Radford University School of Social Work and Faculty of Social Sciences, UCU in a New Partnership for Research

The United States based Radford University (RU) School of Social Work, Uganda Study Abroad Research Team made a first visit to Uganda Christian University (UCU), Faculty of Social Sciences in a new partnership for research. The research team was led by Dr. Deneen Logan Evans who is the Principle Investigator of the Uganda Research Team. Radford University School of Social Work and UCU Faculty of Social Sciences have partnered in a research project on: “Trans-cultural Understanding of Ugandan Parents’ Attitude about Child Disability”.

The Uganda Research Team is made up of an outstanding group of graduate students of Social Work program (Master of Social Work - MSW) at Radford University, School of Social Work – they include: Sara Cometto, Elisabeth Goechenour, Juwell McClendon, Tyenna Spencer-Sturdivant; and Robert Rodney.

The Radford University School of Social Work research team is working with the Department of Social Work and Social Administration in the Faculty of Social Sciences. “This is the beginning of an ongoing collaboration with the Faculty of Social Sciences; it is an open partnership that should not end with this ongoing research project,” – said Dr. Deneen Logan Evans.

Dr. Mary Ssonko Nabacwa, Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences, and Dr. Deneen Evans led the research team in presenting the research proposal to the UCU School of Research and Postgraduate Studies and was highly embraced.

Rev. Canon, Dr. John Senyonyi (Right) Vice Chancellor UCU and Dr. Mary Ssonko Nabacwa (Centre), Dean Faculty of Social Sciences exchange gifts with a group of visiting graduate research students of MSW from Radford University School of Social Work during one of their joyful moments in the Principal’s Hall of the University.
Radford University School of Social Work, Uganda Research Team Visit Rehabilitation and Special Needs Centres around Kampala

The Radford University School of Social Work and Faculty of Social Sciences, UCU are in a collaborative research project on: “Transcultural Understanding of Ugandan Parents’ Attitude about Child Disability”.

As part of the data collection process, the Uganda Research Team made strategic visits to Agencies or organizations relevant to the research project. Among other Agencies, the research team visited Katalemwa Cheshire Home for Rehabilitation Services in Gayaza outside Kampala city centre; and Kireka Home of Children with special needs.

The research teams conducted interviews with parents, caregivers or organizations relevant to the research project. Among other Agencies, the research team visited Katalemwa Cheshire Home for Rehabilitation Services in Gayaza outside Kampala city centre; and Kireka Home of Children with special needs.

The research teams conducted interviews with parents, care-takers of the children with special needs; and the administration or-management of these centres.

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration starts a Graduate Program – Master’s of Social Work (MSW)

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration will commence the degree Master’s of Social Work (MSW) at Uganda Christian University (UCU) main campus in the next Academic year, Advent semester 2016. Mr. Kasule S. Kibirige social work lecturer made a presentation of the MSW program at the Faculty of Social Sciences Supervisors’ Research seminar, held on the 26th and 27th May 2016 at The Ankrah Foundation in Mukono. “The program is planned to attract prospective and high quality scholars; and strategic effort is underway to lobby for potential collaborations or partnerships with prospective institutions for a successful implementation of the MSW program at the University,” – said Mr. Kasule Kibirige.

In addition, the Radford University School of Social Work Uganda Research Team also contributed or deliberated on the prospects for success of the MSW program. The Radford University Uganda Research Team visited UCU on a partnership for research with the Department of Social Work and Social Administration.

Mr. Kasule S. Kibirige Social Work Lecturer while making a presentation on the MSW program at the Faculty of Social Sciences Supervisors’ Research seminar at The Ankrah Foundation in Mukono for effective development and Management of an MSW program. She deliberated on an MSW program research, innovations, collaborations and Partnerships.

Research Team also participated in a Faculty seminar on Social Work field practicum. The seminar discussed strategies for designing, planning and implementing successful and comprehensively relevant Social Work field practicum.
The Public Administration and Governance Society (PAG Society) in conjunction with Department of Public Administration and Governance of Uganda Christian University (UCU), launched a "Democracy, Governance and Peace Symposium" in Kampala on the 6th of April 2016 at Hotel Africana.

The United States Ambassador to Uganda Deborah R. Malac graced the symposium as the Guest of Honour – "this remains a memorable opportunity for the PAG Society". The Ambassador was accompanied by a team from the U.S. Embassy in Kampala, led by Ms. Suzan Parker-Burns the Public Affairs Officer.

