

ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY OF AFRICA

AUATODAY



2016 ISSUE

CIRCLE OF
PROVIDENCE
10TH ANNIVERSARY
SOUVENIR ISSUE



Circle of Providence

Celebrating the Past | Appreciating the Present | Envisioning the Future



Editor's Word

Adventist University of Africa (AUA) has marked ten years from inception. AUA's birth, growth, and development is attributed to the Lord Almighty. This institution was and is dedicated to fulfil its mandate of preparing leaders who will effectively lead the Church in the 21st Century.

Deep appreciation is given to the leadership, pioneers, founders, and all the instrumental people who oversaw the start of this unique educational institution. AUA is indebted to their sacrifice and commitment.

Ellen White wrote "In reviewing our past history, having travelled over every step of advance to our present standing, I can say, Praise God! As I see what the Lord has wrought, I am filled with astonishment, and with confidence in Christ as leader. We have nothing to fear for the future, except as we shall forget the way the Lord has led us, and His teaching in our past history" *Life Sketches*, 196.

May the Lord enlighten your mind as you read this timely issue on the Circle of God's Providence: Celebrating the Past, Appreciating the Present, and Envisioning the Future.

Happy tenth anniversary, AUA!



Janet Oyende

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Chancellor's Word

It is my pleasure to welcome each one of our readers to this inaugural issue of *AUA Today*. We are grateful for the circle of Providence that has guided AUA to this incredible milestone of reaching its 10th anniversary celebration.

Since I have had the privilege of being a part of AUA's development from the early days, when I look back at the way God has led us, all I can say is that we have indeed come this far by faith. It seems like it was only yesterday when we were brainstorming with our three Divisions in Africa on how to create a graduate institution of academic excellence.

Ten years later, AUA is providing a world-class educational experience and equips hundreds of Adventist professionals for dedicated service each year. With the dynamic visionary leadership of the AUA team, both past and present, this institution continues to be on the cutting edge of Adventist Christian education.

As you read through these pages, it is our fervent prayer that you would be uplifted and inspired to partner with us in taking AUA to even higher heights for God's kingdom.



Blasious Ruguri, DMin
Chancellor

Vice Chancellor's Welcome

We are delighted to welcome you to enjoy the first copy of *AUA Today*. This commemorative issue is being released during the 10th Anniversary Celebration of the founding of the Adventist University of Africa. AUA is located on beautiful Advent Hill, sharing this spacious campus with the East-Central Africa Division Headquarters, Maxwell Adventist Academy, and ADRA Africa.

As you read through these pages, you will be inspired with how God has blessed the founding and development of this institution. You will see that AUA is committed to the educational ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The AUA faculty, staff and administration are deeply dedicated to the education and preparation of Church workers and members to serve in Africa and around the world.

Take time to become acquainted with the vision and history that guided the University, reflect on the pioneers who helped forge the path to make it a reality. Take a moment to see the current and pending programmes of study. Perhaps you or someone you know will want to register for classes, degree programmes, or certification opportunities. Also, we are pleased to have information in this issue about the recently established scholarship funds for AUA students, particularly those students who sponsor their own educational costs.

Finally, please remember to pray for and promote AUA in your church, territory, and area of influence.

Welcome to the world of AUA!



Delbert Baker, PhD
Vice Chancellor

AUA Vision and Mission

Mission

To deliver dynamic postgraduate education in a Christian context, to prepare graduates to provide competent leadership and service based on integrity, respect, and love, to meet the needs of church and society.

Vision

To be one of the best universities, fostering the highest standards of postgraduate education in Africa, advancing knowledge and professional skills in a holistic context.

Core Values

Knowledge. Truth. Service.

AUA Mace

Created in 2012, the mace has a two-dimensional carving of the map of Africa, symbolizing AUA presence and service on the continent, placed to spin around an axis to which it is hinged, with three metallic strips representing the Three Angels' Messages. The vision, mission, and the core values of the University are embedded on brass rings spaced on the wooden post of the mace.

AUA Stats and Facts

The Adventist University of Africa is a private, church-sponsored, graduate University that serves the three African Divisions: East-Central Africa Division, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division, and West-Central Africa Division.

Year of Inception: 2006

Main Campus: Nairobi, Kenya

Extension Campuses:

- Babcock University, Nigeria
- Solusi University, Zimbabwe
- Valley View University, Ghana
- Helderberg College, South Africa
- University of Eastern Africa, Baraton

Number of Schools: 2

- Theological Seminary
- School of Postgraduate Studies

Number of Graduate Programmes: 9

Theological Seminary offers 5 masters degree programmes and 1 doctoral degree programme. The School of Postgraduate Studies offers 3 masters degree programmes.

Student Nationalities: 32 African countries

Faculty: 19 core full-time

Adjuncts: Approximately 150 part-time

Current Enrolment: 664

Total Graduates from 2009-to date: 430



The AUA Mace

“AUA has
a student
representation
from 32
African
nations.”

