

Uganda Partners

“Thankful for your partnership in the Gospel from the first day until now.”

Philippians 1:3-5

Newsletter of Uganda Christian University Partners

Issue 10:1

Winter 2010

Ten Years On: Retiring but Not Tiring

Dear Partners,

On October 8, I announced my impending “retirement” as of 31 August 2010. A search committee has been formed to look for my successor. It intends to bring nominations to the University Council and the Chancellor (Archbishop) in March 2010. Peggy and I hope to have several celebrations: one at New Wineskins in April, another in Mukono in August before returning to our home in Sewickley.

But I want to make clear that *I am retiring but not tiring*, because there is much important work still to do. Most obviously, there is the construction of the University Library and science labs, both which I can confidently say will begin to go up early in the new year.

There is also the arrival of the sea-cable Internet, which is going to revolutionize our ways of learning and communicating. Finally, I hope that two regional colleges, in Mbale (eastern Uganda) and Arua (northern Uganda), will be fully accredited by mid-year 2010.

Now let me speak to you, our loyal supporters. We published our first Newsletter ten years ago, and Uganda Partners became official at New Wineskins 2000. So there is reason to celebrate, looking back. But remember Lot's wife: it is better to fix your gaze forward and not to tire in doing good (2 Thessalonians 3:13).

- There will still be students needing scholarship assistance (see article within).

- There will still be clergy who need further training to lead urban congregations.
- There will be mission weeks each semester, needing support.



THE VICE CHANCELLOR Stephen Noll and Peggy give thanks for the ten years of service they have been blessed to offer at Uganda Christian University.

- There are still major projects ahead, e.g., a worship amphitheater.
- Uganda and East Africa will remain a region where the Church plays a vital role in economic, social and spiritual development.

Roland Allen, in his classic *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* commends the missionary's “retirement” in these terms: “living his life among his people... *as though he would have no successor.*” I do not know whether the next VC will be a national leader or not, but I do hope and expect that he (or she) will receive the same kind of support which I have had from you.

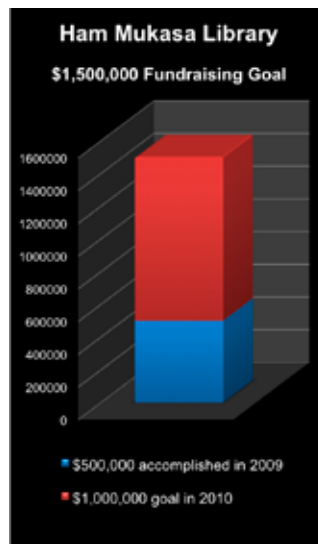
I do not plan to retire from the work of Uganda Partners. As we return, Peggy and I expect to bring our experience of this past decade to advance the work of the Partners in various ways.

So please, friends, do not tire but catch fire for the mission of Christ-centered higher education in Africa!

The Rev. Prof. Stephen Noll
Vice Chancellor

UPdates

• **The UCU Library campaign continues to be a priority** for Uganda Partners to fulfill our goal of raising our cost share of \$1 million in 2010. We are grateful for the approval of two grants from USAID/ASHA which will fund about one-fifth of the total cost. Please consider a tax-deductible gift this coming year.



• **Congratulations** to UCUP President Sherman White and his wife, Ruth, on their 50th Anniversary.

• **The annual UP to Uganda mission trip in August 2009** consisted of seventeen team members including high school and college-age youth, Board members, first time visitors to Uganda, and several veteran travelers. We were privileged to spend several days at UCU, where we were entertained by the UCU band, thanked by scholarship participants and heard panel presentations by heads of departments acquainting the team with the many academic, spiritual and student-life venues. In addition, we spent a short time at Bishop Barham College in Kabale where we were entertained by a group of student Rwandan dancers and took a boat ride on beautiful Lake Bunyonyi.



• How can Partners help in 2010?

Pray for God's blessing on the students, faculty and staff at UCU.
Pray for the selection of a new Vice Chancellor.
Make us part of your mission outreach tithing.
Sponsor an individual student and learn about life in Uganda.
Join us on a trip to Uganda in 2010 (watch for more details soon).
Pray for the Nolls as they make the transition back to the USA in August.

UP



Visit www.UgandaPartners.org online to contribute conveniently, safely, and securely with a credit card using PayPal.

Combined Federal Campaign #11888



Uganda Partners

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"The Board of Trustees and Staff of Uganda Christian University Partners resolve to continue our support of Uganda Christian University with pleasure and as a privilege for the glory of God and as a fulfillment of our vision to help develop a *Center of Excellence in the Heart of Africa.*" -- As adopted by the Board, November 2009

Prayer changes the way the world is; Faith helps us accept these changes



Executive Director's Report: by Diane Stanton

All of us are facing changes; we are always facing changes. Some are more challenging than others like changing where we live, taking on a new job, adapting to the loss of a loved one or facing difficult decisions. We know from examples like Moses that sometimes life presents major life-changing

events, especially when God has a mission for us.

