



JUNE 2015 – FACCES UPDATE

Dear Pastors / Partners in Christ,

The Fellowship of Chinese Alliance Churches in Europe & Surroundings (**FACCES**) praises God for His grace and guidance during this last biennial **FACCES** Round Table Symposium (for European co-workers). The Symposium was held in Berlin, from May 4-7, 2015, at the Faith Hope Love Alliance Church.

The Symposium's main theme this year was, "Pastoring in the City", and the schedule included speaker presentations, project updates, business, as well as planning sessions. Over 80 national church leaders and representatives from across Europe, U.K., and surrounding regions came together for a rich time of fellowship, discussion, and collaboration. Indeed, there was a deep sense of God's Spirit and unity.

The following are just a few highlights of the Berlin 2015 **FACCES** Symposium:

During the opening ceremony, Rev. Benedict Kwok (professor, Alliance Bible Seminary, Hong Kong; currently on sabbatical leave and doing research in Germany), shared a proposal that promotes further theological training for pastoral leaders in Europe. Dr. Kwok introduced a model for continued education – to provide an opportunity for further equipping and learning Chinese ministry leaders.

The main speaker of the Symposium, Professor Dr. Paul Leung, is an experienced psychiatrist, currently teaching and practicing in the United States. Dr. Leung reminded **FACCES** delegates that, as pastors and leaders shepherding flocks in their respective metropolitan cities – we cannot neglect our own personal (and family members') physical, emotional, and spiritual health. Dr. Leung encouraged us to be attentive, and to seek appropriate support for common concerns -- including symptoms of anxiety disorder, depression, and burn-out. We were also reminded to remain unrelenting in building a strong devotional life nourished by God's word and prayer. Dr. Leung's firm clinical and biblical teachings were very timely. **FACCES** delegates greatly appreciated Dr. Leung's serious, wise, and gentle 'doctor's orders'.

Among the over 80 international **FACCES** delegates joining us from different countries (including French Guyana, U.K., Germany, Israel, Netherlands, Spain) – we were also blessed by other special guests and representatives -- who shared greetings, encouragement, support, ministry updates, etc. These included:

- Wallace Mang (representative, Chinese Churches Association of C&MA U.S.A.);
- Frank Fung (representative, Chinese Churches Association of C&MA U.S.A.);
- Aaron Tang (representative, Canada Chinese Alliance Churches Association);
- Nick Tsang (representative, Canada Chinese Alliance Churches Association);
- D & Y (international worker, Creative Access Country);
- Kwong Choi Kan (Hong Kong Men's Fellowship);
- Frank Wong (representative, accompanied by 11 Suriname church deacons and leaders) who shared about cross-cultural-mission work in Suriname and South America;
- Daniel Nguyen (pastor, France) who shared about short-term mission opportunities for French-speaking millennial in Senegal;
- Dick Kaan (international worker, France) who shared about church-planting and other mission opportunities in Italy.

To more effectively meet the ministry opportunities among the growing Diasporas across Europe, our church leaders recognized the need to establish a formal European Chinese network among our C&MA churches.

Therefore, in May 2013, during our biennial Round-Table Symposium conference held in Paris, national European Chinese C&MA church leaders shared overwhelming support and voted to officially establish **FACCES** and also nominated a Working Committee. This formally provided the added accountability that encourages **FACCES** to serve as a bridge -- to connect churches and facilitate ministry partnerships in Europe and surrounding areas.

This year in Berlin (May 2015), once again, unity was evident as leaders came together during Symposium scheduled business sessions. Following discussions, national leaders voted and affirmed their official support to adopt a Constitution. Consequently, **FACCES** will more effectively be positioned to collaborate and team with other ministry, including their European CMA national offices with which churches are already closely connected.

During the closing ceremony, we were further blessed by another special guest, William Leung (representative, Hong Kong Alliance Global Serve). Rev. Leung re-emphasized our continued responsibility to the God-opened mission opportunities at our doorsteps, and that we are to shine as the light of the world, as we strive to spread the gospel far and wide.

