

the link



TEE COLLEGE

equipping anyone
anywhere for ministry

the link newsletter November 2009

TEE College forges ahead into the future

Bishop Peter Lee

Dear friends of TEE College

At the September College Council meeting the Revd Kelvin Harris completed his term as Chair after 6 years; we are very grateful to him for his service especially during the recent vacuum in the principal's post at the College.

Kelvin came into the chairmanship a little early because his predecessor's term was cut short by a new ministerial appointment; therefore Council decided to bring the election and appointment back into line with that of other officers by conducting the elections of the Chair and the membership of the Executive at the AGM in March next year.

Hence as Kelvin's deputy, I have been asked to hold the fort for the interim months. This is quite a task as it involves consolidating the restructuring programme which was aimed at streamlining junior staff posts and releasing funds for more senior staff to be appointed; supervising the appointment of the new Principal; sorting out all the job descriptions, letters of appointment, the staff code of conduct; and trying to support the present staff as they carry extra burdens during the interim time.

Megan Baxter as the one remaining director is doing a remarkable job in this period of flux. The Revd Craig Dunsmuir who joined as Administration Manager in May arrived just in time to sort out many of the technical hassles around the requirements for submitting statutory data to SAQA's National Learner Registration Database, and the registration process for 2010.

The Executive has promoted Caroline Tuckey as Senior Academic in recognition of her crucial role in the College, ahead of the expected appointment of another academic once the new Principal is in place. We look forward to introducing the new Principal and extra academic in the next issue, and at the April graduation - which, as always, will be a big and joyful occasion for many students and for the College.

Sincerely in Christ,
Bishop Peter Lee
Acting Chair of College Council



Bishop Peter Lee (College Council Deputy Chairman), Ms Elsie Mbomvu (Registrar).



“A great army of heaven's angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God: 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased!'”

The theme “peace” is so tantalising, yet seemingly elusive. The Christmas preparation season reminds us that peace is gift from God to be treasured as we prepare to welcome a child who is also the Prince of Peace.

How can I find peace, is a question often asked. Our news is filled with wars and atrocities, we are saddened as we witness the things that rip and tear at people's relationships. It seems that things are more easily broken down than built up. We carry the pain of people we know who themselves are hurt or are in anguish or confusion - and we wish peace for them.

This season of peace often sees our own lives become more hectic. We have high expectations for a special celebration (even for our exam results), we try to fit in more, do more, and spend more time with people. We celebrate (or try to forget about) what is past and look towards the future.

In all that busyness it isn't easy to find inner stillness, to recall with assurance that we are most wonderfully loved by the most important person in the universe. That we would know peace amid the craziness around us, be at peace in our activities and in time spent with people, also those who have no peace.

May the birth of the Prince of Peace speak to your heart, and may your celebration of his continued presence among us speak peace to those around you this Christmas.

The College staff wish you a blessed Christmas graced with the peace of God.

The Link

staff changes at TEE College

In recent months the College has said goodbye to some members of staff

Tony Moodie – Our principal resigned at the end of June to take up a new position as principal of a denominational college in the United Kingdom. This allows Tony and Margaret to be nearer their family. Staff found Tony to be a quiet, steadfast man with a strong moral grounding. His door was always open to staff members who needed his help and advice, and even as our principal he was willing to roll up his sleeves and help out. He always put students first, and was instrumental in achieving the College's official registration and accreditation.

Trevor Oosthizen – Trevor looked after the College mail and dispatch processes, and in the less busy times of the year attended to the maintenance needs of the College facilities. He streamlined the dispatch process which enabled temporary workers to easily assist in the busier registration periods. Although often a quiet person, his cheerful whistling would be heard on a visit to dispatch.

Jenny Slater – A member of College Council, and dean of the John Vianney (Catholic) Seminary, Jenny joined the staff as Senior Academic. She helped bring the College's newer qualifications into line with statutory requirements. Tea-times had staff crying with laughter as Jenny shared some of her many life experiences with us. She could tell even the dullest story with full animation and humour. Jenny has accepted a position as Head of Department at UNISA, but continues with TEE as a course advisor and an internal moderator.

