

**BUGEMA**



**UNIVERSITY**

**END OF ACADEMIC YEAR  
REPORT  
2014/2015**

**BY**

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August, 2015

## INTRODUCTION

Three score and seven years ago, our pioneers brought forth in this country a new institution, which was conceived in the ideals of the church and dedicated to preparing men and women who will stand for the truth even though the heavens fall. Now that institution named Bugema University is engaged in frantic survival techniques, testing whether such all institution so conceived and so dedicated can long endure the test of time.

It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. The struggle for survival is inevitable because as Abraham Lincoln said, “the world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.” It is therefore for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us. In all these if you ask, what is our aim? I can answer in one word. Victory.

Times have changed. Ever than before, the word globalization has taken deep root in all countries, in all economies and in all educational systems around the world. Students no longer go to take admissions from institutions. Rather, institutions go to students and plead with them to join them. This has its own strengths and weaknesses. Taking classroom to the people can strengthen or weaken institutions. It becomes very hard to resolve the dilemma. This is of course the headache and heartache of many institution heads, especially the heads of private institutions

Bugema University as an institution of higher learning in Uganda has made some strides amidst the challenging environment it finds itself in. This effort is a must because the institution must survive. Thanks to the combined efforts of our faculty, staff and stakeholders.

Knowing well that Bugema University belongs to all, it becomes the duty and responsibility of the Chief Administrative Officer to let our stakeholders and well wishers know how the institution is

faring and the way forward. Bugema University has resolved to pave the way for a grand peace and development for all the generations to come. I would like to express my appreciation to you for taking your precious time to go through this summary report encompassing all the activities of the University for the period August 2014 to June 2015.

## STUDENT ENROLMENT.

Student enrolment has been on the rise. This has been possible because of the vigorous marketing strategies we have put in place. There is no place in Uganda where we have virtually not touched. Our marketing office has been very active. Statistics from the Registrar's office revealed that in the first semester, 5156 students enrolled representing 22 countries, 3097 males and 2059 females. Out of this 45% were Adventists and 55% non Adventists. In the second semester due to the fact that many finished their studies in the first semester, the number dropped to 4622. January Admissions is actually lower than the August admissions. Out of the 4622, 2857 were males and 1765 were females. Out the total enrolment, 46% were Adventists and 54% were non Adventists. The good news about this statistics is that Uganda has taken the lead with more students as compared to the previous years. This is indeed a healthy situation for Bugema University.

## GRADUATION

The graduation ceremony for the year 2014 was held between October 31 and November 2, 2014. A total of 1,697 students were awarded different diplomas and certificates. This was the highest number of students that ever graduated from Bugema University. The main speaker was Dr. Richard Rajarathinam, the CEO, Officer Care Maryland, USA.

## STUDENTS GOVERNANCE

The University has a Governance policy which allows students to elect their own student leaders who work hand to hand with the University Administration. The year in question witnessed a peaceful student's election with 99% voter's turn-up.

The formation of the Students' Council was also peaceful and successful. The Bugema University Students Association (BUSA) participates in all the administrative activities of the University. Members are involved in various committees of the University.

The Students Association participates in national events and is also a member of the Guild Presidents Association of Uganda, the East African Guild Presidents Association and the Uganda Deans of Students Association. Last year, they participated in all national events. The Association is presently soliciting funds to start the construction of an Association building which will include the offices for the Association and a guest house. The student body is behind the project which they plan to complete in two years.

## **STUDENT SPORTS**

In as much as we would like to have our students involved in sports, we are always limited by the Sabbath. Last year the students participated in regional football tournaments, Basket ball tournaments and Inter-University games.

Since the University started offering scholarships to sports men and women, we have witnessed an improvement in the sports arena. In June, we were able to send two of our woman athletes with the Dean of Students to Seoul, South Korea to participate in the World University Athletics Competition. Even though they came home with no medals, we felt it was an experience for them. This year we plan to provide the students with a variety of indoor games which has been the request from our students.

## **STUDENTS CLUBS**

Many students clubs function on the campus. This of course, is an indication that there is peace and stability on campus. These clubs take care of the welfare of their members. There are academic clubs and also social clubs, all functioning under the office of the Students Association, and are periodically evaluated by the Dean of Students.

