ITA HISTORICAL TIMELINE

1969-1986 - Townsend Institute trained Wycliffe workers in communications and good government relations - **Claude Bowen, John Kyle, David Cummings, Cameron Townsend, Bernie May and other field experienced Wycliffe members**

1984 - **BELFAST**. **David Cummings** invited by **George Miley** of OM to present Townsend Institute type training (leadership and communication) when the two ships, Logos and Doulos came together.

1994 - **DE BRON, NETHERLANDS. David Cummings asked to speak on the subject of leadership at the OM international conference, which resulted in the Townsend Institute being offered to OM.**

1995 - **ZAVENTEM, BELGIUM. David Cummings with Don and Helen Johnson and Ken Davis**, led a one-week course in May of this year with 24 OM people including **Joop Strietman** and **Edward David**. **We count this as the first "LMC."**

1997 - **ATLANTA**. Another OM course led by **David Cummings** but with one week of trainer training before the course.

1998 - **ATLANTA**. Repeat of the 1997 course.

1999 - OM course repeated, named **CONFIDENT COMMUNICATORS.**

1999 - **MINNEAPOLIS. Joop Strietman, Peter Nicoll and Marc Kretzschmar** took two weeks of trainer training under **Londa Amundson** of Tentmakers Youth Ministry.

2000 - **SOUTH AFRICA**. Course held in South Africa and India and renamed **LEADERSHIP MATTERS COURSE**. **David Cummings, Joop Strietman, Peter Nicoll and Marc Kretzschmar** agreed that the **INTERNATIONAL TRAINING ALLIANCE** should be formed.

2001 - **CEBU, PHILIPPINES**. First LMC conducted in conjunction with the Doulos. **Londa Amundson** attended her first course and helped in training of trainers.

2002 - First time three LMC courses conducted in one year: Holland, Turkey & Hong Kong

- **MINNEAPOLIS. Julie Wells** took trainer training with **Londa Amundson**.

- **HORSLEY GREEN, UK. David Cummings, Peter Nicoll, Joop Strietman and Marc Kretzschmar** met in an English Pub and made a significant commitment to work together for at least three years to give the training a strong foundation. For them it was like a fleece which God has honoured in ways they could not have imagined at that time.

2003 - LMC courses conducted in Guatemala and Chad, sowing the vision for future courses in Spanish and French languages.

2003 - In November people from different missions working with the International Training Alliance met in the UK for discussion and prayer. A clear vision for the future emerged based on the experience gained since 1995.

2004 - By the end of 2004, 16 LMC courses had trained over 500 Christian workers.

2005 - **April, Canary Islands, Spain.** The first LMC without David Cummings, **Joop Strietman** as the lead trainer. Attending this course were **Jeff and Susana Turnbough, Robert Bryan** and **Dennis Teague** (FWBIM). Not only would **Free Will Baptists** become founding members of ITA later this year, the Turnboughs would spearhead ITA's project of **LMC into Spanish** and Robert Bryan and Dennis Teague ITA's project of **LMC into French**.

*** 15 October, ATLANTA. The INTERNATIONAL TRAINING ALLIANCE**

was officially born with the inaugural meeting of the ITA Council. The Council (Chairman David Cummings) comprised of 12 people, 7 representing partner organisations and 5 senior trainers, forming the Management Team (Executive Director, Joop Strietman).

Claude Bowen, the 86-year-old veteran trainer and one of the architects of the Townsend Institute attended this Atlanta meeting. As he saw the potential of this training going to the ends of the earth, his response was: *"My heart is singing. I know that this training is in good hands, and this is just the beginning of a new day.*"

- **MELBOURNE**. **Martin Boutross**, Director of Caleb Ministries Australia, carried out extensive development of the trainer notes.

2006 - This vision was developed further in Brisbane where the Council met at the conclusion of the first Australian LMC. By the end of 2006, the total number of LMC courses had risen to 26.

2007 - Two-week curriculum meeting in Atlanta. In attendance were David Cummings, John and Laura King, Marc and Penny Kretzschmar, Julie Wells, Rachel Johnson, and Jeff and Susana Turnbough.

- May, at the Turkey LMC ITA reached **1,000 leaders trained!**

2008 - **Rachel Johnson** joined the management team to oversee the development of trainers and provide staffing for courses. She was trained by Julie Wells, who dedicated a whole year in which the two ladies attended multiple LMCs together.

2010 - **BANGKOK**. **David Cummings** retired as Chairman and **Roger Lang** was elected to the role for a 4-year term.

