

ANNUAL REPORT

2000 / 2001

INTRODUCTION

The Friends of Makerere in Canada (FOMAC) is pleased to present this report of its performance during the year 2000 / 2001. The Report describes some of the activities as well as projects undertaken in collaboration with FOMAC's partners. Financial statements covering the year are attached.

We believe that the projects undertaken have benefited the institutions we collaborate with as well as the communities we serve. Among the benefits are for example, raising public awareness to the educational needs in Africa generally and in Uganda in particular. Other benefits include the supply of educational materials, medical equipment for primary health care and for education and research at the collaborating universities, books for university libraries, knowledge exchange and transfer through academic exchange programs as well as scholarship awards for potential faculty members and for stimulating high academic achievement. FOMAC has provided development education to Canadian communities through such activities as the Julius Nyerere Memorial Lecture Series and benefit dinner speeches. Finally we have initiated efforts to establish a viable university publishing house at _ Makerere that we hope would facilitate the local production and distribution of books and teaching materials.

We are proud of our role. In financial terms FOMAC's contribution may be considered minuscule, especially when measured against the broader needs of African universities and the huge gap that exists between real needs and available resources. However we believe that FOMAC's presence and

actions have been inspirational. We have brought about interest and a connection among the alumni and friends of Makerere and have helped highlight the dire need for capacity building at the participating institutions and throughout the nations of Africa. FOMAC is not a donor organization. Our resources are derived from voluntary contributions of members and friends as well as from hard work and organizing fundraising activities. Contributions from all sectors of the Canadian society and elsewhere have been essential in enabling us to do what we have been able to do and we are greatly appreciative.

This Report is being presented at a time when the world is in the midst of a major transition. The forces of terrorism, globalization and consolidation are having a direct impact on the ability of nations to spend resources on sectors such as education. In the wake of the terrorist attacks in America on September 11, 2001 priority is being accorded by many nations to financing anti-terrorist measures. Given the current economic downturn and the global environment focused on security, one of the casualties will likely be expenditure on education.

One other negative consequence of the heightened attention to security measures is the fact that some countries, including Uganda, have rushed through legislatures anti-terrorist legislation, part of which is clearly draconian. We fear that under the guise of fighting terrorism, some civil liberties may be trampled upon. Freedom of expression and association, which is a necessary element in the rule of law and in building nations and their capacities, may well be impaired. As well, we hope that legitimate concerns about political, social and economic issues will not be muzzled under whatever pretext.

Be that as it may, FOMAC is determined to press on and to continue to help Makerere and other institutions of higher learning meet some of their challenges. As former Premier of

Manitoba, Mr. Gary Filmon, said recently in support of higher education at FOMAC's fundraising dinner:

" I am certain that no matter what means are sought to put an end to the conflicts and mistrust that exist and will undoubtedly worsen, education will be a fundamental part of the solution."

PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION

FOMAC's collaboration with Sisters of St. Joseph of Hamilton International Program and McMaster University is an excellent model of how organizations that have common objectives and commitment can join forces to provide a much-needed service. The collective interest in health and education by the Partners has resulted in developing and implementing projects that are relevant to the situation on the ground.

The Partners held a review meeting through a conference call on 22 September 2001. Participants noted much progress. However, a lot remains to be done. For example:

(a)Publicity:

There is need for further publicity for the Partnership and its projects, as a means of attracting national and international support. St. Joseph's Health System (SJHS) has recently published a brochure on all its international work that included references to the Partnership. As well, there has been limited local press coverage in Uganda on some of the projects, as for example during the recent visit to Uganda by Sister Katrina Rooney of the Sisters of St Joseph, in the company of Dr. Peter Kagoma, a key member of the Partnership. Nevertheless, there is need to publicize more the valuable work being undertaken by the partnership. To this end, exploration is underway to enlist the support of the Manitoba Voluntary Sector initiative in

Winnipeg, which includes database listing for voluntary organizations, as other avenues are being sought.

(b) The Haematology Project

Thanks to the tireless efforts of Dr. Peter Kagoma, the Haematology Resource Center Project at Makerere is now complete. After the purchase and installation of a coulter counter and a coagulation unit, all the necessary pieces are now in place. Having completed his training at McMaster University, Dr. Francis Ssali has assumed the headship of the Haematology Project and is also engaged in training technologists. Difficulties associated with this training have been identified and will be a subject of a new initiative in the near future.