## **STUDENTS ACCOMMODATION.**

As a growing institution we are experiencing shortage of accommodation on campus. This at times ushers in various challenges in the area of discipline. Though many students have expressed their desire to be on campus as residents, we have limited accommodation. However, we are working hard to put this problem to its final resting place. At the moment there are four hostels on campus- all these are basically for ladies. Last year we purchased a storey building with 35 self contained rooms for the male students. We have since located another building within the University vicinity and negotiations are completed to purchase it for the male students in the department of Nursing. We are putting all efforts together to make sure that we ease the student's accommodation problem on campus. It may delay a bit but we will do it.

## **STUDENTS HEALTH.**

The University Health Centre III takes care of our sick students. The Health Centre is quite well equipped. The equipment and instruments were donated by Support Africa (Germany). We have a Medical Director, a Head Nurse, three other nurses, two laboratory technicians, two nurse aids, a cashier and a store

keeper who takes stock of our medicines. We have also signed MOUs with other hospitals and dental clinics in Kampala where cases that cannot be handled by our Health Centre are referred to.

## **STUDENTS MEALS**

Bugema University cafeteria serves a vegetarian diet to all the residential students. However, there are cases where non-residential students choose to eat from the cafeteria. Such individuals are allowed under a special arrangement with the Business Office. The menu for each Semester is always planned by the Cafeteria Manager, the Students Association Officers and the Business Office personnel.

## **ACADEMIC PROGRAMS**

The University has the following Schools and an Institute

- a. School of Education
- b. School of Business
- c. School of Theology and Religious Studies
- d. School of Social Science
- e. Institute of professional Growth (For mature students who are in the holiday programs).
- f. School of Graduate Studies

This academic year marks the introduction of another School- School of Natural and Health Sciences. Under the School are the following departments.

1. Biochemistry
2. Maths, Physics and Chemistry
3. Agricultural Science
4. Nursing
5. Statistics
6. Food and Nutrition

We plan to register students in all these departments after we have been cleared by the National Council for Higher Education and the Accrediting Agency of the Church this academic year.

The School of Graduate Studies is planning to start PhD programs in Educational Management, Rural Development and Environmental Management. The National Council for Higher Education has gone through the proposals for the three PhD programs and has asked us to fulfill some requirements which we are currently working on.

The Quality Assurance Office has embarked on a system of getting to know how our graduates are doing in their various places of work. This initiative, known as Tracer Studies, has helped us to evaluate our programs in line with what is happening in the job market

The office has put other mechanisms in place to maintain program quality. One of such measures is the establishment of an attendance office to monitor the attendance and performance of our lecturers. Another method is bench marking with other sister institutions in Uganda and abroad.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE**

As the University expands its programs and activities one comes vis-a-vis the challenge of insufficient infrastructure to handle all the activities of the University. One thing that we strongly believe in is maintaining our infrastructure.

Last year we were able to complete the Auditorium which stands as a giant on the campus. This year we plan to have the air condition installed. We are working on the acoustics. Hopefully, these will be completed before the new academic year ends.

Another new development on Campus is the completion of the building for School of Theology and Religious Studies. The construction of the building is co-sponsored by Dr. Richard

Rajarathinam and the University. Very soon, the remaining work of the building will be completed for the School to move in.

The biggest project we have at hand is the construction of the Science Complex. Work on the project will commence soon. It is a UGX 2.5 billion project which we plan to complete in 10 months. Materials for the building are on campus. These materials are imported from China. Imported with the materials is a block-making machine which is a big investment for the University. It will help with our construction and also generate income for the institution.

## **INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)**

The University continues to expand its activities in the area of ICT. Last year saw the perfection of the ERMS, a soft ware which is used by the University to run all the programs and activities. It has indeed helped the University academically and administratively.

The internet connectivity on the main campus has improved tremendously. The University has entered into an MOU with INVICTA ICT, internet service provider. It provides both line and wireless connections. The internet service covers the whole University campus. Kampala Campus internet is now running on fiber. This has greatly improved the service delivery of the place. The CISCO program has been strengthened by the services provided by his Grace Computer Training Academy which has installed computers in one of our internet cafes to help us train the CISCO students.

## **EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT SYSTEM.**

The support systems in the University include

### **a) Work and Study Programme**

We do involve our students in this program which is the backbone of Adventist education.