University Council Members (2015-2020)/Sponsoring Entities

General Conference/AUA

Ella S. Simmons, Council Chair, General Vice President
 Delbert W. Baker, Council Secretary, AUA
 Lisa Beardsley-Hardy, Director of Education
 Mike Letic, Liaison for Higher Education, ECD
 George Egwakhe, Associate Treasurer
 Hensley Mooroven, Associate Secretary



General Conference
 Silver Spring, Maryland

East-Central Africa Division

Jerome Habimana, Treasurer
 Andrew Mutero, Education Director
 Musa Mitekaro, Ministerial Secretary
 Robert Muhune, President, ECUM
 Patrick Manu, Vice Chancellor, Bugema University



ECD, Nairobi, Kenya

Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division

Solomon Maphosa, President
 Goodwell Nthani, Chief Financial Officer
 Ellah Kamwendo, Education Director
 Passmore Mulambo, Ministerial Secretary
 Pardon Mwansa, Vice Chancellor, Rusangu University
 Manuel Pacheco, President, SWAUM
 Nokuthula Moyo, Lay Representative



SID, Pretoria, South Africa

West-Central Africa Division

Elie Weick-Dido, President
 Emmanuel Manu, Treasurer
 Daniel Opoku-Boateng, Ministerial Secretary
 Juvenal Balisasa, Education Director
 Francis F. Daria, President, NNUC



WAD, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Permanent Invitees

Blasious Ruguri, President, ECD (AUA Chancellor)
 Alain Coralie, Executive Secretary, ECD
 Gideon Reyneke, Executive Secretary, SID
 Kingsley C. Anonaba, Executive Secretary, WAD
 Samuel Makori, President, EKUC
 Kenneth Maena, President, WKUC



AUA, Nairobi, Kenya

CELEBRATING THE PAST

SDA Educational Roots

“The history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been closely linked to education.”



Joseph Bates, the first known Sabbath-keeping Adventist to come to Battle Creek in 1852 and win converts. (Source: www.heritagebattlecreek.org/)



Battle Creek, first established in 1874. (Source: www.memorymeaningfaith.org)

The history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church has been closely linked to education. In 1853, ten years before the church's General Conference was formally organized, the first elementary school started operating. Twenty-one years later (1874), the church established its first college in Battle Creek, Michigan. By the year 1900, Seventh-day Adventist schools had already been established in Europe, Africa, Australia, and South America.

By 2003, the number of Seventh-day Adventist schools, worldwide, had increased to 7,800 with a cumulative enrollment of 1,814,000 students. Of these, over 83,588 attended at least 99 tertiary level institutions. There were 99 universities and colleges, fifteen (including two junior colleges) operated in Africa. The Department of Education of the Seventh-day Adventist Church was created in 1887 to give leadership to the denomination's growing educational system. It

now operates worldwide, at all educational levels.

The General Conference International Board of Education (IBE) is the primary vehicle through which the Department of Education coordinates the Adventist world system of education. One of its functions is to approve the establishment or discontinuance of tertiary-level schools and programmes.

IBE also works closely with the General Conference International Board of Ministerial and Theological Education (IBMTE), which provides overall guidance and standards—in consultation with each of the world Divisions—for church institutions that offer ministerial and religious education, together with professional preparation, for those who aspire to be

denominational employees.

In addition, the General Conference Department of Education operates the Adventist Accrediting Association of Seventh-day Adventist Colleges and Universities (AAA), which is the denominational accrediting authority for all tertiary and postgraduate educational programmes and institutions owned by the church.

Regular AAA visits focus on the quality of the programmes offered and the implementation of the Seventh-day Adventist philosophy of education. Each world Division is involved in the accreditation process of the institutions in its territory. In addition, as much as possible, AAA tries to coordinate its visits with the accreditation visits of the respective national and/or other accrediting bodies.

“AAA is the denominational accrediting authority for all tertiary and postgraduate educational programmes and institutions.”



Solusi University, in 2016



Solusi University, the oldest Seventh-day Adventist higher education institution in Africa, established in 1902

Launching the Dream

“The topic of discussion was the feasibility of establishing an institution offering postgraduate degree programmes in Africa.”

With a rapidly growing church, church leaders and pastors realised that the possibility of doing postgraduate work in Africa was challenging. This led, in 2003, to a consultation requested by the three Divisions, with representatives of colleges and universities in Africa and from the General Conference. The topic of discussion was the feasibility of establishing an institution offering postgraduate degree programmes in Africa.

The consultation produced the recommendation to establish a bold new institution that would only offer post-graduate degree programmes in abbreviated intensive sessions each year. Classes would be taught at the Main Campus and Extension Campuses on selected, existing Adventist universities/colleges. These locations were to be identified in the territories of each of the three partnering Divisions.



Why the Need for AUA?

1. Growing educational challenges in Africa.
2. Demand for professional development and leadership training among church workers.
3. Impact of rapid church growth and organizational expansion.
4. Growing sophistication and multicultural diversity of church members.
5. Difficulty for students to leave their families and work to pursue fulltime education.
6. Provide quality graduate education in an African Adventist context.
7. Opportunities to be of greater service to society, locally and globally.

AUA Progress in Pictures



Judith Thomas Library - 2010



Student Hostels - 2010



Judith Thomas Library - 2012



Student Hostels - 2012

Original Grounds - 2010



Current
Grounds
2016

For who hath despised the day of small things? For they shall rejoice ...
Zechariah 4:10

In the year 2006, the Adventist University of Africa (AUA) was founded under God's providence. It began with a dream in response to a need. The need was for graduate education, development, and training for the workers and members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the continent of Africa. The dream was to create a General Conference institution of higher education that would serve

FROM DREAM TO REALITY

Delbert Baker, PhD, *Vice Chancellor*

"The need was for graduate education, development, and training for the workers and members of the Seventh-day Adventist Church on the continent of Africa."

the world field; but more specifically it would serve the three Divisions on continent of Africa: East-Central Africa, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean, and West-Central Africa.

The year 2006 was when AUA was founded. However, it was in 2000 that plans for AUA began to materialize. The operating philosophy, location, curriculum, and pioneering leaders were finalized. In order for AUA to be successful, it was realized that the academic programmes would need to be accessible, adaptable, and affordable for the constituent entities, workers, and members. The guiding focus of the plan for AUA was always with an eye toward the future needs of the work in Africa and the world field.

