



Changing Africa:
Learning here. Living here. Leading here.

Issue: 01 Volume: 18 January - February 2013 Remember Africa University in Your Will Give Now

20th Anniversary Celebrations Top AU's First Quarter 2013 Calendar

Health and wellness issues take the spotlight in February as part of Africa University's ongoing celebration of its 20th anniversary.

The university will host a Colloquium on Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) and Non-Communicable Diseases in Africa from February 18 -19.

NTDs affect more than a billion people worldwide, many of them live in rural communities, high density urban settings and conflict zones in sub-Saharan Africa.

Organized by the Faculty of Health Sciences, the colloquium will focus the attention of African and international experts on strengthening responses to NTDs as well as non-communicable diseases like cancer and diabetes.



NTDs like hookworm, bilharzia and river blindness weaken, disable and keep African children out of school. By turning the spotlight on them, AU hopes to help strengthen prevention and treatment efforts.

The first public release of the findings of an advanced field study on the Africa University Mosquito Blanket is expected to be a major highlight of the event.

The study, facilitated by the Africa University Development Office and conducted on behalf of the university by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), took place in Tanzania. It assessed the blanket as a malaria prevention tool in domestic living conditions and produced excellent results.

A number of the university's key partners—the World Health Organization's

Africa Regional Office, the Zimbabwe Ministry of Health and Child Welfare, and the College of Public Health at the University of Kentucky—are expected to participate in the colloquium.

AU's 20th anniversary celebrations, which began in February 2012, culminate on March 22 -24, 2013. The weekend program includes an International Symposium on Food Security in Africa on March 22nd.

Two new staff houses, which were funded by gifts to the university community from members of the advisory and board development committees, will also be dedicated.

The final event and highlight of the anniversary celebrations is a special Palm Sunday worship service in the Kwang Lim Chapel on March 24th.

New Links with Paine College Explored

Dr. George C. Bradley, the president of Paine College in Augusta, Georgia and Dr. Tina Marshall-Bradley, the interim associate vice president for academic affairs, made an exploratory visit to the Africa University campus in December.

Facilitated by the Africa University Development Office, much of their time on the campus was spent in discussions on new areas of collaboration between the two institutions.

Student and faculty exchanges, and joint projects related to public health, education and governance studies are being investigated.

Convocation Affirms Investment in AU

The Convocation of Pastors of Black Churches continues to affirm Africa University's role in nurturing global leaders.

Africa University is a longstanding Convocation partner and sponsor. Since their first gathering 14 years ago, convocation attendees have made biennial gifts that gifts have helped to educate a dozen Africa University students.

At the 2013 Convocation, held in Atlanta, Georgia from January 9-11, attendees were excited to hear about the post-graduation contributions of several beneficiaries.

"As sons and daughters of Africa, we believe our financial support beyond apportionments sends an important message to Africa University and to the whole church," said the Rev. Dr. Vance P. Ross, chairman of the event design team.



Gifts have supported current mission intern Christian Zigbuo (L), from Liberia; and Rev. Guy Mande (R), of the DRC, now on staff at GBGM.

Dr. Ross notes that by investing in the university, the Convocation demonstrates the power of connection and enjoys global impact.

"We believe in AU...and in the denomination's Spirit-inspired wisdom in creating (AU), and maintaining financial and moral support."

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A Special Opportunity—Back For A Limited Time Only!

On January 1, 2013, Congress enacted the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012 (ATRA). ATRA contains a surprise provision that renews the very popular Charitable IRA Rollover (CIRAR) that expired at the end of 2011. Since the original enactment of the CIRAR in 2006, billions of dollars in gifts have been made to qualified charities.

The extension of the CIRAR allows taxpayers who are at least age 70½ with a traditional or Roth IRA to make tax-free distributions of up to \$100,000 a year directly from those accounts for charitable purposes.

Here are several other very important highlights of the CIRAR Extension:

- Donors who have not already made charitable IRA distributions for 2012 have until January 31, 2013, to do so.

- Taxpayers who took required minimum distributions from their IRA accounts in December 2012 may convert all or a portion of the distributions into a charitable



Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas, former treasurer of the AU Board of Directors, utilized the CIRAR to establish an endowed scholarship at Africa University.

IRA by making cash transfers to qualified charitable recipients on or before January 31, 2013.

- Donors who made charitable IRA transfers earlier in 2012 are also covered under the new extension.

- Donors wishing to complete a tax-free charitable IRA distribution for 2013 have until December 31, 2013 to do so.

Many AU donors, like Dr. and Mrs. Aubrey K. Lucas, have used the CIRAR to fund endowed scholarships, to provide direct scholarships, to make memorial and honor gifts, and to give to the general endowment.

If you have any questions about this marvelous opportunity for giving, please visit the planned giving website at <http://www.africauniversity.org/planned-giving> or contact Elaine Jenkins, our Director of Planned Giving, at the Africa University Development Office, P. O. Box 340007, Nashville, TN, 37203-0007, 615/340-7428 (telephone), 615/340-7290 (fax), ejenkins@gbhem.org (email address).

University Hosts Visits from New U.S. Ambassador, McDaniel College VIM Team

The new U.S. Ambassador to Zimbabwe, Mr. Bruce Wharton, visited the AU campus on January 16.

Ambassador Wharton was on a tour to familiarize himself with local partners and U.S.-supported projects.

He met with senior university officials, including the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Fanuel Tagwira, and interacted with students and other visitors.

In his remarks to the campus community, Ambassador Wharton noted that the American people are proud to have invested in Africa University's development. To date, the U.S. government has provided more than US\$8 million for buildings and learning infrastructure through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

A 12-person Volunteers In Mission team from McDaniel College, located in Maryland, made a two-week visit to the campus in January. The team was comprised of students and led by McDaniel College trustee, Mr. Charles Moore.

The McDaniel team joined forces with a 25-person Africa University VIM group to work on repairs and maintenance at a local United Methodist high school.

"Our goal is to work with communities to help them to realize their dreams and through the support from McDaniel, it becomes achievable," said Dr. Philemon



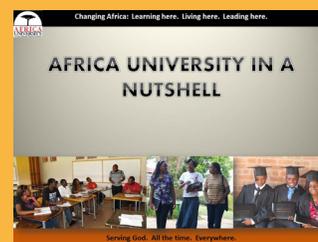
ABOVE: Ambassador Bruce Wharton (center) with McDaniel College visitors and Africa University officials. BELOW: AU and McDaniel students take a break during community outreach work.



Chikafu, AU's chaplain and patron of the campus-based VIMers.

The visits and joint community service projects are supported by an MOU between the two institutions. As the relationship evolves, collaboration on distance learning and intercontinental exposure for students and faculty are envisioned.

Need Resources for Telling the AU Story?



AU at a Glance Presentation 2013



Celebrating the efforts of annual conferences, alumni and friends—AU Today, Winter 2013.

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