



TANGAZA COLLEGE

The Catholic University of Eastern Africa
Office of the Deputy Principal Academic

Chronology of the Genesis of the Licentiate in Mission Theology

- 1) 15 November 2002 the BOG decided unanimously to set up a Master Programme in Theology, preferably in Mission and Religious Studies. A Master of Theology Committee was established comprising: M. Schepers, chairman, A. Magnante, F. Domingues and A. de Jong. L. Mattei would be asked to join the Committee.
- 2) 5 February 2003 T. Redmond and A. de Jong paid a courtesy visit to the Dean of the Faculty of Theology of CUEA, Fr. D. Ngona. Among other things the setting up of a MA programme in Theology at Tangaza College was discussed. Ngona said that the Faculty of Theology of CUEA had no objection whatsoever to the fact that Tangaza wants to start a MA programme in Theology. But this programme should be worked out in such a way that Tangaza College does not duplicate the MA programmes in Theology in CUEA.
- 3) 24 February 2003 M. Schepers called a first meeting of the Committee. Fr. Magnante had not yet arrived. Fr. Mattei was planning to leave the country at the end of the academic year. He therefore invited the following persons to the meeting: L. Brennan, N. Fogliaco, T. Redmond, F. Domingues and A. de Jong. However, present at the meeting were: M. Schepers, L. Brennan, F. Domingues and A. de Jong. Two sub-committees were set up: F. Domingues and A. de Jong for Mission Theology and L. Brennan and M. Schepers for Religious Formation.
- 4) 9 May 2003 F. Domingues tabled and presented to the BOG a draft proposal for a Master's Programme in Theology called: *Masters in Theology. Tangaza College, CUEA. Mission Department. Provisional Curriculum April 2003*. It was accompanied by a covering letter of the chairperson of the Masters of Theology Committee, M. Schepers. In it he said among others: "In the meantime some solid spade-work has been done and herewith is a draft proposal, prepared by the sub-committee, appointed to conceive the mission component (Frs. Fernando Domingues and Albert de Jong, with input from others in various departments of Tangaza College). It is formulated very much along the lines that are prescribed by the CUEA for similar programmes. The other sub-committee, charged with a similar task in the field of spirituality and religious formation, is not far behind in putting together a similar draft...". The main criticism of the BOG was: a course on Mission and Patristics and Teaching Methodology were missing. In order to speed up the development of the Masters Programme it was decided that a Coordinator should be appointed. There were two candidates available: A. Magnante and R. Ronzani. The Executive of the BOG in conjunction with the Administration should appoint one or both.
- 5) October 2003 L. Brennan and M. Schepers produced the draft proposal for a MA in Spirituality and Religious Formation called: *Masters in Theology. Tangaza College. CUEA. Institute of Spirituality and Religious Formation. Provisional Curriculum, October 2003*.
- 6) 7 November 2003 F. Domingues and L. Brennan tabled and presented to the BOG meeting two draft curricula: *Tangaza College. Catholic University of Eastern Africa. Master in Theology Programme. Specializations in Mission Theology and Religious Formation. Provisional Curriculum, November 2003*. The presenters said that all the courses were structured according to units of two credit hours. This could be changed in courses of three credit hours which would give room for guided research. Moreover the BOG decided that a Coordinator for the Master in Mission Theology and one for the Master in Religious Formation should be appointed by the Executive of the BOG.

