

# Global Forum of Theological Educators

*May 16–20, 2016  
Dorfweil, Germany*



Ferienstätte Dorfweil Retreat Center

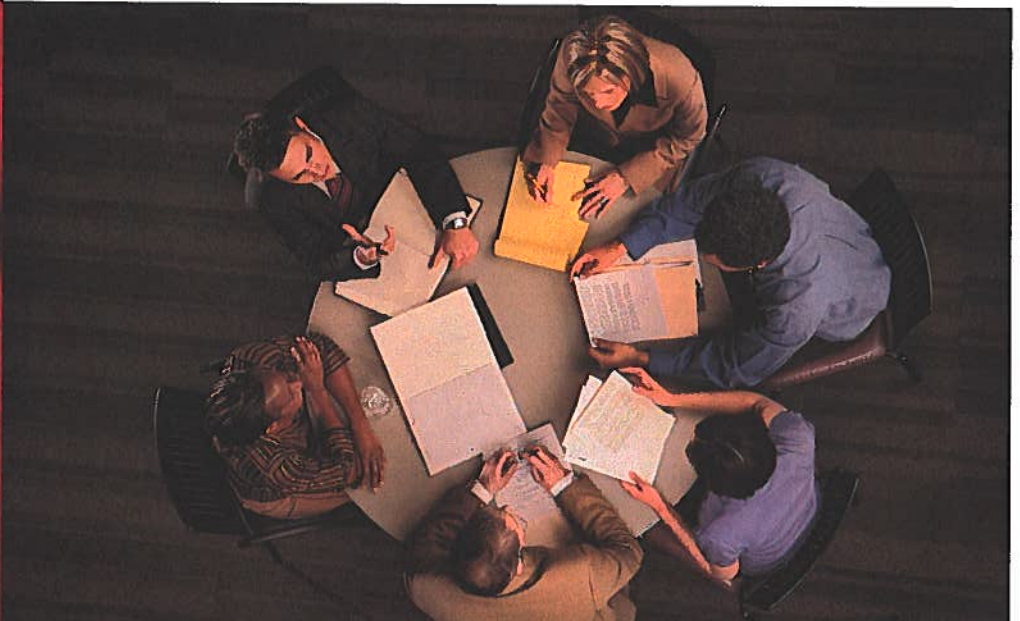
**GFTE**  
Global Forum of Theological Educators

# Global Forum of Theological Educators

*May 16–20, 2016  
Dorfweil, Germany*

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# Welcome

## Global Forum of Theological Educators

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10 Summit Park Drive  
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USA

**Executive Committee:**

Fr. Stephen Bevans, SVD, PhD  
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Rev. David Esterline, PhD  
Co-Chair  
Rosalee Velloso Ewell, PhD  
Rev. Manfred Kohl, ThD  
Co-Chair  
Rev. Wonsuk Ma, PhD  
Most Rev. Rufus Ositelu, PhD  
Rev. Joseph Shao, PhD

**Consultants:**

Rev. Daniel Aleshire, PhD  
Rev. Riad Kassis, PhD  
Rev. Dietrich Werner, PhD

Welcome to the Global Forum of Theological Educators Conference!

This event is structured to cultivate intense mutual learning, encounter, and dialogue among representatives engaged in Christian leadership formation and theological education from around the world. It includes participants from all six major Christian families currently existing within World Christianity: Orthodox/Oriental, Roman Catholic, Historic (mainline) Protestant, Evangelical, Indigenous, and Pentecostal.

*Participants.* Although all participants come from institutions or organizations related to theological education, we are gathering as individuals and not as institutional representatives. We will have time to share our personal faith and learn from the stories of others. We will share times of worship, prayer, Bible study, and reflections on the education of Christian leaders. We will learn from our varied stories in theological education.

*Methodology.* The major methodological strategy for this conference is sharing in table groups, with each table group including representatives from many Christian families. Because all participants are experts in one or another area of theological education, introductory speakers will be brief and will use their presentations to introduce and encourage discussion. Each session will include framing questions to initiate the table discussions that will invite new and broad dialogue on current visions and practices of theological education. The conference will have notetakers for each group, and one session will be devoted to summarizing what has been said around the tables. Following the meeting, a summary report will be prepared and shared with participants. This methodology assumes that the wisdom in this meeting belongs to all the participants, not a group of plenary leaders.

