

# UNIVERSITY OF BUEA

MAY 2023

ANNIVERSARY MAGAZINE

## UB@30 **A Tale of Humble Beginnings, Burgeoning Present & Enviably Future**

From Njeuma to Ngomo



Prof. Dorothy L. NJEUMA  
1993 - 2005



Prof. Cornelius MBIFUNG LAMBI  
2005 - 2006



Prof. Vincent P. K. TITANJI  
2006 - 2012



Prof. NALOVA LYONGA  
2012 - 2017



Prof. NGOMO Horace MANGA  
2017 -

### From

#### Four Establishments in 1993

Advanced School of Translators & Interpreters  
Faculty of Arts  
Faculty of Science  
Faculty of Social & Management Sciences

### To

#### Eleven Establishments in 2023

Advanced School of Translators & Interpreters  
Faculty of Agriculture & Veterinary Medicine  
Faculty of Arts  
College of Technology  
Faculty of Education  
Faculty of Engineering & Technology  
Faculty of Health Sciences  
Faculty of Laws & Political Science  
Faculty of Science  
Faculty of Social & Management Sciences  
Higher Technical Teachers' Training College Kumba

**UB Alumni network mobilising to weigh in**







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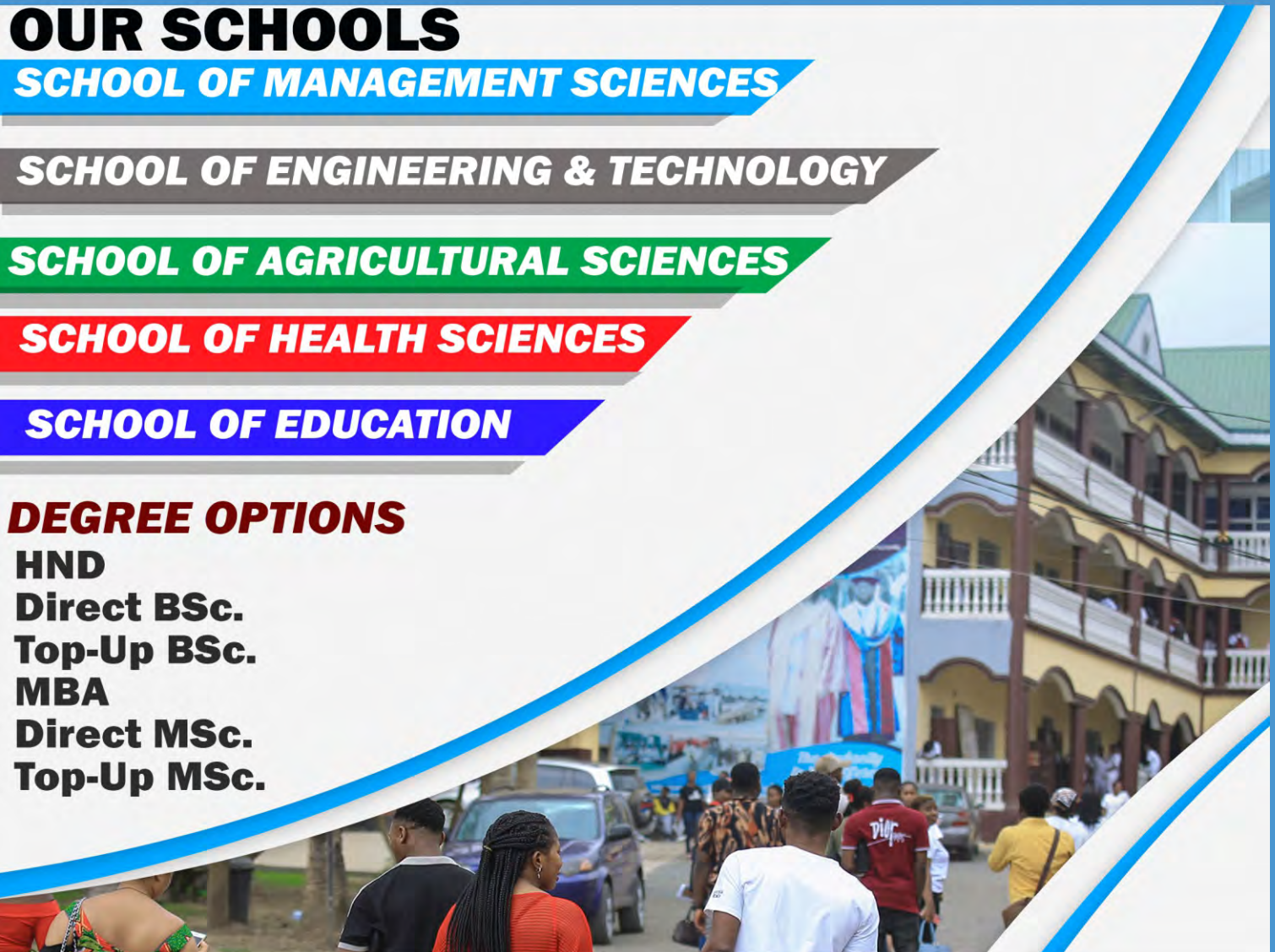
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Vice-Chancellor, University of Buea



