

David Anderson Africa Trust NEWS

**Winter
2005/2006**

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**Supporting education
and training in Africa**

Reg'd. Charity No. 1001425

DAAT celebrates 15th birthday



In 2005 DAAT celebrated its 15th birthday. Since 1990, DAAT has helped a wide range of disadvantaged individuals in Africa to fulfil their educational potential and to enhance their own lives and those of their communities.

Lifeline for refugees

We have enabled several refugees to gain a university education and prepare to rebuild their lives in their home countries. Three refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo have earned their degrees from Daystar University in Kenya, and a fourth is set to graduate next year. James Gbagbe, a refugee from Sudan, gained his degree from Uganda Christian University and has since been fully involved in community projects.

Distance learning skills

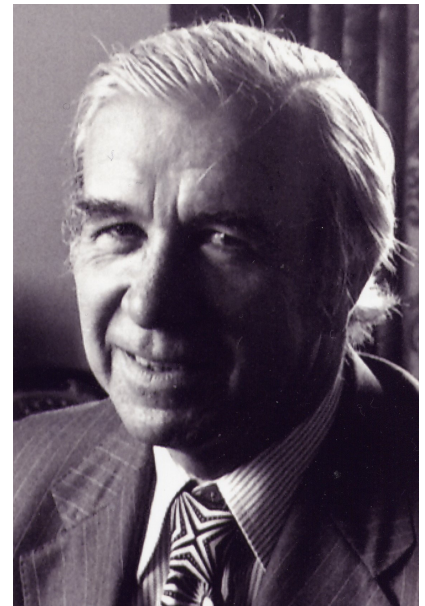
Several students have been funded to develop their educational qualifications by studying for their MA/ Diploma in Distance Education, studied by distance learning through the University of London. This has given them key skills to set up and run distance learning projects in their own countries, to increase access to education.

Opportunities for women

Women in many African countries find it extremely hard to gain access to a university education. Since 1997, many women at the Open University of Tanzania have benefited from our sponsorship programme. Seven of our students have graduated, going on to further degrees or to jobs in the education sector.

Focus on disabilities

Our biggest project has seen the successful establishment of audio recording studios at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) and audio-based courses being made available to visually impaired and other print-disabled students. This joint project with OUT received a substantial grant from the Community Fund.



David Anderson

Looking to the future

These are just a few of our achievements, and we continue to seek new projects in other African countries. We have a network of contacts on the ground who put forward new project ideas and help us monitor ongoing projects.

We maintain close contact with our students, and have kept in touch with several of our past students: it is rewarding to see them fulfil their aims and move on in their lives.

THANK YOU!

We would like to say a very big 'Thank you' to all those who have supported our work over the past 15 years.

We look forward to your continued support, to enable us to further increase educational opportunities for disadvantaged people in Africa and to continue working towards David Anderson's vision of sustainable African development.

News from the Open University of Tanzania

New graduate

Another year, another graduate from our women's sponsorship programme at the Open University of Tanzania

Kezia Mkwizu reflects here on her experience as an OUT student.

'Studying for my degree course by distance learning at OUT has certainly been a great challenge for me as a working woman.

I am truly pleased to inform you that I have completed my studies and graduated with a BCom (Ed) (Hons), awarded in September 2005. This has given me great joy and a sense of real achievement.



Kezia Mkwizu is congratulated by the Vice Chancellor of OUT

Challenging opportunity

As a woman studying at OUT, I got the challenging opportunity to concurrently manage my studies, work and other responsibilities.

I am still working for Regent Tanzania Ltd as Airfreight Manageress and handled additional duties over the past four months as Acting General Manager.

I appreciate the academic guidance given to me by OUT in this regard, and the support and understanding extended to me by the management of Regent Tanzania Ltd, as well as the encouragement I had from my family and friends

Thank you ...

I would also like to take this opportunity to record my sincere gratitude to DAAT for your generous scholarship which covered my fees at OUT for the period of 1999-2005.

I now look forward to pursuing a Master's degree in International Business.

Thank you very much!

