



Combined First and Second Quarter Newsletter

(January – March and April – June, 2017)

Introduction

Following the instatement of the new management team, the First Quarter, January through March, was basically a period of settling in and learning the working environment, and understanding the functioning of the College. Thus, the First Quarter was primarily a period for acclimation, and the quarter went by with no breather to be able to produce a newsletter for the Quarter. Albeit, activities were undertaken which cover all areas of the College. Hence with deep apologies, we are producing a combined newsletter for the First and Second Quarters. Hereunder, highlights of the activities will be presented to help our partners, stakeholders, staff and supporters to be aware of what is going on in the College as we seek input by way of suggestions, comments and critique.

I. Operations

The normal functioning of the College has been carried out with due attention to details of every activity. The activities of the academic wing were led by the incoming Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA); the administrative and financial activities were handled by the Vice President for Financial and Administrative Affairs. Where appropriate and necessary, the President has involved in both activities. The activities undertaken are the following.

1. Management-related

The Executive Team, comprising the President and both Vice Presidents, has been convening as regularly as time permitted to discuss on issues and give leadership to the College.

Actions have been taken to strengthen the supporting staff. A senior accountant has been employed to help the financial upkeep of IGA efforts of the College. Facility manager has been appointed to direct the upkeep of the campus material resources.

The management has taken a number of actions to maintain good relationship with the Sub City and Local Administrative Councils in which it operates.



General staff meeting was called on February 16, 2017 to discuss the status of the College and to introduce the new management team to the whole staff. Various issues that include teaching-learning, infrastructure, income generating schemes, governance, salary and other issues were raised and discussed in the meeting. The management of the College listened to all that were said and pledged that it will do what it can to find ways and means to respond to the concerns raised within its capacity.

2. Academic-related

Examinations, registration of students, grading of examination papers, etc. have been conducted according to the academic calendar for the year, and the College graduated 177 students from eight departments on July 8, 2017. Details will be included in the third quarterly newsletter.

Deans' Offices were strengthened by assigning Office Assistants to help in documentation procedures in respective faculties. Extension Program Coordinator has been appointed to oversee the smooth running of the evening classes.

Meetings with students have been conducted to look into issues in the teaching-learning processes, and measures are being taken to remedy a few student concerns.

II. Partners' Visit

The months of February and March were busy with a number of visits from partners of Hope College.

1. *Woord en Daad*

The Director of *Woord en Daad*, Dr. Ian Lock, visited the College in February and held a meeting with the management team of the College. The state of the College was discussed and some concerns regarding the infrastructure were discussed with the Director and some understanding was reached as to the needs of the College in this regard. The management of the College was delighted by this visit.

2. *EthiopiAid Canada*

A representative from EthiopiAid Canada, Mr. Olivier Bonnet visited Hope College on March 22/2017. Mr. Bonnet had a meeting with the College management and Dean of Students in which the performance and future direction of the College were discussed. The case of female students sponsored by EthiopiAid Canada was assessed. Questions raised by Mr. Bonnet were deliberated upon, and suggestions were given were noted to be addressed in the beginning of the next academic year. The representative had discussions with sponsored students. The visit was very helpful.



3. *EthiopiAid UK*

The College was visited by representatives from EthiopiAid UK, Lisa Cousins and Ana Lord, on March 28/2017. The representatives and College management had a meeting during which time the management gave a short presentation to the partners focusing on the performances, future direction and challenges of the college. Interspersed in the presentation, there was a constructive and fruitful discussion. The management team was encouraged by the visit, and the ensuing outcome. The partners had also discussions with the Dean of Students and some of the sponsored students.

4. Visit by EthiopiAid UK Consultant

Ms. Ann Cropper, EthiopiAid UK Consultant, visited the College on May 26, 2017, to assess the status of the College, its relationship with EthiopiAid, and need and possibilities for organizational support from EthiopiAid. Presentation was made by the management team of the College showing the status, future prospects and organizational challenges of the College. Ms. Cropper gave some insights on how to present the projects prepared by the management to be considered for funding from the available EthiopiAid UK fund for partners. She also visited the facilities to make her own assessment of the College.

III. Student Exchange Program

The second round Student Exchange Program between Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences and Teachers College (RUAS) and HCBST took place from March 20-27, 2017. The student exchange program was



planned ahead and a total of 32 students, 16 from each side, participated. The students were divided into three working group projects: Biogas, student bag, translation project. Students went out to visit places like Passion farm in Debre Zeyt, Ayertena Hope School and African Union Commission as they developed their projects in groups. At the end of their work, the participating students presented their projects in groups and feedbacks were given by the audience from both sides.

