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EQUITY

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A YEAR

of Melodic Moments

2023

Looking Back



TABLE OF CONTENTS



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01

STUDENT
COUNCIL
ESTABLISHMENT

02

RICA VS UGHE
MATCH

03

WRITING AND
JOURNAL CLUB
INAUGURATION

04

ONE HEALTH
MONTH

05

RESEARCH
SOCIETY ELECTED

06

ISIG'S NEWLY
ELECTED-

07

MEDLIONS LAUNCH

08

RAMIE TARGOFF'S
VISIT

9

GLOBAL DAY OF
ACTION!

10

DEBATES

11

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

12

VOZ ARMONIA
CONCERT!

13

UGHE SOHIC
AWARDS

14

MBBS 25 RESEARCH TEAM
IN QATAR FOR RESEARCH
PRESENTATION.

15

QUEEN AND
STANISLAS IN KIGALI
FOR A DEBATE!

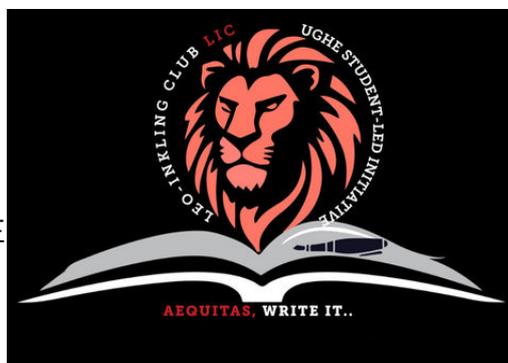
16

STUDENT
SUBMISSIONS

17

19TH IFMSA
REGIONAL MEETING

AQUITAS MAGAZINE



STUDENT COUNCIL ESTABLISHMENT

KENDRA N. ISARO



President

Eden Gatesi, MBBS 25



VP Academic Affairs

Hertier Mfura, MBBS 25



VP Finance

Modeste Shyaka,
MBBS 26



The Secretary

Jennifer M. Dickson,
MBBS 28



VP Student & Campus life Affairs

Alex Ainebyoona,
MBBS 28



The Treasurer

Secret Atukunda,
MBBS 28

Other Student
Representatives
Making up the
Big Student
Government

On the 23rd of May UGHE officially established its first-ever student council and this process took two weeks. The student council is a body made up of students elected by their colleagues. This council's main responsibility is to be an intermediary between the school authorities and the students. It's also responsible for communication between the school and the students. Other responsibilities include the following as well: overseeing student's well-being, catering to student's needs, monitoring student clubs, and events, and facilitating academic and non-academics opportunities. Even though the student council is new, it has a set of rules that it follows while building on a code of laws for future generations of members of the student council.

The campaign for the student council started on the 8th of May with the candidates making their public speeches on their goals and ideas as potential members of the student council in front of the school. The election was announced on the 23rd of May after the student body voted for their preferred candidate according to the role they campaigned for. There were 6 positions available for the student committee and all candidates made eloquent, convincing and ardent speeches, but the final elected nominees were: Eden Gatesi for the position of president, Modeste Shyaka Tuyisenge for the position of vice president of finance and administration affairs, Hertier Mfura for the position of vice president of student affairs, Alex Ainebyoona for the position of student affairs, Secret Atukunda for the position of treasurer and last but not least Jennifer Dickson Mkunde for the position of secretary.

On the 27th of May, the newly elected student council had a swearing ceremony, this too took place in front of the whole school with the Dean of the School of Medicine in attendance. This student council is a foundation for the next one, as they learn of their new roles and responsibilities and are guided through on how to best manage them, they continuously progress and grow in them. As we continue seeing their work and contributions to the school, we have hope that they will achieve much more and lead us as a school to a better future.

MADE ONE BY SPORTS: A TRIP TO THE EAST

BERTIN A. IZERE



RICA VS UGHE MATCH

Students at the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE) were looking forward to Saturday, September 23rd, 2023. That day marked the beginning of a long-lasting friendship between students at UGHE in Burera and those at the Rwanda Institute of Conservation Agriculture (RICA) in the Bugesera district. The day had been meticulously planned since the football and basketball Lions, as well as their devoted followers, were not prepared to see the tragedy of being defeated by their rivals, as had occurred on the previous visit to INES-Ruhengeri. Everyone was willing to put their all into keeping the UGHE name high in athletics.

Students boarded buses that were waiting for them in the parking lot early that morning. Players and supporters from the Butaro campus community stood out in their black Intare T-shirts, ready to demonstrate what they had. The Lions marveled at Rwanda's beautiful magnificence as the buses travelled down and up the slopes of Burera, Gakenke, and Rulindo. However, in the heads of the players and technical staff were strategies for defeating the agriculture enthusiasts who had a home advantage. It was a long drive because the road to RICA traveled via Kigali, Rwanda's capital, but fun creators made it so quick.



UGHE community at RICA



"Oh, how marvelous it was to travel on the roads within the RICA campus."

The fleet arrived at RICA's eco-friendly campus after six hours of sitting on the cushion-seats of the buses. The RICA campus, which sits on a multi-hectare plot of land, provides clear air for invention as well as a stunning view of real nature, from the irrigated hills to the peaceful lake inside the campus and the wooden roofs of its gorgeous buildings. The hospitality was exceptional, which was underlined by a table full of delicious home-grown foods that were both natural and nutrient rich. The upbeat talks among students at both colleges were particularly noteworthy.

RICA VS UGHE MATCH...



While the fans on both sides swapped jokes, the players on both sides went for warm-ups before the basketball game began. Despite the rain, exceptional talents in re-bounds, steals, lay-ups, and dunks were displayed during the competitive game. Each team aimed to take the lead in the game by scoring more points. The home team, on the other hand, took advantage of their pitch experience and the brave audience. Unfortunately, the unexpected heavy rain brought everything down, and the game was paused to allow it to stop. As the skies cleared, players and fans returned to the field, and the game continued. It concluded with RICA taking the lead and the lions being defeated.

