

Taking a Break

Dear members of the Tangaza family, I write this on the eve of Tangaza's mid-term break. I hope that most of you will not be overwhelmed with papers and projects during these days but will have some time to relax and reflect. Nevertheless, work on the transition to university status will continue.

Recently we hired Mr. Dancan Irungu of Vision Strategy Africa to help us complete a new Strategic Plan for Tangaza. Different units have been working on their part of the plan for a long time, but the situation has changed with the decision to apply for a university charter, and we realized we need help to finish the job.

A strategic plan is crucial not only because the Commission for University Education requires it of universities, but for many other reasons as well. Potential donors want to know our intentions. Development decisions need to be made in light of our overall strategy. We can't reach our destination if we don't know where we want to go.

So during the next weeks Mr. Dancan Irungu will be consulting as many Tangaza stakeholders as possible – Trustees, members of the Governing Council, formators, staff, lecturers, students and alumni – to get your views on the future of Tangaza. We hope that you will share and participate



Mr. Dancan Irungu

freely and actively so that we can have a Strategic Plan that we all “own”.

Finally, remember that Tangaza Day, March 25, is only a few weeks away. His Eminence John Cardinal Njue has agreed to be the presider and homilist at the Mass. We hope it will be an important moment to celebrate our progress so far towards becoming a university, and an opportunity to recommit ourselves to the tasks ahead.

Fraternally,
Steven Payne, OCD (Principal)

Visit to Rwanda



The members of Tangaza Justice and Peace Commission chose to go beyond borders to reach out to the people of Rwanda. This happens to be the first international trip ever made by students of Tangaza since the inception of the College in 1986. The main intention for this trip was to help members create time for a deeper reflection on the importance of justice, peace and co-existence as we help sow seeds of justice and peace in our daily interactions. The journey began on Wednesday, 17th December, 2014. We reached Kigali on Friday, 20th December, 2014. We began the fieldwork on Saturday, 20th December, and continued till Monday, 22nd December when we returned to Nairobi. In all, 32 people (29 students, 1 matron and 2 drivers) embarked on this historic journey; 9 nationalities were represented. We were given a certificate of recognition and appreciation by our host. After meeting with the coordinator of the host Commission (Anonciatha Kaligiwa), the officials of Kigali JPC led us to Rilima parish in the Archdiocese of Kigali Burgesera, Eastern Province of Rwanda. It is believed that this parish had the most terrible experience of the genocide in Rwanda. There we met the following groups. They shared with us their individual experiences before, during and after the genocide. When the genocide was over, those who had fled from the country were told to come back. The government set some National Reconciliation Commissions to teach people to be united and to live together as one people. The perpetrators who were arrested were punished. Again, the country also created 'Gachacha' courts; that is, small groups that help to seek justice for the victims. Each year in the month of April, the people of Rwanda come together to remember those who perished. This is called icyunamo.

JPC for Schools

The members of this group shared with us that in order for the Parish JP Commission to reach out to children, they realised that the school was the best structure where this could be achieved. Therefore, clubs were formed in basic schools and secondary schools to help the children also to live together. This was to address parental problems, create peaceful environment in the schools and help prevent future genocide. Presently, some of their activities include: art works (composing peace songs and poems), student camping, celebration of Educational week in July each year, quiz and singing competitions, etc., all in the name of ensuring peaceful co-existence among the school children.

This group comprised eyewitnesses of the genocide (both perpetrators and victims). The victims shared how the genocide started and how they ended up becoming widows and foster mothers; some were taking care of their siblings and relatives who lost their parents during the genocide. They explained how the Parish priest also came to their help to realise justice and peace through the Parish JPC. They also narrated the sort of agony they went through in becoming foster mothers at their tender ages. But now, both the victims and perpetrators have learnt to live together without any fear of discrimination.

Unity and Reconciliation Association

The aims of forming this association within the JPC were to:

- Foster peace building and reconciliation among both perpetrators and victims.
- Bring Unity between both victims and perpetrators.
- Help bring forgiveness among the people.

After the Genocide, the unity among the people was

Tangaza Journal of Theology and Mission

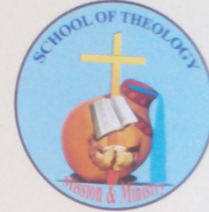
After a two-year hiatus in publication, Dean Albert de Jong resolved to re-vivify the Tangaza Journal of Theology and Mission. In 2014, we published three issues of the Journal and plan to publish four issues in 2015. A format for the Journal has begun to emerge.

Each issue will contain 6 articles centered on a theme—usually the theme of a symposium that was sponsored by the School of Theology. We have in hand articles for issues up to August 2016. Any faculty or student who would wish to receive a list of proposed themes for future journals or to contribute an article should write to the editor. Each issue will also include a book review section, with reviews of 2-10 pages. Those interested in reviewing books should contact the editor. Our next issue introduces a new feature: homilies that reflect a rich theology translated into the language of the congregation.

Each issue will include a Letters to the Editor section and a “Forum.” There are faculty and students at Tangaza who have important insights into contemporary issues but do not have the time or inclination to write a major article. We invite these to contribute short comments (250 words) on a topic to the Forum. The topic for the first forum will be the 2014-2015 Synods of Bishops on Family and Marriage.

All issues of the Journal can be accessed freely on

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line by visiting the Tangaza website and following leads to the School of Theology and Journals. Printed copies of the Journal are available in the office of the Secretary to the Dean of Theology at a discounted price.