(b) Resident / Exchange Program As a result of the visit to Uganda in January 2001 by Dr. Kagoma and a delegation of physicians and nurses from the Canadian Universities of British Columbia, Ottawa and McMaster, as well as the Sisters of St. Joseph in Hamilton, Ontario, an agreement has been reached with Uganda's Ministry of Health and Makerere University. It concerns an exchange program. It will involve students and staff. The exchange will likely involve several undergraduate students from Canadian universities going to study at Makerere or Mbarara University of Science and Technology and two Canadian doctors will each year go and work in Uganda for periods of up to four months. Other collaboration will include medical research and institutional scientific development.

(c) Planned Shipment of Material

Shipment of educational equipment and materials to Uganda has continued. In 2001, it is envisaged that a total of 3 such shipments would have been made by the end of December.

(d) CIDA Funding

Having been unsuccessful yet again in securing project funding from the Canadian International Development Agency, the Partnership for Development will direct their efforts towards identifying other funding sources.

(e) The Millennium Project

Preliminary architectural and presentation drawings have been completed. However funding remains a critical challenge. In this regard, the partners have decided on a number of approaches. First, Makerere university administration will be encouraged to assume ownership and maintenance of the building when it is completed and then lease it back to the Partnership at a nominal charge. Second, the Canadian members of the partnership will each undertake to find potential funders in the neighbourhood of \$ 10,000 to \$ 15,000 for the project. Third, educational establishments in Canada and elsewhere that frequently visit Makerere for education and research and require accommodation, will be identified and then asked to make financial contributions of \$ 10,000 to \$ 15,000 each towards the capital costs, now estimated at \$ 150,000 Canadian. Finally, through Mr. Brian Guest, the Sisters of St. Joseph have undertaken to supply a significant amount of furniture (surplus) for the facility.

MAKERERE HAS A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN Makerere University has approved a new 5-Year Strategic Plan (200/01-2004/5). The Plan articulates the university's vision, mission, purpose and challenges. It also outlines strategies for meeting those challenges. The key elements, include:

- (a) Transformation of teaching and learning through the application of pedagogy, information technology and curriculum reform
- (b) Further devolution of powers to operational units;

- (c) Relating university education to the needs of society
- (d) Taking forward the development of a critical mass of science and technology, research and human resources to harness natural resources and seize opportunities for national and international scientific breakthroughs
- (e) Gender mainstreaming

According to the Plan, Makerere's vision is *'To be center of academic excellence, providing world-class teaching, research and service relevant to sustainable needs of society.'*

The Plan also sets out Makerere's mission as *'To provide quality teaching, carry out research and offer professional services to meet the changing needs of society by utilizing world-wide and internally generated human resources, information and technology to enhance the university's leading position in Uganda and beyond'*. *

Makerere's Strategic Plan has identified priority areas to include the following:

- (i) Information and Communication Technology
- (ii) Library services
- (iii) Research
- (iv) Science-based disciplines, that is to say:
 - Agriculture and livestock management
 - Health Sciences
 - Science and Technology
 - Environment and nature conservation
 - Good governance and human rights
 - Gender mainstreaming.

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As an aspect of the new Plan, it has been reported that Makerere plans to increase student intake from 22,000 to 35,000 in the next five years. The cost of the increase is pegged at Uganda Shillings 135 billion.

FOMAC welcomes Makerere's new 5-Year Strategic Plan. We wish to express the hope that during the plan period, the university will examine very seriously the issues of cost effectiveness, accessibility, accountability and relevancy.

NEW COURSES AT MAKERERE

Makerere has introduced a set of new courses starting this academic year (2001-2002). They are mostly science-based and include:

- Bachelor of Science (External)**
- Bachelor of Science in Medical Radiography**
- Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Health Management**
- Bachelor of Science in Conservation Biology**
- Bachelor of Sports Science**
- Bachelor of Science in Horticulture**
- Bachelor of Science in Home Economics and Nutrition**
- Master of science in Population and Reproductive Health**
- Master of Arts in Population development Planning.**

UGANDA STREAMLINES ITS UNIVERSITIES During the last decade institutions of higher education appear to have mushroomed in Uganda in an adhoc manner, causing concern about standards and viability. The Uganda government has now taken steps to address the issue. Through an Act of Parliament the government has established a regulatory body known as the National Council for Higher Education. The — National Council will be responsible for streamlining the establishment, the administration and the standards for universities and other institutions of higher education in Uganda.

The functions of the National Council will include:

- (a) To receive, consider and process applications for the establishment and accreditation of public and private institutions of higher education
- (b) To monitor, evaluate and regulate institutions of higher education
- (c) To ensure minimum standards of courses of study and equating of degrees, diplomas and certificates awarded by the different public and private institutions
- (d) To certify that the institutions of higher education have adequate and accessible physical structures and staff for the courses they wish to offer.

