MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleague and Friend,

As the ACSI family has reflected on fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013–June 30, 2014), we praise God for the ways He has blessed us to be a blessing to Christian schools around the world. I’m happy to report that He continues to allow us to fulfill our mission of strengthening Christian schools and equipping Christian educators.

The purpose of this annual report is to give you a brief overview of the programs, products, and services instrumental in helping us support our constituents. It’s a privilege for ACSI to be able to use these initiatives to strengthen and equip those who are investing in the next generation of Christ followers and Christian leaders.

Whether you are an ACSI member or a contributor, we are thankful for your partnership with ACSI. May you be encouraged by what God is doing through global, Christ-centered education.

Partnering for Kingdom impact,

Daniel J. Egeler, EdD
President

ACSI exists to strengthen Christian schools and equip Christian educators worldwide as they prepare students academically and inspire students to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ.
INVESTING IN OUR TEACHERS

Professional Development

NEXUS Live is ACSI’s annual celebratory learning experience for teachers throughout the country. We were pleased to serve nearly 14,000 delegates at NEXUS Live 2013, which was broadcast live on October 17–18 from Columbus, Ohio, to 120 sites in 48 states. All nine ACSI U.S. regions joined together for this professional development experience. We also hosted sites in South Africa, Bahamas, and the Cayman Islands.

ACSI NEXUS includes ongoing formal and informal professional development via ACSI ConNEXUS and ACSI ConNEXUS Premium. ConNEXUS is our online professional development networking platform where ACSI members share resources, participate in threaded conversations, and exchange ideas with peers and subject-matter experts. ConNEXUS Premium represents formal online training aimed at helping educators hone their skills, become better equipped for success, and earn valuable continuing education units (CEUs). In 2013, ConNEXUS Premium was upgraded to ConNEXUS Premium 2.0, providing members enhanced navigation.

To help educators track their CEUs, every member is given access to a Virtual Professional Portfolio (VPP) within ConNEXUS. The VPP also allows users to upload background educational information and work history to create a dynamic digital résumé. We continue to see the number of online courses taken trend up, serving thousands of educators around the world. To a large extent, this can be attributed to the continued acquisition of new courses. As of June 30, 2014, the ConNEXUS Premium library held over 600 hours of courses organized into 50 channels.

In 2013/14, the ACSI professional development team provided 3–5 complimentary webinars monthly for members, covering topics and issues for early education through higher education.

ACSI Career Center

The ACSI Career Center is a service to member schools and job seekers.

By the end of the 2013/2014 school year,
- 3,757 schools had registered as employers
- 2,476 job seekers had registered
- 271,544 jobs had been viewed

This program will continue to help keep our member schools staffed with quality teachers. The following postings are available at no charge:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U.S. member schools:</th>
<th>5 job postings/60 days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International member schools:</td>
<td>8 job postings/9 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job seekers:</td>
<td>Unlimited résumé posts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Production team filming interview with Dr. Todd Whitaker at NEXUS Live 2013
Elementary Science Textbook Series
The textbook development team completed a revision of the Elementary Science textbook series, which is now available for grades 1 through 6.

Middle School Bible Course
The textbook development team completed a new middle school Bible course titled Joseph: A Character Study.

ACSI Student Assessment Program
ACSI’s partnership with McGraw-Hill Education/CTB provides ACSI member schools with a full-service assessment program, which includes TerraNova 3, ACSI Edition. This high-quality, technically sound test delivers scores based on 2011 norms and includes the Bible Assessment Subtest. Scoring services provide the quickest turnaround time in the industry. ACSI Data Online/ACSI Data Online for Parents is a powerful web-based system that provides administrators, teachers, and parents with the information needed to measurably improve student performance. Professional development is also available through webinars and regional and site workshops. Other assessment services include Acuity, a benchmarking and instructional tool, and LAS Links Online, an English language proficiency test.

