



Annual Report

Overseas Council

Called.
Trained.
Multiplied.



Scott Cunningham

Interim President & CEO

One of the greatest predictors of spiritual health within a community of believers is the health of its leaders. With this strategic priority for the global Church in mind, my wife and I, after 25 years of serving in Africa, chose to invest our lives in the ministry of Overseas Council. After nearly 10 years of serving with OC, we continue to invest deeply in this ministry.

One of the many great honors I have experienced in my tenure has been the opportunity to work alongside my predecessor, Dr. David Baer. Dr. Baer served OC as president and CEO with faithfulness and distinction for more than 12 years, and led our organization through a time of great transformation in theological education. Dr. Baer has been a tremendous champion for OC's unique capacity to walk alongside theological schools, faculty, administrators, and students in corners of the world where the need is profound. His investment of time, faith, and leadership to this ministry was accomplished with winsomeness, humility, grace, and courage.

In 2016, you made the choice to invest in Overseas Council. Your prayers and support enabled us to do the single most strategic thing we can do – equip the next generation of Christian leaders. We do this by coming alongside over 100 seminaries across the globe including Cuba, Vietnam, Nigeria, Ukraine, and Egypt. Our aim is to holistically shape Christian leaders - head, heart, and hands. Through our partnerships, these centers of excellence extend their reach and enhance their effectiveness as they serve in their own communities.

Plant a seed. Cultivate a garden. Grow a church.

In the words of the Apostle Paul, through your investment, we are each co-laborers in God's harvest field. Thank you so much for your fellowship in this strategic work.



100+



Seminary Partnerships

58,000



Students Enrolled

19,000



Graduates Per Year

70



Countries Impacted

WHAT WE DO

Overseas Council equips Christian leaders by partnering with vital seminaries worldwide to expand God's kingdom.

WHY WE SERVE

In response to the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, our prayer is that the work of Overseas Council will help grow and multiply healthy churches around the world, promote expositional preaching and biblical theology, and encourage culturally responsive teaching of the Gospel.

WHO WE SERVE

Overseas Council provides hope to emerging Christian leaders in over 70 countries worldwide facing serious global challenges.





Parable of the Farmer Scattering Seed Matthew 13:1-9 (New Living Translation)

Later that same day Jesus left the house and sat beside the lake. A large crowd soon gathered around him, so he got into a boat. Then he sat there and taught as the people stood on the shore. He told many stories in the form of parables, such as this one:

“Listen! A farmer went out to plant some seeds. As he scattered them across his field, some seeds fell on a footpath, and the birds came and ate them. Other seeds fell on shallow soil with underlying rock. The seeds sprouted quickly because the soil was shallow. But the plants soon wilted under the hot sun, and since they didn’t have deep roots, they died. Other seeds fell among thorns that grew up and choked out the tender plants. Still other seeds fell on fertile soil, and they produced a crop that was thirty, sixty, and even a hundred times as much as had been planted! Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand.”

In the face of relentless persecution the global Church continues to grow rapidly. Through it all, faithful believers tempered by trial and hardship are hearing the call of Jesus Christ to step forward in leadership. This is why work of Overseas Council is so important.

For men and women of courage who want to pursue full-time ministry, the path is not an easy one, and requires guidance and support.

Your gift to the ministry of Overseas Council is an investment that provides training and tools for Christian leaders **called** to make a difference around the world.

These Christian leaders are indigenous to the regions in which they are **trained**. Since they are intimately familiar with the varied contexts of their communities, they can more easily overcome barriers such as language, culture, and mistrust.

Equipped with a deeper understanding of the Bible and how to apply its teachings where they live, our Christian leaders are **multiplied** through the fruit of discipleship and health churches.





Generosity Taking

Root Around the World

Stories of Transformation That Encouraged Our Ministry This Year



FRED KYOBE
New Christian Leader in Uganda



Hostel ministry orphans served by Fred.

