

Quarterly Newsletter

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## Committed to Excellence!

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# **Editorial**

#### Dear Readers,

Welcome to Vol. 24, No. 60, September, 2022 Issue of SMU in Stride Newsletter. The Issue presents the news of activities that took place in the University, and the external events in which SMU's staff had part. As usual, you will find in this Issue the regular columns of Teaching and Learning, Research and Development, and Partnership, Outreach and Community Services.

The Teaching and Learning column highlights news of orientations held for SMU academic and support staff on National Competency Exit Exam (NCEE), the English Access Microscholarship Program students' and teachers' visit to Unity Park, a recognition ceremony held for students who actively participated in extra-curricular activities, SMU graduation ceremony, among others.

The Research and Development column presents the news of the annual national research events, namely, the 16<sup>th</sup> National Student Research Forum, the 14<sup>th</sup> National Multi-disciplinary Seminar, and the 10<sup>th</sup> National Open and Distance Learning Seminar.

In the Partnership, Outreach and Community Services column, you will find, among others, news of US delegates' visit to SMU, St. Mary's participation at Hotel Suppliers Expo 2022, support to Gergesenon Association, Home for Mentally Challenged People, English Access Microscholarship Program students' and teachers' participation in tree planting, and a visit to and support to Abrehot Library.

The Newsletter also presents a success story of one of the Medal and Trophy winners at SMU 2022 graduation.

In the obituary, we remember two SMU staff whom we have lost recently.

In closing, we remain grateful for your continued support and contributions to the Newsletter. Suggestions and comments towards improving the newsletter are most welcome.

Happy reading! International Relations and Communication Office St. Mary's University

# **NEWS AND EVENTS**

# **Teaching and Learning**

Orientation held for SMU support staff on National Competency Exit Exam



A half-day sensitization event on National Competency Exit Exam (NCEE) was held for SMU office/unit heads and support staff at SMU Main Campus on September 24, 2022. Introductory remarks were made by Ato Tsegaye Gebissa, Executive Assistant to the President, followed by an opening speech by Wondwosen Tamrat (PhD, Associate Professor), President of St. Mary's University.

In his opening speech, the President reminded the participants that SMU has more than a decade of experience in administering exit exams and informed them to take the administration of NCEE, which will take place as of 2015E.C., as an opportunity since it will help to equip graduates with better competencies and also will encourage the efforts of institutions like SMU, which already have ample experience in such a practice. He also reminded the staff to have a pivotal role in making the adminis-

tration of NCEE happen and urged them to support instructors and students with all their capacity.



The orientation was provided by Ato Shimelis Tamiru, Academic and Research Desk Coordinator, and Ato Tesfaye Tilahun, Student Support and Institutional Resources Desk Coordinator under the President's Office. Their presentations focused on the definition of NCEE; its goal, benefits and thematic areas; what has been done so far, the remaining activities; challenges that might encounter, and issues to be considered, among others.



During the discussion session, where the staff actively participated, they raised questions and their concerns to which both resource persons responded in details. In attendance were 31(9 male and 22 female) SMU office/unit heads and support staff.



#### Sensitization event held





A half-day sensitization event on National Competency Exit Exam was held at the Undergraduate Campus Multipurpose Hall on September 14, 2022. The resource person, Ato Seid Mohammed, a senior researcher and policy advisor at the Ministry of Education explained that the exam planned for the final year undergraduate students in the 2015 E.C. Academic Year, targets public and private HEIs. He further stated that although there are a total of 328 programs, the Ministry has identified 70 programs which are deemed to cover 85% of the graduating class students. In his power point presentation, Ato Seid elaborated what the exit exam entails and pinpointed the following factors as premises:

- It is a comprehensive exit exam;
- Constitutes curriculum-based graduate profile;
- Ensures graduates meet the graduate profile;
- Produces skilled and competent manpower;
- Acts as a gateway to attain a license;
- Can be used as a quality monitoring tool in the form of certification of competence;
- May be used as source of information for policy decision.

Stressing the need for sensitizing students, the resource person stated that all students should be aware of the objective of the exit exam and have clarity about their graduate profile and competencies upon entrance to a higher institution.



During the discussion session, questions related to the timing, the level of preparation, and the practicality of online exam administration were raised from the audience. Ato Seid responded to the queries and accentuated the fact that institutions need to commit themselves to the realization of the exam nationwide. Meanwhile, the potential challenges that the exit exam may face were also presented. Some of them were:

- Students' readiness;
- Resistance to implement;
- Lack of seriousness in supporting the Exit Exam on the part of HEIs;
- The tendency to maintain the status quo; and
- Inadequate resources.



Having more than a decade of experience in administering exit exams, St. Mary's community had active participation in the discussion with almost 120 academic staff in attendance.

## **English Access Microscholarship Program Students and Teachers Visit Unity Park**

St. Mary's University English Access Microscholarship Program students and teachers visited Unity Park on Friday, August 19, 2022.