We offer work opportunities to our students who are desirous to work hard to pay their way through college. There is much demand for this since there are many students who are unable to raise money for their fees. The Work Education Office with a coordinator handles the students and the distribution of work among them. At the moment we have **206** students in the program. We do hope that in future this scheme will have a strong financial base to cater for many students

### **b) Friends of Bugema Fund.**

This fund was founded by Dr. Richard Rajarathnam, the CEO of Office Care, Maryland, USA. The fund is for needy students who are active in church activities and in work program of the University. As said earlier under infrastructure, he sends money to this fund and for the construction of the School of Theology and Religious Studies building. Apart from this, friends of Bugema sponsor speakers for our weeks of prayer from the United States of America to Bugema.

### **c) Sports Scholarship Scheme.**

For the promotion of sports, this scheme was established. Every year the university offers scholarships to sports men and women, especially in the field of athletics. Till last year there were five people on the list. This academic year we plan to increase the number depending upon the availability of funds and the number of sports men and women who apply and express their interest to join the University

#### **d) Scholarship for Stakeholders**

Every year, the University offers bursaries to students, each from the Union, the Conference and from the various fields in Uganda. The University gives full tuition to the admitted students who are first recommended by the various local church committees. The University again offers bursaries to well-performed 'A level students from church related institutions. Last year we had a total of 30 students benefiting from this Scholarship scheme. Apart from the church and the schools, needy students from the community who are recommended by the community elders are also considered.

#### **e) Dr. Paul Yeboah Fund.**

Dr. Paul Yeboah , a physician in Texas, USA has initiated this fund to help needy Theology students. He was invited for the 2012/2013 graduation and fell in love with this place and the people. Last academic year, he sponsored our Week of Prayer speaker from the United States. He also sent \$1000 into the fund. He has promised to increase the amount as the need arises.

#### **f) Loan Scheme from ADRA Netherlands.**

We are at the last stage of signing a Memorandum Of Understanding with ADRA, Netherlands to give loans to some of our needy students who are at the verge of finishing their studies but experiencing some financial constraints. The scheme will come into full operation this academic year. The students who have applied will enjoy full coverage in terms of tuition, boarding and lodging. A student is required to pay off the loan three years after the completion of his/her studies.

### **HUMAN RESOURCE.**

Last year the University took a bold decision to reduce on the adjunct lecturers of the University. It was discovered that the University was spending a lot of money on them. It was also the instruction from the National Council for Higher Education. The University therefore decided to allow most of the adjunct lecturers to sign one year contracts with us. This has reduced our expenditure on faculty recruitment. We also regularized ten of our workers who have worked with us for some time now.

Each year we evaluate our Staff Development program and try to increase the number of beneficiaries according to the need of the University. We still have six people on the PhD program. Moses Maka who was sent to Samyook University in South Korea for PhD in Religion has since returned to join the work force. This year we plan to add two more faculty members for the PhD program. For the Masters program we are currently sponsoring four workers. One will be added this year to do M.Phil in Social Work at Lagon, Ghana.

Apart from this regular sponsorship, Bugema University allows its faculty and Staff to take 6-9 credit hours every semester while working. This has helped many to complete both graduate and undergraduate studies

In order to retain the best graduates from the University to work for us, we employ those who are recommended by their heads of departments as Teaching Assistants. As Teaching Assistants, we give them an allowance which covers their fees, a free housing and other incentives which help them as student-workers.

## **RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS**

The University has a policy in place which encourages Research and Publications. Each year, a budget is developed for the same.

Last academic year saw a tremendous improvement in this area with many of our faculty members presenting papers, publishing articles in reputed Journals and writing books.

### **Presentation of Papers**

1. Dr. Kisunzu - Dubai
2. Dr. Katamba - Dubai
3. Dr. Sigie M - Dubai
4. Dr. Kisunzu - Central Luzon State University, Philippines

### **Publication of Articles.**

1. Dr. Javan Harelimana – Africa-Asia Journal of Mission & Ministry(2 articles)
2. Dr. Michael Ikechuku O -- Africa-Asia Journal of Mission& Ministry
3. Dr. Sigie M. – Canadian International Journal of Social Science and Education  
(2 articles)
4. Dr. Sigie B – Canadian International Journal of Social Science and Education  
(2 Articles).

