

# Northern Asia-Pacific Division



## NEWS & VIEWS

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### 2002 NSD Midyear Committee - held in Hong Kong, May 15, 16

From May 15 to 16, 2002, the Executive Committee members of the Northern Asia-Pacific Division met in Hong Kong for its Midyear meetings. This was the first Midyear Committee meetings ever held outside the Division Headquarters in Korea.

Prior to the Midyear Committee, a whole day was set aside on May 14 for the Advisory Council on Evangelism and Witness organized by the Ministerial Association under the leadership of Dr. Jairyong Lee. A couple of



*Martin Moores, P.D. Chun, & Stanley Ng*

papers on the subject of Evangelism were presented to the group by Dr. Jairyong Lee and Dr. Miguel Luna, Theology Head of Hong Kong Adventist College, respectively. The group then was divided into different language groups for discussion and strategic planning. The next advisory will be held in November in connection with the Annual Council. Each Union is requested to bring their report and plan on City Evangelism.

In the evening of the same day, the Commission on Higher Education Consultation was conducted and chaired by Dr. John Fowler, Associate Director of Education Department of the General Conference together with the assistance of Douglas Clayville, Associate Secretary and Dennis C Keith Sr, Associate Treasurer.

Participants to the Consultation included Division/Union officers, department directors, college/university presidents within our division territories and some selective laypersons with strong backgrounds in higher education. The main purpose of this consultation was to conduct evaluation regarding the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and challenges for our higher educational institutions.

The following one and half days were Executive Committee meetings. The major decisions and statistical reports included the following:

1. Our Division church membership has reached 500,285 by March 2002, with 1,764 organized churches and 1,458 companies. The population within the Division is 1,540,513,200. The ratio for Adventist and Non-Adventist is 1 to 3,079. The total number of active employees is 8,947. More than 60% are from hospitals and schools.

	Membership	Churches	Companies
Chinese Union	319,331	964	1,212
Japan Union	14,754	115	40
Korean Union	165,876	684	204
Mongolia	324	1	2

2. The committee voted to record the statement "A Seventh-day Adventist Call for Peace." The statement condemns all terrorism, including religiously motivated violence. Adventists are called on to work for lasting peace by promoting four biblically based "pillars of peace:" dialogue, justice, forgiveness, and reconciliation.

3. The committee voted to change the name of Publishing Department to Publishing Ministries Department.

4. The committee spent a whole afternoon to discuss the proposal presented by Dr. Jairyong Lee, the Ministerial Secretary on "Pioneer Mission Movement." After a lengthy discussion, the committee finally voted unanimously to approve in principle the proposal, and to authorize the in-house Executive Committee to further prepare a more detailed proposal for the final approval at the coming 2002 Annual Council in November.

5. Other approved actions included "Medical Missionary and Healthful Living Recommendations," "Sabbath School Action Unit Training Recommendations," "GO ONE

MILLION" Initiatives," and "Youth Alive" Project Guidelines, etc.

6. The committee also approved many policy items with amendments, additions or deletions.

On May 16, in the afternoon, after the conclusion of the meetings, committee members spent a half day visiting the Chinese Union office and some of the institutions in Hong Kong including the visit to the graveyard of Abram La Rue who was the first lay missionary to the Far East. Mr. Rue arrived in Hong Kong in 1888 and was buried there in 1903.

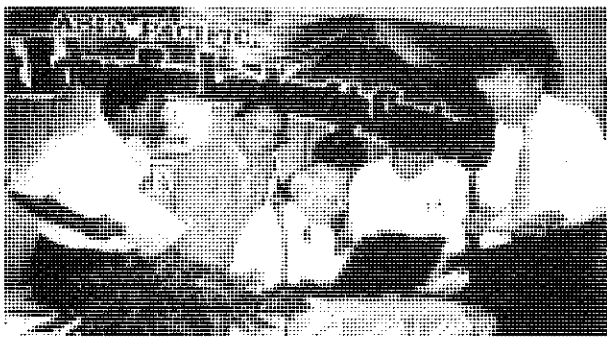
We were so impressed and touched with the spirit of our pioneer who dedicated his whole life to the people in the Far East. May we all inherit the same spirit of sacrifice and follow the footsteps of our Pioneer Missionary.

Ng, Wai Chun (Stanley), *Secretary*

## **Inter-Division Education Leadership Seminar in Bangkok, Thailand**

A farmer pointed out to a friend his thriving crops and healthy livestock. His companion was especially impressed with the beautiful sheep in the pasture. He had seen the same breed before, but never such attractive animals. Curiously, he asked the farmer how he had managed to raise such outstanding sheep.

