Dear Friends of EuNC,

As this school year is coming to an end, we greet you with Paul's exhortation to Timothy, “So, my son, throw yourself into this work for Christ. Pass on what you heard from me—the whole congregation saying Amen!—to reliable leaders who are competent to teach others. When the going gets rough, take it on the chin with the rest of us, the way Jesus did.” (2 Tim. 2:1-3, The Message) Courses have been taught, books have been read, papers have been written, exams have been passed, and students have graduated. As some things have come to an end, others have begun or continue especially in ministry. We are never done proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ. We pass on what we have heard and give our all—our lives—for the Kingdom of God in making Christlike disciples in the nations.

This June edition of our newsletter will focus on the EuNC Learning Centres in Northern Europe (Germany, the Netherlands, and Scandinavia). Please continue to pray for European Nazarene College to follow God’s guidance in preparing men and women for ministry.

Germany District Launches Gemeindeakademie

How can ministerial preparation benefit from both an excellent academic programme and a constant deep immersion in the ministry of a local church? The Germany district is trying to answer this question through its Gemeindeakademie (church academy), a dual approach to ministerial training, turning full-time students into “pastors-in-training.” While the students minister under the supervision and mentorship of an experienced pastor in a local church, church plant, or church-type-mission, they complete the accredited online programme of EuNC Deutsch (137 ECTS leading to the certificate in Christian ministry and fulfilling the ordination requirements of the Church of the Nazarene). Praxis and theory go hand-in-hand over a period of at least three years. Throughout these three years various assessments are completed (with the district ministerial credentials board) and the students are helped to find their best placement in ministry. Pastor Hans-Günter Mohn and the Gelnhausen Church of the Nazarene will launch the pilot project for this new approach in Germany. Please pray for Hans-Günter, the recruiting of 1-2 students for this coming school year for the Gemeindeakademie, and for the local church in Gelnhausen. After this first year other local churches in Germany are planning to join the programme as well.
Faculty Development in Online Learning

As the Germany Learning Centre (EuNC Deutsch) will offer most of its courses online, the faculty needs to be trained to effectively teach ministerial students in this way. Wilma Holleman developed a new course, *Introduction to Online Learning*, and taught it for the first time to 11 people, 10 of whom are part of the EuNC Deutsch faculty. Some of the feedback we received from the participants includes:

Gideon de Jong (Potsdam): “The calling of EuNC is to equip new spiritual leaders. Now this equipping has been made even more accessible through the switch from class(ical) to online education. Because of this switch to a large extent not only the way of learning is different, but also the method of teaching must be relearned. All in all, it might take a little bit of adjustment. However, let us keep our eyes on our ultimate goal: the equipping of new spiritual leaders! Moreover, let us please persevere in praying for new spiritual leaders for His Church!”

Wolfgang Köhler (Heidelberg): “I was one of the youngest participants in the course, but in the online environment, this was not a problem. I had the freedom to share my insights, and I felt that I was taken seriously. At the same time, I could also benefit from the insights of experienced teachers. This course was only introductory, but it helped me to start thinking about the particular issues of online teaching and how they can be tackled.”

Hans-Günter Mohn (Gelnhausen): “Wilma Holleman has done a great job in teaching us future online teachers. The course was designed to help an online teacher to understand the specialties of online teaching and online education in general, as compared to classroom teaching. With all the stress that went with it, it was a great learning experience and widened my horizons in regards to teaching.”

Beate Füßer (Frankfurt am Main): “The online-teaching-course opened my eyes to the changes, challenges and dynamics of distance education. Since this course I use online-learning tools in my part time job as social worker in my school. Online-learning is an excellent way of further education, which is possible even part time. Online education is a great tool for the body of Christ – not only for the ‘digital-generation.’”

