South Pac 2010....
There and Back Again!

2 Athletics Records Smashed!

256 Competing Students

For the first time at a South Pacific Student Convention, medals were awarded to students from Nauru, Indonesia & Malaysia.

Spectacular Command Performances

8 Countries Represented
I don’t know about you but I do not believe in making New Year resolutions. No matter how much I try, I always seem to fall short of the mark. In fact, the effort of the human heart to maintain even our very best of intentions generally results in one of two outcomes: self abrogation because we cannot keep to our decisions, or works of the flesh that accomplish little for the sake of the Kingdom. Proverbs 16:9 reminds us; “A man’s heart deviseth his way: but the LORD directeth his steps.”

The commencement of a new year, however, is always a good time to re-evaluate our priorities and reassure our hearts that we are following in the way that the Lord is leading us. Lamentations 3:22 & 23 remind us that; “It is of the LORD’s mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.”

Each new day is a gift from the Lord, as is each year that He allows us to serve Him. Psalm 31:15 reminds us that; “My times are in thy hand:” so as we move into this new year and face the challenges that lie ahead of us, we know that we are not alone. The Lord is our constant companion and guide and He will lead us into His paths if we are willing to submit to Him and surrender to His purpose.

The challenges that face us and attempt to divert us from the purpose of God are great but we must never confuse their source. Just as it is true that the Lord uses obedient people to accomplish His will, so the enemy subverts people (often unwittingly) to achieve His nefarious plans. More damage is done in the Kingdom of God by well meaning people following their own heart (and we know what the Scripture has to say about the human heart!) and doing what they perceive to be good, than we might imagine. Often the greatest opposition to the purpose of God is not from those from outside the body of Christ but from well meaning but deceived people that come from within. We must be careful to discern who our enemy is – it is not the people who stand against us, but the principalities and powers that exercise spiritual wickedness in high places (Eph 6:12).

So, whatever our region, whatever our challenge, there is only one way to move forwards with confidence—with our hearts submitted to the Lord, our ears attentive to His Word and our will surrendered to His purpose.

As we here in Australia face the impending challenge of the Australian National Curriculum, we must see this, not as a blockade to prevent us exercising our right to train our children in the ways of the Lord, but rather, as an encouragement for us to ensure our documentation and our processes are exemplary. It provides for us a challenge, which we might otherwise have avoided, to embark on a journey to excellence that will see us become the very first educational sector to completely audit the National Curriculum and have programmes available to deliver its content.

In the various nations serviced by Southern Cross Educational Enterprises, each has their existing or impending challenges. Let us determine to embark on that journey of excellence that will enable us to fulfil the calling of God, that will sow the Word of God into the hearts of our young people and that will propel them into their (your) communities as firebrands straight from the Father’s hearth!

May God bless you as you serve Him faithfully through this coming year.

Bob Gregory
Managing Director & CEO

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**PRAYER & PRAISE POINTS**

- Pray for school staff and students as they begin a new academic year
- Pray for Staff Training that is occurring in a number of regions of the South Pacific
- Pray for the preparations that are being made for another year of Student Conventions.
- Pray for those affected by the recent floods in numerous locations throughout Australia and NZ
- Pray for wisdom for the staff in the schools as they minister to the students each day.
- Praise the Lord that we are a part of this great ministry - reaching the world for Christ, one child at a time.
I have just been browsing the latest eACCELERATOR newsletter from ACE. You can have this newsletter sent to your computer by signing up on the ACE web-site, www.aceministries.com. The lead article is about the potter and the clay - how we as educators need to be pliable, pure, and passionate. It is still crucial that leaders have a teachable heart and are willing to be taught from the Lord. I have often said, and I’ll say again, “If you want to be a good teacher, you must be a good learner”. The article concludes with the following challenge:

“Let’s commit this year to be pliable in the Potter’s hands, keep our hearts pure before Him, be passionate about loving Him, develop a closer relationship with Him, and do the work He has called us to do!”

