

A Fresh Start, Milestones and Challenges

The Second semester is off to a good beginning and already we have been back in classes for a month. How quickly time is passing!

This semester finds the College with the Principal and Deputy Principal Academics one and the same person due to the departure of Rev. Tim Redmond for health reasons (prior to the conclusion of his contract).

Given the distribution among senior management and the Institutes and School of Theology of a variety of responsibilities in the docket of the P/DPA, the semester is moving along smoothly.

On December 18, 2008 we ended the year with the first graduation from Tangaza College of fourteen students who participated in the DePaul programme, School for New Learn-

ing. The President of DePaul University was present for the commencement as well as a number of administrators and staff along with the Administration of Tangaza College. We look forward to an on-going partnership with DePaul.

As the new year, 2009, got underway we held our first solo School of Theology Graduation with one hundred and one students completing their course of studies at Tangaza College. Our Guest of Honor for the occasion was Fr. John Maviiri, Rector of CUEA.

Unfortunately, Fr. Ambrose Mutinda, our Dean of Theology was taken ill and has been out of the College thus far, second semester. As of this writing he is hospitalized, as has been so, for some weeks but, we are encouraged by his progress slow though it has been. We continue to pray for him that

in good time he will regain his health.

Currently we have 1,206 students at Tangaza College. We welcomed 53 students who are new to the College this second semester. You are each most welcome!

Next week February 16th to 20th is already our Mid-Term Break it is my hope and prayer that you can each catch your breath a bit while tackling term papers, Long Essays and in some cases make up classes.

May your week strike a good balance of some relaxation and that of catching up a bit on school related projects.

Blessings and Prayers,
Brother Dominic.
Principal.

Graduation: A Special Theology Student

By **Stephen Muinde**

At over 60 years of age, Mzee Kiama was clearly the highlight of this year's Theology graduation.

In what may be unprecedented in the history of the School of Theology, here was a senior, retired lay man choosing to study Theology.

And when he was given a chance to speak, he recounted that it was not easy for him to cope with the young men who are able to grasp the lessons so easily and fast yet, he persevered.

He thanked the Dean of the School of Theology, Fr. Mutinda, and the faculty lecturers for the support they accorded him in his studies since 2004.

This year's graduation also marked a first in other ways. It was the first graduation to be held on a separate day from the *Tangaza Day* (normally celebrated on March 25th every year).

By virtue of the date that it was held, it was also the earliest graduation in the college's calendar.

This graduation also saw the Board of Governors (BOG) Chairman Fr. Pius Muehlbaucher perform a blessing on the graduands by spraying them with seeds symbolic of the parable of the sower. He told the graduands, "Our faith is to be practical... go out and listen to fellow humans."

Speaking at the graduation, the Dean of the school, Fr. Ambrose Mutinda told the theology students that though they had finished their studies and this qualified them academically, they still have to wait to be ordained as deacons or priests, "There are no offices to be claimed as a right (in the church); they are conferred."

He told them that it was time for them to practice what they had learnt. "It is now time for you to give answers You will be challenged to stand in

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Mr. Kiama (right) receives a present from Fr. Mutinda, looking on is Revd. John Maviiri.

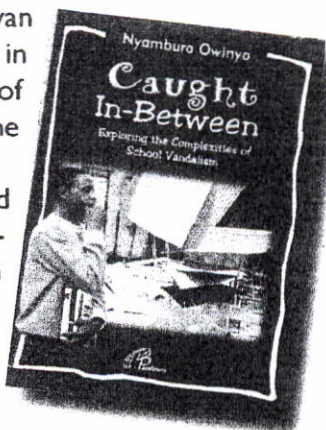
Caught in-Between: Tangaza Scholar Launches Book

On December 16 last year, Dr. Salome Owinyo, the DePaul assistant co-ordinator launched her book *Caught in-Between: Exploring the Complexities of School Vandalism*, here at the college.

The book, based on a true Kenyan secondary school experience, came in a year when Kenya saw the cases of violence in schools go to an all-time high.