Thomas Vollenweider (Berlin): “Taking an online course from EuNC was an exciting experience, through which the (future) teachers were exposed to the benefits and challenges of online education first hand. There is no better way than for teachers to put themselves in the place of students to see what it is like. For me, personally, it was enriching to be engaged in online discussion on 11 different forums throughout the course of these four weeks. In my opinion these were some very diligent and smart students in the fellowship of a learning community! And thank you, Wilma Holleman, for being such an excellent example!”
Noël Kachouh (Hanau): “Being someone who has not had any experience with online learning, I found this course very helpful. At the beginning I was rather sceptical as to whether online learning makes any sense at all. But I found out that my scepticism was unfounded. I slowly moved into the dynamic of the virtual classroom, which offers more possibilities than I had imagined!”

Wilma Holleman (Lecturer, Büsingen): “It was a privilege for me to facilitate the course Introduction to Online Learning. Participants were enthusiastically interacting with each other and exploring together the dynamics of online discussion. Once again I was reminded that personality does come through online. I enjoyed getting more acquainted with several members of the German faculty even though we did not meet ‘face-to-face’.”

Update from the Scandinavia Learning Centre

Rev. Kaj Ove Bollerup, LC coordinator and district superintendent for the Scandinavia district reports some highlights and plans for their Learning Centre:

Thomas Baldur, administrator and faculty member, completed his MA studies at NTC Manchester in the spring of 2011, which gives the Learning Centre the opportunity to offer more courses. The Learning Centre is working on a plan to serve the current students and attract new ones. There is a possibility to collaborate with other church groups in Denmark in offering part-time studies through our Learning Centre. We also plan to explore a possible cooperation with the Portugal Learning Centre to offer courses for the Portuguese-speaking congregation in Oslo, Norway. In Finland, Kaj Ove Bollerup is teaching and mentoring the pastor of the Korean church in Helsinki.

We plan on building a learning community around education with mentoring, ensuring that our 7 students receive a holistic education (academic content, character formation, competence, and understanding of the context).

New Cycle of Course Offerings in the Netherlands

Four years ago, EuNC started offering the Spiritual Formation programme in the Netherlands. Of the original student cohort, 5 students have finished or are close to finishing the Certificate in Spiritual Formation programme; in autumn they will continue with the second level towards the Certificate in Christian Ministry. At the same time a new student cohort will begin with the first level.
On Saturday September 8th, EuNC will have its first graduation ceremony in the Netherlands to honour those who finished the Spiritual Formation programme and to graduate one student who finished the BA that he started on the Büsingen campus.

In January the learning centre welcomed its new administrator, Ineke Swart, and is currently working on creating a faculty team from the district who will teach and give leadership to the centre.

**REMINDER: EuNC Leadership Conference 2013 – *Making a Difference***

Just a reminder that European Nazarene College will have its next Leadership Conference in January 2013, with the theme - *Making a Difference*. We are happy to welcome two competent speakers for this important event.

The devotional speaker will be **Dr. Daniel Boone**, president of Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, TN (USA). This will be the third time that Dr. Boone will be with us for Leadership Conference. He will address current issues in western societies from a Christian viewpoint.

The seminar speaker is **Dr. Johannes Reimer**, professor of mission studies at the University of South Africa and lecturer in missiology at the Theological Seminar of the Free Evangelical Church in Ewersbach, Germany. Dr. Reimer is a well known author and speaker in Germany on the topic of the missional church.

The EuNC Leadership Conference 2013 will be hosted by the Germany Learning Centre at the Gelnhausen Church of the Nazarene in Germany. More details regarding registration will follow in the coming months.

Mark your calendars for the dates:

*Monday, 28th January*

*Wednesday, 30th January 2013.*
We also would like to inform you about the location for **Leadership Conference 2014**:

**Barcelona, Spain (WestMed Field)**

Thank you for staying *in touch* and for all your continued support. Please continue to pray for European Nazarene College and its ministry throughout Europe and the former Soviet Union. We wish you a great, relaxing, and blessed summer!

In Christ,

Klaus Arnold, Rector