

# UPdate

Uganda Christian University Partners

[www.UgandaPartners.org](http://www.UgandaPartners.org)

Issue 12:2

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## One Mission; Many Missionaries

We are sometimes inclined to look on Jesus Christ as the one who assists us in our endeavors for God. Yet our Lord places Himself as the sovereign and supreme Lord over His disciples. He does not say that the lost will never be saved if we don't go – He simply says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations . . ."

Travis and Leslie Hines and their young children are serving at Bishop Barham University College in Kabale (the UCU constituent campus in southwestern Uganda) where he is a lecturer. Travis stated recently: "Back in Kabale, trying to get a grip on May and the upcoming term . . . I'm realizing I need to begin (again) at the cross. Sounds hyper-spiritual, maybe, but it's the reality. Trying to do this without the direction and presence of Jesus is simply wearying and empty."

Every short and long-term missionary I have met at Uganda Christian University has a different gift for going and serving. Those who go often have teaching skills that are very much needed, or they have specialized programs to offer in certain areas, or they feel called to offer hands-on help with building projects or management programs. Others hear about needs through their churches or mission agencies and offer to go. Always the mission is centered on serving Jesus Christ and helping to fulfill the Great Commission.

To "go" simply means to live. Jesus gives us the "how" once we commit to serving him. Often, when preparing teams to go to Uganda with one of our UP annual trips to UCU, people ask me what they can "do." I tell them that their mission will become clear once they have "lived" the



**TRAVIS HINES, (r) Lecturer, Bishop Barham University College and The Rev. Canon Jovahn Turamureeba, Deputy Principal of BBUC.**

experience – sometimes even after they have returned.

Janet Helms, a recent graduate from Trinity School for Ministry, felt inspired to develop a ministry to Uganda's many orphans. The Hope Fellowship is having a great impact at UCU after its first seminar last fall. She commented, "God is showing me the way He will spread this message from African to African, for God has given us a window of opportunity to spread this healing while there is peace in Eastern Africa." As a short-term missionary, Janet sees her role as twofold: to "go" and to "do" through a ministry

inspired by the Holy Spirit for a long-term impact.

Over the past twelve years, many missionaries have worked at UCU and have helped it to become the premier Christian university in East Africa. Doug and JoEllyn Fountain from Truro Church in Virginia have spent the last decade serving the university in several leadership capacities. Doug said recently, "Step by step, things improve. In Uganda we say, 'slowly by slowly.' Lives are changing in front of our eyes, we see it; it is tangible." The missionary impact is also tangible. They bring fresh ideas, new ways of dealing with problems, and often form life-long friendships. Their collaborative efforts will continue to impact the university long after they have left.

If you would like more information about visiting UCU with the idea of becoming a missionary, please contact me by email or call our office.

Diane Stanton,  
UCUP Executive Director

# Remarkable Graduates: Violet Nkwanzi Nyahana

*On a turbulent road, God intervenes with His grace.*

by Violet Nkwanzi Nyahana

My name is Violet Nkwanzi Nyakana. I am 26 years old and the daughter of Patrick and Sarah Nyakana. I graduated from Uganda Christian University in the fall of 2010 with a bachelor's degree in Social Work and Social Administration, and am currently working on a Master's of Social Work at Radford University in Virginia, while serving as a Resident Director.

My parents both live in Uganda. My father was self-employed for many years but has been unemployed for the past few years. My mother was a teacher, but became a stay-at-home mom when I was young. My parents make a living through small scale farming. All together I have five siblings: three older sisters, a brother and one younger sister. I am the second last in the line. Unlike most families in Uganda, I do not have any step sisters or brothers. My family is Christian and in spite of financial difficulties, Christian values are a top priority.

The road hasn't been easy; I've had to work so hard, prioritize and focus on the future. I learned right from the start that I can't have everything I want in life at the same time, so sacrifice has always been a part of my life. I made a decision to stand out to be different not only by achieving education but by being a good steward in all aspects of life.