The visit was part of the enhancement activities the Access students engage in. Following their visit, students made presentations in which they described the park, talked about what interested them most, shared their commendations, and expressed their expectations and wishes.





Students commented that the visit was so exciting and the sceneries they had seen during their visit were so beautiful. They said the visit was instrumental in terms of helping them learn the history and culture of the people of Ethiopia and appreciate the wonders of nature.



The diverse species of plants and animals were among the amusement, according to the students.

Below are the words students used to express their feelings after their visit:

"It is a miracle."

"It is so amazing."

"There was a high security check at the entrance which I thought was not necessary but later on, after my visit, I was convinced that it was necessary." "Many of the things I saw were beyond my imagination."



"It allows visitors to have a good view of the city. "It was a special day."

"It is simply adorable."

"I wasn't that much interested in going to parks. But the things I saw at Unity Park have inspired me to visit such parks like this one."

"I am so grateful for this opportunity. I have learned a lot about what Ethiopia has in its store." "I was impressed by what I saw. However, my expectations were far more than what I experienced. I thought I would see more number of animals than I practically had seen there during my visit. I hope more things will be added in the future."



English Access Microscholarship Program is a US Department of State-funded English and life skills training program provided to bright but economically disadvantaged secondary school students. St. Mary's University has been running this program for eight years. It has graduated 300 students in three cohorts and is now training the fourth cohort of students.

#### **Recognition ceremony held**



The Students' Wellness and Success Unit, in collaboration with the Student Support Services Office, organized a recognition ceremony on August 15, 2022, targeting students who actively participated in extra-curricular activities. These students had varying duties in their respective clubs; some were leaders and others active members. Of the six clubs, four have been found to be active in their day-to-day operations. In his PowerPoint presentation, Elias Getaye, President of the Student Union, picked out the Charity Club, Book Club, Hagerigna and Tour Club, and Literature and Entertainment Club for the recognition.



During the event, it was revealed that students who had active involvement in clubs improved their social skills and gained experiences in leadership. Present at the event were SMU students, academic, and admin staff. The awardees received certificates of recognition from the Executive Vice President.

## Discussion held on SMU Graduate Survey findings

Career and Internship Unit, SMU, conducted a discussion on the findings of 2019/20 Graduate Survey on July 28, 2022 with deans, department heads, and office holders of the Undergraduate Program in the presence of the Executive Vice President and the Director for Academic Affairs of St. Mary's University. The presentation included the findings of the study, challenges observed, conclusions arrived at, and implications for teaching and learning.

After the presentation, participants forwarded their views suggesting that wide forums that involve the University's President, Vice Presidents, deans, department heads, office holders, and instructors need to be organized to thoroughly discuss the identified issues, as the challenges identified by the study still prevail; an action plan needs to be prepared and assigning individuals to take responsibilities and translating the activities at the grassroots level is critical; students need to be properly advised and get adequate information as to how they select their fields of study; instructors need to raise students' awareness on employability/soft skills beyond delivering professional courses since these skills are highly demanded by the labor market; the teacher-student relationship should be maintained positively as there are major problems in handling students; teachers' engagement in research work is very minimal let alone supporting students to do research genuinely; and, therefore, it was suggested that an instructor should be engaged for 3 to 4 hours per day in research activities.

All in all, the study showed the real gap in our working environment and suggested the need to work together to relieve the deficiencies, and value the findings of the study.



Graduation ceremony held



St. Mary's University graduated a total of 931 (506 male and 425 female) students on July 23, 2022. While 494 (247 Male and 247 female) of the graduates had pursued their Master's studies in diverse areas, 437 (259 Male and 178 female) were from the Undergraduate Programs. Of the female graduates, 50% and 40.7% pursued their studies in Postgraduate and Undergraduate programs, respectively.



Wondwosen Tamrat (PhD, Associate Professor), Founder and President of the University, congratulated the graduates on their achievements and extended his appreciation to graduates' relatives and the SMU community for the relentless support they provided to the graduates. He underscored that the resilience and strong commitment of the graduates and all relevant stakeholders have enabled graduates to successfully complete their studies. Dr Wondwosen urged the graduates to put the knowledge and skills they have acquired during their stay at the University into practice and contribute their share to Ethiopia's development. He reminded graduates that they are beginning a new chapter of their lives and have more responsibilities to shoulder to improve their own and others' lives.



The graduation ceremony was graced by Getachew Tedla Abebe (PhD), a renowned agricultural economist, rural development expert and writer. He handed out certificates, trophies and medals to graduates after which he made a closing speech. Dr Getachew reminded the graduates that they have just begun their long journey and should prepare to use every single opportunity they may come across. Finding jobs may be testing as there are not enough jobs that can accommodate all graduates, he reiterated, and advised graduates that they should consider any opportunity they come across and look for new ways they can follow to improve their educational and work experiences. He also underscored that graduates should capitalize on the positive aspects of the history of Ethiopia and focus on issues that contribute to the betterment of its citizens.

