

## EvaSUE ENVISIONS

*“to see transformed Christian students and graduates impacting the campus, the nation and the world”*

## EvaSUE EXISTS

*“to serve and equip students and graduates to become relevant to their context as they grow become disciples of Christ.”*

## WE ARE COMMITTED TO THE WORK OF :

### EVANGELISM:

*reaching campus students through gospel message.*

### MISSION:

*equipping and alerting students to the global mission work of the church.*

### DISCIPLESHIP:

*helping students to be well formed and informed with the word of God and grow into Christ likeness.*

### LEADERSHIP:

*equipping students with leadership skills and practices so that they become effective leaders in their local churches and every position they are placed to lead.*

**Editor-In-Chief :** Matewos Tirsitewold  
*mat116057@gmail.com*  
**Editorial Team:** Abenezer Gezahegen  
Getu Demesie  
Amy Vercler  
Abigeya Getachew

EvaSUE, P.O.Box 34344 Addis Ababa , Ethiopia  
Tel. Office +251-111-249226 Mob.+251-911-218058  
Fax: +251-11-249224  
E-mail: [evasue@ethionet.et](mailto:evasue@ethionet.et)  
Website: [www.evasue.org](http://www.evasue.org)

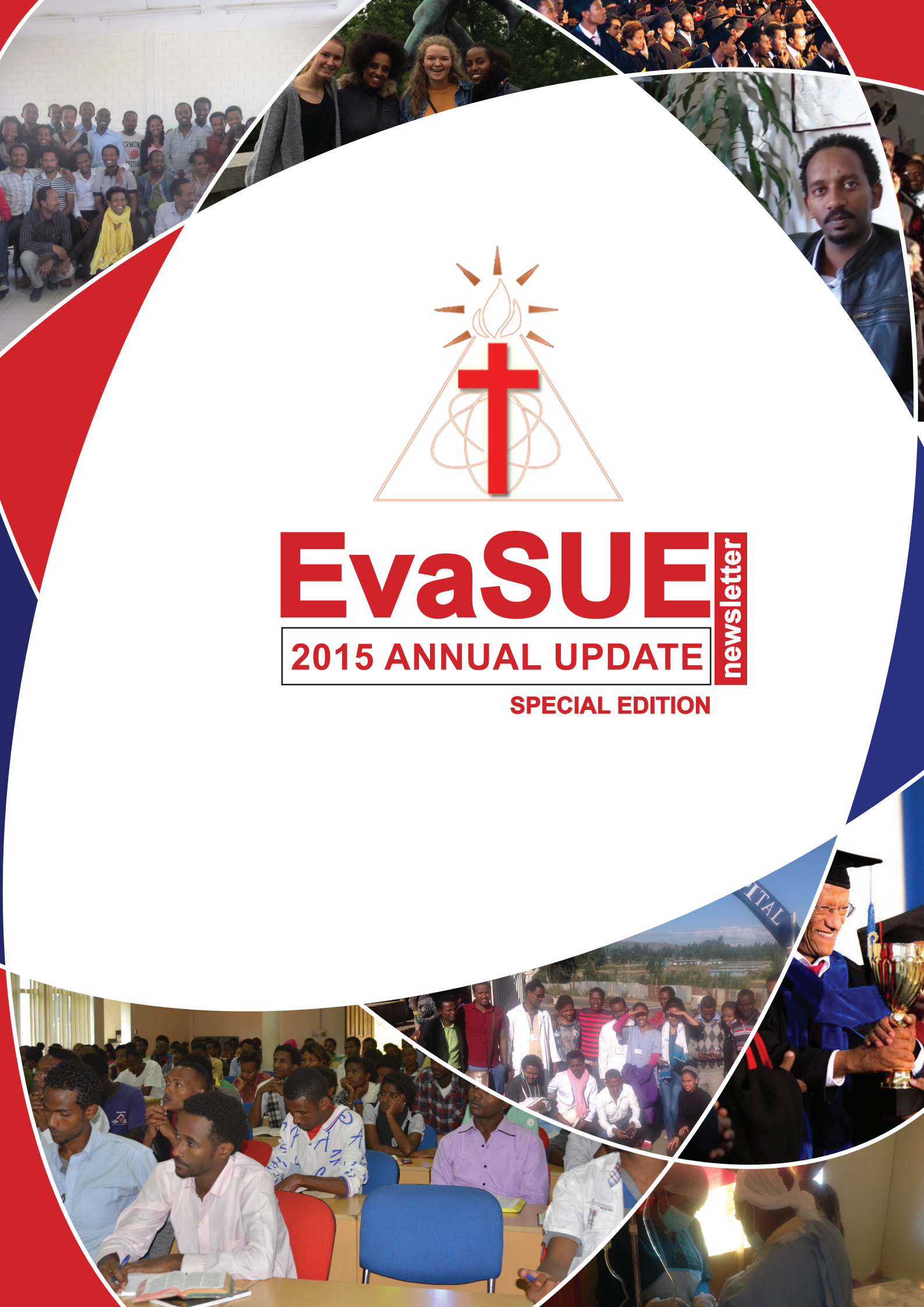


# EvaSUE

2015 ANNUAL UPDATE

SPECIAL EDITION

newsletter





## 'Supremacy of Christ!'

The Addis Ababa Regional office of EvaSUE held a teaching conference on 4th and 5th April 2015 at Beza International Church, Addis Ababa. The focus of the conference was the Book of Colossians under the theme, 'Supremacy of Christ'. The conference was aimed at equipping campus students to defend their faith by focusing on the supremacy of Christ.