The UGHE football Lions, on the other hand, were unfazed by the basketball team's defeat. The football players contributed all of their energy to lead the game by their efforts, teamwork, and following the coach's advice. It was a close game since the RICA players did not want to lose in front of their fans. Despite the tension on the field, the UGHE Lions won the game with a goal scored in the final minute by a Ugandan, Moses Walusimbi. The last whistle was an auspicious moment. All of the UGHE Lions rushed down to the field to celebrate their victory.

The students' friendship was not the only one developed. This visit provided a great opportunity for the leaders of both schools to establish cooperation in a variety of areas. UGHE and RICA share many goals, including the development of brains capable of transforming systems for a better society. The UGHE leadership, then represented by Collins Inkotanyi, stated that the purpose of the visit was to foster long-term connections and cooperation among the institutions. He also emphasized the importance of collaboration among UGHE and RICA students and professors to identify areas where they may share knowledge and expertise. On the other hand, the Vice Chancellor of RICA, who honored the day with his presence at the pitch, praised UGHE for taking the initiative to visit RICA. He stated that people at both colleges are brothers and that nothing should stand in the way of their collaboration. He concluded his thanksgiving speech by promising that RICA will pay a visit to the UGHE Butaro campus shortly.



UGHE Foot and Basket ball teams

RICA VS UGHE MATCH...



The students from UGHE loved going through the streets of RICA, seeing the more advanced agricultural technology, such as tractors, and large-scale irrigation systems, and attractive animals such as monkeys. Regardless of the joy brought about by nature and people, time remained unconcerned about what was going on. The students boarded the buses on their trip back to Butaro as night fell quickly.



WRITING AND JOURNAL CLUB INAUGURATION

SAMUEL I. BAKER



It's been years since UGHE, the great campus, has never had a writing and Janal Club. The idea hasn't come from the administration but from the student's perspective this time now. Rooting from the two bright minds Samuel Baker and Bertrand D, have inculcated a great idea of implementing the Writing and Journal club that encompasses all the writing genres. Activities ranging from academic writing, creative writing, journalism, poems, poetry technique, poem slum short stories, and long stories potentiating the students' talents grow or nurture writing spirits across all these categories.



The WJC founders Samuel I Baker & Bertrand Dushimumuremyi shaking hands!



Ideas, suggestions, creativity deserves a written coat.

Background:

"The idea of this club started along our prep phase courses as we rallied through courses like Social Medicine and Medical Anthropology, African History, and Political Economy, and Critical Thinking a few to say", Bertrand-Co founder said. There are various topics beyond medical science to write on.

"Furthermore, in our English courses, the spirit was enhanced when we witnessed how students were mesmerized by writing short stories, peer-reviewing their colleagues' pieces, and attending poetry slums. We have had this idea for some time and believe now is the time to set it to light". says Samuel Baker-Co founder. The two founders of this brand-new club in UGHE have been part of AEQUITAS the student-led newsletter and as so they noticed that it is important to have more student voices in it. Through the Writing and Journal Club to easily access these voices.

The vision of this writing and general club States using writing as a tool for change.

With help from the Writing Center of UGHE, the club envisions giving webinars, training, and master classes in all their writing techniques. Memberships aren't something so strict or unique. It is that members of this club are/will be all interested individuals in the UGHE community ranging from students, staff, and faculty for all these people can be able to write or can even enjoy the beauty that comes with writing. With this, we've conducted a short interview with Samuel, the president, and the co-founder of the club, and he said "We have great hope in this writing and Journal Club, for we already have Integrated the AEQUITAS student lead newsletter in this club and from my perspective, the club members that we already have exhibited great and self-commitment. For example, those who are under the newsletter group, they've got a good talent in writing, they've got a good commitment in writing and so we invite everyone who would like to join not to hesitate."

ONE HEALTH MONTH

THE ONE HEALTH MONTH IN A NUTSHELL

BERTRAND D.



The start – Why November, why it all?



The Closing ceremony

November marks a big moment for the One Health Advocates Community as it is a time to celebrate the One Health Day together, globally – 3rd November. For the UGHE Student One Health Innovation Club – SOHIC, it is not only the November 3rd day but the whole month of November is dedicated to One Health advocacy and action. A moment of increased awareness on one health and setting activities that build the community's holistic health, for humans, animals, and the environment. This year's One Health Month was, of course, one to always remember – student engagement, UGHE Community awareness, and community outreach at its best through the activities that were taken on.

Walk the Talk

The Walk the Talk was one of the glistening activities of the One Health Month. One Health Champions of SOHIC engaged in a tour around the university's locality while observing and analyzing various health challenges that people are faced with. From Campus, the trek led the champions through the narrow paths - feeders, leading to the heart of the villages and communities in the area. From witnessing water access challenges to poor housing and planetary health challenges, the Walk the Talk was going to set the start of the movement to solve the most pressing human and ecosystem health challenges Butaro Locality is facing.



ONE HEALTH MONTH



The tour for One Health - Visit to Groupe Scolaire Runaba.



At G.S Runaba

While SOHIC continues its determination to One Health Awareness and solving global health challenges, training and growing a new generation of One Health enthusiasts is also at the center of our activities.

Our visit to GS Runaba Secondary School One Health Club was of cheer and a moment to initiate our collaboration with the Club. From a fun trivia game to providing the first set of support materials - comic books, the UGHE SOHIC and Center for One Health inspired the initial yearning in these young minds.

On the World-Wide Platform, The Social Media Campaign.

Of course, the advocacy and One Health campaign was not only for the UGHE Community and Butaro, SOHIC's social media campaign with content on various discussion topics for 10 days and ended with an Insta Live, facilitated sharing this knowledge to a community beyond UGHE and Butaro.



The Pitching, One Health Month Closing Ceremony

Over the month, SOHIC members engaged in various activities, which left them with ideas to work on, and projects to develop. The closing ceremony witnessed wonderful projects pitching with 7 groups presenting their ideas to the UGHE Community. Say what, the presenters were spot on, and the elevator pitches were hooking that the audience was on the edges of their seats till the last pitch.