The Movement of Christ
**The Call of the Holy Spirit
Inspires Community Impact**
Uganda

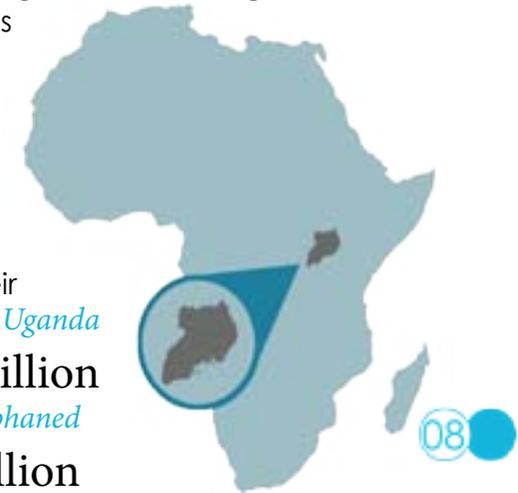
I am Fred Kyobe, a Ugandan student currently undertaking Bachelors of Theology coursework at Kampala Evangelical School of Theology (KEST). I came to know the Lord while I lived in the home of my grandparents, the late Simeon and Eva Nsibambi.

Though I had heard of Jesus, I did not understand His plan for my life. Why would the Creator of the universe care about me? My lack of faith in Him caused me to stray from Him in my youth, but I learned that no matter how many times you turn from Him, God always makes himself known.

My life changed while working as a journalist at the New Vision newspaper, where I reported on pop culture, scandal, and world events. What I saw with my own eyes and the stories I heard as a journalist were shocking and shook me to my core. It was then that I felt the Holy Spirit calling to me. Seeing so many frightening things about the world made me wonder, "How can I make any difference in all of this chaos?" It was then that I felt led to serve God by trying to have an impact on one person at a time.

My realization of how God wanted me to live led me to enroll at KEST. I am working in youth ministry with primary and high schools, along with hostel ministry work for orphans. Much of this work involves holding Bible studies with students and equipping them with life skills. Through my classwork at KEST, I am receiving the necessary skills and knowledge to do God's work. I have discovered that if young people in our society are won for Christ and equipped with skills to reach their peers, the future of the Church will be secure.

Population of Uganda
37.58 Million
Ugandan Children Orphaned
2.5 Million



Statistics provided by britannica.com and UNICEF 2016

Cultivating the Seeds of Truth India

As a student of South Asia Institute of Advanced Christian Studies (SAIACS), I have had the opportunity to enjoy a life changing educational experience. It has helped to reshape my worldview and influenced every part of my faith. Digging deeper into the Scriptures and engaging in meaningful discussion with my instructors has given me the chance to gain valuable training as it pertains to sharing Christ to people from different faiths. My hope is to bring Christian leadership to rural India in an effort to help expand God's kingdom.

In Bangalore, I have chosen to work at a shelter for homeless girls and I hope to influence them with the love of Christ. I am also involved as an editor at a newspaper at SAIACS called Delta. This type of opportunity allows me to see the world through the eyes of my theological education.

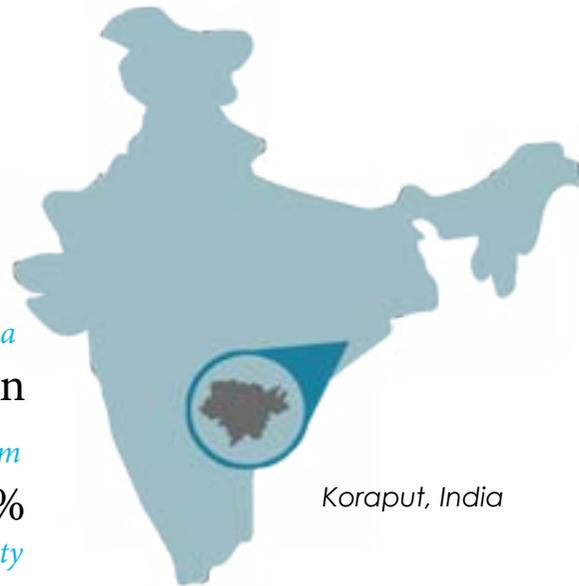
“The scholarship opportunity from Overseas Council is what kept me going so far. If not for your scholarships, I would not have been able to afford my schooling. I distinctly remember the moment I received my scholarship award. I am grateful for my scholarship and it has motivated me to pursue excellence and keep up with the challenging academic standards.”

