From its humble beginnings in Sydney some 40 years ago and even prior to that in New Zealand and Papua New Guinea, Accelerated Christian Education/School of Tomorrow has been faithfully meeting the needs of Biblical World View Education for Christian families around the South Pacific region. Today, A.C.E. is being utilised to train young people in godliness in some 143 countries around the world; is used in over 6,000 schools and is reaching over one million young people every year.

That makes A.C.E. one of, if not the, largest grade school curriculum publishers in the world. It was a privilege at our recent Indonesian Educators’ Seminar, to hear Mr. Duane Howard, son of A.C.E. founders Drs. Donald and Esther Howard, and currently Vice President of A.C.E., speak of his experience in A.C.E. as a young man. He related how his parents had heard of another group that had started 30 schools and prayed, “Lord, allow us to start 30 schools using A.C.E.” Little could they have realised the abundance by which the Lord would answer their prayers.

A.C.E./School of Tomorrow is not just one of the largest grade school curriculum suppliers. You see, the Lord, true to His Word, has done “exceedingly abundantly above” all that they could ask or even think. Just follow with me some simple calculations for a moment. Assuming there are 1 million students on the A.C.E. Programme. That averages out at some 83,000 plus per grade level. Now, if there was an even distribution of students across the grades, that would mean over 83,000 young people graduating each year. Statistically, we know that that is not the case. Not all students go through to year 12 and not all students stay on the programme. However it is not unreasonable to assume that there would be half that number graduating from, or leaving the programme each year who have been effectively trained in the principles of the Word of God.

That means over 40,000 vibrant, prepared, enthusiastic young missionaries going out into their local communities, EVERY YEAR!! Consider that for a moment. I do not believe there is any other organisation in the world that can make that claim. It is just possible that A.C.E./School of Tomorrow is not just one of the largest curriculum distributors but also one of the foremost missionary organisations in the world.

John Haggai, one of the world’s foremost missionary statesmen, once said, “The best missionaries are born within the culture (in which they are serving)”, which is the very strategy of A.C.E. To train up young people right in the culture into which they will graduate. Young people who have a sound academic education, who have a heart for the Lord and who have the opportunity to reach their own generation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Are we doing the best we can to prepare these young missionary evangelists for the task ahead of them? I pray so. Many are the examples of A.C.E. graduates who have gone on to do great things for the Lord. One such example is Daniel Kolenda. Daniel graduated from a school in the USA which was commenced by his grandfather and later taken over by his father. He spent his entire school life in this school. He had two friends who graduated at the same time and the three young men made a pact together – the first one to find a ministry would be supported by the other two until they were established. Then the next would receive support and so on until all were faithfully serving the Lord.

Daniel was not the one to gain a ministry first and so he sought employment with a Christian ministry - in the mail room of Christ for All Nations, the ministry of one of the world’s greatest evangelists, Reinhard Bonnke. Soon, Daniel came to Reinhard’s attention as a faithful servant and was promoted to become Reinhard’s personal assistant. When Mr. Bonnke was praying about who should be his successor in the ministry of outreach into Africa, the Lord showed him that it was to be none other than Daniel Kolenda.
Daniel has for many years now worked alongside Reinhard Bonnke and is in the process of assuming responsibility for this amazing ministry reaching millions with the Gospel throughout Africa. Daniel has already, as a young man, personally seen more than 10 million people come to Christ under his ministry.

Daniel himself attributes his time in A.C.E. for preparing him for the ministry he now holds. He was six times winner of the Preaching event at International Student Convention.

A.C.E. is, indeed, “Reaching the World for Christ, One Child at a Time”!

Here, in our own region of ministry, our Board of Directors has seen the need for an expansion in the ministry of Southern Cross Educational Enterprises. So far, we have focussed on the training of young people. However there is an emerging need to do what we can to protect them, especially in the environment of today’s cyber connectivity. One of the most dangerous places for young people to go today is onto the internet! There are dangers lurking there to which we could never have imagined our vulnerable youngsters would be exposed. Yet, at the same time, it is one of the most rapidly growing media for education.

