On the fourth Thursday of November in the United States of America it was Thanksgiving Day. I read the October - November Accelerator from ACE where the lead article was called “Matters of the Heart”. Mrs Howard has chosen Proverbs 4:23 as the theme verse for their Educators’ Conferences and for International Student Convention next year. The verse reads, “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life”. The article begins, “Clearly, the issues of life are “matters of the heart” and “matters of the heart” are what “matter” to God and must “matter” to us who have been called to the ministry of Christian education.”

When we read verses like this about the heart it is important to realise that the writer is not talking about the pump in your chest. When the Bible refers to the heart in this way it involves the centre of man’s being. The mind, will, emotions and conscience are involved. Someone has said that the heart is the seat of understanding.

A few weeks ago I was at home in the evening just before dinner when there was a knock on the door. As I went to the door, I could see through the lounge room window some young children from our neighbourhood were standing in a group dressed in a variety of Halloween outfits. I opened the door they proclaimed “trick or treat”. As kindly as I could I expressed to them that I did not believe in the ungodliness of Halloween but I wished them a safe evening.

Does it really matter? Aren’t these things just children having fun? Does it really matter that Australian retail stores are flooded with Halloween decorations and products so as to meet the rapidly growing involvement in the “festival of the dead” in our country. The situation doesn’t change much at Christmas, Easter or even when your child loses a tooth. The cultural influence from the USA is quite amazing. We drive American cars, we watch American movies and TV shows, we idolize American rock stars. Our urban skylines are littered with the American “graffiti” of McDonalds, KFC, Lone Star, Sizzler and a host of others. We sell off our iconic brands to American multinationals and take on board all things American and yet...NO THANKSGIVING. Is that a matter of the heart...it’s worth pondering.

I do not want you to think that I am condemning the blessings of a western culture but it just caught my attention why so many other things that are American have had such an influence on us and yet I very rarely see any attempt to take the concept of a special day of thanksgiving and apply it to what we would be thankful for in Australia, or any other country in our region of service. When I checked, I found thanksgiving celebrated in Canada, USA, Grenada, Netherlands and Liberia. It behoves us as Christian Educators to teach our children to be thankful. The Bible exhorts us to be thankful in everything, 1 Thess 5:18, and as we head into the Christmas season I want to encourage you to remember to resist the jolly man in the red suit and highlight our gratitude to God for his unspeakable gift. Is this a matter of the heart? Does it matter to God when his people speak His name and yet their heart is far from him? Now, am I challenged enough to do something about it?...it’s worth pondering.

R.A.Savage
Dip.T.,B.Ed.
Being part of a global community has some wonderful, if sometimes challenging, consequences. 2010 saw the celebration of 20 years of A.C.E. School of Tomorrow in the Commonwealth of Independent States and Baltic States (this could be loosely viewed as the old USSR). Area Directors from around the globe gathered in Moscow to celebrate with them to commemorate their Jubilee and to then hold the 2010 Global Representatives’ Update for A.C.E.

The spirit of cooperation and camaraderie amongst the global leaders was encouraging, to say the least, and the efficiency with which business was accomplished made it by far the most productive update in recent history.

To see the expansion of this ministry around the globe; to see young people on fire for the Lord and serving Him with a whole heart; to see the cross-pollination of regions as both young people and adults give of themselves to serve in other regions was, to say the least, encouraging in the extreme. To see that A.C.E. is alive and well, is growing and is making strong moves to meet the requirements of local regions gives me confidence that this ministry has an even better future than the past.

There are now over 1,000,000 young people in over 8,000 schools scattered through 145 countries of the world where young people are applying themselves to the daily tasks of learning about their world and their communities and, at the same time, learning the Word of God and building a sound relationship with the Lord. What a precious time it was, to hear testimonies from all over the world of young people dedicating their lives to the Lord, serving Him on mission outreaches and committing their lives to full time service for Him as well as excelling and achieving quite spectacular results in academic pursuits.

It was a privilege also to have Mrs. Kathleen Carins and Dr. George Sears represent SCEE at the ICCE meeting which preceded the Christian Educators’ Conference. Progress is very encouraging and it will be great to see the certificate come to fruition in due course.

Kathleen and George stayed on for the Christian Educators’ Conference and the Global Reps Update and their contributions to both conferences were very well received.