### **Book Publication**

1. Prof. Gebre Warancha – Life or Death: Your Choice
2. Prof. Reuben Mugerwa –  
- Bible Basic Teachings,  
-Righteousness of Faith.
3. Prof. Patrick Manu  
-Handling Basic Psychological Problems (in print)  
ISBN 9789970943401
4. Dr. Lukwago Moses.  
- The power of Optimism

One of our Lecturers, Mrs. Margret Baleeta has been selected as a reading specialist for Research Triangle Institute International. This project is aimed at improving literacy and retention in primary schools. She is appointed to be in charge of the reading component of the project. This is an international appointment for one year after which she will take up her responsibilities with the University.

## **SPIRITUAL NURTURING**

The Spiritual nurturing on the Campus has been the combined efforts of the Administrators, Faculty, Staff and Students. The University is devoted to religious activities conducted from within and without. Last academic year witnessed an improvement in our Spiritual nurturing activities with an increase in the number of baptisms and community outreach. The activities for spiritual nurturing on Campus include

- Prayer Bands meeting from 5 am to 6 am early morning every day.
- Staff / Faculty morning worship at 8 am
- Weekend worships and Sabbath afternoon youth programs
- Weeks of prayer for the two semesters
- Branch Sabbath Schools conducted by our students.
- Bugema University Students Association week of prayer for each Semester

Last academic year we were able to baptize 686 students to become members of the church. The first semester Week of prayer was conducted by Pastor Leakey Mokuia from Kenya and the second semester week of prayer was conducted by pastor Kojo Twumasi from Oakwood University, Alabama, USA

A Campus crusade was organized by the School of Theology and Religious Studies for two weeks. This crusade was all involving with different activities which impressed the communities around the University. The Campus also witnessed two East Central

Africa Division meetings for the pastors kids and the shepherdess of the Division.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Last academic year 2014/2015 witnessed a very close contact between the University and the Community. Health officers of the University Health Centre paid regular visits to the community to offer free medical care and advice to the members. In the month of June, again the University organized free cervical cancer screening for the ladies in the community. Again it was a great success.

Other activities to the community included free antenatal care services which were given to 243 parents; family planning services to the same number; Immunization to 252 children; HIV testing to 112 people; Male circumcision to some community members; Charcoal treatment; Feeding the children in the community which has been on for the last four years; Health evaluation; and visits to the orphanages in the community to distribute food parcels.

The Department of Development Studies last academic year continued to teach the community members how to make liquid soap and other simple activities which they can engage in to earn a living. The highlight of the community activities was the Environmental Day Celebrations which were held on the campus for the first time, organized by the Department of Development Studies. It was a weeklong celebration where the whole university was involved clearing our environment, planting trees and exhibiting different products.

## **UNIVERSITY FINANCES**

The University is improving and expanding its financial base. A well organized financial management system is in place through

the provision of relevant committees, policies, manuals and qualified personnel.

The challenge we have in the area of finance is trying to meet all our financial obligations. For this, we have decided to embark upon Income Generating Activities. This academic year we plan to:

1. Raise Quails
2. Breed Goats
3. Make blocks with our newly purchased Block making machine
4. Put our mill into full operation.
5. Increase our farm and dairy products

We were audited by GCAS in the month of May and obtained a qualified opinion. We are working on the recommendations to get an unqualified opinion this academic year.

## **PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER INSTITUTIONS.**

The University works in partnership with other academic and social institutions. This helps us to market our products, benchmark and also get exposed. Our records for last academic year indicates that we are still in partnership with Samhyook University in South Korea for students exchange, Washington Adventist University in USA for students exchange, Central Luzon State University in the Philippines for faculty and students exchange. Oakwood University for faculty exchange and Mulago Hospital.

At the social level, we have signed Memorandum Of Understanding with ADRA Netherlands, Mildmay, Uganda for Health services, Support Africa in Germany, Aqua Africa Denmark which has since started the production of bottled water on the main Campus.

## **ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**

The Alumni Association has begun working on a serious note. The former BUSA office building which was given to the Association by the University has been repaired and remodeled as Alumni House. All Alumni activities are carried on in the Alumni House. The Association plans to put up an international hostel. The place for the building is located and cleared waiting for work to begin. Hope the construction will start as soon as enough money is collected. The Executive of the Association plans to strengthen the chapters within Africa and abroad. Once this is done, much fund will be realized to carry on the activities of the Alumni.