How do we allow our children to safely engage in the positive side of the World Wide Web but, at the same time, protect them from its dangers? We know that internet filtering software is ineffective. Astute youngsters, who often know more about the technology than their parents, find ways around this software almost as soon as it is installed. For those who can’t find their own solution, YouTube has an instruction video posted within 48 hours of the software being published!

Southern Cross Educational Enterprises is partnering with a group called Cybersafe247 which has devised a brilliant, and very secure, hardware based solution which embeds a programmable chip into the modem itself, filtering all of the content that comes into the home through your internet gateway. For the moment, this only works with ADSL based internet delivery, however research is currently being undertaken to make it available across all platforms. This then becomes the world’s first personal family firewall, filtering internet content and controlling internet access to every device connected to the network within the home.

This device has already been picked up by Amazon and is selling through their store for $299.00, a very reasonable price for such a device, since it requires no further software purchase, no individual installation onto each device and minimum maintenance. It also filters content to EVERY device, including smart phones, internet enabled tablets and games machines. It is customisable and full control is in the hands of the parent. Best of all, it is easily installed – just connect it to the network and follow the simple setup instructions (with online assistance if needed) and your family is protected!

SCEE has entered into an agreement with Cybersafe247 to distribute their product (which was created right here in Brisbane, though it is manufactured elsewhere) and, for a time, is making it available for the very reasonable price of AU$179.00.

Parents, if you have been looking for that elusive means to safely allow your children to browse the Web, then here it is. Of course, it can never take away the requirement for proper parental oversight. It can, however, be set to control the specific times (and hence the amount of time) each connected device can access the internet! This is a brilliant device and comes highly recommended as a MUST for every home that has internet access for children!

Southern Cross Educational Enterprises has also become increasingly aware of the worldwide trade in children, stolen or sold, sometimes by their own parents, into slavery in so many parts of the world. Destiny Rescue is a not for profit ministry that has been established to bring help to these vulnerable youngsters. Like so much of what afflicts our world today, the problem far outweighs the resources available to combat it. SCEE has partnered with Destiny Rescue to provide funds, from our allocated Missions resources, to help physically rescue young girls from the heinous crime of sex slavery right on our doorstep in South East Asia. You will hear more of this in the future when we will be looking for others with a heart to assist in some way.

SCEE is expanding its vision and mission to go beyond the bounds of training young people and to seek to protect as well as rescue them. Will you pray with us, and pray for us, that God will grant us favour in these endeavours to create a world where children can know and love Him, live in safety from the dangers that the enemy so forcefully throws at them and, when they do fall prey, help to rescue them from his clutches?

Let us Pray and work and serve together towards that end.

Bob Gregory
Managing Director & CEO
Home again! As the years role on “home again” has an increasingly nice sound. When I first started in this ministry the travel was quite exciting but now the gloss has faded and I do enjoy being “home again.” We are delivering a message about heaven at Student Conventions this year and I am reminded that when Jesus comes the expression will not be home again...it will home at last...or just “at home”. I am looking forward to that and like Abraham I am seeking a city whose builder and maker is God. Heaven is a wonderful place.

The last time I wrote to you we were in the heat of preparation for the inaugural Indonesian ACE Student Convention...well you will see in another part of this newsletter some photos and comments from the students of Indonesia and their supervisors. The Lord saw fit to bless us and there was a very large response to the preaching of God’s Word at the evening rallies. We are now praying that the decisions that were made will be long lasting and will impact the nation of Indonesia both now and in the future when these young people hold positions of authority in that country and are committed to making decisions with Godly integrity. All of the Schools’ Services Department Staff have worked very hard to achieve this goal but I want to say a very big thank you to Janto and Ester Djaja who are our coordinators in Indonesia. Without them it would just not have been possible. As you can imagine it is very difficult to organise a major event from afar and Janto and Ester just step into the gap and do a marvellous job - we are very blessed to have them on our team. Well Done guys! We are all now looking forward to Indonesian students being involved in the South Pacific Student Convention in Fiji in December. If some of these students do attend then regulars will need to lift because some of the student performances are already of international standard. There were a number of times last week when, with all our experience in conventions around the world, we just stood back and applauded the gifts that God had given these young people. Watch out South Pacific...Indonesia is coming!

