

MISSION

"To promote quality evangelical theological education in Africa by providing supporting services, facilitating academic recognition, and fostering continental and inter-continental cooperation."

VISION

"Empowered African theological institutions offering quality Programmes"

MOTTO

"Serving theological education in Africa for excellence and renewal"

ACTEA eNEWS

VOLUME 7 / JANUARY-APRIL, 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Receive warm greetings from ACTEA!!

This edition of the Newsletter shows you our valued reader how 2016 started off on a high note for ACTEA. During the successful ICETE meeting held in Antalya, Turkey, in November, 2015, in which I and our Executive Administrative Assistant Florence Kagwamba attended, we met several heads of theological institutions from Africa. It was during these meetings and interactions that 5 Nigerian institutions invited ACTEA to visit them for assessment in early- to mid-January 2016.

We left Nairobi on 10th January 2016 for Lagos, Nigeria. It is worth mentioning here that Nigeria as a country holds such a special place for both ACTEA and its parent organization, Association of Evangelicals in Africa (AEA) because they are home to Dr Byang Kato, Dr Tokunboh Adeyemo, and Rev. Dr. Daniel Bitrus who served as General Secretaries of AEA. While Dr Byang Kato founded ACTEA in 1976, Dr Adeyemo who followed him was the long-serving General Secretary of AEA from 1977 to 2001 and Bitrus from 2003 to 2005.

Dr. Byang H. Kato was the first African General Secretary of AEA and an outspoken critic of the dangers of syncretism and universalism in the African Church. It was during his tenure that AEA set up a fund under its Theological and Christian Education Commission to promote quality theological training for evangelical Africans within the African continent. It is in this spirit that he initiated the founding of ACTEA in 1976 and since then ACTEA continues to passionately establish and implement standards for quality theological education throughout the continent.

Tokunboh Adeyemo faithfully served the Lord Jesus Christ as the General Secretary of the Association of Evangelicals in Africa (AEA) from 1977 to 2001. He oversaw the historic and monumental volume *African Bible Commentary*, a commentary with contributions from 70 African scholars.

This edition of the Newsletter also provides you information on visits by ACTEA staff and accreditation members to institutions in Nigeria, Kenya, Liberia, and Sierra Leone. We also share report of GATE workshop, prayer requests of our member institutions, and upcoming events for your prayer partnership.

And finally, in this Newsletter, we list and congratulate the institutions in Kenya and Nigeria who following recent assessment visitations have been awarded ACTEA Affiliate accreditation.

Wishing you and enjoyable reading of this edition of ACTEA Newsletter!

Rev Dr Emmanuel Chemengich

1. NIGERIAN SCHOOL VISITATION

In January, 2016, we visited the following 9 Institutions: 6 new institutions seeking ACTEA accreditation and 3 current ACTEA member institutions. We praise the Lord that this was such a successful trip for ACTEA organization and we believe for hosting institutions as well. We also register our deep appreciation to each of these institutions for their warm hospitality and cooperation extended to ACTEA staff during these visits!

Baptist Theological College (BCT), Lagos.



The first institution that we visited in Nigeria on 10th of January was Baptist Theological College which started in 1987 as a constituent campus of Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary (NBTS), Ogbomoso- the Largest ACTEA Institution. They applied for ACTEA Affiliate status end of 2015.

LIFE Theological Seminary (LTS), Ikorodu.



LIFE Theological Seminary in, Ikorodu. Its Provost, Dr Cletus Orgu, is a member of ACTEA Executive Committee. LTS moved into the Candidacy Status last year and are now working on putting together their Self-Evaluation Report. ACTEA staff walked them through the process detailing what they need to do to start and finish successfully this process.

Melchisedec Graduate Bible Academy (MELBAC), Lagos.



The second new institution to be visited was Melchisedec Graduate Bible Academy which was founded on October 15, 1995 and located in Lagos, Nigeria. They had applied for the Affiliate Status. In the first picture, ACTEA staff with Dr John Daniel, MELBAC's Principal, and the second picture is ACTEA Executive Director speaking to the Principal and staff of MELBAC.