Although Moses was the son of Hebrew slaves, he had been raised in the household of Pharaoh. When he was an adult, Moses left Egypt because he had killed a man who was abusing a Hebrew slave. Moses made a new life for himself in Midian herding sheep for his father-in-law. The Book of Exodus tells about Moses' life-changing experience of being told by God to go back to Egypt to lead the Hebrew people out of slavery so they could go to the Promised Land.

Moses did not want the assignment and gave a variety of reasons why he was not the right man for the job. But God responded to each excuse with resources that left Moses no option but to say yes. The remainder of his long life, Moses was involved in doing what God had drafted him to do. Living as he understood God wanted him to live did not lead Moses into a life of tranquility, with no problems, frustrations and conflicts. But Moses trusted God and God provided the way and the means to complete his mission.

How shall we face the future? By faith – trusting God so completely we strive to live as God intends.

We will experience a major change this coming year. Stephen Noll has announced his retirement from missionary service as Vice Chancellor of Uganda Christian University. He and his wife, Peggy, will be leaving Uganda Christian University mid-year in 2010 to return to their home in Pennsylvania. Nearly ten years ago, the Nolls were called as missionaries to Uganda to fulfill a specific mission – to help develop a major Christian university in Uganda. What they have accomplished has been most amazing as many of you have observed. They have fulfilled the mission that God called them to and beyond anyone's expectations. Together they have impacted many lives and both came with just the right gifts to make so many positive changes. Steve has also been an active member of the Board of Trustees of Uganda Partners, the organization which he envisioned and launched in 2001. And as such, he has helped to guide and direct our vision and mission. We are grateful that he will continue to be involved in our work. His successor will not be selected until the spring and we ask your prayers in choosing a Godly and visionary leader.

How shall we face the future? By faith – trusting God so completely we strive to live as God intends.

Thank you for your continued support of our mission to UCU. We know that through prayer and faith, God will continue to bless our work!

UP

UCUP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS 2010

Want to help make positive changes in the lives of young people? Give to one of our Scholarship Programs! This is an outstanding way to tangibly help individual students, support the University, and fulfil a personal outreach ministry.

UCU ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

New program launched in the fall of 2009, this scholarship provides partial assistance of \$500 per year to the highest achievers who have already completed at least one year of study. This is a one-year commitment as new students will be chosen at the beginning of each fall term.

UNIVERSITY DESIGNATED SCHOLARSHIPS

In some cases, individuals wish to support a student who is already known to them. Subject to particular rules, this may be possible by means of a "University Designated" scholarship. The award of the scholarship, however, must be approved by the University Scholarship Committee. Standardized fees for all students make it easy for sponsors to help.

ANGLICAN COMMUNION SCHOLARSHIPS IN THEOLOGY

In this revised scholarship plan, sponsors contribute offering matching funds of \$200, \$225, \$400, \$450, \$600 and \$650 to support students preparing for in the Anglican Church of Uganda. Sponsors may also support students from other Anglican Provinces. More details available at UCUP website.

NURSING SCHOLARSHIPS (BNS PROGRAM)

The Bachelor of Nursing Science Program was launched in May 2006 and has recruited registered nurses to pass through a fast-track program to obtain their BNS. UCU graduates have been transforming health care in government and faith-based health settings. This program helps to meet the huge shortage of health care workers in Uganda since less than one percent of nurses in Uganda have a degree to prepare them for leadership.

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund assists students who do not fall into other categories of Scholarship Programs but whose needs are great or who are short on the support they are receiving. One of the categories that this fund helps is Faith Scholarships given to students who have lost their US support for various reasons and would not be able to continue without this help.

For more information, contact:

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MISSIONARY Rosemary Mehl reads to happy tots in the Children's Library.



RWANDAN STUDENT DANCERS welcoming mission team at Bishop Barham College. (top right)



STUDENTS RELAX near the fountain on one of the pair of benches given by the Diocese of Dallas and the Diocese of Pittsburgh in 2009. (bottom right)

2009 at UCU can be summarized, as seen in these colorful pictures, as a joy-filled and productive year for the students at UCU and for those fortunate enough to visit the expanding campuses. Enrollment grew to over 7200 students in the fall of 2009 as the reputation for excellence in higher education also spread throughout the region.