On average more than 1500 students from fifteen universities and colleges attended the three sessions of the conference. In each session, Dr. Mamusha Fenta gave an exposition on who Christ is, what our salvation entails, and the standard of life expected from believers.

The first session highlighted that the basic foundation of the Christian faith is understanding the identity of Christ. According to Colossians, Jesus is the revelation of the invisible God, and He Himself is the almighty God.

The second session emphasized the fact that we were all under the dominion of darkness as enemies of God in our thoughts and morals. Dr. Mamusha put under

the microscope who we were before and what we became as a result of the deeds of Jesus and our faith in His finished work. This knowledge and

understanding is our driving force to have a life that is full of passion for the Lord.

Recalling the lessons learnt in the previous sessions, the third session focused on the kind of practical life expected of those who now claim to be allies of God. Since we have a supreme Lord and have received a priceless salvation, we

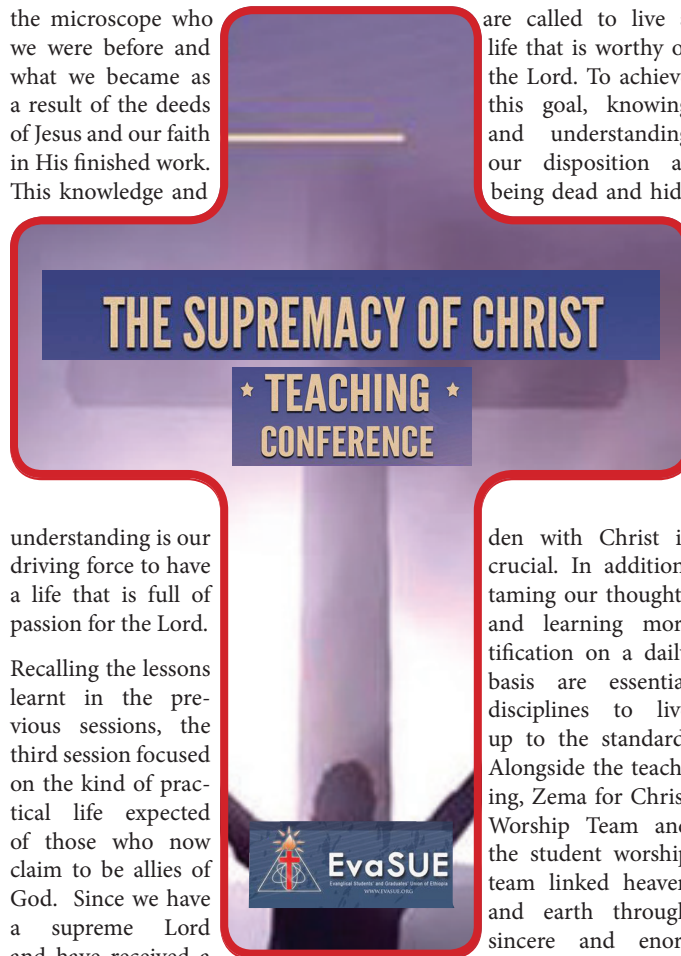
are called to live a life that is worthy of the Lord. To achieve this goal, knowing and understanding our disposition as being dead and hid-

