

National and International *Service and Mission*





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STUDENTS TOUCH LIVES IN THE U.S. AND ABROAD

The Agapé Center’s National and International Service and Mission Office (NISM) exists to empower and coordinate campus service and missions programs that reach beyond the local area, allowing students to apply and exercise their faith and learning in transform-ing ways. Students can create their own experiences or participate in existing programs such as:

- International service and mission trips over spring and summer breaks.
- Student-led stateside Service Trips over fall, January-term and spring breaks.
- World Christian Fellowship (WCF), a student group dedicated to increasing global Christian concern and facilitating student engagement in missions.
- Human Rights Awareness (HRA), a student-led coalition of on-campus human rights organizations committed to advocat-ing for and responding to, human rights-related injustices in the world.

The Agape Center’s NISM office enhances the College’s mission of preparing students for lives of service, leadership and reconciliation. Some of our plans for the future include:

- Working to resource more academic departments with a vision for vocationally based missions.
- Identifying missions partner-organizations that exemplify holistic community development.
- Developing missions and service work around convergence with other areas of Messiah’s global network (study abroad programs, international admissions recruiting, etc.).

**International Service and Mission Teams
 Annual Report 2007–08**

This year Messiah sent eight trips abroad for service and missions (two more trips than last year). Our additional trips resulted from the enthusiasm of academic disciplines and athletic teams to engage in service and mission together. These trips are entirely funded by private donations. Additionally, the NISM Office coordinated a committee to distribute \$60,080 in grant money to 40 individual students. Along with their regular team meetings and monthly large group trainings, a highlight of preparation was the annual Cross-Cultural Ministry Orientation Retreat. Getting away from the busyness of campus life with other like-minded people for a time of refreshment, training and experiential learning is a crucial element in our program. Thinking deeply together about what it means to be ambassadors of God’s love helps us to prepare to work together as the body of Christ in unfamiliar places and to truly serve God and the world.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Agapé Center for Service and Learning develops, administers, resources, and coordinates programs of service-learning, community service, and mission, contributing to the mission of Messiah College to “educate men and women toward maturity of intellect, character, and Christian faith in preparation for lives of service, leadership, and recon-ciliation in church and society.”



Messiah’s international summer service teams allow students the opportunity to engage the broader global community.

International Service at a Glance

Trip	Participants	Length of Trip	Total hours served
<i>Spring Break '08</i>			
Northern Ireland	8 students, 1 staff	8 days	576
El Salvador	10 students, 2 staff	8 days	768
Dominican Republic	10 students, 1 staff	8 days	704
Mexico	12 students, 1 staff	8 days	832
<i>Summer '08</i>			
Nicaragua	12 students	14 days	1,344
Dominican Republic	10 students, 1 staff	14 days	1,232
China	3 students, 2 alumni	35 days	1,680
Romania	2 students	28 days	448

TOTAL 8 Trips, 68 students, 8 staff, 123 days,
 7,584 total hours served in 6 different countries
 (Calculated at 8 hr per day per person)

SERVICE TRIPS



Over 200 students participated in service trips to 14 different community partners. Taken as a whole, they volunteered more than 8,000 hours of community services, the equivalent of more than \$50,000 at the current minimum wage.

NATIONAL SERVICE TRIPS CHANGE LIVES

Service Trips is a unique organization, providing opportunities for students to serve over their fall, January-term, and spring breaks and helping the College to realize and fulfill its vision for reconciliation between the church and society. Teams enable community partners to accomplish projects and tasks that would otherwise be very time-consuming and expensive in a short amount of time. Funds from SGA make participation accessible to all students.

National Service and Mission Partners 2007–2008

- Almost Heaven Habitat for Humanity (Franklin, W.Va.)
- Christian Endeavor (Beards Fork, W.Va.)
- The Haft (New Albany, Pa.)
- Koinonia (Americus, Ga.)
- The Master's Mission [T.M.M.] (Robbinsville, N.C.)
- Mountain T.O.P. [Tennessee Outreach Project] (Altamont, Tenn.)
- NYC Relief (New York, N.Y.)
- The Pittsburgh Project [T.P.P.] (Pittsburgh, Pa.)
- Presbytery of MS Disaster Relief (Diamondhead, Miss.)
- Remote Area Medical [R.A.M.] (Grundy, Va.)
- Sunshine Gospel Ministries: in conjunction with Campus Crusade for Christ (Chicago, Ill.):
- Syracuse Rescue Mission [SRM] (Syracuse, N.Y.)
- Urban Discipleship Center [U.D.C.] (Bronx, N.Y.)
- Urban Promise (Camden, N.J.)

