

Dear Colleagues,

The PAACS Bulletin continues to tell the story of a growing PAACS. This volume is packed with stories and people upon whom God has His hand. The recent 10 day Basic Science Conference held in Kenya has ended and all are home safely – It was a time of great learning, both medically and spiritually. As the program directors told their stories to each other, it was a vivid reminder that PAACS is trying to do the impossible – which is only possible because God makes it so through His power and His people. Please remember to pray daily for PAACS, for the residents, for the missionaries and for the hospitals. It is only through faithful prayer of the saints that we will move forward through the opposition.

We are approaching the end of the fiscal year June 30. We are in much better financial shape than last year, thanks to God's faithfulness and your support. Please consider giving a gift to PAACS so that we might enter this coming fiscal year stronger than ever. Send your tax-deductible gift to "CMDA-PAACS", PO Box 9906, Fayetteville, NC 28311-9906 or donate with credit card through the CMDA website (www.cmda.org) and be sure to select "PAACS" as the ministry to which it should be accredited.

God is good – all the time!

The Editors



The Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS)

BULLETIN #108

May 2013



"Changing the spiritual and physical health of a continent"

Our vision: PAACS trained surgeons living the gospel and ministering to the sick.

Our Mission: PAACS exists to train and disciple African surgeons to glorify God and to provide excellent, compassionate care to those most in need.

Our goal: To train and disciple 100 African surgeons by 2020.

Mark Oloo, Russ White and Damaris Mbalu perform a total esophagectomy at Tenwek Hospital

Topics in this Newsletter:

[PAACS 3rd Biannual Conference](#)

[Bible Give-Away](#)

[New PAACS Residents – Part II](#)

[New PAACS Urologist at Tenwek](#)

[New PAACS General Surgeon at Soddo](#)

[A Candle in Central Africa](#)

[Academy of Royal Colleges For Volunteering](#)

[News Shorts](#)

Kenya board OKs Kijabe, Tenwek
PAACS Exams under Development
Tenwek Spiritual Retreat

[Announcements](#)

Home Assignments

Help Needed – Soddo

Help Needed – Bansa

Editorial Published

Snell Approved to Commission

New Mbingo Website

ICU Equipment Needed

“Christian Mercy” for Sale

Halter Contact Information

PAACS on Facebook

COSECSA Announces Vacancy

Errata

[Prayer Requests](#)



PAACS 3RD BIENNIAL PRINCIPLES OF SURGERY CONFERENCE

The Third Biannual Principles of Surgery and Basic Sciences Conference was held at the Brackenhurst International Conference Centre in Limuru, about 1 hour northwest of Nairobi. Twenty one PAACS residents attended as well as 5 COSECSA trainees from other programs. There were also 16 PAACS Faculty members (including the Program Directors and Assistant program directors), six PAACS Commissioners including the Executive Director, Academic Dean and Spiritual Dean) and 11 family members.

After an introductory meeting on Sunday evening, May 12, the schedule was fully packed. Breakfast began at 6:30, a worship service was held for an hour beginning at 7:45 PM and then on the average day, there were 8 lectures, each of 45 minutes. Two 15 minutes tea breaks, lunch and a break between 4:15 and 6:30 make up the free time. After supper, there was another hour of lectures, presentations of the individual programs and then some fun. Most people did well to be back in their room by 9 or 9:30, depending on how much conversation they had. On Saturday and on the last day of the conference, Thursday, the schedule was only a half day.

The lectures were on anatomy (14), physiology (12), trauma (11), wound care (5 plus a workshop which included more lectures), orthopedics (5 plus a workshop), surgical principles (7) and pathology (4 plus a workshop). The Spiritual program was a great program written and presented by Rev. Stan Key, our PAACS Spiritual Dean. The workshops taught practical skills; wound care, dental wiring, surgical skills, ENT exam, fine needle aspiration, and orthopedic techniques were all very hands-on. The first Thursday afternoon, the residents and faculty also did a dry lab on surgical skills at the Nairobi Surgical Skills Centre which is located in the U. of Nairobi Anatomy Department.