Inspirational speakers at the symposium included: Dr. Nansozi Suzan Muwanga (Head of Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Makerere University), Dr. Christopher Twesigye (Lecturer, Department of Public Administration and Governance, UCU); Dr. Miria Matembe (former legislator); and Mr. Pulkol David (former legislator). These speakers addressed topical issues of democracy, good governance, youth participation in the governance agenda; peace and security.

The Democracy, Governance and Peace symposium was organized under the theme: "post-election peace for prosperity" following Uganda’s recently concluded Presidential elections. It was primarily aimed at providing a platform for University students to join in the debates; and also contribute to students' academic learning. Student participants included: UCU students of Governance and International Relations; and students of Public Administration and Management; Makerere University students of Political Science and Public Administration; and Kyambogo University students of Political Science. However, majority of the student participants came from Uganda Christian University.

In addition, the symposium was also aimed at attracting a wider group of stakeholders to communicate peace, democracy and good governance; and also celebrate relative peace in the Country. It provided a forum for participants to reflect on the governance or political crises in many African Countries. For instance the post-election crisis in Burundi with mass violence across Bujumbura and neighbouring areas, shortly after July 2015 Presidential elections was held on 21 July, 2015. The 2007-2008 post-election violence in Kenya claimed many innocent lives, and multitude of people displaced. The Central African Republic has been enmeshed in a deadly conflict for decades now, causing humanitarian crises. Other affected African States include, the Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, Djibouti, Nigeria, and Chad among others. Often, media publicity across the world expose critical political crises in Africa; post-election violence across African countries including, vicious cycles of violence claiming innocent lives, frustration of business environment and weakening of economic systems; and frustration of diplomatic relationships among others.

The organization of this symposium was made successful with the unconditional support from the U.S. Embassy in Kampala, marking the beginning of a good relationship. The society also received support from UCU, Department of Public Administration and Governance, and the Uganda Studies Program (USP).

The PAG Society - "Democracy, Governance and Peace Symposium" is planned to be an annual event aimed at attracting the diverse body of Stakeholders including: Academicians, university scholars or students, political leaders, International Organizations, CSOs, the media, business community; and the Donor Community among others.

Prepared by: The PAG Society Executive
On April 6, 2016, the United States (U.S.) Ambassador to Uganda gave an inspirational speech at the “Democracy, Governance and Peace Symposium” at Hotel Africana in Kampala. The symposium was attended by over 300 guests including students of Governance and International, and Public Administration of Uganda Christian University (UCU); students of Political Science and Public Administration of Makerere University; and students of Political Science of Kyambogo University; and other group of participants including media representatives. The main organizers were the Public Administration and Governance Society (PAG Society) in conjunction with Department of Public Administration and Governance, UCU.

As an excerpt from a detailed communication by the U.S. Ambassador Deborah Malac, she had the following to say: Youth, Democracy and Governance – These are crucial issues that matter, not just to me or the United States. The future of Uganda is of course critically important to all of you, as the future leaders, innovators, and entrepreneurs of Uganda. I also hope this is the beginning of an ongoing conversation that involves Uganda’s youth and the country’s development.

Youth around the world are championing causes as diverse as environmental protection and anti-corruption. Students worldwide often find themselves at the forefront of social change and reforms. In the United States, the student movement in the 1960s led the protests against American involvement in Vietnam. Almost 50 years later, American students are leading new movements to raise awareness about racial and social inequality. These youth are working today to create more inclusive and democratic societies where they live. There are countless ways you can help make your country more democratic, more inclusive, and more prosperous. For instance, you can help a young girl learn how to read and stay in school. You can volunteer your time to care for the sick. You could help develop apps or write software that help citizens identify and end corruption. All these ideas contribute to building a healthier, more prosperous, and more inclusive society. I’m sure you have your own ideas for ways to improve Uganda’s democratic progress and governance.

Despite growing fears of election violence, young Ugandans organized a nationwide campaign called ‘I Pledge Peace’ to spread a message of nonviolent participation. But the idealism of youth-led movements gets lost when youth resort to violence. Let me be clear: violence has no place in a democratic society, regardless of your position inside or outside of government. I urge all of you to reject any calls or rhetoric that urge or encourage violence.