*Sessions.* Each day of the conference will begin with worship, prayer, and Bible study. The texts for the three Bible studies come from the book of Acts, a book that can be understood as an outstanding narrative of ancient learning on Christian leadership formation and theological education. The thematic sessions will focus on issues related to global Christianity, the contributions of different Christian families, the mission of God, and other themes that will all be situated in the context of theological education. In addition to these thematic sessions, one session will group participants by geographical region and another by confessional (Christian family) groups.

*Outcomes.* The hoped for results of learning and listening beyond the boundaries of regional and confessional networks, of praying and studying together, and of being open to the work of the Holy Spirit will be increased trust, ongoing mutual dialogue, new friends, and new partners of cooperation among Christian leaders of Christian formation and theological education.

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An International Fellowship of Leaders in Theological Education from Every Christian Tradition  
Phone: 1-412-788-6505 | Email: GFTE@ats.edu | Website: www.gfte.org

# Agenda

## Monday, May 16

	Arrivals	
6:30 p.m.	Evening Meal	
7:30 p.m.	<b>Welcome and Celebration</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Brief Introduction of Participants, Speakers, and Sponsors</b>  <b>Opening Remarks: "History, Reality, Purpose, and Goals"</b> <b>Explanation of the Program Procedures and Details</b>  <b>Closing Remarks and Dedication Prayer</b>	<i>Manfred Kohl</i>
	<p>We are grateful to Samuel Ewell who is coordinating worship each morning of this meeting. He is working with friends and colleagues who will provide a range of worship experiences that reflect the patterns of worship among the Christian families represented in this meeting. Christian families differ markedly in how they worship and in the elements that they consider essential in worship. While Christians have different ways to worship, they are unified in the object of that worship: the God who creates, redeems, and sustains.</p>	

## Tuesday, May 17

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	
9:00 a.m.	<b>Session One</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>Bible Study: Acts 8</b> After a twenty minute introductory presentation, participants will share their personal stories related to this text or evoked by this text.	<i>Rosalee Ewell</i>
10:30 a.m.	Coffee/Tea Break	
11:00 a.m.	<b>Session Two</b> <b>What treasures do we bring to the common table?</b> Following the introductory presentation, participants will discuss the unique treasures their ecclesial families bring to a common Christian table.	<i>Wonsuk Ma</i>
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	

2:00 p.m.	<p><b>Session Three</b>  <i>How does theological education form people for ministry?</i>          After two introductory presentations, participants will engage in table conversations around questions such as: What was most influential in your theological education? What do you see as most influential in the lives of your students?</p>	<p><i>Munther Isaac</i>  <i>Marilyn Naidoo</i></p>
3:30 p.m.	Coffee/Tea Break	
4:00 p.m.	<p><b>Ecclesial Family Meetings</b>          This will be a session in which participants meet in their own broad ecclesial families: Historic or Mainline Protestant, Orthodox, Roman Catholic, Evangelical Protestant, African Independent churches, or Pentecostal. Each group will have an assigned area in which to meet.</p>	<p><i>Leadership for this session is informal</i></p>
6:30 p.m.	Evening Meal and Free Evening	

## Wednesday, May 18

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	
9:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session Four</b>          Worship  <i>Bible Study: Acts 10</i>          After a twenty minute introductory presentation, participants will share their personal stories related to this text or evoked by this text.</p>	<p><i>Willie James Jennings</i></p>
10:30 a.m.	Coffee/Tea Break	
11:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session Five</b>  <i>Integrity and Leadership</i>          After two introductory presentations, participants are asked to identify and discuss models they have observed that reflect the integrity that theological schools should embody or, in some cases, evidences where integrity was glaringly absent.</p>	<p><i>Rufus Ositelu</i>  <i>Ruth Padilla</i></p>
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	

# Agenda (continued)

## Wednesday, May 18

2:00 p.m.	<p><b>Session Six</b>  <i>What do geographical and ecclesial family contexts offer to global Christianity and theological education?</i>            Following introductory presentations from three persons from three different parts of the world, participants will discuss their perceptions of the most significant contributions contexts make to global Christianity and theological education.</p>	<p><i>Ruomin Liu            Aikagirini Pekridou            Steve Bevans</i></p>
3:30 p.m.	Coffee/Tea Break	
4:00 p.m.	<p><b>Regional Groups</b>            This will be a session in which participants meet in broad geographical groups. Each group will have an assigned area in which to meet.</p>	<p><i>Leadership for            this session is            informal</i></p>
6:30 p.m.	Evening Meal/Free Evening	

