



KATHOLISCHE UNIVERSITÄT
EICHSTÄTT-INGOLSTADT



International collaboration in education, research and transfer

KU delegation visits Uganda
October 3 - 12, 2018



Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt agrees on collaboration and projects in the field of education in Uganda

The Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (KU) intends to expand on its activities in the area of research and transfer projects in Africa. In order to achieve this goal, the KU will intensify its collaboration with partners in the field of education. Recently, a university delegation led by KU President Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien visited about a dozen schools and universities in the Central African state in order to establish collaboration projects.

It is a happy reunion for the teachers at **St. James Primary School** in the capital Kampala when the KU delegation of twelve enters the state school's premises. Children enthusiastically greet the visitors and curiously gather around the guests with the white skin who are called "Muzungus" by the Ugandans. But groups of visitors from Germany are not uncommon at this school in the district of Bii-na – the KU has maintained a partnership with this primary school which has approx. 2,000 pupils for seven years. Only six months ago, two teaching degree students from Eichstätt have spent three weeks at the school to complete an internship in order to gather teaching experience under special conditions: very basic classrooms without technology which often have to accommodate more than one hundred children, the majority of them from poorest backgrounds. Parents have to pay the equivalent of 100 euros as an annual school fee plus two brooms and toilet paper.

During class at St. James Primary School, pupils mostly read a text out loud in chorus which the teacher wrote on the blackboard beforehand. A teaching practice focusing on the individual and taking into account the weak-



A pupil of St. James Primary School

nesses of individual pupils is hardly possible in view of the number of pupils. These difficult circumstances in the educational landscape were the starting point for KU President Gabriele Gien to establish the first collaboration in Africa and to initiate the KU's educational project „**KUganda – The Challenge of Education in Uganda**“ in 2011. “Our students, and in particular those studying in our teaching degree programs, were given the opportunity of experiencing the organizational structures of a school from an entirely different perspective – far from the favorable conditions in Europe. They got first-hand insight into how important it is to have sufficiently qualified teachers in order to make further development of pupils even possible in the first place”, explains Gien.

It was immediately clear that not only KU students should benefit from this valuable collaboration and the KU started to get active in the area of urgently required teacher training. “From the very beginning, it was our designated aim to carry out workshops with lecturers and students of our university as well as teachers from Uganda to develop common



Class at St. James Primary School

concepts that are tailored to the educational situation in the country. We also wanted to exchange knowledge on didactic methods and take into account African interests when deciding on educational content”, says Gien. The creation of an online platform for best practice examples was very well received among the teachers.

Collaboration with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

The KU is now planning on expanding its activities in Africa with further projects in the field of education. In autumn last year, the university management and the German development minister Gerd Müller signed an agreement on a collaboration between the KU and the **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development**. In the context of this collaboration, the parties intend to develop and implement projects for the promotion of education and training in Africa. Further details of the cooperation were discussed in a meeting when KU representatives visited the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development in Bonn on October 25, 2018. “Our Catholic University attaches particular importance to applying an integrative approach to our cooperation in the field of education in a developing country in order to strengthen the region in the long term and create functioning structures”, explains Gien.

Drawing on the already existing collaborations, the KU wants to focus its activities in Africa on Uganda. This is why KU President Gien traveled to Kampala in early October accompanied by professors from different disciplines and colleagues from the departments of research promotion, innovation and transfer and university communication. The delegation started their program by visiting several schools – the state primary school St. James as well as other institutions run by private organizations. In these private schools, teaching conditions are often significantly better compared to state schools, in many cases thanks to financial support from abroad. The KU also concluded a collaboration agreement with the GEMS Cambridge International School which will enable up to four students a year to complete internships in future.



