South Pac 2012
Ikabula said... “You should have been there!”

5 Countries Represented... 214 Competing Students
• They saw dolphins swimming for deeper water
• They saw elephants stampeding for higher ground
• They saw the sea begin to recede in a strange way

This so called ‘primitive’ tribe were able to connect these ‘disconnected’ events into an integrated whole.

But here’s what’s more interesting.

As they saw these ‘signs’ they started telling each other an ancient tribal story about: ‘The Wave That Eats People’.

This story allowed the leaders to tell their people about the danger approaching, so they could prepare themselves.

Likewise, visionary leaders use the power of stories to move people to action too. Life stories become one of the most powerful and effective means to communicate and motivate.

Having these stories embedded in their mind is what gives to our young people wisdom to respond to life’s circumstances. It enables them, like the Urak Lawoi, to see things the world does not and enables them to respond, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, in a manner which is mystifying to the world but which is both honouring to the Lord and leads them to safety and security in wise decision making.

A.C.E. is full of these stories, full of the Word of God and of examples of right thinking and Godly behaviour. It is full of practices and procedures that help train the responses of our young people to real life situations as they develop into mature adults and it is constructed in such a way as to bring out the very best in these precious souls.

Not only so, but the evidence of the outcomes of A.C.E. in the lives of its graduates is that they develop remarkable skills in critical and creative thinking.

It has long been a contention of mine that because God is a creative being, as demonstrated by the very first verse in the Bible, (Genesis 1:1 ‘In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.’) and He created us in His own image (Genesis 1:27; “So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.”), that God created man to also be a creative being.

Hence creative, critical and higher order thinking skills should be a natural consequence of at truly Christian education.

Bob Gregory
Managing Director & CEO

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 Indonesia.
• 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.
Oh how I praise God for January. January is the first month of the New Year and is indicative in my view of a new beginning. Welcome to the gift that God has given to every Educator. A new beginning, a new challenge, a new opportunity to impact the children and young people that God has entrusted to your care; a new opportunity to see young people commit their lives to Christ; a new opportunity for a positive change of values; a new opportunity to see young people develop their gifts and abilities; a new opportunity to teach young people to dedicate themselves to the Lord and the expansion of the Kingdom of God. Oh Yeh! Thank God for January!

The New Year opens for us here in the Schools’ Services Department with the full complement of staff remaining the same as last year for which we are very grateful. As far as events are concerned we start 2013 in the same location where it left off last year. Our last event last year was the South Pacific Student Convention which was in Fiji and our first event this year is school assistance visits and the ACE Educators’ Conference also in Fiji. The theme of Educators’ Conferences this year is following on after the US with “Stay the Course” however, the theme verse in our region will be Galatians 6:9 “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we will reap, if we faint not.” We will be holding the Fiji annual A.C.E. Educators’ Conference at Nausori Baptist Christian Academy and if you need details you can contact Ps Kory Mears at kory.mears@gmail.com The program will also appear on our web site at www.scee.edu.au

In our entire region, apart from Indonesia, schools ‘go back’ at the end of January. Consequently the concept of doing staff training in preparation for the start of the school year is a popular activity in the month of January. A number of graduates of our Train the Trainers program have initiated training in their own area this season and we are blessed that the trainer idea seems to be working. It is just not humanly possible for us in the office to get out and do all the training. If it was that the only way training could occur was for me to head it up then we would accomplish so much less. Training this January alone has taken place in: Wau and Goroka, PNG; Nadi and Suva, FIJI; Atherton, QLD; Lake Taupo, NEW ZEALAND as well as here in the new training centre at our office. I am also aware of training being planned in Mildura, VIC and also in NAURU.

I want to encourage everyone to attend an Educators’ Conference in your region and benefit from both the fellowship and the ministry. We are expanding our conference schedule this year to take in an extra conference in Rabaul...as long as Mt Tavurvur behaves herself. At the moment flights have been suspended because of the volcanic ash in the air so we are praying that Mt Tavurvur has a little sleep for a while over April-May. We are also planning to get back to the Solomon Islands and continue to minister to the schools there. You might like to pray for us as we travel to minister to the people of God and support them in their God give task of training their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

(TGFJ) Thank God for January.

Roy Savage
Manager
Schools’ Services Department
Happy New Year to all! I hope that you are looking forward to this new year as much as I am. We are so blessed to be entrusted with the lives of young people throughout the South Pacific. It's my prayer that you will be inspired by God's Word this year and that you will be refreshed and have a renewed vision to impart to your students.

