



From the Chancellor

It is not unusual for a student to write, e-mail, or phone us simply to say, Thank you. David called from Sierra Leone a few days ago with just such a message. Thank you, David, and all the others of you for your kindness and thoughtfulness. You encourage us greatly.

Our African students have a wonderful way of beginning a letter or e-mail. It usually runs something like this: "Blessings and grace to you from our Lord. I hope you are well in health and spirit." The greeting is much like the opening of one of Paul's letters.

Such a greeting reveals the commitment of the writer to the Lordship of Christ. It acknowledges we are not alone in our world. It testifies to the bond that ties us together—not just as human beings, but as humans joined in Christ. What a sentiment! What a world!

So, permit me, please, to greet you in the name of our common Creator, who loves us beyond what words can express and who cares for us beyond what we can understand. If there is any peace, joy, or hope, it comes from our Maker.

We would love so very much to know every one of you personally. But we know that, given the nature of our school, that is not possible. We will have to wait until we pass to the other side. But I do want to tell each of you that we treasure our relationship and want to serve you to the best of our ability.

Since our last writing, a number of significant events have been happening at NationsUniversity. I will mention three in particular. At its December meeting, the NU Board of Regents decided that we should work toward accreditation. We have chosen an agency that is approved by the U.S. Department of Education. A "self-study" is currently underway. It will be some months before we have a firm idea as to where we stand in the process, but we are optimistic. I know this will come as good news to many of you who find accreditation a useful tool.

By the end of 2007, we completed a fund-raising campaign to enable us to develop our electronic database and course delivery system, to cover the cost of translating more courses into languages other than English, and to pay for other costs associated with improving the institution.

We have hired a new provost, David Vester. He has two principal tasks. One is to steer the accreditation process, and the second is to secure the financial base for achieving accreditation and for keeping the school on a sound financial foundation.

Our pledge to you is that we are going to put forth a stronger effort to serve our students. May I encourage you to establish a regular time for study, move on to that next exam, and let us know when there is a break-down in communication. E-mail is the best and fastest way to communicate. If you do not have e-mail, write us. We will eventually get back to you through the slower postal service.

Until next time, Be of good cheer and keep faith in your Lord.



Peace,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mac Lynn".

Mac Lynn, Chancellor

Current Enrollment

Total Students: 3,082
Male - 2,572
Female - 510
Undergraduate - 2,574
Graduate - 508

Internet Students - 1,243 = 40%
E-Mail Students - 501 = 16%
Postal Students - 1,338 = 44%

Total Countries: 118

The Student Newsletter

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NationsUniversity®

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Provost Ponderings

This past month, NU's Board of Regents in Brentwood held an open house to show off their new offices. Over 100 people attended and were seemingly impressed by what they saw. The offices are very attractive, but not elaborate. The space is larger than the previous offices, more accommodating, and provides for expected growth. Nancy Waller, wife of Regent Gary Waller, donated her time in decorating the new space. Her talent is very much appreciated! Our offices are "open" any time, so we encourage anyone to drop by for a tour.

What really impressed those who attended was how "worldwide" the work is at NU. In the center of the new offices is displayed a world map that shows how many countries are represented and how many students are enrolled in NU courses. As of this writing, there are over 3,000 students in 118 countries! The scope of this ministry is almost overwhelming when you think about how many souls are truly learning the nature of God, as well as being educated in religious studies. God is certainly blessing the vision and mission that Mac Lynn and Dick Ady had all those years ago!

Another area of significance in the life of NU is the quest for accreditation. We are all involved in developing the Self-Evaluation Report that the Distance Educational Training Council (DETC) requires before NU can be accepted as a candidate for accreditation. It is a wonderful opportunity to really take a hard look at who we are and what we are about, and determine if we are doing what we say we are doing. The goal is to have the initial report completed by June 1 and submitted to the DETC by the end of June.

Accreditation by a U.S. Department of Education approved agency such as the DETC gives us great latitude to offer more courses and to reach our goal of 10,000+ students by 2010. The total accreditation process will take about a year to complete.

We are excited that you are our student at NU. Our ministry and mission and much of the talk in the office is centered on how we can make a difference in your life. There is no higher calling than to seek out God's will through studying the scriptures and prayer. We pray for you constantly and for God's leading of NationsUniversity.