~Karishma Paul



KARISHMA PAUL

New Christian Leader in India



Population of India
1.252 Billion

Indians Who Practice Hinduism
79.8%

Indians Who Practice Christianity
2.3%

Statistics provided by censusindia.gov 2016



Karishma Paul serving in ministry at the primary school in Lamptaput, a town in Koraput.





Partner School Spotlight
Arab Baptist Theological Seminary
Lebanon

As a Christian in the modern world, sharing the Gospel in the Middle East can be one of the most overwhelming tasks one could ever face. Yet, while facing great challenges like displaced refugees, human trafficking, and Christian persecution, Overseas Council remains on the front lines, helping to equip entire communities seeking out the hope and promise of our Lord Jesus Christ.

According to the United Nations, an unprecedented 65.3 million people world wide have been forced to leave their homes due to war or persecution. Further estimates show that within those displaced, 25 to 30 million people are slaves of human trafficking. Seminaries like Arab Baptist Theological Seminary (ABTS), in Lebanon, are shaping Christian leaders to face these growing challenges head on.

According to Dr. Abraham Najjar, OC's Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa, "ABTS had the opportunity to show the love of Jesus to displaced people of all nations, religious backgrounds, and political affiliations in 2016. For an entire semester, the school shut down classes and opened its doors to host hundreds of refugees." Placing mattresses on the floor and supplying food and water for families to recover gave ABTS students the opportunity to have substantial impact on their community while sharing the Word of God. "This is the role of the Church," says Najjar.



ABTS has also utilized a unique program to reach their most vulnerable students: Theological Education for Arab Christians at Home (T.E.A.C.H.). According to Elie Haddad, President of ABTS, "OC has been very influential in the maturity of ABTS. Their willingness to come alongside us and develop programs like T.E.A.C.H., where we were able to collaboratively build a whole curriculum in Arabic online has increased accessibility to critical information and teaching for our vulnerable students in a much-needed region."

Elie Haddad
President of Arab Baptist Theological Seminary

- 95 Masters, Bachelors, and Certificate Students
- \$18,400 in Student Scholarships
- \$4,250 in Faculty Development Scholarships



Leaders for the Harvest

Your Generosity Shaping and Sustaining the lives of Christian Leaders



UKRAINE PhD PROGRAM

Today, there are fewer than 10 professors of theology with accredited doctoral degrees in Ukraine. This is an extremely limited number, given the more than 30 theological seminaries in Ukraine. New legislation and a partnership with OC will significantly strengthen Christian leadership and churches within Ukraine.

5

Enrolled Christian leaders which have advanced to the 2nd year of program

7

New Christian leaders enrolled into the 1st year of program

43

Graduates currently serving the Cuban community

26

Enrolled and expected to graduate in 2019



CUBA MASTER'S PROGRAM

To address the startling national divorce rate in Cuba which is at a disheartening range between 65 and 95 percent, including multiple marriages by one person, OC has developed a two-year Master's program to help church leaders counsel families struggling to find stable waters in their relationships.

INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The Institute for Excellence in Christian Leadership Development provides much-needed resources for those who lead seminaries, colleges, and global Christian organizations. Through investing considerable time and resources in the strengthening of these institutions, we not only help build their capacity, but also build longevity into their leaders.



