

Newsletter

Autumn 2008



Out & about on block placements

“The judge in the sharia court asked me what I thought the verdict should be!” Ann-Marie recounts one of many stories from her recent 6 week placement in a refugee camp on the Kenya-Somali border. She worked with community projects against gender based violence.

continued overleaf...

IN THIS ISSUE

- *A time to be silent*
- *Families at allnations*
- *Upcoming short courses*



Rape, domestic violence and female genital mutilation are hard issues but Ann-Marie says “studying at college helped me to know how to teach on sensitive subjects in a Muslim context”. Looking back she reflects that “I couldn’t possibly have done this without my first year’s training at allnations.” Ann-Marie plans to continue working against female genital mutilation after college.

Across the sea from his home in Italy, Dario worked as part of a multicultural team at a children’s arts centre in Spain. He wanted to gain experience using the arts in mission and was challenged by the ethos of the project. Their vision was to communicate kingdom values through the team’s love for one another and the community, rather than overt evangelism. Dario says, “It helped me to understand that God’s vision is not the same every time – sometimes it’s right to preach, sometimes to serve, sometimes to love.”

“You can sit in a classroom and theorise but when you get out there and see it, that’s when it makes sense.” Denela has just

returned from a month in Ghana preaching in churches and teaching at a Ghanaian Bible College. “I was fearful, but people said I’d got a gift for speaking, so this was the way to put it to the test!” Her highlights included sharing her experiences of singleness with women in a culture where there is strong pressure to marry. But most precious of all, Denela says that “wherever I go now, I know that God is in control.”

An intensive ‘block placement’ of at least 4 weeks in cross-cultural mission is a key part of allnations training. Students test their calling, put theory into practice and experience God in new ways. When Jesus sent out the 72 in Luke 10, we say it was their ‘block placement’.



A time to be **silent**

Life gets very busy, very fast. This is no less true at allnations. In the busyness of lectures, seminars, tutorials, prayer meetings, practical ministry, coffee parties, it is easy to forget that God also asks us to “be still and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10). To help us slow down, allnations has a ‘Quiet Day’ every term. All classes stop and the college is silent, to give time and space for God to speak and be heard.

“I’m quite an extrovert and when I first came to college I wasn’t at all sure I wanted to be on my own for 24 hours – and I wasn’t sure I could keep quiet for that long either!” confessed one of our recent students. “But

in the calm and quiet, I found that God was closer than I realised. I wasn’t alone. And at the end of the day I wasn’t ready for it to end.”

Many of our former students, now cross-cultural missionaries around the world, have continued having quiet days to keep God, rather than working for him, at the heart of their life.

Could you benefit from a time of quiet?

*‘in the calm and quiet,
I found that God was
closer than I realised.’*

Welcome At the start of the new academic year we’re pleased to welcome 82 new students, from 18 nations including Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Taiwan, Japan, Madagascar and Burma.

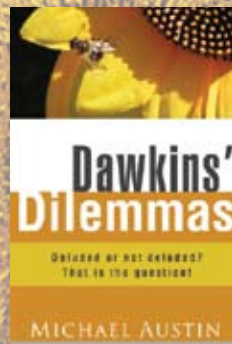
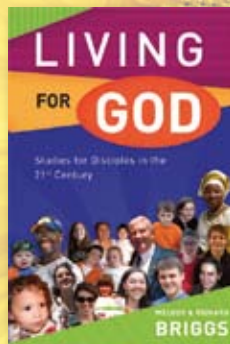


Commendations from the Open University

The Open University recently applauded allnations on its postgraduate programmes for:

- The creative and enthusiastic staff
- The innovative and systematic approach to teaching and learning, particularly e-learning
- The ICT facilities and workspaces for students
- The shared institutional ethos and mission across the college community

We are also pleased to announce magnificent results from our 2008 B.A. Hons. programme: 25% got first class degrees, 58% 2.1s and 14% 2.2s. No students got a third or failed to complete the course.



Book corner

We offer our congratulations to former students Michael Austin for his recent publication "Dawkins' Dilemmas: Deluded or not deluded? That is the question?", Melody and Richard Briggs for "Living for God: Studies for Disciples in the 21st Century". Even our undergraduates are publishing! Sarah M. Arndt's research paper "The Honour and Shame Culture of Muslim Women in Southeast Asia: Implications for Communicating the Gospel" has been included in Klaus Müller's Das Gewissen in Religion und Kultur (The conscience in religion and culture).