The schedule was arranged so that the Program Directors, family and free faculty could meet with Rev. Stan Key to delve deeper into the morning lesson, to share and pray with each other and to discuss the new spiritual curriculum for PAACS. Scheduled only for the first week, by popular demand it was continued into the second week. Three of the faculty wives watched the children so the missionary wives could fully participate. One program director wrote in the evaluation that these two weeks had been a true “oasis in the desert.”



PAACS residents play a game of “human knot” on their first night.



Rev. Stan Key met daily with the program directors and their families.

Meetings between the PAACS administration and the PAACS faculty and the PAACS residents were also held. The missionary wives and faculty wives prayed together, shopped together and took a trip to a nearby tea farm.

On Saturday, May 18, a donor treated the PAACS Resident to a walking safari at Crescent Island, a peninsula going into Lake Naivasha. Many of the African trainees had never seen wild animals in such abundance in their own countries and it was a great time together. The weekend was also the time for an “Ethiopia against the Rest” residents (and some faculty) game of football (soccer).



Clockwise: The PAACS faculty (Dr. Carol Spears and Dr. Peter Bird were not available).

PAACS Residents play a game of soccer

A competitive game of Jenga tests their nerves and hands

Fabrue and Ron practice placing fiberglass casts

Residents enjoy one of the icebreakers

Stan Key opens the Word.



More pictures have been posted to www.facebook.com/PAACS. Please "like" the main page while you are there.

On resident wrote in his final evaluation of the conference, “I am more convinced that PAACS cares for its residents and is determined to provide all resources needed to train a good surgeon. Thank you. May God bless the organization and the people behind it. Africa needs programs like PAACS – Africa needs PAACS.”

BIBLE GIVE-AWAY

Jim Taylor was an engineer with a passion for missions around the world, but especially for medical missions in Africa. He had a particular interest in PAACS the last few years of his life, assisting in fund-raising for housing at Soddo Hospital in Ethiopia, fund-raising for support of PAACS residents and in the last year, he had a new project. In July of 2012, he wrote to ask whether the provision of a study Bible in either English or French to each of the residents was something we would be interested in. He worked with two friends, Dr. Cal Jones and Dr. Ron Walcher, and with Biblica-Africa (www.biblica.com) to make it happen and sweetened the deal by arranging for a study manual entitled “Back to the Bible” to also be distributed. The manual has an emphasis on homiletics and Taylor knew that as surgeons with a role of leadership in the church, such skill in preaching might be helpful. He never saw the project completed, going home to his Savior December 21, 2012.

Five months to the day after his death, his son, Steve Taylor, and two representatives of Biblica Africa, Rose Birenge who is the Director of Publishing and Outreach and Jesse Gathura who is involved with Outreach and Resource Mobilization in Kenya, presented a French or English study bible to each of the residents attending the 3rd Biannual Principles of Surgery Conference in Limuru, Kenya. With the assistance of S³ Ministries, enough Bibles and manuals were provided as well for the rest of more senior PAACS residents who were home at their training site.



Paul Gray and Bruce Steffes assist Steve Taylor in handing an English study bible to Efeson Thomas from Ethiopia.



Jean Lenga studies his new Bible while Steve Taylor, Rose Birenge and Jesse Gathura present a French study bible to Fabruce Ramaherimamonjy from Madagascar.

Steve Taylor has plans for this provision of study Bibles to be an ongoing project. His father wrote last July, “Would PAACS like to receive an NIV-Study Bible for each of the residents who are or have been in the surgical residency program as well as those entering up to the 100-graduate target in 2020?” Those who are interested in assisting in this project should contact Steve Taylor at sanetaylor@gmail.com.

Earlier in the conference, each resident attending received an African Bible Commentary written by 70 African Biblical scholars and theologians for the African context. These books have been provided each of the previous two conferences.

NEW PAACS RESIDENTS – PART II

[Editorial note: In the April PAACS Bulletin, there was an introduction of Dr. Amon Ngongola. He has withdrawn his application and the following introduction of the resident who will take his place at Mbingo Baptist Hospital.]