Early Education Resources
This department serves member early education programs by providing expertise to regional offices. One way the team resources early educators is through a group in ACSI ConNEXUS, where they have access to a multitude of new resources. More than 4,200 people are a part of that group. Additionally,
• As a member benefit, early educators had access to 12 new webinars during the 2013/2014 school year.
• ACSI held six live early education conferences across the United States.
• An early education director’s track was added to three administrator/board conferences.
Higher Education Approval Program

Any excellent Christian school must have effective teachers. One way ACSI strengthens our member schools is by ensuring that top-quality teachers are available, and we do that through our Higher Education Approval Program (HEAP). HEAP schools may award their undergraduate students an ACSI Standard Teacher's certificate; master's degree students receive their professional certificates—both at no cost to students. Choosing a HEAP school benefits graduates and the schools where they ultimately teach. We evaluate and approve select Christian colleges and universities to join HEAP; this year we added two new schools, both in South Korea.

Congratulations to the following HEAP approved schools in 2013/2014:
Asian United Theological University and Torch Trinity Graduate University.

Coalition of Christian School Accreditors

ACSI is a founding member of the Coalition of Christian School Accreditors, which was admitted to the Alliance for International Accreditation this year. Since ACSI needs relationships with all the regional groups, we joined the Alliance so our accredited schools are listed in the Alliance directory of accredited schools. It is important for ACSI to keep strong connections with all the legitimate accrediting bodies and to be at the table where quality accreditation is being discussed. The Alliance is composed of the Middle States Association, New England Association., Council of Independent Schools, National Association of Independent Schools, and National Council for Private School Accreditation.

ACSI Accreditation

How does a parent decide whether a Christian school is capable of preparing students for life—spiritually, culturally, and academically?

ACSI accreditation is a benchmark that attests to a school’s ability to do so. Studies have shown that students who graduate from ACSI-accredited schools are equipped to begin their adult lives with a well-rounded Christian worldview, ready to make an impact for the Kingdom.

This year 113 member schools entered the candidacy phase of accreditation, for a total of 1,058 schools in candidacy.
This year individuals contributed $1,190,000 to ACSI to further our global mission in the following areas:

- Global Leadership Legacy Annual Fund: supporting ACSI’s national leaders in 16 global offices
- Global regional office support: gifts for projects such as textbook translation, programs, speakers, and equipment
- Student sponsorship: tuition scholarships for students in global national schools
- Capacity-building projects
- Leadership development and school quality

The ACSI Education Foundation seeks to secure, manage, and distribute private support to promote the strategic growth, influence, and effectiveness of Christian schooling worldwide.

The Foundation experienced an exciting year of growth and activity this year. More than $547,000 was contributed toward the emerging strategic priorities for the Foundation’s work. Additionally,

- Three new board members—Tucker Brown, Robert Griffith, and Paul Campey—joined the board, bringing vision, expertise, and enthusiasm.
- At the request of ACSI senior leadership, the Foundation’s board unanimously agreed to take on the daunting task of providing visionary, innovated, and research-based leadership for ACSI global Christian schools and educators. Thus, a strategic planning process will be launched in spring 2015.
- The Foundation’s Repayable Grant Program for member schools to receive training in fund development for sustainability was renewed. Over six years, the program has been a catalyst for schools to raise over $10 million.
- Individuals who understand the power of a Christ-centered education can leave a legacy through special gifts such as bequests, annuities, and trusts/endowments. The Foundation provides planned giving instrument for individuals who are passionate about ACSI’s mission, as well as to member schools who would like to offer these options to their donors.
Academic Freedom and Religious Liberty


the fine Print
Legal/Legislative and Advocacy

Legislation/Regulation ACSI influenced and/or followed various pieces of high-priority legislation:

- **Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG).** CCDBG gives block grants to states, which may award grants to institutions or certificates to individuals, who may spend those funds at faith-based institutions. ACSI helped strengthen the legislation to protect certificates against the Administration’s strong preference for grants. ACSI participated in the public comment process and urged changes to the regulations to protect the use of certificates. The reauthorization of the program passed both houses and became law.

