





This month we will be celebrating the Paschal Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter), the holiest and most important days of the church's calendar. During these days, Tangaza takes some "sabbath" time, away from its usual business, in order to reflect and enter more deeply into the mystery of God's merciful love for us in Christ. We our reminded that our call to "transform lives" is not just about helping people get a bet-

ter degree or a high-paying job, but about helping all of us enter more deeply into the transformative power of the resurrection. Like Jesus, each of us individually and Tangaza as a whole must be constantly undergoing the "dying and rising" process that leads to new life.

As announced at our recent Tangaza Day celebrations (March 24), Dr. Beatrice Churu and Dr. Andrew Lujuo have finished their terms as Deputy Principal Academic and Deputy Principal Student Life. We are deeply grateful for their extraordinary service, and we hope that they will continue their contribution to Tangaza in other ways as we move forward. Meanwhile, Fr. Selvam Sahaya, SDB, has

A Blessed and Happy Easter to all. May the Resurrection of Christ Shine in Your Eives. been named as incoming "Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic and Student Affairs", while Fr. Daniel Karau, as the college chaplain, will assume many of Dr. Lujuo's former duties as we await some restructuring of the Student Life Office. We wish them both great success, and we promise them our full support. The Governing Council also hopes to make progress very soon on filling the positions of Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor Administration and Finance, as well as

choosing the Dean of the School of Arts and Social Sciences

All of these developments are a sign of our increasing readiness for a university charter. We know there are even more changes ahead, and some may be very difficult, but we have confidence in the One who leads us. At Tangaza Day we distributed a card with a "Prayer for Tangaza". We hope that you will use it often, and continue to keep Tangaza in your prayers, that we may follow the Lord wherever he is leading us.

Steven Payne, OCD Principal



The collaboration between TUC and Catholic MPs (CAMPSSI) is bringing new fruits. On March 8-10, CAMPSSI organized an international meeting of Catholic legislators at the Dimesse Retreat Centre, Karen. 25 MPs from Kenya, Uganda, Malawi and Zimbabwe had the time to gather and share their experiences as legislators who want to work for their nations enlightened by their faith. It was also a time to strengthen the networking among African legislators. Dr. Christiaan Alting von Geusau – see box on ICLN – was in attendance.

During the meeting, three major issues were addressed. Fr. Joseph Caramazza of ISMM spoke about the role of faith in political choices of Kenyan MPs. His paper was based on a research he conducted for his PhD. The second input was by Hon. Mututho, former MP for Naivasha and co-founder of CAMPSSI. The third input was given by Dr. von Geusau on the foundations of legislative work by Christian MPs, in the light of the teaching of the church. Participants contributed richly, and received much by the sharing. The politicians present recognized that Kenyan MPs' experience was not foreign to them. They also felt the same pressure, the high demands imposed on them, and complained of the difficulty of their job. They recognized the need for a better dialogue with their own faith and the structures of the church. Participants recognized the importance of networking and accepted to start the African chapter of ICLN.

The meeting was an occasion to register the growing attention to the Christian message and the social transformation of the world in the political arena. More and more, politicians worldwide are turning to their religious faith for guidance. The voices that advocate for politics to transform society are growing in number. This is very much in line with Pope Francis' teaching. In its programmatic document *The Joy of the Gospel, Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis dedicates a full chapter to the social dimension of evangelisation. "To evangelize is to make the kingdom of God present in our world. … I would now like to share my concerns about the social dimension of evangelization, precisely because if this dimension is not properly brought out, there is a constant risk of distorting the authentic and integral meaning of the mission of evangelization" (#176).

Politicians Respond

It is interesting to note how, in the past years, many initiatives sprang up independently from each other, yet all focusing on the role of legislators in transforming their countries and governance worldwide. Pope John Paul II, at the time of the Synod of Bishops on the New Evangelization, called for a proclamation of the social teaching from the peripheries to the centre of society. Catholic legislators can be on the frontline to proclaim and implement this teaching in the context of their legislative work. The attention to the common good, which is often lacking because people seem more interested in immediate gratification than in long term projects, is pressing to create a global vision, one that goes beyond the narrow borders of a constituency. Mututho's talk on the transformative role of MPs was remarkably enlightening. To be a MP is not only a profession but also a mission.