The AUA dream took shape under the guidance of committed African church administrators, pastors, educators, and workers in collaboration with the General Conference executive officers and leaders and other interested persons. The University became a reality as a result of fervent prayer, deep study, and wide counsel.

The founding charter of AUA identified

it as a GC institution that would work in cooperation with the other Adventist educational institutions on the continent of Africa to provide graduate education, training, development, and certification for the building of God's work.

Today, the academic programmes at AUA are undergirded with a solid Biblical core, intellectual rigor, professional excellence and a practical relevance toward hands-on ministry. This approach is consistent with the counsel of the Spirit of Prophecy. Since its founding, more than 430 graduates have received the blessing of education at AUA and left their indelible mark on the institution while going forth to serve.

The Adventist University of Africa has its main campus in Nairobi, Kenya. Currently there are five Extension Campuses where students gather so that they have the convenience of learning near their territory and area of employment. These campuses include: Solusi University (Zimbabwe); Babcock University (Nigeria); Valley View University (Ghana), University of Eastern Africa at Baraton (Kenya); and Helderberg College (South Africa). Plans for additional campuses include locations in Zambia, Angola, and Madagascar.

The future is bright as AUA celebrates its 10th Anniversary and enters the second decade of service. Let the story of this special place inspire and motivate you as we reflect on the unique blessings of AUA within the circle of Providence!



The Way of Providence



2004-2005
Selection of Kenya
as the site for the
Postgraduate
Institution



May 16, 2010
First SDP Funds
Drive



September 13, 2005
AUA Administration
Building
Groundbreaking



May 28, 2012
Judith Thomas
Library Opening



May 9, 2008
Granted Letter
of Interim Authority



March 1, 2013 Granted University Charter



August 24, 2008
Judith Thomas
Library
Groundbreaking



September 4-6, 2014
First Annual Research
Conference: *The Global
Ethics Crisis*



July 24-26, 2009 Alpha Graduation Ceremony at Babcock University



April 26-27, 2016
Installation of
Second Vice
Chancellor

Have Faith in Divine Providence

Have faith in the
all wise,
all powerful and
all merciful Providence of God,
who does all things well
through His Son, Jesus Christ!

God is in control!
He has a purpose for your life!
His purpose WILL prevail,
if you will trust Him,
if you will expect His help, and
if you will be led by His Spirit.

For it is the Hand of Providence
That sustains, guides, and protects you!

Have faith in the Power of God.
Have faith in the Power of His Purpose.
Have faith in Providence.



Poem by Ken Pilcher, Jr.

THOSE WHO LED THE WAY

Leaders Involved in the Founding

Many individuals and leaders were instrumental in the founding of AUA. However, there were three Division presidents of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Africa who took the initiative to request a consultation with the General Conference to address the need for postgraduate education in Africa. These leaders were:

- Luka T. Daniel, West-Central Africa Division
- Geoffrey Mbwana, East-Central Africa Division
- Pardon Mwansa, Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division

The presidents invited key church administrators, university/college administrators from their respective territories, and representatives of the General Conference to consider the educational needs of African pastors and workers.

The General Conference designated Gerry Karst (General Vice President, Education) to preside at the consultation. The General Conference executive officers who facilitated the request were:

- Jan Paulsen, President
- Matthew Bediako, Secretary
- Robert Lemon, Treasurer

After the two-day meeting in Arusha, Tanzania (September 10-11, 2003), a report was given to the General Conference with the request to appoint an Interim Management Committee to lead in the creation of the new postgraduate institution. The following constituted the membership of the Committee:

- Gerry Karst, Vice President, GC – Committee Chair
- Claude Sabot, Associate Secretary, GC – Committee Secretary, 2003-2004

- Luka T. Daniel, President, WAD
 - Ceazar Hechanova, Treasurer, WAD
 - Chiemela Ikonke, Education Director, WAD
 - Andrews Ewoo, Ministerial Secretary, WAD
 - Geoffrey Mbwana, President, ECD
 - Blasious Ruguri, Executive Secretary, ECD
 - Sergie Ferrer, Treasurer, ECD
 - Hudson Kibuuka, Education Director, ECD
 - Pardon Mwansa, President, SID
 - Jannie Bekker, Treasurer, SID
 - Tommy Nkungula, Education Director, SID
 - Zacchaeus Mathema, Ministerial Secretary, SID
 - Roy Ryan, Associate Treasurer, GC
 - John Fowler, Associate Director Education, GC
- Werner Vyhmeister, dean emeritus of the Theological Seminary (Andrews University) was invited to attend the meetings of the Interim Management Committee as a consultant. Upon the resignation of Claude Sabot as Committee Secretary in April 2004, he was requested to become the secretary.

“Many individuals and leaders were instrumental in the founding of AUA.”

Founding Couples



The Owusu-Antwis

Names: Dr. Brempong Owusu-Antwi and Mrs. Mabel Owusu-Antwi

Year of Joining AUA: 2006

Position at Joining: Vice Chancellor and Registrar

Period of Service: 2006-2016

Current Position: Professor and Assistant to the Director at the Ellen G. White Estate Branch Office

The Mathemas

Names: Dr. Zacchaeus Mathema and Mrs. Nonceba Mathema

Year of Joining AUA: 2006

Position at Joining: Professor and Administrative Assistant

Period of Service: 2006 to date

Current Position: MA Leadership Programme Director and Administrative Assistant to the Vice Chancellor



The Musvosvis

Names: Drs. Joel Musvosvi and Angeline Musvosvi

Year of Joining AUA: 2008

Position at Joining: Dean of Seminary and Assistant Librarian

Period of Service: 2008-2012

Current Position: Vice Chancellor and Head of Food Science and Nutrition, Faculty of Science and Technology, Solusi University



APPRECIATING THE PRESENT

EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Theological Seminary

by Sampson M. Nwaomah, PhD, PGDE, Dean

The history of the Theological Seminary (TS) at the Adventist University of Africa (AUA) is directly linked to the vision of the leaders of the Church in Africa. These leaders recognized the need to advance the educational preparation of manpower in response to the growing challenges of mission in Africa, as well as to contribute to manpower development for the world Church.