On behalf of **FACCES**, may I offer praise to God and gratitude to you. Your continued faithfulness and support provide encouragement to us all. We look forward to partnering and serving, together, with you!

Additional information about **FACCES** (with a list of the 26 C&MA European Chinese churches, and their ministry descriptions, etc.) can be viewed on our website: <http://www.facces.eu>.

Servant of our Lord,
Daniel Nguyen (representative, **FACCES** Committee)
June 2015, France

各位敬愛的牧長與同工們：

感謝上帝的恩典和帶領，兩年一次的“歐洲與鄰近地區華人宣道會團契”（簡稱“歐鄰”）研討會（針對歐洲眾同工）圓滿地閉幕了。是次研討會於5月4-7日，假柏林宣道會信望愛堂舉行。

研討會主題是「城市牧養」，先後有主題資訊、事工報告、工場會議，以及展望暢想。來自于歐陸、英國及鄰近地區的80多位教會領袖及代表，薦言獻策、研討交流、團契合作，深切地感受到聖靈的同在及主裡的合一。

以下是“歐鄰”2015年柏林研討會的一些熱點回顧：

在開幕禮中，郭鴻標博士（香港建道神學院教授，目前在德國享安息年假從事學術研究）分享了一個為推動歐洲教牧及領袖神學訓練的藍圖。藉著這種繼續教育的模式，來為華人教會領袖提供進一步的裝備和學習。

研討會主要講員梁維正教授是一位資深的精神科醫師，一直在美國熱心服侍。他提醒與會代表：作為忠心在城市牧養的教牧和領袖，我們不能忽略自身（及家人）身、心、靈的健康。梁醫師鼓勵大家關注，諸如焦慮症、抑鬱症及耗盡等症狀，並尋求提供適切的關懷。同時，他讓大家看到穩固的信仰操練——藉著上帝的話語和禱告來親近神，非常重要。梁醫師那基於醫學和聖經方面的教導，可謂是“及時雨”。與會代表們都非常感謝梁醫師那嚴謹、睿智、溫柔的“醫囑”，獲益匪淺。

80余位“歐鄰”代表來自不同國家和地區（包括法國、法屬圭亞那、英國、德國、以色列、荷蘭、西班牙）。同時，我們非常榮幸有幾位嘉賓和代表蒞臨，為我們帶來問候、鼓勵、祝福，並分享。他們分別是

- 孟寶松牧師（代表美國華聯會）
- 馮耀華牧師（代表美國華聯會）
- 鄧廣華牧師（代表加拿大華聯會）
- 曾湛光牧師（代表加拿大華聯會）
- D & Y（創啟地區）
- 簡廣才牧師（香港男士團契）
- 黃國雄長老（代表蘇利南宣道會，率14位蘇利南教會長執出席會議）分享了在南美洲和蘇利南的跨文化宣教
- 黃振才牧師（法國）分享了到塞內加爾的短宣
- 簡戴德牧師（宣教士）分享了在義大利植堂及其他事工的機會

在2013年巴黎研討會期間，與會各國代表以眾數支援、投票的方式，正式成立了“歐鄰”。從那一刻開始，“歐鄰”就致力於發揮橋樑作用——聯絡歐洲與鄰近地區眾教會及事工夥伴們。

在今年五月的柏林研討會上，教牧同工和領袖們再度走到一起。經過討論，大家以投票方式，正式接納《歐鄰章程》。自此，“歐鄰”將更有效地定位於協作、配搭各事工夥伴，其中包括歐洲各國宣道總會。

在閉幕禮中，上帝通過梁偉材牧師（香港宣愛協會總幹事）再次重申我們要回應上帝在我們面前打開宣教大門的機會，發揮世上的光的作用，努力廣傳福音。

在此，我謹代表“歐鄰”，向上帝感恩，向您們致謝。您們的信任與不懈的支持使我們倍受鼓舞。期待著與您們同心配搭，忠心侍奉！

若想進一步瞭解“歐鄰”（有 26 間華人宣道會通訊錄及各堂會簡介），請流覽我們的網頁：<http://www.faccs.eu>

主僕 黃振才牧師 敬上

-歐鄰團契委員會主席-

2015 年六月