- 7) 18 February 2004 the Executive of the BOG appointed F. Domingues as the Coordinator of the Master Programmes in Theology on an interim basis, with a view toward confirmation by the BOG plenary in April 2004.
- 8) 16 March 2004 the first meeting of the Working Group of Masters Programs in Theology took place. Members of the Working Group were: F. Domingues, L. Brennan, C. Owczarek, A. de Jong, P. Ryan, D. Blowey and D. Pendawazima. The working group was gathered at the invitation of the Coordinator after he dialogued with the Principal and DPA. The members were invited taking into account their specific fields of expertise and their belonging to a variety of member Institutes of Tangaza. The purpose of the Working Group was that of working as a think-tank in the elaboration of the curricula for the Masters Programs and of collaborating with the Coordinator in the various issues involved in the elaboration, development and implementation of the same Programs. As to the MA in Mission Theology it was decided to change from 2 credit courses to a scheme based on a majority of 3 credit courses. The group made concrete suggestions on which courses could be eliminated and which could be amalgamated. The coordinator will work on the details, making necessary changes to the existing booklet and following as closely as possible the scheme of the CUEA Masters in Theology.
- 9) 26 March 2004 Prof. F. Wijzen from the Catholic University of Nijmegen, Holland, who was lecturing in Tangaza College at that time, wrote a critical letter to the Coordinator about the Master in Mission Theology. His main critical points were: The rationale behind the distribution of courses is difficult to find. This should be based on a science-theoretical concept and a curriculum-development perspective. Emphasis should be put on the discipline itself (missiology). More emphasis should be put on research methods. They seem to be integrated in the seminars. He found that there was too little room for own research.
- 10) 21 April 2004 F. Stenger wrote letter to Coordinator about *Draft proposal of Master in Mission Theology*. In it he said among others: "I fully agree with the comments of Frans Wijzen. I also find it difficult to detect the rationale and focus of the programme."
- 11) 21 April 2004 Masters Programs in Theology Working Group met. The Coordinator wrote in the agenda for that meeting: "After consulting some experts and other colleagues on the proposals we had elaborated on our three Masters Programmes (Religious Formation, Mission Theology, Ministry), I made some tentative modifications to the list of course titles in Mission Theology." One of the agenda points was: "Ma Miss TH: Were the observations of Prof. Wijzen duly taken into account?" A copy of the observations of Prof. Wijzen was enclosed as attachment to the agenda of the meeting. The meeting went critically through the course titles, some of which were changed. Moreover it was decided to elaborate the tentative course descriptions.
- 12) 23 April 2004 F. Domingues tabled and presented to the BOG a paper entitled: *Tangaza MA in Theology*. He said among others that the development of the curriculum for the MA in Mission Theology was in its final stages. Only course descriptions and bibliography were yet to be developed. Moreover the BOG voted unanimously for the confirmation of F. Domingues as Coordinator for the Masters Programmes in Theology.
- 13) 31 August 2004 F. Domingues reported to the Academic Board that since last year a team of lecturers has been working with him and has organised a syllabus in Mission Theology and was asking the lecturers to help in course descriptions.
- 14) 28 September 2004 F. Domingues reported to the Academic Board that most course descriptions for MA in Mission Studies had been worked on including basic bibliography.
- 15) 25 October 2004 Masters Programs in Theology Working Group met and discussed a draft of the MA Mission Theology as prepared so far. Some courses needed refinement, while others were still at the initial stages.

- 16) 12 November 2004 F. Domingues tabled and presented to the BOG a paper entitled: *MA Mission Theology (STL)*. He said among others that the Master of Arts in Mission Theology (.S.T.L.) introduced students to research and teaching.
- 17) 25 January 2005 F. Fernando reported to the Academic Board that the course descriptions for Mission Theology were almost complete and would soon be presented to the Academic Board.
- 18) 22 February 2005 F. Domingues reported to the Academic Board that work on course descriptions was going well and that most of the work was ready.
- 19) 26 April 2005 F. Domingues reported to the Academic Board that work on MA in Mission Theology was complete and would be presented to the Academic Board meeting of 20 May 2005 with admission regulations.
- 20) Beginning May 2005 F. Domingues presented to the members of the Masters Programs in Theology Working Group a *Provisional Curriculum for Master's in Mission Theology*. In his covering letter he said: "*It is the result of the coordinated work of many people, as you know.*" He asked for observations and comments so that he can distribute corrected copies to the members of the Academic Board for discussion and hopefully for approval.
- 21) 11 May 2005 DPA distributed the final Draft of the Licentiate in Mission Theology to the members of the Academic Board. In his covering letter he said among others: "*The development of the Licentiate in Mission Theology has already a rather long history. On 15 November 2002 the BOG took the decision that the Theology Programme could proceed to develop a Master Programme in Theology. (...) Fr. Fernando Domingues, MCCJ, was appointed coordinator of the project. He was assisted by a committee consisting of Sr. Loretta Brennan, Fr. Christopher Owczareck, Fr. Patrick Ryan, Fr. David Blowey, Fr. Dietrich Pendawazima and Fr. Albert de Jong. Moreover many lecturers have been asked for assistance to write up the course contents.*"
- 22) 20 May 2005 M. Kirwen of MIASMU wrote to A. de Jong concerning the final draft of the Licentiate in Mission Theology: "*The committee is to be complemented on the tremendous amount of work that has gone into the final draft – it is most impressive.*" He offered further some observations in order to help focus the Licentiate on the contemporary African spiritual and ecclesiastical reality.
- 23) 20 May 2005 T. Redmond handed in to the DPA *A partial list of typographical errors, and a few queries, relating to the final draft of the Licentiate in Mission Theology.*
- 24) 20 May 2005 the Academic Board approved unanimously the Final Draft of the Licentiate in Mission Theology. Observations and comments would be taken into consideration before it would be submitted to the Faculty of Theology of CUEA.

Albert de Jong, cssp