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Pro-Chancellor, 2005 - 2009



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Pro-Chancellor, 2009 - 2017



**Prof. Edward Oben Ako**  
Pro-Chancellor, 2017 -



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Vice-Chancellor, 1993 - 2005



**Prof. Cornelius Mbifung Lambi**  
Vice-Chancellor, 2005 - 2006



**Prof. Vincent P. K. Titanji**  
Vice-Chancellor, 2006 - 2012



**Prof. Nalova Lyonga**  
Vice-Chancellor, 2012 - 2017



**Prof. Ngomo Horace Manga**  
Vice-Chancellor, 2017 -



**Prof. Beban Sammy Chumbow**  
DVC/TIC, 1993 - 1998



**Prof. Vincent P. K. Titanji**  
DVC/TIC, 1998 - 2005



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DVC/TIC, 2018 - 2019



**Prof. Nol Alempong**  
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**Dr. Herbert Nganjo Endeley**  
DVC/RCB, 2005 - 2006



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**Prof. Victor Julius Ngho**  
DVC/RCB, 2007 - 2014



**Prof. George Epah Fonkeng**  
DVC/RCB, 2014 - 2018



**Prof. Martha Simo Tumnde né Njikan**  
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**Prof. Lucy M. Ayamba Ndiip**  
DVC/RCB, 2019 - 2022



**Prof. Kingsley Lyonga Ngame**  
DVC/RCB, 2022 -



**Prof. Emmanuel Nges Chia**  
DVC/ICE, 1998 - 2003



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**Prof. Roland N. Ndiip**  
REGISTRAR, 2014 - 2019



**Prof. Ernest Molua**  
REGISTRAR, 2019 - 2021



**Prof. Eneke Bechem**  
REGISTRAR, 2021 -



# EDITORIAL

## UB at 30: Impacting the Future Together through Innovative Solutions

Today, the University of Buea, UB, celebrates 30 years of excellence and resilience. The citadel took off modestly in 1985 as the Buea University Centre, raised to a University through Presidential decree in 1992, and established in 1993. From May 29, 1993 when we had our First Matriculation with 768 students, three Faculties and one School, UB today counts over 33,000 students, 11 Establishments, and above 60,000 graduates. It is time to reflect on our journey so far, and look forward to the future – what we can do to make UB ‘The Place to Be Always’

The theme for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UB is carefully worded: “Impacting the Future Together through Innovative Solutions”. Why impact? We look at ourselves as a veritable fortress of learning and excellence where quality assurance and professionalism have been our Unique Selling Proposition (USP) from the beginning. This was the vision of the founding parents of this great university, and it is in our interest to protect it. The world needs impact creators –not to necessarily change the world, but contribute our quota to make life more meaningful and worth living.

We are now focused on an optimistic future where we will be able to get everyone –all our alumni and partners on board, for positive development and transformation of UB; transformation in infrastructural development, modern equipment for standard teaching and learning, character, and transformation in the way we regard our institution –not as passive observers, but as active and committed alumni and stakeholders.