Sano, Presenting their project

ONE HEALTH MONTH

The Winning Projects



01 Isooko

Ella and Denise



02 Access to Clean Water

Henriette Uwurukundo, Elyse Ishimwe, Adeline Umugwaneza, and Chance Ishimwe



03 Danger of Disposal – Nursegy Polythene Bags

Ian Kagwaa, Alex Ainebyoona, Catia Ishimwe and Tona Emmanuella.



This also marked the beginning of a new collaboration between UGHE SOHIC and RICA One Health Club, progress towards widening the One Health Approach awareness. SOHIC thanks everyone who contributed to making the One Health Month a worthy memory!

RESEARCH SOCIETY ELECTED LEADERS

JERRY M.



Leadership Reloaded: UGHE SRS Welcomes Fresh Faces in Leadership for 2023-2024!



Some of the SRS members after the handover ceremony.



The event attendance at the handover ceremony.

And as we transition to a new phase of leadership, we want to acknowledge and thank the outgoing board for their valuable service and efforts. We are excited to welcome the new leadership and look forward to the positive impact they will bring.

In a ceremonial handover that took place on Wednesday, October 11th, 2023, the UGHE Student Research Society including the faculty and student members bid farewell to its outgoing board for the academic year 2022-2023 and welcomed a dynamic new team for 2023-2024.

The outgoing board, led by Chairperson Bénithe Himbazwa MBBS 26, Project Manager Loïc Sheja Gasana MBBS 26, and Secretary Shyaka T. Modeste MBBS 26, made significant contributions to the school's growth and development during their tenure. And stepping into the shoes of leadership for the current academic year is a promising new board, ready to build upon the foundation laid by their predecessors. The new team is spearheaded by Chairperson Shyaka T. Modeste MBBS 26, Project Manager Odile Iragena MBBS 26, and Secretary Etienne Manirarora MBBS 28, on top of that, the board also welcomed the addition of a Social Media Manager position, which was taken on by Ella Keith Isimbi MBBS 28.



Ella K. Isimbi (left-end) & Etienne M. (right end) joining the new committee.

ISIG'S NEWLY ELECTED LEADERS

BERTIN A. IZERE



A Year of Triumph for Surgical Enthusiasts

The student-led Intare Surgery Interest Group (ISIG) is a club comprised of UGHE students who are interested in surgery. ISIG had an excellent run this year. This year, the outgoing committee organized many key networking opportunities, including meetings with world-renowned surgeons from around the world who visited UGHE. This was accomplished through networking lunches, dinners, and webinars attended by ISIG members, world-class surgeons, and other eager students. This year, the ISIG again organized a successful Intare Blood Donation Day, during which UGHE Butaro residents were called up to donate blood. This is a charitable gesture in which the Rwanda Biomedical Center (RBC) collects blood and distributes it to various hospitals and health facilities nationwide to save countless lives. These are just a few of ISIG's many gold achievements this year.

The newly elected board



President
Isaac Kibalama



Comms Manager
Odile Iragena



Secretary
Fatmata Thor Osaio-Kamara



Social Media Manager
Gloria Kevine Iradukunda



MBBS'25 Representative
Marlene Muhongerwa



MBBS'26 Representative
Marie Charite Mutoni



MBBS'28 Representative
Aksa Nyirigira



MBBS'29 Representative
Moses Walusimbi

As the 2022-2023 ISIG committee's term went to a close, new candidates were nominated to take over the lead of the club. This new board will oversee the club's operations for one year from 2023 to 2024.

MEDLIONS LAUNCH

FATMATA T. O. KAMARA



“College is like a fountain of knowledge and the students are there to drink” - CHUCK PALAHNIUK

We all are prone to believe that medical school is much about us drowning in books and being in our rooms each day but, surprisingly enough, students need some break occasionally. The med’s lion hub, commonly known as MLH was founded by five amazing brains. These people are Sylvia DUSHIME, Benie Ines BIZIMANA, Joselyne DUSABIMANA, Marie Bonne Curie NSANZIMANA, and Alex AINEBYONA. We might ask ourselves why such a group, well the group aims to bring a sense of light and life into the university where people can feel alive, feel at home, and have a home away from home, they also focus on bringing inclusivity between diverse cultures present in the UGHE (university of global health equity) grounds.



Ines B. one of the MLH co-founders.

The MLH was made known to the public on 15th November 2023, as every club has its board of directors the MLH, is still in the process of releasing its broad members which we all gracefully must wait for till next year 2024. They sent out a form that contained a link in which new members can certainly sign up, seeing that the MLH is still a recent club with limited club members but with no specific number of volunteers according to the vice president of the club a total of seven people has volunteered for various roles in the club. I was also curious about what exactly this club looks for when selecting a particular member and allocating roles to these people, but according to one of the founders and I quote “ there are no specific criteria we want in a member joining our club we just want people that are ready to balance their lives in med school and also be ready to bring fun into our community and due to different departments in the club every member shall join where they see fit to contribute greatly”.

Also thinking about the innovations and plans that the MLH might have for us the students at the University of Global Health Equity, they plan on shining lighter on the birthday celebration occurring every month seeing that they are just not well celebrated, the MLH plans on bring fun activities and programs that will bring a sense of jollification to the hearts of the student.

RAMIE TARGOFF'S VISIT

EGIDE I.



A Profound Week of Literary Enrichment: Prof Ramie Targoff's Visit to UGHE



Members of Writing and Journal Club meet Prof. Targoff

As October bid farewell, UGHE welcomed an esteemed guest, Professor Ramie Targoff, on the 30th of October 2023. The UGHE community, particularly its students, had the privilege of hosting one of the most revered supporters and benefactors of UGHE.

Professor Ramie Targoff holds the distinguished title of Jehuda Reinhartz Professor of the Humanities, Professor of English, and Co-chair of Italian Studies at Brandeis University. Her passion lies in the works of Shakespeare, and her association with UGHE dates back to its inception. From the very beginning, Professor Targoff has been a firm supporter of UGHE's growth. Her commitment to the institution manifests not only in financial contributions but also in the generous provision of Shakespearean books to UGHE students. Through collaborations with various publishing companies and other entities keen on supporting non-medical literary pursuits, she ensures that students have access to a plethora of Shakespearean works.

