BANGALORE STATEMENT

International Council for Higher Education Triennial Assembly, Bangalore, India 26-28 November 2007



Over 80 participants and observers gathered in Bangalore, India from 26 to 28 November on the eco-friendly ACTS campus for the Third Triennial Assembly of the International Council for Higher Education.

At this significant time in the history of ICHE, referred to as the "defining moment" of the movement, we unanimously make the following affirmations:

- 1. We affirm the richness of our diverse educational heritage indigenous and traditional, through the periods of contacts with peoples and their cultures and at the cross roads of the emergence of nations in post colonial eras. All of these have resulted in progress and challenges that are ours today in the pursuit of more effective higher education.
- 2. We reaffirm our calling to continue to support initiatives around the world, whether in free or restricted access places, in fulfilling their mission of promoting Christian higher education in increasingly pluralistic societies. ICHE is committed to finding innovative ways of empowering member institutions in developing relevant programs for our times, such as the new M.A. in Leadership, the M.B.A. for Non-Profit Management, Teacher Education, the Ph.D. Program, et cetera. We encourage varied and appropriate ways of delivery including the prudent use of web based technologies. In all these programs we will continue to seek to promote Christ-like leadership to serve the world.
- 3. We recognize and affirm that ICHE has now found its distinctive contribution to Christian Higher Education as it promotes Integrated Learning with vast opportunities in the diverse contexts within which our institutions operate. We prepare to assist them in developing integrated programs across disciplines firmly under girded by a Christian world and life view.
- 4. We affirm our calling to forge closer links between institutions offering Christian Higher Education (CHE) in general and those offering Theological education (TE) in particular. CHE must discover more integration of Biblical principles and values and TE must become aware of trends in the world addressed by those involved in broader areas of Higher Education. Our diverse membership represents this vision.
- 5. We recognize the increasing challenges and opportunities before us to continue to break new ground by promoting advanced levels of Christian higher education including Theological education. We will continue to maintain, promote and enhance standards of international quality in higher education through accreditation and validation services and program development where needed.

- 6. We affirm our goal to continue to partner with other likeminded Christian bodies in the promotion of Christian higher education around the world. To this end we welcome our affiliation and collaborative programs and services with The Council for Christian Colleges and Universities (CCCU) and The International Association for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education (IAPCHE). We seek other affiliations as we network together wider in order to maximize the effectiveness of our higher education models.
- 7. We affirm all these avenues that God uses are for the enhancing of our Christian presence in the world in order to become more effective in our mission of proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We came from all over the world – worshipped together, shared in fellowship in the sessions, in the dining hall and outside on the campus, we listened to addresses and reports, interacted together on these presentations, and go away richer than when we came here. We seek to put into practice all we have learned and affirmed.

"To God be the glory!"