

ANNUAL REPORT

1999/2000

Sometime ago the Executive of Friends of Makerere in Canada (FOMAC) adopted the TARA principle (Transparency, Accountability, Reliability and Activity) as its guiding policy. This policy is intended to fulfil FOMAC's commitment to adhere to strict expenditure management, focusing on result-oriented projects and increasing the transparency of information. This Annual Report and the Quarterly Reports attempt to provide accountability and to report on accomplishments achieved during the year.

As a small social organization, FOMAC has very limited resources. In fact it depends on members' contributions and small donations. Despite that, the organization is deeply concerned about the future of education, especially higher education, in Africa. It is committed to helping, as much as possible, Ugandan universities meet their development challenges as well as to strengthening long-term relationships with these institutions. That is why it has developed partnerships and strategic alliances as ways of doing business, and has tried to reach as many alumni and friends as possible through the expansion of "Friends" chapters.

Investment in higher education in Africa is a complex issue. The resources are limited and higher education is pitted against and made to compete with a wide range of other priority needs. The recent remarks of the Vice Chancellor of Makerere, referred to briefly in this report, about the inadequacy of resources, clearly demonstrate this dilemma. The situation therefore calls for innovative approaches to funding. For example, the university working together not with the state alone but also with a range of private sources, alumni groups and multilateral development institutions, can help alleviate the problem. That said, we believe that the state must play the lead role in skills development, because after all the economic health of nations depends, especially at this time, on a highly educated and trained work force. The state should be concerned that as many of its citizens as possible have access to the opportunities that will enable them live productive and rewarding lives. Clearly, enhanced funding for higher education will help define the kind of society we want to create in the new millennium.

PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT IN HEALTH AND EDUCATION

The partnership is a working relationship among the parties who are linked by an affiliation agreement. It is composed of FOMAC, Makerere University, Mbarara University of Science and Technology, and Sisters of St. Joseph Health Care System. The Partners are pleased with their collaboration so far and with the progress made in implementing their joint projects. In a recent review, conducted through a conference call meeting on October 30, 1999, the Canada based partners expressed their satisfaction and discussed areas in which their projects can be enhanced and others initiated. The next comprehensive review will be undertaken on November 18, 2000, at a meeting in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The following are some of the key developments:

(a) **Shipment of Medical Equipment and Educational Supplies** Shipment of medical supplies and equipment to Makerere and Mbarara universities has now been streamlined, thanks to the work and effort of Mr. Steve Bazirake, Academic Registrar at Mbarara University. He has successfully arranged on the Uganda side smooth customs clearance and transportation of the supplies. To this end a container shipment was sent in October 1999 and arrived at its destination without delay. The partners expect to follow the same procedure in future.

(b) Dr. Kagoma's Haematology Project

Dr. Peter Kagoma traveled to Uganda in January 2000 and, as previously, provided training and teaching sessions in haematology at both Makerere and Mbarara. On this occasion, he was accompanied by Dr. Alex Dauphin from the Department of Anaesthesia, McMaster University / St Joseph's Hospital, who is also the Program Coordinator for the Haiti Project. The purpose of Dr. Dauphin's visit was not only to share knowledge and experience in teaching Anaesthesia, but also to identify areas of need. As a result of their successful visit, the parties are considering the possibility of establishing a joint training program for residents in Anaesthesia between Makerere and Mbarara Medical Schools and McMaster University / Sisters of St Joseph. If negotiations succeed, the project would be patterned along the Haiti Project

(c) **Phase 1 of the Haematology Resource Centre at Makerere is now in place.** As part of this project, Dr. Francis Ssali from Makerere Medical School is undertaking a one-year fellowship at McMaster University, at the end of which it is expected that he will take charge of the Haematology Resource Centre as Technical Director. FOMAC acknowledges the generosity of the Sisters of St Joseph who provided the bulk funding for Dr. Ssali's training and that of McMaster University for waiving the tuition fees valued at approximately

C\$20,000. Meanwhile, through Dr. Kagoma's contacts, arrangements are underway to purchase a Coulter Counter and Coagulation Unit in the amount of C\$50,000. When this is done, Phase 1 of the Haematology Resource Centre will be deemed to have been completed.

(d) FOMAC Career Development Award

Following the successful completion of the Masters Program by the first two Award recipients, Dr. C Obua and Dr. J Barugahare, the partners have agreed to continue with the Award, as a contribution to Makerere's staff development efforts. However, in future the eligibility will be open to other Departments and disciplines at both Makerere and Mbarara. The selection process will remain the same as defined in FOMAC's By-laws.

