



**NETACT BI-ANNUAL REPORT (2010-2011)
1-4 AUGUST 2011,
HOFMEYR HALL, FACULTY OF THEOLOGY,
STELLENBOSCH, SA
(GENDER EQUALITY WORKSHOP 1-3 AUG; AGM 4 AUG 2011)**

21 JULY 2011

AGENDA:

NETACT BI-ANNUAL REPORT (2010-2011) 1-4 AUGUST 2011,.....	1
1 CONSTITUTING THE MEETING.....	3
2 2011 AGENDA, ADOPTION OF MINUTES, OFFICE BEARERS	3
2.1 Agenda.....	3
2.2 Board Members	3
2.3 Office bearers.....	3
2.4 Succession of current Executive Director & future headquarters of NetACT	4
2.5 Follow-up report on these matters.....	6
3 FINANCES	6
3.1 Financial Statements (NB 203)	6
3.2 NetACT House cost points not included	6
3.3 10% levy for Weidenhof Street House administration (NB 204)	7
3.4 Annual Membership fees (NB 175, 205).....	7
3.5 Budget.....	7
4 NETACT OFFICE	7
4.1 House Administrator	7
4.3 Office expenses	7
5 NETACT HOUSE.....	8
5.1 NetACT House.....	8
5.2 Renovation and extensions to the NetACT house in Weidenhof Street.....	8
6 COMMUNICATION (NB 178, 206).....	8
7 LECTURER EXCHANGE (NB 179 and 207).....	9
8 SCHOLARSHIPS (NB 180 &	9
8.1 Mustard Seed Foundation	9
8.2 World Communion of Reformed Churches.....	9

	2
8.3 Other Scholarships	9
9 HIV/AIDS PROJECT & PUBLICATIONS	10
9.1 2010-2011 (HIV) Curriculum Development (CD) Workshops	10
9.2 Publications	11
10 CURRICULUM REPORT & ACTEA	11
10.1 Accreditation: NetACT's commitment (NB 217)	11
10.2 Curriculum Development & ACTEA accreditation (NB 217).....	11
11 NEW MEMBERS	11
11.1 Theological Networks in Africa	11
11.2 Membership	12
11.3 New membership applications	12
11.4 Associate membership	13
12 ANNUAL MEETINGS.....	13
12.1 Previous venues	13
12.2 2011 Annual Meeting	14
13 GENERAL	14
13.1 Approval of Annual Meeting minutes	14
13.2 Election Executive Committee members	14
13.3 Closing prayers	14
ADDENDUM I: Mission & Goals.....	15
ADDENDUM II NETACT BOARD AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS	16
ADDENDUM III REPORT OF THE NETACT CURRICULUM WORKSHOPS 2010-2011 .	19
ADDENDUM IV MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NETACT, FUTE AND ACTEA	21

1 CONSTITUTING THE MEETING

After the first three sections, this report follows the sequence of NetACT's goals (**Mission and Goals: Addendum 1**). It incorporates the issues discussed in the minutes of the previous AGM as well as the Executive Committee Meetings which in turn addressed the issues raised and tasks given by July 2009 Annual Meeting. There is a sequence in the numbering of the AGM meetings (referenced as NB = NetACT Board). References will be supplied. Because of the time and money required for the Curriculum Development Workshops, we did not have a 2010 AGM.

2 2011 AGENDA, ADOPTION OF MINUTES, OFFICE BEARERS

2.1 Agenda

Issues from the 2009 AGM and subsequent Executive Committee minutes are incorporated below in the discussion of the NetACT goals. The present AGENDA will be discussed on August 4 by all delegates present. Board Members alone have voting rights.

The NetACT Executive Committee had seven conference call telephone meetings on the following dates: 2009:12-8; 2010: 02-23; 2010:04:13; 2010:09:1; 2010:11:16; 2011:01-16 (at ABC in Lilongwe); 2011:05:10. The minutes are available. This report incorporates the most important issues that the EC had to deal with.

2.2 Board Members

(ADDENDUM II) gives the official Board members. Those who are secundi and representing their institutions as well as other office bearers present are:

- African Bible College (ABC): Dr Kamlongera Limbikani or Mr McAlly Changanamuno seconding for Rev Sam MacDonald.
- Elmer E. Hartgerink Trust: Dr Ron Hartgerink – (representing donors)_requested to be exempted for this meeting due to work related to being on the Board of Western Theological Seminary.
- ISTEEL (Instituto Superior de Teologia Evangelica no Lubango): Rev Alberto Alberto (lecturer, secundus for Rev Avelino Ravael, Principal, who is presently in the USA).
- Justo Mwale Theological University College (JMTUC): Dr. Edwin Zulu, (Principal). The outgoing chair of NetACT and previous principal of JMTUC has served two terms as NetACT chair, completing the second term chairing this meeting.
- Murray Theological College (MTC): Dr Rangarirai Rutoro, (Principal) Rev Henry Murray is the previous principal and present secretary of NetACT and will act as secretary for this AGM.

2.3 Office bearers

Election of NetACT Executive (NB 135, 194, 200)

- From the Constitution: 4.9.2: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Secretary of the NetACT Board of Governors can be re-elected once only in the same position.
- The Chairperson has done two terms, his second term being 2008-2010. New chair has to be elected.
- Vice-Chairperson's term: 2010-2012: (It is his first term). No election (except if voted chair).