First, to fill you in on our fabulous Fijian South Pacific A.C.E. Student Convention... it was truly an awesome experience! We started off with a wonderful Opening Ceremony in true Fijian style with the blowing of the Daviu (Conch shells) and beating of the Lali (wooden drum) to announce the occasion. Then Suva Christian Community High School presented a history of one of the early missionaries to Fiji in a celebration of narrative, mime and song. Although numbers were down very much on past South Pac’s the wonderful spirit of fellowship was certainly prevalent. Our 4 young preachers, Penioni Kuinikoro from Fiji, Joel McGeorge from New Zealand, Michael Doherty from USA and Stephen Villarreal from Mexico/USA, treated us to great challenges from God’s Word and I found them to be truly inspiring. It was a real joy to see these young men, two of whom I had watched grow throughout their Convention years, take the stage with such confidence and authority. What a blessing! There were also some absolutely wonderful performances at South Pac, if the Command Performances that I saw were anything to go by. Make sure that you are planning for our next South Pac in 2014 in SYDNEY.

Regional Conventions
Our first Convention this year is coming up quickly. Indonesia, with a huge increase in numbers attending this year, will lead off the Conventions in March, followed by ISC in May then PNG in July, Australia North in August, New Zealand and Tasmania in September, then Australia South in October. You might have noticed that we no longer have QLD, Victoria or NSW Convention listed separately. As numbers in NSW were too low to continue, SCEE has decided to integrate NSW into the other Conventions on the East Coast of Australia, thus Australia North and Australia South. All schools and homeschoolers should be aware that they are eligible to attend any Student Convention in the South Pacific or Indonesia. We are eagerly looking for people interested in being 24/7 Squad at any of these Conventions (application forms are available from www.scee.edu.au).

New Guidelines
Please throw out any old copies of the guidelines that may be hiding in your classrooms or offices! New Convention Guidelines are available at www.scee.edu.au or by email request from schools@scee.edu.au. There are some new events and some significant changes to the old Guidelines so DO NOT use them for Conventions.

International A.C.E. Student Convention
Expressions of Interest emails have been sent out for ISC in January. If you or anyone at your school is interested in going to ISC this year please let me know kathyfisher@scee.edu.au. It is an excellent opportunity for your students to not only meet people from all around the world, but to share with 3,000 others in a Convention setting at the beautiful Central Missouri University. Following Convention there is an opportunity to join in a tour taking in some of the wonderful sights of heartland America including the amazing Creation Museum. It’s not too late to plan and go!

Educator’s Conferences
PNG Mega Conference will be held from 1-3 May this year. For the first time this year we will also be holding an Educators’ Conference in Rabaul from 6-7 May. Registrations will be available for download from the web in January and will also be posted to each school. Registration for these Conferences is essential as we only bring enough Conference materials for those who have registered prior to Conference. We are looking forward to a great time of fellowship and challenges during these Conferences.

South Pacific Educator’s Conference will be held at Watson Park, Dakabin, QLD from 18-20 June. Registration for this Conference is essential and Registration Forms will be sent to each school early February and will also be available for download from www.scee.edu.au. Don’t miss this great Conference!

Convention Training
This training is on offer to all schools and homeschool groups. If you are interested in having your staff and parents do this training please contact kathyfisher@scee.edu.au. We are looking forward to helping equip you for Student Conventions.
2013 REGIONAL A.C.E. STUDENT CONVENTIONS

REGION DATE LOCATION
Indonesia March 11 - 15 Jakarta
Papua New Guinea July 8 - 12 Lae
Fiji July 29 - August 2 Suva
Australia North August 19 - 23 Dakabin, QLD
New Zealand September 9 - 13 Auckland
Tasmania September 23 - 27 Ulverstone, TAS
Australia South October 14 - 18 Rawson Village, VIC

A.C.E. Student Conventions...Worldwide!

Please add these to your prayer list remembering the impact that convention has on the lives of all who attend...Where else can one week last a lifetime!

February 6-8 Puerto Rico
March 4-8 Palacios, Texas
March 5-8 Muncie, Indiana
March 5-9 Mexico Central
March 11-15 Cookeville, Tennessee
March 11-15 Riverside, California
March 11-15 Socorro, New Mexico
March 12-15 Macomb, Illinois
March 12-15 Springfield, Missouri
March 12-16 Mexico North
March 19-22 Oshkosh, Wisconsin
March 25-28 Clinton, Mississippi
March 25-28 Newberg, Oregon
March 25-29 Rosman, North Carolina
March 27-30 China
April 1-5 Hudson, Florida
April 2-5 Lake Park, Georgia
April 2-5 European
April 8-12 Cedar Hill, Texas
April 9-12 Bradley, West Virginia
April 10-11 Maritime, Canada
April 15-18 Mt. Bethel, Pennsylvania
April 17-19 St. Cloud, Minnesota
April 22-16 Schroon Lake, New York
April 24-26 Ontario, Canada
May 7-10 Adrian, Michigan
May 6-8 Prairie, Canada
May 6-8 Philippines
September 9-13 Malaysia
September 23-27 All Africa

