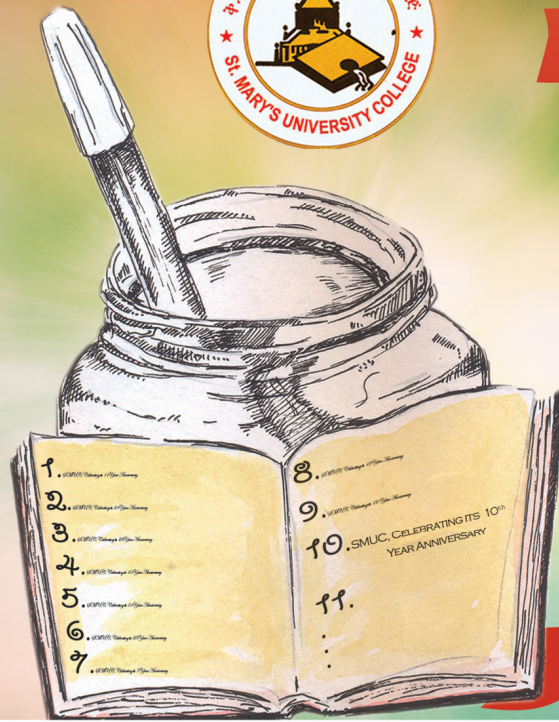


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Quarterly Newsletter Volume 9, NO.19 April 2009

**OUR DECADE'S JOURNEY IS
THE SPRINGBOARD OF MANY SUCCESS TO COME**



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FOR THE DECADE'S STRIDE!!

St. Mary's University College has commenced the preparation to celebrate its 10th Anniversary. Five various committees are formed from students, instructors and the administrative personnel to work on five major activities, i.e. 'Teaching and Learning', 'Research and Publications', 'Documentation and Promotion', 'Campus Renovations and Events', and 'Social Events'. The committees have already begun executing their respective tasks with all the necessary support of the enthusiastic community members behind.



Journal Launch



The Faculty of Business launched its bi-annual Journal of Business and Administrative Studies (JBAS) on February the 14th 2009 at Mexico Campus-Mutli- Purpose Hall.



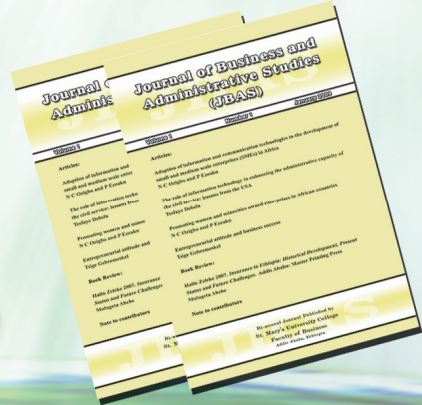
The faculty dean and chairperson of the Editorial Board, Ato Goitom Abrham, in his opening speech, thanked the editorial committee and faculty council members who worked hard to bring the journal to success. He also appreciated community members of the UC who were always ready to render their support. Ato Goitom continued and extended his thanks to the top management of the UC for their valuable support and close follow-up which was a real encouragement to all involved in the task.

Ato Goitom underlined that the journal is expected to play a significant role in the dissemination of business knowledge grounded in scholarly research work; in shaping the content and boundaries of the various business disciplines and in providing publication outlet for academicians and practitioners in the fields of business and administrative sciences.



The President of SMUC thanked and appreciated the faculty, all committees and persons involved to bring the completion of such helpful journal. The journal is said to be the first of its kind in the fields of business and administrative sciences.

The President stressed the challenges of the continuity of the journal and called the vitality of the co-operation of scholars in order to overcome the challenges.



Workshop on Using Primary Readers in Classrooms



On the 9th and 10th of Feb. 2009, SMUC conducted a workshop at Mexico Campus on using the primary readers developed under the project which SMUC had in partnership with Marjon University College, UK since 2007. The primary readers were produced and distributed to public primary schools across all regional states and administrative cities in Ethiopia.



Workshop facilitators were the KeySWOTT team members who developed the primary readers for 5th – 8th graders.

