

Tangaza Update

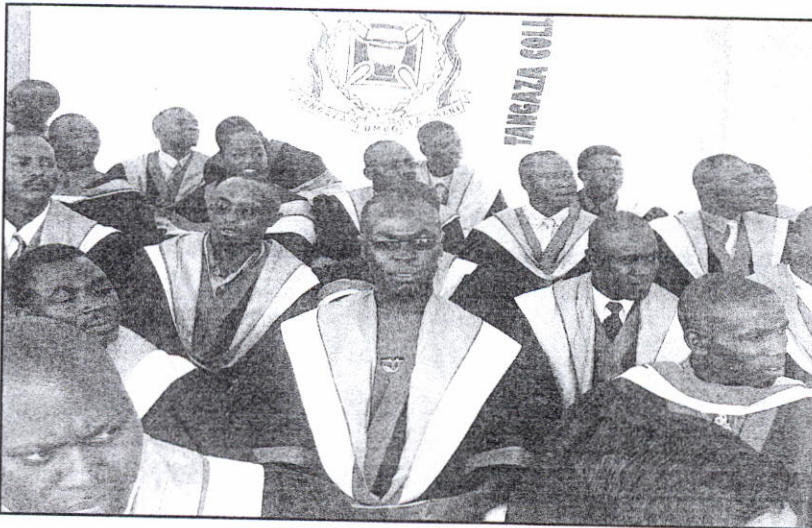
A Publication of Tangaza College, Catholic University of Eastern Africa

April 2004

Issue No.3

Happy Easter
On behalf of the Editorial Board, the Editor wishes the entire Tangaza Community a Happy Easter

Colour and song at Tangaza Day



Some of the graduating students during the ceremony.

Tangaza College celebrated its 17th Tangaza Day in a colourful ceremony presided over by Professor John Maviiri, the Chancellor of the Catholic University

of Eastern Africa (CUEA).

The ceremony was held on Thursday, 25 March 2004 on the feast of the Annunciation.

78 students were conferred with

Diploma certificates in Theology; 17 students with Diploma in Biblical Studies, 32 with Diploma in Mission Studies and 16 with Diploma in Social Communication. This graduation was a curtain raiser for the Degree in Theology awarded by C.U.E.A in October.

It was an extra special day for the Institutes of Social Communication and Youth Ministry as they marked their first anniversary.

Highlights of the day included a Eucharistic Celebration, the Academic Procession, entertainment including song and dance, the Principal's report, a speech by a representative of the Board of Governors and of course, the awards' ceremony.

Meanwhile, the College has procured new academic gowns for graduands. DPSL Mrs. Edel Churu-Ebale said Tangaza has been borrowing gowns from CUEA.

The DPSL thanked the IYM for serving lunch and ISMM for their beautiful Entrance Dance during the Eucharistic celebration.

Students elections take centre stage

Two out of five heavy-weights remained in the race for SRC Presidency after the nominations last Monday, 29 March 2004. No doubt this year's elections were the most innovatively campaigned for in some years.

Though all the energy was spent on two out of the six seats on the executive, there was no mistaking the politicking season on the Campus, with its characteristic photographs of candidates in all corners of the premises that could draw attention.

Little was spared of the artistic skills of candidates and their supporters in presenting themselves and their offers.

Those who lost at the nominations – Ashi J. Chinyama M. and Ramadhan S. for presidency, as well as Ebenyo, J. for Organising secretary, all demonstrated as much grace in acceptance of defeat, as they did in the campaign before lots were cast. A measure of disappointment was experienced in the decision of the DPSL not to publish the count of votes

Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily represent the opinions of the College administration, the Institute of Social Communication or that of the Editorial Board. Contributions are welcome.

