

THE EPISCOPAL UNIVERSITY MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 6

TEU MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



INTRODUCTION

This newsletter highlights the progress made since September to October 2018. It covers general achievements, activities and challenges encountered during this period.

CURRICULUM

TEU has been working on the curriculum development: Foundation, Degree and Diploma programmes. All had been finished and will be submitted toward the end of November to the National Council of Higher Education (NCHE) for check and verification. Then the council will issue us with Provisional license to open our doors for new intakes. We hope the new intake will be in January 2019.

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

TEU fundraising campaign 2018/2019 will start officially within this month in Juba and will continue until February next year 2019. We have not yet secured funding for these events but hope to do so by God's grace. The fundraising will target private donors, philanthropies, NGOs, individual friends and Christians in our dioceses and parishes. We aimed to raise 1.5 millions South Sudanese

Pounds to cover salaries for the staff, maintenance costs and Internet and others.

ECSS STRATEGIC PLAN

The Episcopal Church of South Sudan has conducted 5 days strategic plan workshop from 1st – 5th October 2018. The workshop

developed new vision, mission and values for ECSS in the coming five years. It was attended by the Primate and almost all the Archbishops of the eight Internal Provinces and their secretaries and the staff of Juba Diocese the See of the Archbishop and Primate including the ten departments of the Provincial Head Office. It was a very successful workshop.

TEU STRATEGIC PLAN

- ❖ In January 2019, TEU will develop single curricula for all the colleges. Each college is going to participate.
- ❖ The lawyers are developing TEU charter. This legal document will help the Primate appoint the following:
 - a. The Vice Chancellor (VC)
 - b. The Deputy Vice Chancellor (DVC)
 - c. The Registrar,
 - d. The Governing Board
 - e. The Senate and Trustees.

Also the development of the detailed governing policies will all take place between Oct and Nov. 2018.

- ❖ TEU launch was suspended last September 2018 due to some technical activities that were uncompleted. Now, we are projecting to launch the university within Jan 2019 hopefully. The launch will be done in all the five campuses and across the whole country using media: Radio, TV, Facebook and also our various churches in dioceses of the eight Internal Provinces.

- ❖ TEU accounts are going to be audited. The auditing company has already been identified. They demand to be paid over \$2000 USD. TEU is hoping to secure the fund for this purpose through the fundraising campaign. The Finance Officer is working on the TEU budget 2019 and hopes to be out in Feb.2019.
- ❖ TEU is planning to do training course for 25 teachers from the collages. This will be facilitated by Windle Trust. We hope that this will take place between Jan 2019-Feb.2019 when funds are secured.

GENERAL SITUATION

a) Economical Challenges

The economic situation of South Sudan is becoming worse every minutes, hour and day. The commodities are very expensive in the Market both food and building materials. The situation is affecting the ordinary citizens negatively and even the development of the country. Many people are lacking food to eat due to the high prices in the market. This makes the country and its people vulnerable to various challenges. For example, there is a high rate of criminality in the cities including Juba and on the high ways. Innocent travellers and commuters are target of robbery at gunpoint and some were killed. In August 2018, ECSS loss the Provincial Youth Coordinator, he was killed by unknown gunmen on road between Juba and Yei. In the meantime many civil servants or employees of the government have gone for months without been paid their monthly salaries. We hope and pray that the recent signed Revitalized peace agreement in Khartoum will yield fruits and bring some economic changes to alleviate the situation for the ordinary citizens.

b) Political Situation

There is a hope that the Revitalized Peace Agreement may work this time. The issuance of a solemn commitment of no return to war by the warring parties to the people of South Sudan and International community provides

that hope especially when the government of South Sudan seems to be taking a lead in peace advocacy!

In addition, the parties to the agreement have taken good steps by forming Pre-transition committee to oversee the implementation of the agreement. They are also pledge for the release of prisoners of war and detainees to the International committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

The ceasefire seems to hold ground in some major parts of the country, although in others the fighting is on-going. Generally, there is a little bit stability across the country, although traveling on roads in some other areas of states are a risk. We continue to pray to God who is the prince of peace to help us obtained a lasting peace.

c) Social Issues

Almost half of the population in South Sudan are displaced from their homes and living either as refugees in neighbouring countries or displaced persons in camps inside South Sudan. With the peace agreement now signed there will be a mass movement of people returning back to their homes from neighbouring countries and IDPs camps. This may bring other social challenges. Trauma counselling and support is needed apart from other humanitarian needs. The people with expertise within this area are needed to help the returners heal from their wounds.

There had been and still is in South Sudan the case of ethnic pluralism and whose intricate intra-communal balance has more often created conflicts between communities and clans. Last August and September, the Mundari cattle keepers attacked the Yangwara farmers in Dolo and Rokon counties killing 18 innocent civilians including women and children displacing more than one hundreds families.