### **MEMBERSHIP TO ACADEMIC / OTHER BODIES**

So far, the University is a member of the following Academic and other related bodies.

- The Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA)
- The Uganda Vice Chancellor Forum
- The Consortium of University Libraries in Uganda
- The Consultative meeting of Adventist Universities in East- Central Africa Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.
- The Adventist Accrediting Agency
- The Uganda Universities Quality Assurance Association
- The Association of Universities Deans of Students
- The Association of Private University in Africa.
- The Commonwealth Universities Association

### **SPECIAL CAMPUS VISITORS**

Last year witnessed the visits of many dignitaries. However, prominent and conspicuous among them was the Katikiro of the Buganda Kingdom. His visit was the first of its kind on our campus. He was received with pomp by the University family. After addressing the University family the University presented

him with a stool and an amount of money towards his mobilization drive.

## **FUTURE PLANS**

Our priorities are set as we plan for the future of the Institution. Our priorities for this academic year include the following:

- Begin and finish the construction of the Science Complex
- Begin the new programs, viz: Nursing, Biochemistry, Food and Nutrition, Agricultural Science and PhD programs
- Finish and furnish the School of Theology and Religious Studies building.
- Form association known as “Assembly of Promoters”. This will consist of individuals and organizations that have an interest in the development of Bugema University. They will be entrusted with the responsibility of mobilizing resources for the University, and also help the University Council to provide direction for the University.
- Finish building the Sports Complex for International Competitions
- Expand the Library
- Continue increasing the number of Uganda students.
- Establish students recruitment centres in major districts in Uganda.

## **APPRECIATION.**

There is an African adage which says “None can tie a knot without using the thumbs”. In the same way no institution succeeds without the intervention of God. At this juncture we pause for a moment to reflect on the love, mercy, grace and faithfulness of God which carried us through all the challenges which we faced last year. Indeed our God is ever faithful.

Allow us to use this opportunity to thank our former Chancellor, Dr. John Kakembo with whom we worked for almost five years. We would like to appreciate his contribution to the development of Bugema University and to wish him well as he continues to labor for God after retirement.

Again we would like to use the same opportunity to welcome Pr. Daniel Matte as the new Chancellor of the University and to thank him for his dedicated service for the University. We would like to thank him for his insight and wisdom, advice and support. We do pray for his ministry.

Thanks go to the Union Executive members, Conference leaders, Mission and Field Officers and all University Council members who have been working hard in their various committees to make sure that we succeed in our endeavors.

To the National Council for Higher Education we say thank you for your strong support which has helped us to shape our programs and recruit qualified personnel.

Thanks go to AAA and GCAS for their help and directions which the teams always give when they visit the University for evaluation. Your recommendations and pieces of advice have helped us to do things right and to remain focused.

We cannot forget to thank Dr. Richard Rajarathnam and family, Dr. Yeboah and family, Dr. Rurangir and family who sponsor many activities and students on our campus. We pray that the Lord will continue to bless them.

To the parents and sponsors of our students, we would like to thank you all for the trust you have in us, and for your financial support which we cannot do without.

Thanks go to our stakeholders, well-wishers, our suppliers, the Security enforcement agents, the Community leaders and community members who always support our endeavors.

Most importantly we would like to thank the President of the Republic of Uganda, His Excellency, Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for his kind gesture towards the expansion of our library by donating five hundred million Uganda shillings to the University. The University will never forget this kind gesture shown by the President.

On a personal note, I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow administrators, centers coordinators, faculty, staff and students who are hard working, peace loving and supportive. You have given me a vibrant environment to work in.

Last year is gone with its own ups and downs. We start a new academic year with optimism. There is more to think about and more to do. God has chosen us to work in His vineyard and we cannot shame Him. Never!!!

It is high time we graduated from the primary school of instruction in mutual understanding and in search of solutions for our common interests. As Elie Wiesel founder of the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity said on the Seventh White House Millennium Evening, Washington, “Together we walk towards the new millennium, carried by profound fear and extraordinary hope.” Yes. But amidst all these, God is still in control. Isaiah 65:24 says “Before they call, I will answer; and while they are still speaking I will hear” – **Amen.**