## Thursday, May 19

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast	
9:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session Seven</b>            Worship  <i>Bible Study: Acts 17</i>            After an introductory presentation, participants are asked, once again, to discuss the text from the perspective of their own life experiences.</p>	<p><i>vanThanh Nguyen</i></p>
10:30 a.m.	Coffee/Tea Break	
11:00 a.m.	<p><b>Session Eight</b>  <i>What is the role of theological education and the church in God's mission in the world?</i>            After the opening presentations, participants will discuss two major questions related to mission and theological education: Is theological education transforming the mission of the church? Or is the church transforming theological education?</p>	<p><i>Janet Clark            Limuel Equina</i></p>
12:30 p.m.	Lunch	

2:00 p.m.	<b>Session Nine</b> <i>What is the role of theological education for the future of global Christianity?</i> After the introductory presentations, participants will discuss this question and also ask: Where do we go from here?	<i>Riad Kassis</i> <i>H.S. Wilson</i>
3:30 p.m.	Coffee/Tea Break	
4:00 p.m.	<b>Session Ten</b> <i>What have we heard?</i> David Esterline will lead the participants in table conversation about what has been heard, what has been experienced, and what has been learned in these days of conversations.	<i>David Esterline</i>
6:00 p.m.	<b>Closing and Celebration</b> <b>Worship</b>  <b>Where Do We Go from Here?</b> <b>Words of Greetings and Thanks</b>  <b>Departure Blessings and Prayer</b>	<i>Manfred Kohl</i>
7:30 p.m.	Dinner	

## Friday, May 20

8:00 a.m.	Breakfast and Departures  <p style="text-align: center;">The conference center closes today.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Ground Transportation</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Departures to the Frankfurt airport: 5:30 a.m., 7:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m.</p>	
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# Participants



**Joas Adiprasetya**  
*Association of Theological  
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**INDONESIA**



**Nikolaos Asproulis**  
*Volos Academy  
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**GREECE**



**Daniel Aleshire**  
*The Association  
of Theological Schools*  
**UNITED STATES**



**David Baer**  
*Overseas Council*  
**UNITED STATES**



**Reginaldus Amleni**  
*Divine Word Missionaries  
(SVD)*  
**CHINA**

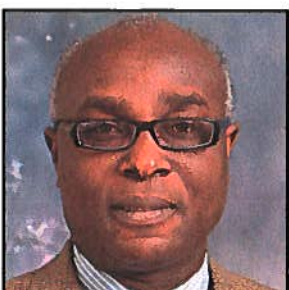


**Nadine Banks**  
*The Association  
of Theological Schools*  
**UNITED STATES**

**Emmanuel Anim**  
*Pentecost Theological  
Seminary*  
**GHANA**



**Pavol Bargár**  
*Protestant Theological  
Faculty, Charles University,  
Prague*  
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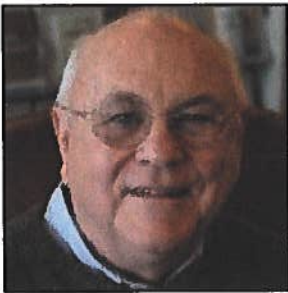


**J. Kwabena  
Asamoah-Gyadu**  
*Trinity Theological Seminary,  
Legon, Ghana*  
**GHANA**



**Paul Bendor-Samuel**  
*Oxford Center  
for Mission Studies*  
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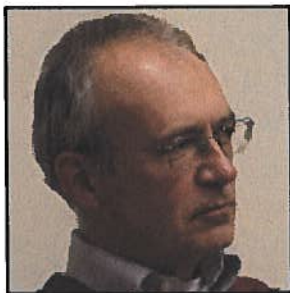




**Stephen Bevans**  
*Catholic Theological Union,  
Chicago*  
**UNITED STATES**



**Janet Clark**  
*Tyndale University  
College & Seminary*  
**CANADA**



**Alexei Bodrov**  
*St. Andrew's Biblical  
Theological Institute*  
**RUSSIA**



**Corneliu Constantineanu**  
*Aurel Vlaicu  
University of Arad*  
**ROMANIA**



**Gioacchino Campese**  
*Scalabrini International  
Migration Institute,  
Pontifical Urbanian  
University*  
**ITALY**