During her recent visit, Professor Targoff demonstrated her love for teaching and her dedication to enhancing the analytical skills of UGHE students. A highlight of her stay was the insightful exploration of Shakespeare's tragedy, "The Tragedy of King Lear." Through this engagement, she not only imparted knowledge but also kindled a deeper appreciation for the nuances of Shakespearean literature.

Beyond the classroom, Professor Targoff engaged with the Writing and Journal Club of UGHE. Her interaction with club members provided a unique opportunity for them to glean insights from her wealth of experience. Members had the chance to seek advice on refining club activities and achieving its overarching goals. Professor Targoff's involvement catalyzed the club's growth and furthered its mission of fostering a vibrant literary community within UGHE.

Professor Ramie Targoff's presence at UGHE for over a week proved to be a truly rewarding experience for both students and the UGHE community at large. Her dedication to the institution, coupled with her passion for Shakespearean literature, has left an indelible mark on the literary landscape of UGHE. The visit stands as a testament to the power of collaboration and mentorship in shaping the intellectual pursuits of students, ensuring that UGHE continues to be a beacon of academic excellence. To learn more about Professor Ramie Targoff and her contributions, please, click [here](#).

GLOBAL DAY OF ACTION

KENDRA N. ISARO



Amidst the lively beats reverberating across the football field in Rusumo, an explosion of vibrant orange hues splashed the scene, drawing in a curious crowd. Children darted about, their excitement palpable, as tents sprung up and materials bustled from cars to continue the celebration of the Global Day of Action.

Now, picture this: The Global Day of Action, a day of jubilant remembrance honouring the life of the legendary Dr. Paul Farmer. Picture PIH and the University of Global Health Equity teaming up with the Butaro sector to celebrate this remarkable soul on his birthday, the 26th of October. It was a spectacle of unity and tribute.



Global Day of Action In-campus Tree Plantation.

At mid-day, a chorus of figures gathered for a tree-planting ceremony. There stood Vice Chancellor Joel Mubiligi, alongside faculty, staff, and students, planting roots to commemorate Dr. Farmer's 64th birthday. The day's festivities then took flight at the Rusumo sector's football pitch, with Vice Chancellor Mubiligi's spirited opening remarks.

In the midst of various activities, a clash unfolded - a friendly match pitting the UGHE football team against the Rusumo motorbike club. The motorbike crew made a thunderous, unexpected entrance, revving their engines to kick off the match. Fans erupted in cheers, engaging in lively debates over scored goals. In the end, despite UGHE's valiant effort, the motorbike squad won the victory, triumphing 2-1.

But fret not! The contagious energy persisted as other exhilarating events dotted the landscape. Blood donation tents buzzed with activity, witnessing the selfless contributions of students, faculty, and the wider community of Butaro. Just adjacent, an NCD screening tent bustled with Butaro's doctors and UGHE students, diligently offering screenings for non-communicable diseases. They not only screened but also imparted advice on healthy living.

Amidst this whirlwind of activity, the One Health student-led club (SOHIC) took center stage, reaching out to educate the community about Podoconiosis and sharing knowledge with eager school children, passing out books that were received with glee.

As the day wound down, a speech of gratitude resonated, thanking each participant for their enthusiastic involvement, and reaffirming the enduring partnership between the Butaro community and UGHE.

In the canvas of joyful chaos and spirited camaraderie, the Global Day of Action unfurled as a vibrant tapestry woven with celebration, unity, and a shared commitment to health and community, in remembrance of Dr. Paul Farmer.

Global Day of Action many people gave life through blood donation and friendly matches...



DEBATES IN A MED SCHOOL

QUEEN G.



The two first winning teams in SoHIC's Debate cascades.

Ever wondered why anyone would willingly step onto a stage, subjecting themselves to the intense scrutiny of high-stakes debate? The pressure, the surge of adrenaline, all to defend a viewpoint they may not even believe in. What motivates individuals to embark on this challenging journey?

Let's explore the compelling reasons that drive people to engage in debates, as revealed by the seasoned debater Samuel Ishimwe Baker from MBBS 28. Samuel sheds light on the multifaceted satisfaction derived from this intellectually stimulating activity.

Debates, Samuel contends, thrive in the realm of ambiguity. Most topics exist in shades of gray, devoid of absolute right or wrong. The beauty lies in the fact that one can win or lose regardless of the stance taken. Admittedly, some motions may carry inherent biases, but adept organizers ensure a level playing field for competitors.

In an exclusive interview, Samuel shares his affinity for debates. For him, debates serve as a platform to put critical thinking into action, a delightful challenge he readily embraces. He finds value in hearing opposing ideas, and appreciating the diversity of thought even in moments that may feel like defeat. More than a mere battle of wits, debates become a training ground for essential skills, such as embracing challenges, refining public speaking prowess, and honing critical thinking abilities.

Delving deeper, Samuel connects these skills to the broader context of medical education at UGHE. As aspiring global leaders and policymakers, students are groomed not only to be adept health practitioners but also agents of change. The skills acquired through debates become indispensable tools to challenge existing policies and viewpoints. Samuel highlights the importance of these skills in grappling with complex issues, such as debates surrounding abortion, where medical students strive to question and reshape existing medical systems and governmental operations.

DEBATES IN A MED SCHOOL...



Reflecting on recent events, Samuel recounts the cascading debates organized by SOHIC UGHE in July 2023. Teams, of which Sam's team (Hon. Queen Gihozo '29, Hon. Samuel Ishimwe '28, and Hon. Alex Ainebyona '28) won both rounds, engaged in intense discussions on motions like "Plastics should be banned at UGHE" and "Climate change can be reversed." These debates showcased the versatility of the participants, alternating between supporting and opposing viewpoints.



