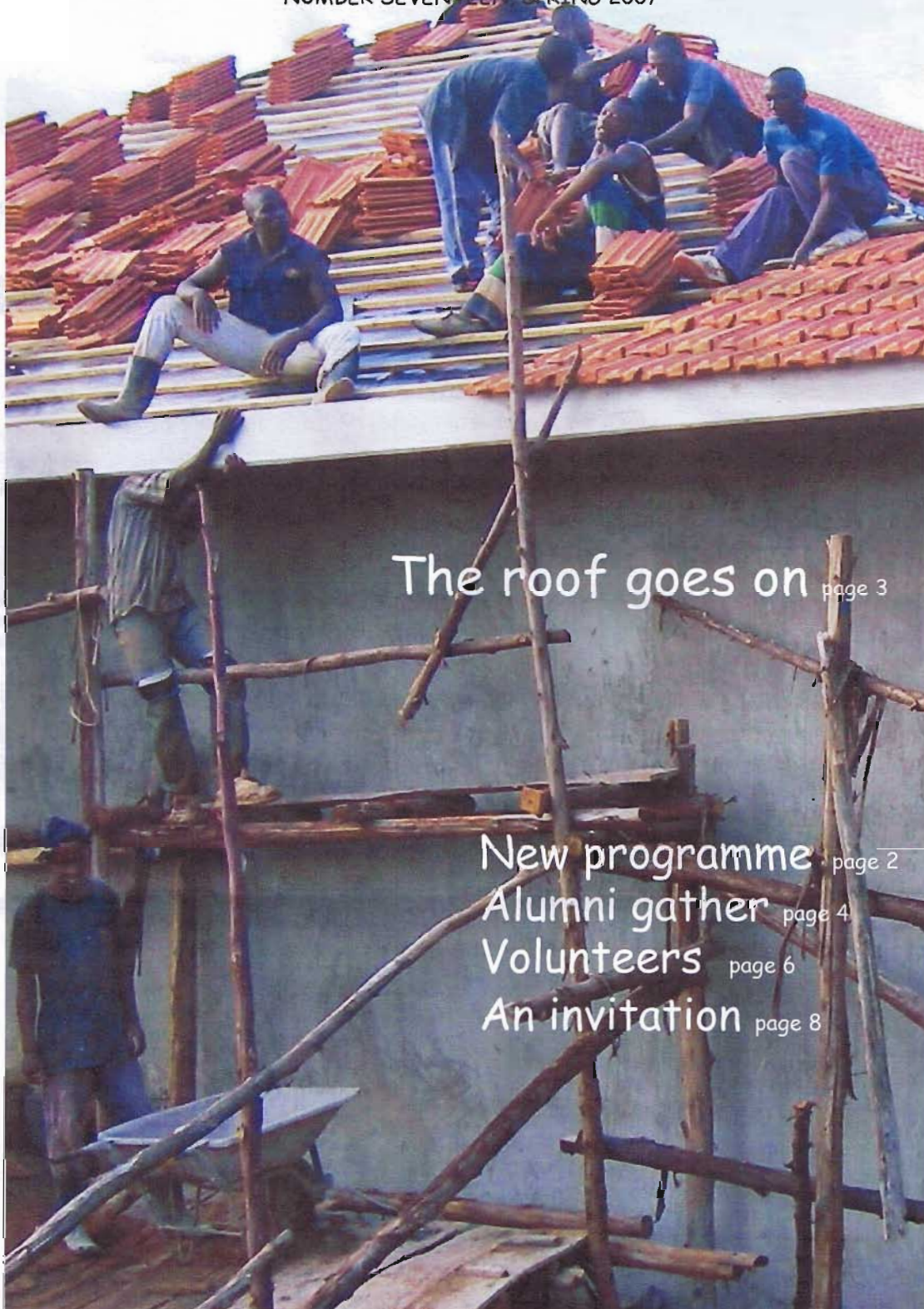


ICMI NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN MEDICAL INSTITUTE (CANADA)
NUMBER SEVENTEEN, SPRING 2007



The roof goes on page 3

New programme page 2

Alumni gather page 4

Volunteers page 6

An invitation page 8

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Students at work in the ICMI classroom at Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau

ICMI prepares to launch a new degree programme

After extensive discussion, Dr. Carl Garry and Dr. Edward Mukooza have proposed to launch an exciting new programme which will allow recent “A Level” graduates to enter the Degree programme in Health Administration. (“A Level” is roughly equivalent to Grade 14). The proposed new programme will differ from the existing programme in several ways:

1. It will admit “A Level” students without hospital experience.
2. Students will attend full time.
3. A cooperative in-service work component will be added to the programme.
4. Five new courses will be added to the existing curriculum
5. Students will be able to graduate with their degrees after three years
6. The programme will be based at ICMI’s existing facilities at Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau in Kampala.
7. The new programme will admit up to 50 students who have at least two principal passes at the “A Level,” one of which must be economics.