Ugandan democracy does not have to look like the democracy in the United States. It is up to you to decide how Uganda defends the rights of all its citizens. But there are basic elements that should be present. These include protecting the right to free expression and assembly, ensuring freedom of information and the press, and treating all people with dignity and respect. It is our hope that Uganda will make the right choices that guarantee such principles not just exist, but flourish.

The United States will continue to work with all Ugandans, especially its youth, to work towards a better future. It should be a future in which the Ugandan people truly prosper, and it should be a future in which every child can realize his or her potential. I sincerely hope that during my tenure in Uganda, we will forge new friendships, strengthen existing cooperation, and create new opportunities by working together. I know this is not an impossible task, because I have already seen how creative and energetic young Ugandans really are. I hope this will be the first in an extended series of conversations with you about how you can play a role in shaping Uganda’s future.

Remarks by Deborah Malac U.S. Ambassador to Uganda

United States Ambassador to Uganda Deborah R. Malac speaks at the “PAG Society – Democracy, Governance & Peace Symposium”

Dr. Christopher Twesigye speaks at the “Democracy, Governance and Peace Symposium”

Dr. Christopher Twesigye a Lecturer at Uganda Christian University, is a former Ugandan Diplomat to Egypt and Belgium. He attended the 27th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in 1972. He led the Ugandan delegation to the Geniva Human Rights Commission 1983/1984; and also served as the Secretary to the Ugandan delegation to the peace talks in Nairobi Kenya 1985/1986.

Dr. Christopher Twesigye a former Ugandan Diplomat vehemently demonstrated his experience as a diplomat in his remarkable speech at the symposium at Hotel Africana. He observed that the political transition or situation of our country determines its image. He added that the country’s standing on democracy has been weakened following the recently concluded elections. This consequently, has a direct impact on the country’s future relationship with the International community. “I have been in exile several times; and I don’t want to go back” - said Dr. Christopher Twesigye.
Development Research and Training (DRT) and Faculty of Social Sciences, UCU in a Collaborative Research Project

On November 9, 2015 UCU and DRT signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the aim of contributing to the research capacity of faculties and graduate students. DRT works in partnership with Development Initiatives (DI) to contribute to the aid and development effectiveness agenda.

DRT aims to improve humanitarian and development outcomes for people living in extreme poverty, conflict and post-conflict environment. In line with the same, the Faculty of Social Sciences aims to create a breed of enlightened professionals and leaders who will do their work with professional dedication to address social and economic needs of the country from a Christian perspective.

As a way of achieving the above common objective, the two organisations set out to support each other by collaborating in writing analytical papers and policy briefs using budget; and other resource allocation data to address development challenges in Uganda. Consequently, Development Research and Training (DRT) and Faculty of Social Sciences entered into a Collaborative Research Project, with a specific research project by UCU Team on: “Sustainability of Financing the Scaling up of the Senior Citizens’ Grant (SCG) in Uganda”.

Towards the end of the research process, the Research Team organized a seminar to present an analytical paper entitled: “Sustainability of Financing the Scaling up of the Senior Citizens’ Grant (SCG) in Uganda” on the 2nd of June 2016 at UCU. The seminar was overwhelmingly attended by over 60 Guests including participants from DRT, Ministry of Gender, Social Protection Secretariat, Community Development officers from Local Governments, Lecturers and students. This in part indicated the relevance and value attached to this research project’s outcome by the different group of stakeholders.

The research project answers the questions of: How does the Government of Uganda plan to ensure financial sustainability of SCG project in the design of Expanding Social Protection Phase Two – ESPII (FY 2015/2016 – FY 2019/2020)? What are the implications of the budgetary projections for the scaling up of SCG versus the national budget projections and revenue in the coming five years (2015 – 2020)?

This collaborative Research project commenced late 2015, and was due for conclusion in May 2016. “As a result of a successful accomplishment of a good quality work, DRT has already expressed interest to enter a new research partnership with the Faculty,” – said Martin Kizito.

In another development, the Department of Development Studies is working on a project titled: “Graduate Entrepreneurs Development Strategy (GEDS)”.

• The Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences, Dr. Mary Ssonko Nabacwa during the Faculty seminar conveyed that, the Faculty looks forward to building a strong working relationship with DRT. The Dean diligently asked the DRT representatives at the meeting to further the Faculty’s intentions and interest its management. “As Faculty of Social Sciences, we are interested and willing to collaborate or partner with DRT” – said Dr. Mary Ssonko.