The management of the College discussed with the representatives of the instructors leading the exchange program on how to expand the current program. They agreed that the program should be expanded



to other areas like research and staff exchange programs. They plan to integrate the student exchange program with the curriculum of the College so that students of HCBST get credit for the project work they performed. The Rotterdam team members took the points discussed to present them to the respective management in RUAS.

IV. Meetings

1. Round Table discussion

The College participated in the Round Table discussions held at Nexus Hotel on February 24, 2017 and presented the state of the College to partners. The input from the meeting was helpful in sharpening the focus of the plans of the College.

2. Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting of Hope College Advisory Committee was held on March 8, 2017. Worden Daad representative Professor Henk J., Dr. Lemma Degefa, CEO of Hope Enterprises, and two Board representatives, Dr. Yukunoamlak and Dr. Alemu, and the president of HCBST were in attendance. Issues discussed in the meeting include: the future direction of Hope College, ways of strengthening the College, strengthening the Advisory Committee, and possibility of a teleconference meeting in July 2017.

V. Training

1. Competence Based Education (CBE)

CBE is the mode of educational delivery at HCBST, whereby knowledge, attitude and skills are combined in such a way that the theoretical knowledge that the students gain is integrated with professional practical applications. With this in mind, the CBE Commission has been re-organized per the manual prepared for CBE under the chairmanship of the Quality Audit Officer. Following this, CBE Committees at faculty and department levels have also been constituted.

Two-day training was given on the implementation of CBE to new staff members including the President and VPAA.

2. Organic leadership Training

Organic leadership training was given for five management members of the College with participation of staff members from partner organizations, including a representative from South Africa. The Training was coordinated by Dr. Egbert and Mrs.



Lock and was conducted for five days starting February 27,2017. There were participants from the Head Quarter of Hope Enterprises, Addis Ababa Branch and EYE Project. There was also a participant from South Africa.



VI. Research & Consultancy

1. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

The Department of Environmental Science and Sustainable Development organized and offered a two-week training on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to ETG Designers and Consulting Engineers PLC. This training has opened a door for cooperation with this PLC whereby in the future HCBST and ETG would collaborate on issues of common interest, including teaching.



Students of this Department are also involved in presenting seminar papers to the College community.

2. 1st Annual Research Conference

The College conducted its first Annual Research Conference on June 22, 2017 on the theme “Higher Education for Sustainable Development”. Seven research papers were presented related to the theme by distin-



guished scholars in the area of their specialty from Addis Ababa University (AAU), Higher Education Relevance and Quality Assurance (HERQA) and Hope College of Business, Science and Technology (HCBST). The guest of honor at the conference was Dr. Tesfaye

Muhuye, Director General of HERQA, who delivered the key note speech highlighting the need for quality in education. He assured the College of his assistance in areas related to educational quality



assurance and in any other areas that would promote the growth of the College.

And in his speech he had asserted that the College is “green and clean”.

VII. Renovation work undertaken

1. *Library grass top and floor*

The renovation work on the library building was continuing the Exsen Engineering Company that completed the concrete work in 2015. Covering the roof of the building with soil and grasses were con-



ducted during the period. Two layers of polyethylene were applied on the roof of the library to protect water from seeping into the roof. Red soil was spread on the rooftop for planting grass. The work was undertaken with good plan and the library cover has now been completed, restoring the beautiful scenery of the campus.



Side by side with the roof work, the library floor work was carried out. The floor work involved removal and clearing the old epoxy cover, applying new screed to spread plastic tile cover. The floor work has also helped to correct previous library floor leveling. The plastic tile is more reliable and sturdy that can last longer. The pictures below show the work undertaken.



2. Need for Maintenance Action

The management of the College has assessed the deteriorating classroom F building. This has been identified as a major challenge of the year and the situation was presented to partners that came to visit the College and to



the Round Table annual meeting in February. The previous Construction Supervisor, from Abba Architects, was contacted and he has promised to propose methodology for addressing the problem and working on the bill of quantity for materials needed to repair the building. Based on this report, the maintenance work will be carried out with possible support from partners.

VIII. Horticulture

The free space available on campus has been developed to attain two purposes: to maintain cleanliness of the campus which helps for security control, and to use the space for producing vegetables



for the purposes of the cafeteria and to create a small business scheme for the College. The pictures are self-explanatory.



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