Jos ECWA Theological Seminary (JETS), Jos



JETS Library building

The Jos ECWA Theological Seminary (JETS) was founded by the Evangelical Church Winning All (ECWA) in 1980 and is located in Jos, Nigeria. They had applied for Affiliate Status.

JETS has a rich historical connection with ACTEA. In the first place, its library is named after the founder of ACTEA, Dr Byang Kato. And JETS also became the home of ACTEA's office for several years in 1980s.



ACTEA Staff at main gate

ACTEA Staff and JETS' Student representative body

Theological College of Northern Nigeria (TCNN), Jos.



ACTEA Staff with TCNN staff and the former Association of Evangelicals in Africa General Secretary, Rev. Dr. Daniel Bitrus (second from left)!

Executive Director assessing the Library.



The Theological College of Northern Nigeria began in February 1959. The College is situated about 15 kms from Jos, the capital of Plateau State. In the photo above are, ACTEA staff with TCNN Principal, Prof. Tersur Aben (centre) and management staff!

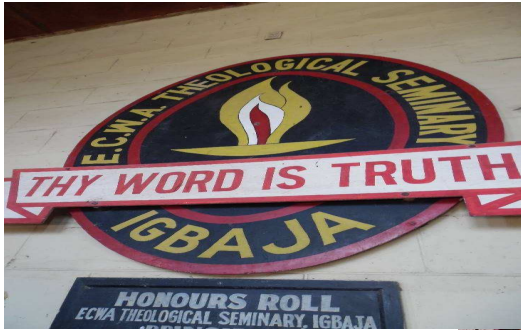


United Missionary Church of Africa Theological College (UMCATC), Ilorin.



This is one of our member institutions that we visited to check on how they were doing. They were delighted to have a visit from ACTEA staff and settle some in-house matters. In the photo is UMCATC Principal, Dr. Peter Awojobi

ECWA Theological Seminary, Igbaja (ETSI).



The ECWA Theological Seminary, Igbaja (ETSI) was established in 1941 by Rev. Dr. William G. Crouch, an American Missionary who came to Nigeria through the Sudan Interior Mission (SIM), now Society for International Ministry, a non-denominational faith mission working in Nigeria since 1893. It was then

known as SIM Bible College, Igbaja. This was the Seminary that Dr. Byang Kato first graduated from.



Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary (NBTS), Ogbomosho.

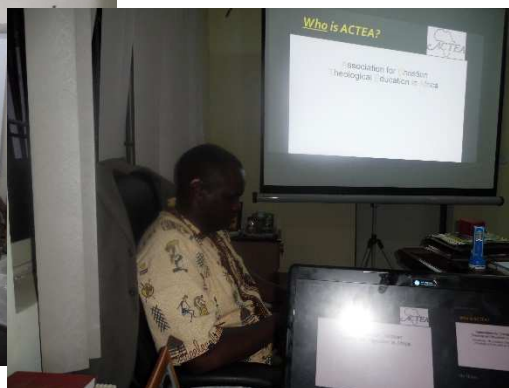
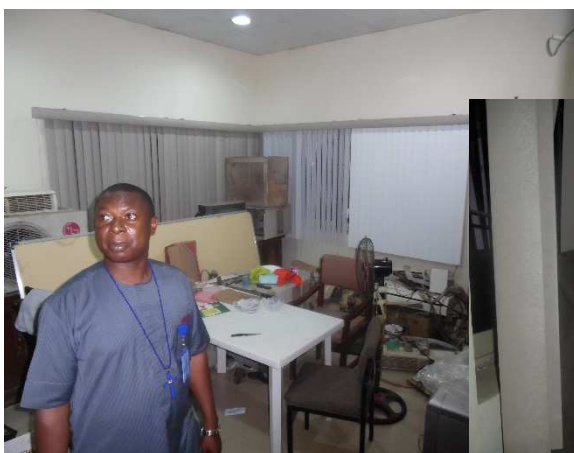
On Photo: ACTEA staff with NBTS President, who is also the vice Chairman of ACTEA, Dr. Emiola Nihnlola (centre).