Additionally, Mr. Negussie Bulcha, a renowned teacher and preacher in both student and church ministry, Mr. Fekede Tefera, the Board Chairman of EvaSUE, and Dr. Beta Mengestu, the leader of Beza International Church, briefly addressed and encouraged the students.

In their closing remarks, Mr. Zelalem Abebe and Mr. Yakob Mame of EvaSUE announced their plan to hold such a teaching conference annually and thanked all parties involved in organizing the event.

The expected outcome of the conference is to empower students to have a deeply rooted and profound understanding of Christ's supremacy, the priceless value of salvation, and the call to live a life worthy of God.

Though there was enormous feedback after the event, it is worth mentioning the response from one student from FB campus. She emotionally expressed her impression by saying, "I have never understood Jesus like this before."



## Leadership Transition

2015 saw big changes for EvaSUE. Brother Robel Chemed, previously Head of the Associates' Ministry Department, became EvaSUE's General Secretary, succeeding Brother Zelalem Abebe. Brother Bereket Hagos, former Coordinator of the Northern Regional Office, was then assigned to be the Head of the Associates' Ministry Department.

The transition for General Secretary was initiated upon the request of Zelalem to the board of EvaSUE, due to his interest to pursue further education. Considering the request, the board established and spearheaded a Search Committee that ended with the assignment of Robel to a four year term for General Secretary.

Zelalem joined EvaSUE as a staff worker in 1999. Before joining EvaSUE, he was a leader at Hawassa University, College of Agriculture Christian Student Fellowship. He recalls that it was the invitation of the then General Secretary Brother Asseffa Gugsu for him to be a "farmer for the Lord" and the guidance he received from the Lord that brought him to the student ministry as staff. His intention was first to serve only for a year, which later he changed because of his conviction that the one year was only a period of introduction. He stayed in the Southern Regional Office for four years and came to Addis in 2004 to join the Evangelical Theology College. In 2006, after finishing his study in Theology, he became General Secretary of EvaSUE. As General Secretary, he



served EvaSUE with commitment and passion from 2006 to the beginning of 2015. During his term of office, as a result of the synergized commitment of students, staff workers, the management team, and the board, significant achievements were made. Some of the success stories include expanding the number of regional and area offices, increasing the number of full time staff workers, increasing the number of student



fellowships, establishing EvaSUE's alumni locally and abroad, and building strong partnerships with national and international organizations. With regard to EvaSUE's mission, the contents of national and regional retreats were made to be comprehensive and extensive as a means of developing leaders. The retreats now always feature trainings that are unique to EvaSUE, such as Quiet Time, Inductive Bible Study, Intimacy with God, Sexuality and Relationship, and Team Leadership. Moreover, efforts have been made to modify previously developed Bible study materials. With the indispensable contribution of the department, mission and evangelism became a movement in the past years. The Graduation Ceremony also began in 2008 under his leadership, with the objectives of promoting excellence and performing a ceremonial transition of students from EvaSUE to the Church. Currently, Zelalem is pursuing his postgraduate studies in Christian Leadership at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and will continue serving EvaSUE in different capacities.

