The United Board’s Involvement in Service-Learning

Dr. Hope S. Antone
Program Officer
United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia
What is the United Board?

- foundation (since 1922) with Christian roots
- seeking to promote Christian presence
- in higher education in Asia
- through whole person education
- works with Asian colleges and universities in liberal arts tradition and which share the vision
The United Board Program Framework

- Leadership Development
- Faculty Development
- Culture and Religion in Asia
- Special Initiatives
- Whole Person Education
- Campus-Community Partnerships
Why Whole Person Education?

Formal Education has tended to focus on:

- *cognitive* development
- classroom & *textbook*-based learning
- *scientific* study for *professional* careers
- academic / scholarly achievement

“And Jesus increased in *wisdom* and in *years*, and in *divine* and *human* favor…” (Luke 2:52 - NRSV)

This is not enough to prepare persons for the challenges of life...
Marks of Whole Person Development

Source: Hong Kong Baptist University
The United Board Program Framework

- Leadership Development
- Faculty Development
- Whole Person Education
- Culture and Religion in Asia
- Special Initiatives
- Campus-Community Partnerships
Leadership Development

- Asian University Leaders Program
- United Board Fellows Program
- Strategic Planning & Resource Development (SPRD)
- Leadership Development Grants
Faculty Development

- Faculty Scholarship Program
- Faculty Development Grants & Activities
- Heaven, Earth & Person (Research)
- Non-Degree Faculty Enrichment Program
Culture and Religion in Asia

Asian Folklore & Cultural Heritage Studies

Interreligious Understanding

Institute for Advanced Study in Asian Cultures and Theologies (IASACT)
Special Initiatives

- American Schools & Hospitals Abroad
- Small Grants Program
- Designated Grants to Institutions
- Endowment Distributions
- American Schools & Hospitals Abroad

Program Development
Role of S-L in Whole Person Education

“I submit SL as a teaching methodology that can be a tool for integration of theory and practice, learning beyond classroom, and values-based education. Functionally, service learning when thoughtfully implemented, serves to navigate the divide in teaching, research and publication, and community engagement.”

~ Betty Cernol McCann, former Vice-President for Programs, United Board
United Board S-L Involvement

From the 1990s:
• support for the International Partnership for Service-Learning (IPSL) to introduce SL in Asia
• grants for institutions to initiate SL, set up a structure, attend SL conferences
• promotion of SL at institutional, national, regional and international levels
United Board S-L Involvement

Institutional promotion of SL:
• grants for promoting SL as an approach to teaching
• staff serving as resource person at seminars/training-workshops on integrating SL in teaching

National promotion of SL:
• national training workshops, involving several institutions workshops [e.g. Vietnam/2012; Timor Leste/2013; Thailand/2013; Cambodia/2013]
• grants for promoting SL – lead institutions reaching out to other institutions
United Board S-L Involvement

International promotion of SL (through support, partnership or collaboration):

• International conference, ICU (2002)
• IPSL International conference (2004)
• APRCSL, LU (2007/9/11/13)
• Occasional Seminars for network institutions
Towards new kinds of involvement...

The United Board will continue to promote SL based on the needs of the network institutions. It will also promote the expansion of SL to be more purposive and ethical/critical, addressing the needs of the wider society.
New kind of Involvement...

- **International Service-Learning** Conference and Program on ‘Disaster Response, Community Resilience and the Role of Asian Universities’ (June-July 2014)
Why expand SL?

From developing the hearts of our students to transforming the lives of the poor:  “As higher education institutions with Christian origin, we are reminded that at judgment time, we will not be asked how high is our ranking but whether we served the poor. “

~ Fr. Ben Nebres, Trustee
Thank You