For information on any of the above, contact the editor at:

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altered. There was serious tension between the surviving Tutsis and the Hutus; that, they could not live as they used to be. People were afraid that another genocide might happen. Therefore, some of the perpetrators themselves took the initiative to reconcile with the victims. So, by the help of the priests and the JPC, this Association was established. Initially, it was a hard nut to crack but as time went by, the victims and the perpetrators had to put their differences behind and live in peace and harmony until today. This association has helped people to live in peace and harmony, intermarry and share things in common.

Other activities included: visit to Ntarama Memorial Site where we were given the history of the genocide, and then ushered inside the church to see the skeletons and remains of those who died during the attack. More than 5000 people were killed and brought to this memorial site.

From there we had a meeting with the Archbishop of

Kigali, Thaddeus, and Fr Donatien, JPC Chairman who shared with us the Church's experience of the Genocide. Afterwards, we visited Kigali National Memorial Site to listen a comprehensive history of the genocide from the government (political) point of view. Following the presentation above, we can confidently say that the objectives of the trip were met beyond our expectations. Summarily, we can say that the cost involved in this journey can never be compared with the numerous benefits we gained from it as far as learning process is concerned. Thus, the experience gained from Rwanda would widen our scope in dealing with issues of injustices in our contemporary society, and rejuvenate our commitment towards working for justice and peace. We are grateful to God and all who contributed in diverse ways to make this historic journey a reality.

Isaac Amponsah-Boateng
(Organising Secretary, Tangaza JPC)



School of Theology

Renewed Effort

As the year begins, the School of Theology has some news to share with everyone. In the past few years, the School of Theology has indeed grown enormously in terms of both students and lecturers and programs. In terms of students' population, the number of students registered for the theology programs increases considerably every year. As of now, the School of Theology at Tangaza University College offers eight academic programs in total.

These include:

- Masters in Theology with Focus and
- Masters in Pastoral Ministry (both from Duquesne University),
- Ecclesiastical Degree of Baccalaureate in Theol. (STB) from CUEA and, starting this year, from the Urbaniana University in Rome,
- Bachelor of Theology (BATH) from CUEA,
- Tangaza Four-Year Diploma in Theology,
- Tangaza Two-Year Diploma in Theol. with Focus,
- Tangaza One-Year Certificate in Theology,
- Tangaza One-Year Certificate in Philosophy.

These programs are quite strong and stable as all have a large number of students.

The Academic Year 2013-2014 was a blessing to us in so many ways. As a community committed to ministerial education for training agents of evangelization and social transformation, the School of Theology at Tangaza registered a big number of graduates who finished their programs in the year 2014. According to the statistics, a total of 115 stu-

dents successfully completed their respective programs in the School of Theology. Among these, 14 students finished a Duquesne Masters Program and are awaiting graduation in Duquesne later this year, 50 students finished their Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theology, 43 finished the Baccalaureate program, 3 finished their Diploma and 5 finished a certificate program in Philosophy. The graduations at CUEA took place in May and October. The Diploma and Certificate graduation took place in Tangaza in May 2014. Most of these students are now either ordained or awaiting ordination. Others are serving the Church and society in different capacities depending on their areas of specialization.

At the end of May, it was a great honour to bid farewell to one of the longest serving lecturers and administrators of Tangaza, Rev. Dr Albert de Jong. We wish Fr Albert de Jong all the best in the new ministry he has already undertaken in Holland. We also welcomed several new members of the faculty. Some good news we received in October 2014 is that the School of Theology is now affiliated with the Pontifical University of Urbaniana in Rome. The 8th Semester Students of this year will receive their degree certificate from Urbaniana University. This is really good news for us since it is something we have been waiting for a long time.

In the month of January 2015, 43 students of the seventh semester theology program sat for their Written and Oral Comprehensive Examinations.

The Written Comprehensives cover the theological disciplines of Systematic Theology, Biblical Theology and Moral Theology whereas the Oral Comprehensives cover the areas of Church History, Mission Studies, Canon Law and Pastoral Theology. Before students are allowed to sit for their comprehensive exams, they must have handed in a Long Essay which serves as their final project in theology.

Also in January, the students of the Duquesne Masters Program sat for the first part of the Duquesne Written Comprehensive exams for the award of the Masters Degree in Theology. This exam covered the areas of Doctrine (Systematic Theology) and Biblical Theology of the Old Testament.

The second part will take place in the first week of February and will cover the areas of New Testament Biblical Theology and Moral Theology.

The School of Theology had an official visit from Dr George Worgul who is responsible for the Academic Linkages of Duquesne in Africa, from 28 to 30 January 2015. During his visit Dr Worgul met different groups of students and staff to address issues connected with Tangaza affiliation with Duquesne and the Masters program.

As is the custom every year, the School of Theology is organizing a Symposium from Monday 16 to Tuesday 17 February 2015. The theme of the Symposium is “Consecrated Life: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow”. This theme will be handled from different theological standpoints: moral, canon law, systematic and biblical. All are welcome!

**Rev Dr Patrick Mwanja, CSSp
Dean, SOT**



Sick Bay

Perhaps, some do not know that the college is offering a health service for minor ailments.

This is an initiative intended to provide health care to the Tangaza fraternity.

The services offered include:

- treatment of minor ailments and proper referral of major cases,
- testing of malaria parasites, blood sugar levels and HIV/AIDs
- Weight and blood pressure monitoring; among others.

All at an affordable price

The infirmary is located in room 2F4, ground floor of Imani House, and it is open from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. from Monday to Friday.

Susan Nzisa Mutisya - Nurse