Class at Luigi Giussani High School (top) and graduation ceremony at Luigi Giussani Institute of Higher Education with participation of KU President Gabriele Gien

The private school, which employs teachers from Great Britain and New Zealand, is likely to be the institution with the best learning conditions in Uganda – even German schools can only dream of such equipment and class sizes of 15 students at most. However, this privilege has its price and costs parents up to 19,000 dollars per year in school fees. The harsh contrast between rich and poor is constantly visible during the delegation’s visit.

The KU maintains a long-standing partnership with the **Luigi Giussani schools** – a primary school and a high school which were built with the support of a local charitable organization and thanks to the initiative of mothers from the Kampala slums and which now receive international support from Catholic organizations in Germany and Italy. The school also has an Institute of Higher Education which offers further training for teachers. As guest of honor, KU President Gien attended the school’s first graduate ceremony for primary school teachers and graduates of a professional development program for head teachers and school managers and held a ceremonial

address. After the ceremony, the delegation discussed possibilities for joint programs for teacher training with the Luigi Giussani Institute. It is envisaged to include an international online teaching project based at the Chair of Elementary Education, led by Prof. Dr. Klaudia Schultheis, into the collaboration.

Fifty per cent of young citizens in Uganda have no completed school education

For the first time, the KU established relations with a **school project in the Masaka district**, approx. 90 miles southwest of the capital Kampala. An association from Remscheid in Germany supports the operation of an orphanage, a primary school, a high school, a vocational school and a medical center. Support in the field of education is of particular importance in rural areas of Uganda. The provision of a comprehensive network of schools is one of the country's major problems – often, the way to the next village with a school is too far for many children. Furthermore, many parents cannot afford the school fees or need their children's support for work on their farms. There are also major deficiencies when it comes to inclusion of children with disabilities in regular school classes. According to figures published by the Ugandan government in 2015, more than 50 per cent of young people between 15 and 30 years of age have either not completed their primary school education or had no school education at all.



Meeting between KU and representatives of the Ministry of Education and Sports – the picture shows KU President Gabriele Gien and George Muteekanga, Commissioner Private Schools and Institutions



Part of the KU delegation together with representatives of Makerere University

The public **Makerere University** in Kampala with its 40,000 students and 13 colleges (faculties) is the biggest university in the country and the fifth biggest university in Africa. The KU had already signed a cooperation agreement with Makerere back in 2014. To date, however, the collaboration was limited to a student exchange program: This semester as well, two students from Eichstätt spend their semester abroad in Kampala.

The KU delegation spent a one-day visit at Makerere University. During the meeting, the university management, the head of the research and graduate center and representatives from the field of teacher training discussed topics and formats for a collaboration in the area of research and transfer projects. Prof. Dr. Thomas Setzer from the KU Ingolstadt School of Management led a half-day workshop for students from the College of Computing and Information Science. In small groups,



Workshop led by Prof. Dr. Thomas Setzer (left) from the KU Ingolstadt School of Management for students of Makerere University on the topic of business models in the area of digitalization



KU delegation visiting Luigi Giussani Primary School in Kampala – with Principal Andrea Nembrini (to the left of KU President Gien) and Mauro Giacomazzi of Luigi Giussani Institute (to the right of Prof. Gien)

participants were invited to develop business models based on the use of internet technologies. Prof. Setzer demonstrated an example of a watering system which automatically activates a pump in case of a drought and which can be monitored and controlled remotely using the internet – despite complex technology, the parts of the system only cost around 40 dollars.

The KU delegation also spent a day's visit at **Uganda Martyrs University** in Nkozi, about 50 miles southwest of Kampala. The Catholic university is led by the Ugandan Bishops Conference and also has similarities with the KU regarding the size (approx. 5,000 students), structure of courses and the green campus. More than 30 representatives from all ten faculties and institutes gave the KU delegation a warm reception. After the meeting, Vice Chancellor Rev. Prof. John C. Maviiri and KU

President Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien signed a Memorandum of Understanding. Over the following months, both Catholic universities are planning on establishing student and lecturers exchange programs and developing joint projects in research and transfer.

