

# *ANNUAL REPORT*

*2001/2002*

*Friends of Makerere in Canada (FOMAC) is pleased to submit its report for the fiscal year 2001 / 2002.*

*Over the past ten years, it has been the pleasure of FOMAC to work with its partners: Makerere University Kampala, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, both in Uganda, and St. Joseph's Healthcare System in Hamilton, Ontario. We have also benefited immensely from our association with the University of Manitoba, McMaster University and from many individuals in the academic, business, government and the voluntary sector both in Canada and around the world. We thank them all.*

*We have tried to ensure that our policies and programmes are inclusive and reflect the diverse groups with which we share a vision and goals. We recognize that the success and sustainability of a project such as ours depends to a large measure on positive collaboration with other groups. We have therefore interacted with these groups in order to build relationships that are constructive and are likely to endure.*

*In common with other voluntary and non-profit organizations, FOMAC currently faces serious funding challenges. As this report will show, one major event was held during the report period, partly to celebrate the tenth anniversary and partly to raise funds. We need more funding opportunities in order to strengthen this organization and to meet its long-term program objectives. We welcome ideas on possible new initiatives as well as direct financial contributions. We plead to everyone to help us convert the present challenges into new opportunities to build and sustain solutions for FOMAC and Makerere.*

*The New Partnership For Africa's Development (NEPAD), the landmark document conceived by African leaders to guide Africa's social and economic development in future, and subsequently supported by the G8*

*leaders at Kananaskis, Alberta in June 2002, states in part the following, in the section on "Bridging the Education Gap"*

*"The key problems in education in Africa are the poor facilities and inadequate systems under which the vast majority of Africans receive their training. Africans who have the opportunity of obtaining training elsewhere in the world have demonstrated their ability to compete successfully.*

*The plan supports the immediate strengthening of the university system across Africa, including the creation of specialized universities where needed, building on available African teaching staff. The need to establish and strengthen institutes of technology is especially emphasized."*

*On their part, the G8 stated the following about improving and promoting education in Africa:                    »*

*"Investing in education is critical to economic and social development in Africa and to providing Africans with greater opportunities for personal and collective advancement. Yet most African countries have made poor progress towards the attainment of the Dakar Education for All (EFA) goals..."*

*We believe that assistance to FOMAC is investment in education, and education is a potent weapon against poverty, disease and conflict, the triple perennial scourges of Africa.*

*We also believe that FOMAC is a model of a strong voluntary and nonprofit organization that can help advance higher education in Africa through forward thinking and positive action. As well, It can help reverse the serious problem of brain drain by helping retain within Africa the critical human capacities necessary for Africa's development.*

## **FOMAC COMMEMORATES TEN YEARS OF EXISTENCE**

*Friends of Makerere in Canada (FOMAC) was founded in 1992 in Winnipeg, Canada. In a period of ten years it has grown and become the focal point for individuals, chapters and organizations around the world affiliated with Makerere University or are committed to building or sustaining solutions for the development of Makerere and other Universities in Uganda. FOMAC has worked cooperatively in partnerships with various organizations, institutions and individuals. They have all added values to the quality and diversity of the work of FOMAC. Accordingly, under the theme of "Building Bridges of Friendship", FOMAC marked its tenth anniversary with a celebration dinner at Hotel Fort Carry in Winnipeg, on 5<sup>th</sup> October 2002. Among the 150 guests who attended were critical stakeholders from the academic*

*community, government, business, ethno-cultural community, the voluntary sector, as well as members and friends.*

*In his welcoming address, the President of FOMAC, Professor Charles Olweny, underscored the value of building bridges of friendship and expressed appreciation for the support extended to FOMAC programs by diverse groups and individuals. He pledged the cooperation of FOMAC and committed the organization to working towards effective solutions to the challenges facing Makerere and education in Uganda and Africa. The Chancellor of the University of Manitoba and former Mayor of Winnipeg, Dr. Bill Nome, was the guest of honour. He delivered the keynote address. Drawing on his considerable experience in public life, Dr. Nome encouraged the sharing of ideas, perspectives and experiences as they contribute to better understanding and improve the identification of solutions. Dr. Norrie recognized and appreciated the work and role of FOMAC as it benefits society as a whole and the individual institutions it supports. He encouraged FOMAC to work with partners in order to develop solutions. The President and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Manitoba Dr. Eموke Szathmary attended the dinner and introduced the guest speaker.*

*In order to showcase FOMAC's partnership with other institutions, a slide presentation was made by Dr. Peter Kagoma, of Brantford Ontario, and a representative of the St. Joseph's Healthcare System in Hamilton, Ontario. Dr. Kagoma is a Haematologist and a key member of the Partnership for Development in Health and Education which links FOMAC with St. Joseph's Healthcare System and the two Ugandan universities, Makerere and Mbarara. With the help of slides he described the projects undertaken by the partnership, such as the establishment of the Haematology Resource Centre at Mulago Hospital (Makerere's Medical School), the supply of medical and educational equipment to both Makerere and Mbarara Universities, and the Resident exchange program between Makerere and the McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.*