- Our secretary is serving his second term (2010-2012). Since he is no longer the Board Member representing MThC (Dr Rutoro is Board Member), he has to be co-opted as Board Member (Constitution 4.3.1 B i) to continue of otherwise is new Secretary has to be voted for. As such he has to be “re-elected” as secretary to complete his second term.
- Dr Ron Hartgerink was co-opted on the EC. He serves on the Board representing donors. This need to be re-affirmed by the Board.
- The Executive Director was re-appointed for the period 2010-2012 and a new contract, based on the previous one, was negotiated and signed by the applicable parties.

Proposal: NetACT institutions are requested to give in proposals for Chair, Secretary and Donor-Representative to the ED by noon August 3.

2.4 Succession of current Executive Director & future headquarters of NetACT

What follows is from the minutes of the Executive Committee (16 Jan 2011 meeting EC 2011:1) held in Malawi. Seven NetACT institutions had representatives at this meeting.

Relevant information from previous meetings:

- *ED is employed by SU Faculty of Theology until end of 2011, and will be at Faculty until end of 2012, although without SU salary in 2012.*
- *JH is available to continue until end 2012 as ED.*
- *Pending good health, ED is also available for the period after 2012.*
- *Process of recruitment to be professional and transparent*
- *Future possibilities:*
 - *JH has heavy academic work load till end of 2011.*
 - *2012: JH has no Faculty responsibilities, and could initiate the newly appointed ED as understudy*
 - *2012 new ED could visit all institutions with JH*
 - *NetACT’s HQ could be linked to successor’s place of work and stay*
- *Previous decisions:*
 1. *Recruitment of a successor to current ED to be started in good time*
 2. *EC members start finding out how search process for a candidate can commence and report to next EC meeting*
 3. *Future seat of NetACT HQ to be researched*
 4. *Both issues remain on the agenda*
 5. *If possible this issue should be discussed at the regional Curriculum Development meetings*
- *Discussions at Nov 2010 meeting:*
 1. *ED reported the above information was shared with previous and present Deans of Theology at SU.*
 2. *SU is eager to continue to house the NetACT office after 2012*
 3. *SU is making a concerted effort to focus on being a “knowledge partner” to Africa.*
 4. *They are developing relationships with other African Universities.*
 5. *NetACT’s example played a major role in the new policies pursued by the Rector, Prof Russell Botman*
 6. *By remaining at SU, NetACT may benefit in the long run in terms of financial and logistical support by SU*
 7. *Full agreement that future ED should be eligible from any member institution*
 8. *Matters of venue and ED for the future to be discussed by EC at Lilongwe CD workshop in Jan 2011.*

9. *If Dr Douwe Visser of the WCRC can be present, the dream to duplicate the NetACT operational principle can be discussed as well as anchoring or networking NetACT with the WCRC.*

Discussion today (that was 16 Jan 2011 in Lilongwe - ED):

1. *Ownership of NetACT is very important, and it does not belong to SU or any other single member institution – therefore the venue of the NetACT office / HQ is not indicative of sole ownership*
2. *Leadership transition to be smooth without disrupting the work and ministry of NetACT*
3. *To negotiate with SU to offer part-time work to new ED in order to provide in sufficient funds for salary*
4. *One option: use current offer of SU to retain HQ at SU, and at the same time retain current ED for another term 2012 to 2014*
5. *SU Dean on NetACT venue of HQ:*
 - a. *SU acknowledges the advantage to NetACT of rotating the HQ venue – increased ownership*
 - b. *SU will gladly accommodate NetACT for another term, but at the same time understands the need for rotation*
 - c. *SU can offer: committed to do theology on continental basis, and NetACT is crucial vehicle for this ministry. Our words make worlds through the Holy Spirit's work.*
 - d. *Infrastructure can be provided by SU*
 - e. *Cannot commit on funding, but can commit to help in raising third stream funds*
6. *In order to remain useful, contextual and practical, NetACT should not become too big. So question is whether such networks should be duplicated?*
7. *WCRC:*
 - a. *A possible scenario could be to duplicate it by copying structures of NetACT elsewhere in Africa*
 - b. *But such process need to be guided, and such guidance will also ask a lot of work from NetACT*
 - c. *The NetACT model is contextualised to a high degree, most members come from the same "family".*
 - d. *Anchoring in WCRC, and also in IRTI (International Reformed Theological Institute - member of WCRC) is a good possibility.*
 - e. *Anchoring in WCRC should contribute to the implementation of the Mandate of the Uniting Council of WCRC: to be part of the development of reformed theology in the world*
 - f. *Contextualisation is important on the one hand, but on the other hand participation in the international world of theology is as important as contextualisation*
8. *Member institutions called to contribute to this discussion on HQ & ED & WCRC, if not at this meeting, then at the AGM. Consolidation of operations is now necessary,*

Decision:

The current position, to be presented to the AGM, is:

- i. *Possibly SU as HQ for 2012-2014.*
- ii. *Current ED is available for re-appointment for the above period.*
- iii. *For sake of consolidation of growth and development of NetACT, this is probably the best option at the moment.*
- iv. *EC to present to AGM a Declaration of Intent on WCRC:*
 - a. *NetACT anchoring to WCRC to create a dynamic, interdependent and two-way process*
 - b. *Formal association with WCRC on institutional level eg. as associate member*