Hence, the Theological Seminary is a faith educational community committed to preparing faithful, resourceful, spiritual, and intellectual Christian workers and leaders. The Seminary provides a platform where intellectual and spiritual understanding of religion, ethics, and morality may be pursued within the context of the centrality of the Bible as the word of God.

The Seminary is committed to biblically equipping men and women with sound hermeneutical principles in biblical interpretation for learning and living. From the Theological Seminary, graduates go out to engage in the task of declaring the saving grace of God and making disciples of all nations in the context of the everlasting gospel of Revelation 14.

The Seminary began in 2006 with one academic programme—Pastoral Theology—taught at three Extension Campuses across the continent. Presently, the Seminary offers programmes at four campuses: AUA main campus in Kenya; Babcock University, Nigeria; Solusi University, Zimbabwe; and Valley View University, Ghana. New Extension Campuses will be added in Angola, Madagascar, and South Africa in 2017.

The Seminary's current programmes are Biblical Studies, Theological-Historical Studies, Chaplaincy, Church Ministry, Missiology, and Pastoral Theology. The highest degree offered is the Doctor of Ministry. It is proposed that the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Religion with emphasis in Biblical and Theological-Historical Studies and Mission will commence in 2018 contingent on the enabling consent of all approving bodies.

Current student enrolment is approximately 463, representing more than thirty countries. The Seminary faculty is diverse, drawn from Africa, the Americas, and Europe.

Since its inception, the Seminary has been under the leadership of Dr. Brempong Owusu-Antwi, who simultaneously served as the first Vice Chancellor of AUA; then Dr. Joel Musvosvi to move the Seminary forward with able leadership. The current Dean is leading the advance of scholarship and spirituality as the Seminary charts new directions of influence.

Welcome to the Theological Seminary.



“A platform where intellectual and spiritual understanding of religion, ethics, and morality may be pursued.”

Theological Seminary Programmes

The **Master of Chaplaincy (MChap) degree programme** provides basic postgraduate professional preparation for chaplaincy ministries with a broad exposure to other fields of theological study. It is intended for those who feel the call to become professional chaplains and to fill in the need for service in military, healthcare, campus, and correctional institutions.

The **Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree programme** provides basic postgraduate professional preparation for ministry with a broad exposure to all fields of theological study. Practical field experience is a vital part of this programme. The MDiv programme is intended for those who already have an undergraduate background in ministerial studies and for those who hold a baccalaureate degree in an area other than religion, but who want to obtain the basic preparation needed to become pastors or church workers in the Adventist denomination.

The **Master of Arts in Pastoral Theology (MAPh)** is a professional degree programme designed for pastors with experience in the field of ministry, who fulfil diverse ministerial functions of the Church. It equips students with appropriate theological knowledge, biblical insights, and advanced pastoral skills to advance the objectives of the Church.

The **Master of Arts in Missiology** assists pastors and other ministry workers in developing expertise in the area of Mission Studies with specialised training specifically in African Traditional Religion and Islamic Ministry.

The **Master of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies (MABTS)** has been designed to assist theologians, pastors, and other ministry workers in developing expertise in various areas of Scripture, theology, and church history. The programme offers five majors: Old Testament Studies, New Testament Studies, Studies in Biblical Languages, Theological Studies, and Church History.

The **Doctor of Ministry (DMin)** is the highest competency level pastoral ministry degree programme primarily designed for the practice of ministry. The programme is oriented toward serving the needs of pastors, mission executives, church leaders, and other ministry professionals. There are 9 concentrations in this programme: (i) Chaplaincy; (ii) Church, African Society and Mission; (iii) Church Leadership and Administration; (iv) Discipleship and Spiritual Formation; (v) Evangelism and Church Growth; (vi) Marriage and Family; (vii) Pastoral Care and Counselling; (viii) Word, Worship and Liturgy; and (ix) Youth Ministry.



School of Postgraduate Studies

by Daniel Ganu, *DrPH, Dean*

The School of Postgraduate Studies (SPS) is a vibrant and innovative educational component of the Adventist University of Africa (AUA).

In 2006, the School began with one degree program—the Master of Arts in Leadership. The programme was small, but progressive even in its early days. Cohorts of students were taught on the AUA main campus in Nairobi, Kenya, at Solusi University in Zimbabwe and at Babcock University in Nigeria. It is significant that the School's initial programme was in leadership for AUA would later become known as the institution that develops leaders.

The School started under the leadership of Professor Brempong Owusu-Antwi, who was also the founding Vice Chancellor of the University. Professor Mutuku J. Mutinga became the first official Dean of the School; he was succeeded by Professor Zacchaeus Mathema, who served as acting Dean for a period. Next, Professor Willard Mungler shouldered the leadership of SPS, until the current Dean, Dr. Daniel Ganu was appointed to seamlessly move the School into the next phase of excellence.

Today, there are three graduate level programmes in the School: the Master of Arts in Leadership, Master of Business Administration, and Master of Public Health. Student cohorts continue to be located around the continent, including the main campus in Kenya, Babcock University in Nigeria, Valley View University in Ghana and Helderberg College in South Africa. Over the years, SPS has had three great strengths: its qualified and dedicated faculty who come from around the globe; its students who exert every effort to prepare themselves for greater service to God and humankind; and the abundant blessings of God that maintain SPS within the circle of Providence at AUA.