Contributors
Edel Churu -Ebale
Ammanuel Shakir

Editorial Board
Supervisors
Edel Churu-Ebale
Esther Kamweru
Editor
Erick Wamanji
Board Secretary
Jane Njoroge

Photos
Tangaza
College

Everlyne
Kamunge

Continued on Page 2

Lenten campaign launched

By Edal Churu-Ebalé

Though long into the season of Lent, the Justice and Peace Commission of Tangaza College championed the launch of the 2004 Lenten campaign on March 17, 2004. The guest speaker was Fr. Gabriel Dolan, SPS, who is also the Justice and Peace coordinator for the Diocese of Kitale, and a famous champion of causes of justice in the country. The following are some interesting ideas from his speech:

√ Justice and peace work is not for 'sprinters', but for 'marathon runners.' There are no fast and quick solutions to issues of Justice and Peace.

√ Fruitfulness, not success, is the gospel value. Even if we do not get the anticipated results, in the Kingdom, righteousness is always fruitful. As workers for the Kingdom of God, it is enough for us to do what is right. If we get the right results, success is a bonus.

√ Justice and peace workers need to take personal sacred space – time alone with God "for God to make sense to you and keep you together." It is, to say the least, usually challenging and lonely work.

√ Intuition is important for Justice and Peace workers. It helps them to make fast judgments at crucial moments, and to sense quickly when they may be in danger, prompting them to take cover in good time.

√ Justice is bigger than any of us. A Justice and Peace worker must recognize that he/she does not have the monopoly of justice. One may sometimes have to learn lessons on justice from others, and be ready to make many mistakes in the effort to get at what you believe to be right. Out of these too, and sometimes only through them, you learn valuable lessons.

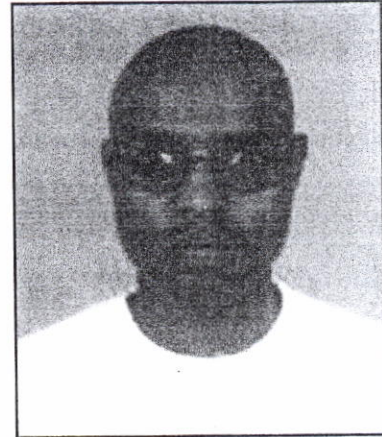
Leleruk is new SRC President

from Page 1

at the nominations. However, with a lot of vigilant assistance of the Justice Peace Commission of the College, the whole exercise was carried out with transparency and openness.

One hitch suffered in the process was the nullification of the first round of nominations following an error in the name of one of the Presidential candidates.

The election fever hit the high mark with the shortening of the period between nominations and elections in a bid to hold the elections on a day favourable to most students. Well-thought out manifestos of intentions were forthcoming from each of the four nominees. There is no doubt that a reflection respectful of the intelligentsia character of the electorate was put in. Small though the audience was at the



Leleruk ...new president

General Assembly that Tuesday 30th March morning, the questions levelled at the candidates were pertinent and civil. It is hoped that the victors will deliver on their promises, making Tangaza an increasingly warm and 'directioned' student community.

was a hot seat, says outgoing Student Council president

By Erick Wamanji

The Students Representative Council (S.R.C) elections planned for April would have in fact come in February, *Update* has learnt.

Outgoing president Peter Mwanzia, said in an interview that some dissatisfied students thought the Council was not performing and should hence resign *en masse*.

"A student made a joke that we should resign because he felt we were not representing them effectively. It was a joke but it was so touching," Mwanzia said.

However, in a secret survey, he established that "only a small number, about 19 percent, was dissatisfied. I then decided to let the weeds grow with the wheat and at harvest time, the grains would be separated from the chaff," he said.

Asked what he has achieved during his tenure, Mwanzia cited the introduction of Internet services in the Col-

lege, and pushing for the construction of hostels for lay students.

"It is by the grace of God that I was able to foster unity between students in Tangaza. There is no more division between the Nuru House and Imani House. We live like a community in Tangaza," he adds.

Mwanzia said the College plans to set up a sports field behind Imani House. This is in a move to improve sports in the College.

While he is happy about his accomplishments and that of the entire SRC team, Mwanzia readily recognises and appreciates the support of various other people in Tangaza.