The Debate champions, Samuel Baker, Queen, Alex

As the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights approached in October, the Debate Club organized a thought-provoking debate on the theme "Equality, Freedom, and Justice for All." The motions explored contentious topics such as the effectiveness of economic sanctions in upholding international human rights standards and the justification of acts of violence to achieve equality among humans.



Winners in the first team were awarded a medal and SOHIC's T-Shirt

Brief overview

1) This House Believes That economic sanctions are effective in compelling foreign states to abide by international human rights standards.

This debate was taken by the opposition team. (Hon Queen'29, Hon. Ernest '28, and Hon. Provident '29)

2) This House Believes That acts of violence are sometimes justified means for achieving equality among humans.

This debate was taken by team proposition (Hon Sam '28, Hon. Jerry '29, Hon. Solange)
In Samuel's genuine narrative, we witness the transformative power of debates. Beyond the stage and rhetoric, debates at UGHE serve as crucibles for future leaders, empowering them to challenge the status quo, question ideologies, and envision a world where equality, freedom, and justice prevail.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

EGIDE I.



A Radiant Evening of Joy and Harmony

As the tranquil evening descended upon UGHE community, a palpable sense of warmth enveloped the air, accompanied by the breathtaking hues of oranges, pinks, and purples painted across the sky by the setting sun. The atmosphere was nothing short of serene, complemented by a gentle breeze carrying the subtle fragrance of blooming flowers.

The Flat studio, adorned with a myriad of vibrant lights, became the focal point for an extraordinary gathering. Dressed in white and black attire, adorned with striking red ties, the gentlemen entered the venue, creating a visually striking contrast. In contrast, the ladies graced the occasion in stunning red and light dresses, creating a picturesque scene that seemed to encapsulate the peace and happiness of the night. It was, undoubtedly, a Christmas Carol to remember.

Hosted by the Association of Christians UGHE Students (ACUS) and UGHE Catholic Community (Christ Roi de l'Univers), the event drew the entire UGHE community into a joyous celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The anticipation for this special evening was so fervent that students from different locations, like Kirehe, went to great lengths, even jumping walls, to be part of this festive gathering.

The heartwarming atmosphere reached its peak as Elder Ernestine Kanyana shared poignant words of God, reminding everyone present of the profound reason behind Jesus' arrival on Earth and his sacrifice for their sins. Yet, it wasn't just the spoken word that left an impact; it was the soul-stirring performances by the ACUS Worship team and Christ Roi de l'Univers that truly resonated with the audience.

Date: November 18, 2023

"Ijwi ry'Umwana Urira" echoed through the venue, skillfully presented by the ACUS Worship team, followed by the powerful rendition of "Gloria" by Christ Roi de L'Univers. The melodies of these songs, combined with the heartfelt preachings, forged a deep connection between the attendees and the story of Jesus' birth and sacrifice.

The culmination of this spiritual journey manifested in a lively and energetic dance known as "Igisirimba". As the beats reverberated through the Flat studio, joy spread from the south to the north, and the attendees found themselves caught up in the jubilant celebration. Sweating after the vigorous dance, it was evident that happiness transcended every corner of the venue.

A delightful fun fact emerged from the spirited revelry – some even jestingly proclaimed this Christmas Carol as the first worldwide celebration of its kind in 2023, a testament to the infectious joy that permeated the event. As the night concluded, it left an indelible mark on the hearts of all present, a testament to the unity, joy, and the true spirit of Christmas that had enveloped the UGHE community on this remarkable evening.



was a great gathering in UGHE



VOZ ARMONIA CONCERT!

FATMATA T. O. KAMARA



— *“The true beauty of music is that it connects people” - Roy Ayers*

The Voz Armonia event, an event never to forget the Voz team has hosted numerous events over the years, but the most recent event was hosted on November 12, 2023. It took place right on the veranda (dining hall) of our amazing university, you might be wondering my dear reader what the main purpose of the Voz Armonia club is. According to one of the co-founders of this great club, the club envisions cultivating a vibrant and entertaining atmosphere on the campus grounds by enhancing music-related activities with the goal of enriching the cultural, social, and intellectual experience of both residents and surrounding communities, so according to her this was why the club was formed. Just seeing that medical students are multi-talented is an amazing site to see and a great discovery.

As we have established the main purpose of the club forming is the same reason why the voz team chooses to host numerous Voz Armonia events, but personally, it feels like this Voz Armonia gives and shines light on the university and helps students take a breather from the tensed reality of studies and have a great melody in the ears of the students for a change.

Interviewing other participants and people present that night, no one had anything bad to say about that night, the dear readers started off as a normal night in UGHE (University of Global Health Equity) grounds one where students come together eat, and go to bed, but with the dazing colors and lights in the room it focused students to stay a little longer. Although there was a delay in the appointed time given for the event to start it started at around early 9. The event was a colorful one with every member separated into teams, teams of three who were given their colors to work with, according to many UGHE students the songs were well sung, and the decorations were well laid out.

The recent event hosted was one to remember, one can even say a night to remember but do you, dear reader, ever wonder exactly what happens behind the scenes, what are some of the challenges these people faced while putting together this amazing night, is the timing one of the members emphasized determining the optimal timing to ensure the presence of both the audience and the voz armonia members themselves, with most members involved in various clinical rotations, academic works, and other issues popping up, but according to her throughout the rehearsals the faced similar problems with the members which sometimes hindered their rehearsal schedules.

UC DAVIS MULTIMEDIA CONTEST

JENNIFER M. DICKSON



Denise R. Umuhoza and Sylvie Ikuzwe: From Kido Village to UC Davis Multimedia Contest Winners!

Expecting an answer on Global One Health Day, the 3rd of November, Denise R. Umuhoza (MBBS'28) and Sylvie Ikuzwe (MBBS'28) had dismissed the idea of their animated video submission winning. However, the very next day, the University of California Davis (UC Davis) managed to slip them a surprise as the crowned inaugural winners of the Multimedia Contest – a bigger feat than they imagined!

