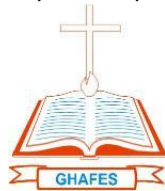


REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY TO THE AGM ON 20TH DECEMBER 2009

GHANA FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL STUDENTS (GHAFES)



Mr. Chairman and members of the Executive Council, SNEC Chairman and members, Honorary External Auditor, Distinguished Associates, Staff and Students, Fellow Brothers and Sisters, it is a great pleasure for me to put on record that forty three years ago, at a Christmas conference at Aburi Presbyterian Women's Training College, 3 Evangelical Christian Fellowships came together to constitute GHAFES, then called Ghana Inter University Christian Fellowship (GIUCF). Their vision was to spearhead a vibrant evangelical Christian witness on all tertiary campuses which will bear effective witness to our Lord Jesus Christ. It is on record that Lindsay Brown-General Secretary used to say and it is still true "Student ministry is fragile. Will you pray for us?"

Today GHAFES is found in 33 campuses from 21 institutions. These 21 institutions are made up of 7 public universities, 7 private universities, 6 polytechnics, 1 theological institution. *"The campus has more influence of the direction, morality, and overall fabric of Society than any institution on earth. Will the campuses be a starting point in a spiritual awakening that will shake the earth? The answer is a resounding YES!" Rice Brooks.* Today, we have many leading Christian professionals and clergymen across the nations who trace their formative Christian years to GHAFES. So we have every cause to praise God for what He has done so far with this ministry.

Mr. Chairman, I will present my report covering 2007/08/09 along the lines of IFES' 6 priority areas, namely:

1. Evangelism and Mission
2. Global Partnership
3. Leadership Development and *Formacion*
4. Governance and Staff
5. Integrated Approach to Ministry
6. Fund Development and Associates
7. Anniversary Celebration

Evangelism and Mission

Our campus fellowships continue to share the gospel with their fellow students and people beyond the campuses. Most campuses have evangelism subgroups that specialize in sharing their faith and follow-up on a weekly basis. They also have ministries that share the gospel to people outside the campuses: to hospitals, prisons, senior secondary schools, depending on

which is closest to them. The major campuses organize yearly crusades. Most often and for once, they are able to mobilize the multiple denominational groups on the campuses for these ventures.

On the national level, this has been our Mission activities:

SICE (2007)

1. Communities Visited - 9
2. Souls Won - 916

SICE (2008)

- Staff : 8 Ghanaians and 3 Americans =11
- Students : 70 Ghanaians and 12 Americans = 82
- Medical outreach: 23
- Communities :14
- Souls Won: 781 in Dambai 2600

SICE (2009)

1. Students – 43-Nkwanta /29 Dambai 19- Enchi 19 – Walewale
2. Medical outreach 26/10
3. Communities - 24 8 5
4. Souls Won - 1,052

Testimonies

- *A woman who had been bleeding for five years from a slap healed with all the bleeding ceasing after she had been prayed for.*
- *A woman who could not carry even a bucket of water carried 5 basins of water the following day after she had been prayed for and received healing.*
- *A man who had not been able to have a comfortable night sleep for some time because of spiritual attacks testified and said after he had been prayed the previous day, "I slept like a fool".*
- *A young man in one of the communities who had been a Muslim all that while approached the GHAFES missionaries and gave his life to Christ, and just afterwards, spoke to three different people about her new found faith and led them all to Christ.*
- *Community Prayer Teams, Bible Clubs, Good News clubs and Local Council of Churches were pioneered vigorously in these communities.*

SMAC 2008

After the first Mission conference in 2004, we experienced another mission's conference exactly a year ago-19th-23rd Decemeber, 2008. It was a resounding success. 360 students registered though 100 more were non residential participants. It was under the theme "**Go into the entire World**" and held at the Central Cafeteria of the University of Ghana. Dr. Wilson Awasu, Rev. JFK Mensah, Gottfried Osei Mensah and Femi Adeleye were among the speakers.8 indigenous mission agencies mounted stands and shared with students what they were involved in. There were 8 plenary sessions and 20 seminars. 12 associates were invited as chairpersons to enhance interaction between them and students. Students were

stimulated by the information and the challenge from the scriptures. Many left the conference with a paradigm shift as far as cross cultural mission is concern.