International Student Convention
26-30 May
Warrensburg, Missouri

2014 South Pacific A.C.E. Student Convention

When: November 30 - December 5, 2014
Location: The Tops Conference Centre
Stanwell Tops, New South Wales
Regional Educators’ Conferences

Date Claimers

Fiji: 4-5 February; Nausori Baptist Christian Academy
Contact: Kory Mears...kory.mears@gmail.com
Victoria: 15-16 April
Contact: Mildura Christian College...admin@milduracc.vic.edu.au
Tasmania: 18 April
Contact: Seabrook Christian School Launceston Campus...
somerset@seabrook.tas.edu.au
New Zealand: 22-23 April; Auckland
Contact: Robert Steedman...rlsteedman@vodafone.co.nz
Papua New Guinea Mega Conference: 1-3 May; Lae
Contact: SCEE...schools@scee.edu.au
Papua New Guinea Rabaul: 6-7 May; Rabaul
Contact: SCEE...schools@scee.edu.au
Solomon Islands: 27-28 August; Honiara
Contact: SCEE...schools@scee.edu.au
Indonesia: 8-9 November
Contact: Janto Djaja...janto.sceeindonesia@gmail.com

Aim to bring all of your staff to conference...

South Pacific Educators’ Conference

Galatians 6:9
“Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary.”

Stay the Course
South Pacific A.C.E. Educators’ Conference
June 18-20, 2013

Plan now to attend...
"Culturally Acceptable"

“The devil made me do it!” was once a not too subtle way of justifying wrong doing. Now a more subtle statement to justify oneself would be, “The culture made me do it!” However, it’s not likely we would actually say such a thing as we would probably be unaware that our behaviour was actually wrong doing because the culture around us accepts such behaviour now. The counterpart today could be, “It’s culturally acceptable so I can do it.”

Today, culture has ascended the throne that determines what is right and acceptable in society. The true Christian position would reject such a view but even though it may be verbally rejected by most among the ranks of those that call themselves Christian their actions (or lack of actions) would often reveal that they actually accept it. Culture has a powerful influence on us and it is very difficult not to be indoctrinated by it.

There was a time in western culture that words like “progress” and “reason” were the driving force. Now it is “tolerance” and “culture”. These two working together are giving subculture groups in the West power to dictate to the majority how they should live, what they should accept, and what they should believe. The scary thing is how successful they have been. Society’s thinking about abortion, anti-smacking and now gay marriage reveal this.

The rationale for these and many other issues are drawn from a subtle mixture of tolerance, equal rights, cultural acceptance and secular thinking. Any biblical revelation that may shed light on the need for a contrary conclusion has already been hi-jacked by western culture’s dualistic mind-set that limits biblical conviction to the private sphere – if there is any conviction at all. Culture, devoid of true biblical convictions, can be a dangerous thing. “Cult” is the root word of the word culture and the dictionary defines cult as “a system of religious belief”. Religion is at the heart of culture but when this is rejected, even side lined, then that culture is in trouble. It now becomes manipulated to accept that which was unacceptable in the past. This is the problem in the West today.

With the whole world clamouring to become westernised because of the past demonstration of abundance, progress, justice, material blessings, freedom and respect for human life - what they will now get is not just a hollow shell but a dangerous concoction of humanistic philosophy. They do not realise that western culture has been hi-jacked – the religious core has been snuffed out. Friedrich Nietzsche saw this back at the close of the nineteenth century and described it as “God is dead”. He went on to predict that because “God was dead” the twentieth century would become the bloodiest in history and that universal madness would break out. Ironically, Nietzsche spent his last thirteen years insane. His philosophy may have been wrong but he saw the logical connection between the rejection of God and the behaviour of man.

There is a logical connection too with the rejection of God and culture ascending the throne that is now “vacant”. Culture now determines what is right and acceptable in society. Those who want to become westernised need to realise that the West is not what it used to be. The warning in Colossians 2.8 “Beware lest anyone take you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy…” could now apply to the West. But it is not only they who can be deceived, so many in the West blithely remain unaware of the seriousness of the situation - that the water is near boiling and that the frog is all but dead.

