The 2011-2012 academic year is a time of transition away from the Overseas Ministries Study Center for the DACB. As a result, the Project Luke fellowship program has been suspended temporarily. In August of 2011, Project Manager Michèle Sigg moved to Nairobi with her family (husband Sam, son Johan, daughters Annie and Catherine) for a year. During this time, she is working to install a regional office at AIU (formerly Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology) and to create a network of institutions actively engaged in oral history research on African church figures. She is also using this time to do field research and write the thesis for her M.Th in World Christianity. Sam is translating and editing for the DACB on a volunteer basis, doing some commercial translation, and building furniture for a children’s home. Johan, who graduated from high school in June 2011, has undertaken several independent film projects and is volunteering at AIU as a video intern. Annie (11th grade) and Catherine (3rd grade) are attending West Nairobi School.

At AIU, the DACB is under the umbrella of the newly inaugurated Centre for World Christianity (CWC) directed by Dr. Mark Shaw. The CWC recently installed Dr. Andrew Walls as research professor in their new Ph.D in Intercultural Studies program that includes three from April 2011, the DACB is under the umbrella of the newly inaugurated Centre for World Christianity (CWC) directed by Dr. Mark Shaw. The CWC recently installed Dr. Andrew Walls as research professor in their new Ph.D in Intercultural Studies program that includes three

I am pleased to report that the process of moving the DACB from OMSC--where it has been since 1997--to Boston University and Africa International University is moving along smoothly. Last summer, the DACB database was relocated to Boston University Libraries, where it is now being maintained as the nerve center of an envisaged complex of DACB-Wiki centers across Africa. Preliminary discussions have been held with Africa International University, in Nairobi, to ascertain the possibility of its serving as the first such center—a model for many other such centers of biographical research and writing in the coming years. Project Manager Michèle Sigg is there now, with her family, completing course and thesis requirements for her Masters of Theology in World Christianity from the Nairobi Graduate School of Theology.

The research and writing of stories would be an integral part of each participating institution’s curricular requirements. This will yield carefully edited and regionally approved stories which will then be entered into the DACB database at Boston University. I should mention that at Boston University, the DACB will be governed by a university approved editorial committee. I have agreed to chair the committee for the next five years. Michèle Sigg will be a standing member of this committee, along with Dr. Dana Robert (Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and History of Mission and Co-Director of the Center for Global Christianity and Mission), Dr. Jack Ammerman (AUL Digital Initiatives and Open Access, BU Libraries), and at least one more faculty member.

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DACB at Africa International University (AIU)

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Oral History Workshops in Nigeria and Madagascar

In April 2010, the DACB offered two oral history workshops in Nigeria. The workshop in Lagos was attended by about 20 individuals representing ten different institutions and a variety of churches. In Jos, approximately a dozen people representing five institutions participated in the workshop.

In October 2010, Oral historian Jean-Paul Wiest and DACB Project Manager Michèle Sigg traveled to Madagascar to teach two oral history workshops. In Majunga, twelve people, mostly university students, took part in the seminar. In Antananarivo, the 25 participants represented 17 churches or institutions.

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From the Project Director

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DACB Wiki Beta - www.DACB.org/wiki/

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Kehinde Olubimtan is from Lagos, Nigeria, where he coordinates the educational ministries of Good News Baptist Church. He is an adjunct teacher at the Akrofi-Christaller Institute of Mission, Theology, and Culture, in Akropong-Akuapem, Ghana; Baptist College of Theology, Lagos, Nigeria; and Cliff College International Learning Centre, in Nigeria. Kehinde coordinated the work of the DACB in West Africa from 2002 to 2004. He has served as a pastor in several churches and worked in the office of the general secretary of the Nigerian Baptist Convention in Ibadan. His wife, Bose, works in contract management with transnational corporations in Nigeria. They have one daughter, Tiumoluw, nine, and two sons, Olumide, twelve, and Bolari, fourteen.

Watson Omulokoli is professor of church history in the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya. His wife, Emman, is a lecturer in chemistry at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology. Their three children, Barnabas, Paul and Esther, are university students.

In addition to his calling as an educator, Watson served for seventeen years as university chaplain at Kenyatta University. He serves outside the university as the patron for Bible Translation and Literacy, the Wycliffe International affiliate in Kenya; as chairman of the trustee board of the African Institute for Contemporary Mission and Research; as a board member of Africa Evangelistic Enterprise; as a council member of Pan African Christian University; and as the chancellor of Africa International University.

*Overseas Ministries Study Center in New Haven, Connecticut, USA.

**DACB News in brief:**

**Record number of stories:** The Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary (NBTS) in Ogbomosho holds the record for the most biographies contributed to the DACB: currently 73. Thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr. Deji Ayegboyin, NBTS organizes doctoral seminars under the supervision of Dr. Michael Leke Ogunwe which produce 20-30 biographies per year that they then send on to the DACB. Thank you, NBTS!

**DACB/DIBICA Madagascar:** Participants from the October 2010 oral history workshop have been holding regular writer group meetings to support those who are writing biographies. Plans for creating a DACB site in Malagasy are in the works.

**DACB Nigeria:** Zion World Missions, working out of Sokoto, headed by Rev. Martins Atanda, continues to promote the work of the DACB. Several ZWM staff have submitted stories and ZWM is creating a course to train writers for the DACB.

**The DACB on Facebook:** The DACB is on Facebook as a regular page and as a cause. Please look us up and let us know that you like us!

**Web site news:** Our biography count is now well over the 2,000 mark. Check out our new indexes for Photos and Women and our Guided Tour page.

**Dictionary of African Christian Biography**

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