EVANGELISM CONFERENCE 2007

In 2007, Rev. J.F.K. Mensah challenged our students at an evangelism conference of themed "Let Students see and hear Jesus" Matthew 5:13-14. It was held at Volta Hall of the University of Ghana. 250 registered residents and 50 non residential participants. This happened from the 27th -31st December, 2007.

At this conference there was also an innovative session built into the conference called the reflection and journaling bit where 20 minutes break was provided at the end of each main address session for participants to pause and reflect on what has been heard and also journal their thoughts in the conference note books. A further innovative novelty into GHAFES conferences is the mentoring group session which began that year, where a cross-section of GHAFES associates were invited to interact with students in small groups as they shared their life and answer questions from student participants. Thus has been the toast of both the students and Associates over the few years. These Associates, we are using to help shape the lives of the next generation and also pass on a legacy. It is not just about students being involved in activities. "Spend and be spent" Jesus spent time with them.

Stories

1. *I have attended several conferences but this very conference has been of a great life-changing experience. There has been a greater touch and a transformation my life. I feel convicted by the spirit and cannot keep it than to spread it. God bless GHAFES. Long Live GHAFES. I recommend that more of publicity should be made even to the media.*

Victoria Imoro - UDS Navrongo Campus

2. *This conference has been a blessing unto me. It has cleared every doubt I had about the call for the work of God. It has prepared me for action and softened my heart towards the lost. I believe very strongly that almost all present have really been impacted. Also, I believe that it's the prayer that has been invested into the conference. It has planted seeds in us and will germinate to fruition. Amen. It's the best conference I have ever been involved in. Time was respected and we all have been trained to respect time, I believe.*

Vincentia Gladjah - Ho Polytechnic

Leadership Development and *Formacion*

Mr. Chairman, the word *formacion* is a Spanish word meaning training but which has a far richer meaning than its English translation. *Formacion* connotes the shaping of the total person. The IFES family believes this word describes what we seek to achieve in disciple-making, hence the choice of that word. Leadership development and *formacion* is one major characteristic of our ministry. We have ensured that staffs organize leadership training programs for the leaders of each fellowship annually. We also give them room to practice leadership on-the-job. Our fellowship programs consist of doctrine, expository preaching and training in areas of Bible usage, and prayer and other motivational preaching. We have encouraged this over the years in order to produce students who are rooted in scripture. Staffs have been visiting the campuses to give support through preaching, counseling, mentoring, and ensuring that the vision and mission is maintained.

Our annual conference dubbed Issacharism conference focused on the theme: "Salt of Our Generation". The main speaker was the Femi Adeleye, the IFES Associate General Secretary for Collaboration and Partnership. The central focus of the conference was to encourage participants to be involved in social action and to be socially responsible with conviction coming from what the Bible says about our environment, the poor, corruption and wealth creation. We termed it the Christian Response Series. 31 Seminars also run in the conference. We believe we should take the front row in dealing with these issues because God is concerned about them. About 350 registered students took part in this conference.

We also organized leadership training for leaders and potential leaders of our campus fellowships. The import of the training program focuses on the character of the person, understanding the mission and vision of GHAFES, developing leadership skills and addressing current felt needs. For the years under review, NLTS came off as scheduled. In 2007, it took place from 15th -19th August, at Trinity Theological Seminary, Legon. It was under the **THEME: Leading with Integrity II**, with the main expositor being Rev. Martin Obeng. 200 leaders were represented. As a follow of this critical topic in 2007, NLTS 2008 was organized under the theme: **leading with Competence and Integrity**. From **Mon. 16th – Fri. 20th June**, the main speaker, **Ms Joyce Aryee took students through a very insightful and very enriching exposition. About 150 leaders from the 33 fellowships were in attendance. This took place at Volta Hall, University of Ghana, legon.** Both seminars provided Biblical Knowledge on current issues, leadership skills development and a discussion forum.

We replicate these at zonal and campus levels to let it reach the grassroots. In addition we run Zonal rallies to give opportunities for students who are unable to attend National Conferences to reconnect with their colleagues at the Zone. These opportunities become life long. One of the privileges this affords is to have lawyer friends, pharmacy brethren, teachers, engineers and what have you. Life becomes a lot easier when you are networked in this way. While here I admonish you to connect and be connected.