External Ties Continued



Twenty students of New Business School of Amsterdam (NBS) and their teachers paid a week-long visit to St. Mary's University College (SMUC) from the 2nd – the 8th of March 2009 to work towards finalizing the “Branding Ethiopia” project – a project SMUC and NBS Marketing students have been running together. In the project follow-up workshop held for the third time at SMUC, students of SMUC and NBS developed a business plan to open coffee corners in Addis Ababa with an intention to promote Ethiopian organic coffee through fair trade.



Nineteen primary school teachers drawn from four regional states took part in the workshop. The workshop was intended to help participants develop the skills of writing and using stories for teaching purposes.



During the week-long workshop, students of the two institutions conducted SWOT analysis, developed business plans and made presentations of their plans, and exchanged feedback. 'Teaming up with Dutch students, we were able to translate the theory we gained in classrooms into practice', commented some of the Ethiopian students. A Dutch student also told, "It was quite a wonderful opportunity for both teams to share experience and combine ideas and culture to make concepts concrete."



So far, nearly 50 Dutch students and teachers have come, in three visits, to Ethiopia to work with more than 40 students and teachers of the Department of Marketing Management at SMUC. A staff member of the department also visited NBS in 2008 and gave lecture.

The 50th Philip Jessup Moot Court National Rounds Competition



The Faculty of Law at SMUC facilitated the 2009 Ethiopian Rounds Philip C. Jessup Moot Court Competition at Mexico Campus, Moot Court Room and at Multipurpose Hall, St. Mary's University College, from the 27th of February to the 3rd of March 2009.

The objective of the National Rounds was to identify the winning Jessup team among the competitors that will represent Ethiopia in the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition in the USA.



The participants of Philip C. Jessup National Competition were teams from Addis Ababa University, Bahir Dar University, Jimma University, Haramaya University and Mekele University.

Although the participant teams were very competitive & the scores were very close Addis Ababa University won the National Rounds and the best memorial award while Bahir-Dar University won the best oralist and Runner-up Winner Awards. Moreover, Haramaya University won the Runner-ups best Oralist Award.



The National Rounds Competition was sponsored by St. Mary's University College, Justice for All Person Fellowship Ethiopia and by Justice & Legal System Research Institute.

At the end, certificates were given to 18 oralists from the five participating law schools.

A Legal Clinic Opened

The Faculty of Law at St. Mary's has opened a Legal Aid Clinic to provide free legal services to people and allow students develop practical skills as of December 2008.

The Clinic is headed by Ato Maru Bazezew, an instructor, along with Senior Law Faculty students. The clinic gives services on Mondays, Wednesday and Fridays from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. every week at Mexico-Campus, Moot-Court Room. Upto March 9, 2009 more than 16 people have received services from the clinic.

TRAINING and PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Training on General Management & Customer Services



Marketing, Customers Services and Human Resource Development Unit, Distance Education Division, along with the Business Faculty, gave training on General Management and Customer Services from Dec. the 10th – the 21st and from Nov. the 26th – Dec. 3, 2008 to a total of seventy DED employees. The training is part of the Five-year Strategic Plan designed by the UC in collaboration with the DED personnel to capacitate the employees in various working fields.

Ato Abebe Yirdaw, the resource person, from Business Faculty, discussed on issues that could enhance the working capacity of the trainees.



Ato Tsegaye Gebissa, the Unit Head, DED, pointed out that the unit, as per its plan, had organized a Training Need

Assessment Study with the participation of all DED employees and centers to identify areas for further training.

Ato Tsegaye thanked the trainees for their unreserved participation to enrich the training He also appreciated Ato Goitom Abraham, Business Faculty, Dean, for the support he rendered to bring the training in to such a success.

Ato Wondwosen Tamrat, the Founder and President of SMUC, and Dr. Eyelachew Zewde, DED Dean, gave certificates to the General Management and to the Customer Service trainees respectively.



The ceremony ended after the President gave general guides to the trainees and extended his thanks to all who organized and gave the training and; participated in the training.



