

ANNUAL REPORT – 2011

ARCHDIOCESAN COMMISSION FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

1) **Members:**

The 3-year term of office for the present members was renewed in January 2011. In August Mr Bernard Chen submitted his resignation from the Commission and recommended Prof Tan Cheng Han to take his place as member and Chairman of ACCS. Bishop and the members welcomed Prof Tan. The Commission met four (4) times in 2011.

Archbishop Nicholas Chia (president)
Msgr Eugene Vaz (Archbishop's representative)
Prof Tan Cheng Han (chairman)
Mr John Yip (deputy chairman)
Mr James Koh (member)
Mr Noel Hon (member)
Br Paul Ho (Congregation Rep)
Sr Maria Lau (Congregation Rep)
Mr Cheong Yip Seng (member)
Dr Chong Yoke Sin, Esther (member)
Mr Lim Soo Ping (member)
Ms Jessica Tan (member)
Ms Ursula Quah (secretary)
Ms Wendy Louis (ex-officio)

In July 2011 ACCS co-opted two (2) SMC chairpersons into the Commission and they were –
Mr Gabriel Teo (Chairman of Assumption Pathway School) and
Mr Stuart Palmer (Chairman of the Christian Brothers School Board).

2) **Committees:**

a) **RE Committee**

The committee members are Msgr Vaz, Ms Ursula Quah, Ms Wendy Louis, Ms Jeanette Atabelo, Mr Raymond Lee, Mr Louis Oo and Mr Edward Das. The committee had met five (5) times in 2011.

b) **Training & Development Committee**

The committee members are Sr Maria Lau, Mrs Matthews Shu Quo, Mrs Sarah De Souza, Mrs Margaret Tan, Ms Wendy Louis, Mr Louis Oo and Mr Andrew Tan. The Committee did not engage in any meeting in 2011.

MEETINGS

a) **Major Superiors**

As stipulated in the Statutes, ACCS met with the Major Superiors of religious orders that sponsored Catholic Schools to give them an update on the various issues or work that ACCS is engaged in or handling.

On 18 April 2011, ACCS represented by the Archbishop, Msgr Vaz, Mr Bernard Chen, Mr John Yip, Ms Ursula Quah and Ms Wendy Louis met the following Major Superiors:

- Sr Maria Lau (Sisters of the Infant Jesus) for IJ schools
- Sr Marilyn Lim (Canossian Daughters of Charity) for Canossian schools
- Sr Veronica Rosa (rep Sr Assunta Leong) (FMM) for Hai Sing Catholic School
- Br Robert Teoh (Marist Brothers) for Maris Stella High schools
- Br Paul Ho (De LaSalle Brothers) for the Lasallian schools
- Br Dominic Yeo-Koh (Brothers of St Gabriel) for the Gabrielite schools
- Apologies from Sr Joan Lopez (Good Shepherd Sisters) for Marymount Convent.

The agenda for the meeting were Common Purpose & Goals of Catholic Education (Indicators for Measuring Catholic Ethos in a Catholic School), Co-opting of SMC chairpersons to the Commission, Updates on the various works undertaken by ACCS and from ACCS Commission. The Policy Development Process for Catholic Schools was deferred to the next meeting.

b) **Supervisors**

The school supervisors met with Ms Wendy Louis, Mrs Ursula Quah and the Facilitator, Ms Christina Kheng on two different dates to comment and discuss the 'Common Purpose and Goals of Catholic Education'. After their meetings Wendy enhanced the document to incorporate the many important and practical suggestions offered by them.