There is an urgent need for Christians to discern and cast off the unbiblical influences of culture. Liberating Christianity from its Cultural Captivity is the sub-title of Nancy Pearcey’s book Total Truth. This concept that Christianity can be taken captive by culture is very real today. Christians need to liberate their religion from its cultural captivity. Culture is not lord, Jesus is, but if we do not enthrone Him as Lord of all aspects of culture then, in time, we may find ourselves saying, “It’s culturally acceptable so I can do it.”

Robert Steedman
Coordinator - NZ, Vanuatu, CI

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!

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.
South Pac 2012... from the Jenkinson Family
(excerpt from the Home Schooling New Zealand Newsletter)

Last December 33 New Zealanders flew into the heat and humidity of a Fijian summer for the biennial South Pacific Student Convention. Since beginning Conventions in 2006, our family has taken advantage of the training opportunities Convention provides. We were drawn to the unashamed Biblical Worldview upheld by the Convention vision; namely the fundamental belief that talents and abilities are given by God, and therefore should be developed for the glory and purposes of God.

Apart from the excitement of our students competing in and gaining awards in many events, we were able to experience other cultures, lose weight and get lost as we ran between events around the university campus, meet old friends, make new friends, and find new meaning in the term “sleep deprivation” when some lovely islanders stayed up to the small hours, socializing and singing.

After a full day of events, the Evening Rallies capped the day with event highlights (command performances), and Biblical teaching from four young men, former A.C.E. students, including one from HSNZ.

There are many avenues open to families to be involved in Christian ministry and service firstly at home, and then by reaching out to the community. For those who want a training framework to develop their skills and gifts, the A.C.E. Student Convention experience and “family” is a great environment of inspiration, example, nurture and encouragement.

Angela Jenkinson (parent)

For a full list of results go to www.scee.edu.au and you can check out the results earned by all of the students who attended this fantastic event!
A New Year!

We share the excitement of beginning a new year with you, anticipating that there will be both joys and challenges in our endeavours as we seek to serve the Lord in the Ministry of Christian education.

The launch of the new SCEE website is providing a facility to inform providers of the Accelerated Christian Education (A.C.E.) program of support services offered by the Educational Services Department while giving access to information about our educational resources: We invite you to become familiar with the website: www.scee.edu.au/esd

Australian Curriculum Update from the Australian Curriculum Website

Version 4.0 of the Australian Curriculum was released on 10/12/2012.

Curriculum version history changes are:

• Inclusion of senior secondary Australian Curriculum (content and achievement standards) for 14 subjects in English, Mathematics, Science and History
• Revised home page to access F-10 curriculum and Senior secondary curriculum

The work sample portfolios are under revision to include satisfactory, above satisfactory and below satisfactory annotated work samples. The original work sample portfolios remain on the website, and are different from the new work samples. The new work sample portfolios are under development, and at 23/1/2013 they were available to year 3 in Science, Year 1 in Mathematics, Foundation Year in History and there are no new work samples in English as yet.

The SCEE Australian Curriculum Audit resources for Version 3.0 are not affected by this update.

SCEE * Audit Booklets v3.0 are available to schools. *See www.scee.edu.au
Price:
1. Complimentary for schools who have previously purchased Audit Booklets v2.0
2. $200 for schools who have not previously purchased Audit Booklets v2.0

We are aware of some editing errors in these documents, e.g. Year 9 Maths: ACMNA208 should read Math PACE 1107, not PACE 1102. ACARA will continue updating Australian Curriculum resources and requirements and will be attentive to these updates in future audits.

Did you know?
You can purchase from the SCEE warehouse teaching resource for non-English speaking students:

• Speaking English with Ace and Christi
This course is sixty (60) lessons for the Pre-school child for whom English is a second language to acquaint and prepare them for learning to read the English language. The course comes with a manual. Students work from twelve (12) units which are activities for vocabulary and conversation reinforcement and evaluation of student comprehension.

• English As Your Second Language?
This is a ten (10) video course designed for the non-English speaking student, with an adult maturity level of thinking. 64 lessons introduce a 1200 word vocabulary with new vocabulary and phonetic sounds. The student uses a workbook in conjunction with the video lessons.
New Maths PACEs 1085 – 1096 have arrived!
A Scope and Sequence will be available soon on the website.

**Australian Educators’ Conferences**

**VICTORIA**
April 15 – 16
Host School: Mildura Christian College
admin@milduracc.vic.edu.au

**TASMANIA**
April 18
Host School: Seabrook Christian School Launceston Campus
somerset@seabrook.tas.edu.au

*Your prayer support is sought and valued as we continue to support customers in their on-going commitment to training the next generation of Christian leaders.*

Information relating to our support services and the Audit resource materials is available by contacting kathleencarins@scee.edu.au or the SCEE office.