The answer was straightforward but profound:  
"My friend, I just take very good care of the lambs."



*Leaders of Asia Pacific Adventist Education  
Leadership Seminar*

This is one of the illustrations made by Dr. Gordon Bietz, the President of the Southern Adventist University when he served the fifty participants as a guest speaker for the Christian Servant Leadership Seminar.

The Inter-Division Education Leadership Seminar was held by the General Conference Education Department, the Northern Asia-Pacific Division, the South Pacific Division, Southern Asia Division, and Southern Asia-Pacific Division, at the Ambassador Hotel in Bangkok, Thailand on April 4-8, 2002. The General Conference Education Department Directors, Dr. Humbert Rasi, Dr. John Foulter, and Dr. Garland Dulan were the hosts for this seminar which focussed on the Christian Servant Leadership.

Reaching out with the Good News remains the fervent hope and the fondest aspiration of everyone in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division's six colleges and a university, 17 secondary schools, 21 elementary and primary schools, and five kindergartens. We, the leaders of the Educational Institutions, are focussing on the Christian Servant Leadership during this quinquennium to better serve our students, children, parents, teachers, and chaplains.

From the NSD, 12 delegates participated in this seminar - all the education directors, an associate director of three unions, a conference education director, all the university and college presidents/a representative, and an academy principal.

During the report sessions, our Union Education Directors and University/College Presidents made outstanding and well prepared reports orally and by the use of audio visual devices.

The two Colleges in Korea, Saniku Gakuin College in Japan, the Taiwan Adventist College, and the Hong Kong Adventist College are in their climbing heights of academic excellence in education, reaching the unreached with the gospel of Jesus Christ, and transmitting Adventist values to a world that is indifferent to Christianity or immersed in technology and humanism.

The Sahmyook University in Seoul, Korea is the largest Adventist institution of higher learning in the world. Known throughout South Korea and other parts of the world as a premier university, it is lauded for its excellence in academic studies, research, and community services. Its graduates have spanned the globe, serving with distinction in the government, business, and various professions.

I thank for the Leadership of the GC Education Department. I am proud of our Educational Leaders in the Northern Asia-Pacific Division. With this baptism of the Spirit of Christian Servant Leadership, I am sure that the NSD Educational Leaders would continue giving new life and hope to thousands of children who come to the safe haven and the perpetually flowing fountain of eternal wisdom at our schools.

Masaji Uyeda, *Education/Language Schools Director*

# Spirit of Prophecy Seminar *in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Korea*

Cindy Tutsch, Associate Director of the General Conference Ellen G. White Estate, visited the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) from April 30 to May 9, 2002 for the Spirit of Prophecy (SOP) Seminars. Tadaomi Shinmyo, NSD SOP Coordinator, accompanied her.

The work of Cindy is to promote an understanding and appreciation of Ellen G. White among youth and young adults worldwide. She has been in the youth ministry for 32 years as Conference Youth Director, academy Bible teacher, and youth pastor. Cindy has also trained hundreds of young people to give Bible studies, teach Revelation Seminars and be involved in student literature evangelism. Her husband is a teacher and they have three young adult children.



*(from left) Hanson Cho, Alice Magarang, Cindy Tutsch, Tadaomi Shinmyo, and Gatzau Wang at Taiwan Adventist College.*

First, they went to Taiwan and were welcomed by Hanson Cho, Chinese Signs of the Times Publishing Association Manager, and Gatzau Wang, Adventist Book Center Head. We conducted the SOP seminars for 24 theology students in the afternoon and for 43 faculty members in the evening at Taiwan Adventist College on May 1. Cho was the translator from English into Chinese. Besides Cindy's presentations, there was a promotion of the summer vacation student literature evangelism for theology students by Wang. Alice Magarang, president of the college, appreciated their visit to the school very much.

Secondly, they visited Hong Kong where Cindy had received the first appointment. Hong Kong Adventist College scheduled the 10-hour seminar for theology students. Furthermore, Hong Kong-Macao Conference also joined the program and invited the church members to the meeting. Therefore, the seminar was held at the conference church from May 3 to 4, and at the college on May 5. The number

of attendance was 100 - 150. Besides the regular seminar, Cindy preached at the college church on the Sabbath morning on May 4. The translation from English into Chinese was done by two ladies, Verna Wu and Barbara Choi. In addition, Shinmyo gave a lecture of the summer vacation literature evangelism program for about 15 theology students and Cindy spoke to around 100 students at the field education class both in the morning on May 6. Daniel Chuah, college president, really appreciated her hard work for the students.

