What a privilege it is for TELOS teams to train people around the world in counseling and other ministries. A training project in Peru is TELOS’s latest endeavor. We began with a partnership between TELOS and Iglesia Biblioca Cristiana, La Molina, Lima, Peru.

The classroom environment was one of co-learning with everyone participating in the large group, small group, and partner pair experiences. TELOS’s model for education includes information, demonstration, participation, and application. There were practice groups in which participants demonstrated and received feedback on their use of the basic skills of counseling.

Highlights of the training sessions were:
- Students’ reports that the training has been useful, edifying, and personally challenging;
- TELOS’s systemic view of counseling, new and different from what the participants have studied in the past;
- The emergence of a community project with collaboration among the church, the public schools, and the police department with TELOS bringing an educational consultant to teach methodology;
- Times of food and fellowship
- The groups being a creative mixture of professional and lay counselors;
- Challenges of learning the culture, language, and formatting of the training;
- Humorous experiences of “lost in translation.”

Over the past year the counselor training project in La Molina, Peru has evolved into a warm working relationship between TELOS and Iglesia Bíblica Cristiana. Team leaders Mike and Susan Butler are working with the pastoral staff and lay leaders within the church to create a training program that meets the needs and vision for the church within their community.

Courses Taught So Far:
- Caring for Couples
- Embodying the Truth
- Family Festival
  - Family Communication
  - Family Empowerment
  - Strengths of a Healthy Family
  - Christian Sexuality for Teens
- Stress, Crisis, Trauma, and Coping
- Person in Context
- Teaching Methodology
- Upcoming: Addressing Domestic Violence in Peru

Participants in the October, 2016, class

Small Group Interaction
Phyllis Michael was awarded a Doctorate of Humane Letters by Mid-America Nazarene University, Olathe, Kansas, on May 6, 2017. She was honored for her years of service to higher education and international ministry. Phyllis was a pioneer faculty member at MNU, beginning her university career in 1968. At this commencement, which was a 50-year celebration of its history, Mid-America saluted its fourteen original faculty members, four of whom are still living.

Dr. Leanne Schamp (PhD in Counseling) has recently joined our Board of Directors. She brings varied experiences and much expertise to TELOS. Currently, Leanne is an Associate Professor in the Clinical Mental Health Counseling program at Corban University. She also serves as Clinical Coordinator for Oregon State University’s graduate counseling programs. Leanne has a heart for using her clinical training to serve internationally. She and her spouse traveled to Ireland to provide a ministry of counseling services. She has also served as a part of a team of counselor educators and students who traveled to Chisenau, Moldova, on a teaching and humanitarian aid assignment. These experiences awakened her heart to see the hunger and excitement in those to whom she ministered.

In her words, “The humanitarian component to that trip broke my heart. The abject poverty faced by so many people in Moldova was something I had never experienced, and, for a time, I was literally left without words.”

In reference to another part of her work and experience, Leanne says the following: “I have spent a lot of years serving women of faith (and sometimes their children) who have experienced intimate partner violence. My doctoral research focused on the experiences of therapists identifying as Christian who also work with this population. I did not go looking to work in this arena; the work found me . . I remain committed to speaking out about the inexcusable phenomenon of IPV within society in general and within faith communities in particular. One way I do this is by educating students and others about the topic and about ways they can be agents for change.”

Leanne is in the process of re-establishing her clinical practice in Corvallis, Oregon. Her website will be up soon @ www.chrysaliscounsel.com

A life-guiding verse for Leanne is Micah 6:8: “To do justice, love mercy, walk humbly with your God.”
TELOS Board Looks To The Future

“What kinds of things do you ponder about TELOS and what crosses your mind as you envision the future of TELOS?: This was the question posed to TELOS Board members at a planning meeting, June 17, 2017.

Various answers from Board members revealed some themes. These were:

- How can we involve a “younger” generation in TELOS activities?
- How can the integrity of the vision can be kept while changing with the times?
- What current means of communication are needed to share the vision and experiences?
- How can TELOS preserve its uniqueness and continue to fill a “niche”?
- Since TELOS has been mainly responsive, when do we initiate?
- What other venues can we use to make TELOS better known?

Suggestions for future actions included having booths at related conferences; recounting the history of TELOS (perhaps in a blog format on the website); holding a 30 year celebration of what TELOS has contributed during this time.

The conversation will continue at a future date.

Board members welcome input from TELOS supporters.

TELOS Uniquenesses

* Our emphasis on training and mentoring local people in world locations, while being open to assisting in member care and helping other ex-pats
* Our goals of encouraging, empowering, and equipping
* Our long-term commitments to various world areas, rather than crisis-chasing (but being available in crises, as well)
Domestic and International Services are provided in the following areas:

+ Individual, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy
+ Life and Leadership Coaching and Consultation
+ Education/Training in Living, Relating, Leading & Counseling
+ Member Care
+ Speaking, Workshops, & Retreats
+ Candidate screening
+ Reentry and trauma debriefing

To Date, International Clinical/Training Associates and Teams have served in:

Albania; Australia; Bulgaria; Burundi; Cyprus; East Asia; Germany; Hungary; India; Israel; Jordan; Kenya; Kosovo; Lebanon; Madagascar; Malaysia; Mexico; Mongolia; Nicaragua; Peru; Romania; Russia; Switzerland; Taiwan; Thailand; Uganda; Ukraine; and Venezuela

TELOS Board of Directors

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TELOS international, inc. focuses on mental health and relational well-being from a Christian perspective. Recognizing the wholeness of Truth, TELOS seeks to wed the best training in mental health with a faithful Christian worldview. While TELOS provides services within its home country of the United States, a significant portion of its efforts and ministries are provided internationally. TELOS is a non-profit, 501(c)3 corporation—all contributions to its ministry are tax-deductible.