All of the Schools Services Department staff were back in harness in the office by 10 January having had a little break after South Pacific Student Convention. There has been some positive feed-back about South Pac and we are grateful for that. “The SPACE” daily newspaper was a real hit with students and sponsors as they all clamoured for their personal copy to read over breakfast. All five issues of “The SPACE” are now available for a short period of time for you to read on our web site www.scee.edu.au. We have also published a limited executive edition which are all numbered and printed in full colour on finer paper. Each set of these collector’s items comes with a certificate of authenticity signed by the Manager of the Schools Services Department and are number 1-30. Some of the 30 copies of this special publication have been presented to significant people who were involved in the 2010 South Pacific Student Convention. However we have a few available for sale and if you would like to purchase this once in a lifetime piece of memorabilia you can email me at roysavage@scee.edu.au or ring the Schools Services Department on +617 3881 5737 between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Each of these collections comes in a plastic satchel to protect them and are for sale at $30 each set.

Janto and Ester Djiaya and Anthony Santos, who are from Jakarta in Indonesia, were at South Pacific Student Convention last December and their purpose was to work with us to equip themselves for the commencement of an ACE Student Convention in Indonesia. We are planning a three day Convention training seminar, which is scheduled for November this year, which is to prepare for the first Indonesian Student Convention to be held, God willing, in March 2012. If there are school principals and any senior students who would like to be part of the first 24/7 Squad to go to Indonesia I would like to hear from you as soon as possible. Register your interest with me and I will keep you up to date with the progress. I also think there would be opportunity for capable and experienced conventioners to help us with the training in November as well, so if you are interested in a mission trip to Indonesia please make contact with me so we can effectively plan for this event.

Students, Staff and Parents who are planning to go to International Student Convention in May should make contact with Mrs Fisher and get all the information that we have. We are planning an after convention tour for folk from this region and Mrs Fisher has the details of all of this and the deadline which must be met especially for payment. ISC this year will be in Harrisonburg Virginia, USA. We have already heard of some of the exciting things which are being planned by ACE. If you or any of your folk are planning to go you should read the entry requirements and dress standards on the ACE web site www.aceministries.com.

In May, here in Brisbane, we will be holding a Student Convention summit. The Managing Director, Mr Bob Gregory is in the process of sending invitations to a select group of people who are regularly involved in Student Conventions in this region. Those who respond to this invitation will gather in our office here in Brisbane to examine every aspect of our student conventions and see if they are achieving their aim and to suggest how the current conventions need to be developed for the future. I would like to invite any interested readers to make a contribution to the future development of our student conventions by writing to me with your analysis and suggestions. Any email contributions that are received will be considered in the final report to the SCEE board together with the findings of the summit. Please pray that God’s guidance will be prevalent at this time. Let me assure everyone that we are not seeking to destroy student conventions but to help develop them to better achieve the aims and meet the needs of students. Pray for the delegates of the summit that they will be endowed with wisdom beyond their human capacity.

Roy Savage
Manager
Schools Services Department
Welcome to the New Year! I sincerely hope that you all had a good rest over the Christmas break and that you were not adversely affected by the floodwaters that have covered the eastern States of Australia throughout January.

South Pacific ACE Student Convention 2010

“What a great time we had at South Pac”, has been the general feedback from the 256 students at this Convention. A total of 434 people attended South Pac and enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship, fun and competition. Pastor Manasa Koliuvuso brought inspiring and impacting messages that saw life-changing decisions being made by students and adults alike. If you as staff and parents, or your students would like to send some feedback to us about South Pac please send it to kathyfisher@scee.edu.au. Pete and Penelope had such a great time that they laughed their heads off, and Penelope had such a great time teaching your students about South Pac please send to us at kathyfisher@scee.edu.au.

New Guidelines

Please note that the new Guidelines are now available on the SCEE website at www.scee.edu.au. You MUST USE THE NEW GUIDELINES FOR ALL CONVENTIONS. There have been significant changes to both the Guidelines and many of the forms including Judges Forms. Old Forms and guidelines will not be accepted at ANY Convention – so please get rid of any old copies that you may have at your school.

Duty of Care at Convention

First Aid: It is a Government requirement at least within Australia and New Zealand that all schools be equipped with a First Aid Kit and properly trained First Aid Officer prior to going on any school excursion or camp. This also applies to Convention. It is quite surprising the number of schools who forget to bring their First Aid Kit to Convention and then are caught short in the case of an incident. SCEE is NOT responsible to provide First Aid equipment for your students or staff and although we do carry a First Aid Kit it is for the use of SCEE Staff as per OH&S regulations. Families and Home School providers are required to bring adequate supplies for their own students.