We are excited about the Student Convention training that we have devised to help judges and sponsors understand the elements and educational foundation of an event like Student Convention. It was very evident in Indonesia last week that the three day training course we ran there last November had an impact on those who came to take various roles in the Convention. This training worked well in Fiji many years ago and has now been a real blessing in Indonesia. Mrs. Fisher and I have been to Gladstone and Atherton to do a mini version of the Convention Training and we have also held a two day seminar here in the office. We will be presenting this training at the Gold Coast, New Zealand and in Tasmania in the near future. Southern Cross Educational Enterprises is committed to equipping people to carry out their God ordained role in the education of the young people of our nations. We look for more opportunities to do more training and so if you think that your folk would benefit from understanding Student Convention better and being more ready for the challenges it presents then we would like to hear from you. Contact me and make a date for one or more of us to come and inspire and equip your staff to be ready to serve the Lord at a Student Convention.

Roy Savage
Manager
Schools Services Department

**South Pacific Student Convention**

**December 9-14, Suva, Fiji**

**ACE Graduates/Teachers Stories**

In recent issues we have heard about some of the things our graduates are doing/have done. If you know of students who have not only graduated from school but have now either graduated from tertiary study or are successful in the work place we would love to share their story. We would also like to hear from teachers/supervisors/monitors who would like to share some of their journey with ACE either in a school or homeschool environment. Send us an email with a picture or two and we will share your story with the ACE family.
Wow! What a week we have just had in Indonesia at their very first A.C.E. Student Convention. We were blessed to see so many gifted and talented young people drawn together in one place under God’s Word. It was a pleasure and a privilege to be at this event and see how powerfully God is moving in Indonesia. Student responses to the messages were amazing and support from the staff was just brilliant. We were also blessed to have help from Matthew Baker (Jubilee Christian College), Les and Glenys Furnivall (Hervey Bay Christian Academy) and Tim and Lisa Daniels (Former Homeschoolers), which was very much appreciated. It was exciting to see how the Indonesian staff have embraced the whole Convention idea, and how they wholeheartedly gave themselves as judges and supervisors of events. Thank you to those of you who prayed for us and the Indonesian Convention – your prayers were surely answered.

**PNG Mega Conference**

We are excited to announce the launch of the new PNG Curriculum will take place at the PNG Mega Conference this year. Please pray for these precious folk as it is always a challenge for them to come to Conference. Conference will be held from 1-3 May, at Eriku, Lae. Registration forms are currently available from the website at www.scee.edu.au

**South Pacific Educator’s Conference**

If you haven’t planned to come to SPEC this year – then think again! Our keynote speaker this year will be Dr. Greg Mutsch, Executive Director of Business Administration A.C.E., and his messages are not to be missed! We will also have Paul Davies talking to us about health issues. Paul is a naturopath and remedial massage therapist, and he has a message we need to hear about our bodies. SPEC Registrations will be out early April, so make sure that you register early. Conference will be from 19-21 June, 2012. Registrations will be available to download from the website at www.scee.edu.au

**ISC Update**

We have 1 student from Nadi Christian Community School in Fiji, and 1 student from ACC Moreton attending ISC this year. Please keep both the students and Mr. Savage and I in your prayers. ISC is from 19-24 May at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Kathy Fisher
Convention Coordinator
Schools’ Services Department
Being Normal

We have all heard the statement “That’s normal” or probably used it several times ourselves. Normal can be used to describe behaviour, thinking, expectations, results...there is no end to where “normal” could be used as a word to describe anything that is ordinary, common, or what is usually expected. We may tend to think that what is being described is ordinary, common, or what is “normal” could be used as a word to use. “Normal” can simply be a cultural construct. Every culture has a particular mind-set and where the majority within that culture hold to a common view on an issue, that would be considered to be normal. Unfortunately, if the mind-set is not Biblical a whole lot of things considered to be normal can be contrary to Christian standards and behaviour. When you consider that people will tend to conform to the majority opinion, normal can be quite deceptive and dangerous.

