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Atlantic International Bible Institute

A. I. B. I. NEWS

A Branch of *Sunset International Bible Institute*

Whole people — Whole Gospel — Whole world — Wholly to please God

Birth of Cuban Center for Theological Studies

In June we informed you that the Cuban government had expressed a certain openness to the Churches of Christ in Cuba establishing their own Center for Theological Studies. Since that time Cuban church leaders have been working toward that goal.

However, the Cuban school, as we might think of it from a U.S. perspective, is not yet a reality. There are numerous obstacles yet to overcome and many decisions that will have to be made. In the meantime, AIBI's partnership with the Cuban churches and their leaders is currently expanding in an attempt to take advantage of the Cuban government's openness and to maximize our effectiveness in carrying out II Timothy 2:2. Until now we have simply been conducting

seminars twice a year with approximately 30 ministers participating in each one. Thus far, we have graduated two seminar groups. Beginning in October we will start our third cycle of seminars (6 seminars per cycle) and, in addition, we will offer intensive courses for full credit to a select group of men who have already graduated from one of the first two seminar cycles.

A new seminar group of has already been selected by the Cuban leadership to receive their first seminar in October. The topic for both the seminar and the intensive course is Spiritual Formation. The seminar is scheduled for October 9-11 and will be taught by Harold Oscar Paden, Jr., former missionary to Nicaragua, Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic, and Daniel

Nin, Dean of La Hispaniola Bible Institute in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

The intensive course will be taught by Kirk McAfee on October 9-12 and has been limited to no more than 15 in order to permit greater interaction among the group. The students are already engaged in pre-course readings and essays and they will have additional assignments following the classroom portion of the course.

The curriculum, which has been set up and will be taught in partnership with the three Cuban men who graduated in May, marks the beginning of the Cuban Theological Center. The program consists of 25 courses (considering all students have received academic credit for their participation in the seminar schools, as well as other formal studies they have completed) presently scheduled to run between October 2007 and May 2012. Gradually, as our Cuban brethren are granted official approval and recognition from the Cuban government, full responsibility for teaching and accreditation will pass to them.

The men who have been accepted into this program of study are:

1. Amado Buenaventura Proenza Valdés-Portela from Havana.

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Fall Classes Begin

On August 20 AIBI opened its Fall semester of ministry and biblical studies classes with multiple sites participating through the use of video conferencing. Participating in the ever-expanding network are Houston, TX; Arlington, VA; Silver Spring, MD; Quito, Ecuador; and Maracay, Venezuela. Lima, Peru was scheduled to come aboard, but the recent earthquake in that country has put them behind schedule. Current course offerings include: Mondays, *Acts* (Steve Austin); Tuesdays, *Gospel and Epistles of John* (Rudy Wray); Thursdays, *Wisdom Literature* (Jim Holway); and Fridays, *Old Testament History III* (Kirk McAfee). Please pray for students and instructors during this new semester.

(Theological Center *continued from page 1*)

2. Luis Alberto Echevarría Mérida from Havana.
3. Noel Silverio Pacheco from Villa Clara.
4. Guillermo Eliseo Colín from Granma.
5. Gabriel Ramírez Allarde from Santiago de Cuba.
6. Laudino Cruz Vázquez from Camagüey.
7. Kadir Monguía García from Ciego de Ávila.
8. Leonardo Rabaza from Habana.
9. Johan Díaz from Havana.
10. Lucas Montero from Havana.
11. Luis Manuel López from Cienfuegos.

Three others may also join this group by October.

Of course, we are anxious and excited to get this program under way. We have renewed our license with the U. S. Treasury Department, Office of Foreign Assets Control, authorizing us to travel to Cuba for another year. We have already requested our visas from the Cuban government permitting us to conduct these activities. Also, students and instructors are deep in study in preparation for our time together. We humbly request your continued prayers for these efforts. Blessings to you all.

Tentative Academic Calendar	
Courses taught by AIBI	Courses taught by 10 de Octubre
1. Spiritual Formation (October 2007)	
	1. Homiletics
	2. Life of Christ I & II
2. Hermeneutics (May 2008)	
	3. Old Testament History I
3. Gospel and Letters of John (October 2008)	
	4. Old Testament History II
	5. Old Testament History III
4. Minor Prophets (May 2009)	
	6. Introduction to NT Greek
5. Isaiah (October 2009)	
	7. Acts
	8. NT Church
6. Prison Epistles (May 2010)	
	9. Church History
7. Galatians and Romans (October 2010)	
	10. Wisdom Literature
	11. Hebrews
8. Revelation (May 2011)	
	12. I & II Corinthians
	13. General Epistles
9. Spiritual Leadership (October 2011)	
	14. Evangelism I
	15. Pastoral Epistles
10. Discipleship (May 2012)	

CURRENT & COMING EVENTS!

1. Next Cuban Seminar School, October 9-11, 2007 on the subject of *Spiritual Formation*.
2. First intensive course offered through AIBI/Cuban partnership, October 9-12, 2007 on the subject of *Spiritual Formation*.
3. Conference of ministries presently working in Cuba, October 25-26, 2007, Nashville, TN.
4. Tentative trip to Peru to participate in relief efforts following the earthquake—November 2007.
5. Continued expansion through video conferencing.

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