We seize this opportunity to pay glowing tributes to all the founding parents of UB. Their sacrifices, sweat, and blood watered the fertile soil on which we stand today –The Place to Be. The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary is thus an occasion for us to celebrate them. They built a solid foundation, without which, we would not have gone this far, talk less of celebrating our past, while paying attention to the future. At the just ended University Games in Ngaoundere, April 29–May 6, 2023, UB won the First Prize as ‘Most Well Behaved Institution throughout the period of the Games’. This is the transformation of the human character which we are celebrating today. We honour our founding parents for laying this remarkable foundation.

The concept of togetherness is well emphasised in the theme of our celebration. An African proverb says ‘a single hand cannot tie a bundle’. We have reached a point where all of us need to take the development of UB at heart, and as top priority. We laud, in a special way, the mobilisations of the Alumni towards this event.

As UB Pioneer Vice-Chancellor remarked during the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary interview, “We should use this occasion to rekindle the image and hopes of the University of Buea”. Together, we can!

In his inaugural speech, John F. Kennedy, 35<sup>th</sup> President of the United States of America, affirmed: “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country.” Similarly, we implore all UB Alumni to rekindle the question of what they can do for UB, to make the institution worthy of its name and character. We also salute the business community, individuals, partners, and sponsors who have stood by UB for these years. We beckon on them to continue supporting UB in its drive towards innovative solutions. One of our key 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary projects is the launching of the Printing Press and Bookshop. Let us work in synergy to push this and other projects forward with optimism.

UB has produced some of the finest graduates around the world. They are everywhere. Notwithstanding, a common umbrella where all UB Alumni assemble is missing. They act in dispersed ranks and find solace to identify with, especially, their departments and establishments. This is laudable, but the bigger umbrella, the University of Buea is even more salient. This is the moment to rekindle the spirit of togetherness across the establishments and UB. Beautiful stories abound on how alumni transform their campuses throughout the world. UB should be among!

With regards to innovative solutions, we are all called upon to be part of the solution and success story of UB, and not the problem. Let us constantly seek ways to improve the quality of services; that is, teaching, research, and outreach at UB and beyond. This will make us weigh higher on the competitive scale of excellence. Everett Rogers, esteemed Professor of Communication and Sociology, proposed the Diffusion of Innovations theory in which he identified how people react differently to innovations or new ideas: Innovators (2.5%), Early adopters (13.5%), Early majority (34%), Late majority (34%), and Laggards (16%). Innovators love new ideas and strategy. They adventure, take risks, and accept results. They want to be the “first to embrace the innovation”. Early adopters love the innovation too, but watch to see innovators succeed or fail, before deciding. Early majority and Late majority come in late into the innovation, and may fall off when tough challenges surface. Laggards do not care. They are scared to belong and fear failure. Dear Alumni, where do you belong amongst the five categories? Are you an Innovator who is passionate about driving a new vision for the future of UB? Are you an Early adopter? Early majority? Late Majority? or Laggard? The answer is in your hands. The time for action to move our beloved University of Buea, ‘The Place to Be Always’ forward, is now!

*Long Live UB –The Place to Be Always!*

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# INTERVIEWS

## PROFESSOR MRS. DOROTHY LIMUNGA NJEUMA (VC-UB, 1993 – 2005)

*As Pioneer Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buea, could you throw some light on the creation and growth of this institution?*