NBTS is our biggest member school with regard to size of students and study programmes offered. Also in the photo are, the Methodist Church of Nigeria (Methodist Theological Institute, Sagamu) members whom we met at NBTS. They had come to seek partnership with NBTS in order to improve

their institution. After meeting with us and hearing of ACTEA services to institutions, they invited us to assess their institution for consideration toward ACTEA Accreditation.

Methodist Theological Institute (MTI), Sagamu, Lagos.

This was the last institution that we visited in Nigeria. ACTEA Staff did an assessment late evening into the night on their way to Lagos airport from Ogbomosho. Because of their interest, we included them into our plans. We also gave power-point presentation to its management staff on vital information on ACTEA services and its benefits for MTI.





2. GATE WORKSHOP

The GATE (Global Associates for Transformational Education) was held at the Resurrection Gardens in Karen, Nairobi, on 11th-14th April 2016, for the faculty of two institutions. However, only one participated, that is, Africa International University (AIU) and they numbered 20 faculty members. The meeting was facilitated by Dr Bob Ferris and Dr John Jusu. The event was also a training forum for 10 GATE workshop facilitators from Kenya and Ethiopian who will carry on these workshops to faculties of ACTEA member institutions in their respective countries.

3. INSTITUTIONAL VISITATION IN WESTERN KENYA

ACTEA Director, Emmanuel Chemengich, , Accreditation Officer, Mateso Akou, and Executive Administrative Assistant, Florence Kagwamba, , visited 4 institutions in Western Kenya from 14th to 19th March. The Team did assessment for Kapsabet Bible College following their application for Affiliate Status. The institution is sponsored by Africa Inland Church and located in Kapsabet in the green, tea-growing landscapes of Nandi County. The “Accreditation Committee” is currently reviewing its assessment report and then cast their vote before results are communicated to the institution within the next one month.

This Team also visited the following three ACTEA member institutions: Kima International School of Theology, Kima (KIST); Friends Theological College, Kaimosi (FTC), and Africa Theological Seminary, Kitale (ATS). We ask you to pray for KIST and FTC institutions as they undergo the comprehensive self-evaluation process toward producing Self-Evaluation Report in readiness for hosting the Visitation Teams next year. This Team finalized their visitation with tour of and participation in a colorful graduation ceremony of ATS. Our own Mateso Akou spoke at their graduation banquet on the eve of graduation day.

Find below the photos from various activities in Western Kenya visitation

Kima International School of Theology (KIST)



ACTEA members and KIST Management.

Walking the staff through the Self Evaluation Review process

Friends Theological College (FTC)



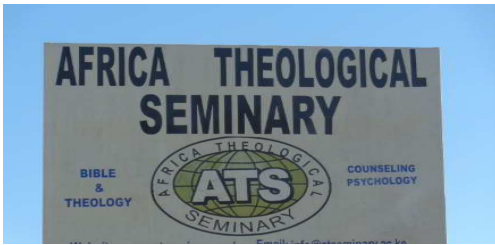
ACTEA Staff, FTC Principal(Left)and his staff catching up.

Kapsabet Bible College- KBC



ACTEA Executive director talking to the Institution management and staff

Africa Theological Seminary



ATS graduation Banquet.



ATS Graduation Procession



4. LIBERIAN BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY VISITATION (LBTS).

ACTEA Executive Director visited one of our member schools in Liberia, the Liberian Baptist Theological Seminary, in Monrovia city. The earlier planned visit to this institution had been postponed due to the Ebola crisis that affected this nation in the recent years. He had opportunity to pray with LBTS community for victory over the effects and challenges of Ebola and also prepared its leadership team for the self-evaluation process which they have began undertaking with great enthusiasm.