The following supervisors participated in this exercise:

- Sr Cecily Pavri (Canossian Schools)
- Fr Frederick Quek (Diocesan School – Holy Innocents Schools)
- Sr Delphine Kang (Marymount Convent)
- Br Emmanuel (St Gabriel's Foundation Schools)
- Sr Maria Ng (Hai Sing Catholic School)
- Fr Henry Siew (Diocesan School – Catholic High School)

c) **Special Meeting – 'Sexuality Education in Catholic Schools'**

Archbishop met with the Supervisors and Major Superiors who have schools to discuss the Sexuality Education in Catholic Schools. To accommodate everyone – 2 dates were fixed (6th and 11th Oct 2011). Besides the Supervisors and Major Superiors, 2 representatives from Family Life Society, Fr David Garcia, ACCS Chairman, Prof Tan Cheng Han Ms Wendy Louis and Mrs Ursula Quah were present at the meeting.

d) Cluster Meeting – ‘What is Catholic Education’

Four consultation sessions were organized for schools to come together –

2 Jun 11 – IJ schools

3 Aug 11 – Gabrielites, FMM, Marist, Diocesan schools

23 Aug 11 – Gabrielites, LaSalle, RGS, Diocesan schools

17 Sep 11 - Canossians

Major Superiors, Supervisors, SMC Chairs and Principals of respective schools were invited to these sessions. The Facilitator was Ms Christine Kheng. His Grace, Msgr Vaz, Ms Wendy Louis, Mrs Ursula Quah, Mr John Yip and Mr Bernard Chen participated too. The purpose of these consultations was to help key school educators understand what a Catholic School is.

STAFF OF ACCS OFFICE

Designation	Name	Joined ACCS	Left ACCS
Executive Director	Wendy Louis	Jan 2009	
Executive Secretary	Ursula Quah	Jan 2006	
Admin Officer	Shirley Louis	Apr 2005	
Admin & Logistics Officer	Raymond Lee	Jan 2006	
Project Director (RE Sec)	Jeanette Atabelo	May 2008	
Project Director (Formation)	Louis Oo	Jan 2009	
Admin Officer	Susie Lim	May 2009	
Media & Communications	Don Gurugay	Aug 2009	
Project Director (Pre-Schools)	Merilyn Dasson	Feb 2010	
Curriculum Dev. & Training Officer	Edward Das	Feb 2011	

The latest addition is Edward Das for Secondary Schools

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

28th July: Staff Planning Retreat

ACCS staff came together for a day's retreat in Wendy's home. After a half-day reflection a review of the year's work followed by plans for the future were discussed.

SECRETARIAT SERVICES

a) Archdiocesan Website & Church Directory

ACCS Secretariat continued with the task of updating the Schools section on the Archdiocesan web site. This process is maintained throughout the year as and when new or revised information is available. The Catholic Schools section in the Church Directory is also maintained by ACCS Secretariat. The statistics for educational institutions in the Archdiocese is provided by ACCS.

- b) **Copyright Licensing & Administration Society of Singapore (CLASS)**
As the Copyright Agreement is still in force no further action was warranted and therefore no work was carried in 2011.

EVENTS

- a) **Principals' Commissioning & Commitment of Service, Saturday, 22 January 2011**
The Commissioning was conducted at the Church of St Teresa during the Sunset Mass. His Grace commissioned 11 principals, 2 from SJI International, 8 from Pre-Schools, and 1 from Primary School. A total of 80 principals and vice-principals renewed their commitment of service.
- b) **Teachers' Day Celebration – Saturday, 27 August 2011**
The Celebration was held at SJI International, Thomson Road. The numbers were down as teachers were on duty for the Presidential Election. The theme adopted this year was 'Your Word is a Fire in my Heart'. His Grace was the main celebrant at mass and Monsignor Vaz and Fr David Garcia concelebrated. The boys who sang in the choir were from St Patrick's Schools.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Not all of the 19 Catholic Primary Schools have adopted the 'Walking With Jesus' series for their Catholic children. However for schools that have we have the following to report.

- a) **Workshops**
Four workshops were conducted in 2011 – one in CHIJ St Nicholas Girls' Primary School and three in CAEC. These workshops were open to teachers and parent volunteers.
- b) **Sale of Materials**
Sales for the past year have been:

Student Workbooks (P1 to P6)	4166 books	\$21,246
CD-1 @\$10	19 pcs	\$ 190
CD-2 @ \$18	21 pcs	\$ 378
Curriculum @ \$2	35 pcs	\$ 70
	TOTAL	\$21,884