The University of Buea grew out of very loud agitations for an institution of tertiary education that could be a continuation of what English-speaking students had at primary and secondary levels. That was in 1991 at the University of Yaounde at the time when English-speaking students were agitating for a university that could better suit their background. The strikes became so agitated that the President of the Republic, President Paul Biya, as a solution, signed a decree in April 1992 to transform the University Centres of Buea and Ngaoundere into Universities. The University of Buea was to be styled in the English-speaking tradition and the University of Ngaoundere in the French-speaking tradition. Many people seem to have forgotten that, and the decree of 1992 has been shelved to the background. So, we see many texts now on university activities that are signed without mention of that decree of April 1992. At that time, I was the Director General of the Buea University Centre, which had as a sole school, the Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI). We undertook a number of visits together with Professor Joseph Ngu who was the Inspector General at the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research at the time. We undertook some visits to the UK and Canada, to learn from their experiences in higher education and especially universities of the English-speaking tradition. Canada, as you know, also has a peculiarity of being a bilingual country –English and French, and has universities that are English-speaking and French-speaking. So, we did all of that background, and the British Council at the time was very helpful. They linked us with the University of Manchester and a number of staff where the University Centre went on attachment to the University of Manchester. That was in particular, Professor Tala Kashim who was Secretary General of the Buea University Centre at the time, and Dr. Denis Nkweteyim who was in charge of Students' Records; because students' records in the system, as you know, are extremely important in the organisation and management of universities. So, we did all of that, and then we even prepared a draft decree to organise the University of Buea in the English-speaking tradition, which we submitted to the Ministry of Higher Education.

*What support did you get from the government and the Anglophone community to start the University?*

Well, as I indicated, the University of Buea grew out of the Buea University Centre, which had one relatively small school –ASTI. We were now to plan for the intake of hundreds if not thousands of students. We started in May 1993. In January 1993, a decree was signed to create four other universities, that is, the University of Yaoundé I, and the University of Yaoundé II, which were from the former University of Yaoundé, which had also become too large. Then, the University Centres of Douala and Dschang were also transformed into universities. The University Centres of Buea and Ngaoundere were transformed into universities in 1992. So, in January 1993, four other universities were created to make six. That same January, the heads of the six universities were appointed: a Vice-Chancellor for the University of Buea, which I was fortunate to have been, and Rectors of the other five universities. Now, the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research at the time,

Professor Titus Edzoa invited us to his office and indicated to us that he had received 300 million FCFA from government for the six universities to take off. So, each university had 50 million FCFA. So, I came back to Buea together with my colleagues; the Registrar –the late Herbert Endeley, Director of Academic Affairs –Professor Hansel Eyoh, and the Deans of the three initial faculties: Faculty of Arts, whose Dean was my late husband, Professor Martin Njeuma; the Faculty of Science whose Dean was Professor Titanji, and the Faculty of Social and Management Sciences whose Dean was Professor Chumbow. Professor Chumbow was Deputy Vice-Chancellor, cumulatively with the position of Dean of the Faculty of Social and Management Sciences. Professor Tala Kashim was Director of Students' Affairs. We had interminable meetings; lots of those meetings going well into the night or early hours of the next day. Now, how do we start a university with 50 million FCFA? But we did. We made a lot of sacrifices. The Deans and Directors accepted to

function with their personal cars. They did not have official cars. So, we had all these meetings and decided on the number of students to admit. We called for applications, screened them, and admitted a first batch of students. That was in May 1993. Everybody was astonished. The community was very excited to have an English-speaking university begin. The staff we had at the time were very committed to the mission of the university. So we said, why don't we set up a Development Fund? So, that year, May 1993, the Minister came, we had matriculation, May 29, at the Open Commons. We invited parents and

interested parties, and the Development Fund was launched. We knew that 972 students could be accommodated in the infrastructures that we already had. But, by September, we had to have a new intake with many more students, and we only had 50 million FCFA (laughs). Fifty million Francs could not put up infrastructure. So, the Development Fund was launched. I recall the Minister at the time, Titus Edzoa in his speech saying, who would not be part of a good idea? And he gave a substantial amount in his private capacity. Then, there was the CDC whose General Manager at the time was Peter Mafany Musonge, who was President of the Development Fund. Also, UB happened to have been lucky in its prime, to have been selected same year 1992, to be part of the African scholarship programme of American universities, which selection was on a competitive basis. So, we went to the university and came back. To crown it, and interestingly, the French Corporation gave a huge package of 250 million FCFA. What was raised during the occasion was circa 300 million FCFA. We started putting up new infrastructure and the second wing of the library, the laboratory structures for the Faculty of Science, and the U-Block of classrooms. We supervised the construction works ourselves. We bought materials and paid the builders. We couldn't afford giving out contracts in the way that is done now where you have huge amounts of money, which do work that is not commensurate to the large figures. That is how we started. By the following year, we took over 1000 new students, and the figures kept on growing at a controlled pace because we were conscious of the fact that we were running a university in the English-speaking tradition. In the English-speaking tradition, it is not any Tom, Dick, and Harry who is admitted. Admission is selective, and you admit taking into account infrastructure, staff, and financial resources.