The School has as its mission: To develop Christian professionals committed to

competence in their area of expertise, in academic scholarship, integrity, and service. Through its programmes, the SPS answers the call to train leaders on African soil in the principles of true education that are foundational for quality living, quality relationships, and quality service.

Students receive an education for eternity that develops: 1) personal commitment to Christ; 2) deep and practical knowledge of their profession; 3) the ability to think critically and creatively; 4) intellectual maturity; 5) professional competency; 6) transparency, integrity and character; 7) respect for cultural diversity and individual differences; 8) a heart of compassion and caring; 9) commitment to healthful living, fiscal responsibility and lifelong learning; 10) emotional and spiritual intelligence to live at peace with God, self and others.

As SPS celebrates this 10th Anniversary with friends and family, our commitment has never been stronger to exemplify excellence in education that prepares for eternity.

We warmly welcome you to the School of Postgraduate Studies and invite you to partner with us in training leaders for Africa and beyond.



"SPS has three great strengths: qualified faculty, committed students, and blessings of God."

SPS Programmes

The **Master of Business Administration (MBA)** programme is designed to equip students and prepare them to become agents of change wherever they are called to work. The programme provides skills and expertise so that students are immediately employable and contribute significantly to the success of the organizations that recruit them. The courses, lecturers, and environment facilitate the development of critical thinking, innovative leadership, and an awareness of one's responsibility to self, the church, and society at large. This MBA programme is distinctive in design, incorporating spiritual and ethical values to balance professional competency. Using the latest developments in technology, the courses are offered through both online and face-to-face instructional formats to ensure that students acquire knowledge on a continual basis.

The **Master of Public Health (MPH)** programme empowers students with knowledge, skills, and aptitudes to impact the community. Strong communities are the foundation of Public Health. Preventive

and promotive health actions are especially emphasized to enhance the total well-being of individuals within underserved communities on the African continent and beyond. Research is encouraged to foster knowledge and bring solutions to problems. The programme offers a rigorous academic curriculum which combines face-to-face as well as online interactions between lecturers, students, and student groups.

The **Master of Arts in Leadership (MA Leadership)** is an interdisciplinary, collaborative programme designed to meet the needs of mid-level career leaders. It integrates biblical philosophy with management, education, health, and research sciences in a beautiful ensemble that enlarges the perspectives of the students and develops successful leaders. It provides an innovative and highly flexible approach to self-motivated learners to pursue a degree in the context of a learning community.



Deepening Roots

by Anna Galeniece, DMin, Director

The contemporary African society has become diversified in educational, economic, and generational senses, thus creating new challenges that affect spirituality, even within the rapidly growing Seventh-day Adventist Church.

In 2015, one hundred years after her death, the Church celebrated E. G. White's prophetic ministry. These facts testify that with every passing year, the gap between White's time and ours is widening, particularly in the light of her and African cultural differences.

While the majority of Adventists on the continent believe in the Spirit of Prophecy, there are many who have not fully understood the message for a variety of reasons. That is why the Ellen G. White Estate at the General Conference established the E. G. White Estate Branch Office (EGWEBO) at AUA. It became the first branch office outside of North America, in November 2013. Since then, the office has been committed to acquiring and preserving a comprehensive collection of E. G. White writings in their duplicate forms and church heritage resources in all formats.

This has been done to reaffirm people's attention to the writings of E. G. White by promoting readership of her works in hard and electronic copies, while uplifting Jesus Christ and the Bible among AUA students and the Adventist community in general.

In order to fully embrace a message, the messenger must be introduced. Therefore, the EGWEBO's staff publicizes and shares the life and ministry of E. G. White to all its patrons and constituents. It also organizes Sabbath heritage programmes on the AUA campus and in local churches upon request. Additionally, the Spirit of Prophecy symposium at AUA and



“The gap between Ellen White’s time and our time is widening.”

numerous seminars in all three Divisions (ECD, SID, and WAD) have blessed thousands of believers and brought them closer to Christ and the Bible.

A quarterly electronic newsletter *The Highlights* is published in English and Swahili languages. This dynamic newsletter has subscribers in Africa and across the world. Its practical articles feature subjects focused on Christian experiences on this earth, the way to salvation in Christ, and the joys of the world to come.



The first Spirit of Prophecy Symposium held in Africa at AUA, 27-30 July 2016.

Expanding Knowledge

by Susan M Baker, PT, DSc, Director of Research and Faculty Development

There is one thing we know for sure about the future: it will be vastly different from today. One reason for this is that knowledge will continue to increase, as the Bible promises. A major contribution that educational institutions can make is to help people make sense of this explosion of knowledge. How? By conducting substantive, relevant, and novel research. At AUA, faculty and students partner to engage in research that will advance knowledge, inquiry, and truth.

In this issue of *AUA Today*, we highlight faculty research and professional interests. We have also selected three representative student research projects submitted by graduates in 2016.

Together, the diversity and expertise of AUA faculty and student research and professional interests can be seen. We celebrate our faculty, students and scholarly excellence!