An indicator of the attention to this topic is the fact that several politicians are in the pipeline for canonization. When Saint Thomas More was proclaimed protectors of all politicians and legislators, the Pope invited local churches to discover in their history those politicians who gave a service to the community in the light of the Gospel. Traditionally, most saints were chosen amongst the religious. Yet no real transformation can happen without the strong presence of legislators inspired by Gospel values. Here in Africa we have Julius Nyerere, in Europe the founders of the EU Robert Shuman and Alcide de Gasperi. They gave an example that can be followed by our politicians.

More Politics and Less Economics

Right now one of the trends in governments is the predominance of economics over politics. This is a miscalculated understanding of governance that means the predominance of profit above other values, especially the common good. Here we see the remarkable input given by Benedict XVI in the social encyclical *Caritas in Veritate*. The Pope noted that one of the causes of the financial crisis and recession was exactly that a few financial institutions dictated their own vision and decisions on governments. There should be a reverse. A strong point of the social teaching of the church is to return to



ICLN

The International Catholic Legislator Network is the brainchild of Dr. Christiaan Alting von Geusau, Principal of the Theological Institute of Trumau, Austria. Dr. Christiaan has been involved in several formation workshops for politicians, focusing on the lawmaking process. He realized the importance for further formation and networking of Catholic legislators worldwide. Supported by Cardinal Shoenborn of Vienna, Austria, Dr. Christiaan founded ICLN in 2010. ICLN has its main office in Trumau, a office for the Americas in Washington, D.C., and several national sections. From March 2017, there is an African Chapter. The main aim of ICLN is to provide Catholic legislators with a forum where to receive on-going formation and the opportunity of networking. The General Assembly is held annually in August in Frascati, near Rome, Italy. Kenyan MPs and ISMM faculty members participated in the past three years.

Opening picture, participants to the meeting in Karen during one of the inputs. Above, group picture of the African legislators present at the meeting.

the primacy of politics over economics. It means a growing responsibility of legislators at all level of governance.

Participants in the meeting in Karen underlined the same criteria Pope John XXIII highlighted in his great encyclical *Mater et Magistra*: integrity, competence, and collaboration. Integrity is the opposite of corruption. It means attention to the common good against personal profit, or the profit of an ethnic group or of the party over the adversaries.

Nyerere remained modest, living a simple life. Once politicians squander money on their own mansions, cars, etc., immediately we understand they cannot speak of integrity.

Competence is synonymous with intellectual preparation. Right now, university education is required in many countries to run for elective positions. This is a condition which is fine, but needs to be reinforced. There must be an attention to competence supported by on-going formation, a formation that focuses on the bills discussed in parliament. This is the rationale behind

CAMPSSI

CAMPSSI stands for Catholic Members of Parliament Spiritual Support Initiative. CAMPSSI started in 2011 as a few legislators met with Fr. Francesco Pierli of ISMM. The meeting led to the foundation of the association and the linking of CAMPSSI with Tangaza. In fact, there is a MoU signed by the two institutions. Members meet weekly for the celebration of the Eucharist in Parliament. CAMPSSI also organizes a monthly School of Politics, quarterly retreats and family days for members. CAMPSSI is also linked with ICLN since 2013 and spearheads the development of similar programmes throughout Africa.



Hon. Charles Tikiwa of Malawi, a former student of ISMM, left, and Dr. Christiaan von Geusau.

CAMPSSI's attention to formation through the School of Politics and other initiative that offer knowledge to MPs. This extra competence might be the result of *ad hoc* preparation but also of remote preparation. African legislators present at the meeting noted the importance of pairing with an academic institution, like CAMPSSI did with TUC. This connection to a Catholic university is important to offer support and specialized information.

Collaboration with others is also important. Collaboration should not be based on party membership, but on values. Collaboration should cut across all faiths and political parties. The common good is thus for all. Attention to the poor, the fight against corruption, attention to the environment, and other important issues are the interest of all, no matter the political party of belonging. Collaboration based not on party or even religion, but on values, this is the collaboration that will focus on the welfare of the country.



Tangaza University College is a unique college with a sense of togetherness. When I stepped into Tangaza in 2014 to work as a part time lecturer, I found a very warm and loving atmosphere; I knew this was the place I wanted to be. The bond between the students and lecturers makes one feel free, loved and appreciated. This is the reason behind the Tangaza family's involvement in contributing towards the hunger stricken people of Turkana County. I knew we could not let people die of hunger.