Our newest resident is **Dr. Lemery NIGO**, a 32 year single physician from DR Congo in the eastern Congo. In a decision made by PAACS this week, he will be taking the position at Mbingo Baptist Hospital vacated last week by Dr. Amon Ngongola from Zambia, who resigned for his position for personal reasons.



Dr. Lemery graduated from the University of Kisangani in 2011 and since his graduation has worked at the Christian Medical Center in Bunia with Drs. Philip Wood and James Campbell. Dr. Lemery grew up in a Christian family in Nyankunde and is a disciple in a Brethren church. About this time in his life he wrote, “I followed many sermons urging me to believe in Jesus, but I thought I was already a Christian, but I had not had a personal experience with Jesus.” But during his last year of medical school he heard a message in church from the book of Mark 5:28. He wrote, “I was proud to become a doctor who would serve many people, and I was excited about my achievements. The preacher pointed out from this passage how the woman had suffered for 12 years without being healed, despite many doctors. Then she showed that her faith was in more than medical treatments by thinking, ‘If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.’ This confused me, because this was beyond my experience. I decided to experience this faith by receiving Jesus into my life as my Lord and Savior, and to pray for every patient that I touched. I realized that that healing comes from God and we are just mere tools that he uses. This way of thinking was the opposite of what I thought about my academic and professional achievements.”

About his decision to study surgery with PAACS he wrote, “I have a burden for people who cannot benefit from proper surgery. I am still young, and if I am trained at this age and God gives me the grace to serve, I will have a lifetime to use my skills to help this suffering community.”

Dr. Nigo is currently studying English in Nairobi, Kenya to improve his fluency. He will be supported by a group of committed surgeons from Canada and will begin his studies at Mbingo Baptist Hospital in late October or early November.

NEW PAACS UROLOGIST AT TENWEK

This month, Tenwek Hospital in Kijabe, Kenya has welcomed the Espy family as part of the missionary Family. Paul, along with his wife and four children, has made a mid-life decision to become a medical missionary working as a urologic surgeon with PAACS. He writes:

On April 21st, as six sets of Espy feet stepped onto Kenyan soil, a new chapter in the life of my family began. Through the grace of God and a series of events that only He could orchestrate, I have been given the opportunity to serve as the full-time urologist at Tenwek Hospital. Upon our arrival, we were greeted with a warm welcome from the Tenwek community and an equally congenial embrace from the Kenyan people. Phrases such as “I have a case to review with you” and “we have patients waiting” were

encountered so frequently I almost thought they were rehearsed. But when your continent has approximately one urologist for every four million people, it's easy to understand this disposition.



On many occasions I have wondered why the Lord has allowed me the privilege of serving here. I have no specific area of urologic expertise, having spent my last five years in a general, community based urologic practice. I have no educational background in Bible studies nor do I have a seminary degree. My speaking skills are ordinary at best and I would consider myself a bit on the shy side. The truth is that I may never have the answers this side of Heaven. My only explanation is that I was willing to come.

I am reminded of the words of a wise missionary surgeon who told me early in this journey that the Lord was giving me an invitation to take part in His plans not because He needs to, but because He wants to. But I don't think that one has to go to Africa to find a life filled with unmatched fulfillment. It's much simpler than that - "For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will save it." I hope that my experiences here at Tenwek are more than just interesting topics of

conversation. Rather, I pray that my testimony will demonstrate that eternally meaningful purpose is found in a life placed on the altar. So here I am, offering Him what He offered me ... a life of surrendered. I look forward to the lessons that are waiting to be learned and the stories that will be written by the author and perfecter of our faith.

Espy is excited about working with the PAACS residents. Please pray for the adjustment of Espy and his family to the realities of this new and challenging environment.