In mid-September 2023, the One Health Center at UC Davis announced a Multimedia Contest that would run for one month. The contestants were required to submit a poster, video, or infographic centered around the intersection of One Health in one of their provided prompts. Seeking a prompt that would exercise their unique and innovative perspective, Denise and Sylvie chose: How can One Health help improve diversity efforts in your community?



Denise and Sylvie

“Denise is my study partner and is always filled with ideas,” Sylvie praised. Initially hesitant due to their intense academic schedule, Denise happily agreed to pair up with Sylvie. In the initial weeks, creating unique, innovative, and non-common knowledge content guided the duo’s brainstorming. As they exchanged various ideas, the idea of creating an animation simply fell at their feet knowing that it would achieve the diversity they wanted and would not only pique their interest but their audience’s interest too! With extensive research, they eventually chose to showcase the use of a transdisciplinary approach to combat a brucellosis outbreak in the fictional Kido Village.

UC DAVIS MULTIMEDIA CONTEST...



Denise and Sylvie both began their journey into One Health at UGHE. Having grown up loving animals, Denise struggled on how to include her passion for animals in her medical career, whereas Sylvie was a blank canvas yearning to add a splash of color! Early on, they both attended the SOHIC Club's events and were immediately hooked! Denise found a home for her passion for animals. However, Sylvie came to develop her deep interest for the multifaceted and transdisciplinary approach when she witnessed Kevin S. Gakuba's, former SOHIC Chairperson, outreach event at Nyamicucu on Rift Valley Fever. "Many of the villagers' cows were dying and they couldn't understand why. Kevin simply explained to them on how bad sanitation habits can harm their cows' wellbeing." Sylvie was impressed by how a simple information session like Kevin's had the great potential "to save one and save all at the same time!" Today, Sylvie is part of the SOHIC Board as the Outreach Chapter Lead, hoping to make an impact in rural Rwanda's fight against illnesses.

As the inaugural winners of the contest, Denise and Sylvie were prized with an all-expenses paid trip to Arusha, Tanzania for AFROHUN's Conference that will be held from the 24th to 26th of April 2024. Not only are they excited to travel and explore a new location, but they are also incredibly honored to attend the event, where they hope to meet like-minded individuals and enhance their One Health knowledge. Denise and Sylvie credit their family, friends, and UGHE faculty, Dr. Phaedra Henley and Mr Chris Habimana, who supported them. "We learned that asking for help and hard work really does pay off," Denise explained.

Since the win, Denise and Sylvie have continued to take the UGHE One Health community by storm! Recently, Denise, alongside Ella Keith Isimbi (MBBS'28), won the 1st place position and a \$200 grant at SOHIC's One Health Month event. Denise and Ella aim to implement "Baketi," a small water filter that will generate liters of rainwater into clean water at rural schools and eliminate the transmission of waterborne diseases. Sylvie continues to spread awareness about One Health to rural communities she recently led an outreach event in Bilharzia in her many SOHIC Outreach Chapter Lead duties.

"If one tries to understand the environment and animals, they will understand that they are constantly trying to communicate with us." Denise believes that people should recognize the similarities between humans and animals, rather than focus on the differences. Denise and Sylvie intend to continue exploring their interest in One Health which Denise hopes to apply to her interest in Neglected Tropical Diseases and Sylvie her interest in Zoonotic and Infectious diseases. As advice for individuals interested in One Health, they believe One Health is worth all the attention and trusting your gut is basis of your start. "Follow your passion, seek help, and put all your effort!"

MBBS'25 RESEARCH TEAM IN QATAR.

QUEEN . G



Our Doctors in the Tourist and Commercial Destination

In a surprising twist, a health promotion conference found its home in a country renowned for its commercial prowess. November witnessed a remarkable journey for our very own students from MBBS 25 who represented UGHE in the 11th All Together for Better Health (ATBHXI) conference on interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (IPECP) that was held in Qatar from 6-9 November 2023. These students are Joselyne Nzisabira, Clemence Ndagije Ishimwe, Genereuse Irakoze Iradukunda, and Jean Bertrand Aime Hakizimana and Maria Albina, a UGHE staff, accompanied them. These students submitted the abstract of their research paper "Assessing the Job Satisfaction of Physicians in Rwanda and the Associated Factors, and the selecting team could not resist the wits in their paper and thus selected them to join the conference.



These exceptional students not only attended but went above and beyond, distinguishing themselves in various competitions and challenges within their assigned groups. Joselyne, for instance, passionately defended the motion, "This house believes that interprofessional practice and education should be incorporated into licensing/pre-licensing/pre-registration and certification requirements for healthcare and social care professionals." Her team, composed of Aiyasha Altafussein from De Montfort University (UK) and Khadija Mohammad Yousaf from Qatar University, engaged in spirited debates, providing a unique perspective on the integration of interprofessional practices. The team opposite hers was together with Bertrand. The affirmative team took the debate, but kudos to Bertrand and Joselyne as their contributions were indispensable.

MBBS Students in Qatar for Research Presentation...



Generouse and her team emerged victorious in the interprofessional team challenge, displaying the depth of talent and collaboration fostered at UGHE. Generouse expressed her experience in these words, "The conference me offered a golden chance for networking, mentorship, and discussions to enhance interprofessional collaboration for better patient outcomes."



Besides, their contribution in challenges and competitions, the UGHE team presented their poster on November 8, 2023, which highlighted the major elements of the research.

In their collective journey, these students not only raised the flag of UGHE but also demonstrated that academic excellence knows no bounds. Their experiences were not just educational but eye-opening, as Joselyne called it, underscoring the importance of global collaboration in shaping the future of healthcare and medical education.