Zelalem's successor Robel Chemed joined EvaSUE in 2005 as part-time staff while he was a lecturer at Bahir Dar University. While Robel was in Bahir Dar, he was responsible for the student ministry in Bahir Dar and Gondar and was successful in devising a batch based system where students may get regular, progressive bible teachings as they grow in Christ from freshman to graduating class. At the end of 2012, he joined the staff team in Addis Ababa as the head of the Associates' Ministry Department. During his term of office, he worked on setting a regular quarterly meeting for graduates, linking new graduates with employers, facilitating easy resource mobilization systems, and developing policies to launch volunteer management programs. Furthermore, he was the contact person for the EvaSUE-NKSS Exchange Program. As the new General Secretary, Robel envisions EvaSUE to be a place where students might be formed to be authentic followers of Christ. He also looks forward to an institutionally strong yet agile EvaSUE that can carry on excellent ministry to the upcoming huge popula-



tion of students.

For the final transition, the management team in consultation with the board assigned Bereket Hagos to be the Head of the Associates' Ministry Department. Bereket joined EvaSUE as a staff worker in 2007, immediately following his graduation from Addis Ababa University, FBE Campus. Bereket looks forward to working towards the objectives of the Associates' Ministry, which are creating a platform for graduates to have a fellowship and facilitating ways for graduates to serve in the student ministry. To attain these objectives, he plans to build on the volunteer management pro-

gram and strengthen the existing and new professional fellowships to serve EvaSUE, the church, and the nation.

The board, the management team, and all the staff workers of EvaSUE are grateful for Zelalem Abebe's contribution in advancing EvaSUE's ministry and call upon partners to continue in supporting the new General Secretary and his team.

## EvaSUE Graduation Ceremony

The 2015 EvaSUE Graduation Ceremony was held on 5th July at Misrak Meserete Kristos Church, Addis Ababa. The purpose of this annual event is to appreciate Christian academic excellence, increase church sensitivity towards graduates, and charge graduates to serve the church and the nation. The program was attended by students representing the 2015 graduating class, invited guests, church leaders, representatives of parachurch organizations, EvaSUE staff and board members, and families of the graduates.

After the opening prayer by the former president of Evangelical Churches Fellowship of Ethiopia

(ECFE), Rev. Alemu Sheta, three graduates and renowned singer Addisu Worku led the congregation in worshipping God in song.

Mr. Fekede Tefera, EvaSUE board secretary, urged students to be ambassadors of God's kingdom in every corner of the country and encouraged graduates to rejoin their local church life to serve and share what God has taught them on their campuses.

EvaSUE General Secretary Mr. Robel Chemed emphasized that student ministry never replaces the church, and EvaSUE remains to be a bridge between church and campus students. He thanked

churches for supporting the student ministry and exhorted graduates to give much as they have been given much.

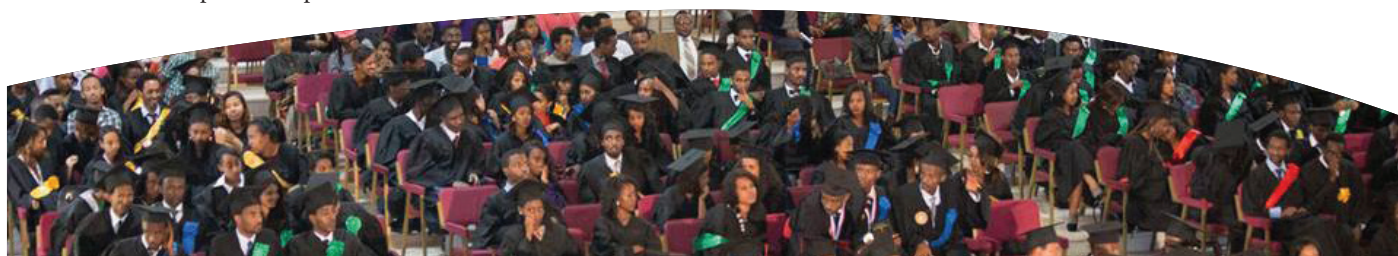
Professor Atalay Alem delivered a message based on Jeremiah 6:16 to encourage graduates to walk on the new and living path Jesus opened, not to value possessions over a Godly life, and to live a life that is worthy of God's investment in their life.

Brother Negussie Bulcha led the graduates in making an oath before God to serve their local churches and country with integrity and to have a missional mindset. Following the oath, church

leaders representing Ethiopian evangelical churches welcomed



graduates to their respective local churches.







