

IUPUI-Moi U. Strategic Partnership Minutes July 10, 2009

In attendance: Ian McIntosh, Peg Williams, Jeanette Dickerson-Putman, Rick Bein, Larry Goldblatt, Sotiris Hji-Avgoustis, Nicole Keith, Jane Mokaya, Pascal Olame, David Lewis, Phil Cochran, George Edwards, Carole Darst, Mark Richardson.

Note: The next monthly meeting will be delayed by one week – it will be held on Friday August 14 at 1pm in ES2132.

1. Physical Education and Tourism Management Update: Nicole Keith and Sotiris Hji-Avgoustis are engaged in negotiations that would see IUPUI and Moi University students center stage in the marketing and management of Lornah Kiplagat's High Altitude Training Center in Iten, Kenya. In their proposal, both tourism and physical education students would be involved in a range of associated programs, including health promotion, personal training, and group exercise leadership etc. (Lornah Kiplagat is a distance runner of world renown and, along with her fellow athletes – including 9 Olympic gold medal winners - her desire is to have the Eldoret region become known as the long distance running capital of the world. And she wants to work closely with IUPUI to make this dream a reality)
2. Visit of Evaline Njoki Mwangi from the Imani Workshop to the Herron school of Art In September/October 2009. Mark Richardson, Carole Darst, Elsie Rotich, Ian McIntosh. Plans are now being finalized for Njoki's visit. One of the highlights will be the opening of an exhibition of Imani products at the Herron School on September 25. It will be followed by a public presentation by Njoki and others on Imani entitled "The Art of Healing." Njoki will spend one month at IUPUI doing advanced training in a range of areas including design, pottery, bead making, and so on.
3. Reconciliation Symposium Report. Ian McIntosh
A full debriefing from the symposium, including video highlights (especially the presentations by the 'Kenyan Obama' and constitutional lawyer Patrick Lumumba, and Moi U. Chancellor Bethwell Alan Ogot), will be held in mid-August 2009 at a social function designed to elicit next steps. One of the most significant will be to consider planning for a follow up symposium to be held in 2011 prior to the next Kenyan election – the wish of the Moi U. Vice-Chancellor Richard Mibey.
4. Anthropology Research Partnership Update
Jeanette Dickerson-Putman shared details of her collaborative research with Moi U. colleagues on HIV/AIDS caregivers and also Nandi widows. She is also supervising a Bloomington anthropology PhD candidate who will work with Dr. John Sidle on peer education (safe sex and contraception for sex workers) in Burnt Forest.
5. Geography Research Partnership Update

Rick Bein discussed his continuing research in traditional agriculture in collaboration with Gilbert Nduru and plans for a study abroad/environmental service learning project in 2010 that will encompass a wide range of Kenya's diverse environments.

6. Law Partnership Update

See the attached report from George Edwards detailing the planned October IU Law delegation to Kenya. Hoosier lawyers, judges, and law faculty, will join Dean Gary Roberts to visit their Moi U. colleagues and LACE, the Legal AID Centre of Eldoret, a human rights clinic operating in conjunction with AMPATH.

The Program in International Human Rights Law of IU Law – Indianapolis will be sending two students to Eldoret in August 2009 as international human rights law interns. See attached for more details.

7. Student Internship Update

Pascal Olame successfully completed his 6 week internship at Rivatex, and the project to establish a database of the 20,000 textile designs is well underway. Pascal was assigned six interns from Moi U. for this gargantuan task. Well done Pascal!

8. Library Update:

The container that the IUPUI library is sending from Books for Africa in Minneapolis, which also includes computers donated for the Margaret Thatcher library will be enroute shortly.

The IUPUI library will be happy to mount the papers or presentation slides from the IUPUI-Moi University Reconciliation Symposium held in May 2009 in Eldoret on the Moi section of its repository. This will make them quickly available on the web. They will be included in Google, GoogleScholar and IUPUI Scholarworks and should therefore get wide exposure. Please let University Library Dean David Lewis know if you would like to pursue this option. dlewis@iupui.edu 317-274-0493 or Kristi Palmer.

9. Nursing Update

A teaching delegation from IU Nursing is currently visiting Eldoret (including Dean Broome). They are employing a teaching model in which one Moi U. faculty member works closely with an IU Faculty member to develop and deliver courses. The biggest (and most expensive) barrier is the lack of sustained and solid internet access (for instance to teach the informatics course). But they are working with that by bringing copies of readings, buying some books to leave, etc. They have tried to stay close to the Problem-based learning (PBL) approach that Moi University is known for. We have also obtained appointment letters for seven of their faculty as adjuncts of IU so they will individually have access to our library resources. Dean Broome will also explore additional options for good internet access so IU can offer its many online courses to Moi students.

10. Harambee Center / Moi University Foundation Update

Former Moi University Vice-Chancellor David Some was in Indianapolis last week for a short 'surprise' visit. He has been authorized to proceed with the creation of the Harambee Center and the formation of the Moi University Foundation (which is to be modeled on the IU Foundation). This all began when Gene Tempel and Bill Plater led a workshop on fundraising for David Some and all the deputy vice chancellors and deans in 2007. Since that time, David spent a sabbatical at IU Center on Philanthropy, and has been working on the creation of the Harambee Center / Moi University Foundation. David asked both Gene Tempel and Bill Plater to be part of the initial group of six trustees to oversee the new foundation. The new Moi foundation (MUF) will be an important vehicle for fund raising and endowment management for Moi—and it will encompass medicine. While the primary focus will be on fundraising in Kenya and Africa—and on alumni relations—they will also wish to fundraise in the US and elsewhere in the world. The IU Foundation could help in the interim, until the MUF is established. That's great, and I know it will be a big help in jump-starting the MUF. One initial priority will be the creation of a 501c3 nonprofit in the US that can be the American "branch" of the MUF to facilitate fundraising in the US.

11. Dentistry Update

Dean Larry Goldblatt will be attending the Moi U. Annual International Conference from August 4-8 and deliver a keynote address. IU Dentistry had a key role in the establishment of the Moi U. dental school and faculty development will be a feature of the continually growing partnership.

12. Rotary's Carole Darst spoke of the growing 'communities pamoja' collaboration between Indianapolis and Eldoret, including peer relationships, and two-way learning. For more detail, email Carole at carolearts@mac.com