

UBIS Newsletter

www.urantiabookschool.org

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UBIS New 5-Year Plan

An earnest strategy for organized growth.

“Provision must be made for growth of meanings at differing ages, in successive cultures, and in the passing stages of advancing civilization.” [\(1094.4\) 100:1.2](#)

On a beautiful fall weekend in early November, the Urantia Book Internet School (UBIS) Board met at the Foundation Headquarters in Chicago for their annual meeting. Director Georges Michelson Dupont prepared an agenda designed to plan for the development of the UBIS in

the next 5 years. Building on the school’s foundation, carefully constructed under the leadership of former director, Dorothy Elder, ten members of the Board (Georges Michelson Dupont, Pam Maunakea, Polly Friedman, Olga Lopez, Ralph Zehr, Betty Zehr, Tom Brachna, Judy Coskey, Susan Flacks, and Jay Peregrine) met to begin building a framework for the next level of the school’s growth.

Georges introduced Olga Lopez, a new member of the Board, who is the director of the newly launched Spanish UBIS. Olga is highly qualified for this position. Fluent in English and Spanish, she has taken courses in the English UBIS, given a course in English, and taken the teacher training class. She will teach the first UBIS course in Spanish during the January, 2012 trimester.

Next, Georges explained the purpose of the meeting. We will envision where we want the UBIS to be in 5 years, and then will create an organization to make this vision a reality. We will focus on the English UBIS, knowing that the Spanish UBIS, and future schools developed in other languages, will mirror the organization of the English UBIS.

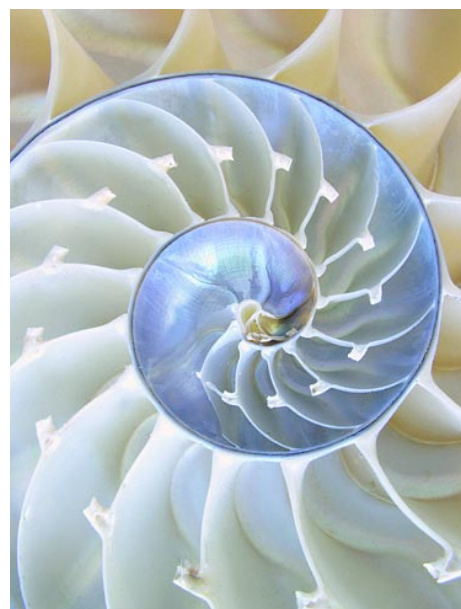


Photo courtesy of iStock.com

During the 2½ day meeting, the Board sought solutions to many challenges currently facing the UBIS. The most pressing is the need for more teachers.

(continued on page 3, see “5-Year Plan”)

We will focus on the English UBIS, knowing that the Spanish and future schools in other languages will mirror it.

In This *Issue*

1 UBIS New 5-Year Plan

An earnest strategy for organized growth.

2 Launching the Spanish UBIS

an inspiring story of courage, faith and commitment.

4 Things to Know

January trimester UBIS courses and more.

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UBIS Newsletter

Launching The Spanish UBIS

An inspiring story of courage, faith and commitment.

Fostering Thoughtful UBIS Growth in Another Language

by Olga López
Barcelona, Spain

Next January, the UBIS is going to give its first course in Spanish with the new website. Before that time, there has been a long period of training and preparation for this moment to come.



Georges and Olga at the UBIS Board Meeting at Urantia Foundation headquarters, November, 2011.



Photo courtesy of shutterstock.com

A few years ago, Georges Michelson-Dupont, now the UBIS director, suggested that I participate in the UBIS as a student, with the intention of becoming a T/F and thus developing the Spanish UBIS. I felt

“...if you are interested in joining me in this effort, your help would be really appreciated!”

this was a great educational opportunity for the Spanish speaking readership to take, so I immediately agreed.

As you may know, before becoming a Teacher/Facilitator, one needs to attend at least two courses as a student, and after that attending a Teacher Training Course (TTC). And this is what I did; I attended three courses as a student and two TTC before becoming a T/F. I also gave one course in the English UBIS, in order to get more experience for the Spanish UBIS. As you might guess, it has been something very challenging to me, because I had to give a course in another language which is not my native language, but the feedback that I received from my students and the perspective of giving courses in my mother language are worth the effort.

Urantia Book Internet School was created and exists as a means to help students from all over the world study *The Urantia Book* together free from the constraints of distance, timetables, and physical presence.

Right now there is a test course in Spanish, attended by 13 students coming from 9 different countries, with very good results in general. Website is working fine and it's almost translated into Spanish. We're having no technical problems and this course is going really well. Now I'm looking forward to launching the Spanish UBIS officially next January. For the time being, I'm the only T/F in Spanish, so if you are interested in joining me in this effort, your help would be really appreciated! Little by little, step by step, our plan is developing a core of teachers/facilitators in Spanish so more courses can be offered in this language, with the same high standards that the English UBIS has. This way we'll be able to serve the growing Spanish speaking community of readers and to fulfill our mission of training leaders and teachers for the sake of the spiritual upliftment of our planet.



Photo courtesy of nasa.gov



5-Year Plan *(continued from page 1)*

Polly Friedman has developed a teacher training program to address this issue. Another concern facing the school is the high dropout rate. The Board developed four strategies to ensure that prospective students understand what a UBIS course entails before they register.