KAGAME HENRIETTA receiving her Bachelor's degree at the October graduation at UCU M



STUDENTS FEEL A SENSE OF GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENT to complete their academic programs and prepare for vocations out in the world; neither could have been achieved without their hard work and determination. Many of these graduates are scholarship recipients who are forever grateful for the assistance (see Alinda's letter of thanks and others on p. 6).

UP

20

A Year of

NOT ONLY HAPPY FACES, women graduat





...elor of Arts in Mass Communications at ...ukono. Photo by Paddy Buyondo.

2009 Highlights

...ates have been in the majority in 2009.



GRADUATION 2009: Alinda Charity receives his first class honors award.



A GRADUATE'S MOTHER shouts for joy and rushes to greet her daughter.



VC NOLL UNVEILS plaque for new library to be built at the northern campus in Arua. The plaque reads, "This Library Foundation Stone was laid by Rev. Prof. Stephen Noll, Vice-Chancellor, U.C.U. on 8th November, 2009 Glory be to God."



PRAYERS FOR STUDENTS at the UCU northern campus in Arua.



UCU WATER TECHNICIAN explains new booster pump to keep the students showering in peace!



THE 2009 Uganda Christian University Christmas card.

UP

Grateful Graduates

by Peggy Noll

Three recent graduates have turned back to say Thank You to UCU for the education they received there and also for the sponsorship from Uganda Partners which made it possible. Voices like theirs remind donors that their dollars invested in young Ugandans' lives through scholarship help are paying off.

Alinda Charity emailed the Vice Chancellor from his internship in the U.S. to say this about the role UCU played in his current opportunity:

I am Alinda Charity 22 years old. I am writing to you from USA. I graduated in June 27th this year from Uganda Christian University (UCU). I was the best male student in my graduation lot. I would like to share a little bit with you about my progress after my graduation and also show you where the knowledge I gained from UCU has made me reach within two months only after my graduation. I tried scheduling an official appointment with you before my departure, but it did not work out until I flew out of the country.

Right after my graduation, I got a chance to serve with an organization in the USA as an intern/ international fellow. It is called UrbanPromise Ministries in Camden New Jersey. I will be here for one year and possibly come back and serve in my country come August 2010. While here I will be trained in NGO leadership and development. I will also be serving at different camps for After School Programs (ASP) in different spots in Camden city. I am looking forward to seeing other UCU graduates coming to serve with this organization.

I have sent you this email because I was very happy to appear on the front page of the Standard (Vol. 3 No. 13) with you when you were handing over a golden plaque to me for the great success that God had seen me through.

Thank you very much and may God continue to bless and guide as you serve Uganda Christian University.

Alinda Charity
International fellow
UrbanPromise Ministries Camden, New Jersey USA.

P.S. - I am a product of Scholars and Friends scholarship. I attribute my achievement to the Uganda Partners.

In a later email, he added, *"I am so happy that another bunch of professionally churned UCU graduates have joined us to serve the world with Christian ethics and integrity. Praise be to God! I am actually a pastor's Child from Bunyoro Kitara diocese. My dad is serving in a remote area in Kibaale District. But what God is capable of, nobody can tell. That's why I am now in the USA. It's by His great mercies upon his people."*

A woman graduate recently got in touch with our Scholarship Administrator, missionary Dr. JoEllyn Fountain, to let her know that she is doing well after graduation. Gertrude

was a young woman who sent an email to the chaplain just before she was scheduled to report to UCU several years ago. This woman was told that her guardian, who was paying her fees for secondary, would only pay for University if she became his second wife and she refused on the grounds that it would dishonor God. Now she has completed her degree, has a job and is looking forward.

She was sponsored via UCUP under General Scholarships and had a sponsor for 1 of her 3 years. Gertrude wrote this in her message to Dr. Fountain:

Praise Jesus Christ, I would like to connect with you. I hope this will reach you. I am reaching out to say God has been faithful to me.

He has given me a nice Job with TOYOTA UGANDA LIMITED as a Cashier. This has enabled me to be able to assist my siblings in school and even my parents who have no source of income as of now.

It's my prayer that they will be able to accept Jesus Christ as the only inheritance one can ever get in life.

I also pray that I will be able to help not only my parents and siblings but other women out there to receive the Love and tenderness of Jesus Christ.

If you can find the people whom God used to pay for my studies, tell them I've stood and God is taking me to where he destined me to be.

Send my Love to the Chaplaincy especially Canon Baalwa, Rev. Rebecca, Feta Simon and if possible, Professor Noll.

Thanks
Mundurur Gertrude
Cashier Arua Toyota

Finally, another woman graduate in the pioneer class of Bachelor of Child Development and Children's Ministry in October wrote a letter to say:

May I respectfully draw your attention to the fact that I am more than delighted with the UCU authority for the parental care and upkeep afforded to me.

