

FAQs: NEW PRESIDENT APPOINTED – JUNE 16, 2008

ASIAN ACCESS NAMES JOSEPH W. HANDLEY, JR. AS NEW PRESIDENT

Q1: When did the Board of Directors approve the appointment of President Joseph W. Handley?

A: At the May 12-13 board meetings in southern California.

Q2: When is the appointment effective?

A: Joseph “Joe” W. Handley, Jr. age 43 is set to officially assume the position of President of Asian Access on Monday, June 30, 2008. He will be the fourth permanent president in the 41-year history of Asian Access.

Mr. Handley’s profile and photos can be found at:
<http://asianaccess.org/media>

Q3: What was reason for predecessor Doug Birdsall’s resignation as president?

A: Rev. S. Douglas Birdsall had been leading both Asian Access (1991-2007) and [Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization](#) (2004-present). He found it increasingly difficult to lead both organizations effectively, as he felt strongly that both deserved the full attention of its primary leader. So the Asian Access board of directors approved the resignation effective September 30, 2007, thus releasing Rev. Birdsall to follow God’s call to devote himself full-time to the Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization. Though the board was thoroughly pleased with his leadership as president, they affirmed his new call to Lausanne.

Rev. Birdsall’s profile and photos can be found at:
<http://asianaccess.org/media>

Q4: Who has served as Interim President for the nine months between October 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008 when Joe Handley will take over?

A: Bruce Johnson, 57 of Charlotte, North Carolina, who currently serves with Asian Access as Vice President for Leadership Development has also served as Interim President. He was pleased to accept the Board’s invitation to serve as Interim President until a permanent president was found. Bruce did not discern that the permanent post was God’s direction. Even so, the board of directors and staff members have been very delighted with Bruce’s leadership the past nine months. He now looks forward to transitioning the reigns of the organization to Joe. Then he will gladly focus his energies on his primary passion of overseeing the design and implementation of the Asian Access leader development model across twenty countries of Asia.

Mr. Johnson’s profile and photos can be found at:
<http://asianaccess.org/media>

Q5: What are Joe's reflections of his decision to become president?

A: From Joe's letter to Asian Access staff:

"Silk and I are so excited to join the [Asian Access] family!!! For some time now, we have been praying about our calling and ministry and the Lord led us to this remarkable opportunity – to partner with you.

We had no idea the breadth and depth of Asian Access and as soon as we started learning about the mission, we thought, "This is the best kept secret in mission today." Over and above all of that, every time we met someone new (board members, leadership team, etc.), we felt like this was a marriage made in heaven. The Lord has had His hand on us throughout the process and the more we prayed the more evident it became that the Lord was clearly calling us to serve alongside each and every one of you. So, we are totally thrilled to join the family!!! We can't wait to get started and are really looking forward to meeting you."

Q6: How does the Asian Access board of directors feel about Joe's appointment?

A: Here are some quotes from members of the Board of Directors:

Ron McMahon, *President, McMahon Development Group (San Diego, CA) and Chairman of the Board of Directors:*

"The Board of Directors was unanimous. We really like this man that God has brought to us. One of the key factors for the search committee and the board was to find a person that had the right chemistry for Asian Access (that he and his wife would fit well with the staff family) as well as the capabilities for the role. We feel God has clearly blessed us with Joe Handley."

Dr. David Bennett, *Senior Pastor, Grace Baptist Church (Boston, MA):*

"It has been worth the wait! In Joe Handley, God has provided a leader with a global vision, contagious passion, international experience, cross-cultural sensitivity, and missiological insight. Joe is a leader who will appreciate and build on the strengths of our outstanding Asian Access team, and who will accelerate our progress toward our vision to see a vibrant community of servant leaders with vision, character and competence leading the church across Asia. As a board member I am enthusiastic and eager to welcome him as our new Asian Access president."

Philip R. Foxwell, Jr., *President, Foxmark International (Tokyo, Japan):*

"We are truly thankful to our Sovereign God for His direction in leading us to Joe and Silk at this exciting and crucial time in the life of our mission. Any of us who have spent time with Joe, very quickly felt his passion for Kingdom endeavors, a clear missional approach in life, and a warmth and enthusiasm that could only emanate from a love for our Savior and for the Body of Christ. We are excited about the Handley family joining with us, bringing their own experience on the mission field, and confident that Joe will bring an added measure of godly leadership to the multi-faceted work that God has entrusted to us."

Tom Bradford, *President, Bradford and Company (Birmingham, AL):*

"As a board, we were committed to finding the person God had chosen to lead our organization. After our interview with Joe and Silk, it was exciting to see how we were unanimous in seeing that Joe was that person. Together, they bring that wonderful mix of experience, personality, enthusiasm, and sense of calling that will make them a perfect fit with the rest of our Asian Access family."

Rev. Douglas Birdsall, Executive Chair, Lausanne Committee for World Evangelization; Former President of Asian Access, Current Board Member (Boston, MA):

“Joe Handley is a wonderful choice to serve as the new president for our mission. He has outstanding Christian character; he's winsome; he has a great knowledge of world missions, coupled with extensive experience working with university students, with the local church, with mission agencies, and with national leaders in many parts of the world. Joe has an extensive network that I think will bring additional strength to Asian Access. His enthusiasm and his excitement about Asian Access are contagious. Joe is the kind of leader who inspires confidence as he casts vision.”

Q7: How can I contact Asian Access for more information?

A: Here is our contact info:

Asian Access
P.O. Box 200
San Dimas, CA 91773 USA
tel. (626) 914-8990
fax (866) 862-0968
email: info@asianaccess.org

Q8: Where can I find Asian Access online?

A: Corporate Web Site: <http://asianaccess.org/>
Related Media Kit: <http://asianaccess.org/media>