5. THE EVANGELICAL COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY (TECT)



TECT is one of our member institutions that is based in Freetown, Sierra Leone. It was opened on the 12th October 1964 as the Sierra Leone Bible College. It continued to operate under that name until 1999 when the Board of Governors changed the name to, The Evangelical College of Theology (TECT). The ACTEA accredited programs are the Bachelor of Theology and the Diploma of Theology. TECT had applied for re-accreditation



to renew their full accreditation status, which is done after every 10 years.

ACTEA's five-member Visitation Team (VT) to The Evangelical College of Theology (TECT) took place from 25th to 29th April, 2016. The Team Leader was Dr Rich Stuebing and VT member were, Dr Emmanuel Chemengich, Dr John Jusu, Dr Cletus Orgu, and Mrs Florence Kagwamba. The VT members endured hot weather of Freetown and completed successfully their one-week task for the re-accreditation of TECT.

6. CONGRATULATIONS — BCEA, BCT, ETSI, & MBTI FOR THE AWARD OF AFFILIATE STATUS!

We in ACTEA are delighted to report the good news that following successful assessment exercises and vote by ACTEA's Accreditation Committee, the following four (4) new institutions were awarded ACTEA's Affiliate Status accreditation between February and April, 2016;

- 1) **Bible College of East Africa (BCEA)** in Nairobi, Kenya for its *Diploma of Theology* and *Advanced Diploma in Theology*.
- 2) **Baptist College of Theology (BCT)** in Lagos, Nigeria, for its *Diploma in Theology*, *Diploma in Religious Education*, *Bachelor of Theology*, and *Bachelor of Religious Education* academic programmes.
- 3) **ECWA Theological Seminary, Igbaja (ETSI) in Igbaja, Nigeria** for the following academic programmes:
 - A. 3 Diploma Programmes: *Diploma in Theology*; *Diploma in Pastoral Studies*; and *Diploma in Christian Religious Studies*;

- B. 1 Bachelors Programme: *Bachelor of Arts (in 5 concentrations, namely, Theology; Christian Education; Pastoral Studies; Missions & Evangelism; and Christian Education);*
 - C. 1 Masters Programme: *1 Master of Arts (in 6 Concentrations, namely, Systematic Theology; Missions & Evangelism; Pastoral Studies; Old Testament; New Testament; and Christian Education);*
 - D. 1 Doctoral Programme: *Doctor of Ministry (in 3 Concentrations, namely, Pastoral Care & Counseling; Pulpit Ministry; and Church Administration).*
- 4) **Mauritian Bible Theological Institute (MBTI)** in Mauritius, for its *Certificate of Theology and Diploma of Theology.*

7. ANNUAL FEES AND REPORTS:

If your institution has not submitted reports and applicable fees for year 2014/2015 and 2015/16, please remember to do so as soon as possible. (Note: All ACTEA institutions should have received their annual notices by now!!). This is one way of keeping institutions accountable to the ACTEA Standards we have mutually



agreed to maintain. You can do this by, completing and sending your institution's Annual Report and Annual applicable Fees for 2015/2016, a requirement for ACTEA institutions, and ensure that you make this report a high priority and send it to: adm.ass@acteaweb.org, with a copy to: actea.africa@gmail.com and adm.ass.actea@gmail.com.

Further, if your institution has any pending annual reports ensure that you send this Report as soon as possible.

Finally, for the institutions with debts or arrears, kindly plan to clear it soon and communicate the same or your intended action plan to ACTEA office.

As you prepare to send your institutional payments, here are a few important guidelines to ensure successful payment transactions without problems:

First, it is important to notify ACTEA office by email when funds are sent because sometimes it can be difficult to tell the source of a fund wire transfer that appears on the bank account statement.

