

The Al Mowafaqa Ecumenical Institute of Theology trains Christians to become community leaders to serve the Churches in Morocco. A majority of the students originally come from Sub-Saharan Africa. This university-level education is grounded in the Moroccan context, and actively promotes cultural and religious dialogue.

This educational program is unique in the world, as it combines being ecumenical, open to the Muslim world and facilitating encounters between Europe, Africa and the Arab world. Education through dialogue of cultures and faiths equips our students to serve as agents for peace and respect among peoples in our global context.

### Two Degree Programs

- After 4 years of study, Protestant students will earn an undergraduate degree in theology from the Protestant School of Theology of the University of Strasbourg, Catholic students will earn an undergraduate degree in theology from the Catholic University of Paris. These academic degrees qualify students to pursue further graduate work in theology.
- **The Al Mowafaqa Certificate of Intercultural and Interfaith Dialogue**, this unique, intensive course of study will allow candidates from outside Morocco to pursue a specialized study program over five months immersed in the Moroccan context, experiencing the realities of contextual theology and interfaith dialogue. Students will study the Arabic language, Islam, North African history, and important regional figures in the history of interfaith relations and dialogue. This specialty degree is accredited by the Catholic University of Paris.

### Composition of Student Body

The student body will be composed, first of all, by students who have completed at least two years of university education and who have agreed to serve in ministry capacities within their local churches. Chosen by their national church authorities, these young leaders will, starting in July, 2013, receive a scholarship to the institute and a living stipend as they alternately study and work in local churches around the country

The Al Mowafaqa Institute, the only academic program of Christian theological education in the Maghreb, is open to any member of the churches in Morocco seeking a quality theological education - priests, pastors, members of religious orders, expatriates, and church members married to Moroccan nationals. The number of students in any given semester is therefore liable to vary, but thirty-five students already attended the first session.

### Scholarship Students

Thirteen students have been chosen as scholarship recipients for 2013- 2015 - eight Protestants and five Catholics serving as pastoral interns or parish assistants. They dedicate half (or 2/3) of their time to studies, and the rest to church work.

For the **Eglise Evangélique au Maroc (Protestant Church in Morocco)**, the scholarship students are: Miora Andriatsimalia from Madagascar in Agadir; Juraue Bayonne from Congo-Brazzaville, in Oujda; Camille Kalonji from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in Rabat and Kenitra; Jean-Marie Kasongo from the DRC in Tangier; Maximillien Luzeka of the DRC in Meknes; Bleu Yannick Mexon from Ivory Coast in Marrakech; Nicolas Nyembele from the DRC in Casablanca; and Jacob Tolno from Guinea-Conakry, in Mohammedia and with CEI (Rabat/Casa).

For the Catholic Church, scholarship students are serving in Beni-Mellal, Settat, Safi, Fez and Casablanca.