

# ABBOTT NEWS BRIEFS

April 2011



## SEMINARY *SEUT Chile*

Mark spent 10 days in Chile at the beginning of April to visit the seminary's extension program called SEUT Chile. In its third year of operation, this is the first time anyone from Spain has visited the group. Mark found enthusiastic students and dedicated pastors working to provide theological formation to people who want to expand their horizons. Most are lay leaders and not ministerial candidates.



Students in a Taller Teológico (Lay Training) class.

Omar Cortés and Rev. Patricio Browne are two key leaders in the SEUT Chile program.





John Wehrly, the Minister of Religious Affairs, along with Rev. Alfredo Cooper, Anglican pastor and chaplain to the Presidential Palace.

### ***Accreditation***

An historic milestone is in the works. The Spanish government has finally made the political decision to open a way to have the university level equivalency of our degrees recognized. In September of this year a Royal Decree will be passed that does just that. Five Protestant seminaries have submitted papers to the government to have their degrees recognized. So as of January 2012 we will be able to offer a degree program that is officially recognized by the Spanish government. This is a major praise the Lord! The official name of the seminary will change to Facultad de Teología SEUT (SEUT Theology Faculty).

### ***Responsibility Changes***

The seminary is experiencing some personnel changes. The current director, Jonathan Rowe, is returning to England this summer. As a result, Mark is being given the responsibility of director; however, his title will remain the same: Dean. This is not unusual in a university structure that has deans over its various colleges.

## **FAMILY**

### ***Graduations!***

On May 22 Caroline is graduating from Suffolk University in Boston. She has double majored in entrepreneurship and management. In late August she plans to move to San Francisco. Her older brother Andy will be able to attend the graduation on our behalf.

On June 4 Chris graduates from the American School of Madrid. Mark has been invited to give the invocation and the benediction. On June 6 Chris will fly to Boston and start life on his own.



*"Abysmal Highway"*, an art piece of Chris' that was featured in the International Baccalaureate Art Exposition.

Diane and I are very proud of our two graduates and wish them the best!

### ***Summer Church Visitation***

Diane and Mark fly to the US on June 27. They will be visiting their supporting churches July through September. Ask your pastor or missions chairperson about the dates!

Thank you for your continued love, prayers and support. We can only do what we do because you do what you do!

Your Partners in the Gospel,

***Mark & Diane***

GBGM Missionary Codes:

Diane: 10070-Z Mark: 10069-Z