Stories 2009

"I must really take up the cross and deny myself of the things that must be worked on"

"Taking charge of the atmosphere wherever I go and being chaste for life"

Sebastian of UEW said "I have decided that in relating with the opposite sex, I wouldn't do anything like touching parts of their bodies, kissing and any other thing that has the propensity of changing the relationship to an amorous one"

"We should be going to our near by J.H.S and S.H.S and speak to them about the way the devil is using them through songs, programs on the Television and how to overcome them"

"I have decided to stop listening to worldly music because it was a problem to me and have decided to change my wardrobe and obey God's word by spreading the gospel" UEW South campus student who prefers to be anonymous.

2008

Sena Nani from UMaT says *"It is no different from GHAFES major conferences which in the first place puts me on track, and the Associates challenge me a lot, I just feel happy at the prospect of being like them (I mean remaining in the faith for this long) .Secondly, I get to know I am not the only one facing the challenges I am going through and that there are other believers going through the same problem.*

The patronization should be improved upon, since most of us did not know it was that inspiring. And from the organization, I have got to know GHAFES need money."

Global Partnership

We continue to foster partnership with other ministries internationally. We have had partnership with the Global Project Team of IVCF in Students-In-Church-Evangelism (SICE) for the past two years running. A number of these student partners have ended up contributing to our ministry financially. We have close links with Nigeria Fellowship of Evangelical Students (NIFES) with whom we continue to share best practices. Staff have spoken at seminars at Mission Conferences in Nigeria. They send delegates to our conferences. Recently we received friends from Burkina who wanted us to start collaboration. The Former GS was the Bible Expositor at a SLEFES Conference. Soon a Council member will be representing us at URBANA-a mission Conference of IVCF: our sister movement in the US. The IFES Associates General Secretary for Partnership and Collaboration is now domiciled in Ghana. His office is in Ghana. We also hosted an IFES Headquarters team in Ghana. Our former Associate Regional has taken over as Regional secretary for IFES/EPISA. God willing the Former General Secretary for GHAFES will assume that position in May next year.

Under the auspices of the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES), staff has had the opportunity to study and share fellowship with other staff in the IFES family. The GS benefitted from an MA course, which the former GS is benefitting from now. Paul Kalevor took an MA course under a similar scholarship from IFES. We continue to receive support from IFES in terms of staff development.

PARTNERSHIP WITH CAREFORCE INTERNATIONAL

Since the year 2002, GHAFES has sponsored a student for a year's missionary work with Careforce International. It is a Christian charity group based in the United Kingdom with roots in UCCF affiliate members of IFES and SU International.

For the years under review, the following candidates were recommended by GHAFES and were approved by Careforce.

1. Mr. Isaac Newton Mensah 2007 – 2008
 2. Benina Adwoa Minneaux and Oteng Ofori 2008 – 2009. These two had one year renewed and so currently still serving on Careforce. They are due to return to Ghana in September 2010.
 3. Asor Blankson Anaman and Nnamdi Okolie - 2009. They are also due to return in 2010.
1. They are serving as missionaries particularly to the Westerners who brought us the gospel at such a cost. They serve in Western Churches, groups and schools and not reaching out

to other blacks like what many of our Africans are doing. With the centre of Christian vitality shifting to the southern continents like Africa, we ought to be sending missionaries.

Governance and Staffing

The Council Chairman has spoken about some council changes and policy direction. I will focus on staff. GS in consultation with the Executive Council have introduced another level of staff termed Short Term Experience in Ministry (STEM). STEM staffs are young graduates and National Service personnel who have a heart for ministry and who were active in their campus fellowships and want to serve for a year or two in GHAFES.

FULL TIME STAFF

- a. Mr. Victor Abaka Obeng - General Secretary
- b. Mr. Samuel Gyamfi - Training Secretary(Northern Zone)
- c. Mr. Samuel Sarkodie Addo – Training Secretary(Kumasi/Sunyani Zone)
- d. Ms. Bernice Adigah - HIV/AIDS Coordinator

CONTRACT STAFF

- a. Mr. Isaac Newton Mensah - Training Secretary(Accra Zone)
- b. Mr. Isaac Frimpong - Finance Officer
- c. Mr. Emmanuel Parbey - IT/Communications Officer
- d. Mr. Eric Adjei Mintah - Office Aide

STAFF WHO HAVE MOVED ON

- a. Rev. Emmanuel Ahlijah
- b. Mr. Robinson Ebo Eduakoh
- c. Mr. Paul Sedofia Kalevor
- d. Mr. Gershon Yao Dablu
- e. Mr. Nathaniel Ebo Nunoo
- f. Mr. Nnamdi Okolie
- g. Ms. Alice Otumfuo
- h. Ms. Aso Blankson-Anaman