Background discussions on the political and economic situation in Uganda as well as on issues of educational policy complemented the trip. The delegation met with the **German Ambassador** in Uganda, Dr. Albrecht Conze, with representatives of the **Ministry of Education and Sports**, with the head of the international office of the foundation **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung**, Dr. Mathias Kamp and the head of the **DAAD-Lektorat**, Steven Heimlich

Text and photos: Dr. Christian Klenk

Translation: Sylvia Schmager



Meeting with the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Uganda, Dr. Albrecht Conze (middle of picture) and background discussions on economic and political situation in Uganda.



Vice Chancellor Rev. Prof. John C. Maviiri from Uganda Martyrs University and KU President Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien with the newly signed Memorandum of Understanding.

Overview of visits and meetings (1)

Day	Institution	Dialog partners	Content and results
Background discussions on political and economic situation			
October 3 and 11	German Embassy	Ambassador Dr. Albrecht Conze	Reception on the occasion of the anniversary of German unification; background discussions on political and economic situation in Uganda; assessment of success of structural development and educational projects
October 10	Ministry of Education and Sports	George Muteekanga, Commissioner Private Schools and Institutions	Discussion on the education situation in Uganda and possibilities for cooperation with the KU in the areas of teacher training and professional development programs for teachers
October 11	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Kampala	Mathias Kamp, Head of international office	Background discussions on political and economic situation in Uganda focusing on education and media politics (e.g. social media tax); possibilities for collaboration between KU and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung on educational offers
Cooperation negotiations with schools and school operators			
October 4	GEMS Cambridge International School	Nigel Barrett, Head of Primary	Tour around the private school and explanation of educational concept; presentation of concept of "Dream Africa Schools" which are part of the GEMS; discussion on possibilities for collaboration with the KU; agreement on up to four internship places per year for KU teaching degree students.
October 8 and 9	Luigi Giussani Primary School, Luigi Giussani High School, Luigi Giussani Institute of Higher Education	Mauro Giacomazzi, Executive Director Director Of primary school and high school	Tour around the schools and conversation with teachers; attending graduation ceremony of Luigi Giussani Institute of Higher Education; discussion on collaboration projects with schools and professional development institute: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – participation in KU International Online Teaching Project (IPC) (Prof. Dr. Klaudia Schultheis) – joint programs on professional development programs for teachers; leadership programs – joint case studies (Prof. Dr. Thomas Setzer) – community building, service learning
October 4 and 10	St. James Primary School Biina, Kampala	School management and part of teaching staff	Continuing of cooperation between St. James and KU; provision of internship places for teaching degree students
October 13	Our Children and our future (OCAOF): orphanage, St. Francis Primary School Bbaala, Uganda Martyr's Highschool Kitamba, Kitamba Technical and Vocational Institute	Emmanuel Musoke, founder of Our Children and our future e.V. School management and teachers at the three schools	Tour around the education institution

Overview of visits and meetings (2)

Day	Institution	Dialog partners	Content and results
Collaborations with universities – Makerere University			
October 10	Makerere University, Kampala/ university management	Prof. Ernest Okello Ogwang, Acting Vice Chancellor Prof. Tony Oyana, Principal of College of Computing and Information Science	Discussions with university management of Makerere University on possibilities for deepening existing cooperation: – Continuation of student exchange program – Joint research projects in the areas of education/primary school, leadership and management, digital competences, service learning – Testing of new teaching-learning formats
	Makerere University, Kampala / Directorate for Research and Graduate	Prof. Buyinza Mukadasi, Director	Discussion on possible fields for joint research projects
	Makerere University, Kampala / College of Education and External Studies	Dr. David Kabugo	Discussion on possible joint projects in the area of teacher training and service learning
	Makerere University, DAAD Lektorat	Steven Heimlich	Discussion on funding opportunities for student and lecturers exchange between the KU and Makerere University
	Makerere University, Kampala, College of Computing and Information Science		Workshop led by Prof. Dr. Thomas Setzer for students of Makerere University on the topic “Digitalization with special focus on data-based business models”
Collaborations with universities – Uganda Martyrs University			
October 12	Uganda Martyrs University, Nkozi	Rev. Prof. John C. Maviiri, Vice Chancellor and approx. 30 representatives of Martyrs University	Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Vice Chancellor of Martyrs University and the KU President. Agreement on academic collaboration in the area of exchange programs (students, lecturers) and joint projects (research, teaching, transfer)
Further visits and discussions			
October 9	MYDEL Mengo Youth Link Development	Moses Musiitwa, Parker Randall Eastern Africa	Visit at the youth center in the Mengo Slum in Kampala and discussions with responsible coordinators on site
October 11	Meeting Point International	Rose Busingye, founder	Visiting an aid project in the slums of Naguru and Kireka in Kampala
October 12	Katigondo National Major Seminary, Masaka		Tour around the central seminary for Uganda and meeting with management



