Dear brothers and sisters in Christ our Lord,

It is a great privilege and honour for me to write to you on behalf of the new Board of WEST, which is the product of the Gospel Partnership between WEST and SaRang Community Church, Seoul, Korea. As some of you may know, there is a profound spiritual and historical connection between Wales and Korea, as the first martyred evangelical missionary in Korea was a Welshman named Robert Jermain Thomas. It is this spiritual heritage which brought us together from different corners of the world and we believe that God has called us to work together for the advancement of His Kingdom globally.

Most importantly, our primary objective is in increasing academic excellence in equipping men and women for Christian leadership worldwide. However, this will not be pursued in isolation from consciously promoting a loving and caring community in the context of a cynical world which is becoming increasingly individualistic. This partnership seeks to restore the community spirit which is rapidly declining in churches today. Through this partnership we wish to build an international community of Christians from around the world by promoting cultural diversity. Furthermore, we believe that WEST is strategically located to function as the centre for world mission as we seek to reach out to the rest of the UK, Europe and other parts of the world.

The new Board of WEST comprises people who are dedicated to making this vision a reality through prayer, commitment, support and the expertise which they so richly bring for the development of WEST. Please allow me to introduce them to you:

1. **Rev. Graham John**  
   Pastor of Ebenezer Baptist Church, Swansea  
   Former Secretary of the Associating Evangelical Churches of Wales

2. **Mr. Chul Ki Ju**  
   Former South Korean Ambassador to France  
   Vice President and Secretary General of Global Compact Korea Network

3. **Mr. Hee Kwon Kang**  
   Senior Vice President of Samsung Electronics  
   Board of Trustees of Sungkyunkwan University Foundation

4. **Rev. Myung Ho Kim**  
   CEO of Disciple Making Ministries International  
   President of Christianity Today Korea

5. **Mrs. Sung Joo Kim**  
   Chairperson of MCM and Sungjoo Group International  
   Board member, World Vision

6. **Rev. Sam Ko**  
   Director of Global Ministries, SaRang Community Church  
   Board member, Korea-China Cultural Foundation

7. **Mr. John Staton**
8. **Dr. John Temple**  
   Former Chief Executive of Plessey Corporation  
   Author of three books, including *Family Money Matters*  

9. **Mr. Wyn Thomas**  
   Pro Vice-Chancellor of Bangor University  
   Elder and Church Secretary of Ebenezer Evangelical Church, Bangor  

10. **Rev. David Seung Kwan Yoo**  
    Mission Pastor of SaRang Community Church  
    Member of Strategic Working Group of Lausanne Movement  

The success of the partnership and indeed the future of WEST, however, ultimately depend on each one of you as lecturers, students and other members of staff – which is why I would like to encourage all of you to have a sense of ownership of this Gospel Partnership upon which the newly constituted WEST has been established.  

Let us look forward to the great works of our Lord and this new chapter of an exciting future which has dawned upon us.  

Yours very truly,  

Rev. Sam Ko  
Chairman of the Board  
Wales Evangelical School of Theology