Students who excelled in their academic performance were also recognized and awarded. Dawit Abiy from the Science Faculty at Addis Ababa University took a trophy as Graduate of the Year. Dawit not only scored a 4.0 CGPA with twenty two A+ while studying Applied Math, he was also active in the campus fellowship and involved in leadership.

Pastor Tiruwork Mesfin received EvaSUE's Special Award of the Year for her tremendous contribution to the student ministry. Pastor Tiruwork's engagement with the student ministry began when she joined Hailesilassie-I University to study Geography and continued as she joined the staff in the late 1970s and later became the leader of the staff team by then. Pastor Tiruwork used to pastor in Ethiopian Christian Fellowship Church in Los Angeles. With this, all the board the management, the staff team and all EvaSUE's family recognized her extraordinary contribution to EvaSUE through all the years of her service which continues to this day. Currently,

Pastor Tiruwork has moved to Ethiopia and living in Bahir Dar.

EvaSUE is thankful for another batch of graduates. As always, we encourage our graduates to stay in touch with EvaSUE and continue to support student ministry.



## CAMPUS MISSION MOBILIZATION PROJECT

The relationship between Horn of Africa Evangelical Mission Engagers (HOAEME) and Evangelical Students' and Graduates' Union of Ethiopia (EvaSUE) went closer since mid-2013 related to work together in the area of mobilizing Campus students for God's global purpose among the least reached within and outside the campuses in Ethiopia and beyond. Since then, several one on one and group discussions birthed out the idea of Campus Mission Mobilization (CMM) project which aims at investing and working on training campus' recent graduates every year and deploying some of them as full time mission mobilizers in some of the strategic colleges and universities. The project was started in 2014/15 by recruiting

twenty eight selected graduates (it included seven EvaSUE staffs) trained for campus mission mobilization for four weeks. Two full time mobilisers were deployed in Hawasa and Harer, where the representatives of the two ministries coached and mentored these staffs. At the end the project was evaluated by both parties and found to be useful; however there were challenges faced during implementation.

For the FY 2015/16 both agreed to continue in partnership. Consequently For this fiscal year, 48 participants have been trained out of which 8 of them have been recruited and employed as full time campus staff with the emphasis of campus mission mobilization in

7 strategic locations. This MOU outlines the duties and responsibility of both bodies as they work out to fulfill the purpose they both share, namely multiplying campus mission Mobilizers towards saving the unsaved and reaching the unreached within and outside of campuses with successive set goals of the CMM project.

According to the partnership agreement, while the mobilizers' salary is equally sharable by both organizations, EvaSUE takes the responsibility of supervision and administrative role over the mobilizers; while HOAEME took the responsibility of coaching and mentoring.

The partnership between EvaSUE and HOAEME is renewable in an

nual basis. EvaSUE is so grateful to HOAEME for the wonderful partnership.



## *EvaSUE Conducts Mission Impact Assessment Research*

The EvaSUE Evangelism and Mission Department focuses on two areas: campus evangelism, mission outreach. As part of the mission outreach projects, thousands of Christian students have participated in short-term missions in various rural and semi-urban areas, reaching 372, 670 with the Gospel and seeing 28,497 of those accept Jesus Christ as their personal Savior since 2005.

these missions is three-fold: to reach the unreached with the Gospel of Christ, to encourage local church youth and initiate local mission groups for sustainable mission mobilization, and to create opportunities for students to experience God's mission in their lives.

In light of these goals, EvaSUE conducted research to assess the impact of its ministry in relation



The short-term missions conducted by EvaSUE have a holistic approach, integrating the Gospel with initiatives such as youth reproductive health, anti-abortion campaigns, academic support, and other social services to the community at large. The goal of

to campus evangelism and mission outreach endeavors through the last decade. The research was conducted in ten sample sites where short-term missions have been conducted more than four times. Selected sample mission sites were Halaba, Jinka, Dodola,

Asebeteferi, Mojo, Minjar-Arerti, Wolo-Hayk, Fich, Bedele, and Ejere. In-depth interviews and focus group discussions were supplemented by an online survey of former short-term mission participants. The findings were quite positive, indicating that short-term missions had a long-term effect both on the areas (churches and individuals) that the short-term missionaries went to and on the missionaries themselves. Unity and networking were promoted among the existing local churches through collaborating on short-term programs, and new churches were begun as a result of the collaborative evangelistic efforts of the churches and the students.