NEW PAACS GENERAL SURGEON AT SODDO

R. David Hardin arrived the very end of April at Soddo Hospital and almost immediately was put on call when Paul Gray and the residents left for the conference at Brackenhurst. He survived and writes:

After years of preparation and planning, the Hardin family finally moved to Soddo, Ethiopia. We were warmly welcomed by all here at Soddo Christian Hospital. The kids immediately loved the place. There are plenty of trees to climb and lizards for the kids to catch! Each trip to town to purchase supplies or groceries is an adventure for the kids. On Friday, the Helimission helicopter landed in our "front yard" and interrupted an ongoing soccer game. A few days ago, I asked my 8 year old son Daniel if he liked Ethiopia



more than home. He looked at me somewhat confused and said, "Ethiopia is our home, Dad!"

Karisa has done a great job with continuing the children's homeschooling, despite continued construction ongoing inside and outside our home. I sat at the breakfast table this week as we were having the morning devotional with the kids. At the time, there were four different people chiseling concrete both inside and outside the house. Karisa had to essentially yell the reading over all the noise. It was quite funny. We are slowly learning how to live outside the convenience of what we had previously become accustomed to back home in the states.

Although some things are harder than home, one of the easier things is my commute. It is 140 steps to the operating room from my house. It takes me less than a minute to get to work! You can't beat that commute time. I can take call and still eat meals with my family and see them throughout the day. In a sense, it is like being stay-at-home dad-surgeon. With my previous job, I was often out of the country for months at a time away from my family. I enjoyed the job, but missed my family tremendously. As a surgeon here in Soddo, I have already taken our two oldest children with me on afternoon and evening rounds through the wards. They love it and it gives us great one on one time as they ask lots of curious questions.

Working with the PAACS surgical residents has been a joy. The residents have been at a PAACS basic science conference in Kenya for the past two weeks. They returned yesterday morning and we all rounded as a group through the wards. One of the patients here is a man who sustained severe burns over most of his body five months ago. The man has burns on his head and he keeps his face wrapped in a shroud like a mummy. He has suffered greatly and has had a grim, worn look on his face every morning. The man has a gentle spirit, but I had not yet seen him smile. As we entered the room, the man's eyes lit up through his coverings and a broad smile crossed his pink, scarred face. He saw Dr. Ronald, one of the residents who is from Rwanda. Both Ronald and the man grinned and exchanged greetings and chatted and as if they were long-lost brothers. The genuinely sincere love and compassion I observed was priceless. As we went from room to room, the residents would often stop in the middle of dressing changes and begin to pray for their patients.

As a husband, father, and surgeon here in Ethiopia, I am learning daily. There are more things here that I don't know, than I do. With time and God's grace, hopefully this will be inverted. Please pray that God gives our family wisdom, patience, and grace as we adjust to a new life and culture here in Ethiopia. I am praying to have The Shepherd's heart for my family and for those we teach and the patients we serve.

Please pray for the Hardins as they adjust to Ethiopia and Soddo Hospital.

A CANDLE IN CENTRAL AFRICA

In April of this year Dr. Renee Valach, a Pediatrician-Internist serving at the Bongolo Hospital in Gabon, traveled to Nebobongo Hospital in eastern DR Congo to visit and encourage PAACS graduate Jean Claude Bataneni . Following Jean Claude's graduation in 2011 from Bongolo Hospital, the couple chose to return to this remote and desperately underserved part of Africa. In the past year they have rebuilt crumbling buildings, cared for thousands of poor patients, survived an Ebola epidemic and made countless improvements in the hospital's services to the community. During her visit, Dr. Renee was able to help Dr. Bataneni take his first X-ray.

Recently Dr. Bataneni wrote, "We have operated on very hard cases but praise the Lord, all did well after surgery. I am happy to have helped a little boy who was born with multiple abnormalities (hydrocephalus, spina

bifida, and hypospadias). We started by inserting a ventriculo-peritoneal shunt, then closed the spina bifida.



Dr Valach (red shirt) and Dr. Bateneni (far right) in OR

Praise the Lord both operations went well and without infection.” Dr. Bateneni continues to be the only trained surgeon for approximately 2 million people.

