible Institute (SK)-IC

March 24-26, 2003

Heritage Bible College (NC) - IA

Fall Dates TBD

Hispanic Bapt. Theo. School (TX) - IA

April 28-30, 2003

Multnomah Bible College - RA

October 6-8, 2003

Pillsbury Baptist Bible College - IA

Fall Dates TBD

Providence College (MB) - RA

Fall Dates TBD

Puget Sound Christian College

Fall Dates TBD – Special Visit

Rio Grande Bible Institute (TX) - RA

Fall Dates TBD

Southeastern Bible College (AL) - RA

September 29, 30 – October 1, 2003

Tri-State Bible College (OH) - IA

April 7-9, 2003

Universidad-FLET (FL) - IC

Fall Dates TBD

W.L. Bonner Bible College (SC) - IC

Fall Dates TBD

World Mission University - IC

Fall Dates TBD

(Casting a New Vision–Cont'd, from Page 1)

As with the first draft of standards for programmatic accreditation, the membership should have access to the proposed criteria by early Fall-2003 after being reviewed by the Commission and the Board. The proposed revisions of the constitution and bylaws are intended to apply to both programmatic and graduate accreditation.

• **Proposal #4–Expansion of the Name from the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges to the Association for Biblical Higher Education**

Outcomes–MSC that the name change be tabled until specific guidelines have been developed for programmatic and graduate-level accreditation.

Action Steps–The wishes of the membership are being respected in that specific guidelines (changes to the criteria, constitution, and bylaws) are being developed for programmatic and graduate accreditation before revisiting the potential name change. In the meantime,

(Cont'd Next Column) ⇨

a questionnaire will be circulated to the membership in later spring soliciting further feedback on the proposed name **Association for Biblical Higher Education** in the event that the guidelines for programmatic and graduate accreditation are approved by the membership.

It is the intention of the Association to keep the membership fully apprised of all developments relative to the four preceding proposals. Drafts of proposed criteria and changes to the constitution and bylaws will be distributed to the membership. Furthermore, regional hearings will be held in the fall to provide the membership opportunities to interact with the AABC professional staff on all proposed changes and guidelines.

I look forward to further discussion with you as together we look to the future of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges. These are exciting days as we continue to explore ways to advance and assure quality biblical higher education. ❖

Leadership Development for Biblical Higher Education

Pledges and gifts totaling more than \$17,000 were received for the *Leadership Development for Biblical Higher Education Fund* in conjunction with our Annual Meeting. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this project.

Gifts are still being received for the fund and can be sent to our office designated to **Leadership Development for Biblical Higher Education.** ❖

Leadership Development Conference for Newer Presidents

October 24-26, 2004

Hampton Inn-Orlando International Airport
Orlando, Florida

The room, board, and program costs will be provided in the form of scholarships through the *AABC Leadership Development Fund*. The individual or sponsoring institution will be responsible for transportation costs. Please write the dates down in your calendar if you are a newer president in your first, second, or third year of service.

Invitations and more specific details will be sent out in June. ❖

2003 Commission on Accreditation Actions

At its February 9–12, 2003 meetings, the Commission on Accreditation of the Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges took the following actions regarding the accredited status of institutions:

- Following satisfactory completion of the institutional self-study process and an evaluation team visit, the **accredited status** of the following institutions was **reaffirmed for 10 years**:
 - Alaska Bible College (AK)
 - Beulah Heights Bible College (GA)
 - Emmanuel Bible College (ON)
 - American Baptist College (AB)
 - Central Christian College (MO)
 - John Wesley College (NC)
- Following satisfactory completion of the institutional self-study process and an evaluation team visit, the following institutions were granted **candidate [pre-accredited] status**:
 - Huntsville Baptist Institute (AL)
 - New Orleans School of Urban Missions (LA)
 - LIFE Bible College East (VA)
 - Williamson Christian College (TN)
- In light of its failure to satisfactorily strengthen its compliance with AABC *Criteria for Accreditation*, specifically in reference to financial stability, the following institution was denied reaffirmation, removed from show cause, and **placed on probation**.
 - Puget Sound Christian College (WA)
- Approval of **new branch campus operations** following a site review:
 - Northwest Bible College (AB) – Calgary Leadership Training Center (AB)
 - Toccoa Falls College (GA – Epworth Branch (GA)
- In light of its failure to satisfactorily strengthen its compliance with AABC *Criteria for Accreditation*, specifically in reference to financial stability, one institution remains on **WARNING status**. This status does not constitute a public sanction. ❖

Oxford and Yale Professors to Address The 2003 ICETE Consultation

The keynote speakers for the Theological Educator’s Consultation of the International Council for Evangelical Theological Education will be Miraslav Volf, formerly at the Evangelical Theological Faculty in Osijek, Croatia, and now professor of theology at Yale University and Alister McGrath, noted professor of historical theology at Oxford University.