Prepared by: Martin Kizito and Jonathan Tumwebaze
Fieldwork Stakeholders’ Dialogue sets a Niche for the Faculty of Social Sciences

On April 29, 2016, the Faculty of Social Sciences organized a Fieldwork Stakeholders’ Dialogue at Uganda Christian University (UCU) main campus. The stakeholders’ dialogue was organized under the theme: “Effective Partnerships for Effective Fieldwork Instruction”. The purpose of the workshop was to dialogue with stakeholders on different issues concerning the prospects for successful implementation of the fieldwork component of the Faculty. In addition, it aimed at providing a platform for stakeholders to share their experiences on effective fieldwork placement and supervision.

On behalf of the Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences, Rev. Dr. Uziah Maate Kiriaghe (Head of Department of Development Studies) officially opened the workshop. In his remarks, he noted that students’ training remains incomplete without fieldwork experience which is twofold; that is, (i) to receive hands-on training from professionals in the field; and (ii) putting into practice the theory learnt in class.

Mr. David Mugawe, Deputy Vice Chancellor External Relations graced the Workshop as the Chief Guest. He acknowledged that the Faculty of Social Sciences is his home faculty as a professional social worker (graduate of social work). He pointed out that it is difficult to comprehend concepts learnt in class without fieldwork. Therefore, this background gives relevance to fieldwork experiences. He thanked the faculty for producing a fieldwork manual to guide all fieldwork related activities. He reported that a survey of last year’s employee performance in different places put UCU as number two (2) in producing ideal graduates who satisfy the market demands. He observed that fieldwork can be an entry point for University graduates into the job market; as such, there is a need for continued collaboration with different agencies for this cause. Mr. Mugawe in his concluding remarks, requested Agency representatives (Agency supervisors) to be Ambassadors of UCU and recommend prospective students to study at UCU.

The keynote speaker at the fieldwork dialogue - Mrs. Assumpta Tibamwenda Ikiriza, Technical Advisor Program Support Team Ministry of Local Government, described the fieldwork stakeholders’ dialogue as an “innovation” – an initiative not recognized or implemented elsewhere by other Universities. She recommended that this could probably be rolled out to other Universities in Uganda; and acknowledge students participation as vital in search dialogue. Mrs. Assumpta made a remarkable presentation on: “Effective partnerships for effective fieldwork instructions: A basis for professionalization of practice in Uganda”. She stated that University academic programs should work in the Ugandan context, where majority of those who are unemployed are youth (estimated at 75%). Our lectures should be anchored on National context which will enable our University graduates to be employed across the region.

“Fieldwork aims at providing experience and skills that compliment academic training and exposes students to work methods and etiquette. It is a time for testing of concepts, principles, notions and assertions as well as job modelling. Organizing such a unique stakeholders’ dialogue and developing a comprehensive Fieldwork Manual is a remarkable milestone” – said Mrs. Assumpta Tibamwenda.

Agency supervisors present at the dialogue made incredible contributions and recommendations - strategies for motivating Agency-based supervisors demands critical attention; for example, the University needs to actively involve Agency-based supervisors in University activities such as graduation ceremonies, invitation to such stakeholders’ meetings, among others.

Dr. Benon Musinguzi, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (DVC AA) who presided over the official closure of the workshop, officially launched the Faculty of Social Sciences’ Strategic Plan and the Field Work Manual. In a specific voice, the DVC AA requested participants at the dialogue to be Ambassadors and recommend prospective students to study at UCU. The DVC AA later officiated the awarding of Certificates of Recognition to different Agencies that have continued to provide Field Work placements and supervision to UCU students.

Compiled by: Winfred Naamara & Doris Birungi

Photos showing different Agency supervisors joining in the discussions on “effective partnerships for effective fieldwork instruction” at the fieldwork stakeholders’ dialogue held at UCU main campus in Nkoyoyo Hall.
A Liturgical Theology of Walking: Mediating the Estranged after War - Rev. Simon Feta

Rev. Simon Feta, lecturer in the Department of Public Administration and Governance; and Foundation Studies wrote this excerpt after a comprehensive reading of a Book titled: Mediating Peace - Reconciliation through Visual Art, Music and Film, Editors: Sebastian Kim, Pauline Kollontai, Sue Yore 2015 publication.