It was also in a year that started on a very violent note, claiming hundreds of lives in the post-election violence. Many would indeed agree that violence has over time become a very common feature of the Kenyan society.

Commenting on the book in her review, Madam Beatrice Edel, the DPSL said, "No one can be really indifferent to the



issues of school unrest in Kenya today. Even in the midst of current socio-political issues in the country, the concern for our young people in the schools, especially the boarding schools, cannot be overshadowed. It ranks high in our litany of serious concerns."

She went on to indicate that cases of violence in schools could not be viewed separate from those of society. ... "the school is not an island, but is part and parcel of Kenyan society. ... The ills that plague the Kenyan school plague Kenyan society."

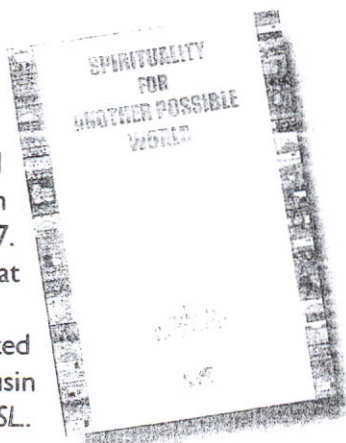


Dr. Salome accompanied by her daughter (right) and son autographs a book during the launch.

Dr. Salome tries to explore this issue from all points of view making sure that it is indeed fully digested in her book. It is the hope of everyone of us that her research will go a long way in informing policymakers on the actions that should be taken to take care of this menace.

Last semester also saw the publication of another book by Tangaza lecturers. *Spirituality for Another Possible World* a book emanating from the discussions of the World Forum on Theology and Liberation (WFTL) held here in Kenya in 2007. The WFTL conference was held at the Carmelite community.

The book is compiled and edited by Mary N. Getui, Luiz Carlos Susin and Beatrice Churu the Tangaza DPSL.



Invest in your Health

This was the theme of the first ever 7.45 am public lecture in Tangaza College on January 13, 2009.

A 40-strong mix of students, lecturers, religious sisters, lay women and lay men, chose to give up their alternative early morning niceties and to invest the time in enriching their knowledge about healthy living.

Dr. Martin Wanyoike, Physician and Cardiologist from the Karen Hospital, gave matter of fact information backed up with data, his all too familiar anecdotes of otherwise avoidable red-avenue entries to the Karen Hospital, and even, to your surprise, Biblical witness.

He was categorical – *if you want a healthy, happy, independent and active life to a good age, you need to live positively, seek out friends and companions of happy, hopeful and hope-filled dispositions, exercise – "sweat by the brow everyday" (Gen.3:19), and eat healthy.*

Ever thought that your anger, hate, bad temper, disgruntlement, stress and anxiety are building you up towards a possible heart attack or stroke? Physiological evidence was presented to bear this out.

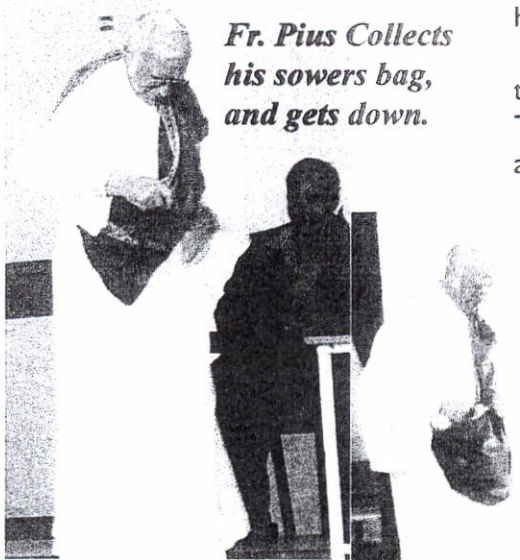
Perhaps for the mainly under 40-year-olds present at the talk, emphasis on healthy living for more output, enthusiasm and achievement in life might have been more attractive than the avoidance of illness trail that is evident for those who have been around a little longer, but the stream of students availing of free medical check-up and advice in C2 after the early morning exposé vouched for the clarity with which the message reached home.