Cherie van der Merwe – Cherie looked after the Certificate programme, and carried additional work as Gauteng regional co-ordinator. She kept all the regional co-ordinators up-to-speed with College developments, and helped lead the Markers workshops at College and in the regions. She brought the new certificate course, 'Called to Discipleship' (course 270) to fruition.

Lucy Modipane – Lucy was the College's frontline - our receptionist. With never a hair out of place or a chipped nail, Lucy always looked like she had just stepped out of the salon. She had a cheeky sense of humour and a no nonsense attitude as she handled the switchboard and front door with aplomb. Lucy will also be helping the College with translation work for our Award programme from time to time.

Emily Christmas – a volunteer worker supported by Global Ministries, Emily arrived a month before Margaret retired as librarian. God's timing! In today's times when the economy is affecting us all, Emily's service to the College is certainly a blessing. As a budding story writer herself, the library has been the perfect position for her. Her kind, patient and helpful nature will certainly be missed as she prepares to return to the United States at the end of the year.

The College has been built upon the contributions of many people over many years. We give thanks to God for those who have given of themselves to this work, to developing students, and to enabling ministers and ministry anywhere.

new staff members

Yoliswa Siwa (Receptionist) – Originally from the Eastern Cape, Yoliswa has quickly found her feet at the College reception desk. Her gentleness and kindness disguise her firmness as she very ably deals with visitors and queries from callers. Managing six incoming lines, plus faxes, and visitors, she is kept quite busy.

Talia Isaacs (Admin Assistant) – Stepping into Grace's shoes, Talia helps with Student Support, assists in dispatch and with the mail, and also provides support in academic administration. Our youngest member of staff, she easily holds her own among the 'oldies', and is currently working towards her driver's license.

Lucy Mpho Nkhaphe (Housekeeper) – Mpho is the College mother. Not only does she keep the College facilities spick and span, but also takes care of all of our individual needs. Mpho has a great sense of humour and is always laughing.

Craig Dunsmuir (Administration Manager) – If you come into the college to register and see a human blur zooming past you, it is probably Craig. He has been implementing new procedures that will definitely make TEE College run more smoothly. We are all excited to see what he comes up with next.

With all the changes, let's not forget the current staff who have served the College and its students over many years: Megan Baxter (Director: Finance & Administration), Debbie Chittenden (Bursar), Terri-Lee Chittenden (Finance Clerk), Elsie Mbomvu (Registrar), Julia Molatjie (Student Support), Gill Oosthuizen (Systems Administrator), Hester Scheepers (Student Services), & Caroline Tuckey (Senior Academic).

The College has experienced a land invasion – not a 'plakker' but a 'cluck-ker'. A black speckled hen has taken up residence on the College grounds. Nicknamed 'Nandos' she enthusiastically greets staff each morning, and blesses us with regular eggs.



Left to Right: Yoliswa Siwa, Craig Dunsmuir, Mpho Nkhaphe, & Talia Isaacs.

Appointments in 2010

College Principal - the College Council has been interviewing potential candidates for the position of Principal, and hope to make an appointment that will complete the senior management team of the College. Please do pray for this process and the impact it will have on the College's work.

Academic - with new qualifications in the pipeline and expanding student needs, the Council intends to appoint a new staff member to the Academic team once the appointment of Principal has been made. Although a lower-key appointment, this person will add valuable capacity to the College team. Do pray for the process of discerning the specific needs that are to be addressed, and then that we are able to find the right person to join us.



achieving the outcomes

Final year Degree students had to write a story about their studies, showing how they achieved the exit level outcomes for the Bachelor of Theology. I was so excited as I marked them that I decided some of their comments should be shared with everyone. If you need some encouragement in your studies – READ ON.

“For as long as I can remember there has been a struggling for more and a deeper understanding of the More to which my Christian faith has pointed. Over the course of these past six years of study I have had the opportunity to grapple with these issues”

“I learnt not just techniques of management but a model of service that was authentic to the Gospel and a joy to put into practice.”