Athletics Day: Due to the structure of Convention, Athletics is held in a fairly compressed time frame. Both staff/parents and students need to be aware of the race order at Convention BEFORE entering events so that students are physically able to complete the events they have entered.

Proper training and preparation of students entering these events is ESSENTIAL and is a part of your Duty of Care to your students. It is a sad fact that many of the students who enter running events at Convention have not done ANY training at all, some have done a little training, and very few are well prepared. You do not need to be an expert to help your students to train for Athletics. There is a plethora of books and internet sites that give good training schedules and exercises to make sure that your students have the best possible chance at completing their events well.

Part of this preparation is teaching your students about correct hydration. Students who are expending a lot of energy, particularly in running events, also lose a lot of their body fluids and need to drink water to replace what has been lost during exertion of the body, regardless of whether the weather is hot or cold. It is the Sponsor’s responsibility to ensure that students have access to drinking water at Athletics events. A wise sponsor will make sure that their students are actually drinking water during athletics day at regular intervals.

It is unlikely that if a student doesn’t prepare for other events that the result can be a physical injury or dehydration, but lack of preparation for Athletic events, including Discus, Shot Put and Long Jump, has the potential to end up as a medical emergency.

2011

PNG Mega Conference: We are looking forward to a wonderful time of fellowship and growth in PNG at the Mega Conference to be held in March. Please watch for Registration Kits both in the mail and on the SCEE website and register as soon as possible.

NZ Convention: will be held in April and Registration Kits are available online at www.scee.edu.au and have also been posted to all schools. If you do not receive your mailed copy, please access from the internet. If this is not possible, let me know and I will get a copy to you.

ISC: There has been considerable interest in students from the South Pacific Region attending ISC this year. If you have not registered an expression of interest with me at kathyfisher@scee.edu.au, please do so as soon as possible so that I can keep you informed. We will be having a tour after ISC that will take us to Washington DC to see the sights of the capital of the US and also to the Creation Museum at Petersburg, then on to Disneyland in California. Commitment date for those of you wishing to travel with us and come along on the Tour is 7th March, 2011, to allow us to begin making bookings. All fees for the tour MUST be paid prior to any bookings being made and are non-refundable.

As I look back over 2010 I can see the hand of God in so much of what we have done and I continue to pray that He will see fit to once again impact lives of adults and students through Conferences and Conventions this year.
Diary Dates for 2011

Regional Educators’ Conferences

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

**Indonesia:** March 11-12
Location: Jakarta

**PNG:** March 29-31
Location: Lae

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

**NSW:** May 2-3
Location: Southern Cross Baptist Christian School

**TAS:** May 13

**WA:** TBA

**Student Conventions**

**NZ:** April 11-15 Keswick
Rotorua

**FIJI:** July 11-15 Suva

**WA:** August 1-5
Camp Kennedy, Albany

**QLD:** August 22-26
Watson Park, Dakabin

**PNG:** September 12-16,
Okari Campus, Lae

**TAS:** October 3-6
Camp Clayton, Ulverstone

**VIC:** October 17-21
Rawson Convention Centre

**NSW:** October 24-28
Yarramundi

**International Student Convention**

May 21-26
Harrisonburg, Virginia

**South Pacific Educators’ Conference**

June 21 - 23
Watson Park, Dakabin, QLD

**International Student Convention Registration Kits**

These will be available on the SCEE website. As soon as the kits have been completed they will be uploaded and ready to access...so please keep an eye on www.scee.edu.au

We will continue to post these kits to all schools so please keep an eye open for them.

Please note... There have been changes made to some of the dates listed below
general capabilities as well as deep set of important and powerful would ‘help students develop a suitable to the 21st Century which (ACARA) to develop a curriculum Board of the Australian Curriculum. The Australian Curriculum. The Federal Government appointed the Board of the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) to develop a curriculum suitable to the 21st Century which would ‘help students develop a set of important and powerful general capabilities as well as deep knowledge, understanding and skill in disciplines’ (ACARA Nov. 2010). SCEE’s Educational Services Department (ESD) has been conducting an on-going analysis and audit of the Australian Curriculum and its requirements. It has required intensive and specific research, mapping the A.C.E. curricula to the Australian Curriculum in Mathematics, English, History and Science, Foundation to Year 12 levels. It has included review and participation in ACARA’s consultation process since the inception of the Australian Curriculum over the last two years.