Renee wrote, “At Nebobongo. people don’t ride in cars, they ride bicycles or motorcycles and use them to carry heavy loads. This includes sandwiching the body of a deceased patient between two live riders to get the deceased home for burial. There aren’t service stations, so gas is sold out of small plastic Coke bottles at kiosks along the road.”

Please pray for this courageous couple as they struggle to serve the poorest of the poor. Jean Claude writes, “If God puts it in your heart to support us, you can do so by sending a check to: CARES, 6705 E. 81st Street, Suite 152, Tulsa, OK 74133. Thank you!”

ACADEMY OF ROYAL COLLEGES ENCOURAGES VOLUNTEERING

In a document entitled, “Academy Statement on Volunteering: Health Professional Volunteers and Global Health Development” available from <http://www.aomrc.org.uk/about-us/news/item/academy-encourages-volunteering-opportunities-in-global-health.html>, The Academy of Medical Royal Colleges:

recognises that increasingly health in the UK is influenced by diseases and health issues at the global level. Evolving NHS practice means that not only are UK based healthcare professionals challenged with pandemic diseases and health issues in returned travellers, migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, but also with innovative ways of delivering healthcare in low resource settings. Therefore, it is critical that UK based healthcare professionals take advantage of opportunities to engage in global health.

Volunteering in low resource healthcare settings provides one of the several ways that UK healthcare professionals can increase their expertise in global health. In combination with a career in the NHS, volunteering can provide additional value to the individual and the NHS as well as making a critical contribution to improving health in developing countries.

...The Academy recognises that, in addition to the potential of helping improve health in resource-limited settings, individuals who volunteer often acquire personal and professional skills that are transferable to the NHS, and international health partnerships can help stimulate innovation in both settings.

... However, it is recognised that challenges persist to ensuring activities undertaken result in a positive and sustainable impact for both parties. Moreover the Academy acknowledges that healthcare professionals who wish to volunteer may face barriers at various levels when trying to do so, and the application of potential solutions is often subject to geographical and inter-professional variation.

...Health professionals often face challenges that can broadly be categorised into six areas:

- Granting of time out from training and/or employment for volunteers
- Formal recognition of volunteering for professional development
- A fragmented environment for volunteering activities
- Monitoring, evaluation and research of volunteering activities
- Information, training and support for volunteers
- Additional expenditures and the loss of employment entitlements for volunteers.

Taking these into account, and in view of the potentially enormous benefits of engaging in global health, the Academy urges its members and others who play a role in facilitating volunteering opportunities for healthcare professionals to work together to overcome them.

Bruce Steffes, Executive Director of PAACS, says, "We are very pleased to see that others recognize the great need for and the benefits of medical volunteerism. We find those same six obstacles to be true for those who volunteer with PAACS and are so glad that those who serve with PAACS understand the eternal component of their service."

NEWS SHORTS:

- **Tenwek, Kijabe Recognized by Kenyan Board:** In a letter dated 20 May, 2013, Professor George Magoha, Chairman of the Medical Practitioners and Dentists Boards of Kenya, wrote in a letter to the COSECSA training Coordinator of Kenya that the Board recommended that graduates of Kijabe and Tenwek Hospital COSECSA programs be recognized. They also recommended that COSECSA strengthen the training of basic sciences and pathology. They also recommended the discontinuance of programs at four general hospitals until the proper structure has been put into place.

Dr. Rich Davis wrote to his team at Kijabe, "Congratulations especially to ...all of you [who] willingly entered the program not knowing for sure whether certification lay at the end of the process. I am so proud of you all and of all the work you have put into your education and training. I know that it will continue to pay off. A huge relief and encouragement to all of us! Praise God!

