

APPLICATION

The IASACT application form is available at www.unitedboard.org/iasact2012.asp

By **the end of October 2011**, applicants should submit their completed application, including their research proposal, curriculum vitae and recommendation from their departmental or institutional head to:

Dr. Betty Cernol-McCann
Vice President for Programs

United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia
Room 12, 1/F, Chung Chi College
Administration Building
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong

Or send applications electronically to:
ubhk@unitedboard.org

Proposals should clearly demonstrate how topics of research interest relate to Asian theologies, Asian religious studies and/or Asian cultures.

Letters of recommendation should be signed. If sent electronically, these should be sent from the email addresses of the departmental or institutional heads.

Scholars from institutions outside Asia should submit the same documentation, together with a statement of financial support.

While primary consideration for selection will be based on the quality of submissions, every effort will be made to achieve regional, denominational and gender balance. The IASACT Advisory Committee will make the final selection of scholars.

The United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia works to support Christian presence in higher education in Asia. Founded in 1922, the United Board is an historic Christian organization with a contemporary mission: we work with higher education institutions in Asia to develop leadership, collaboration and values such as justice, care for the environment, reconciliation and harmony among ethnic and religious communities, and civil society.

More information is available at www.unitedboard.org.

IASACT LEADERSHIP

IASACT Dean
Betty Cernol-McCann, *Hong Kong*

IASACT Mentors
Eugene Eung-Chun Park
(*San Francisco Theological Seminary*)
Second Mentor, TBC

Advisory Committee
Antonette Palma Angeles, *Philippines*
Po Ho Huang, *Taiwan*
John A. Titaley, *Indonesia*
Philip L. Wickeri, *USA/Hong Kong*
Felix Wilfred, *India*
Wai Ching (Angela) Wong, *Hong Kong*

United Board President
Nancy E. Chapman, *Hong Kong*

Collaborating Institution & Host of IASACT 2012
Divinity School of Chung Chi College
Lung Kwong Lo, *Director*



INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY IN ASIAN CULTURES AND THEOLOGIES (IASACT)

*Providing a forum for
research, reflection and writing*

9 June - 14 July 2012

Chung Chi College
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
Shatin, Hong Kong

INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY IN ASIAN CULTURES AND THEOLOGIES (IASACT)

IASACT is a five-week residential program that provides space and time for scholars to deepen their understanding of theologies and traditions. Participants undertake research and writing in the broad area of Asian cultures and theologies and complete a working paper while in residence.

In providing this opportunity, IASACT aims to:

- Strengthen theological education in Asian Christian universities and colleges;
- Encourage cross-disciplinary as well as cross-religious discussions; and
- Enable scholars from different countries or of different nationalities to work together toward an intra-Asian theological dialogue.

Each scholar will be assigned a primary mentor, who will be available for consultation. While mentors do not oversee the work of scholars, they can be a valuable source of advice and help.

Since 2004, 128 scholars from 70 institutions in 14 countries have benefited from the time IASACT affords for reflection, interaction and network-building.

What the scholars say:

“ We come from different cultures, languages, perspectives, but through IASACT, we could cooperate, communicate and benefit a lot from each other. ”

“ ...good place to sharpen skills, get focused, earn friends and spend some good time resting, sharing and learning. ”

“ IASACT has broadened my theological knowledge through entering into dialogue with scholars from other disciplines. ”

PARTICIPATION

IASACT is open to faculty scholars in the fields of theology, religious studies, humanities and social sciences. Applicants should have completed their doctoral studies or be in the process of writing their dissertations. They should be currently teaching.

Fifteen scholars from Asian institutions will be selected. To broaden IASACT's inter-contextual theological explorations, three theological educators from North American or European institutions will be invited to join the Asian scholars.

SCHEDULE

Program

Arrival : Saturday, 9 June 2012
Orientation : Sunday, 10 June 2012 at 16:00
Departure : Saturday, 14 July 2012

Weekly Schedule

During the week, scholars conduct their individual research and writing.

Monday-Thursday, starting at 16:30, one scholar will present his/her research project in a seminar for comments and discussion with peers and mentors. Each session lasts no more than two hours. These sessions are intended to encourage each scholar in his/her research and provide helpful suggestions. The presentation and discussion will be in English.

Fridays are scheduled for enrichment activities such as a mini-conference or visits to places of interest.

Weekends are free for personal visits and worship in local churches.

ARRANGEMENTS

Accommodation

Scholars will be housed at the Divinity School of Chung Chi College at the Chinese University of Hong Kong, located in Shatin, New Territories.

- Each scholar will have a single air-conditioned room with internet connection. (Scholars are expected to provide their own laptops.)
- Men and women will be housed on separate floors. Each floor has a number of washrooms, showers and toilets.

Expenses and Allowances

- IASACT will pay for the room and meal expenses of scholars from Asian institutions.
- Scholars are encouraged to cover the costs of their air tickets and related travel expenses. A limited number of transportation subsidies are available upon request.
- IASACT will provide a stipend of US\$1000 to cover basic costs related to research and writing as well as for meals during weekends.

We invite **European and North American** scholars who are studying Asian theologies and cultures to apply. Up to three scholars from non-Asian institutions will be selected.

For these applicants, we encourage a sponsoring institution to provide US\$3,000, plus travel costs, for the scholar, either as a block grant from the institution to IASACT or by helping its nominee secure external grant funding.