The new programme is not designed to replace the modular diploma or degree programme currently in existence. These will be moved to the new building on the Uganda Christian University campus in October 2007. The proposed new programme is designed to meet the needs of bright, capable, young Ugandan students who have recently graduated from Senior 6 and who want to pursue a degree in Health Administration. The programme will allow ICMI to develop and train young, inexperienced people in Uganda, thereby adding to the extremely small pool of health administrators.

A vision nearing realization

An ICMI building on the UCU campus has been an important part of our vision since the Memorandum of Understanding between ICMI and UCU was signed in 2001. Thanks to prayer, hard work and the generosity of our donors the roof of the ICMI building is completed. Praise the Lord!

At the outset, raising the estimated \$500,000 cost of the building seemed to be an almost insurmountable task. But everyone kept praying and fundraising. UCU, which also needed more classroom space, approached ICMI with an offer to enter into a partnership with ICMI to construct the building. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed whereby ICMI and UCU would share the space equally, ICMI to occupy the ground floor and UCU the first floor. By 2006, ICMI had raised its half of the funds, the site was chosen and cleared and construction began.

The building was designed by David Scarth, a Victoria based architect, who was assisted by Melissa Freeman. Both architects volunteered their time. An ICMI Building Committee was formed to provide input and oversee the process. In December 2006, Lorene Freeman, ICMI President, visited the site with Bill, her husband, and took an early picture of the construction.

In January 2007, Carl and Loraine visited the site with David Scarth, the architect, and his wife Sandra, and



Historic moment: Lorene Freeman (ICMI Canada President), and Rev. Dr. Stephen Noll (Vice Chancellor, UCU) signing the Memorandum of Agreement, December 2006, while Dr. Edward Mukooza looks on.

took another photo of the building showing the growing realization of the vision. In March, Dr. Edward Mukooza visited the site and sent a picture showing that the roof was now being completed.

ICMI is now raising the money needed to furnish the new building with student desks, tables and chairs together with office furniture. ICMI is planning to officially open the building on October 5, 2007.

Jayne Postuk, Lorene and Bill Freeman, and Carl and Loraine plan to be in Uganda for the official opening. Approximately 100 ICMI students will be graduating that day, seventy-five will be receiving their Diplomas and 25 will receive their Degrees in Health Administration. We will be joined by two UVic student volunteers, Kelly Little and Candice Madelena.

Thank you for all your prayers and your generous financial support which helped make the dream come true.



"They have put the first coating of paint and it is shining!"

Edward Mukooza, April 26



They all thanked ICMI for making possible for them to get promote move ahead professionally and improve their home life.



Leadership in action: clockwise from top left: Maria Nannyonjo (Senior Nursing Officer, Mulago Hospital), The Honorable Jane Babiha (M.P. Responsible for Gender Equality), Rev. Justus Miwanda (Chair of the Alumni Association), Sister Philip Neri Nsigadde (Treasurer of the Alumni Association), Maria Najjemba (Secretary of the Alumni Association), Loraine Spencer Garry (Secretary of ICMI Canada Board)



First alumni gathering draws graduates from every year since 1994

Seventy-five excited ICMI alumni gathered together on February 2, 2007 for the first time since their graduation. From every corner of Uganda they traveled to the Kampala Sheraton Hotel to meet and greet one another, to share in a celebratory lunch and to elect representatives to the newly formed ICMI Alumni Association. There were graduates from every year dating back to ICMI's first graduation in 1994. It was a joy to see all of our former students again, dressed in their finest attire, and to watch their faces as they engaged in animated conversations with their former classmates.

The meeting was chaired by Justus Miwenda, a very charismatic individual who, like many others, graduated from both the ICMI Diploma and Degree programmes. Three members of the Alumni, Jane Babiha, now a Member of Parliament, Maria Najjemba, now a District Nursing Officer, and Maria Nannyonjo, Senior Nursing Officer, spoke to their classmates about their accomplishments which they attributed to their training and experiences at ICMI. They all thanked ICMI for making it possible for them to get promoted, to move ahead professionally and to improve their home life.

Dr. Edward Mukooza, Vice Principal of ICMI, welcomed the graduates on behalf of ICMI. Professor Loraine Spencer Garry spoke to the graduates about a questionnaire which she distributed which was designed to gather information about the alumni for use by the Alumni Association.

Following a delicious lunch, Dr. Carl Garry, ICMI Principal, spoke to alumni members about the role and function of an Alumni Association. He told the audience, "The formation of an ICMI Alumni Association is an historic event in the life of ICMI" and that "alumni have an opportunity to communicate with one another and to help provide new ICMI students with bursaries and scholarships." Dr. Garry also told them that the elected Chair of the Alumni Association would be invited to become a member of the ICMI Uganda Board.