New students

The latest students to be accepted onto our sponsorship programme are Stella Gailos, Mariam Mathias, Alice Wisdom, Cecilia Mary Msoffe and Nyabatake Noela Martin. All are studying for their BA (Ed).

Stella and Mariam are visually impaired and are studying through OUT's audio-based programme, set up in a joint project with DAAT.

Sponsorship programme expands

We have recently decided to expand our sponsorship programme to include more visually impaired students, either men or women.

We will now be sponsoring twelve students per year, of whom at least seven will be women; the other five will be either men or women with disabilities, studying through OUT's audio study programme.

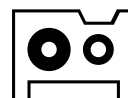
Talking books and equipment

In the past year, we have sent two consignments of Talking Books to be distributed to visually impaired students at OUT.

The talking books not only provide a welcome break from study, but help develop English listening skills, which in turn benefits study.

We are also sending regular supplies of blank cassettes for recording new courses. These are purchased at low cost through the Persula Foundation in the UK and sent free of charge to Tanzania by the Royal Mail's Articles for the Blind service.

We have also supplied a computer for office use by OUT's audio study programme.



New project plans

Education and training for women in the fishing industry, Kenya

The WIFIP programme was set up in 2002 to provide non-formal education and training to women involved in the fishing industry along the shores of Lake Victoria in Western Kenya.

In its first three years, WIFIP delivered a successful education and training programme to large numbers of women using radio programmes and audio cassettes, which the women listened to in beach-based learning groups.

Centre of excellence

Jennifer Kere, Director of WIFIP says: 'Our desire is to improve the lives of women who would otherwise be excluded from education. We largely address socio-economic issues, touching on health and HIV/AIDS, small business management skills, women's rights, maternal child health and income generation.

Our long-term vision is to be a Centre of Excellence in nonformal education and distance learning.'

Equipment for materials development

WIFIP produces all its own materials in-house. DAAT plans to provide a grant for the purchase of a sound mixer and digital scanner, some of the equipment needed for audio materials development.

Ensuring sustainability

John Thomas, one of DAAT's Trustees who has worked as an adviser with WIFIP, was extremely impressed with the project.

In the longer term, we hope to work with WIFIP to help ensure the continued success of the project and the expansion of vital education and training for vulnerable women.

Creating an impact

As a refugee from Sudan in 1998, James Gbagbe was awarded a DAAT scholarship to study for his degree in Social work and Social administration at Uganda Christian University, Mukono. James returned to work in Sudan and recently updated us on his current activities.

Serving the community

Since graduating from Uganda Christian University in Mukono in 2001, I have been serving the community in South Sudan. After leaving the campus, I signed a contract for Forest Survey and Inventory, a four-month exercise for Forestry Department (New Sudan). I signed another for Forest Product Flow Assessment in five districts, a six-month intensive project.