After I finished middle school in 2003, I moved to Kampala, the capital city of Uganda, to live with my uncle's family, and through their generosity, I was able to attend High School. I was then accepted into Uganda Christian University; however, I wasn't able to join because my parents couldn't financially afford the tuition, and my uncle had several other children in college. In the interim I worked as a cleaner at one of the radio stations in Kampala. After three weeks, I was promoted to a front desk officer position. When I wasn't working, I was involved in the youth ministry at my home Church and developed my song writing skills.

In 2007, I used the savings from my job to record my first music album. With the help of some friends and through music, I crossed paths with a missionary team from the U.S. They asked if I was a Christian, and we talked for a while. I told them about both my music and school ministry, and they asked me if I could sing one of my songs during the gathering. One of the missionaries preached that evening, and after he finished ministering, he asked me about my family, what I was doing and my future plans. It is because of the generosity of this man and his family that I was able to attend UCU. I couldn't

have made it on my own. I had the determination, clear goals and dreams, but I didn't have the finances to fulfill my goals and dreams. This wonderful family stepped in and helped me, and I will always be grateful. My sponsors have been more than just sponsors; they are my American parents and I am so blessed to be a part of their wonderful family. They not only supported me financially, but also helped me secure a school internship with Roanoke City Department of Social Services in the fall of 2009, and hosted me while I was in the USA. They have been there for me in all situations; they have provided emotional, physical, spiritual and financial support.

After graduation, I plan to work as a clinical social worker and researcher to help the marginalized in society. In addition, I plan to work toward my PhD and eventually teach. Someday I hope to get married and have a family.

Words can't express how grateful I am. I am so blessed by the love and generosity of my sponsors, and am so thankful for the scholarship Uganda Partners provided through them.

Thankfully,  
Violet Nkwanzi Nyakana



**VIOLET NKWANZI NYAHANA**, is a 2010 UCU graduate with a bachelor's degree in Social Work and Social Administration.

*There are many more students like Violet who are looking for a way to accept the invitation to attend Uganda Christian University. Please contact us to help. Your generosity is life changing!*

*Mrs. Laura Corley,  
Scholarship Coordinator*



Please visit [www.UgandaPartners.org](http://www.UgandaPartners.org) to contribute conveniently, safely, and securely with a credit card using PayPal.



## Missionary needed

**By Travis Hines, Lecturer, Bishop Barham College University (UCU – Kabale)**

I was participating recently in one of BBUC's scholarship committee meetings as we prepared to decide how to distribute the available scholarship funds. What is true in all institutions of higher learning is particularly poignant in Uganda – students struggle each term to pay tuition and fees. What is different in Uganda is the level of poverty of the students, and the true stories of why students struggle financially:

- Students whose mothers are the second or third wives of a polygamous marriage, and so receive little or no support from their families.
- Students whose financial hope lay in a crop of potatoes that failed due to drought.
- Students whose sponsors die unexpectedly. Such “sponsors” – parents, elder siblings, uncles – don't leave behind any wealth. One extreme case is a student whose father was sacrificed to ancestral spirits!
- Students who choose to forego one or more meals a day throughout the term so they can pay a portion of their fees.

The challenges these students face affect the BBUC community on many levels. One level in particular is the running of the university itself. In Uganda, students rarely pay the entirety of their tuition and fees up front, and most of them barely manage to pay by the time final exams come. (They are not permitted to sit for exams unless they have paid in full.) This means that BBUC spends most of its year running off a significant deficit. It is also why outside funding is so vital for the growth of BBUC.

Two of the administrators and I were brainstorming various ways of raising money for BBUC. Before we could get too excited about any one idea, we realized that we have a great need for a Development Officer – one person who would be dedicated full-time to this area within BBUC.

Currently, of course, we cannot afford to hire such a person. I began to wonder, however, whether there might be someone gifted in this area who would respond to a call to come to BBUC for at least one year as a Development Officer Missionary! Someone who could help us not only pursue partnerships, but someone with the skills and vision to make this position self-sustainable.

So my question to you is, do you know someone who would be interested in becoming a Development Officer Missionary? Would you pass this newsletter along to as many people as you think might be willing to pray about this possibility? Would you pray about whether you yourself might be the answer to that prayer?

