



GPENreformation Newsletter November 2017

**Dear participants in the network GPENreformation,
Dear readers,**

GPENreformation is a prosperous network. Discover the latest issue of the newsletter! We hope it will inspire your daily work!

GPENreformation gathers its way. After the eventful Reformation Summer, the 4th International Conference came up, taking place in Kigali, Rwanda. Not only the discussions about Peace Education were fruitful but also the renewed structures were filled with life. The 1st Council was mandated and 23 new ambassadors signed up!

Furthermore, in this newsletter we welcome new members from Haiti. They also report about the humanitarian and hygienic crisis recently caused by hurricane Irma. In addition, North America gives insights about ideas how to transform the Christian Ethos into architecture of Protestant schools.

Enjoy reading!

The team of **GPENreformation**

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What's new?

4th International Conference about Peace Education

ISC documentation now online!

13.000 Euros of donations during the Reformation Summer 2017

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What's new?

4th International Conference about Peace Education was a success

From November 05 to 07, 2017 more than 50 members of GPENreformation and the Protestant Council of Rwanda (CPR) from 18 countries around the world came to Kigali, Rwanda, to learn about concepts facing Peace Education at Protestant schools as well as to discuss and develop new approaches from a global perspective.

A special focus was set on conflicts in the field of Protestant education. Experiences from South Sudan, DR Congo, Burundi, Cameroon, Poland und Brazil demonstrated the range and diversity of conflicts Protestant schools worldwide are facing. A keynote about the Rwandan Pedagogy of Remembrance and Reconciliation combined with a visit of the Genocide Memorial Center in Kigali pointed out initial approaches who were

deepened and supplemented by another session about Protestant responses and ideas: After an introduction to the foundations of Peace Education, the participants were led to the Participatory and Active Pedagogy (PAP) in the Great Lake Region in Africa. Examples and experiences from Rwanda, Egypt, DR Congo, Cameroon and Germany proposed solutions of a practical implementation.

Besides the thematic work, the attendants worked on the development of the network structures of GPENreformation: The first Council were mandated! With Dr. Wim Kuiper (the Netherlands), Dr. Jonathan Laabs (USA), Rev. Samuel Mutabazi (Rwanda), Prof. Annette Scheunpflug (Germany) and Rev. Dr. Birgit Sandler-Koschel (Germany) a multi-national and multi-denominational team will forward and lead the network during the next years. Furthermore, GPENreformation could gain 23 new Ambassadors who will represent and support the network in their regions and countries.

International Schools Camp: documentation now online!

The International Schools Camp took place from June 21st to June 27th in Wittenberg involving about 120 students and their teachers from 7 different countries. Whether in devotions and workshops, by playing soccer, cooking, doing handicrafts or celebrating together – Christian community and Reformation got perceptible and experienceable during these days!

Reports, photos and videos of the International Schools can be found on our website [here](#) under the category milestones of the project.



Hermann Bredehorst/Bread for the World

News

News

Interested? Under the heading [News](#) we publish articles about the activities at the participating schools regularly. They also appear on the front page. Share your school life with our global community.

Welcome!

Queensland Foundation for Children, Health and Education

Created in 2003 by Jean-Claude Dorsainvil, the Queensland Foundation for Children, Health and Education (QFCHE) is a Christian Non-Profit Humanitarian Organization whose main objectives are to work to improve the living conditions of the Haitian communities especially with regard to health and education.

It's vision is to bring the love and salvation of Jesus to as many small Haitian farmers as possible both in the rural and urban areas of Haiti. We are seeking to reflect the grace, kindness and compassion of God for all the Haitian children abandoned by reaching out to meet both their physical and spiritual needs. The name Queensland Foundation for Children, Health and Education (QFCHE) with the word of God: Proverbs 19, 21 „Il y a dans le Coeur de l'Homme beaucoup de projets, mais c'est le dessin de l'Eternel qui s'accomplit“.

Queensland University

Boldly informed and motivated by the Christian faith, Queensland University (UQ) educates and energizes men and women for excellence in Leadership, Scholarship, and service. We prepare graduates to serve in strategic capacities to renew minds, live out biblical truth, transform culture, and advance the Gospel in Haiti and in the world.

