India Chapter Offers a Model for Networking

Meeting at Lady Doak College in Madurai in February, twenty-four people representing fourteen members of CUAC’s India Chapter discussed subjects ranging from “spirituality and Christian leadership” to India's proposed New Education Policy for colleges and universities. But one particularly compelling theme emerged: “We should have networking among ourselves,” said Dr. Mercy Pushpatala. “So we shared our strong areas with each other, and talked about what we can help each other with.”

Dr. Pushpalatha, who is Principal and Secretary of Lady Doak College, explained that a major challenge is that India is so vast. One solution might be for the chapter to operate in two branches, one northern and one southern, even though the majority of the forty-nine CUAC institutions are in the more heavily Christianized south.

Meanwhile, members of the chapter are visiting many of its smaller colleges to encourage their heads and chaplains to attend CUAC’s 2017 Triennial, an international conference on the theme of Identity and Diversity: Citizenship, Vocation, and the Common Good, which will take place January 4-10 at Madras Christian College in Chennai. (For details, see pp. 10-11.) The 2014 Triennial in Seoul attracted 85 participants, and organizers hope the 2017 will be even bigger, given India’s rich array of historically Protestant colleges and universities. Led by Dr. Alexander

Continued on page 8
From the General Secretary’s Desk

It’s an interesting quandary: CUAC is a network of colleges and universities that exists for students, but organizational exigencies keep us from engaging them directly. Yet we still can ask, what happens when students from different CUAC schools get together? This year we have had two opportunities to discover some answers.

The vision for our first student gathering emerged from the Asia Chapter’s meeting at the Sewanee Triennial back in 2011. The Asia Chapter has members in Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the Philippines. For all of these schools, both English as a Second Language and Service Learning are important parts of the curriculum. So having a Service Learning Program at Trinity University of Asia, in Manila, this February seemed to fulfill many needs. Trinity has a long history of Service Learning in collaboration with CUAC, and its facility with English provided for ease of communication among students, staff, and local residents. Students from four schools in Japan, one in Korea, and two in the Philippines took part.

As Herb Donovan, one of the conveners, noted, “Immersing themselves in a six-day program gave the Japanese and Korean students a real awakening, as they participated in the lives of communities that while very poor, were also integrated, youthful, and dynamic. Again and again the students commented how surprised they were working with kids whose lives were so challenging to find them seeming so happy, kind, and welcoming to outsiders.” This was an eye-opening experience the students carried back home.

The vision for our second student conference emerged at the Association of Episcopal Colleges (AEC) Chapter meeting at the Seoul Triennial in 2014. Its members are quite distinctive— including mainstream colleges and universities, but also two Historically Black Colleges and Universities and one Hispanic college in the U.S., and others in Liberia and Haiti -- plus Trinity University in the Philippines (which is in the AEC since it was founded by the Episcopal Church, but is now active in the Asia Chapter). They were joined by Brazil.

The theme of the weekend conference hosted last fall by Sewanee: The University of the South was Ethics & Social Media. Each student presented a paper. Many of the participants were not particularly aware of the other Episcopal schools until they arrived at the conference and started meeting fellow students, chaplains and mentors. Here the common thread was their experience with social media.

Two students reported how a few years ago on their campus the site YikYak led to “bad things happening” -- not just derisive comments, but also incidents, such as supplies being stolen from the Women’s Center. The result was a student body sundered by regressive actions. But the story didn’t end there. Finally, things got so bad that students were roused to start weighing in online, correcting false accusations, and becoming peer counselors to desperate souls seeking community. The effect of the change was that “the power to disagree anonymously gave us the power to do it in person.” The community the students at the conference formed by the end of forty eight hours was such that they might have been together for a semester.

While CUAC will never be a mass movement, we are about students. And as these two experiences suggest, when there is an opportunity for students to come together within our chapters, then sparks can fly. The Chennai Triennial this January will feature a corps of student ambassadors from the Indian Chapter and at least one student from the U.K. We always have to remember that they are the reason we exist.