NATIONAL SERVICE PERSONS

2007

1. BERNINA ADWOA MINNEAUX
2. RACHEL ADUAMOAH – ADDO
3. MICHAEL ATO YORKE
4. AFUA ASO BLANKSON ANAMAN

2008

1. EMMANUEL Y.PARBAY
2. ISAAC NEWTON MENSAH
3. MAVIS FEIMA COFFIE

2009

OFFICE

1. ASARE ASIEDU AMPONSAH
2. VICTOR GYABAHAH YEBOAH
3. DOREEN SEYRAM KPEGLO
4. ADJOA ADJETEY BOI-ANANG
5. PEARL AGBANA
STORY

STICS

1. OWUSU-DAAKU KWAME NTIRI-NYANBONG -VR
2. STANLEY OSEI-WUSU-NWANE -VR
3. ALBERT ANNAN –ABREWANKOR -VR
4. CASCAR ARMOH –NWANE -VR
5. LINDA A ALHASSAN-NYANBONG-VR
6. ISAAC OHENEBA NTIM – NYANBONG-VR
7. JAMES AMOAH-MENSAH – ABREWANKOR-VR
8. VICTORIA IMORO – MUYUPELE - UWR
9. FRANK KWAKYE – PWALUGU-UER

We just pioneered a link with the National Service Secretariat so as to send our Christians on service to areas/ethnic communities most unreached and unchurched towns/villages(14,000 of them by statistics)

SNEC

The Chairman has spoken about the change of leadership under SENC. Aside that, SNEC have worked so hard since the formation of the finance committee in 2004 in raising their quota for the national budget. Since its inception, GHAFES, student fellowships have been faithfully committed to honoring their quota to the national budget. Between the year 2007 and 2009, students have met their quota and beyond for the national budget.

Integrated Approach to Ministry

We have encouraged our campus fellowships to consider the needs of their members as a priority. Many of the fellowships are coming out with welfare packages to take care of needy students. On the national level, with the encouragement of IFES, we have created an HIV/AIDS desk to seek ways of mainstreaming HIV/AIDS into our programs. Education on the issue has been part of all our national programs. We are exploring ways to incorporate it into programs such as relationships, academic excellence and leadership training. In 2007, close to 250 students, staff & the University Community took part in the voluntary Counseling and Testing organized by the HIV/AIDS desk in collaboration with WAAF and supported by GAC. In SMAC 2008, students visited the HIV/AIDS stand and had the opportunity to pick up HIV/AIDS materials for awareness creation. VCT exercise was again organized in collaboration with FHI and supported by GAC. A movie on Starting again was championed by the desk and students were challenged to delay early sexual debut. The coordinator has travelled to campuses up north, to Tarkwa, to Kumasi and in Accra here extensively to share on abstinence, relationships, self-esteem and Reproductive health issues. At the last SNEC congress she took a baseline survey to ascertain the level of understanding of students on HIV/AIDS.

Associates and Funds Mobilization

Associates continue to form the financial and HR backbone of this ministry. As such there is a need to seek ways of ministering to associates in order to enhance their support for the ministry in terms of resourcing and training. We made a modest beginning of having two Associate Fellowship meetings in the Cape Coast Zones at Bethel Methodist Church in Takoradi on the topic: "Managing your meager income in order to save and build" This was handled by Mr. T. K. Mensah, the headmaster of GSTS. The other was held in the Kwame Nkrumah Conference Hall to plan a fundraising Dinner which came off on the 8th of May. Dr. Kwame Kwamong, a Council member spoke on the environment at the Dinner. It was a modest gathering of 33 Associates though over 50 were anticipated.

