

# Tyndale Seminary's FIRST TEAM

Faithful Intercessors Regularly Supporting Tyndale – October, 2009



## Great Progress Towards Dutch Accreditation

We are delighted to share the good news that the visit from the accreditation panel on September 24 went very well. The panel was quite positive about every aspect of the seminary and will recommend to the Dutch agency which accredits academic programs in the Netherlands, the Netherlands Flemish Accrediting Organization (NVAO), that our Master of Evangelical Theology program be accredited. This is a major step forward toward the ultimate goal of accreditation by the NVAO.

The panel now has eight weeks to draft a report on their findings and conclusions, which will then be sent to the NVAO along with our self-study. The NVAO has up to eight months to act on the panel's positive recommendation. So, we expect a final decision to be made, as we have written before, by the end of next summer at the latest. Every indication is that the NVAO will agree with the panel's recommendation.

As you can imagine, all here are delighted with these developments after the incredible amount of time, energy, and resources invested throughout this whole process. We rejoice in and are grateful to the Lord for this very positive step forward.

We'll keep you informed of how things progress between now and summer, 2010. Please continue to pray for the Lord's blessing on these efforts as we believe accreditation from the NVAO, coupled with the accreditation we already have for our masters programs through the European Evangelical Accrediting Agency, would be an ideal combination for the school.

## The International Nature of Tyndale

The international, intercultural nature of Tyndale is one of the things which makes the seminary a special place at which to study and to minister and one of the things noted by the accreditation panel. The pictures below give good representation of our student body. Your continued prayers for our students are much appreciated. Pray particularly for strength for them as the study load is quite demanding.



Left to right: Florenc Mene – Albania, Christian Essandoh – Ghana (student body president), Danijela Kastavarac – Serbia, Cin Lian Mang – Myanmar, Dan Defever – USA, (student body vice-president), Hsiang Ling Wee - Singapore

One of our goals is to have a faculty which better reflects the international make-up of our student body. We have been working on this and have a candidate from Nigeria who will interview for the Old Testament spot in October. Pray for the Lord's leading for us and for him as we interact.

Regarding new faculty, we are pleased that Dr. John Kim and his wife, Sue, have joined us. As noted in previous First Teams, Dr. Kim brings a wealth of ministry experience to



Tyndale as a former church planter, pastor, professor at Calvin Seminary (Grand Rapids, Michigan), and seminary president in South Korea. He has written extensively on issues related to missions and church growth. Please continue to pray for the Kims as they adjust to life & ministry in Holland.

Also related to our faculty, we rejoice with Tom Marinello over the successful completion of his PhD in early September. Dr. Marinello and his wife, Patti, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary two days after Tom received his doctorate. So, September was a great month for the Marinellos.



## Please Help us Meet a \$200,000 Matching Challenge

Since our August First Team, in which our pressing financial needs were presented, one of Tyndale's board members made a very generous offer to match gifts given between September 1 and December 31 up to a maximum of \$200,000 (€138,000). So, we have the potential of \$400,000 (€275,000) of gift income between now and the end of the year. (See the information below for giving instructions.)

The person making this offer would like the gifts to be given in honor of Dr. Art Johnston, Tyndale's president from the start of the school in 1985 until June, 2000. As we wrote this Spring, the Lord called Dr. Johnston home on February 25, 2009.

Members of Tyndale's board and staff at the seminary are making calls to Tyndale's friends to thank them for their partnership and to let them know about this matching challenge. Perhaps you have received a call already. If not, you may in days ahead.

Pray that the Lord will use this effort, and others, to provide all that is needed to meet the financial challenges we are facing. Be assured of our deep gratitude for any help you can give & know that "your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God." 2 Corinthians 9:11b

Until we write again, pray for us as we seek to be faithful to our mission to "stand as a witness for Christ in multi-cultural Europe equipping leaders to reach Europe and the world with the gospel."

Grace and peace in Christ,

Dr. Jeff Seume, President



All gifts to Tyndale are tax deductible. Please send your gifts to: Tyndale Theological Seminary, P.O. Box 242, Wheaton, IL 60187 USA, or to: Stichting Tyndale, Egelantierstraat 1, 1171 JM Badhoevedorp, NL. Bank transfers can be made to our Dutch bank account: Rabobank #3731.43.729; IBAN# NL 97 RABO 0373143729  
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