The consultation will take place **August 18-22, 2003** at the **Wycliffe Centre, High Wycombe, UK**. ICETE is anticipating approximately 150 delegates from all over the world. ICETE is a theological education affiliate of the World Evangelical Alliance. The Council is made up of accrediting agencies representing eight different regions of the world with AABC being the North American agency. ICETE represents more than 700 evangelical colleges and seminaries throughout the world with a combined student community of over 60,000.

If anyone from an AABC member institution is interested in attending the ICETE Consultation, August 18-22, 2003, contact Larry McKinney. There are a limited number of spaces reserved for North American delegates. ❖

Newly Elected AABC Board & Commission Members

AABC Board



**Vice-President/
President Elect**
(2-Year Term)
Dr. David Eubanks
Johnson Bible College
Knoxville, TN



Member-at-Large
(4-Year Term)
Dr. David Medders
Bethany Bible College
Canada (NB)



Member-at-Large
(4-Year Term)
Dr. Thomas Tanner
Lincoln Christian College
Lincoln, IL



Member-at-Large
(2-Year Unexpired Term)
Dr. Charles Ware
Crossroads Bible College
Indianapolis, IN

AABC Commission on Accreditation



(3-Year Unexpired Term)
Dr. J.R. "Tony" Buchanan
Florida Christian College
Kissimmee, FL



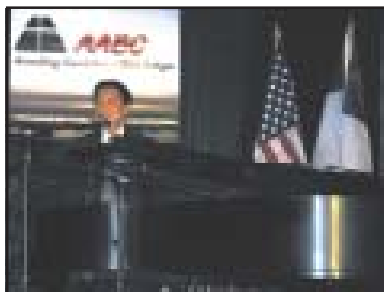
(4-Year Term)
Dr. Charles Dyer
Moody Bible Institute
Chicago, IL



(4-Year Term)
Ms. Nancy Olson
Lincoln Christian College
Lincoln, IL



(4-Year Term)
Dr. Benson Karanja
Beulah Heights Bible Clg.
Atlanta, GA



Worshipful Moments

Musical Contributions were made by Tony Buchanan, John Fischer, Samuel Hsu, and Marion Ross

Pictorial Highlights

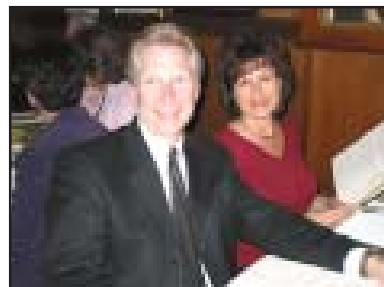
56th Annual Meeting Orlando, FL



Larry & Debbie McKinney



L-R: Wayne Freeberg, Dan Lockwood, & David Eubanks



Ken & Kaylene Idleman



Ladies' Brunch with Jill Briscoe – A time of Praise, Prayer, Fellowship & Encouragement



L-R: Linda Schambach, CTI; Bill Boyd – College of Biblical Studies-Houston (TX)



L-R: Larry McKinney; Rob Cruver – Somerset Christian College (NJ)



L-R: Linda Schambach, CTI; Richard Beam – Johnson Bible College (TN)

Congratulations to the following institutions that received the Enrollment Growth Award at the 2003 Annual Meeting in each of the four FTE enrollment quadrants:

- Somerset Christian College (NJ)**
(FTE 0-199)
- Bethesda Christian University (CA)**
(FTE 200-399)
- College of Biblical Studies-Houston (TX)** (FTE 400-599)
- Johnson Bible College (TN)**
(FTE 600 and above)



L-R: Linda Schambach, CTI; Grace Sunghae Kim, Bethesda Christian University (CA)

LARRY J. MCKINNEY

WINTER/SPRING 2003 SCHEDULE

February

- 20-21 Florida Council of Private Colleges (Orlando)
- 25 Reformed Bible College (MI)
- 25 Grace Bible College (MI)
- 26 Great Lakes Christian College (MI)
- 27 Crossroads Bible College (IN)
- 28 Moody Bible Institute (IL)