A report of the audit, current to ACARA’s most recent release, Version 1.1 January 2011, will be provided to Australian based schools using the A.C.E. curriculum in February. It offers this publication as a professional support to assist educational providers implement the Australian Curriculum. These documents are to be considered as templates and are provided for the discretionary use of educators incorporating A.C.E. curriculum materials within the context of whole school programmes.

The report is attentive to the four learning areas:

- Math Australian Curriculum Audit (Foundation - 10 year levels)
- English Australian Curriculum Audit (Foundation - 10 year levels)
- History Australian Curriculum Audit (Foundation - 10 year levels)
- Science Australian Curriculum Audit (Foundation - 10 year levels)

We trust that these documents will be helpful to you, praying that the Lord will guide and bless your education endeavours as you uphold the place of Biblical worldview education in Australia.

1 Corinthians 15: 58
Kathleen Carins OAM B Ed(Hons)
Manager - Educational Services Department

Student Convention Tech Tips #5 ... Recording Sound Pt. 1 - Video Production

High quality Christian video is something that we need. There are great opportunities for the use of even short videos and films as ministry tools. And, as usual, we want you to aim for high quality. We are going to talk about recording sound, especially dialogue. There are a few things to remember.

1. Using the camera’s microphone is not the best thing to do. It is not very powerful, and tends to pick up a lot of background noise (wind, echoes, trains, other people, etc.). When you are fighting to hear your actors talking over the top of these, you lose the impact of the dialogue. Many cameras will allow you to plug in an external microphone, and there are ways to utilize this. Can you build a microphone into your set somewhere close to the action? Or can you get wireless lapel mics? Another great idea (if you can find/afford the equipment) is to record the voices with close, quality mics as a separate sound track, and then place it over top of the video with your computer software. You could even use the sound recording from your camera as background noise, as long as it doesn’t drown out the voices.

2. ALL dialogue needs to be even. It is no good having one voice markedly stronger than the others. Even when inflection and volume are supposed to differ (yelling or whispering etc.) make sure that all the parts can be clearly heard.

3. Beware of recording outdoors (especially very open places) and large empty rooms. Wind noise and echoes are very distracting. Unless the script calls for an empty room, try not to use them. It you need a large room, find one with carpet, curtains, paintings etc., to help deaden the echoes. When outside, protect the camera from the wind – do not let it blow across the mic.

4. Edit your sounds! Most video software should allow you to add in sounds. You need to have background noise to make the action believable. Simple things like added footsteps, crickets chirping, music playing in the background, traffic noise, kids playing, all add to the overall effectiveness of your message. Next time you watch a movie, close your eyes, block out the voices, and just listen for other sounds. They help to set the mood.

5. Music – when you have background music, it also needs to be even. It is very distracting when its volume rises and falls in-between character’s lines. Also, try to make sure that the music fits the scene, or the filler in-between scenes. Music is also a very large part of setting the mood – a piece in a minor key rather than a major key completely changes the atmosphere in your video, and when used properly, is highly effective.

Over the Student Convention years, we have seen some good video with low budgets and limited equipment. This equipment is becoming easier to obtain, cheaper to hire, and software is becoming more comprehensive. However, you need to utilize this equipment, and turn good video into great video.

Keep it up! God Bless!
Discerning the Root

One of the key factors in Christian worldview studies is learning to discern the root cause of the various problems in our society. Only when we discern the root of the problem can we understand what the situation really is all about and work toward a solution.

The doctrine of original sin is a crucial foundational truth of a biblical Christian worldview. The problem is that we often fail to see this insidious root because it is disguised with kinder words and therapeutic terms that give “understanding” of the situation. Crime is presented as a result of dysfunctional childhood or other circumstances. We often fail to see the denial of “sin within” because external explanations of the problem have become more “acceptable”.