Admitting that there were times his spirits were really low, Mwanzia said his worst moments were when he saw the poor attendance at assemblies.

"Students thought we were not representing them well. But ask anybody at the Academic Board, I pushed for change," he adds.

He is risen! Alleluia!

The death of a hero is always symbolic.
A hero is never killed, he is only put to sleep.
And a martyr speaks louder in death than in life.
But this Hero of ours is not even dead, nor asleep! He is alive. Truly! His death and resurrection are not merely symbolic, but real.

Historical! Made historical...
By the empty tomb, despite the Roman guards.
By Magdalene's courageous proclamation.
A woman's truth, acknowledged by the Gospels
Without the fear of being discarded as a lie.
By the courage of the apostles, who had earlier hid themselves behind closed doors
For fear of the leaders of the Jews.
Now they come out into the streets like drunken men.
And the man who denied Jesus for fear of a woman, now proclaims:
"Men of Israel, listen to what I am going to say:
Jesus the Nazarene was a man commended to you by God ...
You took and had him crucified and killed by men outside the Law.
But God raised him to life!" (Acts 2:13,22-25)
No, the Easter is no mere event.
Historical though it is.

But the Resurrection is an experience.

Lord, let this Easter be not just an event for me.
Let it be an experience.
Experience of rising again to a new existence.
Let it be an experience of vindication.
When the unjust have their heyday; when evil has its laugh at me,
I know I need to stand by God's love
For His love is vindictive.
He defends the just, in HIS time.

This is the good news for Africa,
Lord.
The continent that is featured only with bad news,
So badly needs this good news.
The just will be vindicated.
Your Father is still in control.
Amidst the confusion and the contradictions of human history
God is in control.
Amidst the dark events of human frailty, He is still the master.
Today's victims will be soon vindicated.
They will be tomorrow's heroes.
We see this puzzling history in frames, but you plan in whole.
Lord, I know
God still still loves the world.
There will be a New Heaven and a New Earth.
Amen! Alleluia!

Sahaya G. Selvam, SDB

From the fences with Erick Wamanji

If it were a human being, the Telcom coin box at the gate would have long been prosecuted and jailed for daylight robbery without violence.

From the fences, I am amazed at the way it gulps coins without connecting the calls made. It is quite interesting too that this machine never returns change as is the case with others elsewhere. Perhaps it happens to know something we don't about the affluence of this society.

This machine is either faulty or smart. Conventionally, if one inserts a Shs 10 coin and spends Shs 5, the machine must indicate the change so that the caller might make another call. This never happens with our coin box because the moment you return the receiver, your change is not indicated. You have been fooled!

Even as people know of its stealing habits, they still go to it. This makes me understand that communication is power and people must communicate by hook or by crook even if it means tolerating by a stealing coin box!

Election results published in full

Full details of the election results posted all over the college show that the battle was in deed a tough one, especially for the presidency. A mere 4 votes superiority over Oyugi gave Leleruk the coveted presidency. The disparity for the post of Organizing Secretary is more pronounced, but these year's results show more clearly than ever the importance of an individual vote. Those who chose not to vote also affected the results, a no vote is a vote! Voter apathy was arrested much better this year, by an organisation of the process that tried to accommodate as many students as possible. About 570 (to include spoiled votes) out of the 650 students currently in session in the college voted, with the best participation going to CTIE years I and II with 100% class participation.

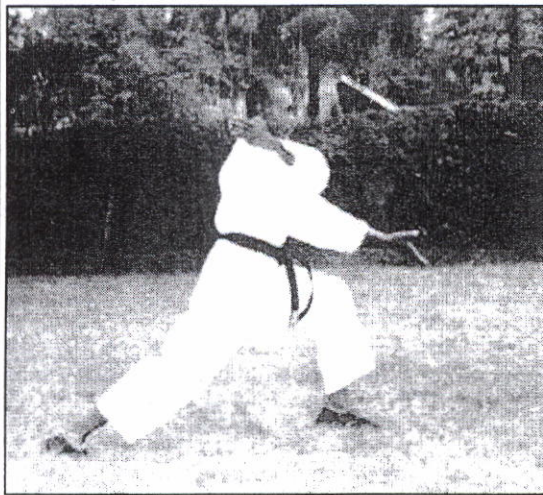
Update congratulates the winners of the SRC elections 2004.

