

# Tangaza Update

December 2005

## College invests in a Team of First Aiders

The following persons have been declared competent First Aid providers, after completing a three-day long intensive training course by world-renowned St. John Ambulance:

**Mr. Jenaro Ileri** – College Administration officer  
**Ms. Bibian Shisanya** – Secretary to the DPSL  
**Ms. Emma Nuthu** – Secretary to Admin Officer  
**Ms. Anna Wanjiku** – Secretary to Registrar  
**Ms. Magadalen Wanjiru** – Librarian  
**Mr. Constance Makobo** – Librarian  
**Ms. Martha Jumato** – Receptionist  
**Mr. Calix Musitu** – Supervisor Maintenance Staff  
**Mr. Charles Obala** – College Plumber  
**Mr. Hesbon Anunda** – Maintenance Staff and member of the Lay football team

These are resource persons for our community in times of emergency. We congratulate them on successful completion of the course and call on the college community to ask their help whenever situations of need arise.

## Teaching Staff Celebrate a Well-completed First Semester

All the teaching staff of the College were treated to a sumptuous dinner in celebration of the end of the First Semester, and anticipation of Christmas. The Feast, which took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> December at the Karen Blixen Coffee Garden was well attended and greatly enjoyed by all. There was an air of ease and relaxation. The buffet lunch facilitated meeting between many persons.

Fr. Tim, the College Principal played an ostentatious host, and stayed most of the afternoon to welcome some who may have been delayed by other commitments. Wishing farewell to a few lecturers who are going away from the College, for a short or indefinite period, the principal thanked everyone for generous service of the College and a spirit of comradeship.

**Update wishes you a Christmas season  
full of peace and joy!**

## IYM Field School at the Foot of the Mountains

During one full week in the month of October, the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year IYM students, together with the Director of IYM, Sr. Elena Rastello and other members of staff re-located to Nyahururu Parish at the foot of the Nyandarua Ranges. The groups went there, not for a camping holiday, but to learn from the field, from the members of the parish who have established a veritable centre of pastoral care and social development for all manner of need of the people in the parish. The students learnt by participation how to organize and run social projects such as HIV-AIDS projects. Evaluation of this experience was very positive both from the staff and students of IYM next to the College Registrar and from the Nyahururu Parish.

A five member group of IYM 3<sup>rd</sup> year students are currently in Kakuma in the Salesian-UN project for refugees, animating a youth camp. They will later be joined by some Salesian theologians.

## Welcome to the New Human Resource Officer

A Warm word of welcome is extended to Lillian Ndwigah, the new Human Resource officer of the College. A new office space has been created for this now separate desk which, together with the Administration, and Finance falls under the supervision of the Deputy Principal Finance.



Lillian, *Hongera* and welcome to Tangaza! May your work and services here be a blessing for you and for all in Tangaza!

## From the SRC office

The SRC wishes to thank all those who gave feed-back on their performance at the service of the student community during the First semester. All your comments are taken in good faith and whatever is possible to incorporate will be incorporated in the second semester.

A special word of thanks to those who worked in the various committees, and those who supported them. It is good to have persons to call from who are generous to give of their gifts and talents in the service of the community.

As leaders of various clubs and associations are aware, the Student Budget is limited. It becomes very difficult to give monetary tokens of recognition for services given. We have been greatly encouraged by an increasing spirit of service in the student body, and want to express our thanks for your availability.

### A Christmas Party - A Christmas Fast?

This year's Christmas Party of the Students was marked by a new spirit. The organizing committee invited the students' body to be mindful of and in solidarity with persons who this Christmas, will go without food. Special focus was put on Darfur, the forgotten passion of Africa. Emphasis was placed on solidarity, rather than charity. Accordingly, the students party this year was not adorned with a feast, but rather a fast, remembering the Kerygmatic act of Jesus Christ the Saviour, who in his Incarnation, opted to be in solidarity with the human condition.

It was noted that those that attended the party entered into the spirit of the day, guided by the lovely singing of Christmas carols by the Band, and an effective and entertaining drama about the meaning of Christmas, among other forms of enlightening entertainment. Mr. Osborne Wanyama and Mr. Winston Wanyama from GTZ NGO also helped to bring the Darfur drama closer to us by sharing about their experience of Darfur in the field and the reasons behind this immensely tragic drama.

It was however noted that this year's Christmas party was perhaps the poorest in student attendance in recent history. Was it perhaps because of the immanence of the exams? Maybe! Yet one has to note that all Students' Christmas parties have been held on the Friday before the start of exams. This year's was no exception. A very uneasy guess was directed to the fact of no sumptuous feast for Christmas this year. It was reported that some students were disappointed that a Christmas celebrations chose to consider the plight of the disadvantaged, instead of providing the habitual feast. Might a student have been overheard sounding his disappointment, "I do not care what happens

in Darfur; I want the food to which my money entitles me." Let us hope that such sentiments pass only in the wicked imagination of this writer, and never get to see the light of day.

May there be prophetic voices (like those we heard here on December 2) reminding us that the names of the poor are written on all those surplus clothes, houses and meals that are stored up and rotting away as our insensitive hearts crave insatiably for a more secure future.

## Counselors' Column

Our Column of correspondence with the counselors was well received by both students and staff. We continue to encourage those who have concerns and/or questions to the counselors to place them inside the counselors Question box near DPSL office. This is the one and only box in which you may place anonymous letters and know that they will be attended to. Those who wish, may also give their identity. Everything received in the box is treated with confidentiality.

### **Dear Counselor,**

I am a second year student in the CTIE program. I am totally exhausted and drained of all energy and Christmas is almost here. Where is that feeling of joy? I feel like Scrooge. The exams have held me captive for the last four weeks and I don't feel better now that they are over. Can you help me?

Signed: **Stressed out.**

### **Dear Stressed out,**

*Pole!* We owe to Socrates this "question and answer" approach to learning. I feel that the attending "stress of success" in the process was and is not intended but occurs all too often. Does the same stress mark other areas of your life? I urge you to get some help in dealing with this. The peer counselors and the professional counselors are here to help in this situation. It is a special focus for their skills. Use them to better handle this stress.

Signed: College Counselor.

Peace on earth to all people