The Revd Canon James G. Callaway, D.D.
CUAC General Secretary Canon Jamie Callaway was among the forty recipients of Archbishop of Canterbury Awards at Lambeth Palace in London on March 31 and was delighted to find that three other awardees had ties to CUAC. He is seen here in the Great Hall of the Palace’s Library with the Revd Pamela Cooper, who received the Alphege Award for Evangelism and Witness for her forty years as chaplain of Poole Gakuin University (Osaka, Japan), and with Evelyn Wroe, who served with her for thirty-four years. Dr. Eeva John, who received a Lanfranc Award for Education and Scholarship, has been assisting in the birth of a new Episcopal university in Juba, South Sudan. Also receiving a Lanfranc Award was the Revd David Vivian Day, former principal at St. John’s College, Durham, for establishing the Center for Christian Communication.

Canon Callaway received the St. Augustine’s Cross for Services to the Anglican Communion, in recognition of his thirty-year association while at Trinity Church, New York City, with Anglican Provinces in Africa. Highlights included establishing a computer network in South Africa supporting Archbishop Desmond Tutu’s anti-apartheid fight and the 2007 Walking to Emmaus Conference in Spain, which drew together some thirty African bishops and their Episcopal Church partners.
‘Stay Woke,’ Emilie Townes Tells Students at the Sewanee Conference

Theologian Emilie M. Townes lost no time in her talk before giving her student audience at Ethics & Social Media: A Conference of the Association of Episcopal Colleges some very practical advice for finding their way in our perilous new age of constant-connectedness:

“Take a twenty count – and then think some more before you click,” she said. “Particularly if you’re having strong feelings of any kind.”

Speaking to sixteen students from the United States, Brazil, and the Philippines, the Vanderbilt Divinity School dean reminded them that “posts are not private – they are public no matter how many safeguards we put up.” So “don’t be an ‘ist’ – a classist, racist, sexist, heterosexist, nationalist, ageist, or elitist – a condescending and arrogant jerk!” Instead, “be about making the world a better place.”

Townes is a pioneering scholar in womanist theology, a field which applies the insights of generations of African American women to the traditional questions of Christian theology. So she was quick to set out an ethical framework “predicated on the common good,” which she described as something that does not just happen, but “requires the cooperative efforts of some, often of many, people.”

The problems with social media, she said, “begin inside us rather than inside the devices we use. We must step back from tendencies to give our devices more power than they actually have, treating Twitter or iPhones, Facebook or Androids as scapegoats for the stuff that may be going on in us.” The question to ask is: “who are we, when we pick up our phone, enter that chat room...?”

At the same time, social media can serve the common good, empowering us “to critique prejudice, organize protests, disseminate information, help first responders in emergencies, simply stay in touch with folks. It’s important to remember the positives of social media and grow them large in our lives because the negatives can be, as all human activity can be, so destructive.”

Social media, she pointed out, “is our latest and most powerful tool to mobilize resources in times of need and serve as a catalyst to galvanize folks who may seem unrelated to each other but who can unite behind a common cause.” It spreads democracy “far better than the billions of dollars of aid or war in corners of the world very resistant to such change.”

To anchor this theologically, Townes turned to the ancient notion of hospitality, quoting feminist theologian Letty Russell that “hospitality is the practice of God’s welcome reaching across difference to participate in God’s actions bringing justice and healing to our world in crisis.”

Drawing on black activism, she cited the hashtag #staywoke.
Enjoying a break at the Association of Episcopal Colleges’s Ethics & Social Media Conference held at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, in April were (left to right) Dean Terry Papillon from Sewanee (conference host), Chaplain Nita Byrd from St. Augustine’s University, Associate Dean Nicholas Lewis from Yale Divinity School, and Chaplain Kevin Dean from Bard College.

“Being ‘woke’ means being aware, knowing what’s going on in the community. Like most slang, the meaning of ‘woke’ changes depending on who’s saying it and to whom. Among black people, talking about Ferguson, ‘stay woke’ might mean something like ‘stay conscious of the apparatus of white supremacy, don’t automatically accept the official explanations for police violence. Keep safe’.”

Townes, an ordained American Baptist clergywoman as well as a Chicago Ph.D. who has taught at Yale and Union Theological, ended by reminding the students of the Episcopal Church’s Five Marks of Mission:

To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom;
To teach, baptize, and nurture new believers;
To respond to human need by loving service;
To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind, and to pursue peace and reconciliation;
To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the Earth.
Three Hearst Scholarships Awarded

Three graduating seniors headed to Episcopal colleges this fall have been awarded $10,000 William Randolph Hearst Scholarships for 2016-17. To qualify, applicants must be outstanding students in a high school belonging to the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES), with well attested experience in Service Learning and other forms of community service.