Finally, they came to Korea where Ki Kon Kim, director of the NSD Ellen G. White Research Center located at Sahmyook University, waited. Cindy spoke to around 1,500 students of Sahmyook College at the auditorium in the morning on May 7. On the same day, she spoke to 50 nursing students at Nursing and Health College in the afternoon. It was interesting to know that one of Cindy's children is a male nurse. On May 8, she gave two hours lecture to 200 theology students in the morning and 90 minutes presentation to 40 graduates students in the afternoon at Sahmyook University. Thus three presidents of colleges and university, Soon Young Jeong, Dae Yun Cho, and Daeguk Nam gave their heartfelt thanks to Cindy. Of course, she spent also her time to visit the Ellen G. White Research Center and talked with Kim.

The topics of her presentations at various places were: "Who is Ellen White?" "The Interpretation of the Ellen White," "Testing the Prophet," "10 Affirmation of Ellen White and 10 Denial of Ellen White," "Postmodern Mind," "Science and the Writings of Ellen White," "Ellen White's Contributions to the SDA Church," etc. In addition, she replied to a lot of questions from the participants at the respective places.

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL/Publishing/SOP/ATN Director*

## GC Ellen G. White Estate Advisory *at Historic Adventist Village in America*

The "1st International Conference on Ellen G. White and Adventist History" and the "Mid-Quinquennial Ellen G. White Estate Advisory" were conducted at the Historic Adventist Village in Battle Creek, Michigan, USA on May 15-21, 2002. There were around 70 participants from the world and they were directors of Ellen G. White (EGW) Research Center branch offices, division coordinators of the Spirit of Prophecy (SOP), and college/university professors of the SOP including the General Conference (GC) EGW Estate staff. Currently, Jim Nix is director of the estate.

Battle Creek is the famous city for cereal production in the world. It is said that there are around 100 cereal companies in Battle Creek including Kellogg and Post. Furthermore, Battle Creek is the birthplace of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. It was here that its name was chosen in 1860, and here that the GC of the Seventh-day Adventists was organized in 1863. It was here that the Church had its first venture in tent evangelism (1854), first Review office building (1855), first health institution (1866), first official Seventh-day Adventist school (1872), and first college (1874). The world-wide headquarters of the Church remained in Battle Creek until 1903. Therefore, it was very reasonable and appropriate to hold the "1st International Conference on Ellen G. White and Adventist History" and the "Mid-Quinquennial Ellen G. White Estate Advisory" in Battle Creek though there were some inconveniences.

The meetings were conducted at the Replicated 1857 Meetinghouse in the "Historic Adventist Village." This was the second Seventh-day Adventist Church opened on November 6, 1857. This wooden church, 28x44 feet, cost \$881. It was here that the denomination initiated the tithing system (1859), chose the name Seventh-day Adventist (1860), and organized the General Conference (1863). It closed on May 11, 1867 and was later sold to the AME Church who used it unchanged until 1906.



**Home of James and Ellen G. White where they lived from 1856 to 1863.**

It is very encouraged to know that the historical Adventist buildings have been replicated, restored or rebuilt. One of the most impressive buildings in the village was the house of James and Ellen G. White. James and Ellen White moved to Battle Creek, in the Fall of 1855. Although they first rented a cottage, they built their house in 1856. It was the first house the Whites ever owned and is today the oldest known Seventh-day Adventist landmark in Battle Creek.

The contents of the meetings were presentations, group discussions, sessions, reports, tours to Oak Hill Cemetery and Andrews University, etc. For example, there were the PowerPoint presentations like "What are the BIG issues for the present decade in EGW studies?" "What are the essential elements of a thorough EGW education?" "Who should teach these elements and when?" "How can we minimize duplication and maximize teamwork between secondary, undergraduate, and graduate studies in EGW?"

From the Northern Asia-Pacific Division (NSD) there were three representatives, namely Cyrus Shen of Taiwan Adventist College, Ki Kon Kim of Sahmyook University, and Tadaomi Shinmyo of the NSD. Shen and Kim participated in the "International Conference on EGW and Adventist History," and Shinmyo "EGW Estate Advisory."

Tadaomi Shinmyo, *Communication/PARL/Publishing/SOP/ATN Director*

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