**Gemma Cruz**  
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**AUSTRALIA**



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*School of Theology,  
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**Ruth Padilla DeBorst**  
*Center for Interdisciplinary  
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**Peter Choy**  
*Holy Spirit Seminary College*  
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# Participants (continued)



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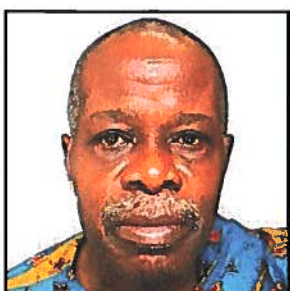
**Babatunde Gbogboade**  
*Aladura Theological Institute*  
**NIGERIA**



**Samuel Ewell**  
*Cinnamon Network  
& WEA*  
**UNITED KINGDOM**



**Timoteo Gener**  
*Asian Theological Seminary*  
**PHILIPPINES**



**Tchotche Mel Felix**  
*l'Eglise Harriste de Côte  
d'Ivoire*  
**IVORY COAST**



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*Sopana Orthodox Academy*  
**INDIA**



**Tatiana Gorbacheva**  
*The Russian Union  
of Christians of Evangelical  
Faith (Pentecostal),  
Eurasian Theological  
Seminary*  
**RUSSIA**



**Joanna Ilboudo**  
*Pan African Christian  
Women Alliance (PACWA)*  
**BURKINA FASO**



**Carlos Ham**  
*Evangelical Theological  
Seminary*  
**CUBA**



**Munther Isaac**  
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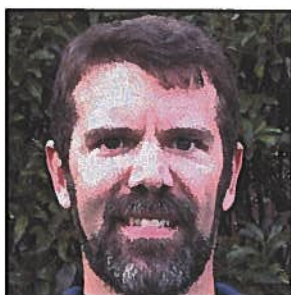
**Pravinkumar Israel**  
*Centre for Global  
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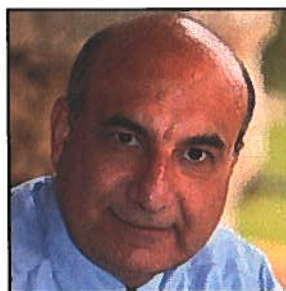
**Evan Hunter**  
*ScholarLeaders International*  
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**Willie James Jennings**  
*Yale University  
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# Participants (continued)

**Lijin Jiang**  
CHINA



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*International Council  
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**Francisco Jimenez**  
*South American Seminary  
and Latin American  
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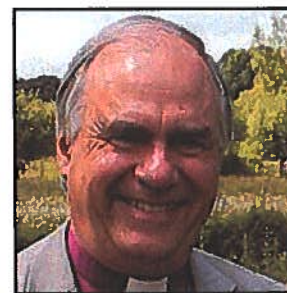
**Andreas Kammer**  
*Overseas Council*  
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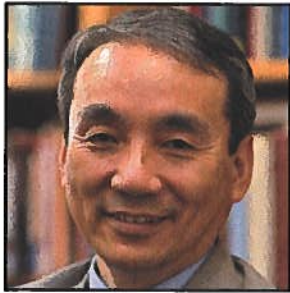
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**Phee Seng Kang**  
*China Graduate School  
of Theology*  
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**Graham Kings**  
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**Theresa Lua**  
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**CANADA**



**Wonsuk Ma**  
*Oxford Centre  
for Mission Studies*  
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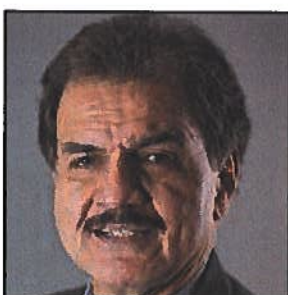
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# Participants *(continued)*



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**P.R. CHINA**



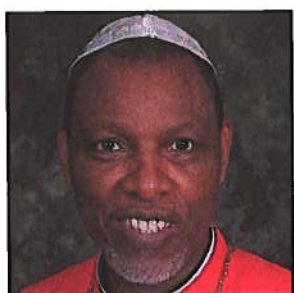
**Santanu Kumar Patro**  
*Senate of Serampore College*  
*(University)*  
**INDIA**