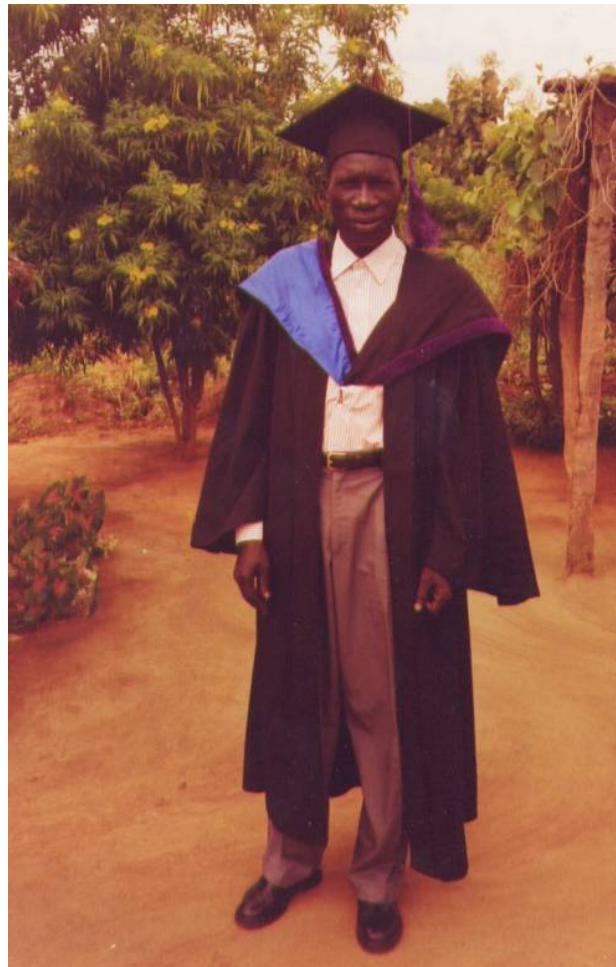
Helping the educationally marginalised

In 2003 I joined Transcultural and Psychosocial Organisation in Southern Sudan as a Programme Officer

for 18 months, but did not feel I was fully utilising my knowledge and skills. So in March 2005 I joined CARE International in Somalia and South Sudan as a Programme Officer. The project is Sudan Basic Education Program, and I am based in the Nuba mountains, Sudan.

I still have an ambition to help educationally marginalised Sudanese children and youth, and am developing a proposal on scholarship support.

Each time I create any impact amongst the vulnerable community, the credit goes to you!



James Gbagbe in his graduation suit in Southern Sudan

Great plans for community development

After four years of hard study, Jimmy Kasongo completed his BA in Community Development in 2005 at Daystar University in Kenya.

Rebuilding education

Jimmy Kasongo is a refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Eventually, he hopes to return to DRC to work in community projects there to rebuild education and social structure after years of fighting.

New project plans

While still in Kenya, Jimmy is keen to set up community projects to help refugees from the central African area as well as other disadvantaged groups in Kenya.

Jimmy is currently involved in planning the following projects in Kenya.

Educating refugee children

Amani Socio Education Center (ASEC) is an NGO created by a group of Congolese refugees living in Nairobi to cater for the needs of refugees from DRC and other French-speaking countries.

ASEC focuses on providing education for refugee children and young adults, to provide them with vital knowledge and skills, especially

those needed during and after repatriation to their own countries, to develop a culture of peace within refugee communities affected by war and to alleviate poverty.

Empowering girls

Ntoyie Education Development Agency (NEDA) is a community-based organisation whose mission is to empower girls in the Kajiado district of Kenya, through education at higher and lower levels.

The project recognises that women's contribution to their community is unrecognised and undervalued. It aims to improve the position of women through an HIV/AIDS awareness project, a Girl Child Education Development Project and a Rehabilitation/Rescue Centre.

Maasai education

NEDA is also planning a Maasai Cultural Center in Isinya to educate the Maasai about their culture, provide economic empowerment for the community, act as a tourist attraction and create a base for academic research.

New registered address

Our new registered address is:

1 Bell Leys
Wingrave
Bucks
HP22 4QD, UK

Where possible, please contact us by email at:

mail@daat.org.uk

Website: www.daat.org.uk

Please send donations and general correspondence to our Fund Administrator, Anna Wilson-Nunn, at

2 Colney Lane
Cringleford
Norwich
NR4 7RE, UK

Trustees

Ms Janis Anderson
Mrs Mary Anderson
Ms Cath Attlee
Dr Davina Hoile
Mr Jason Pennells
Mr Tim Sheehy
Mr John Thomas

Trustee vacancy

We are seeking a new recruit to join our current Board of Directors as a Trustee, to bring new ideas and help develop the work of the Trust.

We are looking for someone with experience of living and working in Africa and an awareness of educational issues. Experience of fundraising would also be a great advantage.

Meetings are held approximately twice a year, usually in London.

If you would like to find out more, please contact our Fund Administrator.

SUPPORT US!

Please help us to continue our vital work in expanding educational opportunities for disadvantaged people in Africa.

Every donation, whatever size, makes a real difference. Regular donations are especially valuable.

Banker's Order and donation forms can be downloaded from our website, or use the enclosed donation form.

Thank you!

IEC to close

IEC (International Extension College), of which David Anderson was a Trustee, and with which DAAT has had close links since 1990, is sadly to close in March 2006.

Two of DAAT's Trustees, Jason Pennells and John Thomas, are current or former IEC staff.

We thank IEC for all their support over the years, and wish the staff all the best for the future.