

**TRACER STUDY FOR THE CPU COLLEGE OF THEOLOGY**  
**GRADUATES FROM 2006 TO 2010**

A Research Report

Submitted to

The University Research Center

Central Philippine University

Iloilo City

By

GRACE C. REYES

EXCELYN C. LANDERO

REA ANGELICA F. VILLEZA

October 2016

## **CHAPTER I**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### *Background and Rationale*

This particular tracer survey was conducted in compliance with the Commission on Higher Education's requirement for Quality Assurance, Monitoring, and Evaluation of Higher Education Institutions. It is mandated to higher education institutions to design and deliver quality program of education and degrees to meet the ongoing needs of the Philippine populace and to achieve higher or quality standards comparable to universities and institutions of higher learning in other areas of the world which our country competes with in the global market. Likewise, the College of Theology being a member of the Association of Theological Schools in Southeast Asia (ATESEA) and one of the centers for the Southeast Asia Graduate School of Theology (SEAGST), aims to provide quality theological education to students in the Philippines and in Asia.

The early beginning of the College of Theology can be traced to the Bible School whose establishment was conceived together with that of the Jaro Industrial School, the precursor of Central Philippine University. The leadership of the Bible School, whose main idea was to train pastors and other Christian workers, was taken care of by the American Baptist Missionaries.

In 1923, when Jaro Industrial School became Central Philippine College, the Bible School then became an organic part of College. A program leading to the Bachelor of Theology was offered. Those who enrolled were male students trained to be pastors of the churches. In 1936, the school became the Department of Theology of Central Philippine University.

While the Bible School was established for the training of men to be pastors, the training of women to be missionaries began as early as 1904 with the establishment of the Baptist Missionary Training School (BMTS). In 1938, these two training schools for men and women were merged.

With the merging, two degree programs were offered- the Bachelor of Theology and Bachelor of Science in Religious Education, both under the Department of Theology, the latter offered only to women until SY 1956 – 1957.

On April 1, 1953 when Central Philippine University was granted government recognition as a university, the Department of Theology was turned over to the Filipinos.

The College of Theology of Central Philippine University has a unique role. It is the only school in the region which offers training in the theological education for the Christian ministry of evangelical churches, particularly those in the Convention of the Philippine Baptist Churches.

The purpose of the school is to provide quality theological education to those who have deep conviction of being called by God to serve Him in the Christian ministry through disciplined study, supervised pastoral work and community experiences.

The College of Theology offers the following academic programs: Bachelor of Theology, Bachelor of Arts Major in Religion, Master of Divinity, Master of Ministry, Master of Theology, and the most recent, Certificate in Sacred Music (College of Theology Handbook, 2003-2004).

In March 1991, the College of Theology Alumni Association produced an Alumni Directory of graduates from 1945 to 1990. Based on this Directory, there were a total of three hundred fifty (350) Theology graduates, and out of these, three graduates earned two advanced degrees respectively. The survey showed a total of one hundred seventy three (173) males and one hundred seventy seven (177) females. These graduates were found in different places of the world. Majority was in the province of Iloilo, forty-one (41) were abroad, fifty-three had no information about them, and the rest were scattered in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao (CPUCTAA Directory Manual, 1991).

Based on the present record of the CPU College of Theology, there were a total of ninety (90) CPU College of Theology graduates from year 2006 to 2010. Today, many of those who were trained in the College of Theology have become ministers, church leaders, Christian Educators and administrators in many of the local churches and related institutions of the Convention of the Philippine Baptist Churches (CPBC). The graduates of the College of Theology serve the market in the rural areas, urban and metro areas in the domestic scene and the international market, both in the United States of America and Europe. This present trace survey is significant particularly to the College of Theology in order to deepen a greater sense of accountability and stewardship, to strengthen the relationships among the Seminary, the CPBC churches and related institutions, and to locate work assignments of our graduates.

### *Objectives*

The general objective of this tracer study was to gather necessary information as to the employment of the CPU College of Theology graduates from year 2006 to 2010.

Specifically, this tracer study aimed to:

1. describe the graduates in terms of their civil status, sex, age and residence;
2. determine the educational background of the graduates in terms of educational attainment, professional skills, and reasons for taking the course or pursuing the degree;
3. evaluate the trainings or advance studies attended by the graduates after college and their reasons for pursuing such degrees;
4. identify employment status of the graduates in terms of their present occupation, job placement, job level position, financial stability and competencies;

5. analyze the graduates' reason for not staying on their job or changing their work assignment;
6. determined in which program of the College of Theology most graduates were enrolled;
7. identify the relevance of the programs offered in the College of Theology to the needs of the churches.
8. Identify the strength and weakness of the curricular offerings where students are trained in the College of Theology.

#### *Significance of the Study*

The results of this study will provide helpful information to the college of Theology, Central Philippine University, Convention of the Philippine Baptist Ministerial Association, Convention of the Philippine Baptist Churches Inc., CPU College of Theology Alumni Association, and the Theology graduates.

The College of Theology can make use of the results of the study to improve their recruitment and placement of students and graduates. Specifically, the Curriculum Committee of the College of Theology can make use of this information to study, evaluate and improve curricular offerings of the College to make them relevant to the needs of the students and the local churches.

Likewise, the Convention Baptist Ministerial Association can also make use of the results of the study to improve the continuing education program of the ministers under the Convention of the Philippine Baptist Churches. Furthermore, the CPU College of Theology, the CBMA, the CPBC, and the CPU Theology Alumni Association will be able to use the results of this study to improve their networking or partnership in the advancement of Christian mission.