



# Hesston College Church Relations

## REPORT TO ALLEGHENY CONFERENCE OF MENNONITE CHURCH USA

*Hesston College, the two-year college of Mennonite Church USA, educates and nurtures each student within Christ-centered community, integrating thought, life, and faith for service to others in the church and the world.*

**2010-11 Fiscal year ends in the black** –Hesston College met the Annual Fund goal for the third consecutive year. About 750 households are members of the Partner program which provided 80 percent of the \$1.24 million goal. All dollars raised for the Annual Fund provide institutional scholarships for students. The fiscal year also ended with a positive balance for the sixth consecutive year with careful management of budgets across campus.

**Increased enrollment** – Official fall 2011 numbers show an increased enrollment with a total student count of 468 compared to 448 a year ago, including 249 new students. Hesston students represent 27 states and 14 countries with 30 international students. Spring term 2012 added 31 new students including 6 international. Strong retention numbers are a major contributing factor to the positive enrollment by improving ways to identify student needs, and address student issues.

**College explores sustainability** – Hesston College observed its first No Impact Week fall 2011. It was an opportunity for the campus community to experiment with sustainable living and care of the environment on campus and in their personal lives, focused on consumption, trash, transportation, food, energy, water and eco-Sabbath. The culminating event was a service day in which about 470 people packaged 51,296 meals to be sent to the horn of Africa through Numana, Inc. Hesston is deepening its commitment to sustainability by forming a campus-wide stewardship group in 2012 and also becoming a member of the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE).

**AVDS Conference explored ways to be inclusive** – Pastors, students, and church leaders gathered for the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Anabaptist Vision and Discipleship Series (AVDS) at Hesston College fall 2011. The theme was “Getting Beyond Them and Us – to We.” Discussed was the tension of the church’s call to be both distinctive and open to those who are unfamiliar with Anabaptist or Mennonite theology. Speakers included Anton Flores-Maisonet, co-founder of Alterna, a missional community of U.S. citizens and Latin American immigrants in LaGrange, Ga.; Hal Shrader, pastor of Trinity Mennonite Church in Phoenix, Ariz.; and Joanna Shenk, associate for Interchurch Relations and Communication with Mennonite Church USA in Elkhart, Ind.

*2011-12 Campus Theme Verse—What does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. –Micah 6:8 (NIV, adapted)*

**Erb Hall Dorm Renovation-** Hesston College reached its nearly \$3 million goal for renovations to the central and west wings of the dormitory. The college will complete the renovations by adding an elevator and lounges connecting the separate wings of the building throughout 2012. Local businesses and alumni and friends from around the country gave generously to the project in order to update the space and improve the student experience.

**Outstanding Recognition Received-** The Hesston College Bel Canto Singers and director Bradley Kauffman were selected by recorded audition to perform as part of the Kansas Music Educators Association annual in-service in February. Distinguished educators from across Kansas heard performances featuring the state’s best ensembles. Bel Canto is a mixed chamber choir whose members are selected by competitive audition. The 21 member ensemble is available to perform at churches and schools across the country with annual tours during Fall Break, and for two weeks every other May.

**A glimpse at Pastoral Ministries** – In 2006, Ron Moyo took the first steps that would lead him to Hesston College. He left his home country of Zimbabwe due to civil war and unrest and gained political asylum in the United States. It did not take Moyo long to find a home in the Hesston College community. The diversity and variety of life experiences among the student population allows each person to learn from another. Program Director Tim Lichti notes that, “Ron brings a depth of life experience to the Pastoral Ministries program and to the Hesston College community.” Ultimately, Moyo hopes to carry the knowledge he has gained back to his hurting country and will graduate May 2012.

**The Pastoral Ministries Program** started in the fall of 1985 as a way for non-traditional students to receive formal training in congregational leadership. The program has trained 135 graduates to discern their call to ministry and will celebrate 25 years of graduates fall 2012. If there is someone in your congregation with a gift for ministry, contact Hesston College Pastoral Ministries at 620-327-8295 or [timl@hesston.edu](mailto:timl@hesston.edu).

### ALLEGHENY CONFERENCE OF MENNONITE CHURCH USA STATISTICS AND CONNECTIONS

**2011-2012 Academic Year Students--3**

**Congregational Student Aid**--2 congregations provided \$4,000 in tuition assistance for 3 students as of June 1, 2012.

**Unified and Designated Giving**--We are grateful for the financial support of conference churches to Mennonite colleges and Mennonite Education Agency through Unified and Designated Giving and for personal contributions given from individuals.

Howard Keim, President

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Scott Sundberg, Development Officer

David Horst, Admissions Representative

**For Hesston speakers or student groups, please contact  
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