Core Faculty Research and Professional Interests*

- Baker, Delbert:** Executive leadership; Organizational administration; Denominational history (TS & SPS)
- Baker, Susan:** Health education/promotion; Adult teaching and learning; Exercise/muscle physiology (SPS)
- Bonde, Lossan:** Cyber security; Embedded systems and Internet of Things; Artificial intelligence (SPS)
- Figueroa, Victor:** Theological studies; Ecclesiology; New Testament exegesis (TS)
- Galeniece, Anna:** Life, work and writings of E.G. White; Church ministry; Adventist mission (TS)
- Galenieks, Eriks:** Old Testament theology and exegesis; Adventist studies; New Testament interpretation (TS)
- Ganu, Daniel:** Children's health; Drug abuse; Spirituality and health (SPS)
- Ganu, Josephine:** Succession planning; Employee health and wellness; Organizational justice (SPS)
- Mathema, Zacchaeus:** Ethical/moral formation; Resolving Africa's enigmatic situations; Biblical spirituality (SPS & TS)
- Munger, Willard:** Parallel processing; Distributed systems; Computing languages (SPS)
- Nwaomah, Angela:** Student records management; Organization information management; Organizational behaviour (SPS)

Nwaomah, Sampson: New Testament theology; Biblical ecology; Religion and society (TS)

Nyakora, Musa: Human resource capital; Organizational development; Change management (SPS)

Nyamari, Jackim: Environmental epidemiology; Food and water sanitation; Occupational health and safety (SPS)

Onongha, Kelvin: Intercultural studies and communication; Missions; Worldview transformation (TS)

Razafiarivony, Davidson Christianity and early Judaism; Greco-Roman backgrounds in New Testament studies; Biblical textual criticism and translation (TS)

Razafiarivony, Marie Anne Christian values in business teaching; Career development; Entrepreneurship (SPS)

*Teaching assignment in TS = Theological Seminary; SPS = School of Postgraduate Studies

Highlighted Student Research**

Alu, Caleb Olayiwola (MABTS, June 2016)
Title: *Exegetical-Theological Study of Genesis 6:7 and the Repentance of God*

Programme Director: Dr E Galenieks;
Advisor: Dr T Dickson; Reader: Dr A Ojewole

Egbe, Ikechukwu Kalu (MAPTh, June 2016)
Title: *The Effects of Frequent Transfer on Pastoral Families in East Central Conference (Nigeria)*

Programme Director: Dr D Razafiarivony;
Advisor: Dr P Amanze; Reader: Dr I Ekpendu

Ogot, Eric Ochieng (MA Leadership, January 2016)
Title: *To Develop a Christian HIV/AIDS Management Program for Homa Bay County, Kenya*

Programme Director: Dr Z Mathema;
Advisor: Dr N Nyaundi; Reader: Dr H Ndlovu

**In parenthesis are academic programme and date of graduation (graduate Studies)

Enhancing Our Capacity to Serve



The programmes, services, and projects at Adventist University of Africa are focused on empowering students to be leaders. Part of achieving this objective is the challenge to continue creating conducive environments for learning to flourish. Therefore, AUA has various projects under-way to restructure, re-model, and re-engineer the physical campus.

First, the Theological Seminary and School of Postgraduate Studies are restructuring the current space so that there is a better and a more efficient utilization of space, equipment, and other University resources. Restructuring space will also enable both Schools to have a discrete identity and “place” so that students will have greater convenience as they interact with faculty and conduct their academic business.

Coinciding with this expansion is the need for enhancing the information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure to boost faculty and student access to efficient online and on-campus resources. To get this done, the University is engaging in ICT up-grades to expand capability and technological advancement.

Moreover, construction of an additional student hostel and an 8-unit faculty apartment building will provide a much-needed

response to the growing and urgent needs of the University for student and faculty accommodation. Further, the construction and establishment of the African Adventist Heritage Museum has begun. This inspirational and historic project will deepen the historical roots of Adventism and bring together the trials, triumphs, and progress of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Africa. It will visually, graphically, and emotionally connect the past and present and will provide opportunities for education, re-search, preservation, and posterity.

Finally, a beautiful and functional Multi-purpose Complex is underway. The Complex will be an ultra-modern, green design building, well-suited for a Distance Learning Centre, smart class rooms, lecture halls, laboratories, offices, and lounges for both students and faculty. This project is made possible with the support of the three African Divisions, the General Conference, and the Strategic Development Partners (SDP).

These, among other developments, will provide a conducive environment of modern quality solutions for students, faculty, and staff. We are thankful to all the donors, supporters, entities, family, and friends for their role in enhancing our capacity to serve!

Faculty apartments (left), student hostel (top) and architectural design of the Multi-purpose Building (bottom).



AUA faculty and staff with their families on the One-Day Retreat, 2016.



The President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E. Uhuru Kenyatta, the Deputy President, Hon. William Ruto, the SDP Patron, Hon. Simeon Nyachae, the AUA Chancellor, Dr. Blasious Ruguri and former Vice Chancellor, Dr. Brempong Owusu-Antwi among other dignitaries during 2015's Strategic Development Partners Funds Drive.



Presentation of AUA Charter during the installation of Dr. Delbert Baker by the Chancellor, Dr. Blasious Ruguri, and the Council Chair, Dr. Ella Simmons.



Faculty and staff engaged in Emergency and Fire Safety Training. Safety is a high priority on Campus.



Fourth Student Hostel, completion to be in 2017.



Faculty apartments, completion to be in 2017.

IMPACT FOR ETERNITY

Alumni and Student Testimonials

Preparation for the Future

My Master of Arts in Leadership at Adventist University of Africa has really helped me to prepare for the complexities of an international leadership role. As an Associate Secretary of the General Conference, I have deeply valued my exposure to cultural and conceptual diversity acquired at AUA. This was of great benefit to my work in my previous position at the Southern Africa-Indian Ocean Division and more so at the General Conference.

During my years at AUA, I greatly appreciated the wisdom and professionalism of the faculty, together with the warmth, energy, and collegiality of my

fellow students. The facilities are excellent and the campus breathtakingly beautiful.

The unique combination of distance learning and block courses also enabled me to continue in fulltime employment whilst studying. Perhaps the biggest blessing of studying at AUA has been the spiritual focus of the curriculum. There is no doubt about their mandate.