UMU receives delegation from the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt

On the 12th October 2018, it was not business as usual for the university was hosting a high powered delegation from the **Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (KU)** which was led by none other than the University President, Prof. Dr Gabriele Gien.

The visitors were welcomed by the Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) team led by the Vice Chancellor, Rev. Prof. John C. Maviiri. Memorable Photographs were taken at the Nkozi Equator near St.Mugagga Primary School, at the main gate and inside UMU main campus. The guests were served delicious local and international foods and taken to a well-prepared exhibition by participants from the Lake Victoria Catchment Environment Education Project and students of the School of Arts and Social Sciences.



Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (hereinafter referred as KU) was established in its present form in 1980. The academic tradition of the institution started in 1563. The university is committed to academic as well as a Catholic tradition. A special emphasis is placed on to the cooperation of disciplines and the open-mindedness, which is also the basis for dialogue with other religions. The university attempts to be an academic community, which mediates expert knowledge and social competence at the same time. KU is a non-state public institution under church leadership, officially recognized by the Free State of Bavaria, Germany.

The Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (KU) is the only Catholic university in Germany and emerged in 1980 from the Eichstätt college. With more than 5,300 students in eight faculties, the Bavarian KU is one of the largest private universities in Germany. Through its staff department for educational innovation and knowledge transfer, the KU promotes networking and exchange with numerous social, cultural and church organizations, as well as with businesses. Within the framework of the transversal sustainability concept of the KU, the university strives to impart future decision-makers practice-oriented skills.

The bilateral discussions between delegations from the two universities culminated in the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding by the President KU and Vice Chancellor UMU.

The general objective of this MoU is to establish academic collaboration on the basis of a future exchange programme, involving mutual student and staff exchanges, and joint research programs.

The specific objectives are:

1. To build upon the social and educational interaction between our two universities.
2. Build an international learning environment to propel our students towards acceptance and understanding of an array of different cultural and community perspectives.
3. Awareness and adoption of alternative, multi-faceted approaches to learning.
4. Analytical and problem-solving skills.
5. Enhanced interest in global issues as well as a broader general knowledge through research.
6. Develop better intercultural communication between students to build an awareness of world cultures and intercultural competencies.



The immediate result is that with effect from the next academic year there will internship involving two students on Social Work programme from UMU and other two students from KU. The Title of the internship project is **Best Practices for dealing with abuse of trust in governing commons.**

The first internship is scheduled in Eichstätt and Thalmässing between 1 April and 30 June 2019. The second internship will take place in Mpigi-Nkozi between September 2019 and January 2020.