I must confess above all that your financial assistance to me through Scholars and Friends scholarship during my struggle to pursue my bachelor's degree in Child Development and Children's Ministry has been of paramount importance, which I feel I should not forget.

Please accept my thanks and appreciations for all the many acts of kindness—professional, social, and spiritual to mention but a few—I underwent during my 3 years stay at the university.

I need too, especially to extend my sincere appreciations to all my lecturers for shaping me in to a valuefull girl.

I feel a happy graduate from UCU and I am confident that God always cares. I pray that God bless all of you and UCU in general abundantly.

Kisakye Mary

Ndizi News *(Small, Sweet Bananas)*

“Words of HOPE” Finds a Home



October 30 witnessed the official opening of the “Words of HOPE Communications Building” on the UCU campus. As with several other joint ventures, the first floor is home to “Words of HOPE Uganda,” (see www.woh.org) which produces Christian radio programs in English and local languages, including the Bari and Kakwa of Sudan. The upper two floors will be home to the Mass Communication faculty at UCU, with offices, classrooms and studios. The connection is not merely physical. Most of the WOH employees are UCU graduates, and we expect other students to intern with this ministry.

THE GRAND OPENING of the “Words of HOPE Communications Building” at UCU.

“The Cable Has Landed”

East Africa is a-flutter since June when the first sea cable bringing industrial strength bandwidth landed in Mombasa. UCU worked hard to get the “last mile” fibre-optic cable laid from Mukono town to the campus. The new cable burrowing its way along the hillside will replace the satellite dish, with bandwidth jumping from 1.5mbs to 10 mbs. Stephen Noll and Patrick Mangheni of UCU are both leading efforts for Research Education Network Uganda (RENU – www.renu.ac.ug) to harness this capacity for academic uses.

UGANDA TELECOM cable replaces satellite dish.



Land Prospects

UCU Holdings, Ltd. (www.ucuholdings.co.ug), the business subsidiary of the University, has produced a development plan for “University Hills at Ntawo,” a residential community to be built on one square mile of land given to the College in 1921 by the local chief Ham Mukasa (see pdf copy on website). When completed in fifteen years, the community will include up to 1800 housing units, schools, medical facilities and shopping area. Our hope is that this land will be an “endowment” for UCU, providing an income stream for the future.

The Bible as Classroom Text

Peggy Noll presented a paper titled “‘The Hymn to Wisdom’ from Job 28: A Case Study in Using the Bible in the Literature Classroom in Uganda” at the inaugural refresher course for secondary school language and literature teachers hosted by UCU on August 28-29. Over 200 teachers from all over Uganda attended the conference and in their evaluations expressed a desire for such events to be annual. As a result of the conference, 23 teachers have applied for the UCU’s M.A. in Language and Literature degree.

Fulbright Scholar in Nursing

Dr. Ruby Dunlap, from the nursing faculty of Belmont University in Nashville, received a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship to spend this year at UCU. She is a nurse with a doctorate in education and is focusing on the pioneer class working to earn their Master of Science in Nursing degree. Arriving with Ruby in August were her husband, Bob, and her father, Carl, a missionary in Somalia when Ruby was growing up.



Three Evangelists in Concert

The University mission for October, with the theme “Choose the Right Way and Walk in It,” featured a troika of missionaries. Bishop Geoffrey Rwubusisi of Rwanda, Bishop Edward Muhima of Uganda, and Dr. John Senyonyi all worked together in the 1990s for African Evangelistic Enterprise. Their ministry was anointed with over 200 students making new or renewed commitments to Christ.

VICE CHANCELLOR NOLL addresses the harvest of new believers at the close of the mission.

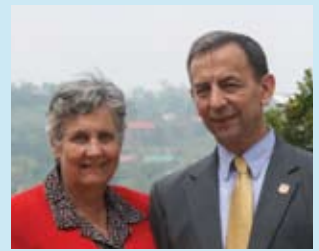
Uganda Christian University Partners Proposed Budget 2010

University Fund

Scholarship Support	\$193,000
Academic and Spiritual Support	\$65,000
Leadership Initiative	\$340,000
Infrastructure Initiative	\$1,550,000
Regional College Initiative	\$20,000
Total.....	\$2,168,000

Multiplying Talents Fund

Salaries	\$80,000
Administration	\$43,650
Development	\$41,500
Total.....	\$165,150



Steve and Peggy Noll are missionaries with Global Teams (www.global-teams.org). To support them, contact; Global Teams 212 21st Street, Suite 2 Bakersfield, CA 93301 (Phone) 661-323-1214

Make checks payable and mail to

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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.**