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# Daily News Brief



## LAUSANNE Younger Leaders Gathering

THURSDAY — 28 September 2006

ISSUE 5

### Partnership and Passion

*by Laurie Fortunak*

“We are in the middle of a revolution,” said Phill Butler of the important partnership and collaboration movement that is taking place around the world. Butler, Senior Associate with the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization and International Director of visionSynergy, gave the example of a gathering of believers in Hong Kong who met to pray for the country of Mongolia. “Fifteen years ago there were only five or six known believers in Mongolia...today there are thousands,” he said. “After two thousand years of darkness God is transforming a nation in one generation. The impossible dream is possible as we join hands.”

Butler opened his presentation by speaking of the importance of Jesus’ high priestly prayer found in John 17 and explained that although unity has always been the goal of God, from the Fall onward human relationships have been marred.

“If we want to understand why we



are not seeing hundreds of millions coming into the kingdom, it isn’t because of a lack of wealth [or]...a lack of prayer,” Butler said. “It is not a question of holiness or adequate leadership. Jesus’ personal credibility has been destroyed by divisions in the body of Christ.”

Marcellus Mbah, who founded The Strong Revival Prayer Force in Cameroon, was especially impacted by Butler’s

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### Priorities in World Evangelization

*by Paul Esbleman*

The Lausanne Strategy Working Group has identified fourteen strategic priorities that should be at the top of the church’s agenda if we are to see disciples made in all nations. Two of the priorities will be printed in each edition of the YLG Daily News Brief. Priorities 9 and 10 are listed below. For a fuller introduction to the list of priorities, please see the 24 September Daily News Brief.

**9. To stay personally involved in grassroots evangelism so that we are obedient to our calling, and so that our presentation of the biblical gospel is relevant, contextualized and meaningful.** Regardless of our gifting, Paul reminds Timothy to “preach the word” in season and out.

**10. To live out the gospel as we seek to meet the physical and social needs of those to whom we minister with practical expressions of love and compassion.** There are many great churches and organizations demonstrating the love of Christ in some of the toughest places in the world. However, we as believers need to be much more intentional in finding out and meeting the needs of those in our own neighborhood so that every person knows someone who truly follows Christ. ☹

*Paul Esbleman is the chair of the Lausanne Strategy Working Group*





## Lausanne's Working Groups and Senior Associates

by Judd Birdsall

The Lausanne Movement is a dynamic, catalytic network of individuals, churches and agencies committed to biblical Christianity and world evangelization, as articulated by the Lausanne Covenant. Core elements in this network are the six working groups—Theology, Strategy, Intercession, Communications, Leadership Development, and Global CEOs—and 12 Senior Associates.

Lausanne Working Groups and Senior Associates provide theological reflection, research and strategic planning for the global church on topics such as holistic evangelism, HIV/AIDS, poverty, globalization, unreached people groups, prayer, reaching oral cultures and many others. The following is a brief description of the Working Groups and Senior Associates:

### WORKING GROUPS

The **Theology Working Group** (TWG) brings together biblical scholars, anthropologists, missiologists, and theologians to consider the pressing issues related to the church's global mission. Prominent Zimbabwe-born theologian David Wells says the TWG has accomplished "some real breakthroughs on difficult issues." The 1978 consultation on culture and the 1982 consultation on evangelism and social responsibility both produced widely influential Lausanne Occasional Papers (LOPs).

TWG consultations in 1987 and 1989 produced the significant books *God the Evangelist: How the Holy Spirit Works to Bring Men and Women to Faith*, and *Turning to God: Biblical Conversion in the Modern World. Deliver Us From Evil*, from a 2000 consultation in Nairobi on spiritual warfare, was edited by team of scholars including Scott Moreau of Wheaton College.

The TWG is currently chaired by

Chris Wright, the International Ministries Director for John Stott's Langham Partnership. Wright will convene the TWG in February 2007 in Nairobi to plan the group's agenda for the next four years.