It is much more preferable to enter the Karen (or any other) Hospital by the green avenue of sustaining health targets than by the red avenue of frantically trying to regain them.

Thanks to Br. Dennis Lee and the Campus Ministry Team for this initiative. We hope it will be a first of many more efforts of making healthy living part of our way of being and speaking.

We Miss You

Tangaza Update would like to wish Fr. Ambrose Mutinda, the Dean of the School of Theology, who is currently ailing, a quick recovery. We know it is a trying time for him, his students, members of the Theology faculty, family, his community, friends and other relatives - we pray that God may be with them. We pray that God may give him strength to bear this suffering resolutely and, God willing, get back to good health fast.



Fr. Pius Collects his sowers bag, and gets down.

does not spin on their shoulders, ... "it has an axis of its own."

The Principal, Bro. Dominic said that the School of Theology was key in Tangaza and it reflects the core image and vision of the college.

The chief guest Fr. John Maviiri, Vice-chancellor, CUEA said that in this age, Theology classes are open to all.

He further told the graduating class that leadership does not wait though the ordinations may wait reminding them that a university student is essentially a leader.

He congratulated Sr. Loretta Brennan for establishing the DePaul School of New Learning Program in Tangaza which is giving individuals who may otherwise have never accessed university education a chance.

Over one hundred students graduated with three of them achieving the rare Summa Cum Laude (First Class Honours). Hongera.

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the spotlight." Fr. Mutinda this remembering the many challenges he has had to endure from students over the years.

He reminded the students that a graduation gown meant that much is expected of them in terms of service. In his parting shot, he reminded the graduands that the world



He goes ahead to share the seeds

He then passed on the bag



DePaul SNL Holds First Graduation

By Stephen Muinde

The Tangaza College campus of the DePaul School for New Learning (SNL) graduation ceremony held in December last year, was in a class of its own in many ways.

It was the first graduation ceremony that the school was conducting and it was indeed a great event; colourful and historical. But one thing may have escaped many people's attention.

The graduating class got a congratulatory message from Mr. Rahm Emanuel, the proposed Chief of Staff for President Obama then still a member of Congress representing the fifth congressional district of Illinois

In his message Rahm Emanuel said, "I am pleased to offer my congratulations to the graduates of the DePaul University, Tangaza College Bachelor of Arts degree program on their accomplishments.

By educating students from both a religious and lay background who

work for social justice organizations in Kenya and elsewhere in Africa, this unique program lays the groundwork for improving the day to day life of the most vulnerable Africans."

The Mayor of Chicago also sent a congratulatory message.



Fr. Tim Redmond (as principal then) said that Tangaza shared in the joy of the people of Chicago in the slogan of Obama, 'Yes We Can.' He went on to thank the Co-ordinator of the DePaul School of New Learning, Sr. Loretta

Brennan for bringing the idea of the institute into fruition.

He quoted Ted Kennedy who said (in his National Democratic convention address in August 1980) "For all those whose cares have been our concern, the work goes on, the cause endures, the hope still lives, and the dream shall never die," in reference to the DePaul SNL.

Sr. Loretta Brennan thanked all who had cooperated in making of the program a success. She said, in the process of setting up the institute, new relationships ('strange and wonderful') had grown.

In addressing the students the class representative Koffi said that they were indeed the people of the year. He added that they had already said 'Yes We Can' two years ago when they enrolled in the program.

Your Say

JOKES

Our Bulls

By Henry Kamundi

Our bulls, so healthy
Bulls so wealthy
Bulls so filthy

When we set them apart
We thought the fertile
Now we're stunned they are sterile
Our cows they don't mount

When we consecrated them
We thought them friendly
Now they have grown horns
And to them we never get close

When we selected them
We thought them so able
But have grown so fat
That now they can't work

When we appointed them
They were all calm and cool
Now all they do is fight each other
As underneath them,
the grass hurts

We only wait for the day of
slaughter
We shall eat, merry and dance

But who will dare hold a knife
against their throats?

Tell Me: I Am Just Curious

When do students love their
teacher's cane?

When it is sugar cane

Why do students in Kenya go on
strike?

