



General Conference concludes

The General Conference, “Educare, as Dehonians, the Young Generations,” concluded Saturday morning, July 21.

In a brief session participants approved the final document, which will be made available in several languages in the weeks ahead.

Fr. José Ornelas Carvalho, superior general, spoke about the week’s work. “Educare goes to the root of our *raison d’être*,” he said. “We can change the world and educare is a privileged way to achieve that change.”

He continued by noting the importance of having lay educators with the Dehonians at the conference. “Having them here was not just window dressing,” he said. “They are an expression of who we are and we cannot carry out our work without a mutual cooperation. The laity who work with us are not a mere extension of us but offer a unique insight into helping us discover what a Dehonian, a Dehonian educator, is.”

It is important, he continued, to think of this conference not as an end, but as part of a continuing effort, begun in previous gatherings, to enhance the impact of the Dehonian charism in the formation of young people.

Finally, Fr. Ornelas thanked the many people who made the General Conference possible, beginning with the German Province, and in particular, the community in Neustadt,. “They were joyful hosts to us.” He thanked the Spanish Province for providing the logo, and the many people who were a part of the organizing force for the conference: the preparatory commission, the moderators, the synthesis group, and, of course, Fr. Heru Ismadi, the secretary general. Fr. Heru wasn’t even in the room to hear Fr. General’s words of thanks because he was busy preparing the CD of documents and photos that would be distributed to participants.

Also thanked were the translators, especially Fathers Radoslaw Warena and Józef Golonka, who were “promoted on the battlefield,” to do translation for the Polish confreres, said Fr. General. Those throughout the congregation who helped to distribute news of the conference were thanked as well, getting reports and photos to their confreres via email and websites. Much of the conference focused on the importance of mass communication and it was good to see the tools of communication put into good use during the week.

The general conference closed with Eucharist; Fr. General was the main celebrant. In the afternoon, the participants traveled by bus to Worms to tour and enjoy a final meal together.

Reports, documentation and photos

Photos from each day of the conference, as well as individual participant photos, are available at: www.generalate.smugmug.com

An archive of the daily reports, photos, and documentation from the meetings is available in the Educare section of the website. [Click here](#) to go to the English Educare page.

If you have questions about the reports, photos or need help accessing any of the online resources, contact Mary Gorski at marygorski@sbcglobal.net.