Movements are unavoidable common practice in Liturgy. The Church can no longer march, celebrate and administer sacraments that contradict the theology of walking. Even when National armies and rebel groups continue with walking to assert their claims and legitimacy, the obvious logic to embrace is that, the world at large still remains a walking community. This excerpt demonstrate that no liturgy progresses without actual walking. That liturgy receives life when people walk. For it’s a reminder that lives are ordered, step by step.

With the image of walking in the Bible, the centrality of the body while in worship, emerges from war; a fusion of embodied demands echoing reconciliation frame sporadic opportunities for reviewing enacted liturgies to foster peace initiatives between individuals, communities and state. In using the relational conceptual framework with primary and secondary resources, this writing looks at both the importance and the place of liturgy after conflict using historical clues from the Uganda Martyrs, political walk protests and stories of those who were estranged from belonging. With ‘Tongilo’ – wisdom for reconciliation before and after conflict among the ‘Acholi’ weaving dance and elderly rhetoric within liturgy, an unavoidable responsibility dawns.

And while rationalizing the concept of a theology of walking, reconciliation, mediation, community and liturgy will continue to demand embodiment as a key resource within worship and any post conflict reality.

My conclusion - Rev. Simon Feta
Social Sciences elevates its Position in Research

The Faculty of Social Sciences is committed to strengthening its position in research. To this regard, the Faculty organized a Supervisors’ Research seminar held on 26th and 27th May 2016 at The Ankrah Foundation in Mukono. The seminar was organized under the theme: “Taking Research to another level”. The Supervisors’ Research seminar was officially opened by Prof. A. S. Wamala, the Research Coordinator Faculty of Social Sciences, who also doubles as the Head of Department of Public Administration and Governance. The research seminar is planned to be held regularly for both research supervisors and students – said Prof. Wamala in his opening remarks.

The seminar was aimed at equipping and strengthening supervisors’ capacities to facilitate quality supervision of students’ research. This in the near future creates an initiative where students with support of supervisors can write scientific papers for publication. This consequently, elevates the quality of graduates, making them highly competitive in the job market. In addition, such research seminars enable supervisors build capacity for writing highly competitive research papers, proposal or projects that attracts funding; and also winning prospective research collaborations or partnerships.

The Faculty resolved that, all departments and programmes develop strategic research themes to guide students’ research; as well as informing Faculty, Departmental or programmes research projects engagements. These research themes are planned to be updated from time-to-time. Therefore, the different department in the Faculty – Public Administration & Governance, Counseling Programme; Social Work and Social Administration; and Development Studies all presented a concept of their research themes identifying the specific areas of research interest.

Prof. Kukunda Elizabeth Bacwayo, Dean School of Research and Postgraduate Studies presided over the closure of the research seminar. In her remarks, she appreciated the Faculty and specifically, the Office of the Research Coordinator for implementing such an innovative initiative.

Asiimwe Joy Tiryamwijuka – The New General Secretary, Uganda Evaluation Association

In the recently concluded Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Uganda Evaluation Association (UEA) held on the 29th April 2016, Mrs. Asiimwe Joy Tiryamwijuka, Lecturer in the Department of Development Studies Uganda Christian University was elected as the new General Secretary of UEA. Other new executive committee of UEA include: Mrs. Rossetti Nabbumba Nayenga (President), Dr. Godfrey Bwaniika (Vice President), and Mr. Santo Obina (Treasurer).

The Uganda Evaluation Association was formed in May 2001 and registered in 2002 as a Professional Association and National chapter of the African Evaluation Association. Its main objectives are to create a national network to facilitate sharing of literature methods, procedure and practical evaluation frameworks among evaluators who were operating in isolation; build capacity for evaluation; and promote professionalism in evaluation practice.

The Association started with a membership of over fifty individuals drawn from monitoring and evaluation units in Government, Parastatals, local and international NGOs, private organizations and members from the public that are engaged in evaluation practice.

The UEA identified five priority areas for fostering the evaluation practice in Uganda. These included: Institutional development of the UEA; Capacity building for program evaluation; National and global networking; Cultivation of partnerships with institutions, associations and development partners working in the area of evaluation; and Development and acquisition of literature and materials for evaluation.
The Northern Uganda Diocese Bishop, Rt. Rev. Johnson Gakumba narrates to students how the church contributed greatly to the process of peace and reconciliation in Northern Uganda.