View Track

Catholic University of Eichstatt-Ingolstadt Visits Mak, Promotes Relations

In General 10 Oct 2018 - 12:55pm By Mark Wamai 799



L-R: Prof. Dr. Ulrich Kropač, Simone Rieger, DVCAA-Dr. Ernest Okello Ogwang, KU President-Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien, Prof. Tonny Oyana and Ms. Martha Muwanguzi (all holding the Mak scarf earlier given to the KU President), Prof. Dr. Klaudia Schultheis, Thomas Sporer and Dr. Christian Klenk after the courtesy call on 10th October 2018, Makerere University, Kampala Uganda

A delegation of six led by the President of the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt (KU), Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien, on Wednesday, 10th October 2018 visited **Makerere University** and paid a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor. They were received by on behalf of Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe by the Acting Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Dr. Ernest Okello Ogwang, The Principal College of Computing and Information Sciences (CoCIS), Prof. Tonny Oyana and the International Office's Ms. Martha Muwanguzi.

In her remarks, Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien thanked Dr. Okello Ogwang for according the delegation a warm welcome to **Makerere University**. She shared that her University's interests are to deepen its cooperation in the educational landscape of developing countries such as Uganda in order to strengthen the long term development of effective educational infrastructure.



L-R: Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien, Simone Rieger and Prof. Dr. Ulrich Kropač at the courtesy call, Makerere University, Kampala Uganda

"The the Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt started the KUganda project in the 2011/2012 period under the name - The Challenge of Education in Uganda and we were able to gather valuable practical experience in the area of urgently required teacher training in a developing country" said Prof. Dr. Gien.

She added that every year, students from KU travel to Uganda where they learn firsthand the challenges affecting pupils and teachers in midst of political upheavals and economic barriers.

"This is why the objective of the project is and has always been to organise workshops and discussion sessions for the teachers in Uganda in which they get the chance for further professional development offered by KU lecturers and teaching degree students" added the President.



R-L: Dr. Ernest Okello Ogwang, Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien and Prof. Tonny Oyana hold some of the KU souvenir items

KU has eight faculties of: Theology, Philosophy and Education, Languages and Literatures, History and Social Sciences, Mathematics and Geography, Religious Education, Social Work, as well as Economics and Business Administration. The University also has a network of over 250 partner universities in 57 countries in Europe, North and South America, Africa, Asia and Oceania where students spend time studying abroad.

Dr. Okello Ogwang thanked the President and her delegation for their visit and the various activities being undertaken as part of the KUGanda project. He observed that KU with the largely Humanities and Social Sciences-based faculties had fertile grounds on which to collaborate with **Makerere University**.



L-R: Ms. Martha Muwanguzi, Thomas Sporer, Dr. Klaudia Schultheis and Dr. Christian Klenk listen to Prof. Tonny Oyana during the interaction

"Our International Office will follow up with the various academic units to nominate contact persons who will then come up with an overall coordinator to explore immediate and future opportunities of collaboration. I am personally covered under Languages and Literature" remarked the DVCAA.

In the interactions that followed, Thomas Sporer, Director of The Centre of Educational Innovation and Knowledge Transfer at KU shared about the Service Learning in Higher Education project. He explained that Service Learning aims to promote social engagement and academic learning so as to conduct research with society and for society and hoped that the two institutions would collaborate in this area.

In the responses that followed, Prof. Tonny Oyana thanked the President and her delegation for tabling various areas under which **Makerere** and KU can undertake research and particularly hoped that areas such as Service Learning would be given priority within a year.



Dr. Ernest Okello Ogwang (R) and Prof. Dr. Ulrich Kropač share a light moment after the courtesy call

In the concluding remarks, Prof. Dr. Gabriele Gien thanked **Makerere University** for the warm reception and hoped to use KU's influence to extend an invitation to the German Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development, Gerd Müller to visit **Makerere**.

The KU delegation which was additionally made up of the Chair of Elementary/Primary Education-Prof. Dr. Klaudia Schultheis, Director of the Department of Development and Communication-Dr. Christian Klenk, Chair of Didactics of Religion, Catechetics and Religious Education- Prof. Dr. Ulrich Kropač and Research Advisor-Simone Rieger later on exchanged souvenirs with the DVCAA.

Article by Public Relations Office