This year, two graduates, who completed their studies with Very Great Distinction, won medals. One was male while the other was female. They scored a CGPA of 4.00 each. Eden Belete did her degree in Management and Ashenafi H/Mariam studied Accounting and Finance. St. Mary's University would like to congratulate the graduates on their achievements and wishes all graduates the best of luck.

Among the invited ten organizations, seven participated and shared their experiences by broadly elaborating on their expectations from fresh graduates. At the event, one of the partners offered to employ a few prospective graduates, and asked the required profiles of the graduates to be sent to it.



Job fair conducted for 2022 prospective graduates



The Career and Internship Unit (CIU) conducted a Job Fair for prospective graduates in Computer Science on July 7, 2022, where companies that are working on Information Technology Etelco, Kopa Trading, Visionaries ICT, Bridge Technology, UPS, Ethio Nippon Technology, Wafa Marketing and Promotion, Top Technology, Website Internet, Duka Techno-Africa, and Dereja.com were invited to take part.



Particularly, Dereja.com, a business unit of Info Mind Solution PLC, presented its role in the guidance and career resources available for university graduates through its three interventions (Dereja. com, Dereja Academy Accelerator Program, and Career Expo & Career Expo Clinic), for recruitment, capacity building, and career center development. The person in charge introduced the website on how graduates are able to register online to get the required free training on 8 modules to make them ready for the world of work. In addition, a representative of Dereja.com, distributed brochures and asked the Department for the list of the graduates to create opportunity for the training and future employment. A total of 80 graduates and guests participated in the Job Fair.

# **Research and Development**

## St. Mary's University holds the 16th National Student Research Forum



St Mary's University held the 16<sup>th</sup> National Student Research Forum on Thursday, September 1, 2022. The Forum was exclusively organized for undergraduate students in order to help recent graduates share their research findings and insights with fellow students and researchers. SMU, through this annual Forum, aims to contribute to the improvement of undergraduate students' research, leadership and communications skills, and to create a unique environment for the recognition and celebration of students who are able to conduct exemplary research in their respective fields of studies.



An opening speech was made by Ato Tedla Haile, Executive Vice President of St. Mary's University. In his speech, he indicated that the Forum is one of the most beneficial student-centered events as it is a platform where students share their research findings with fellow students and the University community. "Among the many student-centered campus events, this research forum stands out clearly as the most beneficial to students considering the experiences they get out of it," said Ato Tedla Haile. He added, "... the event creates the opportunity for staving off the stereotype that students do not tell apart fact from fiction. While such an assertion is a generalization, not supported by valid evidence, today's presentations are here to nullify it." He strongly recommended students to be independent thinkers.

At the Forum, eight papers were presented and discussed. The papers covered a wide range of issues





The presenters mesmerized participants with their presentations. They received appreciation for demonstrating outstanding research, presentation, and time management skills and coming up with practical solutions to the problems they identified. "Lamba", which is intended to serve visually impaired people, is a case in point. People with visual impairment can get their phones do tasks for them using voice.

## St. Mary's University holds the 14<sup>th</sup> National Multi-disciplinary Seminar



St. Mary's University (SMU) held its 14<sup>th</sup> National Multi-disciplinary Seminar on August 30, 2022 at the Multipurpose Hall, Undergraduate Campus, SMU. The Seminar, which is one of the four annual research events St. Mary's University organizes, aimed at promoting innovation and the culture of knowledge transfer among academicians, researchers and practitioners in different disciplines.



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The Seminar was opened by a welcoming speech made by Wondwosen Tamrat (PhD, Associate Professor), Founder and President of St. Mary's University. In his opening remarks, Dr. Wondwosen indicated that "as a dedicated institution of higher learning, St. Mary's University has always taken its teaching, research and outreach responsibilities seriously." "It is gratifying to know that this seminar which has been designed to create a platform for university staff and researchers is growing in leaps and bounds", he added. Looking back and forward, Dr Wondwosen attested, "The increasing multidisciplinary topics being addressed, researchers' varied background and affiliation is a clear indication of how the tradition that started 14 years ago is addressing its intended objectives."



He thanked paper presenters and the organizing team for their dedication toward the realization of the Seminar.

At the Seminar, 13 papers (five from SMU and the remaining eight from Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa Science and Technology University, Salale University, Assosa University, Debre Markos University, Ambo University, Arsi University, Jimma University, and Addis Ababa Education Bureau) which have nation-wide implications, were presented and discussed. The papers presented at the Seminar covered different topics, including entrepreneurship, conflict resolution, self-directed learning, African academia, Psychology, education, food and drug, land acquisition, digital marketing, climate change, electric power, and business startups. The presentations were followed by Question and Answer sessions, which added much value to the Seminar. The papers presented at the Seminar will be published in Proceedings as has been the case for the last thirteen years.



Finally, closing remarks were made by Ato Tedla Haile, Executive Vice President of St. Mary's University, who appreciated and thanked the participants, paper presenters and the organizers for their relentless efforts for making the event a reality.

In attendance were St. Mary's University staff, and scholars and students from different higher education institutions.