- **PAACS Exams under Development:** Saturday, July 6, will be the date for the annual PAACS in-service exam. Each year, a 200 question multiple choice (best answer) exam is created for both the junior level residents and for the senior residents. Hundreds of hours of work go into writing, editing and selecting the questions. In addition, a remediation exam must be prepared in case that anyone does not pass the exam. Dr. Carl Haisch has been responsible for several years to oversee this process. He is assisted by the curriculum committee. The tests are written to a blueprint to make sure that the exam is valid and questions appropriately distributed and then they are analyzed for reliability. In addition, oral examinations are being prepared for the graduating chief residents from Bongolo and Cameroon. Professor O.O. Mbonu and Professor King David Terna Yawe, two external examiners from the West African College of Surgery, will participate. The examination will be held at Mutengene Hospital, near Douala Cameroon and is being facilitated by PAACS graduate Henry Ndasi. Examiners for that exam will include Program Directors and PAACS Commission members as well as the WACS examiners.

- **Tenwek Spiritual Retreat:** On Saturday, February 25, all of the Tenwek PAACS team (with the exception of Dr. Russ White) traveled to the Mara Mara Club on the Findlay tea estate in Kericho. It was a day of games (including one on the tennis court which featured rules made up on the spot) and a time of reflection. A challenge from PAACS Executive Director, Bruce Steffes, was centered on Joshua chapter one and the need to “be strong and courageous.” A presentation was made by Carol Spears on the White and Chapman book “The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace: Empowering Organizations by Encouraging People.” The individuals identified their own languages of appreciation and then wrote encouragements to the others.



Members of the Tenwek PAACS Team write notes of encouragement to each other, telling them what they appreciate about each other.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Reminder – Free Textbook** is available – The new PAACS textbook “Principles of Reconstructive Surgery in Africa” is available for free download at <http://paacs.net/involved/paacs-resources/paacs-reconstructive-surgery-text/>. Please sign in and give us some basic demographics before you download it.
- **Home Assignments:** The following PAACS surgeons are on home assignment presently or will be soon. Please pray for them.
 - **Erik Hansen** – March 24 – Aug 24, 2013
 - **Jon Pollock** – April – July, 2013
 - **Rich Davis** – April – August, 2013
 - **Duane Anderson** – May 5 – 20, 2013
- **Help Needed at Soddo:** Paul Gray, Program Director at Soddo and one of only two surgeons there, will be on home assignment December 2013 until the end of March 2014. He requests help for those four months. If any general surgeon can assist them during this time, please contact Dr. Gray at paul.gray@paacs.net.
- **Help Still Needed at Banso Hospital:** Professor Tih has asked for assistance in identifying a general surgeon to help cover Banso Baptist Hospital between June 16 and August 15 when Dr. Yali will be on

extended leave and Dr. Ngock will be there alone. Both are PAACS graduates and Bansa was a previous site of PAACS training. Two time slots are still without coverage: July 1-15 NS July 29-Sep 15. If you might be willing to serve at Bansa Hospital during this time to help our graduates and the hospital, please communicate with either Professor Tih (piustih@cbchealthservices.org) or Jim Brown (Jimbrownjab@aol.com) directly. World Medical Missions does not have an agreement with this hospital.