One example is a tribal leader in South Omo (an area where most people follow traditional animistic religion) who accepted Christ along with his family. Twenty students had come to his region for a short-term mission in June 2012, and they visited his home. After his conversion, he started to witness about Jesus to his people, and a new church is now planted in that area.

Encouraged by the progress of the short-term missions program, EvaSUE would like to see similar results with our on-campus evangelism. Currently, the program uses various methods such as friendship evangelism, literature and film evangelism, and internet evangelism. These efforts have brought a moderate impact on Ethiopia's universities and colleges: every year, over 1,100 campus students come to Christ. However, much work is needed

to mobilize all the Christian students, using revised strategies for even better results. Specific recommendations include the following:

- Create a strong discipleship system and provide church youth with basic Christianity teachings in order to be exemplary witnesses for Christ.
- Uniformly restructure all campus fellowships to be suitable for evangelism.
- Expand the scope and scale of ongoing mission mobilization across the country.
- Initiate new strategies and trainings to enhance the ongoing mission and evangelism programs in collaboration with local churches and parachurch organizations.
- Strengthen the existing programs and strategies used by EvaSUE and initiate a national prayer program.





## Medical Mission outreach

EvaSUE encourages Christian professional groups to immerse themselves into works that interpret the love of Jesus through their profession. Therefore, we were pleased to provide financial and technical support for a medical mission organized by Jimma University Evangelical Graduates and Post-Graduate Students Fellowship to three health facilities in two Weredas of Northern Gonder (Debark and Dabat) during the period of November 20-22, 2015.

After securing the proper permission from the Regional Health

Bureau, the team of twenty nine health care professionals and eleven supporters delivered health care services to 1986 adults and 220 children in internal medicine, ophthalmology, major and minor surgery, laboratory-based diagnoses, and distribution of medications. The health care professionals included a surgeon, ophthalmologist, nurses, general physicians, medical intern, pharmacist, health officer, laboratory technicians, and a midwife. Non-health professionals and volunteer ministers from the Gonder area also participated.



After the completion of the mission work, drugs and medical supplies were donated to health care facilities in the community. The mission team was also able to identify major health problems needing special attention in the area and recommend the respective governmental bodies to utilize health extension workers at the Kebele level to promote household hygiene for primary prevention of these problems.

We at EvaSUE thank God for the commitment of this group using their professions to share the love of God, and we urge others to do the same. This medical mission is with the financial and technical support of partners who have been yoked with EvaSUE's ministry and is grateful to all partners for their valuable contribution.

*May all the glory be to God!*

## National Leadership Summit

EvaSUE's annual National Leadership Summit was held from 8th – 11th of July 2015 at Gudina Tumsa Foundation, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The National Leadership Summit is part of EvaSUE's leadership development in which campus Christian fellowship leaders learn Biblical teaching and leadership skills. The Summit is also an important forum to bring fellowship leaders from all over the country to share their experiences and to strengthen spiritual unity.

The 2015 Summit, which was attended by 148 student leaders from sixty private and government colleges and universities, had the theme of "Leading by Defending and Conforming to the Gospel." It was organized in morning, afternoon, and evening sessions. The morning sessions saw an exposition of 2nd Timothy and a teaching on discipleship, while the afternoon sessions featured parallel



seminars on missional leadership, mentorship, sexuality, evangelism and mission, and current issues in Christian teachings. The evening sessions were mainly dominated by a business meeting on emerging challenges of students, prayer, and a campfire night.