We have all been encouraged, invigorated and re-envisioned as a result of these meetings and look forward to what the Lord will do as we work through the projects that have been assigned to us as a global team.
At this time of every second year we tend to feel like we are in the eye of a storm. The eye of a storm is place of low pressure and is a little calmer. We feel a little bit this way because as I write to you, all of our regional student conventions and conferences are finished for 2010 and we are waiting for the South Pacific Student Convention to “descend” upon us. It will be an exciting time, but of course sometimes quite stressful for the Schools Services Staff as we venture out to serve over 400 delegates that will be gathered at the Phillip Island Adventure Resort on the 12th of December. Students and Sponsors from Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia and Malaysia will be blessed by the preaching of Pastor Manasa Kolivuso from Fiji. Students will bowl a penguin over in the cricket competition and test their skills in cold shot basketball against Pete and Penelope who have returned to be convention mascots. Please pray for us as we minister to the students at Convention.

As we look into the calendar for next year there are some exciting things unfolding in the South Pacific ACE family. The development of student convention is always close to my heart. Many of you have contributed to the update of the student convention guidelines. These will be available on our website in the New Year. We will be embarking on a bold program of student convention review commencing next year. We recognise not only the need for review to ensure that we are meeting the aims of student convention, but that those aims are relevant to the needs of the users of the ACE program. This major review of all of what Student Convention is will commence with a summit to be held in May next year. We are currently formulating what needs to be done and a select group of stake holders in Student Convention has been identified and will be invited to attend the summit in May to help direct Student Convention to an even greater relevance in the Christian Education landscape than it has already been. The summit delegates will be a group of less than ten of the major stake holders from around Australia and New Zealand. If there are others in the ACE family who would like to contribute to this major review, I would invite you to “put pen to paper”, or for those who are more techno-advanced “fingers to the keyboard” and share with me your views. Every submission will be read, discussed and prayerfully considered. Every aspect of student convention in the South Pacific from the current leadership to the colour of the paper will be part of this major review.

The ministry in Indonesia continues to grow and it looks like another new school will start next year. We are working with Janto and Ester Djaja in Jakarta to see the ministry supported there and they are doing a great job. I want to thank them publically for their efforts. There is a tentative plan for a training seminar next year to help prepare them for their local student convention, maybe in 2012. We will be back in Indonesia next March for their Educators Conference and this has been an event of mutual blessing over recent years.

Jay Freeman tells me that there will be a major staff training time in January in the highlands of Papua New Guinea. I am sure Jay will appreciate our prayers as he leads this ACE training session with about 70 delegates. Jay will need assistance so if there are any teachers in ACE schools who feel they are led to PNG for two weeks to assist in staff training please let me know either by email roysavage@scee.edu.au or on my mobile 0413 597 580.

Next year will also see the second Train the Trainers week here in Brisbane in July. We are seeing the need to increase the quality of delivery in ACE and believe that the professional development of staff and especially the leaders is one way to assist in the moderation of the ACE program throughout our region. If you have an interest in being a certified trainer you can contact me and I can put your name forward for selection. Certified trainers are selected by Southern Cross Educational Enterprises.

As the South Pacific school year draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a blessed Christmas as we specifically focus our attention on the birth of The Lord Jesus Christ. Have a happy and safe holiday and we will see you all again either here or there or in the air.

Roy Savage
Manager
Schools Services Department
As this is the last Sceelerator for 2010, I would like to take this opportunity to say have a blessed and joy filled Christmas as you celebrate the birth of our Saviour, The Lord Jesus Christ, with your school, family and friends. It has been a real joy to meet again with ‘old’ friends and to make many new friends over the year at Educator’s Conferences and Conventions. God has given us a unique fellowship that crosses denominational boundaries and has created the ‘ACE Family’. I pray that during the upheavals of the year and those that will come in the new year, that we remember, nurture, and cherish this special bond and use it to encourage and build one another up as we strive to educate our children in a godly manner with a firm understanding of Biblical Worldview.

Sth Pac News......

We are currently buried under paperwork as we prepare for South Pac in December. It is exciting to see many first time South Pac’ers coming from PNG, Solomon Islands, Nauru, Malaysia, Indonesia and Western Australia to name just a few, and it is disappointing to see some of our ‘old faithful’ not attending this year. We are planning a fun-filled time at South Pac, with lots of serious competition, and lots of zany ‘Penguin’ events to fill in those times when students have no events in which to compete.

