

SCOTT THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE OFFERS QUALITY TRAINING FOR CHURCH LEADERS

Following are excerpts taken from promotional material prepared for the Award-of-Charter Ceremony when Scott Theological College was granted university-level status by the Kenya Government.

THE OUTSTANDING DISTINCTIVES OF SCOTT

1. In 1962 Scott Theological College was founded in order to provide theological training for church leaders at the highest level. The College was named after Peter Cameron Scott, the first director of the Africa Inland Mission. Since 1982 Scott has been training students at university level and awarding the Bachelor of Theology degree through Ontario Bible College, Canada.
2. Scott Theological College in 1979 became the first post-secondary theological college in all of Africa to be accredited by the Accrediting Council for Theological Education in Africa (ACTEA).
3. Although Scott is sponsored by the Africa Inland Church, the students come from many other churches, including, Baptist, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Brethren in Christ, Pentecostal, Redeemed Gospel and Friends (Quaker). Students come from many African countries, including Tanzania, Sudan, Zambia, Malawi, Rwanda, Congo (Kinshasa), Ethiopia and elsewhere.
4. In November 1997 Scott became the first theological institution in Kenya to be granted a charter by the Kenya Government to award degrees as a university-level institution.

A UNIQUE PHILOSOPHY OF EDUCATION

The philosophy of Scott has grown and developed over the 35 years but has never altered from its original purpose. The purpose of Scott is "to train divinely called Christian men and women in biblical knowledge, Christian character and effective skills for Christian ministry in order to serve the church and associated Christian ministries as pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries and other Christian workers."

In addition to the core courses required of everyone, students learn special skills and knowledge for particular ministries. Scott has three areas of

concentration in which students may focus: Pastoral Studies, Christian Education and Missiology. More concentrations will be added in the future. In addition to the Bachelor of Theology degree offered now, Scott plans to develop programmes at the master's level.

Three inter-related emphases of Scott are on Knowledge, Skills and Character. **Knowledge** goals are learned in the class room and include knowledge of Scripture and theology, mastery of the Greek language, an elective of Hebrew, and introduction to many courses in general education.

Skills for ministry include ability to interpret and apply Scripture, ability to evangelize and disciple, to preach and teach, to lead small groups, to counsel and shepherd the church. One strength of Scott is this emphasis on learning skills for ministry. Skills are learned and practiced in field education with staff supervision during weekly field education assignments and the three month Internship when students serve in a ministry context appropriate to their field of concentration.

Various aspects of Scott training mold the **character** of students, including the newly introduced Learning Contracts. Each term students are mentored by teachers on a one-to-one relationship in learning various skills and character traits which are essential for effective ministry.

EXPERIENCED AND PERSONALISED TEACHING

Scott has highly qualified faculty. Of the twelve full time, resident faculty, four have earned doctor's degrees, two are on study leaves for their Ph.D.'s, three have a M.Div. or Th.M. and three have an M.A. They have many years of experience in teaching and in church ministries. One advantage of a small College is the personalised relationships with the teachers.

One unique feature of Scott is the close relationship between the faculty and students. Each teacher works with the students in Field Education. They mentor students personally, one-to-one. Students are divided into small fellowship groups which meet in the homes of teachers. Students freely meet in the homes of teachers for counseling and fellowship.

A GREAT CAMPUS

The 58 acre campus is located just 65 kilometres from Nairobi below the Iveti mountains. Away from the noise, pollution and insecurity of Nairobi, Scott is an ideal area for study in a beautiful climate. The modern two-story library,

housing 18,000 books, is the centre of learning. The modern student centre and classroom block is the centre of the Scott campus where students develop deep, life-long friendships. The ten year plan calls for mammoth expansion of facilities to accommodate 200 students.

PRODUCTIVE GRADUATES

Because of its consistently high level of education, Scott graduates are in great demand and are serving in many strategic ministries. Someone recently said that Scott graduates are "snapped up like *madazis*." Over 70% of Scott graduates are engaged in the ministry of preaching the Word of God full time. A large number are pastors. Seven are bishops of different denominations. A large number teach in Bible Colleges in several African countries, including seven who are Principals. They teach in Daystar University, Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School, Moi University and elsewhere. They serve as missionaries and Christian Education workers. More than 29% of Scott graduates have furthered their studies, including many who have earned doctoral degrees.

QUALIFICATIONS AND APPLICATION OF NEW STUDENTS

Prospective students wishing to apply to Scott Theological College must meet the following qualifications. Students must have: 1) A minimum of C+ in KCSE, or the equivalent; 2) A personal testimony of faith in Jesus Christ; 3) Christian character "beyond reproach"; 4) Recommendation by the church. Persons wishing to apply for admission to study in the Bachelor of Theology degree may write to: Admissions, Scott Theological College, PO Box 49, Machakos, Kenya.

EXTENSION MINISTRIES OF SCOTT

In addition to the basic training of students at the College, Scott is involved in other creative ministries. A scholarly journal entitled, *Africa Journal of Evangelical Theology (AJET)* has been produced since 1982, intended for African theological educators and students.

The A.I.C. Theological Advisory Group (TAG), the research department of the College, is involved in research and publication of books. The latest book is *A Biblical Approach to Marriage and Family in Africa*.

Upon the granting of the Charter, Scott plans to develop an Institute for Church Renewal which will promote the mission of the College through distance learning in various locations throughout Kenya, whereby students can study for a Certificate or Diploma offered by Scott.