- **Editorial Published:** Dr. Walter Johnson, neurosurgeon and liaison from Loma Linda University to the PAACS board since April 2012, has published an editorial in *Surgical Neurology International* entitled "Surgery as a Global health Issue." PAACS is mentioned favorably. It may be downloaded from http://www.surgicalneurologyint.com/temp/SurgNeuroInt4147-6391909_174519.pdf. Johnson also serves on the editorial board of the journal.
- **Snell Approved to PAACS Commission:** Dr. Mark Snell has been approved by the Christian Medical and Dental Associations' Board of Trustees to a position on the PAACS Commission. Snell is a general surgeon who spent the first part of his professional career in the United States Air Force and since that time has worked as a surgeon in multiple locations. He has served on the PAACS Advisory Commission since 2009 and has made several trips to PAACS training sites. Congratulations and welcome aboard!
- **New Mbingo Website:** Please visit the new website for Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon at <http://mbingo.org>
- **ICU Equipment Needed:** Mbingo Baptist Hospital is in need of monitoring equipment for 19 ICU beds. Pediatric and neonatal equipment is needed as part of that. Please contact Steve Sparks at missionsparks@aol.com if you can help.
- **CHRISTIAN MERCY Now on Sale:** "Christian Mercy", the new book published by PAACS Director for Africa Dr. David Thompson is now available in hard copy on Amazon.com for \$12.99. Please let your friends know should they be interested in obtaining copies. It can also be purchased in e-book format on both Amazon.com and Smashwords.com for \$4.99.
- **Halter Contact Info:** In the April *PAACS Bulletin*, you read of the desire of David Halter and his family to become a career missionary at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. If you wish to find out more about them or help with financial support, please visit their new webpage; www.worldventure.com/halterfamily/ and you may contact them at their new e-mail address halterfamily@worldventure.net
- **Progress on Facebook:** We are almost at 500 "likes". Please encourage your friends to "like" us! Visit the site frequently to be kept up to date between PAACS Bulletins. While there, look for other pages from our PAACS system. A recent addition is <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Tenwek-Surgery-Program/264229033699491>
- **COSECSA Announce Vacancy in CEO/Registrar Position:** The College of Surgery of East, Central and Southern Africa (www.cosecsa.org) which has accredited PAACS has sent out an e-mail announcing the vacancy in the position of Chief Executive Officer/Registrar, a position presently held by Professor Krikor Erzingatsian. The announcement reads, "The CEO will be based at the headquarters of the College which is located in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania. He will be expected to visit and coordinate the 10 member countries." The post was offered on a renewable three-year contract business and the preferred starting date would be the 1st of August. The application for the position were to have been entered by 31 May, 2013. The e-mail is: cosecsa@ecs.or.tz.

- **Errata**



DR. Ngwa Tang “Titus” Ebogo



Dr. Juana Kabba

We are sorry that we erred and switched the pictures of two new trainees in the April PAACS Bulletin. The pictures are properly labeled on the left.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- Praise God for the great time together at the PAACS Basic Science Conference. Please pray that the unity which was forged will remain strong.
- Praise God for the recognition of the training at Tenwek Hospital and Kijabe Hospital
- Pray that both Mbingo Baptist Hospital and Bongolo Hospital will receive the government recognition that they seek.
- Praise God that the David Hardin family is in Soddo, Ethiopia) and the Paul Espy family is in Tenwek. Pray ray that their anxieties, insecurities and concerns will be put to rest; that their needs will be met and that they will follow the Lord’s call on their life.
- Pray for the David Halter family (headed to Arusha, Tanzania). Pray that God will provide them a team of prayer and financial partners and that they will be prepared in record time.
- Pray for God’s clear leading for the Andrew Chew family (still waiting on God) as they seek to prepare for their moves to Africa.
- Pray for Dr. Wendy Willmore and the whole team at Arusha as they seek God’s guidance in what to do at the present time regarding the opening of a program in January.
- Pray that God will call additional career surgeons to join the PAACS faculties at Kijabe Hospital in Kenya, Soddo Christian Hospital in Ethiopia, and Mbingo Baptist Hospital in Cameroon.
- Pray that God will call a second pediatric surgeon to join Dr. Eric Hansen at Bethany Kids, Kijabe, Kenya. The program urgently needs two surgeons to continue training its fellows. Pray for Dr. Erik Hansen while he is on home assignment and praise God that he has been able to obtain (through you) adequate coverage during his absence.

- Pray for those who are on furlough (home assignment), returning from furlough or about to go. Pray that they will get rest and rejuvenation and when possible will spread the word about what is being accomplished in Africa.
- Pray for the newly selected PAACS residents and their families as they prepare to move, sometimes across several countries, and as they face the uncertainty of this new experience. Pray for their wives and families who must adjust to the new culture. Pray that they will have the funding needed to move and to buy visas.
- Pray for all the residents as they study for the PAACS written examinations to be held on July 6. Pray for the group that is assembling this exam.
- Pray for the oral examinations that are coming up in Cameroon in July – that all the details will come together and that the trainees will acquit themselves honorably.

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