The key purpose of AUA is to raise ethical, Godly leaders. It is my prayer that God will use me to be a blessing to His people and His work. Thank you AUA! All praise and glory to God.



Hensley Mooroven
MA Leadership
2006-2009
Associate Secretary
General Conference

Nothing Short of a Miracle!

The year 2006 was a memorable one year in my life. Something unusual happened to me with respect to my educational pursuit. I accompanied my husband, Pastor Sessou Kwasi Selom, to Babcock University to begin his MA in Pastoral Ministry offered by AUA. Though I strongly desired to undertake a MA programme in Leadership, due to financial constraints, I could not.

A day before I returned back home to Togo, my husband rushed to the house where I was staying and narrated how he went to discuss with Mrs. Vhymeister about my admission. To my greatest surprise, I was called to begin the programme immediately. It was nothing short of a miracle!

I was terrified with the presence of many Administrators from all over our Division territory in my class, we were only

two women in the class. Initially, some seemed uncomfortable, but my classmates elected me as class president for the four years of our programme (2006-2009).

I graduated with a CGPA of 4.00/4.00 points. Praise God! AUA has come to stay. It has been a blessing in my life. I patiently wait to begin a PhD in Leadership which I pray will soon be offered by AUA.



Alabi-Sessou Omobonike Adeola
MA Leadership
2006-2009
Children and Women's
Ministries Director
WAD

Reminiscing My Stay

When I started at AUA, I thought it would take a long time to successfully finish my degree. But on 2 September 2016 when I got my stuff from the hostel, ready to leave the portals of the campus, it dawned on me that I was soon to change my status from regular AUA student to AUA alumnus.

I would have loved to be up on this Hill always, but as the wise man says, everything has its beginning and its end. I will miss the beautiful ambiance of the campus. The library is not only a sight to see with glee, but it provided a quiet atmosphere to think, to study and do research during my student years.

The AUA faculty and staff, both teaching and non-teaching, are one of a kind. Starting with their hospitality, their gentle nature of handling students and guiding us to make sure we have the best service. They are exceptional. They went out of their way, even at odd hours, to fix things in the hostel, library or in lecture rooms ensuring that our stay was as comfortable as possible so that

we could excel in our studies.

The administration was exemplary of what all those who came as students, but yet leaders, ought to be. We borrow a leaf from all of them that have moulded us, those present and those that have transited AUA.

Finally, I will miss my colleagues. It has been a journey together with ups and downs, seeing the institution start and grow. Sometimes there were inconveniences because the facilities and infrastructure were new or still not fully in place. Yet, we have made it in the Spirit of 'Ubuntu' (I am because we are) and climaxing our defences with the slogan 'one for all and all for one'.

We not only were a class of its kind, the first DMin group from AUA on the continent (WAD, SID and ECD), but we also represented different cultures, countries and peoples. We found out how we truly have a rich heritage and how we are one.

May AUA continue preparing students who will be leaders in this new dawn of Africa and beyond.



Gerald Nyarega
 Doctor of Ministry
 2013-2017
 Pastor
 Central Kenya Conference
 ECD

Diversity and Beauty

When I first joined the Adventist University of Africa in 2014, I was impressed by the high standard that it upholds. I feared if I might not be able to match up with the requirements.

It is my pleasure to let others know this University is the best graduate school that fosters high quality academic and professional growth. It has a diversity of lecturers who bring with them a great wealth of experience.

The classroom experience is coloured by all the beautiful shades from the African continent, thus making learning a rich cultural exchange encounter.

When one moves out of this institution, he/she will not only have gained academic knowledge, but also widened his/her sphere of influence and networked with partners in his/her area of expertise.

God bless AUA!



Sikhumbuzo Dube
 Master of Chaplaincy
 2015-2019
 Stewardship Director
 West Zimbabwe Conference
 SID



Student in the Judith Thomas Library, a beloved campus spot.



MA Chaplaincy Class with Dr. Basharat Masih in 2016.



The Bakers awarding certificates, 3rd Annual Research Conference.



Meals in the ECD Cafeteria are a key part of the AUA experience.



Faculty, speakers and graduates at Graduation, 19 June 2016.



Judith Thomas Library

by Norah Mauti, *Assistant Librarian*

Judith Thomas Library (JTL) is a state-of-the-art facility with thousands of information resources, comprised of books, periodicals and other non-print, on-line, and digital materials. Through subscriptions to electronic peer-reviewed journals and databases, the library is able to support the University's learning needs both on and off-campus.

Some of the key services offered at JTL include; circulation of information resources, reservations, Selective Dissemination of Information (SDI), Current Awareness Services (CAS), library orientation, and answering enquiries. Our library stock includes information resources for general circulation and reference, arranged systematically using the Library of Congress Classification Scheme.

In order to prepare library users to be successful researchers and critical consumers of information, the library staff carry out periodic information literacy skills training for the patrons to be able to search and access information resources.

The ambiance of the Library is punctuated with healthy portable plants, and attractive furnishing, making spaces very conducive for studying and learning.

Library hours are: Monday to Thursday, 9am to 10pm; Friday, 9am to 3pm and Sunday, 10am to 4pm.



ENVISIONING THE FUTURE



Future Under God's Guidance

As we contemplate the way the Lord has led in the past, we are encouraged for AUA's bright future in the blessed circle of God's Providence. As we move forward, AUA is deeply committed to empowering relationships and making a positive difference in the life of students, faculty, staff, and the community in which it exists.

With the support and partnership of the General Conference and the three supporting African Divisions, we will boldly forge ahead in fulfilling the mission of developing men and women to excel in building the Adventist Church and transforming the society for good. We bear in mind the encouraging goodwill and contribution of AUA's Strategic Development Partners (SDP) and donors in contributing to the realisation of AUA's vision and mission.