If you have interest, ideas, or questions about this opportunity, please contact me at [hinesfamily@gmail.com](mailto:hinesfamily@gmail.com).

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## UPdates

### UCU's 2012 Philip C. Jessup Moot Team

Uganda Christian University sent a team to represent Uganda at the Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition in Washington D.C. this past May, led by Brian Dennison, Law Faculty at UCU. This is the fourth consecutive year that UCU has sent a team to this prestigious event. This year's team consisted of three law students who made the trip to the U.S.A., and two who assisted from Uganda. The team members were (left to right) Patrick Turinawe, Mercy Grace Kisinza, Angella Nantongo, Silver Kayondo and Roland Yongyera.



### English Language Fellow to work at UCU

The US Embassy recently announced that UCU will receive a coveted English Language Fellow who will work for a year on campus. The “ELF” (yes, that's right) will help improve teaching of writing skills, both generally and for those pursuing language as a career. UCU anticipates that the ELF will help establish a “writing skills center” in the new Hamu Mukasa Library. This Center will help students improve writing skills for both the classroom and life after UCU.

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### Dear Partners,

As you can imagine, UCU's scholarship needs are greater than ever. With so much potential placed before us, we hope you will join us in helping more students. Please consider a gift to one of the following scholarship funds:

- *General Scholarship Fund: any size donation*
- *Anglican Theology Scholarships: any size donation*
- *University Designated Scholarship: Approximately \$2,500*
- *Business and Technology Award: \$250*
- *Achievement Award: \$500*

For more information about our scholarships or to donate, please use the links below. Bless you for your generosity!

### Three Ways to Help a Student

**1: Mail the enclosed form to**

**Uganda Partners**

**PO Box 38333**

**Dallas, TX 75238**

**2: Email Uganda Partners at**

**[info@ugandapartners.org](mailto:info@ugandapartners.org)**

**3: Build a scholarship online at**

**[www.ugandapartners.org](http://www.ugandapartners.org)**



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Dallas, TX 75238  
USA

**If you've enjoyed this newsletter,  
please pass it on to a friend  
or post it on your church's  
bulletin board.**

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## The University Prayer

**Almighty God**, in whom we live  
and move and have our being, make  
this University a real community, and  
may whatever is just, pure, lovable and  
gracious abound here. Keep for the  
University an unspoiled name; develop  
it for wider usefulness; and may we  
value it as an instrument for bringing  
glory to your name: through Jesus  
Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## 100-year Celebration of Uganda's First Seminary

UCU will celebrate 100 years since the founding of its premier seminary, the Bishop Tucker Theological College founded in 1913 and named after Bishop Alfred Robert Tucker, Bishop of Uganda.

Tucker was born in 1849 and grew up in the Lake District in England. Following in the footsteps of his family, he became an artist, exhibiting at the Royal Academy.

In 1879, Tucker became a mature student at Oxford University. This was unusual for an evangelical ordinand of his time, as by far the greater proportion of evangelical students went to Cambridge. In 1882, he was ordained curate in Bristol, then at St Nicholas' Church, Durham before being sent out in 1890 by the Church Mission Society to become the third bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa.

Tucker's style was, notably for this era, one of working with the culture rather than trying to replace it with European attitudes. He was quoted in 1908 saying, "We are pretty convinced in our mind that we have everything to give and nothing to receive; everything to teach and nothing to learn; moreover we find it very difficult to believe that there is anything good in the pagan races of Africa."

He was very much in favour of native costume being used for clergy rather than European cassocks and robes. He argued for African churches to have autonomy, although he continually returned to England for more missionaries, possibly hoping for them to undertake support roles within the church structure rather than the leadership positions that they assumed.

His approach to the evangelization of Uganda had three phases: conversion of individual African men; church planting; and finally, education.

The year before Tucker died in 1914, Uganda's first theological college was formed. On his death, it was named Bishop Tucker Theological College.

Uganda Partners will lead a team to Uganda in June 2013 to take part in the celebrations. More details will be available soon.



**BISHOP ALFRED TUCKER,**  
*Oxford-educated evangel-  
ical missionary bishop,  
founded BTTC in 1913.*