

**NETACT WORKSHOP ON  
CURRICULUM  
DEVELOPMENT**

**ABC College, Lilongwe, Malawi**

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# **ELEMENTS OF CURRICULUM**

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**SITUATION ANALYSIS**  
**OBJECTIVES**  
**LEARNING OPORTUNITIES**  
**EVALUATION**

# **Findings by the IAPCHE and NetACT research.**

## **Situation in Africa – Tertiary level**

- **Academic mediocrity and declining standards**
- **Curricula irrelevant to the African situation**
  - **Also at certain NetACT institutes - research**
- **Poor planning and arbitrary changes in academic curricula and policies - Also NetACT**
- **Lack of properly qualified teaching staff**
- **Lack of textbooks and other teaching materials –**
  - **Inadequate libraries (NetACT)**
- **Lack of computer literacy - students**
- **Lack of Internet facilities for students (NetACT)**

# *REFLECTION*

- Do you agree with this evaluation?

## Reflect on:

1. Academic standards in NetACT Institutions – mediocre and declining?
2. Not relevant and contextualized curricula
3. Ad hoc changes to curricula
4. Lack of qualified staff
5. Inadequate libraries
6. Lack of textbooks
7. Internet for lecturers and students

# Principles for framework of curricula in NetACT Institutions

- Reformed principles and Reformed spirituality
- Writing curricula that is value-driven and will lead to character forming and spiritual growth
- Writing curricula that will enhance a missional mindset
- Contextualizing of curricula within an African environment and worldview
- Writing curricula according to the needs of congregations
- High academic standards.

# CURRICULUM CYCLE

- Analysis of the situation
- Goals and Objectives
- Choice and arrangement of context
- Study opportunities and experiences
- Evaluation

# Situation Analysis

## **FUNCTION OF INSTITUTE**

- **Character forming**
- **Spiritual life forming**
- **Academic and professional forming**
- **Research**
- **Service to community**

# *REFLECTION*

**Do you agree with this function  
of your institute?**

- **Character forming?**
- **Spiritual forming?**
- **Academic and professional forming?**
- **Importance of research?**
- **Service to church and community?**



# Situation Analysis

## **FACILITIES AVAILABLE**

- **Classrooms – enough place, light ?**
- **Blackboards, Overhead projector etc**
- **Chairs and tables**
- **Library**
- **Language laboratory**

# Situation Analysis

## **FUTURE EXPECTATIONS**

- **Anticipate future developments in sciences**
- **Anticipate future expectations of lecturers**
- **What material is already outdated?**

# Situation Analysis

## **INTERACTION BETWEEN DISCIPLINES**

- **Interaction between theological subjects**
- **Interaction with other sciences like psychology, philosophy, anthropology etc.**

# Situation Analysis

## DIDACTICS

- **The way we teach will have an influence on Curriculum Development**
- **Are we more traditional, progressive, problem-solving or student orientated?**
- **Will projects be an integral part of our teaching?**

# Situation Analysis

## **THE ENTRY LEVEL OF STUDENTS**

- **What does the student know when he starts with us?**
- **Does he knows how to study?**
- **Does he knows how to use the library?**
- **How long can he/she gives attention?**
- **What are their analytical thinking skills?**
- **What are their motives for studying?  
Intrinsic or extrinsic?**
- **Can they read and write well and quickly?**

# Situation Analysis

## **THE SITUATION OF THE LECTURERS**

- **What are their didactic abilities?**
- **What are their knowledge/insight of the material?**
- **What are their interests?**
- **What are their attitude towards students?**
- **What are their leadership styles?**

# Situation Analysis

## OTHER FACTORS

- How many periods/ time do we have?
- What time is better to give classes?
- How does the decisions of the church effect our curriculum?
- How does the decisions of the Educational Department effect us?
- How does the political climate influences us?

# Goals and objectives

## **IMPORTANT QUESTIONS?**

- **What is our vision and mission?**
  - **Is it known?**
  - **Perhaps time to re-evaluate?**
- **Are our goals and objectives based on biblical principles?**



# FINAL WORD

- **Enjoy the workshop!**
  - **Appreciate the privilege you have of being instrumental in teaching**
  - **Reflect during this workshop on your own style, attitudes and values**
  - **Be open for change!**
  - **May this be a cognitive, emotional and spiritual enriching experience!**
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- **CRISTO ACIMA DE TUDO!**