AUA is constantly developing cutting-edge academic programmes, certification courses, and relevant conferences to meet the needs of its constitu-

encies. A crucial ingredient to AUA's future focus is to provide instruction and continuous learning via online education.

AUA is proud of its vision, mission, and aim. It is committed to providing the most conducive environment so that students and visitors who come to the AUA campus can be all they can be in Christ. AUA is committed to facilitating a beautiful and efficient campus environment to support a healthy Adventist lifestyle that promotes effective and continuous learning.

As AUA faces the future, we are thankful to God and to our friends, donors, and partners, for their faithful and continuous support of the programmes and educational ministry.

God bless,
AUA administration, faculty and staff.



Ongata Rongai, the nearest town neighboring AUA

Making a Difference: Using the Christ Method

The Adventist University of Africa is committed to conducting its mission in a socially responsible and ethical manner.

As a strategy for being socially responsible, AUA has engaged the surrounding Ongata Rongai community in the identification of their key priority needs for clean water, education, environmental sanitation, environmental sustainability, and impact research.

Against this background, AUA recognizes its responsibility to contribute positively to the neighboring community in Ongata Rongai and among the Maasai tribe and community.

AUA has the plan and commitment of administration, faculty, staff, and students to make a distinct difference in the immediate future by using the method of Christ (See *Ministry of Healing*, 143).



Maasai Community that also neighbors AUA

In conjunction with ADRA, local churches and other interested entities, it plans to develop a borehole, educate, and train the community in environmental sanitation, literacy, and entrepreneurship, all in close cooperation with the local residents. The faculty, staff and students will be proactively engaged for effective service to God and humanity.



Enrollment Made Easy

AUA is open to all qualified applicants irrespective of colour, race, ethnic identity, religion, gender, or national origin. Potential students may apply at any time and be admitted subject to fulfilling all admission requirements. However, applicants offered admission can only begin classes at the commencement of the programme. Exceptions to this may be made with the approval of the respective School.

Experience the AUA matriculation process in five simple steps:

1. With a prayer, plan, and persistence, determine to acquire higher education all to the glory of God and the good of humanity.

2. Download the AUA Admissions Forms (PDF file) from the AUA website. Admission requirements for specific programmes are provided on the website (www.aua.ac.ke).

3. Fill out the application form and send it to AUA Admissions Office, including application fee, as an email attachment (admissions@aua.ac.ke) or post them using regular post services.

4. Provide all requested academic documents in their original form. If the documents are in a language other than English, provide a translation for each of them. Translation will only be accepted from an institutional recognized body designated for doing translation.

5. Wait for official communication from the Admissions Office.

AUA uses the English language as the medium of instruction, students must have the ability to study (read, write and speak) in English. In order to qualify for admission to AUA, students are required to demonstrate English ability in one of the following ways:

- Have a bachelor's degree from a college/university in an English-speaking country where English was the medium of instruction.
- Achieve a passing score on a recognized English language test (TOEFL, IELTS, or Michigan).

At this point, you are ready to enter the AUA circle of Providence.

Opportunities for Scholarship Assistance

AUA recognizes that there are worthy students from different areas in Africa who, despite their will and strong commitment to learning, do not have adequate financial resources to complete a graduate program on their own and need financial support to reach their educational goals.

In response to this need, AUA has recently developed a scholarship fund—the AUA Worthy Student Scholarship (AWS)—from the generous support of donors. This fund is made available to any student registered at AUA who fulfils the requirements. Since

the fund is limited, scholarships can only be granted to students who have applied using the Application Form and by the annual deadlines of 31 January and 31 July.

Applications will be processed through the desired AUA School of study. Preference will be given to non-sponsored students and those who meet academic acceptance requirements.

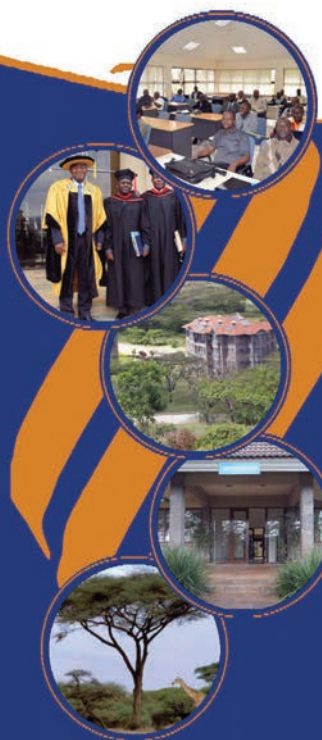
For more details visit: <http://aua.ac.ke/images/WebContent/AWSApplicationForm.pdf>.



DEVELOPING LEADERS
A Seventh-day Adventist Institution for Higher Learning



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Master of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies

Doctor of Ministry

Master of Business Administration

Master of Arts in Leadership

Master of Public Health

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Visit www.aua.ac.ke for further details.



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OF AFRICA

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YOUR INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION

You can make a difference by a gift investment to help a worthy student or to help strengthen AUA. Be impressed to gift a donation, large or small. The following are ways in which you can give:

1. Write a check payable to Adventist University of Africa
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All gifts will be acknowledged and if requested a tax exemption letter will be supplied. Thank you for choosing to support AUA students and programmes. May you be blessed as you bless others.



**PROMOTING
AUA**

Acquire an AUA souvenir cap, executive folder and pen, note-pads, key chains, polos, t-shirts and commemorative 10th anniversary program and video set.

Contact the AUA Marketing team to purchase any of these affordable items at marketing@aua.ac.ke.

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