- **Preschool Development Grants (PDG).** This was created by the Administration after receiving funding from Congress as a first step toward the Administration’s goal of universal Pre-K. ACSI participated in oral and written public comment and in meetings with the Department of Education to urge policies that would allow faith-based schools to participate. The PDG does not allow for diversity of education models.

- **Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).** The bill infringes on religious hiring rights. ACSI joined with others to urge Senate amendments to strengthen religious hiring rights, some of which were adopted. In the House, ACSI urged that ENDA not receive a vote. ENDA passed the Senate and died in the House.

- **Conscience Rights Protection Act.** This would protect conscience rights in healthcare, including the HHS Mandate (requiring coverage of abortifacient contraception). This died in both houses.

- **Charitable tax deduction.** As Congress works on tax reform, ACSI urged protection of the charitable deduction on which schools rely. ACSI is part of two coalitions, one of which is specifically faith-based, and has participated in one fly-in day and multiple Hill visits.

- **Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization.** The House passed the Student Success Act for this purpose, and ACSI expressed support for language in the bill that ensures more accurate and equitable services. The bill is the starting point for another try at reauthorization in the new Congress, and ACSI has already been meeting with staffers in both houses.

- **Human Rights Amendment Act (HRAA) and Reproductive Health Non-Discrimination Act (RHNDA).** These two bills were passed by the District of Columbia Council; ACSI opposed the bills in letters and visits to Council Members and the Mayor’s office. HRAA eliminates the Armstrong amendment, which protects schools from being forced to recognize clubs to which they object. RHNDA is a local HHS Mandate-style policy. Congress has the opportunity to repeal the bills.

Influence/Relationships

- **School choice remains a priority.** ACSI joined a new coalition to support the District of Columbia's Opportunity Scholarship Program, which is up for reauthorization. Congress has established a new School Choice Caucus with which ACSI is engaged as far as possible.

- **Athletic associations in Florida, South Dakota, and Minnesota attempted to create required transgender policies for extra-curricular activities without exemptions for religious players or programs.** ACSI played an active role in obtaining these exemptions.

Amicus Briefs

ACSI plays a role in the judicial branch of the government by means of “friend of the court” (amicus) briefs. ACSI signed on to an amicus brief in the *Hobby Lobby* Health and Human Services mandate case with nine other signers. Of the 85 briefs filed in that case, this was the only one mentioned in the oral arguments heard in March 2014. The decision—in favor of Hobby Lobby—was handed down by the Supreme Court on June 30, 2014.

Program

- **The Legal Defense Reimbursement Program continues to grow; 768 schools are members.** ACSI reimbursed 23 schools a total of $17,000. Most of those schools were reimbursed for predismissal counseling and, as a result, not one was sued for dismissing an employee.
AROUND THE WORLD

Equipped in Haiti
ACSI Haiti, the newest office in the Western Hemisphere, opened last fiscal year. It already has over 100 member schools and has held conferences reaching over 1,500 teachers and school leaders. These educators touch the lives of a million students. Already, more than 45 school leaders have graduated with master’s degrees from programs coordinated through ACSI Haiti, and these leaders are in great demand in Christian schools and in government positions.

Reaching Out in India and Africa
India boasts thousands of Christian schools, and ACSI staff have made new contacts there that have great potential to serve these schools.

Christian school leaders in Rwanda entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with ACSI to serve more than 800 schools in their country. Also, the ACSI South Africa office met all required benchmarks for maturity and financial self-sustainability while demonstrating a heart to serve other countries outside of South Africa. Thus, that office is now the ACSI Southern Africa office.

ACSI has a covenant agreement with the Church of Christ of Democratic Republic of the Congo (CCC) to implement a Christian school teacher and leadership training program. To date, nine modules of training have been written and used to prepare Congolese trainers in an effort to help thousands of Christian schools become effective for the Kingdom in the 18,500 schools under the umbrella of the CCC.
Since 1978
ACSBI has been strengthening Christian schools and equipping Christian educators worldwide.
- 10 associations merged to form ACSI in 1978.