We are also praying for our special guest speaker Pastor Manasa Kolivuso and for all those attending, whether student, parent, sponsor or guest, that God would be preparing hearts and minds to hear the messages that he will bring. Pete and Penelope are also getting very excited about meeting all the students. If you’re coming to South Pac, don’t forget to keep this event in your prayers and if you’re not coming you can still pray!

Next Year......

As we begin to make preparations for 2011 we would like to hear from you in regard to topics/issues that might be helpful for schools/homeschoolers that could be addressed at the South Pacific Educator’s Conference to be held in June. If you have any ideas please contact me at kathyfisher@scee.edu.au

You will also find dates for Educator’s Conferences and Conventions for next year in this issue of Sceelerator – don’t forget to mark them in your planner and make sure that you bring your school/staff to share in the blessings.

Updated South Pacific Student Convention Guidelines for 2011-12 will be available for download from scee.edu.au after the 17th December, 2010. There are many significant changes and some new events in the Guidelines, so it is VERY IMPORTANT that you destroy any old copies of the Guidelines that you may have stored away. There are also numerous significant changes to the Judges Forms – so new forms are a MUST at all Conventions next year. A Variations to Guidelines notice has been included in this issue of Sceelerator so please have a look but remember that these DO NOT come into effect until 2011.

As always, I would love to hear of any great resources that you might have found for Convention or any ideas that you have to help us improve our service to you, but please email them to me – a quick conversation at Convention is easily forgotten, an email is not. I trust that you will all have a restful break over the holiday period and that you will “…not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” Gal 6:9

BIBLE BOWL BOOK 2011

Revelation

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CONVENTION 2011

Anyone planning to attend ISC, 2011 please contact Kathy Fisher to register your interest. We can keep you up-to-date with the latest information regarding travel and post-convention tour ideas.
Diary Dates for 2011

Regional Educators Conferences

FIJI: February 28th - March 1st
   Location: Suva

Indonesia: TBA

PNG: March 21-24
   Location: Lae

Victoria - April 27-28
   Location: Mt Carmel Christian School

NSW: May 2-3

TAS: May 13

South Pacific Educators Conference

June 21 - 23
Watson Park, Dakabin, QLD

Student Conventions

NZ: April 11-15 Keswick

FIJI: July 11-15 Suva

PNG: September 12-16, Okari Campus, Lae

QLD: August 22-26 Watson Park, Dakabin

WA: TBA Camp Kennedy, Albany

TAS: October 3-6 Camp Clayton, Ulverstone

VIC: October 17-21 Rawson Convention Centre

NSW: October 24-28 Yarramundi

International Student Convention

May 21-29
Harrisonburg Virginia

Student Convention Tech Tips #4

Accrediting artwork/sources
Website Design, PowerPoint presentations,
Posters, Science/Social Studies Exhibits,
Essay Writing

Not accrediting other people’s work in your projects is the same as plagiarism in written events. Improper accreditation is nearly as bad. If you download a picture from the internet for your project, accrediting it to Google™ Images is not good enough. Google™ Images is a search engine, not a website. All the images on that search engine come from other websites, and if you are going to use those images, you need to accredit the website that the picture is actually from. You also need to make sure that you have permission to download and use that image. Most of the time, websites that have quality images that can be used for projects will have restrictions on their use - some will say you can use them freely, others say you may use them if you include the photographer’s name, etc. You also need to list somewhere in your project the website that you sourced your images from. It is fine just to list the homepage, but you do need to include it at least on your report. You also need to be careful with copyrighted images. There may be some images that you are not allowed to freely use; this being the case, you would need to obtain permission if you still want to use them. A copy of this permission would need to be included with your report, and you need to use the phrase “Used with permission” in your project. Information sources also need to be accredited – for example, if you are doing a Social Studies exhibit, and used Wikipedia for some information, then you would need to include that with your information. For example “sourced from www.wikipedia.com”. Accrediting and obtaining permission for the use of other people’s work is very important – if you fail to do so, you are breaking the law. Just think: how would you feel if someone ‘stole’ your photos to use without your permission, saying that it was their own work?

A heads-up, the new 2011 Guidelines will include statements about accreditation, even to the point of events not being judged if work is not accredited.