At National level, with the main objective of bringing Associates, friends and partners from all over the city and beyond, together for reconnecting and relationship building, and also to raise funds to refurbish our residential accommodation into an office accommodation, between the year 2007 and 2009, the ministry has organized three fundraising Dinners under the patronage of the Executive Council. On the 1st of December, 2007 at Fiesta Royale Hotel, about 80 associates and friends were in attendance. Though this number was a little short of the anticipated 100, it was an improvement over the previous year. Under the theme ***SALT AND LIGHT: Role of the Ghafes associate in the market place, Mr Baba Mahama, the former CEO of vanguard assurance company engaged participants in a very challenging and refreshing delivery.*** The total amount raised was **¢19,350,000 and \$100. The total expenditure was ¢11,859,400.** 2008 fundraising dinner was indeed an improvement over the previous year. It took place on the 13th December, 2008 at Coconut Grove Regency under the theme **SALT AND LIGHT: The GHAFES Associates' work as a mission field. The main speaker was Mr. Albert Ocran of Combert Impression.** Close to 100 associates and friends gathered to reconnect and give thanks to the Lord for the year. The total amount raised was GH¢16,990.00. The year 2009 was such a glorious and beautiful event. The anticipated number of 100 exceeded with about 50 extra. Even though, we targeted to raise GH¢20, 000, we were able to raise GH¢35,000 with other kind donations. We are indeed thankful to the Lord for his continual provision.

We have networked all our PCs and have purchased two additional PCs and two laptops to help us do effective work. We have also received an LCD projector from an Associate which has enhanced our training programs.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

At this juncture, we want to acknowledge the support of over 500 associates, both home and abroad who have supported our ministry. It will not be out of place to acknowledge the first top twenty donors for 2008 and 2009:

2008

MR & MRS	OSAFO	SETH & ROSE
MR. & DR.		
MRS	PERBI	REINDROF & AKOSUA
MR & MRS	BAYE	HENRY K. D
MR & MRS	QUARSHIE	MAGNUS & MARTHA
DR	BADDOO	HENRY KPAKPO
REV. & MRS	MPEREH	S.V
DR	ENTSUA-MENSAH	KOW
DR & MRS	NKYEKYER	KOBINA & BEATRICE
DR & MRS	PHILLIPS	FREDERICK & AGNES
MR	AMANOR	OTUTEY KWESI
MR	CLEMENT	SAMUEL KWEKU
DR & MRS	OFOSU	DICKSON YAW
PROF(MRS)	OKYERE	BEATRICE
MR & MRS	YIRENKYI-BOAFO	LAWRENCE
MR & MRS	ANSAH	PHILIP & COMFORT
MRS	HUTCHFUL	FLORENCE MANGWE
DR & MRS	KWAPONG	PETER
MR	OSAFO	OSEI YAW
MR & MRS	MANFUL	ABENA & PETER
MR	OPPON	CHRISTOPHER CHARLES
MR & MRS	ADU-LABI	KOFI OTUTU

2009

MR & MRS	TWUMASI-ADU	GEORGE & JOYCE
MR & MRS		
(DR)	PERBI	REINDORF & AKOSUA
MR&MRS	OSAFO	SETH & ROSE
MR	ASIEDU	MORGAN
MR & MRS	GOGO	BENJAMIN & AKUA
PROF. & MRS	NKYEKYER	KOBINA & BEATRICE
HON. & MRS	ABU-BONSRA	NANA & PHILOMENA
MRS	AGYEMANG – SEREBOO	GLADYS
		EMMANUEL &
PROF.& MRS	OSAM	SUSANNA
MR.& MRS	ATAKORA	E.Q & LILIAN
MR & MRS	QUARSHIE	MAGNUS & MARTHA
MR & MRS	ANSAH	PHILIP & COMFORT
MR & MRS	OFOSU	YAW & ANNE-MARIE
DR & MRS	OKANTAH	S.A
BISHOP	QUAINOO	JOSEPH

DR & MRS	ENTSUA MENSAH	KOW
DR & MRS	ANTWI	EDWARD
DR & MRS	BADDOO	HENRY & RACHEL
MR. & MRS	KPEKPENA	JULIUS KWAME
DR & MRS	SARKODIE	KWAKU A. & JOY

These Churches have been of immense support:

ACCRA RIDGE CHURCH,
GATEWAY CHRISTIAN CHAPEL
LEGON INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH
ACCRA CHAPEL TRUST
UNIV. INTERDENOMINATIONAL CHURCH

We also want to thank para-church organizations that have supported us. Notable among them are Bible Society of Ghana, Scripture Union; our landlords. Mr. Charles Otoo and the Global Auditors for handling our accounts year by year, we say thank you. Our acknowledgement will not be complete without expressing gratitude to the Executive Council for their encouragement, guidance and support.

We have plans ahead. We will share a few now and get you updated as the weeks, months, years go. The sky is just our beginning.

May I bring my report to an end by adapting the words of Scripture in Psalm 90:17: *May the favour of the Lord our God rest upon you; establish the work of your hands-yes establish the work of your hands. Amen!*