SMU Hosts the 10<sup>th</sup> National Open and Distance Learning Seminar



St Mary's University held the 10<sup>th</sup> National Open & Distance Learning Seminar on 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 at the Multipurpose Hall, Undergraduate Campus, SMU. This year's seminar , which was conducted under the theme, "Open and Distance Learning Transitions to the Digital Age" was aimed at promoting innovation, and the culture of knowledge transfer among academicians, researchers, development agents and practitioners on issues related to open and distance learning.



The Seminar was opened with a welcoming speech by Ato Tsegaye Gebissa, Acting Vice President for College of Open and Distance Learning. In his remarks, Ato Tsegaye thanked the paper presenters and the organizing team for their dedication towards the realization of the Seminar.



Three research papers (all from St. Mary's University) were presented and discussed at the Seminar. The papers covered different topics: Examination Administration Practices in CODL of SMU; Satisfaction Survey on Undergraduate Distance Students of SMU; and Digital and Social Media Usage Practices and Challenges among Distance Learners in Selected HEIs in Addis Ababa.



The presentations were followed by Question and Answer sessions, which made the Seminar very lively and added much value to the papers.

The papers presented at the Seminar will be published in the Proceedings as has been the case for the last nine years. Finally, closing remarks were made by Senait Getahun, Director, Research and Knowledge Management Office of SMU, who appreciated and thanked the participants, paper presenters and the organizers who contributed their share for the realization of the Seminar. She also reminded the participants to attend the 14<sup>th</sup> Multidisciplinary Seminar St. Mary's will organize on August 30, 2022.



In attendance were St. Mary's University staff.

## Partnership, Outreach and Community Services

#### SMU took part in the Third Summit of Ethiopia Reads

St. Mary's University took part in the Third Annual Children's Reading Summit organized by Ethiopia Reads (an NGO) at Sapphire Addis Hotel from September 22-23, 2022, with a mission to inspire a generation of young minds to think big and dream the impossible. The Summit was held with the theme of 'Early childhood Development in Reading."

Welcoming and opening speeches were made by W/t Yemisirach Worku, Country Director of Ethiopia Reads, followed by songs by children to the audience. Mr. Malcolm Clark, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ethiopia Reads (ER), underscored that there are problems in relation to early childhood education, reading, and literacy. He also emphasized that poor reading skills have become a challenge to education practices as well. He also mentioned that publishing books for children is another problem. According to him, the society, educators, and other stakeholders are responsible for overcoming such challenges. Ato Mezgebu Biyazin, Strategic Affairs Directorate at the Ministry of Education (MoE), discussed the efforts of thriving for early childhood education and reading practices of children. He also added that investing and working on child development and education has a fruitful return, and that MoE is working on early childhood education with due emphasis on the new Education Roadmap. He also talked about the promising practices taken as good experiences such as the establishment of Child Community Libraries, including Gotera and Gebeta Children Community Libraries which are now operational and helpful for outside the school engagement of children.

Dr. Laurie, one of the presenters at the Summit, discussed the brain physiology and structures in relation to reading and understanding. Her presentation that gave scientific analysis of receptive and expressive language was very insightful. She also indicated that students' Grade 1 vocabulary predicts their reading achievement at high school. The most alarming report was the one delivered by Dr. Efa from the Ministry of Education. Dr. Efa presented the findings of Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) conducted in the year 2021. According to the findings of EGRA, the sample size of 19,360 children in Grade 2 and Grade 3 were poor in reading and comprehending what they read. The findings also indicated that there were no significant progresses in the reading performance of children in the aforementioned grades. It was shocking and dreadful to hear that children in grades 2 and 3 were not good at reading even in their mother tongue. The presentations were followed up by a discussion session, which was wrapped up with a summary from the host.

During the second day, two presentations and a recognition ceremony were held. The two presentations by delegates from the Ministry of Education (MoE) were on "Emergency Response in Children's Education" and "Language in the New Curriculum". The presenter on the former topic gave background information on causes of emergency and presented reports on the reactions by the MoE to COVID 19 Pandemic, and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) due to war and drought. The second presentation addressed the efforts made to introduce the English language in the early grades along with the mother tongues.

Finally, the Summit came to an end by giving recognition to those who took part in writing and donating books for children. St. Mary's University was represented by three staff from Department Basic Courses, who actively participated in the discussion sessions.

#### **Gesture of humanity**



On Friday, 9 September 2022, a donation of Ethiopian Birr 3000.00 and some used clothes was made by the staff of the Office of the Vice President for Research and International Relations of SMU to Gergesenon Association, Home for mentally challenged people, as part of the community services the Office planned to carry out in this academic year.

The officials receiving the donation thanked the office for the humanitarian gesture shown and looked forward to similar gestures in the future.

Geregesenon is working toward "Helping the mentally disabled Street people in Ethiopia to become normal and join the society". It is now supporting hundreds of fellow citizens in its Center which is located at Gulele Subcity, Shiromeda (Qusquam) area.

