

Call for Videos on 'Preferred Futures'

Background

The United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia (United Board) will be 100 years old in 2022. As part of the centennial celebration, the United Board will hold a joint consultation with the Association of Christian Universities and Colleges in Asia (ACUCA) and Silliman University on **16-17 July 2021**.

The consultation theme is **“Envisioning Christian Higher Education: Our Preferred Futures.”** It is a call for Christian higher education institutions to imagine beyond the present volatile, uncertain, complex, ambiguous, and disruptive (VUCAD) situation. It is a call for them to lead the way towards the preferred futures for their constituencies and the wider communities even as they uphold values that are uplifting, hope-inspiring, and life-giving. As the Bible states, “Where there is no vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18a, KJV).



(Photo credits: left from freepik.com; right from Alana Narciso)

The theme has **two related issues**:

- It has been claimed that online teaching makes education more accessible since the virtual campus can go to the students wherever they are. Yet inequality in access to technology and connectivity is real due to economic disparity among students and teachers, and the uneven development of cities/towns and countries. If digital literacy becomes an entry requirement to higher education, students from geographically and digitally remote areas could end up being excluded or left behind. The gap between the smaller, less-resourced private institutions in remote areas and the bigger, more established private institutions in the cities have become more glaring. In view of the preferred futures, how would Christian higher education institutions address issues of access, equity, and inclusion?



(Photo credits: left from Tatler Hong Kong; right from Greenpeace)

- It has been said that reduced travel during the pandemic has decreased carbon footprint. But the increased reliance on technology has caused a surge in digital carbon footprint. The personal and institutional upgrading of technological equipment contributes to electronic wastes. Covid-19 wastes from single-use masks and latex gloves are adding to the earth's pollution. Scientists are warning that Covid-19 is not the last. Some say the onslaught of new coronaviruses is due to human intrusion upon wildlife and its natural habitat. Others see the logical connection of health crises and natural disasters with climate change. In view of the preferred futures, how would Christian higher education institutions address issues of climate justice, stewardship, and sustainability of the earth?

In view of these, the United Board is calling for **Videos on 'Preferred Futures'** as a creative yet critical contribution of its network institutions to the joint consultation.

Objective

The call for **Videos on "Preferred Futures"** aims to provide institutions in the United Board network an opportunity to share: (a) their vision of alternative futures to the current situation, using talents/skills that may have been honed during the shift to digital teaching, and (b) their strategies or approaches to get there.

Note on Copyright

The videos might be featured on the United Board website. As such, we seek your consent in using the videos, with the right to alter or edit when necessary, for publicity purposes of the United Board. By submitting the videos and completing the entry form, you understand and agree that consent is given for such use of the videos. No payment will be made for such use of the videos.

Criteria for Participation

- 1) Each eligible institution in the United Board network may submit up to **TWO** videos.
- 2) The maximum length of the video is **5 minutes**.
- 3) The video content should be **original**, reflecting an analysis of the current situation and offering alternative futures related to the issues of (a) access, equity, and inclusion in higher education and (b) climate justice, stewardship, and sustainability of the earth – from the perspective of Christian higher education.
- 4) Relevance and applicability of the preferred futures to Asian context, making use of local resources.
- 5) Authors of the video entry must be bona fide students, faculty, and staff of the institution (certified by the head of the institution).
- 6) Credits should be made to sources of ideas, song, music, animation, etc.
- 7) Entry should come with a **transcript** of the text and a 300-word **description** of how and why the video was done.
- 8) Sub-titles must be provided for texts/words from Asian languages.

Awards of Recognition

The United Board will appoint a panel of judges to review the videos. Based on the given criteria, the judges will select the five best entries. The United Board reserves the right of final decision.



Certificates of Recognition will be given with the following cash prizes:

- 1st place – US\$5,000**
- 2nd place – US\$3,000**
- 3rd place – US\$2,000**
- 2 runners-up – US\$1,000 each**

The selected best entries will be screened at the final session of the joint consultation on 17 July 2021.

How to Participate

1. Fill in the **online entry form** at <https://forms.gle/jyVJ8Qsk2qwGzu1x9> . One entry form for each video.
2. Submit your video entry to **YouTube video** by following the following steps:
 - (a) Have a Google account. If you need to create one, click [here](https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/161805?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en).
<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/161805?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>
 - (b) Refer to [YouTube's instructions on how to upload your video](https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en).
<https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57407?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en>
NOTE: Set your video's privacy setting to **Unlisted**.
 - (c) On your video page, click  **SHARE** and copy the URL you are given.
 - (d) On the entry form, type the label to your video, "Video-Preferred-Futures - [Institution Name]". Then paste the URL to your form.

Deadline of Submission: 31 May 2021

Contacts

If you have questions of clarification regarding this call for videos or the eligibility of your institution, please contact **Ms. Anna Law**, Assistant Program Officer, at alaw@unitedboard.org and/or **Dr. Hope Antone**, Director of Faculty Development at hantone@unitedboard.org.