Francesco Pierli





Kindness and Thankfulness

A former student of CLM, Emuria Brandard, who is currently pursuing his Masters in MIASMU, came to my office in tears one morning and showed me the message he had received from his area chief. His uncle had passed away out of starvation in the region. Though I had seen the situation being broadcast in the television, I was not touched as I was that morning. I knew I had to do something but I did not know how I could do it. I knew my little contribution would do very little where many people are suffering. Later that evening as I was praying, I remem-



bered my Tangaza family and I knew that sharing my encounter with them would lead to something. The following day, I called the two Tansa officials (Lucy Wendy & Immaculate Masinde) who are students in CLM and I shared the story with them. They were equally touched and shared with the rest of the officials who also were willing to take up the idea. Together we mobilized Tangaza family and the results were incredible.

The food collected is loaded on a lorry and shipped to Nariokotome. The exercise took about three weeks and we were able to collect a total of 1.160 tons of food and 3 cartons of mercy meal. We also received Kshs. 25, 000 in cash. We were also assisted by KWS HQs, where Mr. Emuria works, and the Administration Police (Uhuru Camp) who offered us a lorry to transport the food stuff to Turkana. The food would benefit the residence of Nariokotome Catholic Parish where Emuria comes from, without discriminating against anyone on the basis of religion. The Parish is run by missionary community of St. Paul the Apostle MCSPAS.

My message to Tangaza family is that we have a sense of togetherness; it is our team spirit that has taken us this far. I embrace it with a warm gratitude and I urge that we continue with the same spirit of fraternal love. It is true that giving is the beauty of life.

You may think what you do is insignificant but know that however small a contribution you make, it saved someone's life and made a difference. No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted. This small exercise has taught me that only those who have learnt the power of sincere and self-giving experience life's deepest joy. Thank you so much, Tangaza family, and may God bless you abundantly for your invaluable support.

Sr. Agnes Njeri Mburu CLM Director



Erasmus+ Exchange Programme

In 2014 TUC hosted professor Jerzy Palucki – a former Dean of the Faculty of Theology, John Paul II Catholic University of Lublin (KUL) and current Head of Church History Department at KUL. It was after this visit that SOT and KUL signed a formal collaboration that yielded conferences, book launches and several journal articles. The collaboration was intensified in 2017 when the two institutions were awarded participation in Erasmus+ teachers and staff exchange programme – a project funded by the European Union that aims at exchange of lecturers and academic staff between European and non-European institutions of higher education.

In January TUC hosted two guests from Lublin, Rev. Prof. Slawomir Nowosad and Rev. Prof. Marcin Wysocki, while in March three members of SOT travelled to Lublin to repay the visit. Prof. Reginald Cruz's and Mr. Radoslaw Malinowski's travel purpose was to deliver lectures, while Rev. Prof. Patrick Mwania went as part of the staff exchange programme. The two lecturers delivered well appreciated lectures about the church in Nubia, African perception of historiography, African notion of sainthood and the history of African Mission.

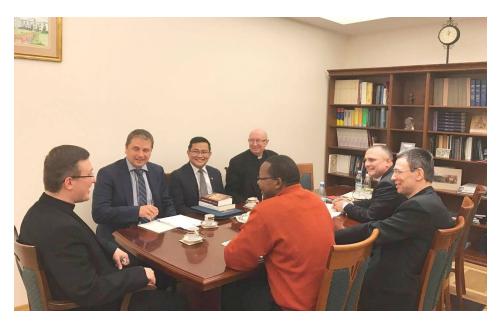
Rev. Prof Mwania engaged in a series of meetings that aimed at enhancing collaboration between the two institutions. As KUL is one of the centres of excellence in the field of Patrology and Church History in the world, and Tangaza is currently building up its Church History Department, the two institutions share common interests. Meetings with the decision makers such as the Department of Church History and Patrology, the Dean of Theology, the Deputy Dean in charge of programme, the Vice Rector and also the technical team from the finance and foreign collaboration departments, resulted in concrete decisions about future exchanges of students and staff, and support Tangaza University is to receive from the Church History and Patrology department of KUL.

The visit lasted only 5 days, but was intense and fruitful. Both institutions hope that this is only the beginning

of Erasmus+ collaboration that will benefit both Kenyan and Polish students and lecturers. For more information about participation in Erasmus+ program and collaboration between TUC and KUL please contact Radoslaw Malinowski, the Coordinator of Exchange programme.