Secondly, payments by cheque or wire transfer, should be payable to, "ACTEA". But Bank deposits, or Wire transfers, should be made to the following ACTEA bank account details in Kenya:

The wire transfer details are:

Bank Name: CFC Stanbic Bank
 Account Name: AEA / ACTEA
 Account Number US\$ (Dollar): 0100003273557

Branch: Upper Hill Medical Centre
 Swift Code: SBICKENX

Cheques can be mailed to: ACTEA Executive Director; P.O. Box 49332-00100, Nairobi, Kenya.

If by delivery courier services use the following Physical address:

ACTEA Executive Director, AEA Building, Valley Road, Nairobi. Kenya. Tel.: (254) 020-272-2769/ 0721571549.

Contact Us

ACTEA

AEA Building, Valley Rd
 P.O Box 49332-00100
 Nairobi, Kenya

Tel: +254 020 2722769

Office Cell: +254-721 571 549/
 738 316 541

Email:

[adm.ass@acteaweb.org/](mailto:adm.ass@acteaweb.org)

adm.ass.actea@gmail.com or
actea.africa@gmail.com

Website: www.acteaweb.org

8. OUR INSTITUTIONS' PRAYER CONCERNS:

Thanksgiving: Thanksgiving for God's faithfulness to us and our institutions since the year started 2016.

Fundraising to purchase Office space for ACTEA

Pray for the ongoing fund-raising towards the purchase of one-floor of AEA's new office building. Kindly inform us of any partners that may be work with us toward achieving this goal for our own office space and to rent the rest for income needed to fund ACTEA operations.

Accreditation and Re-accreditation: Join us in praying for ACTEA institutions currently engaging in the process of getting their study programmes accredited or re-accredited. We pray for wisdom, renewal of strength and good health of the leadership involved in writing the Self Evaluation Reports (SER).

Financial Stability: Pray for financial stability of our theological institutions and ACTEA organization. Many institutions are also putting up physical development which need to be completed on time to support various programmes. May the Lord provide resources immeasurably for the continuity of the gospel and theological education in Africa.

Peace and stability: A good number of African countries are facing political instability. Let us all pray that the Lord grants Africa peace and an end to wars and conflicts. May we be instruments of peace in Africa, and let us continue to love each other as Christ has loved us and maintain peace with each other.



9. UPCOMING ACTEA EVENTS & DIRECTOR'S 2016 TRIPS

Note and pray for the success of the following upcoming meetings:

- **Post-doctoral Global Theological Initiative, GTI, workshop for Eastern Africa**, in partnership with White Horse Inn organization to be held at CORAT in Nairobi from 21st -23rd July, 2016. Participants are selected scholars from 9 Eastern African countries of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Somalia, Sudan, Eritrea, and Ethiopia.
- **Overseas Council Institute for Southern Africa**, which will be held in Johannesburg from 2nd to 5th August, 2016.
- **Overseas Council Institute for Eastern Africa** which will be held in Addis Ababa from 20th to 23rd Sept, 2016.
- **Visitation Team Events to:** 1) Mekane Yesus Seminary (MYS), Ethiopia, for re- accreditation, 26th - 30th September 2016; and 2) LIFE Theological Seminary, Nigeria, 28th November to 2nd December, 2016.



Reserve Dates for ACTEA Council/40th Anniversary Celebrations:

This historic event will take place from 17th to 20th November, 2016. We shall among other things, launch ACTEA history booklet, launch Five-Year Strategic Plan, launch ACTEA office and income-generating project, and hold ACTEA Council meetings, and all-African Theological Consultation in the context of Thanksgiving service with our key partners and parent organization AEA which is celebrating 50th anniversary since its inception in 1966.



Library News



10. ACTEA LIBRARIANS eNEWS

If you have library news or questions, please feel free to contact David Fitz-Patrick at dfitz@bisa.org.za so that he can include them or help where possible via our ACTEA Librarians eNews.

“Those blessings are the sweetest that are won with prayers
and won with thanks” - *Thomas Goodwin*