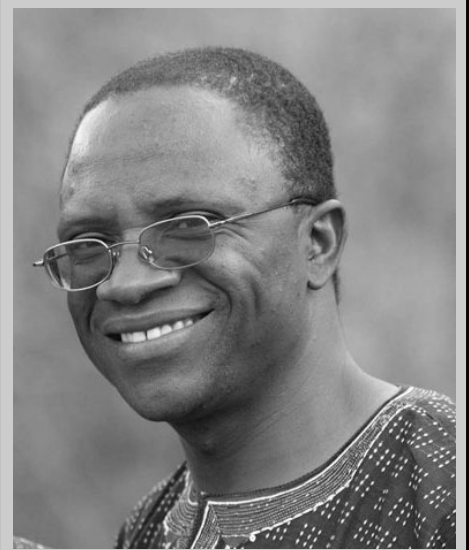
The purpose of the **Strategy Working Group** (SWG) is to help the Lausanne Movement and the church in general to develop effective strategies for reaching the world for Christ. The SWG meetings bring together missions and evangelism leaders with expertise in specific fields of Christian work. In March 2006, Lausanne helped convene 350 delegates for ETHNE '06, a conference that provided opportunity to "celebrate progress, assess status and accelerate efforts to reach the least-reached peoples of the world." The SWG is chaired by Paul Eshleman, Vice President of Strategy for Campus Crusade for Christ International.

An emphasis on prayer has always been a hallmark of the Lausanne Movement. The **Intercession Working Group** (IWG) encourages prayer for all Lausanne initiatives and for the work of evangelization around the world. The IWG produces the Prayer Bulletin for Lausanne's monthly e-newsletter, the Lausanne Connecting Point, and provides prayer teams for major Lausanne events. The group consists of a chairperson, a vice-chair and regional chairs drawn from Lausanne's 11 geographical divisions of the world.

Sarah Plummer, an Anglican deacon in Sydney, Australia, was recently appointed chair of the IWG. She assumes the position from outgoing chair Glenda Weldon. Previously the IWG regional chair for Oceania, Plummer has a passion for supporting the advancement of the gospel through prayer.

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## YLG Profile: Bulus Silas Bossan



I was born in rural Nigeria into a Christian family. My parents loved the Lord and shared a heart for missions. But I did not make a conscious decision to follow Christ until my first year of University when I "accidentally" came across Romans 8. Not long after, I met The Navigators, who helped me grow and gave me a vision for the transformed life: Almighty God can inhabit mortal flesh, and through ordinary people live out his life and carry out his purposes.

The Navigators seek to transform people and communities through one-on-one and small group discipleship and life-on-life leader development.

After graduation from University I worked as a quantity surveyor in the construction industry for five years before joining the full-time staff of The Navigators in 1985. I held various responsibilities in Nigeria, the last of which was the country director (1994-2004). Three years ago I joined the Africa Regional Team of The Navigators and assumed responsibility for Eastern Africa, Missions and Prayer.

My wife Salama and I have four

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**YLG Profile: Bulus Silas Bossan**

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children: Binta, 19; Yanang, 16; Bavoshia, 14; and Afi, 12. In 2004 we moved to Uganda where we live and minister.

I have a passion to see flourishing communities in and through which the Christ-life is dynamically multiplying among the lost. The individuals in these communities tangibly mediate the love and power of God to the lost and hurting. Christians must bring about change that affects the lives of people tangibly where it matters most—in values, character, material circumstances, at home, at work and in society at large. I believe that young people—men and women with fire in their bones and wings on their feet—are strategic to the development of these communities in the nations.

I am on the Programme Planning Team of the YLY-06, with the responsibility (along with 2 others) for prayer before, during and after the Gathering. My expectation for the Gathering is to see the birth of a fresh passion for God’s kingdom purposes in the nations. ☺

**Partnership and Passion**

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call to partnership. “The churches in Cameroon are somehow divided,” he said. “We need to be united and I want to help us make that connection. It’s time to embrace this idea and work as a team.”

Mario Cappello, head of the Institute for World Evangelization (ICPE), also spoke on the need for unity in the global Church. By using the JESUS Film Project and other avenues, Cappello has trained more than 200,000 Catholics in missions and discipleship. Many in the audience were overwhelmed with emotion when Cappello thanked the evangelical community for working toward the salvation of others.

“[Cappello’s speech] changed my life!” Mbah said. “I think I had had this mindset about the Catholic Church and now I know that God is doing amazing things everywhere. I am amazed.”