2.5 Follow-up report on these matters

- i NetACT has become an affiliated member of the WCRC – in other words we can now officially take the matter of NetACT future development to an ecumenical body that share and acknowledged our constitution, mission and goals.
- ii Dr Douwe Visser, Executive Secretary for Theology of the WCRC, has invited the present ED to serve on the WCRC Theology Network Consultation that have to meet and prepare a report for the next WCRC General Council Meeting in 2017. This request was both because of the ED being a respected theologian but also because of his association with NetACT and the work that NetACT has done in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- iii From SU we have the assurance that Prof Hendriks will continue to 2014 and that Prof Elna Mouton, previous Dean and NetACT Board Member, is willing to assist with regard to Curriculum Development in Biblical Studies and Gender issues in the years to follow up to her retirement in 2017. We feel that we need to begin to decentralize NetACT. As such we were thinking that we can start forming a Portuguese-speaking NetACT hub around Hefsiba where Hefsiba takes the lead and be the NetACT venue for the growing number of Portuguese seminaries that wants to join. Angolan seminaries want to send their lecturers to Mozambique because the Angolan authorities recognize the Mozambican accredited degrees of Hefsiba. Similarly we ask or nominate another institution to start forming a NetACT hub. JMTUC mentioned at the Lilongwe meeting that they would be willing to host a NetACT office. They have an MTh program that is nationally accredited and in the process of being ACTEA accredited. With the FUTE process in SA (see addendum V) also set to recognize the level of their MTh, one need to find ways of utilizing it and promoting it. As such we feel that a NetACT hub around JMTUC should be developed. Our outgoing chair should be the natural person to develop this hub if his institution agrees. The ED will assist in delegating or duplicating NetACT office info and resources to the hubs. We can write to all the seminaries that applied unsuccessfully to become NetACT seminaries and invite them to cluster around JMTUC. The result will be something like regional synods that when they all meet, form a general synod! We think this will help us to begin moving in a direction that prevents one institution (SU) to become something like a godfather. We also need time to discern the way forward prayerfully while we take this matter to the WCRC and ask their advice and support.

3 FINANCES

3.1 Financial Statements (NB 203) .

SU took care of all the bookkeeping as part of their financial system and audited NetACT's statements. Any board member may request these statements from the ED. An audited copy of these statements for the years 2009 & 2010 will be at the meeting (as the ED if you want to scrutinize it). Since the statements are rather technical Dr Kobus Odendaal of the Commission for Witness was requested by the EC to simplify it. The simplified 2010 statement will be presented to the Board and explained by Dr Odendaal.

Proposal:

The Financial Statements of the two years 2009-2010 was approved by the EC. The Board has to approved it.

3.2 NetACT House cost points not included

The audited statements do not include the income and expenses of the NetACT House. The NetACT Office does administer the NetACT House cost points, but legally speaking the House belongs to the University and the financial responsibility of the House is that of the Faculty of Theology. The two NetACT House cost points are available for perusal.

3.3 10% levy for Weidenhof Street House administration (NB 204)

Since 2008 the NetACT office and administration expenses are funded by raising a 10% levy on all monies received and all services rendered. This was not done on any of the NetACT House accommodation income. Since a very large amount of NetACT Office time goes into the NetACT House administration and in helping students from all over Africa with accommodation and registration and personal matters, a way should be found to compensate the NetACT Office in this regard in order to keep the service done on behalf of the Faculty of Theology intact. This was put to the Faculty and rectified. 10% of income of the house will be used to pay for the free lodging of the House Administrator and the expenses of the NetACT office.

3.4 Annual Membership fees (NB 175, 205)

In 2007 NetACT made the following decision about fees:

- 1 Members and associate members agree that the aim financially is for NetACT to eventually fund its office through membership fees.
- 2 Student numbers for NetACT institutions do not include non-residential TEE students.
- 3 Institutions with more than 100 fulltime students: R2000 per year.
- 4 Institutions with between 50 and 100 students: R1000 per year.
- 5 Institutions with less than 50 students: R600 per year.

The fees total R10 600 annually. All members paid their fees for 2011.

Proposal: The Board decide if the fees structure be raised or not. The Board request all members to pay their 2012 fees by the end of 2011. The ED is to send out the accounts after the AGM.

3.5 Budget

Proposal: The new EC has to work on a budget for 2012 in the light of decision taken at the AGM

4 NETACT OFFICE

References: NB 176-177.

NetACT's goal:

- Maintain an adequately staffed coordinating office.

4.1 House Administrator

Most of NetACT's office work was done by a House Administrator that did the administration of the (NetACT) house in Weidenhof Street 14 (and the temporary houses). All accommodation and house matters were his responsibility in close cooperation with the ED. As remuneration his own accommodation fees were waived.

4.3 Office expenses

The ED took care of all the work in the NetACT office since July 2007. The salary budget approved was: 5 hours per day at R75 per hour totalling R90,000 per year (see contracts).

