

Institute of Diaspora Studies (“IDS”)

What is IDS?

The Institute of Diaspora Studies (“IDS-Asia”) at Alliance Graduate School (AGS) is a joint effort of researchers and practitioners seeking to understand and minister to the people of diaspora – people dispersed from their original homeland.

IDS-USA will be launched in May 2007 at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon, USA.

What for?

The “mission” of IDS-Asia is to investigate the effective communication of the Gospel among the people of diaspora and through their networks to regions beyond.

Who should be interested in IDS-Asia?

Anyone interested in the fulfillment of the Great Commission which includes reaching out to receptive people

- who are on the move geographically, e.g. migrants & merchants, diplomat and foreign students, refugee, etc.
- who are being moved by the Holy Spirit spiritually being away from the comfort zone or restricted contexts, e.g. immigrants from countries of Muslim, Communist, Jewish, etc. background

How IDS-Asia will operate?

There are many flexible ways IDS-Asia can serve the Church at large through research and publication, non-formal (e.g. workshops and seminars) and formal (e.g. credit bearing courses at graduate and post-graduate levels), etc.

Recent Events at IDS-Asia

- IDS-Asia launching on April 1, 2007, during the AGS Commencement Exercises. Keynote Speaker: Dr. Enoch Wan, Director of Doctor of Missiology program at Western Seminary in Portland, Oregon, USA.
- Courses
 - Diaspora Missiology: A Filipino Case Study**
March 27-31, 2007 -- Dr. Sadiri Joy Tira
 - Cultural Anthropology**
March 27-31, 2007 -- Dr. Enoch Wan
 - Catalytic Leadership**
April 24-28, 2007 -- Dr. T.V. Thomas



“ Congratulations on the launching of the Institute of Diaspora Studies (IDS). The topic of people on the move is of immense significance missiologically and those committed to the Great Commission ministry must explore its strategic implications. ”

--- Tetsunao Yamamori
former International Director, LCWE

For more information about IDS-Asia, please contact Dr. Averell Aragon, Director of IDS-Asia at Alliance Graduate School.

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Who will teach?

Terry Casiño (Ph.D. – Missiology/Contextualization, ACTS/Asia United Theological University; Th.D. – Systematic Theology, Asia Baptist Graduate Theological Seminary) is Professor of Systematic Theology and Intercultural Studies/Missiology at Torch Trinity Graduate School of Theology (Seoul, South Korea), and currently ministers at the International Baptist Church in Seoul and the English congregation of Saejungang Presbyterian Church in Anyang city. He is founding editor of the Asia Pacific Journal of Intercultural Studies (APJICS).

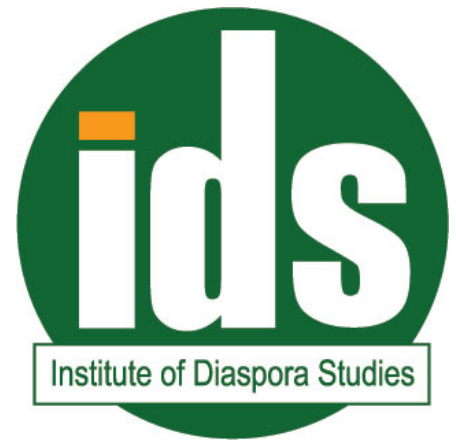
Amador Remigio Jr. (Ph.D. – Geography, Imperial College of Science and Technology at Wye, University of London) teaches geography at University College Fraser Valley, BC, Canada. He taught geography and development-cum-environmental studies at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand and at the University of the Philippines, as well as environmental stewardship at the Asian Theological Seminary. More recently, he taught geography at Trinity Western University and was a research fellow at Simon Fraser University.

T.V. Thomas (D.Min.) was Professor of Evangelism for the Murray W. Downey Chair of Evangelism at Canadian Bible College and Canadian Theological Seminary from 1984-1994. Currently he is Director of the Centre for Evangelism & World Mission (established in 1984) in Regina. Also he is the current Chairman of the Board for the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada. He has been a plenary speaker at large events like Urbana Student Missions Convention, Keswick Conventions, MissionFests, Ethnic Workers’ Summits, and Promise Keepers Conferences.

Sadiri Joy Tira (D.Min. – InterCultural Studies, Reformed Theological Seminary; D.Miss. studies, Western Seminary) serves as International Coordinator of Filipino International Network (FIN). Dr. Tira is also on staff at First Filipino Alliance Church in Edmonton, Alberta, and is a member of the Board of Directors of Serve-In-Missions (formerly Sudan Interior Missions) Canada. His publications include: Co-Editor, SCATTERED: The Filipino Global Presence; Contributor, The People Next Door (Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization, 2005).

Zahir Uddin (M.A. – General History, University of Karachi; M.A. – Islamic Studies, University of Karachi; M.Div., Good Jujranwala Theological Seminary) is currently serving as Pastor of Asian Christian Church in Edmonton. Before moving to Canada, Rev. Uddin was the Director of Pakistan Campus Crusade for Christ.

Enoch Wan (Ph.D. – Anthropology, State University of New York) is currently Professor of Anthropology & Director of Doctor of Missiology Program at Western Seminary, Portland, Oregon, USA. He travels and lectures extensively in North America & abroad. Most recently, Dr. Wan served as Founding Director of the Ph.D. Intercultural Studies Program at Reformed Theological Seminary. He is currently the Executive Vice-President of the Evangelical Missiological Society, and is the Editor of the electronic journal: www.GlobalMissiology.org.



What courses will be available?

The core courses are as follows

- Diaspora Missiology
- Practical Evangelism
- World Religions (e.g. Buddhism, Islamic, Hinduism, etc.)
- Globalization and Global Violence: Implications on Global Missions
- Contextualization
- Catalytic Leadership
- Intercultural Communication
- Cultural Anthropology

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