

## GHANA FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL STUDENTS

### STUDENTS' NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### REPORT ON STUDENT ACTIVITIES FOR THE 2010/2011 ADMINISTRATIVE YEAR

Mr. Chairman, members of the Executive Council, Associates present, Staff and partners, Ladies and Gentlemen, the Students' National executive Committee is the body that has the mandate to mobilize students towards realizing the aims and objectives within the policy framework of GHAFES. The following report covers the activities of students as reflected in the six priority areas of the IFES strategic plan.

#### COMMUNICATING THE GOOD NEWS OF JESUS CHRIST

Having imbibed the vision of GHAFES, student fellowship have determined to "Know Christ and make Him Known". There have been a myriad of evangelism activities within the various student fellowships and countless souls have been won for the kingdom.

Realizing the need to not only send out labourers to the harvest but to equip them for the task, the Christian Service University College (CSUC) fellowship organized a missions conference to do just that. The CMF-KNUST had an outreach to the Kumasi High School as well as a follow-up outreach to the Osei Tutu Senior High School. They also teamed up with IHCF-KNUST for an outreach to UEW-Kumasi campus.

The CCF-KNUST Sunyani fellowship, aside having a village outreach at Koforidua also evangelized to the students at ODASS. The UCF-Valley View chapter had a village outreach at Dodowa. The Duakor community was blessed to have had the GHAFES-UCC fellowship sharing the gospel with them. The fellowship has had outreaches to some of the various Halls of residence on the campus.

Most of the souls won during these outreaches now have membership to churches and are constantly being followed-up on. There have been testimonies of healing and freedom from spiritual bondages. For many of the students these outreaches have been a humbling experience and they witnessed God use them unconditionally. They have strengthened their faith and have developed great spiritual potential to affect the world with their testimony of Christ. Like Paul, they will never be ashamed of the Gospel, but uphold it as the power of God to save all who will believe.

#### STRENGTHENING LEADERSHIP AND FORMACION

Over the years we have been privileged as a ministry to see students and associates take up leadership position at their respective levels. The extraordinary and in depth biblical training of the ministry has made this possible. Currently, student fellowships still have doctrinal blocks, comprehensive bible studies, talks, expository preaching and teachings which form irrevocable portion of the semester programmes.

These emphasize on the defining principles of the Christian faith. GHAFES National conferences have also been very insightful. With this strong ethical foundation, students have built deep personal convictions and developed core moral values.

Special leadership training seminars are organised both locally and at the national front for the leaders of student fellowships. Patronage to these seminars has been encouraging. These seminars have given students the impetus to lead as Christ. The staff and associates have keenly contributed to this success story by paying visits to the fellowships and serve as counsellors and mentors.

Perhaps, the most evident show of this track record is the ease, readiness and confidence by which students take up leadership positions and the great commitment they show in doing so. Student members of GHAFES have formed part of the executive body of the SRC, Chaplaincy and Student Unions on the various campuses.

#### PROMOTING STUDENT-GRADUATE INTEGRATION

Over the year student fellowships were encouraged to invite more associates and staff as speakers for their programmes. Thus there has been very active interaction between students and associates. Students have also had the opportunity to interact with associates during GHAFES national conferences and Zonal rallies where almost all the speakers are associates and staff.

Since the introduction of mentoring sessions at conferences students have built strong personal relationships with associates. Through these mentoring sessions students have learnt valuable lessons in key areas of life including ministry and service, investments and business, career and marriage. Some students have established links with some associates which have secured some useful opportunity for these students.

Associates and staff have played the role of guardians to many students feel free to confide in them. The rich experiences they share have both been an encouragement and a challenge to students. They have also supported the student fellowships financially by making personal donations or honouring fundraising invitations.

A vast majority of the Patrons of the student fellowships are associates who do well to both monitor and enforce the GHAFES vision amidst current campus trends. With this keen student-graduate integration we can be confident that students would evolve in responsible associates from generation to generation.

## BUILDING SUSTAINABLE INDIGENOUS SUPPORT

Every ministry can be sustained when there is adequate supply of resources and GHAFES is no exception. In this vein students have worked hard to step up their financial contributions to the ministry.

Student fellowships made it their primary priority to ensure that they pay their national quotas to the ministry. It is worth noting that over 95% of the total expected target for the national quota was paid to the national office. The Student's National Executive Committee has also devised monitoring systems to ensure that all fellowships make their contributions on time. The national quota contribution is perhaps the major means of building sustainable support by students.

The MSPC is another platform by which students support the ministry. Over the period under review many students have subscribed to the MSPC during conferences and Zonal rallies. More students are encouraged to subscribe to the MSPC on realizing that their contributions form a major source of funding for missions activities. The awarding of certificates and souvenirs has also incited interests in subscription.

The New Associates partnership Club (NAPC) is also gaining popularity among young graduates and finalist. Several finalists gracefully agreed to make the commitment of contributing to the GHAFES after school by filling the NAPC form. Students have also shown some level of commitment in contributing towards the GHAFES house project.

## ADDRESSING CURRENT GLOBAL ISSUES

A vast majority of the outreaches organized by the student fellowships to villages have focused on creating awareness on some global of health and nutrition, diseases, education, poverty, family planning security.

Some fellowships embarked on medical outreaches soliciting the support of health officers to administer and prescribe drugs for the sick in the communities visited for missions. The CMF-UCC created awareness and provided some basic knowledge about common diseases amidst sharing the gospel during their yearly CHIPS programme.

In a fight against poverty the CMF-KATH embarked on a programme dubbed "Remember the poor" during which they gave some material support to the less privileged. A few students took the bold and sacrificial step of being involved in the STICS (Short Term Involvement Community Service) programme as part of their National service.

## ENGAGING THE UNIVERSITY

The complexity of the University regulations and systems provides little room to actively engage the University authorities aside students. Thus student fellowships have adopted student-to- student approach in engaging the campus.

Student fellowships organize programmes that seek to address the needs of students in general on the campus. Some of the issues addressed include talks on academics, relationships, time management, money management and other social issues that appeals to students. The IHCF organizes maturity class periodically which many of the students patronize.

Students have also partnered with other denominations and unions in having joint programmes. Through this the students are able to weave gradually into these denominations and influence them positively. This has been a very gradual process though. The student fellowships has also partnered with the SRC, chaplaincy in running programmes such as freshers' welcoming and orientations, joint Sunday services and University crusades. Fellowships such as GHAFES C-Poly and UCF-UG have strong ties with the chaplaincy and administration of their campuses.

We believe that with time we will identify more effective ways of engaging the Universities especially the administrative bodies.

## CONCLUSION

In our generation, our greatest challenge has been to remain relevant and market our worth as a ministry. In the midst of this struggle, it is important to not be in a haste to alter what we stand for. Our focus should be on how we can best market God; for when He is lifted up, then He will draw men to himself. May the grace and wisdom of God guide us to that expected end.

Thank you.