



## ASOCIACIÓN DE SEMINARIOS E INSTITUCIONES TEOLÓGICAS

### Report for WOCATI

Appreciated brothers of WOCATI.

We greet all of you sincerely in our Lord's Jesus Christ name. We present this to you as a brief report about what have been the tasks and activities of our institution in the course of the period 2005-2007.

#### I. Objectives and Goals of the Period

Continuing what has been practice of our Executive Commissions, we continued in this period with the following objectives.

- A. To promote the Theological Education.
- B. To promote teachers training.
- C. To promote the institutional exchange, teachers and students.
- D. To promote books production about counseling and theological themes.
- E. To promote support between the institutions.

Our Goals were:

- A. Search and installation of the new Executive Secretary
- B. Affiliation of new institutions.
- C. Accomplish Executive Commission meetings
- D. Continue with the book publications and with ASIT magazine.
- E. Optimize the activities of the work Areas
- F. Optimize the work of the National Secretaries.

#### II. Report of the Work Areas

##### Libraries

In this area we have worked on the following projects:

- A. We have sent to all the institutions a report of the libraries of our member institutions related to the ASIT Libraries Integration Plan. This was to know about the strengths and the needs of the Libraries.
- B. ASIT Library: in the almost 50 years of its existence the association has published and supported some publications. But only during the last years we have been able to preserve a copy of the same. There was a review produced of the publications and with the brothers institutions contributions, this is being elaborated in that library.
- C. Latin American Net of Theological Information: The aim is to allow for the participation in this net of all the librarians of our institutions. The cooperative work avoids duplication efforts.
- D. Recommended bibliography: this was a request of some institutions, they have been accomplished bibliographies with recommendable materials, in different thematic areas.
- E. To promote internet sites that can help our institutions in the material search.

## **Academic Evaluation and Accrediting**

In this working area we have continued with the task of giving advice to our institutions in accrediting procedures.

The coordinator of this area jointly with the Executive Secretary attended to the institutions that requested to be accredited.

The coordinator with the director and the executives of the different seminars worked together during the necessary days in the evaluation of these institutions. After the institutional evaluation, it was recommended that these institutions are affiliated to ASIT

## **News Alternatives in Theological Education**

For this period we can mention the task which was concretized by organizing and developing three Educational Formation Seminars. This was accomplished in 2004, 2006 and 2007.

These seminars were achieved in three periods of three days each during these years in a clear fellowship framework and exchange between the students, relying also on the great contribution which was offered by specialized teachers of different institutions.

In these three seminars the following topics were developed:

- 1°. "Learning and Educational Practices in the Superior Level" - 30 registered.
- 2°. "Technical and Practical Dimensions of Institutional Evaluation. The Crediting". 25 registered.
- 3°. "Elements of the Distance Education" - 28 registered.

28 persons participating of different seminars of Argentina, Chile and Uruguay and completed all the requirements in these three Seminars, thereby receiving certificates granted by the Universidad Adventista del Plata and by the Instituto Universitario ISEDET.

Thanks to God that we could count on persons in our institutions which were able to sharing their experiences and capacitation in these thematic areas and also in secular organizations which helped to make important contributions.

Also in Argentina we accomplished the reflection sessions: Gospel, Culture and Theological Education In Dialogue With The Originating Peoples. For these sessions we invited as key-note lecturer the Dr. Paulo Suess. As reacting co-lecturer participated Dr. Abraham Colque of the ISEAT, Bolivia, representative of the Pastoral Indigenous of the Chaco and a representative of the Bolivian migrants in the Argentina . There was an assistance of 50 persons during the sessions and they shared work in the workshops during the day.

## **Pastoral Psychology**

This is one of the areas where always there is training work needed and much activity in the different countries. In this period we have been able to accomplish the following efforts:

**Paraguay:** " Neurotic structures in the family"; "The church as therapeutic community"; "The paternal and motherly function for the health of the children" and " Christian Perspective on couple and sexuality".

**Argentina:** accomplish annually their sessions of the United Program of Pastoral Psychology. "Marriage, Divorce, Family: new stages and challenges".

**Uruguay:** accomplished their/its conferences in 2005 and 2006, and the topics were: Pastoral of the family: "Divorce and Restoration" and "Pastoral juvenile and of the adolescence".

**Chile:** accomplished the Pastoral Psychology Sessions and the topics were: " Sexual offenses", "Sexuality, corporalidad and religion" and "The family as instance for full human development".

We continue working for establishing a network of support of specialists in different areas to those which the Institution members of ASIT could request for help.

### **Publications**

In this area we continue with the task of the issue and books publication.

**Ser Iglesia**, by Pablo Andiñach.

**Consejería Pastoral**, by Rafael Zaracho.

These books already they were published and are already in our institutions and in the bookstores and were was published by Editorial Lumen.

At this time it is considered to publish the following two titles in addition:

**Evangelical Cristología** ( temporary title), by Nancy Bedford.

**Teología Trinitaria** ( temporary title), by Guillermo Hansen.

### **FORUM 2007**

Jointly with other presidents and executive secretaries of Latin America Associations, we have participated in a Forum organized by the José Duque, representative of ETE/WCC.

The days 17 to the 19 of August of the 2007, we have gathered in Buenos Aires in what from 1997 onwards is known as the FORUM of Theological Education Associations, in which CETELA, ASTE, ASIT and ALIET are coming together, in addition to ETE/WCC.

Unfortunately it was not possible for ALIET to be present due to reasons beyond control.

On this occasion we have gathered to do a workshop with the following objectives:

- A. To accomplish a diagnosis of the situation of the theological education (ET) in Latin America that takes into account the strengths and conference weaknesses from the associations perspectives.
- B. To accomplish a diagnosis of the perspectives of support which has been the task of ET in the region.
- C. To accomplish a diagnosis of the especificity, identity and viability of the Associations of this FORUM.
- D. To reflect and to deepen the concept of "Theological Education Quality".
- E. To imagine common activities so much in what is pedagogic as what is theological.

Those which participated in this Forum were:

José Duke, Regional Consultant of ETE/WCC.

Roberto Zwetsch, Executive Secretary of CETELA

Manoel Bernardino, President of ASTE

Fernando Bortoletto, Executive Secretary ASTE

Welvi Enriquez, President of ASIT

Guillermo Steinfeld, Executive Secretary of ASIT

Matthias Preiswerk, Consulting by Theological Pedagogic Services.

## **CONCLUSION.**

This period has been characterized by some unevenness mainly because some executive resigned to their charges. Thanks to God the things have been gone arranged and with the collaboration of those which remained so that we could go forward in all the tasks.

There is no doubt that despite the fact that many things still have to be achieved, we have been able to fulfill some of what is our task in terms of relating to Theological Teachers and in obedience to the entrusted task. We pray for a greater vision of the mission in our organizations and for a brotherly relationship with more close contact between those which we belong to ASIT.

We encourage our brothers and sisters and our institutions to continue with our projects as association and, at the same time, to deepen the theological reflection and engagement in each one of our institutions. God is with us and will strengthen our hands to continue with the service for the extension of the Kingdom.

May God continue to give and strengthen us with his grace and love in ours institutions.

For the Executive Commission of ASIT,

Welvi Enriquez:	President
Dora Canales:	Vice President
Silvio Camacho:	Secretary
Joel Chripczuk:	Treasurer
Guillermo Steinfeld:	Executive Secretary