Salaries, telephone, etc of the NetACT office for the last years were:

2002:	R56 629.30 (Salaries: R36,476.04)
2003:	R98 946.39 (Salaries R84,678.00)
2004:	R100 531.30 (Salaries R83,803.98)
2005	R100 769.20 (Salaries paid as bursaries total R60,000)
2006	R 84 779.41 (Salaries paid as bursaries total R67,000).
2007	R 96 821.61 (Salaries R81 445.45)
2008	R 86 604. (Salaries: R48 776.32 of which R28 262.45 were paid in Jan 2009)
2009 (Jan-Jun)	R141,074 (ED Salary R90,000.00 Jan-Dec 2009)
2010	R111,333 (ED Salary R90,000.00 Jan-Dec 2010)

5 NETACT HOUSE

NetACT has set as goal:

- Create an affordable and welcoming living environment for lecturers who are receiving advanced training

5.1 NetACT House

The NetACT house provided the necessary infrastructure to play an important role in realizing this goal. Strictly (legally) speaking the house is a concern of SU. However, both houses were contractually earmarked to serve as affordable accommodation for students from other African countries studying theology.

5.2 Renovation and extensions to the NetACT house in Weidenhof Street

The Faculty of Theology at SU showed their loyal support and dedication for NetACT by taking responsibility for renovating and enlarging the house at a cost of R6 million. Board Members had the opportunity to visit the house which will hopefully be in service from Sept 2011. Several persons played a crucial role in this endeavour and first to be mentioned is Mrs Liena Hoffman, the Faculty Manager, as well as the previous and present Dean: Proff Elna Mouton & Prof Nico Koopman. It may well be said that the House is the best student housing on campus.

Proposal: The AGM formulate a motion of appreciation.

6 COMMUNICATION (NB 178, 206)

NetACT has set as goal:

- Develop an effective system of communication, consultation and networking among all member institutions.

The ED spent a considerable amount of time in helping ISTEEL to plan an IT room with 40 computers that can be used to teach IT to students and to raise funds for the seminary by renting the facilities to other institutions and to teach IT courses. The help of a professional computer expert,

Mr Corne van der Walt, was obtained. He accompanied the ED in visiting the Angolan NetACT institutions in 2010. The proposal was presented to a funding agency with the help of Dr Ron Hartgerink in July 2011. It is the same agency that funded the IT equipment of JMTUC and MThC. We are optimistic that the proposal will be accepted and that we will be able to intervene – in good time – for other NetACT seminaries in need of IT facilities. This is a priority for the NetACT Office (ED).

7 LECTURER EXCHANGE (NB 179 and 207)

NetACT set as goal:

- Organize lecturer exchanges among our institutions to provide needed expertise, and to create space and time for lecturers to further their studies.

The hypotheses with which we work are that the purpose of the exchange program is:

- To help colleges with lecturers where they lack professional people; i.e. to raise academic standards;
- To create opportunities for staff to get a break so that they can pursue their studies;
- To network NetACT institutions with one another and with other institutions globally;
- To help institutions through networking to build a broader support base, academically and financially.

Quite a number of exchanges was negotiated and even funded through the NetACT office.

Proposal: Institutions in need of assistance in lecturer exchange networking may contact the ED at the NetACT Office and put their needs to him. The Office has a vast number of contacts to pursue. Planning well ahead of time will almost definitely yield positive results.

8 SCHOLARSHIPS (NB 180 &

NetACT set as goal:

- Providing scholarships to advance the theological training of our institutions' lecturers

8.1 Mustard Seed Foundation

After a lapse due to the economic recession, MSF started giving Scholarships again. NetACT students were the first to receive scholarships to the amount of \$15,000 (2011). MSF Scholarship application forms for 2012 are available at the ED. These forms apply to students studying at Stellenbosch.

8.2 World Communion of Reformed Churches

NetACT now is a member of the WCRC and this gave us access to their scholarships. Especially women doctoral candidates have a very good chance of getting funding from them.

8.3 Other Scholarships

We are receiving smaller amounts of money from well-wishers who get to know students while studying at Stellenbosch or in other ways. This money helps a lot in cases where there is a dire need and where people ran out of money.

The DRC Commission for Theological Training helped a considerable number of NetACT and other Reformed / Presbyterian students with scholarships to complete their degrees. SU also helped a **considerable number** of students who had financial difficulties on completion of their degrees.

The ED / NetACT Office is constantly looking for scholarships. In 2007 scholarships totalling R242,821 were received, in 2008 R273,486, 2009: R102,762; 2010: R129,616; 2011 (so far): R122,371. Most of the scholarships, however, linked the donor and the student and are not reflected in the NetACT cost point.

9 HIV/AIDS PROJECT & PUBLICATIONS

NetACT set as goal:

- Enhance and maintain the relevance of NetACT's proprietary HIV/Aids course and ensure that it remains part of the curriculum at each of our institutions.
- Publish theological handbooks relevant to the African context.

9.1 2010-2011 (HIV) Curriculum Development (CD) Workshops

Addendum III is the report of the CD workshops. It was a huge success. We actually “stumbled” unto the CD workshop format. It developed out of the HIV curriculum work because it became clear that seminaries have problems with changing curricula and implementing the HIV modules that their representatives helped to develop at the NetACT workshops. The 2009 AGM thus focussed on CD (for OT and NT) – and the absolute unanimous feedback was that it was the best AGM-input ever. The EC was, however, worried about two things: (1) If the representatives that attended will be able to implement what they have learned – we had our doubts especially when we reflected on how we were struggling to implement the HIV curriculum modules. (2) It is going to take more than six years to present the CD workshops for all the theology disciplines.

