



THIRD QUARTER NEWSLETTER

July - September 2013

Academic Affairs

As July ushered in the academic year's classes were ending and preparations were underway for the final exams. By the mid of the month, all academic activities of the year were completed and on the 23rd, the University College's Senate approved the successful completion of the courses of the semester, the grade reports presented by the Registrar's Office. The Senate also approved the formation of Quality Assurance Unit under the leadership of its Director Ato Tariku Gebremichael.

During this quarter, the three schools (the Schools of Business & Finance, Information Sciences, and Science & Technology held academic commission meetings and deliberated on staff and student affairs. All the second year students majoring in the Faculty of Business were sent for summer internship to different private and government institutions, organizations and companies for about 8-10 weeks. Each student is now returning with his/her evaluation copy from wherever he/she interned. The ones we had a chance to talk to were happy with their experiences and the whole venture of internship. Now each department will assess the performance of the interns and write a recommendation for improvement and advancement of the program for the coming academic year.

It is also during this time the Higher Education Relevance and Quality Agency of the Federal Ministry of Education visited HUC to evaluate the preparation for the new department of Environmental Science and Sustainable Development within the faculty of Science and Technology and since the Agency was satisfied with our preparation, it granted the accreditation. We are proud of those staff members who were diligent enough to bring the document to acceptable level by Educational Authorities.

As part of HERQA's requirement and in order to strengthen the teaching-learning process at our College and also build academic staff's understanding of student assessment as well as classroom management, a three- day special training on pedagogical aspects of teaching was conducted from 23-25 of September. Prior to the training, the Quality Assurance Director, Ato Tariku Gebremichael was given the responsibility of both, identifying task area, preparing the reference handbook and also recruiting pertinent professional to offer the training. All academic staff participated in the training and it was a very satisfying venture indeed.



Staff training underway

Administrative Affairs

Personnel changes were made involving both the academic as well as the administrative services. A cashier in our finance office left and a new one has been hired to replace the out-going. Since we did not have the required number of academic staff during the last two years, we had to

recruit new members to fill the gaps. To this effect 13 faculty members have been hired for the new academic year. This year, we will have freshman, second and third year students and registration is underway at the moment. We are expecting some 250 new students to be admitted to the University College this academic year.

During the entire quarter, there have been various clean-up activities that included buildings and floor washing, grass mowing, tree planting, classrooms refurbishing, blackboards and whiteboards maintenance, etc. The grass mowing machine was donated to the College by the President Ambassador Teketel Forssido. The Architecture department needed additional studio furnishings and some 30 stools and equal number tables



Teketel introducing the mowing machine

were made to accommodate the newly incoming student requirements. In addition, six staff offices have been newly partitioned to allow proper separation between deans, department heads and the rest of the staff.

The yearly property inventory was also carried out during the early parts of the quarter. In order to inform both the College community as well as the visiting outsiders, the College's vision, mission and the objectives were printed on large advertisement sizes and posted at the College entrance. This would help those members of the community to comprehend the items easily rather than going to the Charter itself. The total amount of costs involved in the various maintenance works during the quarter was 311,000.00Birr.

With aim to establish a partner and working relationship, minutes of understanding has been signed with the local private bank called Awash International Bank on July 28, 2013. With this agreement it is hoped to enhance leadership skills of the young in various business endeavors. The bank, it is hoped, will among others serve as potential employer of our interneers and graduates. It was in this quarter that six months financial report was made to the General Secretary, as this was a required process by the Enterprise Board.

Power connection request to the transformer has been made to EEPCO. As we were asked to pay for the connection, ETB 164, 000.00 has been paid and we are still waiting for the final connection. In order to attract the new applicants to the college, several radio (33) and television (8) advertisements were made with the cost of ETB 84,000. As a result of such effort we are witnessing increased number of inquiries.

The power back-up generator has been installed during the early parts of September. The University College is indeed grateful to Egbert Klop, Ane Marten de Vries, Erik Oudenaarden and Christian Oudenaarden who came from the Netherlands to do this arduous job of installation. They also brought working hand tools and gave to our maintenance technicians. This entire generator installation project was financed by Woord en Daad. On behalf of our entire College community, we would like to thank W&D for the generous support.

Partner visit

On July 22, 2013 group of Parliamentarians form the Netherlands visited our College and had group discussions with youth both from our college and out side. The Law-Makers were joined by the Ambassador of the Netherlands to Ethiopia and his diplomatic staff from the Embassy.



Dutch Parliamentarians with ambassador of the Netherlands and HUC president

It is our felt belief that the group's visit was very fruitful as we could gather the impressions both from the visiting parliamentarians as well as the diplomats.

Merlinda Aleme from the Pepperdine University in the United States visited our College and had discussions with the President, Ambassador Teketel , regarding possibilities of creating some relations between the two academic institutions. Merlinda would like to link up her university with ours in the area of sharing experiences and challenges in teaching "entrepreneurship in Ethiopia". We will pursue this matter further in the coming near future. We are very grateful to Merlinda for her interest and motivation to work with our young university college.

Ethiopiaid in its continued good will to support us, sent Professor Graeme Salaman to come to HUC and make field studies on the current situation, challenges and opportunities and associated options available to us at HUC. Accordingly, Professor Salaman visited our College from September 16-20 and



Partnership discussion with Prof. Salaman on strengthening HUC

had extensive discussions with the College leadership, the General Secretary of Hope Enterprise, and also has opportunity to visit another private university to have an overview of the challenges facing private higher educational institutions. As a result of his successful visit, we all are anxiously awaiting for positive developments.

Volunteers

From among the three volunteers we had one of them Holly Garret, an English teacher left for home back to the United States. The service she provided during her stay at the College was very useful for us. We are very grateful for that indeed. It is our hope that someone will volunteer to take up her vacant position. As often we would like to have more volunteering friends to help us provide the poor youth better opportunities to become valuable citizens.

Sponsorship needs

As I write these sentences, there are some five young support seeking young students (four girls and a boy) at my office door to solicit some sort of assistance. This is only an example of what I daily encounter these registration weeks. Many coming from poverty- stricken households tell me, the facts I do believe and know. But still we could not accommodate even the worst of cases due to the fund limitations. This situation forces me to bring the matter only to those who read these lines to lend a helping hand and if possible to further spread the words to others who could do some generosity.

How you can help

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The vision of HUC is to provide quality education that produces graduates who combine knowledge, skills and values to contribute to the renewal and transformation of Ethiopia. HUC believes all students should be in a setting where they develop a love of learning driven by creativity and curiosity, and also a desire to make their communities a place of hope, justice, peace and progress. We value each student and desire to involve them in an educational process that develops them to their full potentials. In this initiative, we believe that no student who has a yearning for learning should be left behind. On behalf of those needy students, we are currently looking for student sponsorships for the academic year 2014-2015.

For more information or to make a donation, please visit our website or contact us in our LEBU Office in Addis Ababa.

Thank you for your generosity!