- **Rachel Johnson and Marc Kretzschmar** indicated they would stand down from their respective roles at the beginning of 2012. For the next two years, they carried out extensive rewriting and upgrading of the trainer notes, which is a lasting and much valued legacy to ITA.

- **Joop Strietman** was appointed CEO to serve a 4-year term.

- The Council appointed **Joop Strietman, Roger Lang and Rex Booth** as a sub-Committee to bring recommendations regarding a new governance structure for ITA.

- The Council subsequently accepted the subcommittee's recommendations and established a new governance structure.

2012 - 1 January **Edward David** was appointed as Director of Operations for a 4-year term, taking over the work previously handled by **Marc Kretzschmar**.

- **CAMEROON**. The first LMC in the **French language** was conducted 12-24 February with 27 participants under the able leadership of **Robert Bryan and Pete Kluck**.

2013 - **WILLINGEN, GERMANY**. Council met March 6-7 and agreed to support the CEO as he prepared PRD's to help part-time staff be successful in their roles. **John King** (Follow On), **Don Orr** (website), **Paul Koker** (logistics) and **Johan Veenstra** (staffing).

2013 - **MANILA**. In May, during the 66th LMC course the **2000th participant was welcomed.**

2013 - **CHENGDU, CHINA**. First ever LMC was held in mainland China.

2014 - Early in the year **Joop** makes it clear to the Council Chairman that he intended to stand down when his current term, which was to expire at the end of 2015.

- CEO Search Committee formed in June: **Roger Lang, Dennis Jackson, Arie Verduijn**

2015 - **WILLINGEN**. Council met in April and appointed **Dr Jeff Turnbough** as the new CEO, effective 5 January 2016, for a 2-year term in an agreement between **FWBIM** and **ITA**, **Roger** agreed to continue as Chairman for an additional 2-year term until April 2017. At Jeff Turnbough's request, the Council agreed to incorporate ITA in the USA and in Australia.

- **Londa Amundson** made herself available for the role of Trainer Developer, a position that had been vacant since Rachel Johnson stepped down. She and **Edward David** agreed to share this responsibility 50/50, forming part of the new ITA Executive Team.

- ***Johan Veenstra*** *(staffing) and* ***Don Orr*** *(LMC website) stepped down from their responsibilities.* ***Edward David*** *took over staffing and* ***Jeff Turnbough*** *took over the website.*

- In **August 2015**, for the first time in its history, the **International Training Alliance** became legally incorporated as a non-profit (501c3) in the **USA**. **Jeff Turnbough** carried this process forward with the help of a Christian attorney in **Nashville, TN USA, Robert Pautienus of Fidelis Law**. This had important legal and fiscal implications for the Alliance.

- A **new ITA constitution and by-laws** were created by the attorney and adopted by the ITA Council.

- **5 November 2015 Jeff Turnbough** became the CEO of ITA, two months earlier than anticipated.

- Jeff launched a Crowd Rise Appreciation **Fundraising Campaign** for LMC alumni to show appreciation: the campaign generated $5,000 USD.

- November, **Jeff Turnbough** set up a new ITA website: www.wetrainleaders.org, new social media pages https://www.facebook.com/InternationalTrainingAlliance/ and https://www.facebook.com/groups/leadershipmatterscourse/ and https://twitter.com/lmcbyita

- ITA won platinum status with **GuideStar**, an independent entity that grades legal non-profit organisations.

- **Google** recognised ITA as a legitimate non-profit recipient, awarding it FREE G Suite for Non-profits, YouTube Non-profits, Google One Today, and Google Earth Outreach.

2016 - **January, Jeff Turnbough recommended, and the ITA Council appointed Crispus Christian of CMA India,** asITA Director of Operations, replacing **Edward David. Edward David** agreed to work with Crispus, attending two LMCs together, Cambodia and Germany.

- **February**, recommended by **Dennis Jackson** of Global Partners, **Jake Lapp** of the **Wesleyan Church USA** agreed to serve voluntarily as the accountant (CPA) for the ITA. The first time that ITA had its own accountant.

- **LIMA, PERU**. The very first LMC in Spanish language was held **May 8-20** with 22 participants under the leadership of **Jeff & Susana Turnbough and Murray Derksen.**

- July, **Jeff and Susana Turnbough, Edward David** and **Londa Amundson** met in Minneapolis to do **a complete LMC curriculum update,** both trainer notes and participant manual. This update was more cosmetic than content.

- August, **Edward David** announced that he would step down from his position in ITA to return full time to the OM ships ministry.

- October, **Edward** attended his last Executive meeting, returning to a full-time role with OM Ships.