The killing caused high tensions between the two communities. The church leadership of

both Terekaka and Rokon Dioceses initiated local community dialogue and reconciliation supported by the Bible Society, Justice Africa and UNIMISS. Our Project Director Rev. Canon Dr Joseph Bilal is tasked with the responsibility of facilitating the dialogue. He chaired meetings with the UNIMISS and church leadership and community leaders. They agree to hold three days conference of over hundred people in Juba. Please, do pray for him and the conference success. We thank for Dr Bilal hard work on peace building and reconciliation.

TEU: KAJO-KEJI CHRISTIAN COLLEGE - KAJO-KEJI



Our theme at the start of this semester is “New

“New, every morning” (Lamentations 3:23 – **New** has to be the key word for the College page this time. Of course one of our major supporters is **New Hope**, our partner from the Diocese of Bethlehem in USA, who we continue to greatly appreciate, but there are at least 3 other reasons for this key word:-

We have **NEW** members of staff. Pieter de Groot and his wife Jeanette arrived from the Netherlands in June, as GZB Mission Partners. Pieter is ordained and is serving as a Theology tutor while Jeanette’s role is largely based in the Diocese, in Health education, although she will also be looking after the medical needs of the College. Yanta Daniel has joined the staff as an English tutor, and Taban Julius Anthony as assistant librarian.

Thanks to more support, this time from the Archbishop’s Council in London, UK, we also have a **NEW** building. The challenge of successful growth was that we were admitting more students than we could accommodate, either in classrooms or dormitories. This donation has enabled us to rent a house, available at such a providential time, and in such a perfect location – which contains space for the Chapel, 2 classrooms as well as 3 sleeping rooms – right opposite the College. See below for some of the students outside the new building.



Last, but certainly **NOT** least, we have **NEW** students in all 3 departments. There are now a total of 43 Theology students, 26 In-Service Education students and a total of 37 Business Admin students in 3 separate intakes. A joyful challenge to accommodate and feed!

We praise & thank you God – “Great is your faithfulness” (Lamentations 3:23)

TEU: BISHOP GWYNNE COLLEGE - JUBA

The good news is that, Bishop Gwynne College is becoming fully a part of the Episcopal University, which will be operating as Faculties of Ministerial Theology, Religious and Law Studies, Campus-Juba.

In 2017/18 we have enrolled 49 students for a first year degree programme, and in 2018/19,

we managed to enrol 66 students for a first year degree programme. Currently, the third years for Diploma are 39 students. Bishop Gwynne College is the best Theological College in South Sudan. Majority of the young Churches leaders who currently are leading the Church and the new generation are graduates of the college. We have two students studying in South Africa University. When they finished they will return to teaching team of the college as lecturers.

As the College is expanding, we are expecting more challenges to face us. Upgrading of lecturers from Masters to PhDs and from Degrees to Masters Studies (MA). The College is developing quality of Church leaders, to expand the word of God all over the Dioceses and the country to those who are missing the Good News to receive them and to be saved.

Challenges:

We need your prayers for the bellow areas:-

- Support for Teachers financially.
- Scholarships for the displaced students from various Dioceses of ECSS.
- Feeding the big number of students becomes a challenge.
- Equipment's for the Teachers and Library, Laptops for teachers, Laptops for Library
- Internet for Library
- More new Offices for Lecturers, classes and dormitory as the college is expanding
- Vehicles for teachers, and School bus.
- Solar for the school campus.
- Finishing the Chapel.

We Looking Forward.

- ❖ To build the Administration Blocks at BGC main Campus
- ❖ To finish building the Chapel at the Campus.
- ❖ To train all Pastors and Church leaders in English languages.
- ❖ To purchases Computers for Lecturers and Library, and big photo copying Machines.

- ❖ To purchases vehicles for administrations, and staff.
- ❖ To have projects that can generate fund to support the teachers and the College.

TEU: RENK THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE - RENK

Our session is continued until last week of November 2108 then we go for long break from December 2018 - February 2019. Attached are the some photos for Agriculture, this year we have planted two Faddens for groundnut. One photo for St. Michael's chapel RTC, some photos for Students at vegetables garden at the College.



TEU: CHAIMA CHRISTIAN INSTITUTE - MARIDI

INTRODUCTION:

Chaima Christian Institute Maridi, now the faculty of the Episcopal University Chaima Campus, is operated by the diocese of Maridi. It was started in 1989 under the mango tree as

a Bible School to train lay people for the importance of the Christian ministry. Later, it was known as a theological college. Currently it offers courses other than just theology. It trains lay people, pastors, and other church leaders and Christians and non-Christians in different fields.

This report provides current numbers of students at Chaima, numbers of teaching staffs and non-teaching staffs, and achievements of the activities carried out from March 2018. It lists the challenges and plans.

By March 2018, we had 106 students in different courses. Unfortunately 9 students dropped out and we remained with 97 students at the Institute. With the August intake, we have 112 students at CCIM as summarized below in the different courses.