Upcoming short courses

Our World Worship Weekend is coming up 27th February – 1st March 2008.

We're pleased to announce a new Film, Communication and Culture on 30th January – 1st February.

For more information please contact info@allnations.ac.uk



Families at allnations

Families play a key part in allnations life and God's work of mission around the world.

The Lapworths worked in Christian relief and development in Africa for 10 years and came to allnations to deepen their Biblical understanding and reflect on their cross-cultural experiences.



"Our expectations are already being met, and much more" Ruth writes. "The Pastoral Studies course especially has been particularly helpful in understanding the dynamics of being a 'family on the move'."

Marc and Hilary Deneufchatel were apprehensive about both studying full-time with a 9 month old son in the nursery, but settled in happily. Hilary says "It's been an opportunity to learn to work together as a family, just as we will be doing on the mission field. We recommend coming to allnations as a family!"

The recent Ofsted inspection found all areas of the nursery's work to be good. The report noted the love and care the children showed for one another and that they 'thrive on the multi-lingual atmosphere'. Simon Deneufchatel loves the nursery so much that he runs there in the mornings!



David Morris



Anna Jacobs



Christy Mullally

Staff news

We're sad to announce the death of David Morris, who died recently at the age of 89. David was the first principal of allnations and one of the forefathers of modern mission training. His larger than life character is fondly remembered by many staff and students. The funeral was held on 2nd October. There will be a memorial

service of thanksgiving at allnations on Saturday 6th December at 2.30pm. You are most welcome to join us.

We were sad to say goodbye to Anna Jacobs. Anna served the college for 31 years and we wish her well for the future. We're pleased to welcome Christy Mullally from the USA as the new residential housekeeper.



allnations at conferences

Teams from allnations have been representing the college at Keswick, New Wine, Christival in Bremen and will be at mission.net at Easter and the upcoming World Evangelical Alliance meeting in Thailand.

If you are involved in running a conference and would like a speaker or publicity stand from allnations, please contact us at info@allnations.ac.uk

A message from the Executive Director

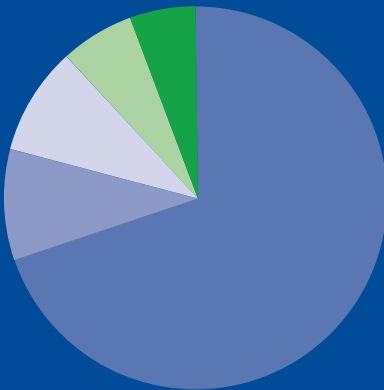


allnations is on track. We've improved our undergraduate courses, expanded and revalidated five new postgraduate awards, doubled the size of en route

and launched an e-learning programme. Student numbers have stabilised and we've recruited 9 new members of staff with a wealth of cross-cultural experience.

We thank God for this progress. But we know there will also be challenges ahead. allnations is housed in a magnificent Victorian stately home and we will soon need to replace part of the roof that shelters all this work.

We thank God for your support that has helped to bring us here. May God give us many more years ahead in His service.



Income analysis 07-08

- Student related & short courses
- General donations
- Conferences
- Legacies
- Bank interest & other income

Finances

The majority of our income comes from student fees. However, in order to keep our charges to students to a minimum we are dependent on income from other areas to cover our

expenditure. This year we raised 30% of our total income from other sources. We are very grateful to all the trusts, organisations, churches and individuals who support



Newsletter by email

In the future, we aim to send this newsletter by email as much as possible. Please drop us a line at network@allnations.ac.uk to ensure we have your current e-mail address.

Dates for the diary

Enquirers Day

27th October

21st November

Islamics Course

8th-17th December

Film, Communication and Culture

30th January-1st February

World Worship Weekend

27th February-1st March

Prayer points

- Praise God for many successful block placements. Please pray that He would guide our students as they plan for the future.
- Praise God for the new students this academic year. Please pray for a continuing stream of workers we can help prepare for His mission around the world.
- Pray for wisdom for Mike and the leadership team as they direct the work and focus of the college.

Coming soon... *in future editions*

Arts in mission, Messianic Jewish Theology,
Friends of allnations...

Edited by A Bishop



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