Induction to DED

The UC gave training to representatives of newly opened agent offices of the Distance Education Division (DED) at Addis Ababa, Awasa, Dessie and Bahir-Dar from Jan. 31st – Feb. the 8th 2009.

The training was on how the new agents should accomplish their work in their new offices. The training was given by Ato Samuel Fantaye, Ato Tsegaye Gebisa, Ato Yohannes Gashaw, Ato Getahun Simon, W/o Melkam Temesgen, Ato Andargachew Worku, Ato Tesfaye G/meskel and Ato Aytenfsu Yewhalashet, all from the UC, DED, with reputed working experience in their respective office accomplishments.

The issues discussed by the resource persons were: institutional policies and focus areas, agent offices and their functions, student registration, finance at agent offices, etc. The topics were commented as very essential by the trainees.

Panel Discussion on Promotion



The Department of Marketing Management organized and held a panel discussion on 'Promotion Practices in Ethiopia' on the 14th of February 2009 at Multi-Purpose Hall, Mexico Campus.

The objective of the panel was to better enable degree and TVET regular students who are taking Promotion Management course to make them fit to the business world.



The keynote speaker, Dr. Nega Namaga, Manager of the Private Higher Education Institutions Association, elaborated on the need for such panel discussions and expressed his warm congratulations to St. Mary's.

Asst. Prof. Wondwosen Tamrat, President and Founder of St. Mary's, complemented the remarkable efforts of the department.



The management and community of St. Mary's extend their gratitude to the following experienced professionals who participated in the event:



Ato Aklilu Matiyas from Maldot Kinetibeb; Artist Serawit Fikre from Serawit Multimedia Production; Ato Towfik Hassen from Shoa Trading & Industry; Ato Yifra Tafesse from NAS Foods complex; Ato Temesgen Naji from Hahu Promotion; and W/t Muna Abrham & Ato Esayas Birhanu from Lebon Advertising; and Shoa Trading & Company. The half-day panel sponsors; i.e. Brothers Biscuit and Flour Company need also be thanked.

Enhancing the IGNOU Post-graduate Program



* The Distance Education Division of SMUC organized a workshop on “Open Distance and on Line Learning: Design and Delivery” from February the 2nd – the 6th/2009 at Mexico Campus, Moot court.

The objective of the workshop was to build the capacity of the heads of the departments, the units and to improve

the service giving aspects of Open and Distance Education. The resource persons, Professor Santosh Panda and Professor C.R.K Murthy from Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) discussed vastly on the various aspects of Open and Distance Education. They talked on issues, like ‘Distance Education Design, Development and Delivery Modes; Assessment and Evaluation, and Online Learning (OLL), platform, hardware, software etc.

The workshop was interactive and valuable as commented by some of the participants.

* SMUC’s Special Interest Group on Gender (SIGG) gave training on Gender Awareness to interested community members of the UC on Feb. the 6th 2009 at Mexico Campus Multi-Purpose Hall.

The objective of the training was to create awareness on



W/o Ergogie Tesfaye, Chairperson of the SIGG Office of the UC, talked on what gender, gender equity, awareness and discrimination are. Yetinayet T/wold, Vice-chairperson of the office on her part, discussed gender mainstreaming and gender analysis.

Gestures of Help



On the eve of the International Women’s Day, March 8, Special Interest Group on Gender(SIGG), SMUC and African Women Authors Association (AWAA) held a forum of discussion on several basic gender issues. The discussion was held at Mexico Campus-Multi, Purpose Hall.



The resource persons, W/o Ergogie Tesfaye from SMUC and W/o Genet Demissie from AWAA discussed the women right as a human right issue; the vitality of a united effort of both women and men to end violence against women and girls; and the necessity of empowering women through education.