Moreover, they must be planning to attend one of the eight Episcopal colleges and universities in the United States and Haiti.

Two of the students attend St. Catherine’s School in Richmond, Virginia, and have been accepted by Sewanee: The University of the South, in Tennessee.

Eliza Hollerith has volunteered in such programs as Saturday Academy, the St. James’s Children’s Center, Windsor Nursing Home, City Saints, Caritas, and FeedMore. “Since the time I could read I have sung in the choir at my church [St. James’s in Richmond],” she writes. “It has played a major role in who I am today. I have also been a lay reader at my church since eighth grade.” She was a national finalist in the Sally Ride Institute Science Competition, which encourages young women to pursue the sciences.

Sam Burke, as you may have guessed, is heading to Kenyon College this fall. A senior at St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School in Alexandria, Virginia, he was one of three successful applicants in this year’s William Randolph Hearst Scholarship competition, which recognizes high academic achievement and meaningful experience in community service.
 Ellie McLean, who is interested in the health care field, has volunteered on most weekends at St. Mary’s Hospital, discharging patients, working at the front desk, and escorting visitors. As an intern at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, she raised money for RAMPS (Ramp Access Made Possible by Students), an effort she has replicated at school. The experience, she writes, “fostered community mindfulness and the ability to step out of our own comfort zones.” She also heads the Altar Guild at her church, St. Jude’s Anglican, in Richmond.

The third scholar is Sam Burke, who attends St. Stephen’s and St. Agnes School in Alexandria, Virginia, and is headed to Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. He has been on mission trips with his church, St. Paul’s in Alexandria, in which he worked in an inner-city shelter in Boston, gleaned fields in southern Virginia, and taught in Vacation Bible School on a Navajo reservation in Arizona.

Ellie McLean (above) is a senior at St. Catherine’s School in Richmond, Virginia, and will attend Sewanee: The University of the South this fall.

Sam writes: “As a lifelong Episcopalian, I appreciate its role in my life. Through the church I have been challenged to think critically...I have found that sharing with others, I get so much back in return. Through service learning, I have discovered a passion for social justice, and I look forward to exploring this next year in college.”

Details of the 2017-18 Hearst national competition will be found on the CUAC website, www.cuac.org. Application deadline is February 15, 2017, for students entering a college belonging to the Association of Episcopal Colleges in fall 2017.

Eliza Hollerith (right) is also a Sewanee-bound senior at St. Catherine’s School in Richmond. She was a finalist as well in the Sally Ride Institute Science Competition, for young women interested in scientific careers.
Forty-eight students from Japan, Korea, and the Philippines, representing six CUAC colleges and universities, met for two weeks in February for CUAC’s 2016 International Service Learning Program, held at Trinity University of Asia, Quezon City, Philippines. They improved their facility with their common language (English), learned about Filipino culture and economic conditions, and had real-life experience working with low-income children. The highly successful program will be repeated in 2017.

India Chapter Meets at Lady Doak College, Madurai
(continued from the front page)

Jesudasan, Principal and Secretary of Madras Christian, they will hold regional meetings in Karnataka, Kerala, and Kolkata “to mobilize the member institutions.”

Among the strengths cited as areas of potential collaboration are solar energy use, “green campus” initiatives, helping first-generation students adjust to college, legal aid in villages, and Service Learning. Among strategies proposed are short-term faculty exchanges, collaborative research, webinars and other online projects, and Summer Leadership Training Programs, such as the one hosted in May by Union Christian College in Aluva (Kerala).

Other important topics covered were the legal challenges faced by Christian minority colleges in India and preparing globally competent students.
Dr. Cleveland Sellers has retired as president of Vorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina.

The Revd Dr. Suka Joshua, chaplain at Lady Doak College in Madurai, received a Master’s in Religion from Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D. C., in May.

The Anglican University in Zimbabwe has joined CUAC. Its U.S. Comissary is Andrew Bvumbe of Washington, D.C.

The Very Revd Canon Dr. Gregory C. Jenks has become Dean of St. George’s College Jerusalem (Israel/Palestine).