TOTAL: 14 Community Partners

National Service at A Glance

TRIP	PARTICIPANTS	LENGTH OF TRIP	TOTAL HOURS
Fall Break '07 New York Pennsylvania Virginia West Virginia	59 Students	4 Days (32 hrs.)	1888
J-Term Break '08 New Jersey New York Pennsylvania West Virginia	50 Students	4 Days (32 hrs.)	1600
Spring Break '08 Georgia Illinois Mississippi New York North Carolina Pennsylvania Tennessee West Virginia	94 Students	7 Days (56 hrs.)	5264

203 total participants, 15 days = **8,752 total hours served**

"We truly enjoyed the students — not only their hard work but their great attitudes. They were super with the little ones on the mountain, had tons of questions and were truly a joy to be around."

—Jack Morrison, *The Master's Mission*



Service trips provide important opportunities for students to reach out to others. In service, students actively respond to the Great Commission and the Great Commandment.

WORLD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

The mission of World Christian Fellowship (WCF) is to develop, equip, pray for, and send student leaders into the world to work for change in the kingdom of God.

World Christian Fellowship (WCF) provided a number of exciting opportunities for Messiah's campus:

Salt and Light Chapels—Fall and spring chapels included speakers from Mission Year and Servants for Asia.

Ignite Prayer Conference—This weekend conference led by Student Volunteer Movement and WCF brought together area schools for a time of intense prayer for each other, the world, and missions.

Burma Prayer Vigil—WCF partnered with the Human Rights Awareness group to coordinate a prayer vigil in response to the Saffron Revolution in Burma.

Canoe-a-thon—This was WCF's 30th year of sponsoring this fundraising event for summer mission grant money, this year raising \$4,400.

30 Hour Famine—In late February, WCF joined with Human Rights

Awareness in a joint effort to raise awareness on campus about human rights-related needs, and respond to it through fasting, prayer, worship, service and raising over \$800 for World Vision.

Mission Awareness Week—Mission Awareness Week is one of the ways WCF attempts to connect students with God's heart for the world while encouraging them in their life-long callings. Each November, this conference-style focus week offers the campus a variety of chapels, discussion groups, teaching and prayer times, communal meals, worship opportunities and much more. This year, WCF hosted 40 representatives from 25 different organizations on campus to live, eat, and share with Messiah students about what's happening in missions today and how they can be involved.



Ashley Kriel and Vienna Vogelzang from WCF coordinated our 2007 Missions Awareness Week where students and faculty were able to hear from and talk to over 30 mission agency representatives.

"WCF pushed me to develop in leadership, beyond what I knew I was capable of. The skills I gained from working in the Agapé Center have already transferred from Messiah to the broader community through my internship working with immigrants and refugees. My participation in WCF also connected me to solid relationships with people that share similar values of service and concern for social justice. My involvement with WCF connected me to an organization in India that I will now be serving with post-graduate life. The Agapé Center has given me the space to explore and creatively implement my talents in order to serve others."

—Stephanie Nitschke '08

National and International Individual Grants Program Summary Report 07-08

This was another successful year in offering grants, training, and reflection for a number of students who plan to participate in a summer mission experience. As the students returned in the fall of 2007 from their summer experiences, we heard a number of amazing stories about what they experienced and how they grew over the summer. Then we spent the entire year with students who were looking for similar experiences in the summer of 2008.

Grants Offered

Student Summer Missions Endowment Fund—This is funding of \$2,100 split among up to four people to be used to assist with their trip expenses.

World Christian Fellowship Grant—funding raised from their fall Canoe-a-thon event and from their budget. This year over \$10,000 was split between a number of applicants who needed assistance with their trip expenses.

Mulberry Grant—This is an annual gift of \$30,000 from the Mulberry Foundation. Ten individuals receive \$3,000 each toward their fall tuition to make up for lost summer income by participating in summer missions. They must be on-site for at least four weeks.

Frey Endowment Grant—This endowment provides roughly \$12,500 annually. This is distributed to a small number of students to be applied to their fall tuition to make up for lost summer income. They must be on-site for at least eight weeks.