*The celebration was a success by any measure. A small profit was realized. Messages of goodwill and support were received from the Premier of Manitoba, Mr. Gary Doer, the Presidents of FOMAC chapters in Ontario, Canada and the United Kingdom, and several groups and individuals.*

## THE JULIUS NYERERE MEMORIAL LECTURE

*FOMAC has recognized the profound influence of the late President of Tanzania, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere on the post-independence politics of Africa and his unique leadership role in the areas of education, social justice, economic and democratic inclusiveness as well as good citizenship. He believed these values to be fundamental to the full public participation in the shaping of the African society. FOMAC's recognition of Mwalimu Nyerere has taken the form of Memorial Lectures. Professor Ali Mazrui delivered the Inaugural Lecture in September 2000.*

*Professor John Loxley of the Department of Economics at the University of Manitoba delivered the Second Memorial Lecture on 5th October 2002. The venue was the Samuel Cohen Auditorium at the St. Boniface Research Centre. Dr. Loxley is a former graduate student at Makerere who later served in Tanzania under President Nyerere in various capacities, including as advisor on economic policy as well as on Tanzania's relationships with the IMF and the World Bank. In addition, Dr. Loxley helped establish the graduate program in Economics at the University of Dar-es-Salaam. He is an expert on international development*

*Professor Loxley's Lecture was on the theme "Building solutions for Development in Africa". He examined the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and evaluated the G8 Action Plan for Africa. NEPAD is a vision or blueprint for Africa, conceived and developed by African leaders to guide the future development of Africa in the economic, social, political and other fields of human endeavour. It calls for a renewed partnership with the global community. The "Plan" was the response of the world's most powerful economic powers, the G8, which they approved at their Kananaskis Summit in Alberta, Canada, in June 2002.*

*In his analysis of NEPAD, Dr. Loxley applauded the program and observed that it lays out the political and economic preconditions for sustainable development. It provides initiatives to strengthen peace and security, to build democracy and good governance and to enhance the quality of economic and public financial management as well as corporate governance. In addition, NEPAD lays down concrete proposals to implement various measures. It has many good points, such as the commitment of African leaders to work together in a very public way to try to shape the future direction of Africa's economic development, and the*

*leaders' concern with poverty eradication and HIV/AIDS, the two most pressing problems facing Africa.*

*However, Dr. Loxley was critical of some aspects of NEPAD. For example, its strong emphasis on promoting the private sector; the exaggerated promotion of a public-private partnership strategy; as well as failure to challenge the conventional wisdom on structural adjustment and debt management. In his opinion, NEPAD appears to echo and continue the economic paradigm promoted by the IMF/World Bank, some of which have been contested. The other concern of Dr. Loxley was the uncritical support for the\* integration of financial markets, both within Africa and globally, and the uncritical promotion of private capital inflows. Citing examples from other parts of the world, he warned that Africa should be aware of the risks of capital market liberalization and the sudden capital flight. As well, Dr. Loxley was critical of the NEPAD position on foreign aid. He based this criticism on the fact that the program calls for the investment of\$ 64 billion a year, whereas currently total aid amounts to only 14 billion a year. Considering that domestic resource mobilization was not expected to fund more than half the projected amount, the bulk would have to come from foreign aid. This situation would likely entrench Africa's dependency on foreign aid in the long term when in fact Africa was trying to do the opposite.*

*About the G8 Africa Plan of Action, Dr. Loxley's view was that the level of financial support promised by the G8 was hopelessly inadequate to meet Africa's development needs as stipulated in NEPAD and did not add much to the support already promised prior to the Summit at Kananaskis. There were few collective commitments of any concrete substance but mostly general statements of support. Each donor country would make its own assessments in making partnership decisions. Besides, the G8 assistance was conditional and was targeted only to countries meeting the NEPAD objectives. The door was more or less shut on those that did not. Even so, the Plan did not address the issue of investment in infrastructure and yet it is crucial to economic integration in Africa.*

*Professor Loxley's conclusion was that the NEPAD program offered the possibility of more genuine African solutions. However, in order for possibilities to be translated into realities, NEPAD will have to become a more open, consultative process and some aspects of the program will have to be reformulated and refined.*

*Support by the wealthy industrialized countries and foreign direct investment by private enterprises will depend on the much-heralded Peer*

*Review mechanisms by an independent body to ensure the upholding by African governments of democratic standards and human rights. This is indeed a tall order and will, no doubt, be a difficult nut to crack!*