The exposition of 2nd Timothy focused on living for and defending the true Gospel, while the teaching on discipleship was about the characteristics of a true disciple. In contrast, the parallel seminars

provided detailed insights on specific topics. The seminar on mentorship highlighted the essence and importance of a mentor and resulted in an action call for the student leaders to look for a Godly mentor who can be a role model in their life endeavors. Focusing on the life of John the Baptist, the seminar on missional leadership expounded on being a servant leader. The seminar on sexuality addressed how to safeguard physical and emotional purity as well

as how to counsel other students on the issue. Building on past achievements, the evangelism and mission seminar became a platform for setting a strategy for future engagements. In the seminar on current issues in Christian teachings, heresies that are widely circulated were identified and an apologetic discussion was made with the goal of equipping students with the knowledge of the true Gospel.

Overall, the Summit was an occasion to reflect on achievements and challenges particular to each campus and to have fellowship among student leaders and between student leaders and EvaSUE staff. EvaSUE organized the Summit with the financial and technical support of partners who have been yoked with EvaSUE's ministry and is grateful to all partners for their valuable contribution to its mission.



## STAFF CONSULTATION MEETING

The EvaSUE Staff Consultation was held from Nov.2-7, 2015, in the CDTRC-Sandaffa compound. The meeting had a triple target of giving direction to staff roles, equipping them with EvaSUE's basic training topics, and building strong fellowship. The thirty nine attendees included almost all regional coordinators and campus staff from government and private universities and colleges and also incorporated eleven new staff members.

In the first session, EvaSUE General Secretary Robel Chemedo presented the roles of staff and regional coordinators. After giving a refreshing discussion on

the vision, mission, and values of EvaSUE, he expounded on teaching, guiding, and modeling as the three pillars of all staff roles, based on 1Timothy 4:11-13.

The training topics were chosen to be highly relevant for campus student ministry. Trainers with in-depth experience and knowledge of each area presented on Small Group Ministry, Friendship Evangelism, Intimacy with God, Inductive Bible Study, Worldview, and Sexuality and Relationships. Their delivery was semi-participatory, and participants were able to reflect at the end of each presentation. Since staff workers are expected to give these trainings to



their respective campus student fellowships, the office also provided them with a hard copy of all the training materials to take with them.

In addition to the formal sessions, the staff had an opportunity to enjoy mutual fellowship, share their ministerial experiences and burdens, and spend time over the six days deepening their relationships with one another.

EvaSUE would like to thank all those who helped this program financially or were involved with the training. Attendees shared that they benefited greatly from the training, sharing of experiences, and the testimonies from others during informal times, and they felt it was an overall boost to their ministries. We hope to be able to put more effort and resources into equipping and empowering our staff in the future.



## EvaSUE – NKSS Exchange program

Evangelical Students and Graduates Union of Ethiopia (EvaSUE) in collaboration with Norwegian students' movement (NKSS) organizes an exchange program which is started since 2014. The partnership involves the two Christian student movement organizations who are affiliated to the International Fellowship of Evangelical Students (IFES). The exchange program is funded by FK Norway, while Hald International Center being the hosting school for the program.

The exchange program seeks to build and enhance capacity within the partnered movements for the transformation of the society through the student movement. Participant students in the exchange program get the oppor-



tunity to interact cross culturally with other society group, students and students' movement. The program meant to open wide doors

for students to engage with people who have different worldviews. This in return creates huge opportunity to experience working collaboratively and with mutually agreement despite diverse cultural and other differences. The program, in general, facilitates knowledge and experience sharing among participant students and sending student movements.

Based on this, in October, 2015 EvaSUE has received two Norwegian students namely Aslaug Marie and Katrine Brakuatne. They are involving in EvaSUE ministry as volunteer staffs; they are engaged both in student ministry and social work activities in their six month stay in Ethiopia.

Similarly, students from Ethiopia, namely Rediet Taddese and Lidya

Berhanu had gone to Norway in August 2015 and stayed for six weeks. In Norway, they participated and interacted in social activities and trainings. After they finished their training period in Norway, they flew to Kenya and they are now working in FOCUS Kenya, a student ministry organization, as volunteer staffs. It is the expectation of EvaSUE that participants would gain valuable ministerial and cross-cultural experiences. At the end of the program, they will be given opportunity to work in EvaSUE; and they will be expected to share and use their experience for enhancing the ministry of the organization.



