SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REGIONAL STRATEGY GROUP REPORT

Year 2

Membership
Vanessa Allen-Brown  Associate Professor of Educational Studies
Gregory Beaucage  Professor of Chemical & Materials Engineering
Nnamdi Elleh  Associate Professor of Architecture
John Kalubi  Associate Teaching Professor of Africana Studies
John McNay  Professor of History
Carolette Norwood  Assistant Professor of Africana Studies
Adrian Parr  Associate Professor of Sociology & Architecture and Interior Design
Charles Schwartz  Associate Director, International Admissions
Joseph Takougang  Professor of Africana Studies
Tina Weitkamp  Associate Professor of Clinical Nursing
Victoria Wulsin  Consulting Public Health Physician & Chancellor, Mt. Kenya University
Michael Zaretsky  Associate Professor of Architecture

Related Local Organizations
African Institute for Urban Studies
African Foundation USA
National Underground Railroad Freedom Center
SOTENI
Village Life Outreach Project

Activities of Focus for Next Few Years
- Identify opportunities for service learning activities
- Bring ambassadors to campus
- Develop UC-hosted roundtable discussion re: current issues in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Develop more faculty-led study abroad student opportunities
- Establish Sub-Saharan Africa scholarship funds
- Bring 5-10 students from identified countries annually
- Encourage faculty research collaboration
2013-14 Sub-Saharan Africa Strategy Group Summary

Botswana

This year we received a visit from representatives of the Botswana Ministry of Education, the Education Hub and the Deputy Chief of Mission from the Botswana Embassy. While here they also met with President Ono, administrators and students.

Resulting from this visit:

- They have invited President Ono to visit Botswana to further discuss their interests in collaborating with the University of Cincinnati.
- We anticipate receiving three fully-funded Botswana students next academic year.

We continue to stay in contact with alumna Ambassador Tebelelo Mzile Seretse. She remains a vital connection and loyal resource for us in Botswana, both now and in the future. She will be the Commencement speaker this spring and receive any Honorary Doctor of Public Service.

Dire Dawa University

Two members of our group applied for and received a U.S/Ethiopian Partnership grant to facilitate establishing relationships with institutions of higher education in Ethiopia. Immediately following the end of Spring 2014 term, Drs. Greg Beaucage and Nnamdi Elleh will be travelling to Ethiopia to meet with faculty from partner institutions on topics related to solar energy and preservation of historic architectural sites. Their visit will be followed by a visit to UC by faculty from our Ethiopian partners later this year.

We are also in the process of entering into an agreement with Dire Dawa University. Drs. Elleh and Beaucage will further that process while they are in the country on the partnership grant.

University of Dar es Salaam (UDS)

For 10 years, UC faculty and students have partnered with Village Life Outreach Project to improve the health, education and well-being of people northeastern Tanzania. Having a Tanzanian partner will strengthen that effort. By the end of term we expect to video-conference with the head of international relations at UDS to discern their level of interest in collaboration and identify possible first steps.

Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (NMMU)

After much discussion about several fine institutions in South Africa, the strategy group has decided to further investigate NMMU. Dr. John McNay has taken students there several times, so we have a beginning relationship. We will be videoconferencing with them prior to the end of term to explore interests and avenues of engagement.

Other Activities

Visit Exchanges with Mt. Kenya University (MKU)
MKU CEO Simon Gicharu, Dr. Ken Ramani, and Dr. Kimathi Kigatàira (Dean, School of Medicine) came to UC and lectured at the College of Arts & Sciences, Taft Research Center, and College of Medicine. MKU hosted Dr. Raj Mehta (UC International), Dr. Lisa Larkin presenting “Women’s Health through the Life Cycle,” and Dr. Adrian Parr teaching about “Water Justice.” Her trip led to a planned UNESCO conference to be held in Kenya.

Sub-Saharan Africa Student Enrollment—Fall 2013

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