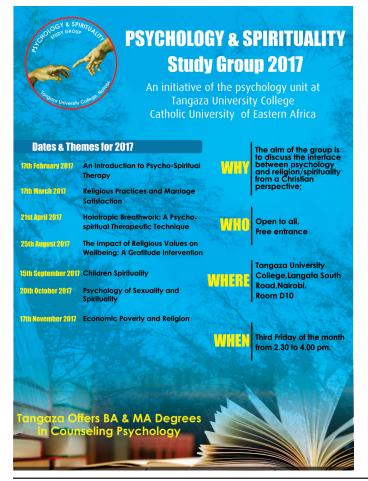
Patrick Mwania, CSSp Dean – School of Theology

Left, Fr. Patrick meets the Vice Rector of KUL. Above, meeting with the Church History and Patrology Department.



A university is driven by three engines, each of which could be double-dimensioned: teaching & learning, research & publication, and community service & consultancy. There are different ways in which these engines may be set apart and conceptualised, but they can also be integrated and operationalised. All these three engines serve in the process of learning that goes beyond a classroom exercise between a teacher and student.

In the academia of Athens, the precursor to modern universities, those who were interested in knowledge and truth came together just to dialogue and learn the methods of arriving at the truth. This is envisaged by UNESCO as one of the four pillars of education in the 21st Century: Learning to Know. The other pillars are: learning to do, learning to be, and learning to live together.



Psychology and Spirituality Study Group

A learning forum

The Psychology and Spirituality Study Group (PSSG) at Tangaza creates a forum for faculty, students, and the public to discuss the interface between scientific psychology and faith-based spirituality. It is a safe environment to make research findings public and get feedback from peers. It is also a community service that Tangaza University College offers to the larger society with the aim of creating a dialogue between faith and science – a concrete contribution to social transformation.

The Study Group that is open to anyone, meets once a month – usually on the third Friday of the month in Room D10. The meeting lasts 90 minutes, with a paper-presentation followed by an interaction of opinions from all. The forum, which is now on its fourth year, has discussed issues such as spirituality and sexuality, psychology of radicalisation, psychospiritual challenges of members belonging to LGBT community, and techniques of psycho-spiritual therapy.

The PSSG attracts about 40 to 50 people regularly, some of who are visitors from other universities and colleges. The presenters at the forum include invited speakers but also postgraduate students who have completed interesting research projects. The organisers are students themselves who get opportunity to chair discussions, introduce speakers, and thank them.

For sure, the PSSG has set a trend in Tangaza as an initiative in bringing together learning, research and community service under one forum. It continues to grow from strength to strength. Come be part of the experience!

Rev. Dr Sahaya G. Selvam, sdb

Spiritual activities during Lent

The Lenten season is a period of serious reflection on our relationship with God, others and self. In Tangaza, we have always organized various activities which are meant to assist students, lecturers and staffs reflect on what this season is all about. Among the activities which we engage in is the Way of the Cross every Friday at 5 p.m. The turn up to this spiritual exercise has always been very encouraging. We also have other spiritual activities like visiting our brothers and sisters in need. These include visits to the children's homes and prisons. We also celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation where we invite a number of priests to come and assist in this area. Check for dates and timing and join us.



A s I write, it is fifteen days to the end of my time as DPA of Tangaza. I feel delighted for such a graced time we have had together, and I want to take this moment to thank you all. When I became DPA in 2009, I was full of dreams for the possibilities of TUC; it was a great opportunity. First the students, then the faculty, the non-teaching staff, and the governing bodies of the College – by your support, challenge, and especially by your example of great devotion, you have inspired me and made it possible to fulfil and surpass many of those dreams. On a personal level, I feel like someone at a new beginning, and it helps to look back and revisit these experiences of blessing and learning.

Among the many blessings has been the chance to walk with two great men who were the principals during the close to eight years of my service - Fr Paddy Roe, CSSp. and Fr Steven Payne, OCD. Blessed differently, and generous enough to accept the position of Principal, my two bosses have been men of wisdom. It was a joy to witness their commitment to and love of Tangaza. Each brought their best to this truly difficult task, and remained towers of encouragement for me both on the work front and even in my personal life challenges. I am truly grateful to them. Again, my job would have been practically impossible without the thoughtful accompaniment of Grace Muchugia, who - full of grace and foresight - saved many a day. The most agreeable teamwork that our department achieved with the Office of the Registrar under the able leadership of Mr Ngure Githinji is a treasure that I hope others will also enjoy and cherish.