It was MThC and NETS that eventually supplied the obvious answer to our doubts. Both realized after the 2009 AGM that they need to take their institutions as a whole through the CD process and set accreditation goals. NETS succeeded in being the first tertiary institution in Namibia to get accredited by their National Qualification Agency and MThC literally did a complete overhaul of about everything they had and especially what was not ever done and dealt with. This made us realize that one has to deal with CD seminary by seminary. The ED had to scramble to get financial support for CD workshops. We got funding: which surmounts to a miracle! Subsequently Rev Kruger du Preez and his wife did most of the hard work. CD workshops were held in Eldoret Kenya (Aug 2010), Lilongwe, Malawi (Jan 2011) en Lubango, Angola (Jan 2011). Preparing for these workshops took an enormous amount of work. The ED visited institutions in Angola in July 2010 and eventually Angolan Ecumenical Bodies requested that the CD workshop be open to all seminaries. Eventually eleven attended – paying all expenses themselves.

The detail of these workshop programs and evaluations are on NetACT's web:

<http://academic.sun.ac.za/theology/netact/2011-Malawi.html>

<http://academic.sun.ac.za/theology/netact/2011-Angola.html> .

At this stage Rev Kruger du Preez is finishing his doctoral studies on the state of CD in the NetACT institutions. Once this is done, his “team” will continue to do these workshops. Nigeria and Angolan institutions are literally standing a queue to take their institutions through the exercise.

9.2 Publications

The NetACT publications “*Our Church has AIDS: preaching in the context of HIV / AIDS in Africa*” and “*Studying Congregations in Africa*” are reprinted as needed by institutions.

We had a lot of problems in getting *African Bible Commentaries* in 2009 and 2010 because of the recession. A donor is ever since June 2008 donating money, totalling by now close to R200 000, for ABCs. In 2011 we got a breakthrough in once again getting subsidized commentaries. 450 English copies and 450 Portuguese copies were bought. NetACT institutions can negotiate with the ED to get copies. It seems as if the NetACT office is now a supplier of ABCs in SA!!

The Gender Equality project that is now enacted will hopefully lead to our next publication. The discussions of August 1-3 will deal with the issue.

10 CURRICULUM REPORT & ACTEA

NetACT set as goal:

- Upgrade curriculum standards at our member institutions.

10.1 Accreditation: NetACT’s commitment (NB 217)

This goal is at present the number one priority of NetACT. The 2008 HIV Curriculum Development Workshop was our first step in actively helping NetACT institutions towards accreditation. The discussion above under HIV is evidence of NetACT’s commitment in this regard.

Addendum IV is the report of Executive Council of NetACT on what was done to pursue this goal. The Chair, secretary and ED was present at a one day meeting with the *Forum for University Theological Education* (FUTE) and ACTEA. These processes take a lot of time, but we are positive that the outcome will lead to a much better dispensation.

Institutions that need financial support in their quest to get accreditation need to get in touch with the ED / EC.

Proposal: The EC pursue the matter and report to the next AGM.

10.2 Curriculum Development & ACTEA accreditation (NB 217)

NetACT commissioned Rev Kruger du Preez to do research on the issue of accreditation and curriculum development within the NetACT institutions. This was dealt with above at 9.1.

11 NEW MEMBERS

11.1 Theological Networks in Africa

This issue was discussed at the 2009 AGM and is considered a very important as to the future of NetACT. See the 2009 Administrative Report and AGM minutes at:

<http://academic.sun.ac.za/theology/netact.html#board>

A number of very important decisions on membership were taken at the 2007 AGM. The following decision is quoted in full:

188.4 PROPOSAL RECEIVED FROM THE FLOOR: The following proposal by the delegates of Hefsiba, ISEU, ISTEEL and ABC is referred to the EC for consideration: "That the EC of NetACT should research the possibility of NetACT to:

- Organise itself in smaller geographic areas (like SADC)
- Promote the establishing of other theological networks in sub-Saharan Africa
- Submit a report to the next AGM of NetACT"

11.2 Membership

The 2009 AGM gave permission that the Reformed Theological Seminary (RTS) of the NKST (Church of Christ amongst the Tiv in Nigeria) join NetACT. After the formalities were dealt with, the RTS-Nigeria became the 12th member of NetACT. It was possible to allow them because the DRC Commission for witness undertook (NB 212.2) to pay *All costs relating to membership of NetACT will have to be carried by the RTS – NetACT will not be responsible financially in any way.*

11.3 New membership applications

11.3.1 Deaf Christian Ministry Africa

A representative from DCMA, Rev Jan Oberholzer, attended the CD Workshop in Malawi and put forward a passionate plea to become a member. DCMA will, in a sense, serve all churches involved in NetACT as they will provide theological training for deaf pastors serving deaf people in ordinary, but most often, congregations of the deaf. They will pay all expenses in attending NetACT meetings. Their application consists of all the required information. Their student numbers are small (around ten students per year) because of the communication challenges of the deaf. The AGM members are going to visit their institution which will help in making a decision. From their application:

Deaf Christian Ministry Africa, a department of the National Institute for the Deaf, would like to apply for membership of NetACT.

As the only Theological Training facility for Deaf in Sub-Saharan Africa, we feel that membership will be mutual beneficial.