God Bless, and remember, this is not a hard task, but necessary. Keep up the good work!
Stuart can you tell us about the establishment of the Distance Education School here, about how that worked out, and how it's going now? We started in 2008 when we became a school which is registered for K-12 DE. We started with approximately 160 students and from there we received enrolments from families that had no previous contact with ACE. We found that approximately 40% of our enrolments came from people that were in the homeschooling movement and they felt that they wanted a structured program and full teacher support. Then we had 20% of students coming out of Christian schools and 20% coming out of public schools for a variety of reasons. We also have a special ministry for students with disabilities. We would probably have 10-15% of our enrolments with students with special needs.

Within 1 year our numbers had doubled to 300 and now we have about 500 students in DE – so we are the fastest growing school in Western Australia. There is no other school providing private K-12 DE and even the government who provides DE does not provide for students who are in urban areas like we are able to. We have a niche market and there’s a huge amount of interest. We’re finding that our enrolments are probably 90-95% Christian. We don’t apologise for the fact that we have a strong Christian based curriculum and we believe that we want to maintain that otherwise we might as well become just another school. There is a need for DE and we are finding that there are a lot of people crying out and saying if I’d only known about this earlier.

How many staff do you have here at Southlands for the DE School? We have 8 teaching staff down in Albany for DE and we also have 1 teacher up in Perth who runs a science course that has been videoed and made available on line. We also have a Parent Mentor in Perth. It is a wonderful opportunity for her to go around and visit the families that live in Perth. One of our problems is that 70% of our families live in Perth which is over 400km away from the actual school site in Albany. This makes it difficult for us to do a lot of home visits. We do try to have teachers visit 60% of our families, but that’s expensive. It is a unique situation, and we’re trying to improve our service all the time. We are seeing exciting results in the number of staff we’ve been able to employ. When we started with 2 staff we had no computers, no desks, no phones, we didn’t have much at all really but now it’s wonderful to see we have teachers qualified in a whole range of different specialist areas and that gives us, I think, an ability to serve our student body better.

What is your particular role here? My role here, like every other role of every other staff member, is changing. Initially I was appointed Head of DE. I still have that position but now I’m also Principal. I suppose my role is really to be a visionary and to see the way forward and to develop programs and look at ways that we can improve our service to our students as well as still being involved in promoting what we are doing. I look after the marketing campaigns, the website design, over 50% of our enquiries come through the website so it’s very important for us to present what we are doing in a way which is clear. We adopted the policy on the website of ‘What’s in it for me?’, so we’re saying, ‘How’s this going to benefit your children, how’s it going to benefit your family?’, so that’s the approach we have taken. Recently we have had 2 videos made one - for the Day School one for Distance Education which can now be viewed on our website and we’re very happy with the product that was the end result.

What would be something we could include as prayer points for you for the DE? We would like to open a campus in Perth. We would like to be in a position where we can actually start a DE School in Perth. My belief is that it was Paul’s tactic in the scriptures to go to the large urban centres and then from there go out to the smaller centres. He spent 3 years in Ephesus and a lot of time in Corinth and from there visited the smaller towns surrounding. That is – you go to the people rather than expect the people to go to you. So if we can find a campus and set up a place in Perth that will help us enormously to serve our student body better. It is much more centrally located than Albany, as beautiful as it is. That would be great and it’s probably one of the main prayer points and it also means that I don’t have to do so much travelling - I do over 40,000km a year.

Anything else you would like to add? We are very excited to see how God has blessed us. We pray for favour with God and man, and in terms of our getting our Registration for 3 years over and above what we were hoping for and our enrolments continue to grow. This is the Lord’s doing. There will be issues with the national curriculum coming in and we’re unsure how that will all work out in the future. We’re praying for a Head of DE so that I will be able to do other things like negotiate with Universities about entrance requirements. At the moment we are not well recognised with the Universities. It will also enable me to stay in Perth where my family is. I don’t see much of them so that is a downside of the position here at the moment.

We believe that’s what is going on is actually a game changer. What we are seeing is people fulfil what we believe is the scriptural mandate of Deut 6:7 which is our motto - “And these words which I command you shall be in your heart” - This is speaking to parents “You shall teach them diligently to your children” - That means that you can’t handball that to the pastor or Sunday school teachers or a classroom teacher that is a command given to parents. “And you shall talk with them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way when you lie down and when you rise up.” We are able to support parents fulfilling that task by providing a Christian curriculum and providing teacher support and by giving them encouragement and a supporting hand to fulfil their requirements to raise up godly men, women and children that will be the future leaders of our nation.
Eichmann in all of us!