Congratulations to the individuals elected to represent the Alumni Association.

The Chairperson of the Association is Justus Miwanda who is currently working as Executive Director of Network Uganda.

The Secretary is Maria Najjembe, District Nursing Officer for the Local Administration in Mayuga. Maria was the top student when she graduated in 2005.

Treasurer is Sister Philip Neri Nsigadde, the Financial Manager at Rubaga Hospital, Kampala. Sister Philip graduated with her degree in 2005 and she has been assisting teaching Financial Accounting to ICMI Diploma students.

ICMI now has over 1000 graduates, which augurs well for the future of the Alumni Association.

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A volunteer's story: working with ICMI

By Chris Newcombe

I am a Victoria native of 24 years. I have recently completed my undergraduate studies in Microbiology at the University of Victoria. During my last few semesters, I developed an interest in overseas volunteering as a way not only to serve those less fortunate, but also grow and develop personally.

ICMI was first brought to my attention by Dr. Rosanne Poulson (of UVic), who recommended it as a tried and true programme that allowed students to carry out meaningful (and economically feasible!) work alongside supportive staff. Being a Christian myself, I found the ethos of the organization appealing, and after talking with a recent volunteer, Elise Roberts, I was sold.

Chelsea McCullough and I met with the Garrys and were thoroughly briefed on the organization, our role as volunteers, and many aspects of Ugandan culture, as well as more practical things such as documents and immunizations. Even given our theoretical understanding of Ugandans' hospitality and warmth, Chelsea and I were amazed by our reception by Dr. Mukooza and the ICMI and Uganda Protestant Medical Bureau staff. Friendly and supportive working relationships were forged early on, and we quickly felt at home despite the marked differences between Victoria and Kampala! During the short interval before classes began, we were introduced to staff at the nearby Mengo hospital, where we, as aspiring medical students, were interested in devoting some time when possible.

Our duties with ICMI were two-fold: (1) instructing, on an individual, customized basis, a range of computing skills, and (2) acting as a second pair of hands around the office, whether it be compiling tax and account information with the ever pleasant Clarissa, or helping edit and design documents and other publications, and the occasional arm-wrestle with Dr. Sam Biraro.

We were inspired in our teaching through fostering relationships with the students, all of whom have interesting backgrounds, often marked with triumph over severe adversity. They were eager to learn and



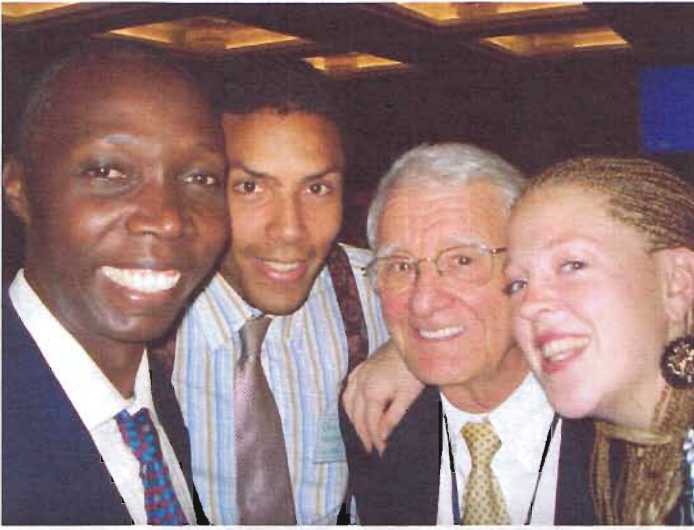
Chris in the Maternity Ward

improve; we were happy to share our experience and confident that it would effect positive change. Hours spent in the office passed quickly and with mirth as each member brought a unique and complementary element to the team (these 'elements' often included doughnuts, coffee, and fruit!).

ICMI is, of course, a Christian organization, and it would be impossible to work within it and not be touched by its commitment, and encouraged in one's own faith. In particular, I developed through, and thoroughly enjoyed the morning devotions that opened each morning of classes. Each day, a student would take charge in the study of the Word, while mind and metabolism were revved up by animated song.

Alongside our ICMI official duties, Chelsea and I had unforgettable and life-altering experiences across the country and region, in our hospital time, dealings with people, and immersion into Uganda's beautiful culture. Of all the impressions I have, the clearest and most consistent is that of the populace: kindness, hospitality, openness and warmth.

Return to Canada has not been the "culture shock" it might have been, but I have a renewed sense of our prosperity and place in the global community. I look forward to remaining an active part of ICMI, although probably from home for the foreseeable future. Currently, I have accepted employment at UVic in a research position, and awaiting the results of a recent medical school entrance interview (Queen's). In closing, all supporters of ICMI here and abroad should be confident that they are indeed part of a positive, powerful, and effective development initiative in Uganda that clearly and openly bears witness to Jesus Christ.