Institutional Academic Development

Another great blessing of these years has been to watch and support the academic development of the college. Early on we introduced a number of committees of the Academic Board – the Examinations Committee, and the Schools Committees, SOTAC and SASSAC (for the



Celebrating the



Dr. Beatrice Churu meets Pope Francis, above, and, left, with Prof. Steven Payne. Opposite page, students during a general assembly.



end of a season

School of Theology and the School of Arts and Social Sciences respectively) – in addition to the then already functioning SOEC (for the School of Education). As time progressed, we also formed a Research Committee and a Post-graduate Committee. Each of these committees has contributed much to growth through increased specialisation. They have become the life of the Academic Board and, with them, the confidence of the Board to effectively execute its role has increased. I remain particularly grateful to the various rotating chairs of SASSAC who generously took on work over and above their expected load – and the 'rotating chair' nigh rotated them off their spin.

We revamped the Library Committee and were blessed to take on the services of Sr Rachel Butler, RA - aborn librarian, with infectious energy and love for the Library. How the Library has flourished in these years! Not least we recognise the contribution of Fr Steven Payne to the process of bringing a great part of the library of the former Washington Theological Union (WTU) into the Tangaza collection. Even before he became Principal, Fr Steven, having heard that WTU was closing down, immediately reported the matter to Fr Paddy Roe and together we started soliciting ways of getting a good part of the Library for Tangaza. What a joy for Tangaza!

Advancing Teaching and Learning

Another highlight of working as DPA has been the opportunity to expand faculty capacity. The opportunity came to us through interaction with the DePaul University Chicago - School for New Learning. Together, teams from Tangaza and SNL constituted a dream-team and helped bring about some of the best Faculty Development experiences. Faculty from DePaul worked with faculty from Tangaza and developed a team of Train the Trainer (TOT) who will be able to continue this training so long as the leadership of the University is willing to engage with and support them. They have worked against many odds, especially with the challenge of not having many full-time faculty in Tangaza. Even so, many part-time faculty members have been greatly committed to the improvement of teaching their own and that of the departments in which they work. I recall with much appreciation, for example, the work of Fr Eamon Mulcahy, CSSp, in helping his department adapt to the CHE requirements of Course Outlines and Assessment. We have seen so much team-work, so much growing together. I am especially grateful to Br. Paulos and CTIE for recent faculty workshops for educational effectiveness along the theme of teaching minds, touching hearts and transforming lives. We hope that as the leaders in educational thought in Tangaza, you will continue to share your expertise to improve teaching and learning throughout the College. Yet, part of the work of the Dream Team still remains a dream. We remain with the task of pulling together the training materials and keeping a vigorous team that continues to generate questions, options and solutions to the never-ending challenges of effective teaching and learning. A lot of work has gone into institutionalising facul-

ty ranking which is new in Tangaza. Here with Mercy Kibe,



and a dedicated Staffing Committee made up of the Deans of the Schools, the Principal, the DPA and the Human Resource Officer, we arrived on a Tangaza scheme, modelled on the CUE standards, and encouraged faculty to apply for ranking. Ranking is important for the institution as well as for the individual lecturers. Close follow-up of the ranking standards can help faculty benchmark their own professional development and in turn the institution can ensure that academic leadership is in the hands of well qualified personnel. That the Commission for University Education has made this a requirement for academic leadership is a support for Tangaza from which we can draw value in keeping a strong tradition of faculty development. These indeed are good times to be in higher education. Thanks to the members of the faculty who have applied for ranking since we started the tradition, and for those who have taken extra steps to reach a required standard. All your efforts are in good stead and contribute to build up Tangaza University.

Champions of Collaboration

Here I must mention the contribution of the Tangaza Women Academic Staff. Though dwarfed in numbers, the women have constituted a prophetic presence in Tangaza academia throughout the eight years, and have been for me a great source of inspiration, support and challenge. In particular the option for collaboration is evident in the leadership of women in Tangaza. It will be a gift to take this collaboration more seriously, recognising that unnecessary fragmentation harms all. Dr Salome Nyambura, barely visible yet so dynamic, Sr Loretta Brennan, ever innovating and highly enterprising, Sr Patricia Lanigan, indefatigable and quality-focused, Sr Alice Anzoyo, passionately committed to educational leadership, Sr Rachel Butler, the personification of a happy librarian ... the list goes on... all the way to the young blood, the research-on-fire Judith Pete, and the new and ingenious leadership of Sr Dr Agnes Njeri. How you all have increased my hope and joy, my faith in a great future for our children, and yes, even my work, ha ha! You, more than anyone else, made me work very hard; yet we had so much fun together, I would gladly do that again!