## SMU participation at an event organized by US Embassy in Addis

The Embassy of the United States of America in Addis Ababa organized an event at the Satchmo American Center on Media Literacy by Helina Teklu, Seed Balls Ethiopia Founder, and 'YALI Talks' featuring the Mandela Foundation Alumnus, Natnael Melaku, Co-founder of Axiom Financial Technologies.

At the event, held on September 06, 2022, the presentation on Media Literacy revealed the fact that every media entity: online, print, and broadcast reflects the views of the proprietors, whether government or corporate entity. In other words, no media is free from bias. For instance, according to the presenter, CNN and BBC used to have credibility by the Ethiopian viewers and listeners before, but not anymore now since they have swarmed the airwaves with outright misinformation pertaining to the conflict in Northern Ethiopia. A reference was made to the specific lies CNN aired five months back that Addis Ababa was under siege.

The takeaways from the presentations were: triangulating and cross-checking every information coming from the media before making any judgment on their contents, and restraining oneself from spending much of one's time on social media. The Executive Vice President and the Vice President for Research and International Relations attended the event.

## English Access Microscholarship Program Students and Teachers plant trees



St. Mary's University English Access Microscholarship program students and teachers planted trees at Shibu Ajersa school on August 26, 2022.



Students explained that the program was so interesting and historical. They remarked that the event, which incorporated different staff of private higher education institutions, was vibrant.

After planting the diverse species of seedlings, the students expressed their feeling as follows: "I am very much interested to put my green print" "It is exemplary activity for the school society as well as parents living around" "It creates an opportunity to introduce new friends"



## Access Students donate books to Abrehot Library

"A reader lives a thousand lives before he dies... The man who never reads lives only one." George R.R. Martin.

## አብርሆት ቤተ፡መጽሐፍት ABREHOT LIBRARY

For someone who lives in the academic arena and likes to engage in voluntarism and community services, visiting *Abrehot* Library is recommendable.



Students of the English Access Microscholarship Program and their teachers visited *Abrehot* Library on August 23, 2022. The students and the teachers were welcomed by the Library staff upon arrival. Then, a guide briefed them about the library and its contents before they went into the inner part of the Library.



The name "*Abrehot*" comes from the Ethiopian Geeze Language which means 'enlightenment'. The library, which is located in front of the Parliament building at Arat Kilo, can serve more than 2,500 users at a time.



"The library serves as a key to unlock the immense potential of Ethiopians", said PM Abiy while speaking at the inauguration ceremony held in January 2022.

Before visiting the library, the students and the teachers had collected books from different sources. They donated 462 books to the Library for which they received a certificate recognizing their contribution.

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The books they donated are of different levels and fields of studies, such as reference materials, fiction, non-fiction, history, science, proceedings of research articles, student textbooks, etc. Students from KG to university education, teachers, and researchers can benefit from them.



The students and their teachers spent hours in the library reading books of their individual interests.



Abrehot, has a 4-storey facility. It is the biggest public library in the country and is equipped with 1.5km long shelves that are capable of holding 1.4 million books. Its collections are classified in different themes to help readers easily trace the books of their interests.

*Abrehot* has 8 bookstores, a meeting room, a cafeteria, children's reading area and a parking space that can accommodate 115 vehicles at a time. Apart from books, *Abrehot* Library currently has more than 300,000 local and 120,000 international research papers.

The architectural design of the building reflects rich history and facts of the country. Its neatness and spaciousness make the library an attractive and interesting place for reading.

*Abrehot* is a great gift to the public, in general, and scholars who want to do research in a comfortable environment, in particular. Students vowed to come regularly and read in this library.

### US delegate's visit to SMU



The Regional English Language Office (RELO) team met approximately 70 English Access Microscholarship students to discuss 'Summer time in the United States.' While the RELO team has Access classes around the country, this particular group visited part of the program run by St. Mary's University in Addis Ababa. The RELO team thanked St. Mary's for being a wonderful partner to the program, and the students for their participation and interest in the presentation. The English Access Microscholarship program provides after school English and personal development classes to academically advanced students.



St. Mary's at Hotel Suppliers Expo 2022



St. Mary's University, through its Tourism and Hospitality Management (THM) Department, participated in Hotel Suppliers Expo 2022, which took place from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of July, 2022 at Grand Eliana Hotel, Addis Ababa.

Hotel suppliers from diverse sectors, including among others, airlines, ticket offices and tour operators; catering and food supply companies; interior design companies; colleges and universities; construction companies; architecture and engineering companies; banking and insurance companies; furniture companies; telecom and electric utility companies; as well as technology, media and system companies participated in the two-day Expo. The event served as a good platform for them to promote themselves to diverse audiences and market their products and services



H.E. Dr. Hirut Kassaw, Head of the Addis Ababa Culture, Arts and Tourism Bureau, officially opened the Expo. In her opening speech, H.E. Dr. Hirut noted that the Expo would serve as a platform for networking, partnerships and cooperation among the diverse sectors that supply for the hotel industry. Such an event would also stimulate the hospitality sector, which is highly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and contribute to the recovery efforts being underway by different bodies, she added. Remarks were also made by officials from Grand Eliana Hotel and representatives of other institutions.

Dr. Fisseha Eshetu, Founder of Black Purpose Initiative, also made remarks whereby he stated the role Black Purpose project would play in the economy by addressing the issue of middle parties in different businesses.

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As one of the major suppliers of trained and skilled human resources to the hotel industry in the country, THM Department of St. Mary's University participated in the Expo by securing a mini stall, where it had the opportunity to promote the Department to different segments of the audience with the aim of attracting students, enhancing its profile, and forging networks for future close partnerships with employers such as hotels, tour & travel agencies, and catering businesses, among others. Dressed in appropriate attires for the event, the THM staff participated in the Expo with banners of the THM Department; logo, brochures, and publications of the University; as well as pictures that portray practical field trips, exhibitions and panel discussions held by the THM Department. The current programs and services of the University were also promoted at the

event. In addition, fruitful discussions were made with similar educational institutions on future cooperation and exchanges.



During the two day stay, SMU's stand at the Expo was visited by H.E. Dr Hirut as well as representatives of different organizations from relevant sectors and by other individual visitors. The Department was awarded a certificate for its active participation in the Expo. The opening sessions of the event had coverage by different media.



Success story of Eden Belete Compiled by International Relations & Communication Office, SMU



Eden Belete is one of the 2022 graduates of St. Mary's University, who was awarded a Trophy and a Medal. She graduated with Bachelor of Arts Degree from the Department of Management, extension program, with a Cumulative GPA of 4.0. Aiming to draw lessons for those who are pursuing their studies at SMU and beyond, the International Relations and Communication Office of SMU had time with Eden to share her experiences and the factors that contributed to her success. We have compiled and presented her story as follows.

The first question we forwarded to Eden was how she chose SMU and what her stay at the University looked like. Eden said, "When I decided to pursue my study in the extension program at a private university, because I was simultaneously pursuing my study at regular program in another private university at the time, I consulted one of my friends and this friend suggested to me to study at either St. Mary's or Addis Ababa University. Finally, I preferred St. Mary's due to its proximity to my home".

Her stay at St. Mary's University was very jubilant: the Department head and the secretary; the instructors, equipped with the requisite knowledge and skills, as well as good relationship with students; the good relationship among students were all factors that have contributed to her pleasant stay at the University. She said, "I have enjoyed every bit of it".

The second question we forwarded to Eden was about factors that contributed to her success at the University. To this end, she replied, "I praise the Almighty God above and beyond anything! All my accomplishments would have been nothing if God had not been involved". "The instructors were awesome: knowledgeable, skillful and with good character," Eden continued. The instructors, according to Eden, were very much friendly, even outside classroom/campus, and forthcoming to encourage students to work hard. "Ato Biniyam Ahmed was one of them and he is the best! His holistic knowledge about the subject matter, his teaching methods which were accompanied with sense of humor, his follow up of assignments, were all wonderful!" she said enthusiastically. All instructors were encouraging her to work even more after she had scored the GPA of 4.0 in the first semester of her first year of study. Particularly, Ato Abeje, one of her instructors then, was encouraging her very much. Another contributing factor to her success was the overall system at the Undergraduate Program of the University, which was very friendly, starting from the registration process, which made things easy for her.



We asked Eden about her personal qualities that contributed to her success, of which she gave much credit to her reading habit since her childhood. Her fast mind, together with her reading habit, according to Eden, had helped her to easily grasp whatever she reads, including her handouts and notes. Her parents, who give much attention to education and are very supportive, had huge role in her success; they spared nothing to see her become successful, including paying her school fee to pursue her study in better schools and universities, supplying her with educational materials, and covering her other expenses, Eden said. "Without their support, I could not make it to this level", Eden added appreciating and thanking her parents.

We also asked Eden about her time management skills. To this, she replied that, "As I was pursuing my study both in the regular (Unity University) and the extension (St. Mary's University) programs simultaneously, I was very busy. Therefore, I did not put any work aside; I did my assignments immediately after class; I read my notes ahead of time and revised them one day before exam (spending the whole day in library)", Eden reiterated.

Finally, we asked Eden to forward her advice to students who are studying at SMU to become successful, and she suggested the following: "Read! enrich your mind by reading since it is food to our mind; have positive attitude towards yourself; tell your mind that you can do anything, because we become what we tell our mind; have self-confidence; finally manage your time well; give your study a priority, other things will follow when time comes."

## የሀዘን መግለጫ የአቶ ተስፋዬ ገ/መስቀል አጭር የህይወት ታሪክ



አቶ ተስፋዬ ገ/መስቀል ማንቦት 21 ቀን 1948 ዓ.ም ከአባታቸው ከአቶ 1/መስቀል ጣንከልክሎትና ከእናታቸው ከወ/ሮ መመናሻ ወንድምኩን በኦሮሚያ ክልል፤ ሊበን ወረዳ ነገሌ ቦረና ከተማ ተወለዱ። ፡ የመጀመሪያና የሁለተኛ ደረጃ ትምህርታቸውን ካጠናቀቁ በኋላ በ1969 ዓ.ም. ከመምክራን ትምህርት ኮሌጅ በዲፕሎማ፤ በ1976 ዓ.ም. ከአዲስ አበባ ዩኒቨርስቲ በኢትዮጵያ ቋንቋዎችና 2961 ሥነ ጽሁፍ (አጣርኛ) በመጀመሪያ እንዲሁም በ2001 (እ.አ.አ) ህንድ አገር ከሚገኘው የኢንድራ ጋንዲ ናሽናል ኦፕን ዩኒቨርስቲ በርቀት ትምህርት በዲፕሎማ ተመርቀዋል፡፡

ወደ ሥራ ዓለም ከተሰማሩም በኋላ ከ1978 ዓ.ም. እስከ 1989 ዓ.ም ድረስ በሁለተኛ ደረጃ መምህርነት፣ ከ1991 ዓ.ም. እስከ 1995 ዓ.ም ድረስ በትምህርት ሚኒስቴር የህዝብ ግንኙነት ኦፌሰር፣ ከ1996 ዓ.ም. እስከ 1998 ዓ.ም. በአዲስ አበባ ሚዲያ የሬዲዮ ፕሮግራም ፕሮዲውሰር፣ ከ1998 ዓ.ም. እስከ 2002 ዓ.ም. የትምህርት ሚዲያ ግምገማና ምርምር ኤክሰፐርት፣ ከታህሳስ 24 ቀን 1995 ዓ.ም. ጀምሮ በቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ የርቀት ትምህርት ኮሌጅ የተማሪዎች ድጋፍ አገልግሎት ሃላፊ በመሆን አገልግለዋል፡፡

በስራ ገበታቸው ላይ በነበሩበት ወቅት በሥራቸው ታታሪና ታማኝ፣ በማል ባህሪያቸው ተማባቢና ሰውን አክባሪ የነበሩት አቶ ተስፋዬ ገ/መስቀል ከቅርብ ጊዜ ወዲህ ባጋጠማቸው ጽኑ ህመም ምክንያት በህክምና ሲረዱ ቆይተው ሐምሌ 12 ቀን 2014 ዓ.ም በተወለዱ በ66 ዓመታቸው ከዚህ ዓለም በሞት ተለይተዋል፡፡ሥርዓተ ቀብራቸውም በዚሁ ዕለት ቤተሰቦቻቸው፣ ወዳጅ ዘመዶቻቸውና የሥራ ባልደረቦቻቸው በተገኙበት አዲስ አበባ በሚገኘው ለቡ ገብርኤል ቤተክርስቲያን ተፈጽሟል፡፡

ቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ በአቶ ተስፋዬ ገ/ መስቀል ኅልፈተ ሕይወት የተሰማውን ፕልቅ ሀዘን እየገለፀ ለቤተሰቦቻቸው፣ ለወዳጅ ዘመዶቻቸውና ለሥራ ባልደረቦቻቸው በሙሉ መጽናናትን ይመኛል:: የአቶ ጣሞ መኩሪያ አጭር የህይወት ታሪክ



አቶ ማሞ መኩሪያ የመጀመሪያ ደረጃ ትምህርታቸውን በ1975 ዓ.ም. በኢዩቤልዩ ቤተ መንግስት ት/ቤት ያጠናቀቁ ሲሆን ወደ ሥራ ዓለም ከተሰማሩ በኋላ የመንግሥት ለውጥ እስከመጣ እስከ 1983 ዓ.ም. ድረስ የመከላከያ ሠራዊት አባል በመሆን፣ ከ1996 ዓ.ም. እስከ ጥር 30 ቀን 2002 ዓ.ም ድረስ ደግሞ በትሩ ሎያል ማንፓወር ኃ/የተ./የግል ኩባንያ በጥበቃ ሱፐርቫይዘርነት ያገለገሉ ሲሆን ከየካቲት 1 ቀን 2002 ዓ.ም. ጀምሮ ህይወታቸው እስካለፈበት ድረስ በቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ የጥበቃና ጽዳት ሱፐርቫይዘር በመሆን ሲያገለግሉ ቆይተዋል፡፡

በስራ ገበታቸው ላይ በነበሩበት ወቅት ሥራቸውን አክባሪ፣ ታታሪና በግል ባህሪያቸው ተጨዋችና ተግባቢና የነበሩት አቶ ጣሞ መኩሪያ ባጋጠጣቸው ድንገተኛ ህመም ምክንያት ሐምሌ 24 ቀን 2014 ዓ.ም ከዚህ ዓለም በሞት ተለይተዋል፡፡ሥርዓተ ቀብራቸውም በዚሁ ዕለት ቤተሰቦቻቸው፣ወዳጅ ዘመዶቻቸውና የሥራ ባልደረቦቻቸው በተገኙበት አዲስ አበባ፣ መገናኛ ላም በረት አካባቢ በሚገኘው አቡነ አረጋዊ ቤተክርስቲያን ተሬጽሟል፡፡

ቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ በአቶ ማሞ መኩሪያ ኅልፈተ ሕይወት የተሰማውን ጥልቅ ሀዘን እየንለፀ ለቤተሰቦቻቸው፣ ለወዳጅ ዘመዶቻቸውና ለሥራ ባልደረቦቻቸው በሙሉ መጽናናትን ይመኛል፡፡





#### ቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ

## ልዩ የምዘናና ፈተና አገልግሎት በቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ

ለመሥሪያቤትዎ የአዲስ ሠራተኛ ቅጥርና የዕድገት ፈተና መስጠት ይፈል*ጋ*ሉ? እንባዲያውስ የቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ ፈተና ማዕከልን ቀልጣፋና ሙያዊ የፈተና አገልግሎት ይጠቀሙ!

በተጨማሪም የቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ የፈተና ማዕከል፡-

- የ ቶፍል ቴስት (TOEFL-Internet-Based Test)
- የ ጄአርኢ ቴስት (GRE-Internet-Based Test)
- **?** Praxis Exam
- የ CISI Exams እና
- በትምህርት ምዘና መስክ የተለያዩ ሥልጠናዎችን በተመጣጣኝ ዋጋ ይሰጣል፡፡

ብቃት ያለው ባለሙያ ለመቅጠርም ሆነ ሚዛናዊነቱ በተረ*ጋ*ገጠ ምዘና ሥራተኞችዎን ለማሳደግ በፈጣንና አስተማማኝ አገልግሎታችን ይጠቀሙ፡፡

ለበለጠ መረጃ፡-

በስል ክቁጥር 0115 51 09 91 ያገኙናል።

የቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ ፈተና ማዕከል



# ቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ ፕሬስ

ቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ ፕሬስ በቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ ሥር ከተዋቀሩ ልዩ ልዩ የትምህርትና የአገልግሎት መስጫ ክፍሎች አንደኛው ነው፡፡

ቅድስት ማርያም ዩኒቨርስቲ ፕሬስ ዋና ዓላማው ጥራት ያላቸው የትምህርት መርጃ መሣሪያዎችንና የንባብ መጻሕፍትን በተመጣጣኝ ዋጋ ለማኅበረሰቡ ማቅረብ ነው፡፡ በመሆኑም በማንኛውም የትምህርት ደረጃ ለሚገኙ ተማሪዎች የሚሆኑ ድጋፍ ሰጪ የንባብ መጻሕፍትን፤ ለመዝናኛና ለዕውቀት መሸመቻ የሚሆኑ የልብወለድና የኢልብወለድ መጻሕፍትን ፤ እንዲሁም ለሕጻናት የንባብ ድርሰቶች ለመጻሕፍት መደብሮችና ለተገልጋዮች ያቀርባል፡፡ የጀማሪና ነባር ደራሲያን የጽሑፍ ሥራዎችን በመቀበልም አሣትሞ ሽያጭ ላይ ያውላል፡፡

አማርኛ ለጀማሪዎች - ፪

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አማርኛ ለጀማሪዎች - ፫

<u>ለበለጠ መረጃ</u> ፦ 0913 42 63 48 ስ.ቁ ፦ 0911 65 35 24 ኢ-ሜይል፦ smupress@gmail.com P.O.Box 1211 አዲስ አበባ፣ ኢትዮጵያ

አማርኛ ለጀማሪዎች

አማርኛ ለጀማሪዎች - ፩

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# St. Mary's University

**Programs** Offered



## Undergraduate Degree Programs (Regular/Extension)

- Accounting & Finance
- Management
- Marketing Management
- Tourism & Hospitality Management
- Computing Science

### Undergraduate Degree Programs (College of Open and Distance Learning)

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- 🔶 Management
- Marketing Management
- Financial Economics
- Rural Development
- Agricultural Extension
- Agri-Business Management
- Cooperative (Accounting & Auditing)
- **Cooperative (Business Management)**
- Educational Planning & Management
- Economics
- Sociology
- Public Administration and Development Management
- Agricultural Economics
- Banking and Finance
- Logistics and Supply Chain Management

## Graduate Programs Offered in Partnership with Open University of Tanzania (OUT)

- Master of Project Management
- Master of Arts in International Cooperation & Development
- Master of Science in Economics
- Master of Human Resource Management

### Postgraduate Programs (Regular)

- **MSc in Quality and Productivity Management**
- MA in Social Work
- MA in Development Management
- Master of Business Administration(MBA)
- MBA with HRM Concentration
- MSc. in Agricultural Economics
- MA in Project Management
- MBA in Accounting and Finance
- MA in Marketing Management
- MA in Development Economics
- MSc. in Computer Science
- MA in Higher Education
- MA in Sociology

## Graduate Programs Offered in Partnership with Universita Cattolica del Sacro Coure, Italy

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