Short courses

English from level one to level four	37
Computer	20
Lay/readers graduated	
Long courses	
Theology	09
Agriculture	21
Business Studies	16
Social Work & Development	09
Total	112

STAFFING

At Chaima we categorize our staff into two categories; the teaching and support teams. The teaching workforce comprises of all lecturers, supporting lecturers and tutors. The support team includes day watchmen, night security policemen, cooks/cleaners and the farm manager/gardener. Most of the office technical and admin work is done by lecturers on a voluntary basis.

A list of staff, their contacts and qualifications has been attached. However, currently four full-time staffs are away for their studies to Uganda, Principal inclusive.

Full time teaching lecturers	08
Part-time teaching lecturers	16
None teaching staffs	06
Total	30

LIBRARY

We have a small library but with only basic reference books to suit the courses we offer at CCIM. We employ a librarian who is a retired pastor. We have just employed a new assistant librarian in need of training. A list of the reference books has been attached.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- We finished the examinations for all the courses
- Payment of salaries of staffs was done
- We graduated 19 lay/readers
- We cultivated one acre of maize
- Signposts and the facade of The Episcopal University were made and displayed
- Internet is functioning
- Additional wooden chairs were purchased
- Plantation of trees/flowers around the Institute
- Pit-latrines on students' site is done
- National and Institute flags have been erected
- A new kitchen has been built waiting for completion.
- New solar panels and battery acquired
- Setting in place the Students Guild

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate number of students due to unrest in the country.
- Inadequate number of female students
- Internet fees are extortionate and impossible to fund
- The auditor who came to Chaima refuses to send the audit

Lack of funds to invite another auditor

- ❖ Theft in the Institute
- ❖ No fund to construct staff courts
- ❖ No drilled water borehole at the Institute,

we depend on main sources of water which are infrequent

- ❖ No transport to the staff
- ❖ Institute has no fence to provide good security in the institute
- ❖ No sources of income to run student activities
- ❖ No hall for large gatherings and dining room

PLANS

- ✓ To encourage students to come for studies
- ✓ Encourage females to come for studies
- ✓ Reduce internet data allowance from five to one computer
- ✓ Ask donor to support auditing of the institute
- ✓ To write proposal for fund to construct fence round the Institute
- ✓ To ask friends and donors to fund drilling boreholes at the University.
- ✓ To write proposal for the erection of hall
- ✓ To create sources of income to support institute activities
- ✓ Asking donors to fund institute to cover part of the needs AIMA



Students of agriculture in examination room



Pit –Latrine on students' site



Picture of one acre of maize



Group photo of students with Deputy Principal (left) Rev Eli



Group photos of lay readers after graduation with New Bishop Moses (center) Chaima and Diocesan staff



Diploma students taking their examinations

TEU: ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE – WAU

The Academic Calendar of St. John's College – Wau start from March to November for Programs such as DBAM, DPLM, DPAM, DPM&E, and DPE. Theology programme start from August to April. The total number of diploma students from first year to third year is 331 students. The Current total number of Certificate students is 202 students.

ACADEMIC YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR

From the beginning of this Academic year 2018, the College has successfully accomplished a number of Academic activities as outlined below;

- Convening the College Council Meeting held on 21 / 04 / 2018
- His Grace Archbishop of North Bahr elGhazel Internal Province (NBIP) Moses Deng Bol who is the Chairman of the College Council convened the College Council meeting that constituted all the Bishops of NBIP & other distinguished Academicians (council members). They came-up with resolutions pertaining;
 - College Administrative Improvement
 - College Academic Improvement
 - College Development Plan & Financing of the College Activities.
 - The organization structure of St. John's College
- For proper running of the College activities, the College Council has revised and designed a simple & clear Organization Structure as well as clarifying the duties and responsibilities of each officer and identified the right & committed Christian personnel to achieve the goal of the College & the entire Episcopal University – see the last page
- Admission of diploma qualified students for Education & Business Departments with 50% & above effective teaching & assessment (C.A.T 40%)
- Acquisition of more furniture
- Acquisition of more relevant text books to DBAM, DPLM, DPAM, DPM&E, AND DPE Academic Programmes taught in 3rd year & 2nd year.
- Recruiting more teaching staff from University of Bahr elGhazel & Catholic University – Wau with Master's Degree
- Acquisition of more lecture rooms to conduct our tutorials
- Instituting the examination board and appointing the examination officer & the External examiner
- Regularly conducting both the Administrative & Academic meetings for both administrative & Academic improvements with well documented minutes & filed
- The College has entered into a MOU with University of Bahr Ghazel to share both the Human resources & the Library facilities
- The College has also acquired a new bore hole within the compound to guarantee a constant water supply
- The College has acquire a new office to work as Academic office that hosts the Academic Dean, Academic Registrar & Dean of Students Affairs
- Successfully conducted School Practice by students
-