



WEA - Leadership Institute

World Evangelical Alliance

Strengthening National Alliances – developing effective leaders

Imagine

[Manage your subscription](#)
[Return to WEA-LI.org](#)
[Contact Us](#)

March 2009

Volume 1 - Issue 2

Your Kingdom Come

In this edition:

- [Your Kingdom Come](#)
- [Evangelical Unity for Kingdom Advance](#)
- [Barcelona Round Table](#)
- [WEA-LI Survey Results](#)



Even as the beloved *Pater Noster* prayer turns the Christian mind to the central focus of our Lord, the Kingdom of God, it beckons the true followers of Jesus to community and obedience. We are called to community, because the Kingdom of God is a shared experience, and to obedience, because of our common submission to the will of the Father. When Christians pray together, *your Kingdom come, your will be done earth as it is in heaven*, we express commitment to unity and to advance the Kingdom of God. This edition of the WEA-LI *Imagine* features the core module of the Leadership Institute entitled: *Evangelical Unity for Kingdom Advance*. Dr. Geoff Tunnicliffe, the International Director of the World Evangelical Alliance, introduces this module to us in his article by the same title.

[Jump to top](#)

Evangelical Unity for Kingdom Advance

By Geoff Tunnicliffe

It is not the job of the National Alliances around the world to unite the Church. This is already both a theological and spiritual reality. National Alliances are tasked to provide the arena and the means to express this unity in visible, tangible and transforming ways.

Leaders of our Evangelical associations enjoy the unique challenge of guiding their constituencies into a national reflection of unity that impacts their country, transforms their nation and brings glory to God. It is the Leadership Institute's desire to increase the skills and qualities needed to give this vibrant expression of unity to the Church.



Geoff Tunnicliffe,
International Director of the
World Evangelical Alliance

Did You Know? European National Alliance Benchmarks

According to the WEA Leadership Institute Research Project of 64 WEA National Alliances:

- European National Alliances have only half the staff and volunteers as National Alliances globally. Possibly because (1) employees are expensive in Europe and (2) Global Southern NAs often serve as a platform for various para-church activities.
- CEOs from Northwestern European Protestant countries have been serving for more than 10 years, those from Eastern Europe only 2.6 years. Thus Northwestern European Protestant and Southwestern European Catholic countries have a much greater need to build up young leaders.
- Only half of the European NA leaders consider their NA to be very strategic.
- Uniting is a major training need for European NAs.

The flagship course of the Leadership Institute is a module entitled: *Evangelical Unity for Kingdom Advance*. This course is like the hub of a spoked wheel. It gives structural integrity to all other parts of the whole. No other course makes any sense in the context of our National Alliances, without a functional concept of the unity of the Church.

The module provides a theological construct of unity and how that powerfully shapes our ability to influence the world for Kingdom transformation. The nature of the Church, and its role and function in the world will be explored along with the issues that make this task challenging. Positive examples of Evangelical unity will be highlighted.

Through this course, each National Alliance leader should begin to see unity in a different light. This module is not about rallying the Church in support of the National Alliance. The course strikes at the heart of how an effective National Alliance unites the Church by casting a vision much bigger than any individual part would be capable of doing. The mission given to the Church is so vast that none can achieve it alone. The task of world evangelization is one example of how working together on meta challenges unites the Church. Working through our National Alliances we can mount significant attacks on the roots of our world-wide, the global crisis of HIV/AIDS, the heinous injustices of human

For more information and benchmarks, download the survey results at www.weali.org ([click here to read more about this research and how to download the results](#)).

WEA-Leadership Institute IMAGINE Monthly

roots of poverty worldwide, the global crisis of HIV/AIDS, the heinous injustices of human trafficking, the crimes of religious intolerance, and other mega issues.

The course first lays the foundation of the *Oneness of the Body of Christ* as the theological construct for unified action. Course participants will be expected to articulate a biblical theology of unity and to be conversant with the history of the Evangelical movement and thought in their country and region. They will also become more proficient in articulating the Evangelical distinctive.

The second part of the course, the *Struggle for Unity*, will help the participant to appreciate Evangelical diversity and work to bridge differences for the greater good. Participants will demonstrate a commitment to the local expression of the Church and will learn to navigate diverse constituencies in ways that do not offend, nor compromise each other's convictions. An essential component of this section is to develop skills and qualities that serve to maintain unity in the face of such diversity.

A final area of this course is the *Power of Unity: using our unity for Kingdom advance*. Participants will give evidence of commitment to the mission of the Church as they learn to discern between core and peripheral issues, and to identify and act on Kingdom priorities.

We are excited about the potential of this module—the first of ten that the Leadership Institute is developing. This theme is so central to the vision and mission of the World Evangelical Alliance, that this module will most likely serve as a pre-requisite to all other courses.

[Jump to top](#)

Expected Outcome of Barcelona Meetings

By Jonathan Lewis

In April, the WEA Leadership Institute will host the Regional Secretaries of the World Evangelical Alliance in Barcelona, Spain. The four-day meetings have a two-fold emphasis. The first is to conduct a validation process of the curriculum that has been developed to train National Alliance leaders. The second is to give the General Secretaries a venue to discuss issues that are of particular interest to them as a WEA leadership group.

The Leadership Institute has developed a ten course curriculum that addresses the functional leadership needs of alliances (reported in the last issue of Imagine). Although the competencies and qualities required of an alliance leader were defined in April 2008 by a broader group of WEA leaders and subject matter experts, this is the first time the General Secretaries will have a chance to examine the course outlines developed from this functional description of a National Alliance. Together, they will weigh in on their appropriateness for National Alliances in their regions. Through the validation procedure, the LI hopes to be able to proceed with the support of these key regional leaders in the development of the courses that have been defined.

[Jump to top](#)

World Evangelical Alliance Leadership Institute Survey Update

We are pleased to announce that completed questionnaires continue to be sent in. Congratulations to Belgium, on the recent completion of the *Flemish* survey. This puts the survey results at the halfway mark, 64 out of 128 members. A new analysis comparing Europe to the global results was posted on the Leadership Institute website in anticipation of the European Evangelical Alliance General Assembly in April.

For a partial presentation of results, go to www.weali.org.

WEA-LI *IMAGINE* MONTHLY is published each month by the WEA Leadership Institute of World Evangelical Alliance. Rob Brynjolfson, Editor. Material may be reprinted if credit is given. Editorial and circulation offices: World Evangelical Alliance, 13351 Commerce Parkway, Suite 1153, Richmond, British Columbia V6V 2X7, Canada. Telephone: +[1] 604-214-8620, Fax: +[1] 604-214-8621, Website: www.weali.org, Email: weali@worldevangelicals.org. Copyright © 2009, World Evangelical Alliance, www.worldevangelicals.org. For a complimentary subscription, visit www.weali.org.

For more information on WEA and WEA Leadership Institute:

Geoff Tunnicliffe, WEA International Director – geoff@worlddevangelicals.org

Jonathan P. Lewis, Ph.D., WEA-LI Director – jon@worlddevangelicals.org

Rob Brynjolfson, D.Min., WEA-LI Dean – robb@worlddevangelicals.org

WEA-LI *Imagine* Monthly

News, Resources and Best Practices for WEA National Alliance Leaders, Members and Volunteers
—From Your WEA Leadership Institute