Queensland University (UQ) is a private coeducational institution, whose principal focus is undergraduate education in the Liberal Arts and Sciences, combined with a number of pre-professional fields and master degree programs. Its primary mission is to integrate Christian faith and practice with academic excellence. The mission is carried out not only in the classroom but also by involvement in numerous services to the church and the larger community.

The texts had been taken from the respective homepages of the institutions.

Places

New participants

You want to know more? Take a look at the [list of schools](#) and [list of institutions](#) on our website. All participants are presented there on a world map. You can also look for certain schools and institutions filtered by continent, language, or age group.

The insight!

Impact of Cyclone Irma in Haiti

At least a month ago, Hurricane Irma swept Haiti, killing more than 30 people, injuring 250 and leaving 125,000 people homeless. Schools supported by the Queensland Foundation for Childhood, Health and Education (QFCHE) were damaged and two schools were washed away and destroyed. The water systems were damaged, the houses with metal roofs were swept by the winds and the rain, and the fields destroyed. A month later, the balance sheet is still worrying. In schools supported by the Queensland Foundation for Children, Health and Education (QFCHE) children continue to truly live in a lamentable and painful situation.

Given the scale of the crisis, the Queensland Foundation for Children, Health and Education (QFCHE) already present on the ground, had set up a small emergency mission of which the three main thrusts were access to drinking water, the fight against the cholera epidemic and food security in schools where thousands of children are starving in the North-East Department, Fort-Liberté and Department of the Centre, Plateau Central. In Haiti, a country where the Cholera epidemic affects thousands of people, a response to water hygiene and sanitation was paramount in the face of the threat of dirty hand disease.



Fight against cholera

75250 people are benefiting of the fight against cholera by the following actions:

- Distribution of cholera kits and emergency kits
- Emergency disinfection of infected foci and strengthening of drainage systems in the most vulnerable sites
- Training of merchants, agents and community leaders on good hygiene practices and infrastructure maintenance

If you have the desire to help a child or in any field you want to support the activities of the Queensland Foundation for Children, Health and Education (QFCHE), visit the website: www.qcfhaiti.org and if you like send your donations to the address of the association.

This article was written by our new network member, the Queensland Foundation for Children, Health and Education (QFCHE).

Christian Ethos becoming visible - the architecture of a Protestant school

Building, renovating or expanding a school is challenging for everyone involved. Money has to be raised, plans made, architects and craftsmen and -women hired. But what if you would not only try to set up a nice-looking building responding to all practical needs but a building that also reflects Christian faith? The Northwest Christian Schools accepted this challenge and succeeded. Now, the design of their new building reflects the foundational belief in Christ's redemption of all of Creation.

In the new building, the middle school occupies one wing of the school while the pre-Kindergarten through elementary grades occupy the other wing. These two wings serve as God's protective arms surrounding the children.

The central entrance plays an important role by anchoring the building with a large cylindrical volume. The circular form represents Creation. At the entry the circular form is fractured, which signifies humans' fall from grace. One important element in the entry is a tree structure that branches out to three large windows representing the Trinity. The tree is reminiscent of the Garden of Paradise and represents the tree of knowledge. Large leaves can be seen overhead. Underneath them you find a tiered seating area, where classes of children may sit as they sing the songs of faith.



The reflection of faith as the foundation of the Christian school continues outside in the play area. A large prayer circle shows the Ten Commandments, stated in simple ways for even the youngest children to understand. In a whole, the building itself helps children remember what it means to be a child of God. In essence, the building is an allegory of people's relationship with God – and a fantastic source of inspiration for all.

The original text was written by Julia K. Stronks and Gloria Goris Stronks. The GPENreformation team thanks the authors for the permission to publish this shortened version of their article in this newsletter.

News

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How to join

You are reading this Newsletter, but are not yet a member of GPENreformation? It is high time then! Just fill in the [Registration form](#) and click “Submit”.



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On the Globalschools500reformationDay on June 23rd 2017, schools500reformation has been transferred into the new Global Pedagogical Network – Joining in Reformation.