THE ALGERIA PROJECT

The Algeria Project provides training and support to Algerian pastors through the launch of the Christian Institute of Algeria (Institut Chrétien d'Algérie, or ICA). Algerian pastors who have been thrust into church leadership without training will receive biblical, theological, and practical resources for themselves and their congregations.



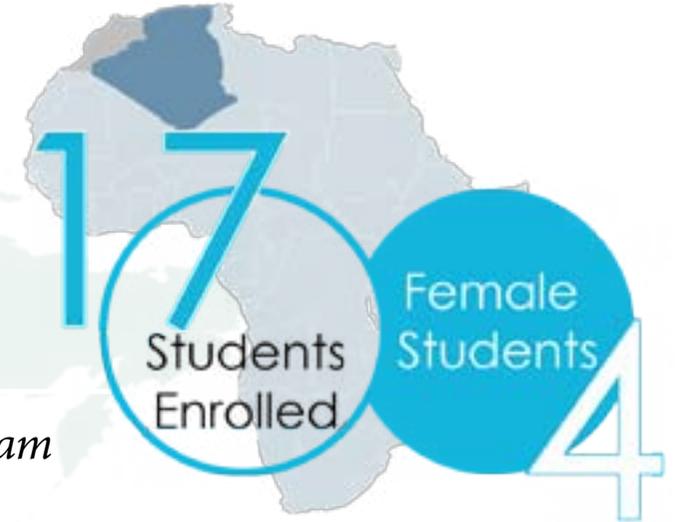
Population of Algeria

39.21 Million



Algerians Who Practice Islam

99.7%



T.E.A.C.H.

Theological Education for Arab Christians at Home

In the Middle East and North Africa there is little to no access to theological training for Arab Christians from Muslim backgrounds. It's also difficult or impossible for many Christian leaders to leave home for several years of focused study as residential students. Through T.E.A.C.H., thousands of Arab Christians and Seekers in the Middle East and North Africa can receive biblical training through Christian satellite television and online courses.

More than 1000

Students enrolled from Egypt, Sudan, Algeria, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, and Yemen.

AROUSING HEARTS FOR CHANGE IN LATIN AMERICA



Josue Fernandez

Regional Director for
Latin America and the Caribbean

Born in San Miguel de Tucumán, Argentina, Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, Josué Fernández, is indigenous to the region where our Latin American partner schools exist. He is also intimately familiar with the varied contexts in which OC operates - the language, culture, people - and is helping to tackle the many challenges for the Church in Latin America.

Josué has served in ministry for more than 20 years and has pastored churches, developed a rehab program for youths addicted to drugs and alcohol, and created a ministry to feed homeless children. Because of his work in the field, Josué has developed personal relationships with school leaders, engendering trust and mutuality. In that partnership, he has been able to navigate a number of cultural nuances and critical factors at play in areas of Latin America, like Cuba.

"God is doing great things in Cuba," says Fernández. "Through the ministry of Overseas Council, seminaries are transforming communities and having a great impact. In particular, it's very interesting to see how our graduates from New Pines Seminary in Cuba are developing. In the past they have created ministries that reach out to children, the elderly, and the poor of the Old Havana community. Now they have taken an even deeper dive into the family with a new ministry focused on reducing divorce and keeping the family together."

Government statistics in 2015 found that the Cuban divorce rate was decimating Cuban families (between 65 and 95 percent, including multiple marriages by one person). Even the Cuban government has turned to the Church to help affect positive change in this crisis.

OC's presence is strong in Cuba. In addition to helping create a new Master's program, Josué provides counsel to five different seminaries training current and future church leaders. Through OC's consultation, these seminaries are building the capacity to be more effective educating and equipping church leaders, who will serve the Cuban family. After over 60 years of Communist government suppression, it's a blessing for OC to be in the middle of helping to improve the health of the Church and the communities of Latin America.