March

- 10 US Dept. of Education, Council for Higher Education Accreditation (Washington, DC)
- 11 NAICU Secretariat (Washington, DC)
- 17-21 Caribbean Evangelical Theological Association Conference (Trinidad and Tobago)

April

- 3-4 Graduate-Level Accreditation Task Force (Orlando)
- 7 Grace University (NE)
- 7 Nebraska Christian College (NE)
- 8 Barclay College (KS)
- 9 Manhattan Christian College (KS)
- 10 Faith Baptist Bible College (IA)
- 10 Vennard College (IA)
- 11 Emmaus Bible College (IA)
- 21-23 AABC Review of Standards Committee (Orlando)

May

- 17 Columbia Int'l University (SC)
- 20 Full Gospel Bible Institute (SK)
- 21 Bethany College (SK)
- 21 Central Pentecostal College (SK)
- 22-24 Association of Canadian Bible Colleges Conference Briercrest Bible College (SK)

June

- 5 Executives in Church-Related Higher Education (Washington, DC)
- 6 NAICU Secretariat (Washington, DC)
- 12 Louisville Bible College (KY)

**A Second Reminder!
Campus Cares: Solutions for
Stronger Communities**

Approximately six months ago, I informed you about **Campus Cares**. A broad coalition of higher education agencies launched *Campus Cares*, a project created to identify, recognize, and encourage involvement of those on college campuses—students, faculty, administration, and staff—who serve the world beyond their gates.

I was pleased to endorse such a program as AABC joined with many other higher education agencies and hundreds of campuses across North America in promoting this service-initiative. Knowing that service to church and community has always been a core value of our Association, I felt this would be a great way to engage our member colleges in a broader coalition. However, in checking the web page a few days ago (www.campuscares.org). I was disappointed to see that only three of our member colleges were officially participating.

May I encourage you to click on to www.campuscares.org for an overview of the program and what it means. I hope many of our institutions will participate. Perhaps some of our institutions will be recognized among the 50 exemplary campus programs. The address for Campus Cares is 1025 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC, 20026-5045. Telephone 202-786-8866. ❖

**Ethnic Leadership Conference
February 17-19, 2004
Orlando Airport Marriott
Orlando, Florida**

This conference will be held in advance of the 2004 AABC Annual Meeting. The room, board, and program costs for the Ethnic Leadership Conference will be covered through the AABC Leadership Development Fund. The AABC Committee on Ethnic Diversity is planning the event. The focus will be on the development of fiscal resources and financially-stable institutions. In addition to the involvement of selected leaders from the AABC membership, Dr. Crawford W. Loritts, Jr., Associate Director of Campus Crusade for Christ will be serving as a keynote speaker. Invitations with more specific details will be mailed in the fall. ❖

**2003 Conference of the Association of
Canadian Bible Colleges
May 22-24, 2003**

Leading in a Second Choice World

The 44th Annual Meeting and Professional Conference of the Association of Canadian Bible Colleges will be held at **Briercrest Bible College & Seminary** in Caronport, Saskatchewan. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Vivian Thomas, International Leadership Consultant with Operation Mobilization.

For additional information contact ACBC President, **Dr. Al Hiebert**, Briercrest Bible College and Seminary, 510 College Drive, Caronport, SK S0H 0S0 306-756-3200, e-mail: ahiebert@briercrest.ca. ❖

Review of Standards Update

The work on the comprehensive review of AABC standards continues with two new dimensions. As delegates to the AABC Annual Meeting will know, the association approved in principle proposals to expand AABC's scope to include programmatic and graduate level accreditation services. These approvals were predicated upon the presentation of satisfactory criteria and procedures for these options at the February 2004 Annual Meeting. Accordingly, in addition to the work already underway on existing standards, the AABC Committee on the Review of Standards will be considering criteria for these new initiatives at their forthcoming April 21-23 meeting.

Recently, (April 3-4) a special task force composed of persons with significant experience in graduate education met for two full days to develop the initial proposed standards dealing with graduate education. The fruit of this group's labors is being shared with the AABC Board of Directors and Commission on Accreditation with the expectation that the materials developed along with the comments of Board and Commission members will serve as the foundation for the Committee's work on criteria for graduate education. The AABC staff has been working in a very preliminary way on an initial proposal for criteria appropriate to programmatic accreditation. As indicated in Dr. McKinney's article, our plan is to circulate these materials to the membership by early fall for reaction.