- October the very first LMC-style training in the **Khmer language**, in CAMBODIA, led by **David Manfred** and **Sophan Sok**.

- At its November SKYPE meeting the Council elected **Peter Nicoll** as the next Chair to replace **Roger Lang**, effective from the March 2017 Council meeting in Indiana, USA.

2017 - In February a group of eight leaders met in **El Salvador** to form and train a Spanish-speaking trainer team, as well as to begin the formation of a **Hispanic ITA**, under the leadership of **Jeff Turnbough and Murray Derksen**. Members of the new Hispanic ITA committee were **Alejandro Sicilia** (Wesleyan Mexico), **Paul Durand** (Alliance Peru), **Lazaro Riesgo** (FWBIM Cuba), **Lynn Rees** (World Horizons), and **Lety Cruz** (OM Mexico).

In March **John King**, LMC Follow-On Coordinator, passed away at the age of 68. His responsibilities passed over to **Jeff Turnbough**.

In June **Rodney Yerby, a FWB businessman from the USA,** replied to Jeff's call for help and became ITA's first Data Manager, receiving, organizing and maintaining data from our trainer events.

In November **David Cummings** and **Jeff Turnbough** visited leaders at Wycliffe USA, Pioneers, YWAM and Cru in the Orlando, Florida, USA area. As a result of these visits, **Pioneer** leaders sent two leaders to the LMC held in the USA (Florida) that month.

Wycliffe USA sponsored its first LMC in the Orlando, Florida, USA area. **Pete Kluck** and **Deb Borland** of Wycliffe did the logistical work to make this course possible.

2018 - In January, **Jeff Turnbough** completed the creation of **smart phone Apps** to replace the LMC prompter cards, called "**LMC Reminders**," both for Android and iOS formats, and made these available for free of charge to all LMC alumni around the world.

The ITA Council voted unanimously to welcome **Wycliffe USA** and **Christian and Missionary Alliance Australia** as full partners in the International Training Alliance, boosting the number of full partners to nine, twelve including affiliated partners. **Deb Borland** would serve as the representative from Wycliffe USA and **Ken Graham** the representative from CMA Australia.

Jeff Turnbough did a complete overhaul of the **ITA website**, giving it a new look.

In March, former ITA CEO **Joop Strietman** completed a 49-page report on the impact of the LMC in leaders' lives and ministries over the past 20 years. It included more than 30 testimonies, history, financial information, challenges, and dreams for the future.

In April, **Jeff Turnbough** and **David Cummings** accepted an invitation from **Ted Esler**, President of the US **Missio Nexus,** to attend a special Peer2Peer meeting for mission CEOs. God opened a door for them to introduce ITA and LMC to the broader North American mission community.

In May, at the petition of **Jeff Turnbough** (CEO) and **Peter Nicoll** (Chair of the ITA Council), **David Cummings** wrote a history of LMC and ITA, consulting with the main people in LMC and ITA's history.

In August, we welcomed **the 3000th LMC participant** in the Spanish course in El Salvador!

In October 25 lead and senior trainers convened in Bangkok, Thailand to reflect on the past and to dream about the future, called the **Bangkok Summit**. Leaders introduced a new course, the ITA Trainer Launch, and discussed the role of coaching.

In November, we **celebrated the 100th LMC**, this course held in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

2019 - In January, CEO **Jeff Turnbough** and ITA Council Chair **Peter Nicoll** met to form proposals for structural changes in ITA, creating a new governing board.

In March, the **ITA Council** convened in Keswick, England to carefully consider, modify and adopt the new ITA Structure. At this meeting two new organisations joined the alliance: **Wise Choices for Life** and **World Outreach International**, bringing the number of alliance full partner members from eleven to thirteen.

On 6 May 2019, in a virtual meeting the ITA Council official approved the changes and elected a **new governing board**: **Rex Booth** (Caleb New Zealand), **Deb Borland** (Wycliffe USA), **Roger Lang** (CMA Australia), **Peter Nicoll** (OM South Africa/UK), **Jeff Nichols** (IM USA), with the CEO (**Jeff Turnbough**) and CFO (**Jake Lapp**) as ex-officio members.

In September a special team began work on developing **the essence of the LMC**: Rex Booth (chair), Londa Amundson, Bob Bagley, Gary Griffith, and Shirley Turner.

2020 - On March 11, 2020, the Director General of the **World Health Organization (WHO) declared the Coronavirus (COVID-19) a global epidemic.** Our second residential LMC began on March 9, 2020, in Indonesia. Some of the participants and trainers had to leave the course to return to their nations. Some of the trainers were unable to return to their countries of assignment.