We have read the NetACT constitution and accept the mission and values as in line with that of DCMA. Thus, although DCMA is an interdenominational training college, we accept the NetACT constitution and will work with and support NetACT and its members as far as it is possible once we are accepted as members.

We undertake to be present at annual meetings and pay for ourselves when attending above-mentioned meetings.

11.3.2 IESA: Igreja Evangelica Synodal de Angola (The evangelical Synodal Church in Angola).

They attended the CD workshop in Jan 2011 at ISTEEL at Lubango in Angola. The ED visited the church in 2004 and the seminary in 2011. It will be good to look at its Portuguese website: www.igrejasinodal.org . We have received the necessary documentation. The church was founded in 1897 by Swiss Protestant Missionaries. It is one of the growing churches with its theological seminary at Caluequembe, about 200 km to the North of Lubango. It has about 60 resident full time students (with parallel training for the wives of the students – all accommodated in student housing on the campus). Their seminary is called: **INSTITUTO BÍBLICO DE KALUQUEMBE – MISSÃO URGENTE**. It is a growing church and a growing / expanding seminary. Their principal Dr Dinis M Eurico, is also the president of the denomination and communicate well in English.

11.3.3 IEBA: Igreja Evangelica Baptista em Angola (The Evangelical Baptist Church in Angola).

They too attended the CD workshop in Jan 2011 at ISTEEL at Lubango. We visited the seminary in Huambo in 2004 and in 2010. The church was founded in 1878 and has a very good and efficient seminary in Luanda, not far from ISEU. They applied with a very neat application –in Portuguese. Their Principal (called Rector in Angola) is Pastor Matumona Lunfuankenda.

Proposal: the AGM discuss these applications and make a decision.

11.4 Associate membership

NetACT – and as such its institutions – became a member of the World Communion of Reformed Churches and as such the WCRC became an associate of NetACT. This happened through the discussion we had on the future of NetACT at the CD workshop in Malawi when Dr Visser of the WCRC was invited to attend. All institutions were requested to confirm this application – which they did.

12 ANNUAL MEETINGS

12.1 Previous venues

See: NB 125 and EC 113, 124, 130a and 156, 189, 213.

The cost involved holding the last couple of meetings were:

- 2001 Lusaka: All travelling expenses were in one cost point.
- 2002 Lilongwe R82 869
- 2003 Stellenbosch R75 117
- 2004 Zomba R77 307
- 2005 Hefsiba R50 637 (Kenya and Angola were not there!)
- 2006 Windhoek R56 102.85 (of which R23,547.43 was paid by the DRC Windhoek-East. The URCSA Khomasdal congregation provided FREE ACCOMMODATION).
- 2007 Lusaka R94 081
- 2008 Stellenbosch (HIV) R79 989
- 2009 Stellenbosch 150+ R259,000 (40 people!!)
- 2010 Eldoret Kenia CD workshop was held there (Cost R16,319 – ED paid his own expenses)

- 2011 Lilongwe, Malawi (7 NetACT seminaries present + DCMA) , Lubango Angola (11 Angolan seminaries present, two of the NetACT seminaries) and then Stellenbosch South Africa (all present)..
- 2012 ?

12.2 2011 Annual Meeting

This meeting took place because of a generous OSP grant of R160,000 by the Faculty of Theology. The NetACT goal of researching Gender Equality decided on at the 2009 AGM (NB 218) was put to the Faculty of Theology to support. It eventually became an HOPE project of the University. At the writing of this report, we did receive US\$5000 from our associate member the CRWC and R30,000 from the EFSA Institute (Ecumenical Foundation for Southern Africa, see <http://www.efsa-institute.org.za/>) but are still short of what is needed!!! This project is a three year (2011-2013) project that will incorporate the AGM meetings as a sideline when it meets. The ED has to write proposals for the 2012-2013 meetings and funding. If more info is needed on this, the ED can supply budget- and research proposals.

There is sensitivity as to the venue. The best decision may be to say that NetACT has its CD workshops at the institutions in their respective countries but that the present research project venue stays Stellenbosch.

Proposal: the 2011 meeting should be evaluated.

Proposal: the 2012-2013 meetings and venue should be discussed.

13 GENERAL

13.1 Approval of Annual Meeting minutes

As with previous meetings the EC requests the Annual Meeting to grant it the authority to approve the minutes of the annual meeting. The Annual Meeting approves its minutes when possible on a day-by-day basis but is unable to approve the work done on the last day.

13.2 Election Executive Committee members

13.3 Closing prayers

ADDENDUM I: Mission & Goals



Mission

NetACT is a network of theological institutions in Sub Saharan Africa, created and directed by these institutions, to assist them in preparing leaders for missional congregations.

NetACT's Major Goals

- Upgrade curriculum standards at our member institutions.
- Develop an effective system of communication, consultation and networking among all member institutions.
- Provide scholarships to advance the theological training of our institutions' lecturers.
- Create an affordable and welcoming living environment for lecturers who are receiving advanced training.
- Organize lecturer exchanges among our institutions to provide needed expertise, and to create space and time for lecturers to further their studies.
- Maintain an adequately staffed coordinating office.
- Publish theological handbooks relevant to the African context.
- Ensure that an HIV/AIDS course is developed and maintained as a routine part of the normal curriculum at each NetACT institution.

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dtmbanda@gmail.com +260-97-7803740.