(e) Friends of Makerere House at Makerere

The location of the proposed Friends of Makerere House on Makerere Campus has been confirmed by the Makerere University Administration as 95 The Quarry. The partners have accorded the building of this house a very high priority and have adopted it as the Millennium Project. It is expected that the house will provide living and working facilities for visiting academics on FOMAC programmes. A two-storey structure is planned. Preliminary designs are being prepared and an estimate of costs will be provided soon. Meanwhile we appeal for the generosity of members and friends to assist financially and enable us undertake and complete this worthy project.

(1) Applications to CIDA

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has turned down a funding application by FOMAC, the purpose of which would have been to raise funds to assist the Makerere University Press. The application was unsuccessful on the grounds that the project "did not meet CIDA's current programming priorities" and that it was considered unsustainable by the reviewers. Nevertheless, FOMAC is not discouraged. It has decided to team up with various Canadian institutions that are interested in development issues in Africa and to submit a joint application to CIDA. The purpose is to seek funds for capacity building projects at Makerere and other universities. The Canadian institutions are: the University of Manitoba, the University of British Columbia, the University of Alberta, McMaster University, Lakehead University in Thunderbay, and the Sisters of St. Joseph Health Care System. It is expected that CIDA will consider the application during its next round of reviews.

(g) Coordinator of FOMAC Activities

The partners recently re-appointed Mrs. Euphemia Kalema as the Coordinator of partnership and alumni activities on-site. The appointment is done annually after a thorough review.

FRIENDS OF MAKERERE CHAPTERS

(a) A new chapter of Friends of Makerere has been established at the very source of "Friends". It is known as Friends of Makerere in Kampala (FOMAK). The chapter was inaugurated on August 11, 2000, thanks to the untiring efforts of Dr. Seggane Musisi, Mr. Sagala Mulindwa and Mrs. Euphemia Kalema. The occasion was hosted by the Vice Chancellor of Makerere, Professor John Ssebuwufu and was attended by some of the outstanding alumni, including Professors Alex Odonga, Senteza Kajjubi, Josephine Namboze and Pharis Mutibwa. Other stalwarts of Makerere who were present were Mrs. Sarah Ntiro, Mr Sam Oworu and Dr. David Matovu the current Chairman of the University Council who launched the Kampala chapter. Dr. Celestine Obua, a recent recipient of the FOMAC Career Development Award, moved a vote of thanks. The guest speaker at the function was Dr. Charles Olweny, President of FOMAC, who expounded on the broad objectives of FOMAC.

(b) Friends of Makerere in the United Kingdom (FOMUK)
Under the chairmanship of its President, Professor Clem Kiire, FOMUK held its Annual General Meeting on June 24, 2000, at the Royal Overseas League in London. The meeting was well attended by a good number of former Makerere staff and students, as well as friends of the institution. The occasion demonstrated the growing strength of FOMUK in the UK. FOMAC President, Dr. Charles Olweny, was guest of honour. In his brief speech, he encouraged the members generally and Africans in particular to "take your destiny in your hands." as the world does not owe them a living and to give support to educational institutions such as Makerere.

(c) The Ontario Chapter
The Chapter has now been formally registered and is vigorously exploring new projects as well as fund raising possibilities in the Province of Ontario. Their annual general meeting is scheduled for Saturday 25 th November, 2000 in Toronto.

(d) The Vancouver Chapter
In Vancouver, the Chapter, under the leadership of Professor Sultan Karim, is dealing with the legal issues of incorporation in the Province and examining possible future projects.

VISITORS TO MAKERERE

Dr. Dale Quest, a Canadian Pharmacologist from the University of Saskatchewan visited Makerere in November 1999 and assisted with the teaching of Pharmacology. Dr. Quest was supported by the Canadian Society of Clinical Pharmacology, to which we extend our thanks. As well, Mr. Mike Hillmer, a Pharmacology graduate student was in Makerere for 3 weeks working on prevention of Keloid scar formation with Dr. Stephen Kijjambu.

ST. BONIFACE HOSPITAL CONNECTIONS

Following the successful visit last year to Makerere Medical School by Dr. Adrian Fine, a nephrologist at St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg, a dialysis program may be started at Mulago Hospital in Kampala. Already Dr. Fine has arranged for the training of a nurse at St. Boniface Hospital dialysis unit and a Mulago nurse, Mrs. Miriam Walusimbi, has completed her training and returned to Uganda. FOMAC is grateful to Dr. Fine and to the Grey Nuns who provided accommodation for the student while in Winnipeg.