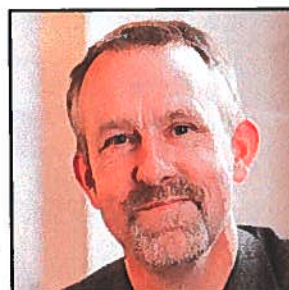
**Mary Temitope Ositelu**  
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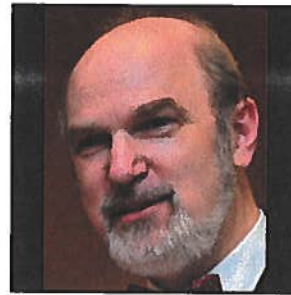
**Rufus Ositelu**  
*The Church of the Lord*  
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 of Omsk Region, Russia*  
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*Theological Commission,  
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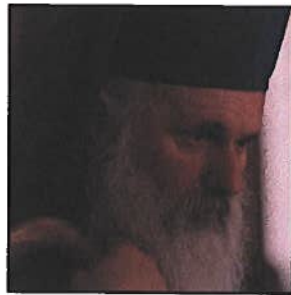
**Catherine Punsalan-  
 Manlimos**  
*Seattle University*  
**UNITED STATES**



**Gordon T. Smith**  
*Ambrose Seminary  
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**CANADA**



**Johannes Reimer**  
*Theologische Hochschule  
 Ewersbach/University of  
 South Africa*  
**GERMANY**



**Malkhaz Songulashvili**  
*Ilia State University*  
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**Beugre Mobio Romain**  
*l'Eglise Harriste de Côte  
 d'Ivoire*  
**IVORY COAST**



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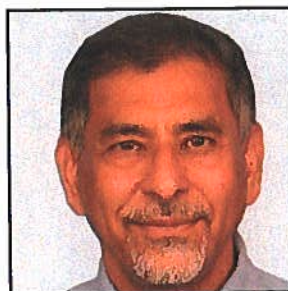


**Efraim Tendero**  
*World Evangelical Alliance*  
**PHILIPPINES**

# Participants *(continued)*



**Ayalkibet Tesfaye**  
*Ethiopian Orthodox*  
*Twahedo Church*  
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**H.S. Wilson**  
*Foundation for Theological*  
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**Petros Vassiliadis**  
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**Amos Yong**  
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**Dietrich Werner**  
*Bread for the World*  
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**Mark Young**  
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# GFTE Leadership

## Executive Committee

**Stephen Bevans, SVD**  
*Catholic Theological Union*  
**NORTH AMERICA**  
Roman Catholic

**Daniel Buda**  
*World Council of Churches*  
**EASTERN EUROPE**  
Orthodox

**David Esterline, Co-Chair**  
*Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*  
**NORTH AMERICA**  
Historical Protestant

**Rosalee Velloso Ewell**  
*World Evangelical Alliance*  
**LATIN AMERICA**  
Evangelical

**Manfred Kohl, Co-Chair**  
*Overseas Council Europe*  
**EUROPE/NORTH AMERICA**  
Historical Protestant

**Wonsuk Ma**  
*Oxford Centre for Mission Studies*  
**Asia/Europe**  
Pentecostal

**Rufus Ositelu**  
*Church of the Lord (Aladura),  
Worldwide*  
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Independent

**Joseph Shao**  
*Asia Theological Association*  
**ASIA**  
Evangelical

## Advisors to the Executive Committee

**Daniel Aleshire**  
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in the United States and Canada*  
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Historical Protestant