Among the changes in the Act is the provision for the appointment of the Chancellor of a public university. Up till now the Head of State was automatically the Chancellor of all public universities. Under the Act however, the President on the recommendation of the University Council will now appoint the Chancellor. The Chancellor serves for a term of four years, renewable for one more term. The Chancellor appoints a Vice Chancellor on the recommendation of the University Council after a Search Committee has done preliminary search and vetting.

Generally, the Act attempts to restore the autonomy of Makerere and other public universities and tertiary institutions. For example, no government minister will sit on the University Council.

This new Act repeals the existing Acts, namely, Makerere University Act of 1970, the Mbarara University of Science and Technology Statute of 1989 and the Uganda Management Institute Statute of 1992. The Act came into force on 6 April 2001.

FOMAC expects that the National Council for Higher Education will ensure better coordination and integration of post-secondary educational services and will promote fiscal

responsibility and accountability throughout the higher education system in Uganda.

FOMAC's EXECUTIVE OFFICERS RE-ELECTED

At the Annual General Meeting of FOMAC held on 18 November 2000, at the University Women's Club in Winnipeg, the incumbent office bearers were re-elected to a two-year term (2000/2001 to 2001/2002). The office holders are:

Dr. Charles Olweny	President
Mr. Yunus Lubega	Secretary
Mr. Peter Luzige	Treasurer
Mr. Wilson Okwenje	Coordinator
Mr. Jim Kasule	Committee Member
Mr. Norman Coghlan	Committee Member
Mr. Mark Olweny	Committee Member

The AGM for 2001 is scheduled to take place on 24 November 2001 at the same venue. As an innovation to past practice, FOMAC has invited a well-known academic to give a lecture immediately after the AGM. This is part of our development education initiative. Professor John Loxley, Head of the Department of Economics at the University of Manitoba, will speak on the topic:

"The Economic Impacts of the Current Global Security Situation."

FOMAC LIAISON OFFICER

Mrs. Euphemia Kalema was re-appointed Liaison Officer for another one-year term. We extend to Mrs. Kalema good wishes.

FUNDRAISING DINNER

FOMAC held a successful benefit dinner on Saturday 22 September 2001, at the Delta Hotel in Winnipeg. The Guest Speaker was the former Premier of Manitoba, Mr. Gary Filmon.

The guests included the Deputy to Premier Doer, Mrs. Jean Friesen, as well as a representative of the President and Vice Chancellor of the University of Manitoba. About 150 guests attended the splendid dinner from all walks of life in Manitoba, including business, civic and academic communities.

The inability to travel to Canada by Mr. Bernard Onyango, current Academic Registrar at the Uganda Martyrs University and former Academic Registrar of Makerere University cast a dark shadow on an otherwise very successful event. FOMAC had invited Mr. Onyango, a highly respected academic and university administrator, to be co-guest speaker at the dinner together with former Premier Filmon. Mr. Onyango accepted the invitation. His address was to have highlighted the history and challenges of higher education in Africa generally and East Africa in particular. He has first hand knowledge and experience of the relevant complex issues. Unfortunately he and his wife Lucy were denied visas by the Canadian Immigration authorities, much to the shock and dismay of FOMAC and our friends. It is ironic that a person who has held important positions in Africa, such as Registrar, University of East Africa, Chairman, Uganda Immigration Control Board, Director, Bank of Uganda and has other impressive credentials, could be denied entry into Canada by the Canadian authorities, when other individuals with dubious backgrounds are routinely allowed into the country!

Nevertheless, both the FOMAC President, Dr. Charles Olweny and Mr. Filmon took on the challenge and filled in brilliantly. In his introductory remarks Dr. Olweny described the history of Makerere and the role the university has played in the overall education process of the civil society in East Africa and beyond.

Mr. Filmon gave a moving, informative and inspirational dinner speech on the role of education in building a society. He expressed his firm belief in education as the fundamental

building block of a civil society. He called education " the great enabler, the great equalizer."

In stressing the paramount role of education, Mr. Filmon stated, *inter alia*:

"I believe education is the most powerful influence in our society. It has the power to raise people from the lowest socio-economic status to the highest in just one generation. No other force in society has that power.

I believe education is the only answer to the problems of systemic poverty, poor health and tragic conditions that face a majority of our First Nations' population in Canada

Similarly, it is the solution to the expectations and the opportunities of those who live in the developing world."