The field trip exposed students to the African Traditional Practices of ‘Mato Oput’ among the Acholi of Northern Uganda, a conflict resolution tool that is growing in acceptance for best practices in reconciliation. Students gained significant knowledge to analyze conflicts using case-base design; and advise policy makers in the National, Regional and International organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations involved in peace and conflict resolution.

BY Asilimwe Ellen

The course instructors of the peace and conflict resolution - Ms. Asilimwe Ellen and Rev. Simon Feta organized a field visit (class excursion) to St. Monica’s Center for Social Concerns; and the Cultural Heritage Site of the Acholi people in Gulu, Northern Uganda.

The team visited the ‘Mato Oput’ cultural site of the Acholi people in Gulu, Northern Uganda. One of the traditional mechanisms for forgiveness and reconciliation among the Acholi is the ‘Mato Oput’ (meaning, drinking the bitter herb). It is believed by many Acholi people that ‘Mato Oput’ can bring true healing in a way that formal justice system cannot. It doesn’t aim at establishing whether an individual is guilty or not, rather it seeks to restore marred social harmony in the affected community.

The ICC issued arrest warrants for Joseph Kony and other top commanders of the LRA who were accused of committing war crimes and crimes against humanity in Northern Uganda. In December 2003, the Ugandan President Yoweri K. Museveni referred the conflict to the International Criminal Court (ICC). The decision by the Ugandan President and consequently the ICC sparked considerable controversy among the Acholi in Northern Uganda demanding for adoption of the traditional ‘Mato Oput’.

This field visit was to enable course instructors and students test shared theories in Peace and Conflict Resolution. It was to enable learners to reflect on cases of conflict in Africa and examine some of the challenges to peace building, peace processes; and peace support operations.

For over 20 years, Joseph Kony and his Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) rebel group terrorized Northern Uganda. They abducted children and forced them to commit atrocities against their own families and communities. Girls as young as thirteen were degraded by serving as sex slaves for Kony and his officers. Over the past decade, child soldiers have returned to the very communities they committed violent crimes against, and the girls carry with them a constant reminder of their abuse – their captors’ children. These girls and their children are often ostracized by their communities, and most lack the skills they need to provide for their families. They are invited to St. Monica’s where they learn skills to provide for their families. Through vocational training, these young women gain independence. Through the restoration of their lost futures, they find hope.

St. Monica’s Center for Social Concerns also referred to as St. Monica’s Vocational School in Gulu Northern Uganda, originally was established to provide practical skills to restore dignity, independence, and hope to formerly abducted women. Today the school takes in many of the children of these previously captive girls as well as others in the community. Its mission continues by giving girls in Northern Uganda access to education, valuable trade skills in tailoring and catering, and social entrepreneurship in order for them to be independent and to be both financially and personally secure. St. Monica’s Vocational School has given hope to more than 2,000 young women. Currently, approximately 250 girls and 250 children live at St. Monica’s. The team visited the ‘Mato Oput’ cultural site of the Acholi people in Gulu, Northern Uganda. The field trip exposed students to the African Traditional Practices of ‘Mato Oput’ among the Acholi of Northern Uganda, a conflict resolution tool that is growing in acceptance for best practices in reconciliation. Students gained significant knowledge to analyze conflicts using case-base design; and advise policy makers in the National, Regional and International organizations, governments and nongovernmental organizations involved in peace and conflict resolution.

Left - Ms. Asilimwe handover a cash contribution by students to support a girl at St. Monica’s Vocational School in Gulu; Right - An instructor of the ‘Mato Oput’ Cultural Site explains to students how the church contributed greatly to the process of peace and reconciliation among the Acholi.
The students of Postgraduate Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation (PGDM&E) were led by Mrs. Asiimwe Joy Tiryamwijuka on a study visit to World Vision Uganda Mukono/Buikwe Offices.

As students of M&E, this is an opportunity to enable this group of graduate students to learn and comprehend the way World Vision handles its M&E system (what is commonly known as the World Vision M&E system). Different organizations often or may have their own M&E system; actually often most organizations have a missing link in their system. For example, most organizations fail to appropriately measure their performance against budget allocations.