They learn it from their teach-
ers

What do you call a teacher who
loves tea?

Tea-sir

What advice will you give to an
unmarried person with a terminal
illness?

Marry a nurse

Keeping the Unity in Diversity

By Wilkister Oduor

Have you had a close look at the
ants? What secret formula helps these
feeble insects to survive the harsh re-
alities of life on the ground?

The formula is that they co-oper-
ate with one another. Zoologist, Emer-
son says that the main way that an ant
survives is through co-operation and
not competition.

Following this theory, it is also en-
couraging that as a Tangaza community
we enthusiastically express our to-

getherness on peace days and to show
our co-operation with other people
outside the college during the celebra-
tions of the Christian unity week.

It is also through our togetherness
as members of Tangaza community that
we can be in a position to embrace our
diversity. We have diverse opportuni-
ties to learn from different cultures
as we acknowledge the equality of all
people. Let's not forget the beautiful
sharing on rainbow colours which was
shared on peace day.

However, let's pose and
reflect on this: more than
three thousand years ago,
King Solomon enunciated
a principle which history
through all the passing cen-
turies has firmly established.
"Where there is no vision,
the people perish!"

COMING UP

- » Feb 10-12 - ISRF Symposium.
- » Feb 16-20 - Mid-break.
- » Feb 21 - IVPCA peer counsel-
lors training here at Tangaza.
- » Feb 25 - Ash Wednesday.
- » Feb 27 - Inter-Institute Quiz.
- » Feb 28 - Tangaza social day: In
an event dubbed *Planet t-expe-
rience*, Tangaza College student
body will for the first time hold
an out of college event and this
time at the Carnivore Restaurant
along Langata Road. Events of
the day include a *Mr & Miss
Tangaza* contest, Guest per-
forming artists like DNA and
Jua Cali and one Mark Masai
(NTV news anchor and former
ISC student).

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Write to the Update

Tangaza Update is a publication for all members of Tangaza
College. If you have any views, observations or suggestions,
write to us. We welcome your reports, articles, jokes or any tid-
bits. Please send them to: tangaza_update@yahoo.com.

Materials for publication may be edited to fit our standards.



TANGAZA COLLEGE

The Catholic University of Eastern Africa

Tangaza College is a constituent college of The Catholic University of Eastern Africa. It was established in 1986 as an Institute of Higher Learning. The College is committed to excellence and personal transformation of each of her students. Tangaza College is specialized in a holistic approach to education: integrating science, professional competence, faith based values and integrity to serve the whole community.

SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTES

School of Theology

- M.A. Theology (Catholic)
- Bachelor's Degree in Theology (QUEA)
- Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies (QUEA)
- Diploma in Theology
- Certificate in Religious Studies
- Certificate in Theology Studies
- Certificate in Bible Studies

Christ the Teacher Institute for Education

- Bachelor of Education (Saint Mary's University, MN, USA)
- Certificate in Education

Institute of Social Ministry

- Bachelor of Arts in Science and Professional Development (USA)
- Bachelor of Social Work (USA)
- Diploma in Social Work
- Certificate in Social Work
- Certificate in Social Work Studies
- Certificate in Social Work Practice

Maryknoll Institute of African Studies

- Master of Arts in African Studies (Maryknoll College, MN, USA)
- Master of Arts in African Studies (Maryknoll College, MN, USA)

Institute of Social Communication

- Bachelor of Science in Communication (USA)
- Bachelor of Science in Communication (USA)
- Certificate in Communication

Institute of Youth Ministry

- Bachelor of Arts in Youth Ministry (Maryknoll College, MN, USA)
- Certificate in Youth Ministry (Maryknoll College, MN, USA)
- Certificate in Youth Ministry and Leadership (Maryknoll College, MN, USA)

DePaul Program-School of New Learning

- Bachelor of Arts in Education (DePaul University, IL, USA)
- Certificate in Education (DePaul University, IL, USA)

Amant Counseling Centre

- Certificate in Counseling (USA)
- Certificate in Counseling (USA)
- Certificate in Counseling (USA)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE WRITE TO THE REGISTRAR
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