Job Satisfaction of Physicians in Rwanda

INTRODUCTION
 In Rwanda, physician population is 11,8247 leads to:
 • High healthcare costs
 • Lower patient satisfaction
 • Low job satisfaction
 • Burnout and stress
 • Early retirement
 • Poor health outcomes

OBJECTIVE
 Assess the job satisfaction of physicians in Rwanda and associated factors

METHODOLOGY
 • Design: Online cross-sectional survey
 • Setting: 1350 physicians
 • 42 clinics
 • 5 referral hospitals

RESULTS
 Mean: 53.2%
 Range: 38.1%
 50% of respondents indicated low job satisfaction

Four factors significantly associated with job satisfaction (P-value < 0.05):

	Low	Mid to high	P-values
Marital Status	Single 67.3%	32.7%	<0.001*
	Married 28.3%	71.7%	
Training	GP 56.2%	43.8%	0.013*
	Specialist 28.0%	72.0%	
Practice	2 years or less 62.5%	37.5%	0.017*
	Above 2 years 39.2%	60.8%	
Other job	Has other job 37.8%	62.2%	0.017*
	No other job 61.1%	38.9%	

Other cited reasons from open-ended question:
 • Poor legal rights
 • Not being respected
 • Lack of career development
 • Complicated/disorganized administrative process
 • Poor leadership

DISCUSSION
 • Lower satisfaction among younger and single physicians
 • Salary was low and not proportional to the heavy workload
 • Legal rights for physicians not respected
 • Complex administrative work and poor hospital leadership
 • When working in working infrastructure
 • Poor living and wages
 • Limited resources impaired their work
 • Lack of career development opportunities
 • 2-year mandatory rural service policy may have temporarily alleviated the shortage of physicians in rural areas; however, may inevitably decrease job satisfaction

CONCLUSION
 • 50% of physicians have low job satisfaction
 • Low salaries, high workload, and poor resources caused low job satisfaction
 • 2-year mandatory rural service policy may have temporarily alleviated the shortage of physicians in rural areas; however, may inevitably decrease job satisfaction

QUEEN AND STANISLAS IN KIGALI FOR A DEBATE!



Broadening the Limits: AEQUITAS interviews UGHE's debating icon, Queen Gihozo



There is a common misconception that medical students cannot be good debaters. It may be accurate according to standard medical education and practice, but students at UGHE are swiftly changing this, demonstrating their ability to express their compelling ideas. Queen Gihozo and Stanislas Ssemwogerere, two of our MBBS'29 students, attended the East African Universities' Debate Championship (EAUDC2023) in early September, breaking free from the rigorous medical school routine. This debating competition brought together university students from the East African Community (EAC) countries in Kigali. They came from Rwanda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Uganda, and Kenya. In this edition, Aequitas had an exclusive interview with one of the contestants from UGHE, who described her experience at the East African Debate Championship.



Queen Igihozo and Stanlus Semwongerere

Broadening the Limits: AEQUITAS interviews UGHE's debating icon, Queen Gihozo...



Aequitas: What were your expectations of competing?

Queen : First and foremost, I was nervous. You know, representing the entire school might be intimidating at times, but we did our best to prepare. We did well in terms of preparation; we were given themes such as the EAC, commerce, and regional cooperation.

Aequitas: Then, what did you encounter that was far from your expectations?

Queen : I expected the debate to revolve around the EAC, but we got something unexpected. The first two motions attempted to be pertinent to EAC, one of which was: "Should Somalia be accepted as an EAC member state on the condition that it will make Somaliland a free land?" We didn't have enough knowledge, and we weren't allowed to utilize the internet, so it was difficult. The third one asked if we supported Saudi Arabia's investment in sports; this has nothing to do with East Africa. It's preferable when the debate themes are random, but that wasn't the case this time. Another thing we noticed was the debating format. It followed the format of the British parliament. The motions were difficult, but they were debatable.

Aequitas: What did you learn from others or during the contest at the regional debate you attended in September?

Queen : Well, it wasn't all negative, it was good. I learned a lot from them about being prepared for anything because everything was a surprise to us. It also increased my sense of confidence. There are times when you go into something frustrating, but once there, you realize there is nothing to be afraid of. And while it may appear to be difficult at times, you will eventually triumph. For example, we debated with some students and defeated them, but they advanced to the semi-finals while we did not; success does not always have to be smooth. It may appear impossible at first, but as time passes, things will become easier for you.

Broadening the Limits: AEQUITAS interviews UGHE's debating icon, Queen Gihozo...



Aequitas: What strengths did you notice in your opponents?

Queen : They were more accustomed to the debate method and were faster. Their strength, in my opinion, was their debating experience. They also had a lot of information on a variety of topics. I understood that simply stating, "I have internet," is insufficient. You must have a broad understanding of issues affecting the globe today, including everything and nothing.

Aequitas: What is a fun fact about debate that you can share with us?

Queen : Debate is a lot of fun. It's a lot of fun; whether you win or lose, it's still worthwhile. You gain the experience of learning from others, and you even love watching people argue. It's remarkable how anyone can persuade you to join the opposite side. No one is more correct than the other in a debate; both sides can win. You all have a 50/50 chance of winning, depending on how well you supported your side.

Aequitas: Finally, do you believe medical practitioners can be effective debaters?

Queen : Certainly, I believe that medical doctors may be effective debaters. This was especially evident in our English sessions, where we had numerous disagreements. It's only a matter of being in the light, where they can be seen by the rest of the world. What we still lack is courage and time, but I truly believe that with practice, more enthusiasm, and passion for it, doctors may become excellent debaters.

As we can see, being a medical student or a doctor does not limit your ability to influence others. The main factor that makes people achieve all of their development is a healthy existence, which cannot be achieved without the assistance of doctors who are more knowledgeable about health. Medical students and practitioners should endeavor to acquire a broad understanding of present and future global concerns so that they may assist governments in implementing policies that promote development via wellness.

Angelic Devil



THE POEM BY DELPHINE MIZERO MBBS25

The sun rises yet again,
With it's beautiful emanation,
conquering the mountains summits,
Waking up the early birds,
taking bush crickets and bats to sleep.
We woke up together, yet again.

I woke, with my usual deceitful smile,
Stretched my arms and legs lazily,
My eyes with reluctance to open,
Eyebrows blowing weakly yet heavily
Like wings of a heavy hatching eagle,
Taking as long as eternity,

My face, bright as full moon,
So beautiful as spring blossoms,
Yet as dark as dark holes,
With panthers or goblins
Captures scrutiny with ease,
Just like melting ice on a stove.