Later in March, we launched **online workshops for LMC Alumni we called "People of Hope."** The core of the online workshop was creative thinking across the globe—asking alumni in what ways we could be people of hope.

After receiving permission from the ITA Board, in April we launched a new effort to adapt the residential LMC training for online or virtual: **LMC Online**.

In January, **Lynn Rees of World Horizons** came on staff to work alongside with Jeff Turnbough to adapt the LMC residential curriculum for virtual or online training.

2020 marked the **25th Anniversary of the Leadership Matters Course**. By the summer of 2020 the Board decided that in place of the plans for an in-person celebration in Chiang Mai, Thailand, it would have to be virtual. The committee members were Roger Lang, Deb Borland, Lynn Rees, Jake Lapp, and Jeff Turnbough.

October 2020 there were three separate virtual events to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Leadership Matters Course. One for Africa and Europe, one for the Americas, and one for Asia. See some of the videos on ITA's YouTube Page: **https://youtu.be/318LpsN_Ubs**

2021 - January, the first ever LMC Online Course launched: **Relationship Matters Course** (RMC). After that four other RMCs were held.

2022 - January, the second course of the LMC Online launched: **Working Together Matters** (WTM).

Hosted two virtual trainer development courses.

Held two residential LMCs, post-COVID, in Cameroon and Zambia.

2023 - Launched LMC Online Course number three: **Communications Matters Course** (CMC).

Launched first **RMC in Mandarin Chinese**.

Coming back from COVID-19 restrictions, this year we held **SIX residential LMCs**, one of these in Spanish and two in French.

In October, **ITA Council** met in Bangkok, Thailand in person—the first time since 2019.

- The ITA Council discussed and approved the launch of "Hubs"—autonomous groups around the world to organise, manage, and carry out LMCs
- **Jeff & Susana Turnbough announced their retirement for September 2025.**

- The Council appointed a search committee to find a new CEO for ITA

Launched LMC Online Course number four: **Life Management Matters** Course (LMM).

Jeff Turnbough updated and uploaded all the LMC Online Course curriculum for facilitators to the LMC Online website: **https://www.lmconline.wetrainleaders.org**

November – **Ameeta Bahadur** (Viva India) joined the ITA Management Team as LMC Online Manager, replacing Lynn Rees.
Tinashe Mafuta (OM Africa) joined the ITA Management team as Africa English Language Coordinator.

The ITA Board unanimously approved the suggestion to change the term "trainer" to "facilitator," recognising that the facilitator better describes the role of the leaders who serve in this role in ITA's training. We facilitate learning.

2024 - The first year we planned all of the LMC Online Courses throughout the year:
- RMC – January/March
- CMC – April/May
- WTM – July/September
- LMM – November

There were 4 graduates from the LMC Online!

Using suggestions from 5 lead trainers and the ITA Curriculum Committee, Jeff Turnbough completed a revision of the entire LMC *residential* curriculum. The last revision was done in 2016. Some of the changes were:
- From "trainer" to "facilitator" (from TN to FN)
- Table "groups" to "teams"
- The "3 Magics" to the "3 Keys" of a good story
- Tennis racket to football (RS object for recreation)
- Moved the TS workshop from Wednesday to Thursday am (necessitating other unit changes)
- Written new MOTIVATION sections:
  - "Learning Styles" to "Understanding Our Differences"
  - "How to Motivate People to "Focus on Needs and Attitudes"
- Included a new document and assignment in Decision-Making "Decision-Making Models"
- Tweaked the Decision-Making Case exercise

November - CEO Jeff and Susana Turnbough travelled to Lusaka, Zambia to coach Tinashe Mafuta (OM Zimbabwe) as first-time lead facilitator and Chris Insaidoo (Ghana) as facilitator coach. This was the FIRST EVER all African-led LMC!

The Zambia LMC Facilitator Team tested the new LMC Residential Curriculum, making valuable suggestions.

December – The Annual Meeting of the ITA Council, ITA Board, and ITA Management Team took place 4 and 5 December.

2025 In June we welcomed the **4000th LMC participant** via the LMC Online Relationships Matters Course!

In April/May we trained 12 new LMC facilitators!

In July the ITA Board approved Dr Crispus Christian as the new CEO to replace Jeff Turnbough.

In October, the ITA Council convened at Suan Bua Resort outside Chiang Mai, Thailand to celebrate 30 years since the first LMC in 1995, 20 years of ITA, and the transition of leadership from Dr Jeff Turnbough to Dr Crispus Christian.

To GOD be the glory!