Executive Director: Prof. Dr. H. Jurgens Hendriks, Department of Practical Theology and Missiology, Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch University. hjh@sun.ac.za

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Board Members:

Dr Edwin Zulu (Justo Mwale Theological College, Lusaka, Zambia); Rev Joseph A Thipa (Zomba Theological College, Malawi, Vice Chair); Prof Nico Koopman (Stellenbosch University); Prof Jurgens Hendriks (Executive Director); Dr Ron Hartgerink, South Haven MI, USA (representing donors); Rev Arnold Nthara (Josophat Mwale Theological Institution, Malawi); Rev Manasse Matiquele (Hefsiba, Mozambique); Rev Henry Murray (Murray Theological College, Zimbabwe); Rev Sam MacDonald (African Bible College, Malawi); Rev Thomas Togom (RITT, Kenya); Rev Simon Gilham (NETS, Namibia); Rev Rafael Avelino (ISTEL, Angola); Rev Kitu Simao (ISEU, Angola).

(20 July 2011)

ADDENDUM II NETACT BOARD AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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	Dr Kobus Odendaal	missio@kaapkerk.co.za Tel: +27 21 957 7204 cell +27-82-732-4752	same
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Updated 3 Aug 2011

ADDENDUM III REPORT OF THE NETACT CURRICULUM WORKSHOPS 2010-2011

The July 2009 curriculum development (CD) workshop at Stellenbosch started a movement.

ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS

First out of their blocks was Namibia Evangelical Theological Seminary (NETS) who, with only occasional visits and moral support by the NetACT Executive Director (ED) was the first tertiary institution in Namibia to be granted academic accreditation by the Namibian Qualification Authority early in 2011. Rev Simon Gilham played a key role at NETS with 100% cooperation and hard work from all staff members.

Next to have a workshop with all staff and board people present was Murray Theological College (MThC) at Morgenster in Zimbabwe. At this workshop Rev Kruger du Preez and his wife Antionette, (both on staff at Hefsiba in Mozambique), played a leading role. Rev Du Preez was contracted by NetACT to research the CD progress at all NetACT institutions as a doctoral project. The best words to describe what happened in about six months at MThC are either “miracle” or “conversion”... Their testimony and what they put on paper and implemented is on the NetACT website (<http://academic.sun.ac.za/theology/netact/2011-Malawi.html>). Rev Aalt Visser took the initiative with full support of the MThC staff and support personal.

In August 2010 the Reformed Institute for Theological Training at Eldoret in Kenya did a similar workshop led by the Du Preez's. They had several young ministers present who gave a critical evaluation on the curriculum with which they were trained. Their input helped to contextualize their curriculum. This workshop was very well documented and evaluated. The detailed reports are with the ED and are available to interested parties. Dr Thomas Togom (Principal) and Rev. Musa Maina have the responsibility to guide them towards accreditation.

The 13-18 Jan 2011 workshop at African Bible College (ABC) in Lilongwe Malawi was planned for ABC, Zomba Theological College (ZTC) and Josophat Mwale Theological Institute (JMThI), Nkhoma, Malawi as well as Hefsiba Christian Institute for Higher Education at Vila Ulongue, Mozambique. They were joined by Justo Mwale Theological University College from Lusaka in Zambia, MThC from Zimbabwe and representatives from Stellenbosch University in Stellenbosch. ACTEA (Accreditation Theological Education in Africa) and dr Douwe Visser (World Communion Reformed Churches, Theological General Secretary) were also present. The theoretical input was outstanding. All presentations are on the NetACT website: <http://academic.sun.ac.za/theology/netact/2011-Malawi.html>. The networking and sharing between the 40 plus people was remarkable. The network works!

The 25-28 Jan 2011 workshop at ISTEEL (Instituto Superior de Teologia Evangelica no Lubango) Lubango, Angola was organized by Rev Avelino Rafael. The ED and others did the preliminary organizing by visiting seminaries as well as church leadership in Angola in July 2010 (drove 9000+ kilometres!). Eleven seminaries from all over Angola attended (& paid for their expenses). Every single person stayed till the last moment of the workshop. Their theological schools association was revived and set itself a daunting set of goals. NETS was represented by Basilius Kasera. His “personal testimony” of how they worked towards accreditation inspired a dream. ACTEA's presence as well as similar supporting bodies and papers enlightened the process. Portuguese was used with interpreters. The program and all papers are on the web <http://academic.sun.ac.za/theology/netact/2011-Angola.html> .

The planned workshop in Nigeria has been postponed to 2012 because of their elections and a lack of funds.

ABOUT OUR GOALS

The NetACT Executive Committee has no doubt that CD is a key to our goals. The process only started. When the network was founded we developed a HIV/AIDS program and updated the program with new modules. A text book was published “Our church has AIDS”. The question was whether these programs were effective. During 2010 we realized that the only way to realize our mission and goals was to play a mentoring role and support our seminaries to get ACTEA accreditation. Why ACTEA? National accreditation is a first step and a good one but in many countries theological studies cannot be accredited nationally. ACTEA accreditation sets holistic goals pertaining to every aspect of theological education and can only be attained by a very concerted effort by both the school and the churches supporting it. It set academic, administrative, infrastructure and spiritual goals in place and evaluate them regularly by a team of external and well qualified examiners. It requires from a seminary to contextualise its theological training. We became convinced that if we want to attain the NetACT goals, implement effective HIV/AIDS programs and implement cultural transformation with regard to, for example, gender equality a self driven process that holistically address the curriculum and all aspects of theological training, is a necessity. The NetACT schools accepted this challenge and the CD workshops led to real progress.