**Riad Kassis**  
*International Council for Evangelical  
Theological Education*  
**MIDDLE EAST**  
Evangelical

**Dietrich Werner**  
*Bread for the World—Protestant  
Development Service*  
**EUROPE**  
Historical Protestant

## Advisory Committee

**Alexei Bodrov**  
**EASTERN EUROPE**  
Orthodox

**Peter Choy**  
**ASIA**  
Roman Catholic

**Gemma Cruz**  
**ASIA**  
Roman Catholic

**Amele Ekue**  
**AFRICA/EUROPE**  
Historical Protestant

**Carlos Ham**  
**LATIN AMERICAN**  
Historical Protestant

**Po Ho Huan**  
**ASIA**  
Historical Protestant

**Chammah Kaunda**  
**AFRICA**  
Pentecostal

**Marilyn Naidoo**  
**SOUTHERN AFRICA**  
Historical Protestant

**Katerina Pekridou**  
**EUROPE**  
Orthodox

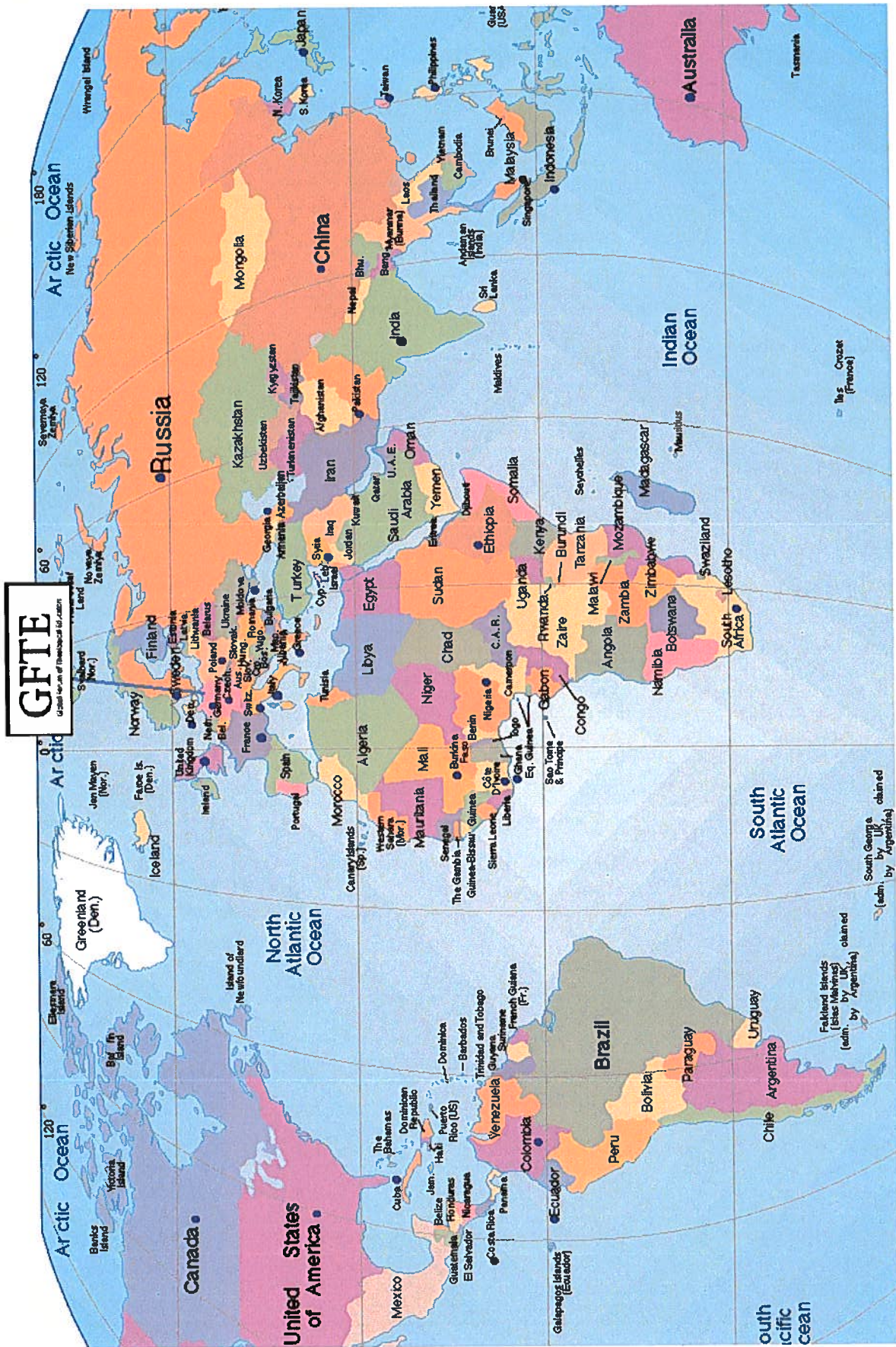
**David Ramirez**  
**LATIN AMERICAN/  
NORTH AMERICA**  
Pentecostal

**Lester Edwin J. Ruiz**  
**ASIA/NORTH AMERICA**  
Historical Protestant

**Sergiy Sannikov**  
**EASTERN EUROPE**  
Evangelical

**H. S. Wilson**  
**ASIA/NORTH AMERICA**  
Historical Protestant

# Map of Participating Countries



# *Thank you to our donors . . .*

*Asia Theological Association*

*The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada*

*The Church of Lord Aladura*

*Danmission*

*Ecumenical Theological Education/ World Council of Churches*

*Evangelischen Kirche in Hessen und Nassau  
und der Evangelischen Kirche von Kurhessen-Waldeck*

