



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ our Lord,

It is a great privilege and honour for me to write to you on behalf of the new Board of WEST, which is the product of the Gospel Partnership between WEST and SaRang Community Church, Seoul, Korea. As some of you may know, there is a profound spiritual and historical connection between Wales and Korea, as the first martyred evangelical missionary in Korea was a Welshman named Robert Jermain Thomas. It is this spiritual heritage which brought us together from different corners of the world and we believe that God has called us to work together for the advancement of His Kingdom globally.

Most importantly, our primary objective is in increasing academic excellence in equipping men and women for Christian leadership worldwide. However, this will not be pursued in isolation from consciously promoting a loving and caring community in the context of a cynical world which is becoming increasingly individualistic. This partnership seeks to restore the community spirit which is rapidly declining in churches today. Through this partnership we wish to build an international community of Christians from all around the world by promoting cultural diversity. Furthermore, we believe that WEST is strategically located to function as the centre for world mission as we seek to reach out to the rest of the UK, Europe and other parts of the world.

The new Board of WEST comprises people who are dedicated to making this vision a reality through prayer, commitment, support and the expertise which they so richly bring for the development of WEST. Please allow me to introduce them to you:

1. **Rev. Graham John**
Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Swansea
Former Secretary of the Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales
2. **Mr. Chul Ki Ju**
Former South Korean Ambassador to France
Vice President and Secretary General of Global Compact Korea Network
3. **Mr. Hee Keun Kang**
Senior Vice President of Samsung Electronics
Board of Trustees at Sungkyunkwan University Foundation
4. **Rev. Myung-Ho Kim**
CEO of Disciple Making Ministries International
President of Christianity Today Korea
5. **Mrs. Sung-Joo Kim**
Chairperson of MCM and Sungjoo Group International
Board member, World Vision
6. **Rev. Sam Ko**
Director of Global Ministries, SaRang Community Church
Board member, Korea-China Cultural Foundation
7. **Mr. John Stevens**

Director of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches
Law lecturer for 20 years

8. **Dr. John Temple**
Former Chief Executive of Plessey Corporation
Author of three books, including *Family Money Matters*
9. **Mr. Wyn Thomas**
Pro Vice-Chancellor of Bangor University
Elder and Church Secretary of Ebenezer Evangelical Church, Bangor
10. **Rev. David Seung Kwan Yoo**
Mission Pastor of SaRang Community Church
Member of Strategic Working Group of Lausanne Movement

The success of the partnership and indeed the future of WEST, however, ultimately depend on each one of you as lecturers, students and other members of staff – which is why I would like to encourage all of you to have a sense of ownership of this Gospel Partnership upon which the newly constituted WEST has been established.

Let us look forward to the great works of our Lord and this new chapter of an exciting future which has dawned upon us.

Yours very truly,

Rev. Sam Ko
Chairman of the Board
Wales Evangelical School of Theology