ABOUT THE BUDGET

The budget was both a nightmare and a miracle! I budgeted too low. All the workshops were attended by more people than we expected. We got ACTEA representatives at the big meetings as well as supportive lecturers to help Rev Du Preez and his wife. Every workshop was different from the previous one. All schools had to pay their own transport. In Malawi we bought and prepared food. Best food and best prices were from local markets where invoices are unheard of! Stellenbosch University (SU) stepped in through their “Africa Collaboration Grant” and helped us financially. The Commission for Witness of the Dutch Reformed Church helped to pay accounts when we were waiting for grants to arrive. We had to wait for the SU grant, as a result that the audited report was only received on April 21, 2011.

ABOUT THE WAY FORWARD

We have to uphold the momentum that we have gained. This will be done by focusing on the general theme of *Gender Equality* as decided on by the July 2009 Annual General Meeting. We gained the support of SU in this regard because we can drive the curriculum transformation process and Gender Equality goals as a research venture. We do, however, need the financial support of our collaborators as this is a condition set by SU. A new proposal for this next step in our journey will be sent to you in due time.

We thank you for your support. For more detail reports and the programs and content of the workshops, look at the NetACT website: <http://academic.sun.ac.za/theology/netact.html>

Sincerely,

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April 21, 2011

ADDENDUM IV MEETING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NETACT, FUTE AND ACTEA

Venue: Reformed Church, Kempton Park, SA.

18th April 2011

(Please note: this is not a formal minute, but a record of what seems to be important to NetACT. The actual minutes can be expected from FUTE, including all presentations. Its main purpose is to serve as a reference for the Exec tele-meeting of 10th May. Thank you, Secretary NetACT Exec.)

OPENING: At 13h30 with introductions and a prayer by Fika van Rensburg. Gratitude expressed to Reformed Church of Kempton Park for the venue. Recognition is given to efforts of Jurgens in bringing together FUTE and ACTEA.

PRESENT are:

NetACT: DT Banda, J Hendriks, K du Preez, HW Murray

FUTE: F van Rensburg (NWU, chair), J Buitendag (UP), J Draper (UKZN), D Britz (OFS), A Lampbrecht (Secretary FUTE), A Muller (SU Division Institutional Research and Planning)

ACTEA: Philippe Emedi (Admin Secretary ACTEA)

AGENDA:

Introductions:

- FUTE (Forum for University Theological Education): When SAUVCA became HESA (Higher Education Forum for SA) FUTE was formed to attend to the interests of theology especially with addressing the qualifications structures of theological education in SA. Currently this forum of FUTE is considering to change into a professional body (non-statutory), to communicate with HEQC (Higher Education Quality Committee) about activities of theological education in SA. All universities teaching theology will be constituent members of FUTE and as such communicate to the HEQC. FUTE will make respective Government departments aware that it represents a unified voice when it deals with the HEQC. Membership of FUTE by non-university theological institutions are at present not within FUTE's scope as this group is quite divided. However, FUTE will help on basis of goodwill.
- NetACT: a short historical overview is given by Jurgens about the origin of NetACT. DT Banda highlights the frustrations experienced by non-SA theological institutions who are accredited by ACTEA, who wish to send alumni for advanced theological training in SA. It amounts to a lack of alignment / synchronisation on required standards between the accreditation awarded by ACTEA and the SA theological faculty to whom applications is made.
- ACTEA: Philippe presents a PowerPoint explanation of the mission and procedures of ACTEA (this was sent beforehand to all members of this meeting) He then proceeds with a presentation showing how ACTEA-HEQC alignment proposal. He proved that the standards of ACTEA and HEQC are indeed comparable.

LEVEL-DESCRIPTORS of the HEQF:

- PowerPoint presentation by At.
- Dolf: what is going to help the best outcome of our deliberations? To align ACTEA requirements with HEQF standards is probably impossible. SA government legislation is involved and cannot be changed. Rather than alignment, he proposes reciprocal recognition by

SAQA and ACTEA of each other's standards. This is probably an approach similar to the process of Recognition of Prior Learning. What is needed is a database of all ACTEA-accredited programs and institutions to be made available to SAQA via FUTE.

- Andre: Although there are similarities, the need is also for mapping and comparing the requirements of ACTEA and HEQF.

Agenda item 5: Jurgens reports on relationship which is currently developing between NetACT and WCRC. WCRC is in favour of duplicating the principle of NetACT with an anchor university linking with theological institutions in Africa. The goal of the venture is developing Missional leadership and as such addressing moral standards in Africa. Networking seminaries can achieve these goals because ministers can develop leadership on a congregational level. WCRC is willing to give guidance and support for starting more such networks as NetACT. He encourages other theological faculties to consider starting similar networks, and pledges support of NetACT in this regard.

All information shared to be circulated, including a group photo.

Outcome of this meeting: FUTE is willing to forward this matter to SAQA in order to facilitate SA recognition of ACTEA accreditation standards. All requested information to be forwarded to FUTE asap.

Closing: At 15h45 with prayer by Jurgens.

Administrative report prepared by:

Prof Dr H Jurgens Hendriks

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