“We are called to love God with all our heart and soul and mind – but the mind is so often neglected. When I picked up the first workbook and started reading about the Documentary Hypothesis my excitement was palpable. Why had nobody ever pushed that revolutionary information my way? This was what I wanted to be doing.”

I was fascinated by the JEDP theory of the origins of the Pentateuch and the realization that the material differs according to source and this has helped in discussions with extreme fundamentalists.

“Supported by my studies I am beginning to minister more effectively to those of other cultures and we regularly have spirit filled and moving services.”

“Exegesis reading behind the text, in the text and in front of the text enabled me to seek deeper understanding of Jesus’ life and how he related to the ordinary people as he met their needs. I was empowered in my faith and also as a preacher seeking to proclaim the word of God. “

“The course that became a jewel for my spirituality was Journeying in Faith. It exposed me to a range of Christian spiritualities and helped me form a rule of life. I now attend at least two silent retreats per year and I learned about ‘journaling’ which helps me to keep track of my special moments in the presence of God.”

“Through the analysis of my context in the HIV and Aids course we have designed a programme that once every month one Sunday is dedicated to the pandemic. We light a candle and pray for those affected and infected. We are seeking to strengthen our soup kitchen and to form partnerships to reach out to more people.”

My studies have given me skills to work in my cross-cultural community and I have been challenged to be intentional about transformation and now I play a more constructive role in helping to facilitate moral decisions e.g. around the xenophobia issue.

My experience of the outreach project (Course 7001) was transformative for me. I gained a new gratitude for what I have and a new appreciation for the lives of those who are different from me. These experiences have helped me deepen my appreciation for difference

In course 7001 I worked with orphaned and vulnerable children using both social and theological analysis. My role was an attempt to create possibilities for these children, to actualize God’s vision for their futures. It was transformative and not merely remedial or pastoral. I have been able to share this with others and there seems to be a hunger for approaches to communities that are transformative and hopeful and future orientated.

These studies have been highly beneficial, first because I have greater confidence; secondly for new knowledge and ideas, thirdly much material has been of great value for sermons and finally there is the stimulus of continuing study.

My studies have taught me to be aware of the unique gifts brought to life by both men and women and the fact that every woman being created by God in God’s

image has the right and responsibility to exercise her God given potential and need to be accorded respect without being patronized.

In working on projects I have realized how successful it is to unite putting aside religious differences and focusing on common goals.

If the church’s ministry is to be anything like Jesus ministry then it must take the marginalized and the poor and the sinners seriously. Homosexuals and people living with HIV and Aids are the religious outcasts of the day and are often not welcomed in the church. We are commanded to be compassionate and that is how we can live more faithfully toward the vision of God’s reign

As a mature student who has been studying for many years the TEE experience has been an eye opener and a nightmare. An eye opener as achieving outcomes was something new and a nightmare at times when time was of the essence and I had to fulfill a practical task.

I was introduced to ideas and concepts I was not aware of and they moved me from my position on various issues into new ways of seeing things.

I have endeavored to meet and engage with those of other faiths and to try to understand their core values and beliefs. I even bought a copy of the Quran. I learnt that the Church should respect and be sensitive to other cultures and religions.

Theological studies have made me to hunger for more knowledge of God. Before embarking on my studies I used to think that only ministers were theologians, but as of now I know that all believers are called to be theologians.

[The Link](#)

New qualifications

The education landscape is continually shifting in South Africa. 2014 should see the full implementation of the new Higher Education Qualification Framework. That will affect TEEC’s registered programmes (the Dip.Th.Min and the B.Th).

In preparation for this the College Council has recently agreed to some important changes to our programmes. The degree programme will be amended and acquire a new name – although the content will remain largely the same. The Diploma requires some drastic reworking, and so the decision was made to phase out the current 2-year diploma (which retains its current registered and accredited status), and to introduce a new 3-year diploma with a new name. The new diploma will have a significantly different structure to make it a flexible programme that can serve a variety of ministry needs.

