



YWAM's University of the Nations by Howard Malmstadt



Twenty-five years ago YWAM was called to develop a university that embraces God's inspired vision, His plans, and His directions for action. After many months of seeking our Lord it became apparent that this university should have the potential to impact all areas of society in all nations and teach the people everything that Jesus taught His disciples.

Following a few comments by some former students, the Holy Spirit prompted us to consider what would make an IDEAL Great-Commission University, which included the following:

The university would be a people who continually seek the guidance of our Creator; a people of eternal destiny, working in unity. These people are students, teaching and administrative staffs, operational and maintenance staffs, and their families.

-The people would be enthusiastically engaged in the Great Commission given by Jesus in Matthew 28:18-20.

-The campus communities would express the love of Jesus in numerous, tangible ways.

- The people would not only work together in unity but also be catalysts for unity in the Body of Christ. John 17:20-23

-The programs, courses and activities would be inspired by the Holy Spirit and be designed to release God's gifts of creativity in students and staff, AND the people groups they serve in ministries.



The list goes on and on. What would you add to the list?

Is it possible for YWAM's fledgling University of the Nations (U of N) to reach the ideal?

Yes, I believe that it is [possible to reach that ideal], IF we seek diligently to remain open to impartation from our Creator, His vision for each branch campus, His direction in planning the research and development projects and in implementing the schools, programs, and outreaches worldwide.

I believe that our Lord is seeking for men and women to develop the U of N for His purposes and by His Word, people who will seek Him diligently in prayer, and are learning to count the cost to be able to influence the future. Ever closer to Him, they will rejoice both when He confirms their thoughts, and when He shows them a better way. These men and women will commit to programs and ministries only to the extent that all contribute to building a people — a people called and taught of God, a people of destiny, a people who will fully play their part in bringing a great multitude before His throne. A great multitude, which no one can count from every nation, tribe, people and tongues, singing:

"Salvation to our God, Who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." The nations will be there before Him, and He will teach them! (Rev. 7:9-10)

Until that day, He seeks for men and women to follow His plans, including His plans for developing branches of the University of the Nations in all nations – branches connected to one perfect vine. He seeks a people who will teach and model His ways of teaching, of managing, of communicating, and of working together in community, in unity. He seeks a people, young and old, committed and open to His commission, and to His empowerment to "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Matthew 28:18-20. If we, the people, do the possible, God will do the impossible.

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