In the meantime, the Committee on the Review of Standards has a great deal to work with in terms of feedback on the existing proposals that have been circulated. All of the feedback received prior to the February Commission on Accreditation meeting was summarized and made available to the Commission members. Based on the feedback, the Commission has made recommendations for modifica-

tions of the October 30 draft proposal that was circulated. Additionally, six workshops were held during the Annual Meeting to provide delegates opportunity to comment on the proposals. The Committee will be reviewing the feedback arising from the workshops along with the Commission recommendations at its meeting. Additionally, work has continued on material that will support the new criteria. The Committee will have material to review related to the various patterns of alternative education. While this material does not specify standards, it will assist in the application of the standards.

Personnel from member schools should clearly understand the relative roles of the AABC decision-making bodies and workgroups that are revising the accreditation criteria. Because of the USDE regulations dealing with the "separate and independent" character of the Commission on Accreditation, AABC has moved toward direct election of commissioners and even separate budgets for the Commission and the larger association. The Commission is the entity recognized by both USDE and CHEA. It has complete autonomy in exercising its accrediting function. Essentially, the Commission serves as the "guardians" of the accreditation standards. The standards, of course, represent the collective wisdom of the community of institutions that make up the association over its 56 years of history regarding good higher education practice. The accredited member institutions adopt the standards. Once adopted, the Commission is empowered to enforce them.

The AABC Board of Directors serves as the direct representatives of the association membership. Accordingly, acting on behalf of the association, the Board appointed members to the Committee on the Review of Standards to work on the revision of standards on behalf the

member colleges. Naturally, the Committee has included strong representation from the Commission on Accreditation as well as student representation. The products of the Committee work must necessarily pass through a Commission review so that commissioners can make judgments about their ability to implement the standards. In this respect, the Committee is accountable to the Commission. Once the Commission has made its judgment, the standards must necessarily be presented to the Board of Directors as representatives of the association for its judgment as to their readiness to be presented to the member colleges for adoption. Finally, the member colleges must vote to approve or disapprove the proposed standards. Of course, throughout the development process, the Committee seeks input and feedback from many sources including the member schools, the public, students, educational consultants, and external educational agencies. This fall, AABC will hold regional hearings to enable representatives of member colleges and the public to comment on the proposals as they will exist by that time. The dates and locations of the hearings will be announced well in advance of the meetings. The Committee's ultimate goal is to have the proposals ready for a vote at the February 2004 Annual Meeting. ❖

Please include AABC on your institution's mailing list. We would love to receive a copy of your newsletter or key mailings. Please send to:

Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges

5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Suite 26

Orlando, FL 32822-1781

Thank You!

(Cont'd Next Column) ⇨

(Cont'd Next Column) ⇨

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Orlando, Florida
Permit # 2697



5575 S. Semoran Blvd., Suite 26
Orlando, Florida 32822-1781

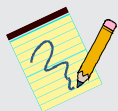
Phone: 407.207.0808 • Fax: 407.207.0840
E-mail: exdir@aabc.org
URL: www.aabc.org

A publication of The Accrediting Association of Bible Colleges, the leader in Advancing and Assuring Quality Biblical Higher Education throughout North America

Dr. Larry J. McKinney
Executive Director

Dr. Randall E. Bell
Associate Director

Ms. E. Carol Dibble
Editor, Design & Layout - AABC Newsletter



Make a Note of It!

Upcoming Events

- **Review of Standards Committee**
April 21-23, 2003
AABC Office - Orlando, Florida
- **Association of Canadian Bible Colleges Conference (ACBC)**
May 22-24, 2003
Briercrest Bible College (SK)-Canada
- **NAICU Secretariat**
June 6, 2003
Washington, DC
- **Leadership Development Conference for Newer AABC Presidents**
October 24-26, 2003
Hampton Inn-Orlando, FL

Mark Your Calendar
AABC Annual Meeting

See you at next year's Annual Meeting in ...

ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Orlando Airport Marriott

February 19-21, 2004

Plenary Speakers:

- Dr. Clive Calver - World Relief
- Dr. Crawford Loritts, Jr. - Campus Crusade for Christ
- Dr. David Warren - NAICU