Edward Mukooza, Chris Newcombe, Carl Garry, Chelsea McCullough

Music buys furniture for university building

On February 25, 2007, Diana Lawton, pianist, and Mark Lupin, violinist, thrilled an audience of 225 people at the Alix Gooldin Hall in Victoria with an amazing and extremely challenging benefit concert for ICMI.

The interpretation of these two accomplished and talented musicians of Strauss' Sonata in E flat Major Op. 18, Fritz Kreisler's Mozart Rondo in G Major and Mozart's Sonata in E flat Major K.380 and other selections was refreshing and inspiring.

One member of the audience said: "The performance was excellent! These are two very talented and gifted musicians." Another said, "The music was uplifting and I came away with a feeling of joy."

The Board of ICMI sincerely thanks Diana Lawton and Mark Lupin for their hard work in preparing and performing such a wonderful concert. Thanks also to the organizing committee of Lorene Freeman, Arden Moretti, Jayne Postuk, Adele Wickett, Lee Adler and Loraine Spencer Garry.

The concert netted \$6100.00 after expenses which will go toward purchasing furniture for the new ICMI building.

"Being a pianist, I was obviously listening closely to Diana Lawton. She did not disappoint me, playing with wonderful tone. Mark Lupin has a full-time career in addition to his violin, and has obviously kept up his violin skills. He took on a challenging repertoire and the audience was very appreciative. In taking on this task, both performers were generous with their time and their abilities. Thank you for organizing this."
Linda Stobbe

Wouldn't you really rather volunteer?

In January and February 2007, six volunteers from Victoria traveled to Uganda to work with the ICMI programme. Volunteers were Chris Newcombe and Chelsea McCulloch, UVic graduates who worked in the computer lab and in the ICMI office helping to prepare new brochures, and in Mengo Hospital. Chelsea also participated in the Gender Issues class.

David Scarth, the architect who designed the ICMI building, came to evaluate progress and carry out a quality control assessment. Sandra Scarth is deeply involved in child adoption policies in developing countries.

Carl and Loraine met with Woudineh, a representative from M.K College in Ethiopia with which ICMI is exploring a possible new partnership. Carl also met with the ICMI Uganda Board to bring them up to date. He also had several discussions with Dr. Lorna Muhirwe regarding updating the six year old Memorandum of Understanding between UPMB and ICMI. He also had extensive discussions with Dr. Edward Mukooza regarding the programme including possible changes.

Everyone pitched in to help organize a very successful Alumni Association meeting. Some members traveled with David to the UCU campus to inspect the building and to meet with Ugandan architects and engineers. It was a busy and enjoyable visit. Thank you, volunteers, for all your hard work in Uganda.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Ian Campbell on his 90th birthday. Ian and his wife, Maxine, have been faithful and committed members of ICMI. The Lord bless you, Ian.

An Invitation to a reception and lecture by the Hon. Miria Matembe

The Centre for Studies in Religion and Society (UVic) invites you to attend a reception and lecture at the University Club on Saturday, June 9, at 7:00 PM.

The occasion honours Miria Matembe, who will receive the degree of Doctor of Law (honoris causa) from the University of Victoria on June 8. Miria Matembe will speak on the topic 'For God and my Country: Challenges facing Uganda today.'

**RSVP to the Centre either by email
(csrs11@uvic.ca) or by phone (721-6325)**

As a member of the Pan-African Parliament the Honourable Miria Matembe represents Uganda's diverse interests amongst a complex of developing nations. She spearheaded a number of major social and political changes in Ugandan society.

Born into a poor, rural family in a paternalistic Third World country suffering from the ravages of violent revolution, she developed her talents against overwhelming odds. Miria grew into a leading parliamentarian, and helped draft Uganda's new democratic Constitution.

As Minister of State for Ethics and Integrity, she vigorously confronted widespread corruption in Ugandan society, especially in government and civil service. In her role as a member of parliament she tackled the deep-rooted problem of HIV/AIDS by forcing her culture to deal with taboo issues of human sexuality and disease. In addition, as the Uganda Constitutional Commissioner, she made major contributions to constitutional reform and the rule of law.



The Hon. Miria Matembe, graduate in law from both Makerere University, and Warwick (UK), former Minister of State for Ethics and Integrity, Uganda.

Become an ICMI supporter and/or member

Yes, I would like to support the work of ICMI:

With a membership of _____ \$75.00

With a gift of _____

With a monthly pledge of _____

I wish to pay by cheque

I wish to pay by credit card Visa MC

Card number _____

Expiry date _____

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This gift is eligible for a tax-deductible receipt.