To close out the plenary session, Mutua Mahiaini, National Director of The Navigators in Kenya, looked at “Jesus: The Passionate Leader” by

answering five questions: (1) Is passion mandatory or optional? (2) What is the source of Jesus’ passion? (3) How did Jesus demonstrate passion? (4) What is the secret of Jesus’ passion? and (5) How can we live out the passion of Jesus?

“Whether shy or outgoing, we all have the capacity to be passionate,” he said. “We just need to be passionate about the things God is passionate

about....One of the scariest things today is that we will succeed in things that don’t matter. The scariest thing is that we won’t succeed in things that truly matter.”

Mahiaini used dozens of scripture verses to emphasize the passionate leadership of Jesus and the reason we are to imitate that same passion. By looking at Jesus’ understanding of his Father’s word—including the cross, kingdom absolutes, the power of God, the sovereignty of God, the Father’s glory and his vision for his people—we, as Christians, can find the source of Jesus’ passion and in turn find our source. Mahiaini encouraged participants to find that passion within themselves.

“What ignites your passion this morning?” he asked his audience. Indeed, it is a question that many will be pondering in the days to come. ☺

*“We just need to be passionate about the things God is passionate about.”*

**-Mutua Mahiaini**



# Lausanne's Working Groups and Senior Associates

(cont. from pg. 2)

The **Global Communications Working Group** (CWG) is responsible for developing global communications networks that support the priority initiatives of LCWE. CWG chair Wing Tai Leung is the General Secretary of Breakthrough, a ministry to Chinese youth that produces books, movies, magazines and websites, gospel camps, a counseling center and training institutes for teachers and youth workers.

The **Leadership Development Working Group** (LDWG) is a resource to ministries around the world that are involved in leadership development. The LDWG's focus for the past two years has been the development of the Lausanne Younger Leaders Gathering. Rick Sessoms, LDWG chair, says the Gathering will help identify and mobilize new members for the group. Sessoms is the Director for Leadership Development at Trans World Radio. The LDWG was instrumental in producing the 2004 Forum for World Evangelization LOP, *Future Leadership: A Call to Develop Christ-like Leaders*.

The **Global CEOs Working Group** (GCWG) brings together leaders of evangelical ministries to share strategies, build partnerships and equip the church for evangelization. Group members must be the chief executive officers of evangelical organizations that have active and sustained ministries in at least eight countries. The GCWG is chaired by Jerry White, former President of The Navigators, an evangelism and discipleship organization with ministries in over 100 countries.

## SENIOR ASSOCIATES

Senior Associates are internationally respected leaders and specialists in particular fields of ministry that serve as resource people to the Lausanne Committee. As full-time employees of de-

nominations or para-church organizations, Senior Associates serve as conduits of information, ideas and resources to and from Lausanne. Lausanne Senior Associates include:

**Children at Risk:** Patrick McDonald, Founder of Viva Network, a Christian movement to fight the suffering of children in 42 countries.

**Evangelism Among Disabled People:** Joni Eareckson Tada, Founder of Joni and Friends, an organization dedicated to helping churches and ministries reach persons with disabilities.

**Holistic Mission:** Evvy Campbell, professor of missions at Wheaton College, Wheaton, IL USA.

**Information Technology:** Joseph Vijayam, Chief Executive Officer of the computer software firm Olive Technology Limited.

**Women in Evangelism:** Elke Werner, a well-known German speaker at evangelistic meetings and church conferences. Elke succeeds Robyn Claydon who served in this position for many years.

**Church Research:** Peter Brierley, Executive Director of UK-based Christian Research.

**Study of Global Christianity:** Todd Johnson, Director of the Center for the Study Global Christianity in Hamilton, Massachusetts, USA.

**Strategic Evangelism Partnerships:** Phill Butler, Director of vision-Synergy, an international ministry developing strategic global Christian networks for world evangelization.

**Tentmaking:** Berit Helgøy Kloster, a Tentmaking ministry specialist from Norway.

**Hidden and Forgotten People:** Gary Barnes, Executive Director of

World Changers International, a mission mobilization and strategy group.

**Urban Evangelization:** Glenn Smith, Executive Director of Christian Direction, a Montreal-based ministry focused on urban ministry in franco-phone countries.

**Business as Mission:** Mats Tunehag, President of the Swedish Evangelical Alliance.

For more information on the Lausanne Working Groups and Senior Associates go to [www.lausanne.org](http://www.lausanne.org).

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