Individual Grants Program at a Glance

2008 Grants	42 students received a total of \$60,000
2008 Countries	16 countries
2008 Organizations	29 different organizations
2008 Hours	10,040 hours

HUMAN RIGHTS AWARENESS

Human rights advocates for justice throughout the world

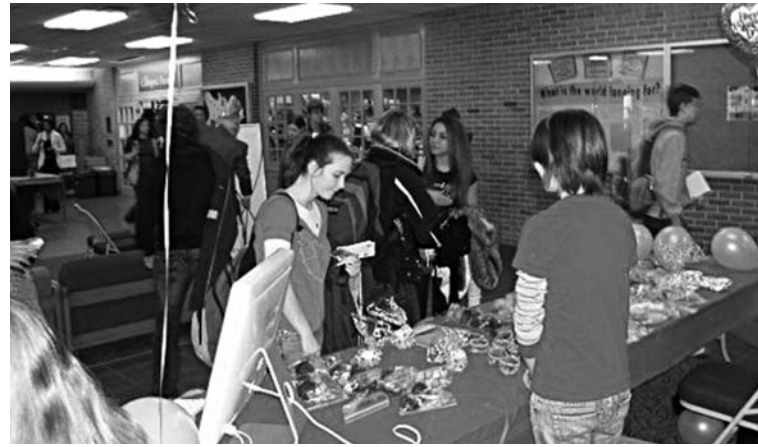
Human Rights Awareness is composed of four separate student organizations:

- **Amnesty International** — focusing on trade, governance, and political persecution
- **International Justice Mission** — focusing on human slavery, and sex trafficking
- **Children's Issues** — focusing on child survival and child soldiers
- **World Diseases** — focusing on global malaria and HIV/AIDS

While each addresses distinct issues of human rights, the combined efforts of all of the groups bring a more holistic and expansive view of every issue that we cover.

Each year several fundraisers take place to raise money for the parent organizations of each branch of Human Rights Awareness, in addition to raising the profile of such issues of human rights in the world:

- **World AIDS Day** — This year HRA sponsored a panel discussion about the AIDS crisis that included local activist-educators and internationally concerned agency representatives. HRA tried to dispel the myth that AIDS is an issue limited to one continent and one kind of person
- **Compassion Café** — Held in Boyer Hall, baked goods and coffee are sold to students and faculty to benefit Compassion International.
- **Rummage Sale** — Each year Human Rights Awareness holds a Rummage Sale, collecting clothing from students and faculty of Messiah College and selling it in a week-long thrift store in Eisenhower Commons to raise money for an aftercare shelter run by International Justice Mission to help readjust former sex-trafficking victims to life outside a brothel.
- **Bowling Lock-Ins** are held at Trindle Bowl, a local bowling alley and they serve to raise money for all of the organizations and to bring awareness to the surrounding community to human rights topics.
- **Lapezi** — This year Human Rights Awareness also sponsored a yard sale event in Larsen Student Union called Lapezi to benefit an orphanage in Namibia.
- **A bake sale** held on Valentine's Day benefited the Maputo Project of an organization called Jesuspolitik, which was started by Messiah alum Melissa Davis. HRA's support of Jesuspolitik brought Melissa numerous speaking engagements on campus.
- **Additional fundraisers** held by Human Rights Awareness in previous years include bracelet and merchandise sales for Invisible Children, a 5k run to benefit Invisible Children, a paper doll sale to benefit various organizations, and many more.
- **Alternate Chapels** discussed issues as broad as AIDS, sex-trafficking, the diamond market and human rights in Columbia. As many as 100 students would attend these chapels.



Top: HRA's Valentine's Day bake sale for Jesuspolitik. Middle: Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is a time to increase campus-wide understanding of the local, national and international problem. Bottom: HRA student leaders gather to support Jesuspolitik.

"The *best* we can do in life is to use what God has given us to make a *difference* in the world."
— Quote from student leader

THE COLLABORATORY FOR STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND APPLIED RESEARCH

THE COLLABORATORY

As part of Messiah College's School of Mathematics, Engineering, and Business, the Collaboratory for Strategic Partnerships and Applied Research brings together students, educators, and professionals from multiple disciplines to work on projects that foster justice, empower the poor, reconcile adversaries, and care for the earth. This past year the Collaboratory has experienced significant growth, both in terms of its size and its service capacity.

MISSION

To partner with organizations, businesses and communities in our region and around the world for projects in mathematical and information sciences, engineering, and business that serve disadvantaged people and care for the earth; and to develop our members' abilities and vocational vision for lifelong servant-leadership, and the courage to act on convictions.

VISION

Increasing hope and transforming lives through education, collaboration, innovation and service.

Education: A new alternate chapel series was initiated to disciple members in the attribute of an approved worker. Found in 2 Timothy 2:15, the idea of being God's approved workers forms the foundation of collaboratory participation.

Collaboration: The Collaboratory was approved for membership in the Association of Evangelical Relief and Development Organizations (AERDO), joining over 60 major evangelical Christian relief and development member agencies.

Innovation: The Collaboratory continues to be on the cutting edge of developing technology for service. This year's innovative projects included the fields of renewable energy and wireless communications.

Service: This year the Collaboratory sent out an unprecedented eight Site Teams and two individuals to seven different countries, in addition to clocking over 8,500 student volunteer hours on project work during the academic year.