The smile and the gaze are all mendacious,
yet those creeping visions re too far,
Too far for your sight to behold.

You watch my legs stretching out lazily,
You almost thought they were crowned
cranes,
Very charming yet alluring,
They're shiny snow white skin,
soft and smooth,
Though in your vision,
It looks like you just saw a rainbow.
Curving down on the valley.



The Poet Delphine mizero, MBBS25

It is so cosy and tempting,
You will love to touch it,
Yet my skin hairs are like thorns,
They will pierce and tear your soul from your
fresh,
The excruciating pain from it is worse than
hellfire,
You apparently won't stand a chance to face
the hellfire.

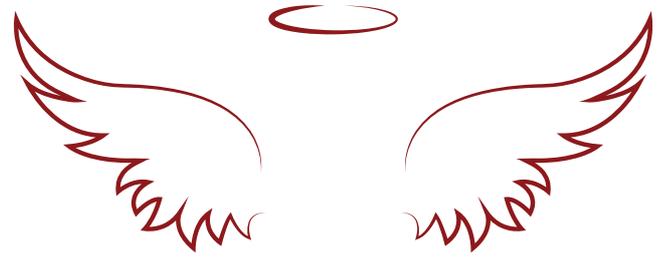
My walk is tempting,
I dare you to look.
You can't avoid not to look,
I will ignite all dark desires tied in the dark
holes of your soul,
The claws you have hidden to stay flawless
will put you on the hotspolight.
I dare you to look,
I dare you not to look.

You love roses,
I will take you to the garden of roses,
But I am the rose.
Close your eyes,
Snif in a little by little, the scent
You're caught in an ecstasy,
You sniff in even more,
I dare you to stop,
I dare you not.

Angelic Devil...



The hidden desires arise,
Suppressed pleasures awaken,
You forgot the scent of the rose for a
moment,
Pursue your desires, pleasures, your
darkness.



The hidden desires arise,
Suppressed pleasures awaken,
You forgot the scent of the rose for a
moment,
Pursue your desires, pleasures, your
darkness.
Afraid to open your eyes,
Not to realise how much you went astray,
You tried to sense the scent of the rose,
You are at the mouth of the abyss,
It swallows you whole,
None knows where you disappeared,
But I do.

Your blood got warmer, until it started boiling,
I see steam coming through your nostrils,
And ears, yet still smiling like an idiot.
I see your scalp cracking open,
and your brain shattered like flashes on a rapid.
You collapsed, first your knees down,
Then your freshly cooked face,
Your arms are still holding me tight, on your
back.

I dare you to drop me, I dare you not to keep
me safe.
You are such a fool.

It is now getting dark,
You offered to stay with me,
Watch the sunset on the shore of our
favourite late, walk me home.
Because I am pretty, but am weak,
And fragile,
You think I love you
You're worried about me
you offer to carry me on your back.
You are such a fool.

I am too beautiful,
My smile radiates gems and jades,
With sparkles of neon that ignites your dark
hidden desires,
You can avoid me by not seeing me,
Just a glimpse is an overdose,
Will drive you zealot,
Will awaken your worst nightmares.

We walk past cobble stones
Bush crickets are waking up,
The cycle repeats itself.
With me on your back,
I feel your body getting warm,
And your face smiling like an idiot, again

I dare you to look,
I dare you not look,
My beauty is your trap,
A glimpse is your cage,
A taste is your doom,
I dare you to be alive when bush crickets go
back to sleep.

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MEDICAL STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION 19TH AFRICAN REGIONAL MEETING 2023(19TH IFMSA ARM)

SAMUEL I. BAKER



The IFMSA-ARM is an annual regional gathering outside the IFMSA General Assemblies for all African medical students coming from the candidate, associate, and full members of IFMSA or potential National Member Organization (NMO) that occurs once in December, and attended by over 400 medical students from different countries across Africa to come to learn, discuss, meet and exchange on different global health topics, spanning public health, human rights, professional and research exchange, medical education and sexual and reproductive health. Find more at <https://ifmsa.org/>

This year, the 19th IFMSA ARM was hosted by the Medical Students' Association of Rwanda (MEDSAR), a non-profit, independent, non-governmental organization of medical students of Rwanda founded in 1997, and an active member of IFMSA. It took place from 9th -13th December 2023 at the GOLDEN TULIP LA PALISSE Hotel in Kigali.

The Opening ceremony took place on November 9th, 2023 at Kigali Convention Center. Joselyne Nzisabira, an MBBS 2025 served as the master of ceremony alongside Christian Tunga, a UR medical student.

During the opening ceremony, five MBBS 2029 UGHE students who were on holiday attended the entire conference. UGHE was represented by Eden Gatesi, the President of the UGHE student council, along with Jerry Mugisha, Sylvia Dushime, Nelly Ikirezi, Fabrice Shyaka, and Anitha Iradukunda.



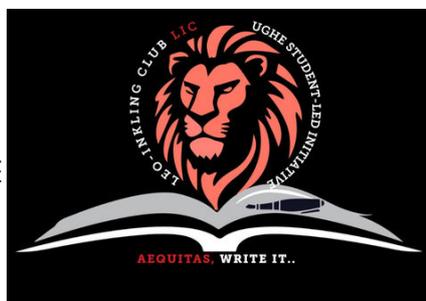
Joselyne Nzisabira, UGHE and IFMSA organizer.



Deligates from Butaro Campus, UGHE.

At the opening ceremony, the attendants were honored to listen to global health leaders who inspired students and all conference delegates through Their speeches. These included Nadine KAREMA—PIH Executive Director, Dr. Joseph NKURUNZIZA Ryarasa— MEDSAR Alumni Board, Dr.Brian Chirombo—WHO Rwanda Country Representative, Min YUAN—UNICEF Rwanda Deputy Country Representative and Dr. Didas Kayihura Muganga, UR VC.

Pictures taken during the 19th Regional Meeting IFMSA 2023.



Magazine

Meet the Team!

AEQUITAS



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