This is particularly so in Western Culture where there is a dualistic mind-set. In Western Culture we have made a separation between sacred areas of life and secular areas of life. During the period of the “Enlightenment” and the scientific revolution, Christianity was departmentalised – religion should be kept to the private sector. Our Western History has brought about this dualistic mind-set where the Bible is considered okay to give you personal convictions - values for you to live by but not being accepted as being valid in the “real” world. In this situation, normal is often determined by a secular outlook. In this context the warning in Romans 12, “Do not be conformed to this world...” can mean, “Do not be conformed to what is normal...” and because “normal” is okay we can often miss this serious warning. Young people are often susceptible to this deception.

This is one of the reasons why having a Biblical Worldview is so important. With a Biblical Worldview we train our minds to “view” life - all areas of life - from a Biblical perspective instead of having a secular outlook with which we have been indoctrinated by Western Culture. We need to be liberated from our cultural captivity. Our students need to be liberated from their cultural captivity which can often mean being liberated from that which seems normal. The Bible calls us to be a “peculiar people” - a term used to emphasise that our bearing in the eyes of the world would not be normal. In God’s economy a “peculiar people” would be normal.

Unless it is anchored in God’s Word something described as normal can be a most unreliable guide to what is “acceptable” - indeed it may lead us to what is corrupt. Only when moored to truth as revealed in the Bible can “normal” have an unchanging definition. God is the one who finally determines what is truly normal. Unless a Christian is established with a solid Biblical worldview “normal” can simply be like an ecclesiastical butterfly.

A normal Christian life may be considered abnormal in the eyes of the world but Christians are called to this abnormal normality.

Are you normal? This will often mean that you need to be abnormal.

Robert Steedman
Regional Coordinator
NZ, Vanuatu, Cook Islands
First Student Convention in INDONESIA...wow what a week!!

Jakarta

I can make new friends and see what my talents are. Valerie - Raising Stars

This convention has been really great for me and all the students. It was fun & challenged the hearts and minds of the students to continue to give their best with all that God has given to them.
Ps. Samuel Saputra - Destiny Institute

Jesus Christ can unite all the differences.
Diddy Yulius (Thomas’ father)

What I liked about the convention was my poetry recitation. I love the evening rallies. I would definitely come next year.
Ashely - LIFE Community School

I liked this convention because I can get more friends, and more knowledge.
Kevin - Destiny Institute

The best thing is to see a life-changing experience in the students’ lives and they can discover, develop, and dedicate God-given talents for God’s glory.
Catherine - Supervisor, LIFE Community School

24/7 Medal Winner
Tobie Djaja - BLCS

U14 Silver Apple Awards

Open Silver Apple Awards
I can have confidence on the stage. 
Thaddeus - Beacon Light Community School

I very much enjoyed meeting and competing with students from all over Indonesia. 
Lemuel - Destiny Institute

Having fun with new friends... of course!! 
Teofilus - Pelangi Kristus

Making new friends, and get ideas for art & craft. 
Chelsea - Wesley Pelita Bangsa School

The amazing talents and gifts God has given these Indonesian Students is truly awesome. I loved watching events, seeing the art & craft, & seeing how God is working in this land to bring His life through these students. 
Terri - Supervisor, Bethany School, Papua

Meet new friends and see the art works of my friends. 
Gladys - Beacon Light Community School

I LOVE STUDENT CONVENTION! It’s been a wonderful experience and I learnt so many new things and had heaps of fun! 
Vanessa - Beacon Light Community School

Be blessed and blessed. Impressive student performances & work & of course the teams dedication #1. 
Selvia - Supervisor, Cherish Internation School

It is a really, really great event. I am so blessed & had a fabulous experience at this convention. It was well organised indeed & appreciate the hard work of SCEE & volunteers. 
Yonita - Supervisor, Beacon Light Community School
Romans 5:8, ‘But God commendeth His love toward us’ is a great comfort, especially when the ‘going/doing gets tough’! We are very mindful that the expectations associated with the implementation of the Australian Curriculum could be overwhelming for Christian educators if we did not have a God Who never tires or retires from extending His love to us, through His gracious care of us. We trust that you have known and been blessed by His love in recent days.