*Evangelisches Missionswerk in Deutschland e.V. (EMW)  
Association for Protestant Missions and Churches in Germany (EMW)*

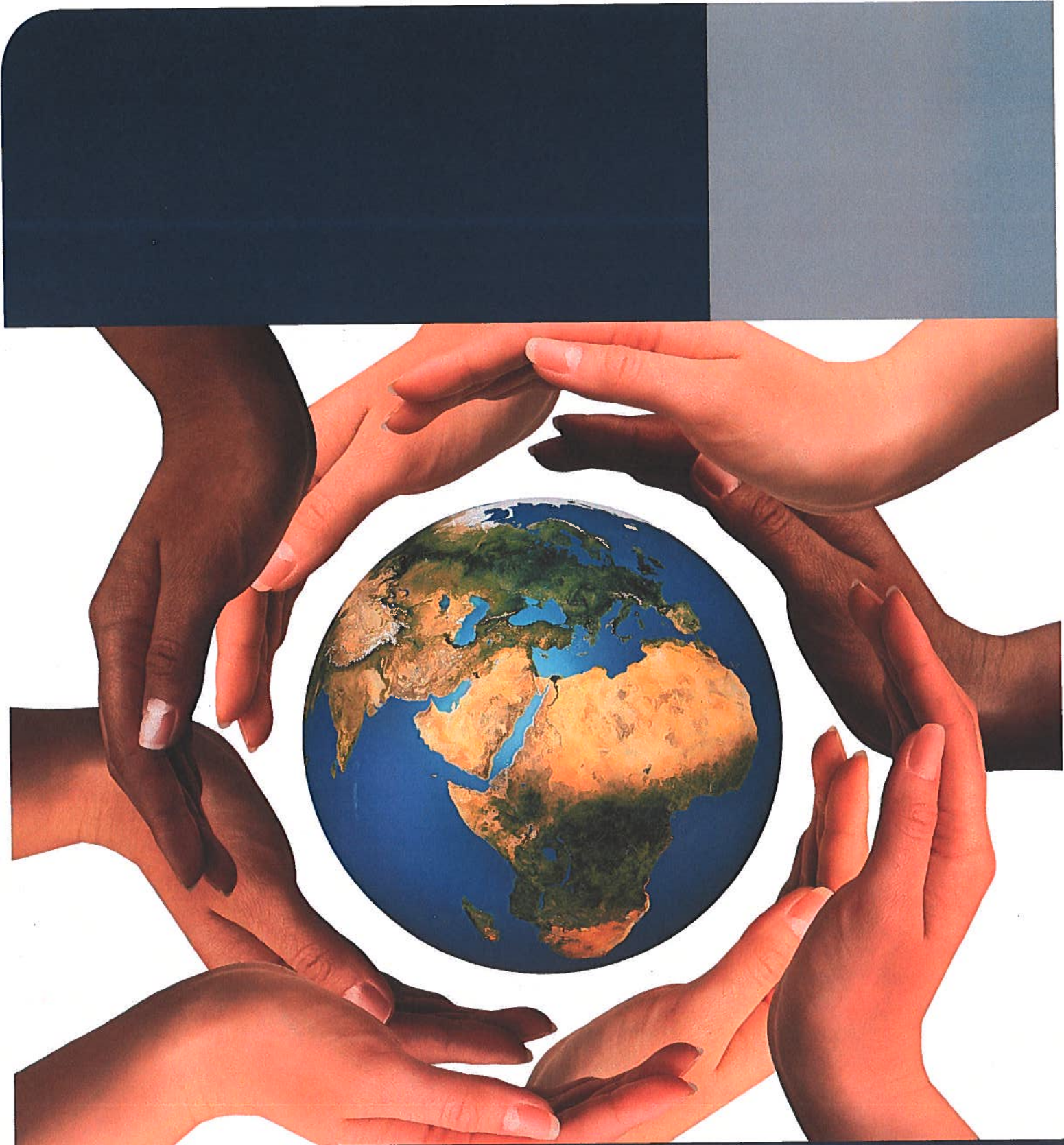
*Foundation for Theological Education in Southeast Asia*

*The Henry Luce Foundation*

*McCormick Theological Seminary*

*Oxford Centre for Mission Studies*

*Pittsburgh Theological Seminary*



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Global Forum of Theological Educators