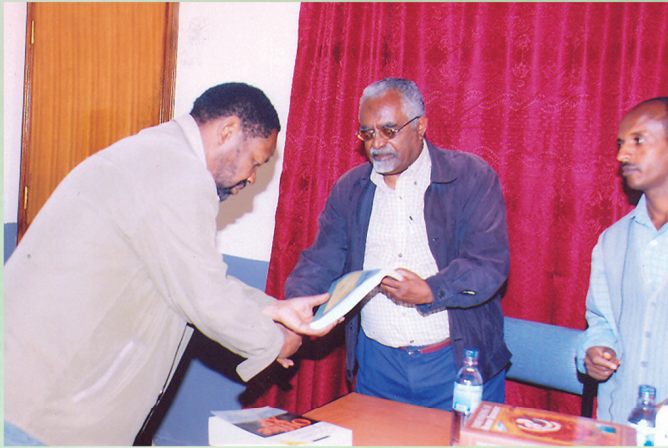
* The Social Support Forum of SMUC organized a donation event on the 3rd of January 2009 at Mexico Campus, Multi-Purpose Hall.

Ato Melaku Grima, Chairperson of the Forum, noted that the donation of the blankets and T-shirts were part of the gesture of help to the needy and the sick.



Ato Wondwosen Tamrat, Founder and President of the UC, gave the blankets and the T-shirts to the helpless aged people and to children orphaned by the HIV pandemic who are supported by ‘SERE AIDS MAHIBER’. Finally, the President remarked that the institution is working in co-operation with such welfare associations.

The event ended accompanied with refreshments.



* On the 6th of March 2009, the UC donated 135 reference books to Goro Comprehensive School, Walkite, Gurage Zone, SNNP regional state.

Literary Forum



The Literary forum of SMUC held its opening literary evening event of 2008/2009 on the 13th of March 2008 at Mexico Campus, Multi-purpose Hall.

Present were the club members, interested students, instructors and administrative staff members.

The poetry, the short stories and the experience sharing were marvelous and educative.



Film Show



Ato Yimer Adem, Head of the Department of Secretarial Science and Office Management, and W/o Tigest Mekonnen, instructor in the same department, held a film show event at SMUC, Mexico Campus, Multi-Purpose Hall, on December 31st 2008.

The Objective of the film-show was to help SSOM 3rd year students get some inputs on appropriate office handling, like getting customers satisfied, giving appropriate secretarial telephone service.

The students strongly appreciated the film presentation and noted its contribution to their classroom-training. The department thanks Hirut Kasa, the Assistant Librarian and the British Council Library for their cooperation in making the valuable film available to the students.

PARTICIPATIONS

Head of the External Relations Office, Ato Baye Nigatu, attended a half-day talk-show on the role of the media and Human rights organized by the Co-operation of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and Walta Information Center. The talk-show took place on the 23rd of December 2008 at the Hall of Walta Information Center.

H.E. Ato Dawit Tefera, Chairperson of Information and Cultural Affairs Standing Committee, House of Peoples Representative Council, told that the government is working hard in implementing the Human right.

Professor Abiy Ford, AAU President Advisor, presented a paper. He, among other things, remarked that the rights of individuals are recognized by the society concerned which needs control, i.e. government.

Concerning the media, the professor stated that it should, ensure the rights of citizens by providing the public with the necessary information on policies and strategies of the government.

* The Head of the External Relations Office participated in two separate panels organized by the co-operation of the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and Walta Information Center at Walta Hall. One, on the 6th of January 2009, on Human Rights Protection in the Ethiopian Prisons, challenges and recommendations; by Ato Ali Mohammed from the Federal Supreme Court. The other, on the 5th of February 2009, on the effects of enhancing teaching Human Rights in schools by Ato G/Amlak G/Giorgis, law professional;

* Ergogie Tesfaye, leader of SIGG of the UC, attended a Support Soliciting Workshop organized by the Ethiopian Women Disabilities National Association (EWDNA) held on January 25th 2009 at Ras Amba Hotel.

The resource women, Yetnebersh Nigussie from EWDNA talked on the general achievements, status and challenges of the association; and trends and contributions of investors in other countries to disabled persons in Ethiopia. Ergogie reported that the participants had indicated that EWDNA needs to work hard in various ways within the society.

* On the 8th of February 2009, Head of the External Relation Office attended a meeting on a National Fundraising event for the Rehabilitation of fellow citizens engaged in begging. It was organized by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs along with Elshaday Relief and Development Association. It was held at the National Palace in the presence of HE Ato Girma Woldegiorgis, President of FDRE.