24,000 schools
ACSI supports nearly 24,000 member schools worldwide.
- 2,900 U.S. member schools, of which 65% have fewer than 200 students, 24% have between 201 and 500 students, and 11% have more than 500 students
- 1,600 global national schools
- 200 international schools
- 19,000+ associate members in the DRC through a covenant with Church of Christ in Congo

25 offices
ACSI has 25 offices around the world.
- 8 U.S. regions
- 17 global regions
- Over 100 countries

5.5 million Children
ACSI member schools serve 5.5 million children globally.
- 798,500 U.S. students served

Strategic programs and services
- 30% of ACSI U.S. schools are ACSI accredited
- 41% of ACSI U.S. schools hold some type of accreditation
- 80,000 teachers are ACSI certified
- 20%* of ACSI members use Purposeful Design Publications

* average sales across top four textbook series
**Support and Revenue**

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<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>June 30, 2014</th>
<th>June 30, 2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Textbook, Assessment, and Resource Sales</td>
<td>$10,819,629</td>
<td>$10,816,780</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership Fees</td>
<td>$6,243,493</td>
<td>$6,259,480</td>
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<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>$2,112,859</td>
<td>$2,440,944</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Services</td>
<td>$1,444,428</td>
<td>$1,351,782</td>
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<td>Student Services</td>
<td>$1,274,354</td>
<td>$1,303,008</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$1,190,293</td>
<td>$705,652</td>
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<td>Corporate Sponsorship</td>
<td>$433,003</td>
<td>$408,623</td>
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<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>$344,257</td>
<td>$217,690</td>
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<td>Investment Income</td>
<td>$46,271</td>
<td>$57,778</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,908,587</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,561,737</strong></td>
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**Expenditures**

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>June 30, 2014</th>
<th>June 30, 2013</th>
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<tr>
<td>Member Services</td>
<td>$6,305,360</td>
<td>$6,532,541</td>
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<td>Professional Development</td>
<td>$3,750,754</td>
<td>$3,583,280</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assessment Services</td>
<td>$3,474,001</td>
<td>$3,898,935</td>
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<tr>
<td>Textbooks and Resources</td>
<td>$3,223,811</td>
<td>$2,883,753</td>
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<td>Management and General</td>
<td>$2,593,172</td>
<td>$2,598,113</td>
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<td>International Outreach</td>
<td>$2,169,378</td>
<td>$2,335,508</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curriculum Development</td>
<td>$1,222,367</td>
<td>$1,034,320</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legal/Legislative Services</td>
<td>$465,834</td>
<td>$382,812</td>
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<td>Fund-raising</td>
<td>$171,413</td>
<td>$216,905</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,376,090</strong></td>
<td><strong>$23,466,167</strong></td>
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ACSI NAMES NEW PRESIDENT

The ACSI board of directors appointed Dr. Daniel Egeler as the president of the association in July 2013.

“It is with great humility that I accept this position,” said Egeler. “I take the mission of ACSI very seriously. At ACSI, we work to strengthen your schools for the glory of God and so that they can serve as examples of excellence in your communities. This is part of paying it forward for me because I am a product of Christian schools.”

Dr. Egeler grew up on an isolated island in Lake Victoria, Tanzania, where his father was an island evangelist. As a third-culture kid, Dr. Egeler learned the art of relating oral history from his African elders and spent years immersing himself in a variety of cultures, attending school in Tanzania, Kenya, and New Jersey. He earned his bachelor’s degree from The King’s College in New York, a master’s degree from Washington State University, and a doctorate in administration and instructional leadership from the University of Alabama.

For 13 years Dr. Egeler was a teacher, soccer coach, high school principal, and director of the Alliance Academy in Quito, Ecuador. He returned to the United States in July 1999 and ultimately joined the staff of ACSI in Colorado, where he assumed the role of vice president of international ministries in August 2007. His children attended Colorado Springs Christian Schools, where Dr. Egeler served as a volunteer soccer coach.

Dr. Egeler, as ACSI president, has the goal of strengthening Christian schools and equipping Christian educators.
Dependability, empowerment, savings, encouragement, reliability, expertise, and partnership—all working together to strengthen your school.

How sweet it is!