The Revd Ian Dellinger has left the chaplaincy of the University of Chester (UK) to become Rector of St. Stephen’s Church, San Luis Obispo, California.

Dr. George Cooper has become Vice Chancellor and President of the University of King’s College, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Dr. Margaret Masson is the new Principal at St Chad’s College, Durham (UK).

Dr. John Varghese is the new President of St. Stephen’s College, Delhi.
CUAC’s 2017 Triennial takes place in January in the South Indian city of Chennai (formerly Madras), the capital of Tamil Nadu. *Lonely Planet* named it in 2015 “one of the top ten cities in the world.”

Historic Madras Christian College is our host, at its beautifully landscaped 363-acre campus, with accommodation at Chennai’s Gateway Hotel and the College’s Conference Center.

**On-line registration starts in mid-June at www.cuac.org.**

**CONFERENCE FEES: US$950 (“early bird” discount) or US$1,050**

**INDIA CHAPTER FEES: US$250/$350**

The fee includes on-site meals, accommodation, airport transport, and local site visits as well as five days of intensive programs. Registration is open to any CUAC member institution whose dues have been paid.

Details of how to apply for a Conference Visa will be part of the registration website.
Identity and Diversity: Citizenship, Vocation and the Common Good

Spend a week in beautiful South India with educators from across the Anglican world, listening, discussing, looking, praying, as we explore our 2017 theme.

How do we form colleges and universities that cultivate intelligent citizens, not just consumers? That help young people discern their vocation in life, not just chase a job? That serve the Common Good, not just the interests of the few?

Such questions go the heart of who we are as Anglican educators. Helping us to seek the answers will be these five internationally known keynoters:

Gavin D’Costa, a theologian at Bristol University (UK) specializing in inter-faith relations and theology “in the public square”

Monodeep Daniel, Chaplain and Dean of St. Stephen’s College and head of the Delhi Brotherhood, a leading social welfare agency

Martyn Percy, Dean of Christ Church, Oxford (UK), a widely published theologian interested in how faith-based education works

Christel Devadawson, Head of the English faculty at the University of Delhi and a specialist in inter-cultural relations

Jamie Coates, a social media specialist from the Society of St. John the Evangelist (Cambridge, Massachusetts USA)

CUAC’S CHAPLAINS’ POST-CONFERENCE MEETS ON JANUARY 10-12
Reflecting on the accomplishments of the past two years, the Revd Canon Jamie Callaway sent a progress report on behalf of CUAC to the Standing Committee of the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC), meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, in April.

He highlighted two recent developments: the inaugural issue in 2015 of *Occasional Papers on Faith in Higher Education* (in collaboration with Whitelands College, Roehampton University, London) and #AdventWord 2015 – *A Global Advent Calendar* (a joint effort with the Brothers of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist in Cambridge, Massachusetts).

The new journal was the brainchild of Whitelands’s head, the Revd Dr. Mark Garner, who had long seen the need for a theological journal dedicated to the place of faith in higher education – and one that had a global focus. The editors are seeking contributions from throughout the CUAC network; they should be sent to Dr. Garner at the college.

“Because colleges and universities in Asia face the greatest challenges of pluralism (with Christian students a minority at best),” wrote Canon Callaway, “they have the deepest experiences of ‘singing the Lord’s song in a strange land.’ We need to hear particularly from them, among everyone else, in order to understand the global trends we are experiencing.”

Now in its second year, AdventWord is an international experiment in applying popular social media to the age-old devotional practices of Advent. Participants are given a word to contemplate each day and are asked to post an image or text inspired by that word via FaceBook, Twitter, or Instagram. The project enables CUAC chaplains to form teams of evangelists and monitors, making this a global conversation.

In welcoming the Most Revd Dr. Josiah Fearon to his first ACC meeting as General Secretary of the Anglican Communion, Canon Callaway wrote about emerging Anglican colleges and universities. “The greatest growth is in Africa, with new starts in Burundi, Zimbabwe, and Kenya along with existing schools in Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and – oldest of all – Cuttington University in Liberia.

“As Josiah begins his ministry at St. Andrew’s House, he brings special gifts of understanding how these African provinces and dioceses are reaching out to their constituencies within Anglican colleges.”