The event, with the motto: 'MS' 'ÄIU' was opened by HE Ato Hussen Abdela, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs.

All the speakers expressed their willingness to support the program representing their respective association. They underscored the necessity of a united front to do away with begging.

In conclusion, HE Ato Girma Woldegiorgis, President of the FDRE, underlined the need to continue to work as one as begging is a real hindrance to build a democratic and developed country.

* Selamawit Admassu, active and highly experienced HIV/AIDS club member, SMUC, Secretary of the Student Affairs & Services Office, participated in a panel organized by 'ጥምረት ለሕይወት' along with DKT and Rotary International.

The panel discussed a paper on the awareness and practices to prevent HIV/AIDS by higher education students and by prostitutes in Addis Ababa. The panel was held on December the 5th 2008 at AAU, FBE Hall, as part of the inauguration of the International HIV/AIDS Ceremony Month.

The paper, reported Selamawit, evoked active participation. Finally, the necessity of translating awareness on HIV/AIDS into real practice to prevent the disease was remarked as vital.

'ጥምረት ለሕይወት ማህበር' extended its thanks to St. Mary's University College for sponsoring the 'Mahiber'.

* On the 27th of December 2008, W/o Tsigie Taffese, Head of the Student Affairs & Services Office, along with interested Red Cross trainees of the UC, visited the Red Cross Club of Wondirad Preparatory School Club.

The objective of the visit was to share the experience of the Red Cross Club of the school.

Ato Kebede Gemechu, coordinator of the club, discussed on the services given to the students of the school like for example, First Aid services awareness on blood donation, etc.

According to W/o Tsigie, the visit was rated as valuable by the visiting group; and both parties pledged to work together and help each other.

Visit Us!

The Faculty of Informatics has made a new website of the UC publicly accessible as of January the 27th 2009.

The UC appreciates and extends its thanks to the faculty.

The web-site could be visited at

<http://www.stmarycollege.edu.et>

Welcome Aboard

The community of St. Mary's extends its warm welcome to new instructors and administrative personnel who have joined SMUC since September 2008.

We hope their efforts would further boost the educational and the administration achievements of the institution.

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OBITUARY

* The community of St. Mary's University College mourns the untimely death of employees, Ato Dilnesaw Mulugeta Nigatu, W/t Tsigie Gebisa Bulti and W/t Hemen Seyoum G/yesus.



Ato Dilnesaw Mulugeta Nigatu was born at a place called Sinana Wereda, Bale-Robe, on the 21st of Tikimt 1975 E.C.

Employed by St. Mary's University College Distance Education Division, Bale-Robe Center on Meskerem the 2nd 1995 E.C, served in the Students' Support & Material Dispatch Department.

Ato Dilnesaw Mulugeta was the first employee in the Center. He served SMUC and the students of the division of Bale-Robe for more than six years and passed away on Hidar the 12th 2001 E.C.



W/t Tsigie Gebisa Bulti was born on Hamle the 19th 1964 at a place called Alem-Tena along the road to Shashemene.

She had Master Degree in Business Administration (MBA) from AAU.

She was employed at SMUC as an instructor on the 16th of Hidar 1995 E.C. in the Department of Secretarial Science & Office Management (SSOM).

She also worked as an instructor in the Department of Accounting where she later became Head of the department.

After she served for almost six years, W/t Tsigie Gebisa died at the age of 36 and buried on the 18th of Tikmit 2001 E.C.



W/t Hemen Seyoum G/yesus was born on Hamle 5/1969 in Gondor. She had her first degree in Secretarial Science & Office Management (SSOM) from AAU.

She taught various courses in the Department of Secretarial Science and Office Management (SSOM), SMUC, for more than two years beginning the 1st of Tikmit 1998 E.C.

W/t Hemen Seyoum passed away on the 22nd of Yekatit 2001 and was buried at her birth place, Gondar.



SMUC, Celebrating its 10-Year Anniversary



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