Tangaza's Karate Kid

By Jane Njoroge

Godfrey Tarimo, a member of the Karate Club is a Black Belt qualifier. Tarimo (pictured below in a karate

pose) becomes the first Tangaza student to reach this stage since the inception of the Club in the early 90s.



Karate Club captain Thadeos Mgimba congratulated him saying he had done the College proud.

Mgimba urged more students to join the club saying karate is not for fighting but for self-defence. "It is also about self discipline including mental and physical fitness," Mgimba said.

Round-ups

Students visit media houses

The 25-seater CUEA bus smoothly rolled out of the gate hugged by the friendly morning sun, and cruised its way steadily towards Lang'ata Road. In it were students of communication on a mission to visit 'real' media houses and see for themselves what actually happens there.

The 'journalists' toured the Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC) station in Broadcasting House and the *East African Standard* newsroom on Likoni Road. Both the media houses are giants in the country's media industry.

The tours form part of the core learning of journalism as students get the feel of media 'on the ground.'

The trips were lively and highly educative. "Journalism is fun. I can't wait to finish my studies and start practising", one student was heard saying excitedly as the CUEA bus made its way back to the College.

Many thanks to KBC and the *East African Standard* for their welcome.

-Erick Wamanji

ISC, IYM turn one

The Institutes of Social Communication and that of Youth Ministry have turned one. Both Institutes are offering degree programmes.

SRC to relocate

The Students Representative Council (SRC) office is set to relocate from B19 to a new location yet to be confirmed, the administration has said.

ISMM lecturer leaves for studies

Mr. Reginald Nalugala, a lecturer at the Institute of Social Ministry in Mission has left for further studies abroad.

-Jane Njoroge

C.U.E.A Senate approves BA in Social Communication

Students at work:

Electronic media students during a practical lesson.

The CUEA Senate was impressed by the practical part of the B.A programme.



The Senate of the Catholic University of Eastern Africa has approved the BA in Social Communication programme as proposed by the Institute of Social Communication.

"I'm very happy about the approval. It involved more than six months of comprehensive research and writing," an elated Sr. Paola Moggi, Director of ISC, said.

The proposal for the B.A. in Social Communication was submitted to C.U.E.A. on February 20 this year. Official approval was communicated on March 19.

Sr. Paola was congratulated for the quality and balance of the curriculum which provides a thorough theoretical

background and grants outstanding hands-on experience.

This practical approach makes the programme both "unique" and "involving" both for the students and the lecturers, but it is worthwhile, if Tangaza College has to "make a difference" in journalism training in Africa.

Wishing the students who will be taking the course good luck, Sr. Paola also thanked Tangaza College for the support it offered during the preparations of the programme.

In particular, she thanked Social Communications lecturers Esther Kamweru and Teresa Mutuku "for their tireless and valuable input into the programme."

Pamoja: where divergence converges

By Ammanuel Shakir

Pamoja House is arguably the most action-packed and active venues in Tangaza College, an international melting pot, with spectacular unity in diversity.

As you enter the college compound in the morning, you notice that everybody is on the move, running up and down to catch up with the daily activities. There is no time to utter a word but for a hasty 'hi' and a faster handshake in the corridors of the respective institutes.

Come break time and lunchtime and it is a different scene: hugs, different

cultural handshakes, a variety of languages, sharing experiences of the almost 60 nationalities represented in the college. The mood is different; the sound of laughter fills the air; there is life. Lonely hearts search for company.

'Pamoja' is an arena of informal education, where students interact and satisfy their curiosity about other cultures and the beauty of the diversity of the College family.

Indeed, Pamoja is a house of unity, where many learn almost as much as they learn in the formal classrooms. It is a place of laughter, love and life!