The season now ending has also witnessed other interesting collaborations with other foreign universities, not the least being the Catholic University of Milan - School of Business. The introduction and lively development of the MBA in Social Entrepreneurship in the Institute of Social Ministry in Mission is without doubt one of the greatest hallmarks of Tangaza growth in the last few years. The energy and impact of the MBA speaks of a model to watch and learn from. Tangaza redefines its possibilities once again. Fr Pierli and the ISMM must be hailed for innovativeness and keeping Tangaza on the cutting edge of higher education development in our country. This and other developments have required courage and a belief in a future beyond ourselves. So far, the learnings, occasioned by both successes and failures, sustaining growth-points while adapting to new demands, have been numerous and encouraging. Above all, a look at the achievements of the graduates of this program is the confirmation of our ability to contribute to a future for Africa beyond our dreams. To have been allowed to witness and encourage the courageous steps that brought us this far has been a privilege for which I am grateful. Kudos to the warriors on the battle-front!

The Focus on Quality

In 2009 when we took office, the government regulator for Higher Education, more specifically for private universities and colleges, was the Commission for Higher Education (CHE). We learned much from the officers in the CHE. Every time they visited the College, especially





In these pages, students and staff celebrate Tangaza Day. By working together we shall add a prophetic presence amongst the universities in Kenya.

when they inspected the facilities for new programmes, it was a delight to watch the Tangaza community accept the requirements and indicators of quality that the CHE was prescribing. Working in Tangaza gives the joy of the missionary spirit which is personified even in rather unlikely members of the community. The willingness was evident to go beyond the known, to chart new territory, even though it was not without quite some struggle for some. The institutional learning that our work together has occasioned makes me very proud. A culture of learning together and supporting each other across Schools and Institutes has developed, enshrining hope for the future of Tangaza.

Transition

Yet we could not have anticipated the blessing that the new Universities Act 2012 and its subsidiary legislation would bring upon the higher education sector in Kenya. Kenya has put itself on a road to major quality improvement through these laws and Tangaza can rejoice to be becoming a university at the dawn of a new universities era in the country. The new university laws, especially the Standards and Guidelines 2014, make the requirements and measures much clearer. Self-assessment and self-regulation is much more possible, even if this comes at a cost of much more uniformity. The innovativeness in responding to the needs of the times, of which Tangaza is proud, will require greater creativity. It will be an exercise in dialogue with others, especially the regulating bodies, and more collaboration within and beyond Tangaza. Tangaza can hope to increase endeavours to be part of what builds quality in higher education in Kenya especially by opting for a greater quota of full-time faculty. With these, Tangaza can increase its research quotient and so become more effective in fulfilling its mission.

As we transition to a University leadership, we are mindful that Tangaza has been in transition for a long time. Herein has been the less rosy part of being the DPA in these last years. We've had many long and time-consuming endeavours, with many small successes and some big wild-goose chases. Some AHA! moments in the transition process seem only visible to those working on the matters at hand. One such was the adoption by the BOT of TUC of the motto: Teaching Minds, Touching Hearts, and Transforming Lives. I need to remind myself that such a moment was a small victory in comparison to the future prospects of what generations of Tangaza students and faculty will do and develop, inspired by this slogan. It is not a moment of arrival, but a pronouncement of the challenge of the uncharted future. Let us roll up our sleeves...

It is difficult to imagine the cumulative fatigue experienced by senior university management over these years. In addition, while no doubt the engagements have moved the Institution forward towards attaining university status, most of the small successes have been difficult, energy consuming and almost invisible to the community. Everyone asks, when will Tangaza become a university? The small steps go unrecognised and even less appreciated. This impatience is understandable given the fact that Tangaza is and has been more than deserving of university status for many years now. It is my hope that the public pronouncement of this status will be very, very soon.

A future Not Our Own

What I invest more hope in however, is that Tangaza will not shy away from taking the courageous decisions and steps that will define it as a truly great university in Kenya, maintaining a prophetic presence in the community of universities and fulfilling its mission. I wish the new university leadership Godspeed, joy and many successes. Especially may you continue to awaken to the path of Missio Dei for Tangaza. May you have many joyful surprises as you recognise that "we accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work"! Amen.

Beatrice Churu, PhD. Outgoing DPA



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