OC Partners visting Cuba with Josué



Mexico

- Methodist Seminary of John Wesley



CUBA

- Baptist Theological Seminary of Cuba
- Eastern Cuban Baptist Seminary
- Evangelical Methodist Seminary
- Las Palmas Seminary
- New Pines Seminary



BOLIVIA

- Hebron Theological Seminary



columbia

- University Foundation Biblical Seminary of Colombia



Ecuador

- South American Nazarene Theological Seminary



Brazil

- Word of Life Seminary
- Paraná Baptist College
- Northeast Bible Seminary
- São Paulo Baptist Theological Seminary



Guatemala

- Central American Theological Seminary



Argentina

- FIET Theological Institute

OC partners with 16 seminaries
throughout Central and South America



Human Trafficking
FAMINE
REFUGEES
CORRUPTION False Gospel
CHRISTIAN PERSECUTION
SLAVERY
SIN
Hope
CHURCH PLANTING BAPTISM
CONVERSION reconciliation
DISCIPLESHIP Servant Leadership

	2016	2015
Total Assets	\$4,260,221	\$4,379,039
Total Support and Revenue	\$5,651,754	\$5,937,256
Program Services	\$4,434,530	\$4,401,480
Management and General	\$436,698	\$568,376
Fundraising Expense	\$881,021	\$1,188,933
Total Expenses	\$5,752,249	\$6,158,789
Change in Net Assets	-\$100,495	-\$221,533
Net Assets - Beginning Balance	\$3,600,746	\$3,822,279
Change in Net Assets	-\$100,495	-\$221,533
Net Assets - Ending Balance	\$3,500,251	\$3,600,746

We believe

- In the Holy Scriptures as originally given by God, divinely inspired, infallible, entirely trustworthy; and the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct...
- One God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit...
- Our Lord Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, His virgin birth, His sinless human life, His divine miracles, His vicarious and atoning death, His bodily resurrection, His ascension, His mediatorial work, and His Personal return in power and glory...
- The Salvation of lost and sinful man through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ by faith apart from works, and regeneration by the Holy Spirit...
- The Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the believer is enabled to live a holy life, to witness and work for the Lord Jesus Christ...
- The Unity of the Spirit of all true believers, the Church, the Body of Christ...
- The Resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life, they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.

Overseas Council is an interdenominational evangelical organization. Overseas Council and all its partner schools affirm the Lausanne Covenant and the statement of faith of the World Evangelical Alliance (WEA).



2016 Overseas Council Board of Directors

- Rex E. Bennett (Board Chair)**
Indianapolis, IN
- RT Rankin (Board Vice Chair)**
Denver, CO
- Thomas K. Gabe (Board Secretary)**
Evansville, IN
- Joe Koch (Board Treasurer)**
Park City, UT
- Dr. Samuel Barkat**
Yorktown Heights, NY
- James C. Blankemeyer**
Vonore, TN
- Dr. William Blocker**
Houston, TX
- Stephen C. Cahill**
Orlando, FL
- Dr. Scott Cunningham**
Indianapolis, IN
- David P. Dwight**
Richmond, VA
- Richard Hagerty**
Modesto, CA
- Howard F. Hubler**
Indianapolis, IN
- Fritz Kling**
Richmond, VA
- Lorna Stern Laniak**
Rockport, MA
- Norman Miller**
Dallas, TX
- David Rippey**
Arlington, VA

*To preserve covenant and sanctuary, the names and numbers of all seminary and bible college partners are not represented.



PHONE

317.788.7250

877.788.7250

EMAIL

info@overseas.org

ADDRESS

3830 E. Southport Rd.,
Suite B
Indianapolis, IN 46237

Called.
Trained.
Multiplied.
overseas.org



HANOI

Through a new partnership with Hanoi Bible College, Overseas Council began a special effort to help Church leaders in Vietnam become equipped to grow the Lord's kingdom despite many constraints. For many years, biblical-theological preparation had been very limited.