AUSTRALIAN CURRICULUM V3.0 AUDIT PROGRESS UPDATE
The ESD Audit team is finalizing analysis reports on our audit of the Australian Curriculum v3.0 and we are again comforted by the Lord’s enabling and outcome. The appraisal has demonstrated that the A.C.E. curriculum materials will continue to meet educational needs and expectations within the context of Australian Curriculum requirements.

Our Australian Curriculum Audit Reports will be available by early April. The reports will be made available as Word documents on a CD attentive to each subject area, Math English, History and Science at each level, Foundation to Year 10, and will include:

- **Australian Curriculum v3.0 Audit Templates** incorporating ACARA work samples referenced to appropriate levels and content descriptors
- **Summary Statements of the Audit Analysis** including:
  - New Australian Curriculum Achievement Standards and A.C.E. Achievement Standards
  - Similarities and differences, identifying gaps and additional educational opportunities
- **Audit Procedure Update**
- **User’s Guide for Audit Templates**

In addition, the ACARA Work Samples will be presented on a separate disk as a complementary resource.

Please Note: Print-outs of the Work Samples are available from SCEE at $48 / set + postage and packing.

A flyer is included in this mail-out to facilitate ordering of these AC Audit tools.

Please Note: Schools that purchased the Audit Tool Resources v 2.1 will be posted the updated v3.0 disk.

*Updated A.C.E. Scope and Sequence, including National Curriculum* will also be available in April, both in printed and electronic copy.

STATE EDUCATORS’ CONFERENCES
ESD Audit Team members will be offering professional learning workshops at State Educators’ Conferences. The workshops will give opportunity to become more familiar with the Audit documents and ACARA resources. Confirmed dates for state forums are:

- **VICTORIA:** 16-17 April at River City Christian College, Echuca
- **NEW SOUTH WALES:** 24 – 25 May at Southern Cross Baptist Church School, Engadine
- **TASMANIA:** 1 June – venue to be advised
4th edition changeover

ALL PACEs in Social Studies 1001-1048 are now being supplied in 4th edition with the exception of the following:

1005; 1041; 1044 and all national units

ALL Paces in Science 1001-1048 are now being supplied in 4th edition with the exception of the following:

1032; 1046 and 1047

All new PACEs will require new keys.

2012 Student Convention Guidelines

Please be advised that there have been a number of major updates to the Student Convention Guidelines for 2012. 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 2012. Please destroy, delete, dispose of any old copies you may have floating around your school or home.

Educational Assistance, Monitor Missions, Educational Missions

Do you have a need in your classroom for monitors? Are you interested in making connections with ACE graduates from around the world? Perhaps you have graduates who are interested in making a difference to students in another country?

A.C.E. (Accelerated Christian Education) in America run a program called Educational Assistance. Under this program, graduates and adults are able to choose short (one year) or long-term opportunities to serve as educational assistants/monitors in ACE schools internationally. Mr. Robert Steedman, Regional Coordinator of NZ, Vanuatu, and the Cook Islands, has established a similar program called Monitor Missions which places graduates/adults from within the South Pacific Region in ACE schools also within the South Pacific Region.

Generally, participants in these programs finance their return flights, visas, passports, and spending money; while the host school provides accommodation, main meals, and general transport for the time that the participant is actively involved with the school. Any extras or alterations to what has just been mentioned are at the discretion of the school and the participant/s involved.

Over the past 12 months, we have received an increase in the number of graduates outside of the South Pacific region who are asking about opportunities to serve in ACE schools within the South Pacific Region. If you would be interested in either hosting international, ACE graduates or sending your graduates on short/long-term, cross-cultural experiences to ACE schools else-where in the world, then we would be delighted to hear back from you.

Please contact us via email: schools@scee.edu.au, or by fax: +61 7 3205 7331.