## *EvaSUE Alumni North America and Europe*

EvaSUE Alumni in North America have been supporting EvaSUE efforts since the 90's. It became an organization and was formally launched in July 2007 by former ministers and volunteers of EvaSUE. Its sole purpose is to strengthen EvaSUE's ministry in Ethiopia and the Diaspora. EvaSUE Alumni is a member of the Ethiopian Evangelical Churches Fellowship (EECF) in North America.

In order to support the work of EvaSUE, North American EvaSUE Alumni prepares different fundraising programs in different states. The programs include dinner and conferences in collaboration with churches and ministers both in America and Ethiopia. During the year 2015, Virginia, Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Denver and Dallas areas were some of the States that the alumni did the Amumni events.

In July 2014 the official launch of EvaSUE Europe Alumni has taken place. It is great news for EvaSUE and those who have been thirsting to engage in student ministry even though they live abroad. Yewengel Berhan Church in Oslo was the one who had been chosen to host the first fundraising event from July 9 -12, 2015. We are so grateful to the churches and to the board of these alumni who labored for this to come in to reality.

It is our prayer and belief that the already established EvaSUE-Alumni's will continue becoming a great help to the ministry of EvaSUE. Moreover, their meaningful contribution to the EvaSUE's ministry will continue stirring many hearts to engage in student ministry and work with EvaSUE.

# Prayer

**JOIN US IN PRAYER**

EvaSUE is grateful for the many accomplishments of 2015 fiscal year. We want you all to lift up the name of God with us in praise for the following successes:

### *Give thanks to God for:*

We have got twelve short term campus staffs (eight of them in our CMM project with our partnership work with Horn of Africa Evangelical Mission Engagers (HOAEME) and the rest with our Short Term Staffing endeavor.)

Major EvaSUE events accomplished with great success. Those events include National Students' Leadership Summit, Graduation Ceremony, Regional Conferences, Regional Leadership Summits, and Staff Consultation Meeting.

Our partners and alumni groups supported the students' ministry

consistently with high commitments.

### *Prayer request:*

We extend our prayer request for our partners and EvaSUE families in the following areas:

1. For God to increase number of staff workers as the harvest in student ministry is much.
2. For God to give us clear direction as we are working on refocusing of our ministerial activities.
3. For God to open doors so that we get ample financial and material resources to the ministry.
4. Pray for our staffs and admin workers so that our ministry may honor God and benefit students.

## *We are saddened*



In this year, EvaSUE mourned over the passing away of our elder brother Solomon Lulu who was one of the founder and key min-

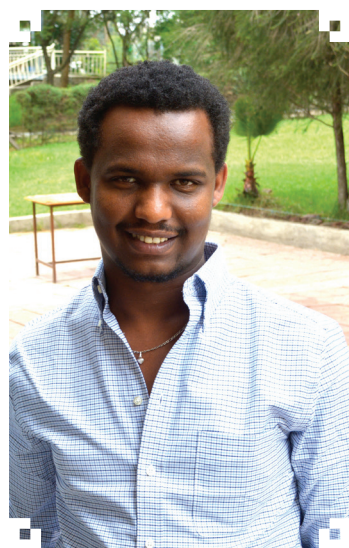
ister in student ministry. Brother Solomon played an instrumental role during its establishment including drafting the former con-

stitution of the former Christian Graduates' Fellowship (CGF) and EvaSUE. Since then he served the students' ministry at different levels of responsibilities. Gash Solomon was the first EvaSUE's award prize receiver that is given in recognition of valuable contribution to student ministry.

Besides to Gash Solomon Lulu, we suffered the tragic death of our brother Bereket Bekelcha, who was a young, dedicated EvaSUE staff worker. He was serving as a regional contact person in the EvaSUE-Western Region. During his four ministry years, we have witnessed his being gifted to serving students with no reservation.

May our deep condolence reach families and friends who suffered the death of Brother Solomon Lulu and Bereket Bekelcha. It is our prayer for God's comforting hands to heal broken hearts.

As Eva SUE, even though we are saddened by their death, we cel-



ebate legacies they left to us in their life journey. We praise God for their accomplishments and great contributions to the student ministry in particular.