Mr. Filmon suggested, in conclusion, that an enlightened population was far less likely to be driven to hatred and violence and far more likely to seek cooperation and consensus.

FOMAC concurs and thanks Mr. Filmon for the enlightenment.

FOMAC DONOR CATEGORIES ARE UPGRADED

As always, we encourage Makerere alumni and friends to make donations in order to enable FOMAC undertake projects that benefit Makerere and other institutions. On this occasion we wish to inform everyone that the donor categories have been upgraded and people are encouraged to raise their special donations.

The updated categories are:

SPONSOR	\$ 500 - \$ 999
FOUNDER	\$1000-\$4999
BUILDER	\$ 5000 - \$ 9999
SUPER BUILDER	\$ 10,000 - \$ 19,999
PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE	\$ 20,000 +

NEWS FROM MAKERERE

- (i) **Friends of Makerere in Kampala (FOMAK) held its first Annual General Meeting in April 2001 and elected its first officials. Members of the Executive Committee are:**

Dr. Seggane Musisi	Chairperson
Mr. Lenny Kabunga	Secretary
Mr. Simon Sagala-Mulindwa	Coordinator
Mrs. Theresa Kigenyi	Treasurer
Ms Jayne Frances Nabawanuka	Committee Member
Dr. Celestino Obua	Committee Member
Mrs. Euphemia Kalema-Kiwuwa	FOMAC Coordinator

Several Committees were set up including, Finance, Building, Scholarship, Alumni mobilization and welfare, Fundraising and Entertainment. As well, the Makerere University convocation expects to nominate a representative. —

As this chapter is at the cradle of the Makerere movement, great things are expected from it. We wish the leadership well.

(ii) Information and Communication Technology at Makerere: Through a number of grants to Makerere by SIDA, NORAD and USAID, Makerere has acquired a modern information technology network referred to as MakNet. It will help the university to communicate fast and effectively internally and internationally. It will also speed up the processing of examination results, students' academic transcripts, certificates, registration and the admission process.

(iii) Support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York: According to a recent press release, the American based endowment, the Carnegie Corporation of New York, has given Makerere a grant valued at US \$ 2 million. The purpose is to help Makerere overhaul its systems and "focus on improving the environment for teaching, learning, research and publications." As well, the grant will be used to "provide scholarship for female undergraduates and intensive training for faculties. It will facilitate the training of librarians and restocking of science faculty libraries and the creation of a distance learning bachelor's degree course for mathematics and science teachers."

The Rockefeller Foundation and the Norwegian Agency for International Development are participating in this project.

(iv) Government Sponsorships at Institutions of Higher Education in Uganda:

In April 2001 the Uganda government announced the increase in government sponsorship at Makerere from 2000 to 4000 students per year. Unfortunately, Makerere's gain has been other institutions' loss. In September 2001 government reduced scholarships to tertiary institutions by over 2000, from 8400 to 6000. Only 30% of the students in Cooperative Colleges, Hotel Training Institutions and Uganda Colleges of Commerce will be sponsored. The rest of the students, 70%, will have to find private funding. In some cases, individual sponsorship has

been cut down by as much as 70%. As well, cost sharing has been abolished in all institutions of higher education. Even where students are sponsored, funds cover tuition and upkeep alone. Individuals must find money from other sources to cover caution money, identity cards, student club membership, etc,

Clearly, the state is renegeing on its responsibility to play the lead role in skills development. In this environment the poor will suffer and education will become the preserve of the elite and the rich. The state ought to recognize, as former Premier Filmon reminded us, that education is the most important investment we can make - it pays dividends for decades and generations to come.

(v) A Make re re Graduate is US Ambassador to Lebanon: In May 2001 President George W Bush nominated a career diplomat, Mr. Vincent Martin Battle, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of Lebanon. Mr. Battle was a student at Makerere University School of Education in the 1960s. Mr. Battle graduated with a Post Graduate Diploma in Education from Makerere before proceeding to Columbia University where he earned a Masters degree and a Ph.D. We wish Ambassador Battle well in his new assignment.

VISITORS TO MAKERERE

More academics and friends associated with FOMAC and with the Partnership for Development and Education have paid — visits to Makerere during the year. Among them are:

Dr. Alex Dauphin	McMaster University
Sister Katrina Rooney	Sisters of St. Joseph in Hamilton, Ontario
Dr. Sidney Effer	University of British Columbia
Dr. Michael J. Cox	University of British Columbia
Dr. Carl Nimrod	University of Ottawa

