

## **GATS Annual Report for 2014 Global Education Committee**



**January 10-11, 2015  
Africa Representative: Nicky Sisco**

### **OVERVIEW**

- ✓ 23 membership nations
- ✓ 50 membership schools
- ✓ 6 nations interested
- ✓ 2 nations joined
- ✓ 7 nations reported graduations
- ✓ 3 faculty education programs with 24 nations participating
- ✓ 2014 action plan review
- ✓ Challenges & concerns
- ✓ 2015 action plan

### **INTRODUCTION**

We do what we do because we believe we can change a culture.

Excellence is not a gift or a talent. Excellence is a mindset. Excellence is an attitude.

Genesis 1:27, "So God created man in his [own] image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them." (NKJV)

One of the concepts we are modelling through GATS Africa and a key verse that motivates us onward in spite of the challenges is Colossians 3:23-24, "And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, <sup>24</sup>knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ." (NKJV)

Since we are made in God's image, everything we do represents His Excellency! It's all about pursuing ministerial excellence.

There is a large finance company (400+ employees) in the USA called Great America. They are very successful at what they do.

Their founder and CEO is named Tony Golobic. He moved to the USA when he was seventeen years old and his first job was as a helper to the janitor's assistant. Not a job others would see as anything great. But Tony understood something. This was not his destination but simply part of the journey. Since that humble beginning he has created one of the most successful finance companies in the United States and has done this based on principles of integrity, honesty, and remarkable customer service.

My friend, Tyler Bryant got to meet this man and walk through their campus, meeting some of the employees. He said, "literally everyone was happy to be at work. It was one of the most remarkable work cultures he has ever seen."

Tony said something about culture that is very interesting and I want to share it with you today.

They normally hire people as soon as they complete university so they can train them to do things the Great America way. Every new person hired goes through a strenuous training program and all employees are enrolled in continuing training during their time with the company.

He said and I quote, **"The person responsible for the training is in control of the culture. The culture is created in training."**

Tony has created a culture of honesty and excellence through purposeful training. We also have the opportunity through training to create a culture.

The culture we continue to create throughout Africa is one of excellence. GATS is all about PURSUING MINISTERIAL EXCELLENCE.

We do this through training - both by what we say and what we do.

## **CURRENT STATISTICS**

We currently have twenty-three membership nations which represent fifty membership schools. GATS has infiltrated Africa and our desire is to consistently create a culture of excellence whereby we continually raise our standard and become more unified and interconnected with our training programs.

At present, we have six countries interested in becoming part of GATS. Last year we had eight but were able to help two move into the active membership mode (Republic of Congo and Uganda).

## REPORTED GRADUATIONS

Although I believe there were others, seven countries reported graduations with a total of 158 graduates (45 were local certificates). These countries were Burkina Faso, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Zambia, and Zimbabwe.

## FACULTY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Three faculty education programs took place across Africa with participants from twenty-four African nations. Our facilitators in 2014 were Galen and Ann Thompson, Randy Adams, Craig Sully, Curtis Scott, and myself.

## 2014 ACTION PLAN REVIEW

- 1) To have a Faculty Education Programs:
  - ✓ Ghana: January 27-31, 2014
  - ✓ Cameroon: May 12-16, 2014
  - ✓ Kenya: August 2-4, 2014
  
- 2) To add three GATS membership nations.
  - ✓ Republic of Congo
  - ✓ Namibia
  - ✓ Togo
  
- 3) To get GATS membership certificates for at least half of our countries by August.
  - All three faculty education programs were held successfully.
  - Republic of Congo along with Uganda became GATS membership nations. Namibia is in process and Togo needs a little more attention.
  - Two membership nations (Equatorial Guinea and Uganda) received certificates. However, we did not get this done for half of our countries as originally planned.

## CHALLENGES AND CONCERNS

- ✓ Online education is in demand from countries like Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa. We are having a challenge keeping up with the technology literacy rate and desire for online materials.
- ✓ More faculty education programs are needed across the continent; specifically for countries desiring to pursue ministerial excellence as apostolic educators but not able to travel to a sub-regional program.
- ✓ The need to equip Bible school administrators has become apparent and even requested as new membership nations join and pioneer Bible schools.

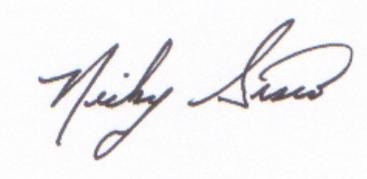
- ✓ We have several nations willing to begin the bachelor program. As such, there is the need to send them course objectives and documentation outlining the requirements for “real life” credit hours.

**2015 Action Plan**

- 1) Finalize the GATS application process with Brother Ikerd for Namibia.
- 2) Get GATS membership certificates for at least ten membership nations.
- 3) Assist any nation with curriculum material as some nations continue to develop.

This past year has been exciting and we look forward to a God directed deputation that will have us back in Ghana by December.

Yours for training,



Nicky Sisco  
Africa Representative