Jean-Jacques Rousseau in the mid-18th century introduced the notion that man is “basically good” which moved the root of problems from internally in man to external causes within society. To solve problems then you must change and tinker with the various institutions and situations within society. Basically, contemporary society is enchanted by this flawed philosophy and this is evident in such areas as politics, psychology, sociology, education, criminology, and law just to name a few. It is more palatable to believe that human nature is basically good than the biblical presentation of man having a fallen depraved nature. Unfortunately it is not just the secular world that has been influenced by Rousseau’s thinking. The Christian worldview test I often give to Christian groups regularly shows acceptance of statements that actually deny the fallen sinful nature of man. These people may say they believe in “the fall” but fail to discern it as the root cause of various issues in our society.

When there is denial of sin and loss of individual responsibility in society it is ushering in what Chuck Colson calls “The Golden Age of Exoneration” When things go wrong, someone else must be to blame. The “Blame Game” being manifest in a wide spectrum of our culture goes back to the rejection of man’s sinful nature. We often see it played out even among the students in our Christian schools. This at least presents a wonderful opportunity to expose the real root cause if staff use discernment and wisdom. It may not be the most pleasant task but we should make it our aim that every student in our Christian schools understand clearly their true nature as presented in the Scriptures. We also need to equip them with the skill to discern the real root cause of so many problems they observe in this world and not be taken in by the myriad of humanistic explanations. The “Blame Game” is regularly played out when people accuse the government for not doing enough when the media focus on problem issues like poverty or crime. There is also the entitlement mentality where people believe that the government owes them support even if they do not fulfil the duties of good citizenship.

Another area where there is often a failure to discern man’s sinful nature as the root cause is what Colson calls the “Great Utopian Myth” – the belief that man can create utopia on earth by using science, education, law, the welfare system and the military etc. When there is denial of the evil propensity of the human heart these things will all fail to bring the desired result. But, it is not just the failure of the utopian dream that is of concern. When we deny sin or fail to recognise it as the root of the problem we lose the capacity to deal with it and actually allow it to compound its effect. Just as camouflage in warfare allows war machines to go undetected allowing them to be more destructive, so undetected sin is able to unleash its worst powers.

The need to discern man’s sinful nature as the root cause of a multitude of society’s problems is vital if Christians are to have a redemptive influence on culture. I confess I did not have this discernment until my study of Christian world view and in particular the book, How Now Shall We Live? This is why I believe our students need to complete the Christian Worldview course, based on Chuck Colson’s book, before they graduate. Our graduates will be going out into a world that not only denies the sinful nature of man but presents explanations about a myriad of issues that often blind Christians from discerning the true root cause of the problem. We must give them the ability to discern the root along with the ability to present Christ as the answer to the root problem.

Robert Steedman
Coordinator - NZ, Vanuatu, CI

For a full list of results from South Pacific Student Convention 2010...

Go to www.scee.edu.au then to the Schools Dept tab and you can check out the results earned by all of the students who attended the fantastic event!
Electronic Sceelerator

The Sceelerator is now available for download from www.scee.edu.au or you can have an electronic copy emailed directly to your email address. If you no longer want to receive a hard copy of the Sceelerator in the mail please let us know.

If you would like to receive the Sceelerator by email please send an email to chrislawrence@scee.edu.au and you will be added to the list.

2011 Student Convention Guidelines

The new guidelines are now available for download from www.scee.edu.au These Guidelines MUST be used for all Student Conventions in the South Pacific Region in 2011. Please destroy, delete, dispose of any old copies you may have floating around your school or home.

If you need a set of these Guidelines on CD please contact the Schools Services Department as soon as possible.

A.C.E. Presents 4th Edition!

The revised curriculum is being introduced gradually. New Score Keys will be required. Currently we are supplying the following Paces in the new 4th edition:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Social Studies</th>
<th>Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1001, 1002, 1007, 1010, 1015, 1025, 1026, 1027, 1030</td>
<td>1002, 1003, 1004, 1008, 1011</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other revised paces will follow throughout the year but the exact timing will vary from unit to unit. The revision mostly affects the first four levels in Social Studies and Science. The 3-in-1 keys commence at 25 now.

English Composition II (1-10) has been totally revised. New Score Keys are required.