EuNC is Coming Home

Do you remember the first day you went to school? This was probably an exciting day full of anxiety as you left the safe environment of home and extended your world. With every next school level you entered, the distance between home and school most likely increased. For most, entering college or university means living away from home, for some even in a different culture and language.

European Nazarene College was founded in 1965 to be a school for many countries – helping the Church of the Nazarene on the European continent prepare ministers for service. Students were called to leave their churches and homes and move to the little German exclave in Switzerland: Büsingen. Now, after forty-five years, EuNC will only be providing ministerial education in the home context of the students. This means that EuNC will discontinue its residential programmes at the campus in Büsingen and fully concentrate its energy and resources on education in the learning centres in the various European countries. From a school for many nations, it will become a school in many nations. European Nazarene College – in the truest sense – is coming home.

For those who have followed the developments of the college this decision is no surprise. For the last five years EuNC has developed an integrated model of a residential and a decentralized school with one curriculum, one faculty and one student body. Enrolment statistics show that our school is growing, particularly in the learning centres. This success demands more investment from EuNC in its decentralized education in order to become more effective in fulfilling its mission of “enabling disciples of Christ to participate in the mission of God and serve local communities of faith.” EuNC wants to be closer to home, closer to the local faith communities. That means, for European Nazarene College, we have the vision of “equipping students in their local contexts as they realize their God-given call.” In other words: EuNC is coming home!

This decision has some implications for the campus in Büsingen. Although we won’t offer programmes at the campus, we still plan to have students in Büsingen: students from all over the world. We will make the campus available to universities, colleges and schools from around the world to use our facilities for educational purposes. The income will be used to secure the viability of the facilities for the future. In addition, EuNC still needs the campus for its central administration. We also intend to use it for our annual Leadership Conferences, faculty meetings, training sessions, and classes.
These are exciting days for European Nazarene College! We are experiencing God’s presence and guidance. The Lord who started the school is still Lord – now and in the future. He promises us in Jeremiah 29:10, “For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” In recent months, we have clearly sensed God’s leading in this direction and are responding in faith that He has plans for us to prosper. Please pray with us as we are working on implementing all the necessary changes for EuNC to be stronger and more effective. On the one hand, we are adapting our tasks at the administrative centre: developing courses, teaching at the learning centres, helping fields and districts administer courses, giving attention to faculty development and, most of all, serving our constituencies in fulfilling the mission of God. On the other hand, we are working with our campus staff to shift toward becoming a self-supporting campus serving different educational institutions. Our present faculty and staff are committed to these changes, to make it possible for EuNC to come home!

Thank you for your prayers and continued support of the college as we journey into this new phase!

Your EuNC Leadership Team
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