In addition to this the Council has agreed to two new 1-year programmes: the Higher Certificate in Theology, and the Advanced Certificate in Theology. Each of these is a complete qualification, with the advantage of the one building on the other.

The College is currently registering the new programmes, and building their curriculum content. Once accredited, students can register for the new programmes from October 2010 (for the 2011 academic year).

finding library resources

- Your local church may have a library
- Your minister might have appropriate materials
- Check libraries in your local community
- Your church denomination might have library resources, especially in the training department
- Ask your TEE Regional Co-ordinator
- Don't forget that TEE College has a lending library



TEE College runs a lending library on the Johannesburg campus. Students in the area are welcome to visit it (please bring your student card), but all students are welcome to make use of the library through ordering materials, which will be posted to you.

Your TEE course materials are sufficient to help you achieve the outcomes of your course. However, if you want to do better than simply achieving the outcomes then you need to do extra reading and extra work.

Your handbook will explain how to borrow materials from the TEEC library. Remember that all books borrowed must be returned, and the cost of postage is to be paid by you. Any books borrowed will be sent to you by registered post, and you must send them back to the College library by registered post. The librarian will inform you of those costs, and they will be charged to your student account.

Your postal-loan period is four weeks, after which you will be fined for late returns. You may request an extension of an extra two weeks – you must phone and ask for an extension, it will not be granted automatically. Even if you ask for an extension it might not be granted if other students are waiting to use the book you have – so plan your study time well when you receive library items.

Photocopies :: Instead of requesting that a book be sent to you, it is possible to have relevant parts photocopied (only portions, not big sections! This restriction is imposed by copyright Law). The cost of photocopy, plus the postage to send it to you will be charged to your account. You keep the photocopies, there is no need to return them.

Reference books, Journals & Magazines will not be posted, but you can request photocopies of articles from these.

Your course material may suggest some books that are available from the TEEC library. When you phone the TEEC library have your student number ready, and explain clearly what you are looking for – if you can give the bibliographic reference then the librarian will more easily locate what you are looking for.

How to choose an appropriate book to use in your assignment:

- is the author an authority on the topic?
- does that author present a variety of views on the topic (good), or only one view (then you will need to balance that view with the thoughts of other authors)?
- is the publication recent? (see the copyright notice behind the title page of the book for the date – do not confuse the copyright date with the re-print date)
- is the book published by a well-known and respected publisher?

How to choose a good internet article:

- the same criteria as for a reference book apply – although the information is not always as easy to find on the web page.
- does the hosting domain belong to a recognisable and respected institution / organisation, or is it a private / personal site?

How to use Wikipedia!

Remember that encyclopaedias are secondary sources, not primary sources – their articles are a summing up of many other sources. Use the article to get ideas for further research / reading.

Wikipedia is an editable source – anyone (including you) can write anything on those pages and then 'quote' it. Do not base your assignment on Wikipedia articles. Look at the links and references at the end of articles for ideas of other authoritative web sites on the topic.

Plagiarism

If you quote from a source – your workbook, a reference book, a newspaper, the internet – you must put the copied words in quotation marks, and you must give a reference for the quote, and you must include the source in your reference list.

Assignment answers may not simply be a string of quotations – you must show your own thinking in your own words. Quotations support your answer, they don't replace it. The penalty for plagiarism is automatic failure for your assignment – see your yearbook.

Some examples of library books available for postal-loan:

“Introduction to Biblical Studies”.

Steve Moyise (1998)

“Introducing the New Testament”.

John Drane (1986)

“Initiation into Theology”.

Simon Maimela & Adrio König (eds) (1998)

“Christian Spirituality in South Africa”.

Celia Kourie & Louise Kretzschman (2000)

“Christianity in South Africa”.

Richard Elphink & Rodney Davenport (eds) (1997)

The Link

TEE College PO Box 74257 Turffontein 2140 Johannesburg
Tel: 011 683 3284 Fax: 011 683 3522 admin@tee.co.za www.tee.co.za

Association Incorporated under Section 21,

No. 2007/030481/08

**Theological Education
by Extension College**