World Vision Uganda has developed a robust M&E system that comprehensively track and measure performance against budget allocations. Our students are able to gain significant experiential learning on monitoring and evaluation systems relevant in the design of development projects and programmes.

“Uganda Christian University, Faculty of Social Sciences signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the World Vision Uganda; this has given our students opportunities for practical training or learning” – said Asiimwe Joy

By Mrs. Asiimwe Joy

Development Studies Dinner at Kolping Hotel in Kampala

The Development Studies students’ Association organized and enjoyed a splendid dinner at Kolping Hotel in Kampala during the Easter Semester. The function was graced by the attendance of the Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences Dr. Mary Ssonko Nabacwa; and other lecturers in the Department of Development Studies. In addition, there was award of certificates to the leadership of the Development Studies students’ Association.

The Dean of Faculty of Social Sciences (in blue) accompanied by other lecturers in the Department of Development Studies officiate the award of Certificates to the leadership of the Development Studies students’ Association.
The great Public Administration and Governance fraternity (PAG Society) during the Easter Semester all rushed to catch the early bird in the house at “The PAG Society Corporate Dinner” on Friday 18th March 2016, at the great Spectrum – Labonita in Kampala. The event attracted a number of alumni of Public Administration and Governance of Uganda Christian University. Also in attendance was the former Head of Department of Public Administration and Governance Dr. Mesharch Katusiimeh; and other lecturers in the Department of Public Administration and Governance; other invited guests form government and other institutions.

Inspiration speeches were shared from great speakers. Mr. Pulkol David, a former Ugandan legislator graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour. Mr. Pulkol gave a remarkable address on the event’s theme: “the urgency for youth participation in the governance agenda in Uganda”.

This corporate event provided the PAG fraternity the opportunity to freely interact with different stakeholders; besides bonding and networking, it enabled students to learn from the different deliberations from different guest speakers.

The event was packaged with a red carpet entrance; corporate billboard photography; entertainment (performances, music, dance and drama); and eating-drinking bonanza.

As a culture of the PAG Society, Academic Excellence Awards were presented to excelling students of Governance and International Relations; and Public Administration and Management. This was followed by a ceremonial welcome of all first year students; and a special recognition of the Bachelor of Governance and International Relations (BGIR) pioneering class.

This corporate event is just a continuation of bonding and networking of a corporate family in the name of PAG Society as we begin to make history.

By The PAG Society Executive

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L-R: Nnadi Ebere Ruth holds her Award, the first Bachelor of Governance & International Relations student to receive a PAG Society Academic Excellence Award; and looking on are, Senti Stuart Henry PAG Society former President, Dr. Mesharch Katusiimeh former Head of Department of Public Administration and Governance, and Kizito Martin (right) lecturer in the Department of Public Administration and Governance of Uganda Christian University.

PAG Society New Executive Committee assumes Office

During the recent “Democracy, Governance and Peace Symposium” held on April 6, 2016 at Hotel Africa in Kampala organized by the PAG Society, a new executive committee assumed office to take on the responsibility of leadership.

The new PAG Society new Executive has shown commitment to pursue efforts to move the society to another level under the leadership of Alinda Isaac as the President of the society.
The Faculty of Social Sciences has resolved to have regular sports activities as part of its efforts towards promoting high quality learning. “An active body works with an active mind and vice versa!” Active participation in sports activities or exercises relaxes the mind, relieves stress and fatigue; and consequently saves us from unnecessary body illnesses or health complications that could otherwise be avoided.

Every semester the Faculty and its departments organize sports day that brings together all students, lecturers and administrative staff of the Faculty. In fact for Social Sciences, it is an important innovation for team building. The Faculty has a sports coordination team that is in charge of organizing regular sports activities.

During the Easter semester, the Faculty of Social Sciences organized a mega sports day that attracted the attention of the entire UCU community. The fun moments were extra ordinary, with diversity or series of events for the day – thanks to Shadrack Natamba and the team for their initiative.

Social Sciences’ Sports Updates!!

The boys doing what they are best at, tussling it with the ball on the new football play ground.

Social Sciences’ ladies enjoying the egg and spoon race

The Social Sciences’ tough ladies try out Jamaica’s Usain Bold 100m race - impressive for sure!

The pavilion of spectators/cheer leaders - the fun moments just gets better!