David Vester
Provost

Graduates Since the Last Newsletter

Certificate in Religious Studies

Vincent Mukholosi Witinga, *Kenya*
Glen Robey, *United States*

Charles Fields, *United States*

Scott Anderson, Sr., *United States*

Godwin Paulson Donwise, *Nigeria*

Fred Nii Kotey, *Ghana*

Associate in Religious Studies

Ezefumba Nicholas Chike, *Nigeria*

Antonia Martinez, *United States*

Joel Williams, *United States*

Agir Gabriel Aondoaseer, *Nigeria*

Christopher H. Batureine, *Netherlands*

Thaddeus Nwanguma, *Nigeria*

Godsave Ole Megiroo, *Tanzania*

Marlin Tyler Berry, *United States*

Bachelor of Religious Studies

Millicent W. Wacharia, *Kenya*

Vekumbe Benjamin Ndiva, *Cameroon*

Guillermo Cedeira Cedeira, *Spain*

Master of Religious Studies

Florence Ngozi Mudanya, *Kenya*
B.Ed., Kenya Science Teachers College

Johnstone G. Muydanya, *Kenya*
B.A., Messiah College

Madalina Chis, *Romania*
Romania Diploma De Licenta

Kobina Nimako-Amprako, *Ghana*
B.Div., Shiloh United Ecclesiastical Bible College

Joshua Abayomi Ibigbemi, *Nigeria*
B.S.

Master of Ministry

Yeli Yan, *China*
M.R.S., NationsUniversity

Any student who has the opportunity to be photographed with their award or while receiving an award is encouraged to send a copy of the photograph to us for publication in The Student Newsletter.

A Student's Story

Godsave Ole Megiroo, Tanzania

Part of NU's mission is to prepare our students to put into action the knowledge, skills, and leadership abilities they acquire through our courses. Godsave Ole Megiroo is an NU student who is currently working on his BRS degree, but who is already applying the lessons he has learned in his life outside of the classroom. Godsave works with Imara Ministries in his home country of Tanzania as a dedicated advocate on the behalf of the poor, the orphaned, the widowed, and those living with HIV/AIDS.



Godsave writes of the way God orchestrated his life experiences to prepare him for just such a ministry position:

"I am an IT specialist by profession. I studied medicine for one year at the University of Dar es Salaam, Faculty of Medicine. My interest in IT started way back in 1989 when I was working as a supervisor in the Sponsors Relations Department for World Vision Tanzania. One computer was bought for use in our department, but we did not have an IT person to install the computer. It was then, I decided to read the manual which accompanied the computer and made the installation. From that particular time, I started learning computer all the way from the basics to professional level. I also did my System training and Internship in Thailand, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda and California. I studied Management and Administration courses at Cambridge International College – UK.

"After eighteen years of my service with World Vision Tanzania (having rendered different computer-related services for World Vision offices in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland) with experience in IT and basic knowledge in management, I decided to resign from World Vision Tanzania in October 2003 in response to God's calling to minister and serve the poor, orphans, widows, and people living with HIV and AIDS. I joined Emmanuel Tract Fellowship which was a ministry my partner Mike Rothery and his wife Lyndall from Australia were serving through since 1984. It was mostly focused on evangelism and seminars to ministers and other church leaders.

"My desire was on the mercy ministry part of the holistic ministry. So in 2004, we agreed to register a new ministry - Imara Ministry Foundation which is a non-governmental, faith-based organization with Mike Rothery being a Board Chairman and myself as an Executive Secretary. Lyndall is our treasurer and Rumishael Lyimo is a member of the board. This new Ministry's constitution enables us to cover all areas of our involvement – evangelism, leadership and Mercy Ministry.

"I became one of the office bearers as Director for Mercy Ministry Division. Mercy Ministry involves among other things help for orphans and widows, people living with HIV/AIDS and other community development related work."

Part of Godsave's role as IMARA Mercy Ministry Director includes representing Imara Ministry Foundation to churches, project partners, foreign and local government representatives, and other private voluntary agencies. Recently, he was able to visit the USA to meet with Imara's partner churches, including Perimeter Church in Atlanta, GA, and Scottsdale Bible Church in Phoenix, AZ. In addition, he was able to make contact with several new potential donor churches, attend a Partners Conference on evangelism and missions around the world, and experience snow (!) while visiting his sister-in-law in Boston.



Godsave's wife, Beatrice, also works in the field of ministry. She is currently studying for a degree in Business Administration after working for World Vision Tanzania for twenty years. She has worked as a secretary for several years and later as a Human Resources Officer. Godsave describes her as "a jovial, charming, and hard-working woman." He also has two daughters, Elizabeth and Nabaraki, who are currently attending secondary school.

For more information on the work being done by Imara ministries, please visit their website at: <http://www.imaramission.faiithweb.com/>.