## **STAFF DEVELOPMENT AWARDS**

*FOMAC has announced the continuation of its staff development award program at Makerere. The scholarships are worth US \$2500 each for 1-3 years, depending on the courses of study. Individuals who are currently on the University's Staff Development programme and are pursuing higher degrees or diplomas are eligible. FOMAC will award the scholarships following an established process and recommendation of a Scholarship Committee, with the support of the relevant Dean.*

*Meanwhile, the Friends of Makerere in the United Kingdom (FOMUK) have decided to award up to 10 prizes annually to the best students in selected faculties/departments. The details will be announced soon.*

## **MAKERERE'S AUTONOMY**

*The Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act became operational in April 2002, replacing the Makerere University Act 1970, which had governed Makerere's operations. Under the new Act, the previous government stranglehold on the University has diminished. For example, the Head of State is no longer Chancellor and titular head of the University. The Head of State, on the recommendation of the University Council, will appoint the new Chancellor. The University Council is now the supreme governing body of the University. It approves all the policies, rules and regulations and is responsible for the overall administration of the university and ensures the implementation of the objects and functions of the University. Government representation on the Council has been reduced drastically. The Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellors are appointed not by the Head of State but by the Chancellor on the recommendation of the University Council. The Council will appoint the University Secretary, the Academic Registrar, the Dean of Students, the Deans and Directors of Faculties and Professors. <sup>^</sup>Hitherto the Minister of Education made these appointments.*

## **NEWS FROM MAKERERE:**

1. *In August 2002 a rare meeting of heads of FOMAC chapters and the Makerere Vice-Chancellor took place at Makerere. FOMAC President Professor Charles Olweny, President of the UK Chapter Professor Clem Kiire, President of the Kampala Chapter Dr. Seggane Musisi, met with Vice-Chancellor Professor John Ssebuwufu, in the company of other officials. They discussed various issues of mutual concern. The issues included the ownership and administration of the proposed Friendship House to be built at Makerere by Friends of Makerere collectively, the Staff Development Awards, office accommodation for the local chapter and fund-raising efforts.*

2. *The contracts of the Vice-Chancellor, Professor J.P Ssebuwufu and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor J.Epelu Opio, have been extended for six months, pending the appointment process stipulated under the new Act.*

3. *The Uganda Government has named its representatives to the University Council under the new Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act. They are:*

*Mr. Gabriel Opio (Former Minister of State for Finance) - Chairman > Mr. Stephen B K Kavuma (Lawyer) - Member Ms Sauda N Kakunulu (Banker) - Member*

*Government appointees to other Makerere University bodies other than Council include:*

*Mrs. Florence Anyango (Chemical Engineer)*

*Prof. Enock H. Rukare (Former Dean, Faculty of Education)*

*Dr. Ahmed K Ssendendo (Director, Islamic University in Uganda, Kampala Campus)*

4. *Funding: Makerere is truly cash-strapped. The Uganda Government has pledged to Makerere an annual contribution of approximately Uganda Shillings 30 billion. However, due to the conflict in the north of the country and the necessity to fund the war effort, government disbursements were reduced by 23 percent across the board. Accordingly due to budgetary constraints Makerere was forced to postpone the resumption of the second semester. The University faces a huge deficit at the end of the year.*

5. *Makerere University has been selected by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) as the site for the first women-oriented*

*IT facility. It is part of ITU's Internet Training Centres Initiatives for developing countries. Fifteen such centres are planned for Africa. The American technology firm Cisco Systems is a project partner. ITU believes that the project will increase women's participation in technology. Makerere's Department of Women and Gender Studies concurs and has welcomed the project. The Department has also received aid from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation to open a computer laboratory for purposes of exposing and training women in technology.*

- 6. Student population at Makerere has increased astronomically. In academic year 1997/1998 there were approximately 7,000. In 2002/2003 the number has leaped to 32,000. The pressure to increase the intake of students has arisen partly from the need to improve the University's budgetary situation and partly to fund infrastructure renovations. Approximately 22,000 or 2/3 of the student population are privately sponsored.*
- 7. Academic programmes have also grown tremendously. For example, in 1997, the University offered 45 Undergraduate programmes and 40 Postgraduate programmes. In 2002/2003 the comparable numbers are 130 and 79*
- 8. The staffing situation is challenging. According to recent estimates, less than half of the teaching positions at full Professor and Associate Professor levels are filled.*
- 9. According to a recent report in the New Vision newspaper, Makerere will soon have its own radio station. The Public Affairs Officer of the American Centre in Kampala has revealed that the American Government had donated a complete package of studio equipment to Makerere's Department of Mass Communication. In addition, a sum of money has been set aside for soundproofing and air conditioning.*

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Statements of Account for the year 2001/2002 are attached.