After the Second World War trials were held in Nuremburg where many Nazis were tried and sentenced for their crimes against humanity. The TV programme “60 Minutes” produced a documentary on one particular trial, that of Adolf Eichmann, a principal architect of the Holocaust. At the programme’s outset, Mike Wallace, the host, posed the question: “How is it possible... for a man to act as Eichmann acted?...Was he a monster - a madman? Or was he perhaps something more terrifying: Was he normal?”

Normal - the executioner of millions of Jews normal? Most self respecting viewers would be outraged at the thought.

A shocking statement came from an interview with Yehiel Dinur, a concentration camp survivor who testified against Eichmann at his trial. A film clip showed Dinur walking into the courtroom, stopping short, and seeing Eichmann for the first time since the Nazi had had him sent to Auschwitz, beginning to sob uncontrollably. He then fainted, collapsing in a heap on the floor as the presiding judicial officer pounded his gavel for order.

Was Dinur overcome by hatred, fear or horrid memories? No, it was none of those. Rather, as Dinur explained to Wallace, all at once he realised Eichmann was not the godlike army officer who had sent so many to their deaths. This Eichmann was an ordinary man. “I was afraid about myself,” said Dinur. “I saw that I am capable to do this. I am... exactly like he.”

Wallace’s subsequent summation of Dinur’s terrible discovery – “Eichmann is in all of us – is a horrifying statement, but it indeed captures the central truth about man’s nature. As a result of the Fall, sin and the capacity to do evil, is in each of us.

To declare that Eichmann is in all the students in your learning centre may not go down well in a school assembly or in a newsletter but a wise supervisor needs to recognise the truth of it. I well remember, when I was principal of a school, taking my staff to an Educators’ Conference where the speaker was emphasising the need for diligence in being thorough in procedures because of the possibility of cheating. “Our children would never do that,” one of the staff whispered to our group. When she got back to her school she did, however, follow the instructions of the speaker and guess what she discovered - Eichmann was in her students.

One of the vital foundation stones of a Christian worldview is to have clear understanding of the corrupt nature of man – not just evil men but all men. There are many issues one may face in university, in culture, in life where having a correct understanding of the true nature of man is critical to presenting the solution to any given problem. If we get the diagnosis wrong we get the solution wrong and our culture is suffering because of this. Contemporary thinking is that people are basically good – that evil is just the result of external social causes and we can be taken in by this. Though the doctrine of original sin may not be palatable to the world it is vital to having a consistent worldview – the recognition of it is vital for running a quality learning centre.

Robert Steedman
Coordinator - NZ, Vanuatu, CI

Congratulations Natasha!

Natasha Maciejewski, a 13yr old student at Australian Christian College Moreton Dayschool, is an extremely gifted artist. She recently entered some of her artwork into this years Caboulture and Pine Rivers Shows where her artwork placed first and second in the sketching and coloured pencils. She then entered her artwork into the Moreton Bay Regional Youth Art Awards. Even though her artwork didn’t place at the Youth Art Awards, it was through this competition that she received an offer of a place in the Pine Rivers Art Gallery. She is currently working on a number of projects for next year’s Student Convention, and is looking forward to competing at the South Pacific Student Convention at Phillip Island.

“I would just like to say that all the glory for my work goes to the Lord, for indeed He is the One who has given me this gift in the first place.” Natasha
Contact Details
Have you changed your Post Office Box number?
Do we have your correct email address?
Please contact the office if any of your details change so that we can stay in touch with you!

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**South Pacific ACE Gallery & Museum**

“I have a dream...” says Roy!

We would like to develop a gallery of student work from Conventions around the South Pacific. Imagine how well stocked our gallery would be now if we had started this 20 years ago! We see a great deal of excellent work in all of the regions that we serve and would like to create a place to display as much of this work as we can. The suggestion is that we would be happy to receive items of work in one of three different ways....

- Donate - students could simply give us their piece of work
- Permanent loan - students would retain ownership and could retrieve their work
- Purchase - we could buy works from students

If you are interested or would like to comment on this idea please contact Roy Savage by email at roysavage@scee.edu.au

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The Schools Services Department would like to extend Christmas Greetings to all of our readers. May God bless you as you celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and spend time with family and friends. We look forward working with you again next year.

**Isaiah 9:6**

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace