



INTERVIEW WITH TAMARA NYIRENDA

By Lisa Turnbull

1. Why did you decide to attend the Bachelors Programme at ACU?

My decision to attend ACU Bachelors Degree Programme came about firstly due to my changing of courses from medicine at Lusaka Apex Medical University to business course during the last six months of 2017, for the purpose of having a career that I am passionate and vision driven for. Secondly, it was due to the way of teaching in which ACU teaches, based on a Biblical worldview where I can learn to apply it in my career, as well as the teaching of more than just the mind but the whole person.

2. What courses are you taking this term?

The courses I'm taking this term are: Basic Latin, English Composition, Mathematics of Liberal Arts, History of Thought, Old Testament Survey as well as the supra curricular courses.

3. What has been the biggest challenge in this first month at ACU?

Due to the change of environment and way of learning, it has been a bit of a challenge to situate myself into the new way of learning with the holistic approach that I may be built up not only mentally but spiritually also.

4. What has been the biggest blessing in this first month at ACU?

The encouraging atmosphere that is found at ACU, where I can not only grow well with the help they lend but still be the person God made me to be. The friendly nature of my fellow students and everyone around me has been a great blessing.

5. What are your thoughts regarding your interactions with the faculty and staff?

I have found each interaction I have had with the faculty and staff to be caring and kind-hearted people who have given me encouragement and an understanding of a way to live life in a way pleasing to God (a Biblical worldview).

6. How can we pray for you?

- For God's continual grace that I may work hard in all of my given work. And to overcome any challenges.
- To be an encouragement and blessing at ACU.
- To Glorify God in all of my studies.
- God's continual Providence for my school fees.



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In This Issue

Semi-Classical
Christian Education in
Zambia

Interview with Kunda
Kalifungwa

Prayer and Praise

Interview with Tamara
Nyirenda



SEMI-CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION IN ZAMBIA

By Dr. Ken Turnbull, Vice Chancellor of ACU

African Christian University (ACU) was initiated from a vision of seeking knowledge derived from a foundation of God's grand narrative of Scripture, and from that foundation embracing the breadth of all history and cultures to develop the expanse of the humanities and the sciences with a particular

relevance to Africa - historically, presently and for the future. The following explains how that vision was brought to life in the education programmes of ACU.

"For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding,"

Proverbs 2:6

Building the foundations from the one-year, pre-university, certificate-granting Scholars Programme allows development from the centrality of the Bible's Grand Narrative. As an evangelistic curriculum, this course is intended to emphasise God's mission nourishing worship through His redemptive plan throughout history. Developing all of the other remedial, university-preparatory courses from the grammar, logic and rhetoric core of critical thinking, language arts, mathematics and computers drawn from the Bible's grand narrative foundation gives the cohesive life to all of the courses from a vibrant, biblical worldview. This foundation from

God's perspective allows unity of knowledge from any time period, any culture and any category of life. This holistic education encompasses the purpose of a classical education - revealing truth, beauty and goodness as the reconciliation of all things to God in Christ emerges resulting in worship of the sovereign God. Importantly, deriving and applying all education within an African cultural context allows students to experience the relevance of all knowledge to their own lives and purpose.

The first two years of all of ACU's Degree Programmes continue to lay a biblical foundation in a semi-Classical manner from an African cultural context emphasising the cultural mandate fulfilled in Christ's redemption. The student's capacity is, of course, dependent on regeneration in Christ towards flourishing in the ongoing sanctification of God's Spirit. Studying the breadth of the humanities and sciences across history and cultures affords a gymnasium for the exercise of discernment from application of God's Word to all aspects of life. This core curriculum is aligned to God's mission so that the student can experience himself or herself as God's image-bearer. Transformation by renewal of the mind is a work of the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:2) that brings a biblical-worldview perception to all of life.

From this heavenly mindset (Colossians 3:2) students can experience the creative capacities, critical thinking and diligent work ethic that will equip them to best accomplish God's will in their lives and vocations. Linking the mind renewal of the classroom to practical work with the hands is the purpose of the Student Labour Programme.

SEMI-CLASSICAL (CONT.)

Grounding all students in the servant-mindedness of working for communal good through the God-given gifts and talents of each individual is the discipleship that brings education to the character-shaping goals that most appropriately define a true Christian education. This lays the foundation for a graduate who can uniquely bring cultural transformation through any and all of life's endeavours in God's providence.

The final two years of each of ACU's Degree Programmes practically grounds students in the prerequisite knowledge and required skill-sets for success. Continuing to build from the classic to the contemporary knowledge with practical application and skill development equips students to best bring individual gifts and talents to bear in vocational practice. Experience in bringing worldview to ethical application and policy-bearing, communal unification fully prepares a graduate to be a civil leader and an example of applying God's benevolent mission to productive cultural advancement. Culminating in a team-project that addresses a contemporary challenge of African relevance, students will experience bringing the morals and values of the Christian worldview to productive solutions in problem-solving real challenges uniquely faced in Africa. This final stage of undergraduate education brings a cohesive focus of the semi-classically educated Christian student to the real needs for innovative development in Africa. Bringing a divinely inspired concern to ground the graduate in a vocation targeting advancement in Africa, rather than migrating to potentially more materially lucrative cultures elsewhere, will hopefully assure that those most capable of bringing true cultural transformation to Africa will result by those who are from Africa.

This is the goal of a truly biblical, semi-classical, African higher education. May God enable the continued growth and fruition of this vision for ACU.



INTERVIEW WITH KUNDA KALIFUNGWA

By Lisa Turnbull

1-Tell us about your educational, work and ministry experience:

I studied Purchasing and Supply at ZCAS University (Zambia Centre for Accountancy Studies) through the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply. I have also gone on further to do a degree program in Purchasing and Supply Chain Management through Greenwich University.

I acquired some work experience through an internship at Konkola Copper Mines in Chililabombwe, where I did some stores and warehouse management as well as procurement. I have also been working at ACU for the past 6 months.

I have been a member of Lusaka Baptist Church from 2011, and since that time, I have been active as a leader in the Intermediate Youth Ministry for the past 6 years. I have also been active in the student ministry at ZCAS called Elbicites, as well as the ushering ministry at LBC.

2- How did you come to a saving faith in Jesus Christ?

From the time I was born, I was exposed to the gospel mainly from my parents. They constantly used to tell me that I was not a Christian and that I needed to call on the name of the Lord and ask Him for forgiveness for me to be saved; otherwise I would suffer the consequences of eternal punishment in hell. Despite constantly hearing the gospel, I always told myself that I would take the step to become a Christian when I grow older because being a Christian seemed boring, and I wanted to still enjoy myself while I was a kid. In January of 2007, my family and I moved to Zambia from South Africa and took a trip to Mansa to visit my Grandmother. During the Sunday morning service at Mansa Central Baptist Church, my Dad was preaching on the topic of salvation, and for the first time in my life I felt guilty for the way I was living my life and for the way I had been living in disobedience to God. The conviction stayed with me until the end of the service, and it was during the closing prayer when I decided to ask the Lord to forgive me of my sins and to come into my life. From that moment, I experienced a type of joy and peace that I have never experienced before!

3- What did you know about Christian education before learning of ACU?

Fortunately, I knew quite a bit about Christian education before ACU from my primary and secondary schooling as I went to a school in South Africa that taught from a Biblical worldview and when we returned to Zambia, I was homeschooled from a Biblical worldview. Due to this exposure, Christian Education was really the only education I knew until I entered tertiary education which was not taught from a Biblical point of view.

4- How did you learn about ACU?

I learnt about ACU through my Dad, who was part of the church leaders who were consulting with Dr. Turnbull to start the university. I also learnt more of it through my interactions with Dr Turnbull when he and his family moved to Zambia to help start ACU.

5- What are your responsibilities at ACU?

I was given the responsibility of being the Assistant to the Director of International Advancement, which consists of raising awareness about ACU as well as raising funds. I also have the responsibility to procure goods and services for the university.

6- How do you think ACU will impact the graduate and Zambia/Africa?

I think that ACU will impact the graduate in a very big way, not only giving them a very high standard of education, which will help them to be excellent in their vocations, but it will also have an impact on their character and mindset to want to be a hardworking and God glorifying steward in their respective jobs and countries. I believe ACU will help to raise faithful, honest and hard-working people that can change the corrupt and dishonest culture that is present in Zambia.

7- Is there anything else you would like to share about ACU?

I strongly believe that ACU is the best place for students to be because the education received is a holistic education which doesn't only shape the mind, but the character and skills of an individual. Therefore, I would recommend every parent that may be thinking of the best place to send their child, to send them to ACU.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- The students have completed their mid-term exams, so please pray for them to persevere for the remainder of the term.
- Continue to pray for the transformation of the students as they are continually being presented with the Gospel.
- The faculty and staff carry a heavy load at ACU, so please pray for them to be encouraged and strengthened in the work the Lord has called them to do.
- Pray for the ACU-Zambia board as they work at the many tasks that have been delegated to them to accomplish.
- Pray as the ACU-Zambia board organises a meeting with a land developer to discuss the options for ACU to possibly acquire land there.
- Mr. Ntobeko Mjijwa, Fine Arts instructor, has arrived safely and has begun teaching. Pray for him as he adjusts to life in Zambia and for immigration to finish processing his permit booklet. He has been approved.

MATTERS FOR PRAISE

- We thank the Lord for the salvation He has granted to several of the students in the Scholars Programme as their worldview is challenged in their classes, chapel and interactions with others on the campus.
- Thankful for the good interactions that the students are having with their mentors as they are being challenged by a biblical worldview impacting all of life.
- Always very thankful for the volunteers that come to give their time and service to ACU in so many ways!
- The library continues to expand by cataloguing the generously donated books and acquiring new books for the disciplines outside of theology.