By the end of the meeting, six committees had been formed to implement the 5-year goals:

1. The Curriculum Development Committee (CDC) in charge of course development.
2. The Students Committee (ST) in charge of all matters related to student activities.
3. The Faculty Development Committee (FDC) in charge of Teacher recruitment and activities.
4. The Course Review Committee (CRC) in charge of helping teachers to develop their courses, and reviewing all courses before they are offered.
5. The Teacher Training Program Committee (TTPC) in charge of training students to become teachers.
6. The Public Relation Committee (PRC) in charge of the reader service and the Newsletter.

“The entire organization...is enthusiastically devoted to the furtherance of the Paradise plan for progressive ascension and perfection...”

[\(867.3\) 77:9.12](#)

During the meeting the Board members experienced growing spiritual unity. Each one expressed their gratitude to be a part of the UBIS, and to support its effort to share the Fifth Epochal Revelation with the whole world. ●●●

We are not a church or an organized religion...

Urantia Book Internet School (UBIS) is part of Urantia Foundation, a non-profit, educational association. We are not a church or an organized religion, nor is that our intent.

UBIS does not express opinions or take positions on political, social or economic issues. We welcome people of all faiths, races, and nationalities seeking spiritual fellowship. We view true religion as the personal spiritual experience of each individual. This internet-based school is a group endeavor of people inspired by the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. We wish to cooperate with all religionists to pursue the spiritual, social, and moral advancement of our world.



Photo courtesy of bowmandisplays.com

While people's beliefs may differ, our faith and destiny are the same, for we are all children of God. Our quest transcends mere religious uniformity, we strive for *spiritual unity*.

Please join us!



Things to Know*

*All dates and times are subject to change.
Please check our website for the latest information.

CLICK HERE: [Registration Information](#)

Click Here

for more information about
Urantia Book Internet School.

January, 2012

2-15 January. Trimester registration.

16 January. 10-week trimester begins (continues until March 25.)

Course Title: Angels - Our Living Ladder from Chaos to Glory

Course Level: Intermediate

Papers: 26, 27:1, 27:7, 28, 38, 39, 113
Beginning with the Primary Supernaphim on Paradise, our course of study will descend the living ladder of spiritual ministers down through Havona, Orvonton, Nebadon and ending on Urantia with the Destiny Guardians who live so near and do so much for us.

T/F: Betty & Ralph Zehr

Course Title:

The Ministry of Divine Sonship to the Ascending Mortals of Time and Space

Course Level: Advanced

Papers: 20, 21, 22, 35

In this course we will learn of the magnificent careers of the Paradise Sons of God, the Trinitized Sons of God and the Local Universe Sons of God. We will see how these supernal beings lovingly serve and facilitate the inward progress of the ascending mortals of time toward our Havona destination and eventual Paradise goal.

T/F: Dennis Sword

Course Title:

The Creative Mother Spirit

Course Level: Intermediate

Papers: 34, 36, 37, 38

This course will pursue an understanding of our Local Universe Mother Spirit and her multidimensional creative and loving contributions to our evolutionary growth.

T/F: Marta Elders

Course Title:

The Wisdom of the Melchizedeks – A Study of Religious Living

Course Level:

Introductory - Intermediate

Papers: 100, 101, 102, 103, 104

The Melchizedeks, as local universe Sons of God, serve as teachers to the evolutionary planets. This course is a focus on their insights into dynamic religious living and spiritual growth.

T/F: Linda Barton

Course Title: The Son of Man: A Focus on the Human Jesus (ages 14 through 29)

Course Level: Introductory

Papers: 126, 127, 128, 129

Living on Urantia, Jesus was both human and divine, the Son of Man and Son of God. In this study we will focus on Jesus, the Son of Man, from ages 14 through 29.

T/F: Susan Flacks

Course Title: Time and Space

Course Level: Advanced

Papers: 11, 12, 118, 106, 130:7

This course explores the origin and nature of time and space, limitations of time-space creatures, transcending time and space, and how the time-space viewpoint differs from the eternity viewpoint.

T/F: Stacey Jackson

February, March, 2012

January trimester continues 10 weeks until March 25.

Teacher/Facilitator Training

Dates to be determined. If you are interested, please contact UBIS.

UBIS Needs TEACHERS!

UBIS needs experienced *readers* to serve as Teacher/Facilitators (T/Fs).

Enrich your life and the lives of fellow truth seekers worldwide by facilitating a broader and deeper understanding of the teachings of *The Urantia Book*. What you learn as a teacher will be well worth the effort. Treat yourself!

Those interested must first complete two or more courses as a student, read the entire Urantia Book, and be recommended by their T/Fs.

You can do it! For more information, please call or write: 773.525.3319
urantia@urantia.org

If you cannot teach at this time but would like to help in some other way...

UBIS needs loyal readers to serve in many other capacities. Please let us know how you might be willing to help.

What Students Write...

From Iran:

“All the subject which we covered were all amazing and fabulous and opened a new horizon to me.”

From a new reader:

“...this class filled a void in my life and made it possible for me to communicate with those who appreciate the wisdom and truth of *The Urantia Book*.”