Stevie Baum '10 demonstrates a typical pump in Mali.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Student Involvement Group	# of students
Staff	37
Communications	1
Disability Resources	20
Education	11
Energy	23
Executive	2
Microeconomic Development	22
Transportation	9
Water	16
Total Students Involved	141 (up 36% from 2006)

2007–2008 Collaboratory Leaders

Dr. David Vader, Director
Deborah Tepley, Manager
Jonathan Patrick '08, Student Director
William Bellows '09, Assistant Student Director
Michelle Carrier '08, Student Staff Manager
Eric Gephart '09, Assistant Student Staff Manager

Students involved with the Collaboratory serve in one of seven Application Groups or the Staff Group.

Staff and Executive

The Staff Group serves the Collaboratory's Application Groups in the areas of finance, human resources, information management, logistics, and marketing. This year the Staff Group tracked Collaboratory project budgets and member involvement, developed a new website, provided logistical support for a record number of Site Teams, published two newsletters, and produced a new Collaboratory video. The Student Director continued to provide excellent executive leadership for the Collaboratory, developing a new Monday night chapel series and continuing to professionalize the growing organization.

Communications

The Communications Group continued its work in Alternative Aviation Solutions for United in Mission (UIM) pilots through the efforts of an engineering senior project team. Also, a new project to provide a Wireless Enabled Remote Co-presence (WERC) will support behaviorally, socially, and/or cognitively challenged individuals in the workplace.

Disability Resources

The Mali Water and Disabilities Study continued to work with World Vision Mali to ensure effective access and use of potable water and sanitation facilities by the disabled. The Mobility Team prepared to send a Site Team to Burkina Faso (summer 2008) in order to continue to provide hand-powered and electric tricycles to meet the mobility needs of disabled persons at Serving in Mission's (SIM) center, Handicapés en Avant.

Education

A January 2008 Site Team delivered the Education Group's counting book for basic numeracy to Burkinabé children. This Group continues to partner with SIM to improve mathematics education and basic literacy at schools in Burkina Faso and provide math tutoring for a missionary family during a summer Site Team trip.

Energy

In partnership with the Sustainable Energy Fund (SEF) and Gannett Flemming, Inc., the Energy Group completed work on a solar training, research, and educational facility on Messiah College's campus behind Frey Academic Hall. The Energy Group's biodiesel project received a significant federal appropriations grant to develop a small-scale biodiesel production facility for demonstration and training. This facility will support biodiesel business start-ups to benefit disadvantaged neighborhoods in Harrisburg, and inform the creation of similar businesses to empower farmers in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Africa.

Microeconomic Development (MED)

The Microeconomic Development Group sent its second Site Team trip to Zambia. This year's trip implemented a small business venture in paper-making. The MED Group is continuing to research and develop business opportunities in Zambia, in order to integrate ministry and business by supporting and growing the local economy.

Transportation

In partnership with the Messiah College Flying Club, the Transportation Group is developing a Light Sport Aircraft (LSA) for missions use. The team is working on designing the engine and reduction drive, with the support and partnership of the engine manufacturer. The Transportation Group is also developing a solar power commuter vehicle as a practical application of renewable energy sources.

Water

The Village Water Ozonation System team returned to Honduras to demonstrate an improved water purification system prototype and lay the groundwork for future installations. With further testing and development, the team plans to implement the system in the summer of 2009. Another Water Group team has been improving a pump design that is currently being used in Africa. The team is partnering with Education Concerns for Hunger Organizations (ECHO), receiving feedback and assistance in sharing the design with organizations that meet water access needs.

Summer Site Team Trips at a Glance

TRIP	PARTICIPANTS	LENGTH OF TRIP
JANUARY '08		
Mali: Disability Resources	3 students/advisors	3 weeks
Burkina Faso: Education	11 students/advisors	3 weeks
SUMMER '08		
Burkina Faso: Education	1 student	7 weeks
Burkina Faso: Disability Resources	9 students/advisors	4 weeks
Democratic Republic of Congo: Energy	2 students	2 weeks
Ethiopia: Communications	1 advisor	3 weeks
Florida: Water	4 students/advisors	1 week
Mali: Disability Resources	4 students/advisors	2 weeks
Honduras: Water	7 students/advisors	3 weeks
Zambia: Microeconomic Development	7 students/advisors	3 weeks

49 Site Team participants, serving 1–7 weeks
5,840 hours of international missions service
(calculated at 40 hrs. per week per person)



"The Collaboratory allows me to move my education *beyond* the classroom, to take the skills I have learned and apply them practically, while also *servicing* others and honoring God. This is a blessing and I feel like a more *well-rounded* individual, spiritually and vocationally."

—Kenneth Abbott '09

For more information about The Collaboratory, contact:

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