MWALIMU JULIUS NYERERE MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES

In recognition of the outstanding role the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere played in Africa's struggles before and after independence and of the dignity with which he espoused African and Third World development issues, FOMAC in partnership with the University of Manitoba have established the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial Lecture Series. It is expected that each year, eminent scholars interested in issues of African development in social, economic, political and other fields, will be invited to deliver lectures. Hopefully, a Department of African Studies will emerge at the University of Manitoba, as a long-term consequence.

The occasion of the inaugural lecture was held in Winnipeg on September 23rd 2000. It was extremely well attended by a multicultural and diverse community, both academic and non-academic. The guest speaker was the renowned African scholar, Professor AH A. Mazrui, the Albert Schweitzer Professor in the Humanities and Director of the Institute of Global Cultural Studies at Binghamton University, State University of New York. Dr. Mazrui spoke eloquently about the life and times of Mwalimu Nyerere and his unique legacy in Africa. The title of his lecture was "*Julius K. Nyerere: The Man, The Monument and The Mwalimu.*"

NEWS FROM AND ABOUT MAKERERE

(a) New Admissions

For the academic year 1999 / 2000, Makerere admitted 14,324 new students to pursue various courses. Out of this number, the Uganda government continues to sponsor 2000 students. Therefore, 87% of the new students enrolled are privately sponsored. At a recent graduation ceremony, the Chancellor of the University, who is also the President of Uganda suggested that the selection process for government sponsored students needs to be reviewed in such a way that students who are economically disadvantaged are not left behind but are assisted to access government services. Since no reference has been made to a future increase in government sponsorship, it is clear that university attendance will continue to be dominated by those who can afford to pay the high university fees.

(b) New Courses

Makerere has introduced a new set of diverse courses, bringing to about 100 the total number of programmes it offers. Some of the new courses include: Bachelor of Sports Science, B.Sc. Industrial Chemistry, B.Sc. Geological Resource Management, Bachelor of Agribusiness Management, Bachelor of Environmental Health Sciences, MSc in Molecular Biology, Master of Wildlife Health and Management and MA in Refugee Law.

(c) Funding

Makerere is suffering from extreme underfunding. At the 38th Makerere graduation ceremony, the Vice Chancellor, Professor John Ssebuwufu expressed frustration about inadequate resources to finance university programmes and pleaded for increased financial support. He revealed that, out of a total budget of UG.Shs 66 billion (approximately US\$35 million), the Uganda Government had allocated to Makerere UG Shs 23 billion (approx. US\$ 14 million). The university was expected to raise from private sources about UGShs 13 billion or US\$7million. Even assuming that the University was successful in raising that amount, which was uncertain, there remained a huge deficit of almost 47%. This situation clearly underscores the unresolved issue of higher education funding and how it reflects a nation's basic values.

(d) Bereavement

Sadly, Makerere has recently lost some prominent persons:

Associate Professor Joseph Carasco of the Department of Biochemistry died in February 2000, in the crash of the Kenya Airways plane at Abidjan, Ivory Coast He was returning to Kampala from Dakar, Senegal, where he had been participating in a conference on Quality Education. Dr. Carasco, who was 53, grew up in Uganda and went to school at Kitante and Namilyango. He had taught at Makerere University since 1972. He was a true Ugandan nationalist and a valued member of the scientific community as well as a dedicated teacher and researcher.

Also killed in the plane crash was Bernard Bagyenya, the Chief Technician in the Department of Veterinary Medicine.

Mary Stuart, after whom the first women's hall of residence at Makerere (Mary Stuart Hall or "the Box") is named, passed away on 4th June 2000. She was 99 years of age and the holder of the OBE. She is recognized for her pioneering work for the rights and education of women in Uganda, starting from the 1930s and for her close association with Makerere. She was a founding member of the Uganda Council of Women, and used her influential position as the wife of the Bishop (Bishop Simon Stuart) to champion the development of women's education in Uganda and Africa generally.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ugandan Schools stand to benefit from a recent donation of computers and books, thanks to the efforts of a Canadian donor. Professor Douglas Thorn, professor of Educational Administration at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, Ontario, was able to mobilize his community and acquire a range of computers and books, which were then offered to FOMAC. The computers and books were dispatched to the Uganda Council of Education so that they could be distributed fairly among the schools.

As well, a firm of architects in Winnipeg, Cohlmeier Associates Architects Ltd., has donated a computer and four drawing boards to the School of Architecture at Makerere.

FOMAC thanks them all and encourages other organizations and individuals to donate educational materials for schools and universities in Uganda. We also appeal to the alumni and friends to donate generously towards the Millennium project as well to other initiatives of the organization.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Statements for the year 1999/2000 are attached.