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*We should use the 30th Anniversary to rekindle the image and hopes of this institution. Let us keep the flame alive!*”





**What was your vision for the University of Buea?**

Well, we had a vision. I was head of a team and we worked together as a team. We had as vision, making the University of Buea look like an institution which our young people were rushing to the UK, the USA, Germany and other places in search of higher education. So, quality assurance was one of our main objectives. A university is only worth its name from the quality of its teaching, research, and products. That was our vision –provide in Cameroon what young people seek outside.

**As first Vice-Chancellor, how satisfied are you with achieving this vision?**

Well, I think the University of Buea still stands out as the place to be. I am satisfied on one hand, but I am also disappointed on the other. Satisfied from the commitment of the staff and the students of this institution who have, over the years, made sacrifices to keep up to the standards which we set ourselves in 1992 and 1993. Disappointed to the extent that some staff and students were misguided. Misguided into thinking that this was a place or a stage to launch all kinds of protests, all kinds of strikes. In 1993, to beef up the Development Fund, we called on parents...because fees at the time were set at 50,000 FCFA. I will not say it was nothing, but compared with the demands, it could not meet up with the infrastructural and other needs for the upkeep of an institution of this size. So, to beef up the Development Fund, we asked that parents should contribute 20,000 FCFA per student, in addition to the 50,000 FCFA set by government. This was for the benefit of the students. But strangely, some students went on strike to protest against that programme. They even went out of campus to attack the home of Dr. Francis Biaka, who was head of that programme. The next day, they locked the gate into the university, and you know, from then, they went on to many other things taking up political dimensions, which had nothing to do with the university. It is unfortunate that from their activities on campus and outside the campus of the University of Buea, they have gone into spearheading the crisis in which we live today from 2016. That is a fact. Those who led strikes on the campus here are those spearheading from abroad all the destruction that we have been living since 2016. So, I say that I am disappointed from that angle. It was not only the students. It was also some of the staff; many of whom have escaped abroad, some of whom are still here in Cameroon, continuing with the indoctrination and agitations that we are living today.

**How did you cope with the challenges you had at the time as pioneer Vice-Chancellor?**

We have talked about the challenge of development. About encroachment on university land, well, the university came, and the university was growing. A lot of infrastructure was developing around the university. The university has an access road of 600 meters from the main road. Everybody was building –hostels for students, residences for staff, and

we thought that if we do not put up a boundary fence along the access road and the boundaries of the university, we will be in trouble. So, I believe it was 2002 that we now did the fence along the access road and along the East boundaries of the university, with the resources of the university. Then, on the second piece of land that was allocated by government from the CDC to the University Centre at the time 1984–1985, which is on the other side of the main access road into Buea, some 40 hectares initially meant for staff residences, we also put boundary pillars on that piece of land. We are glad that the Faculty of Social and Management Sciences has now been constructed on that piece of land. A lot of people complained that we were preventing neighbours from having access to the premises. We said no. We had left 7 meters on either side of the access road. That was big enough to enable the neighbours to access their residences. I am glad today that the fence is appreciated. With the insecurity today, there is a challenge for the university...not only the insecurity...but the phenomenon of land grabbing which has come into Buea where land is grabbed by everybody. The university has a challenge of protecting its land. I recall that in 2019, there was an attempt to alienate 74 hectares of university land on the main campus. I could not withhold myself from protesting to the Minister of State Property that it could not happen. I am glad that he went back on his attempt to alienate university land.

**As pioneer Vice-Chancellor, what is your assessment of UB's products (graduates) 30 years after?**

I think that is an assessment for the users of the products. What I hear is that, the products of today are not like those of yesterday. That is what I hear, and I think that the University should take that into serious account. A university is only worth its name from the quality of its products. So, when you bring a certificate from Brown University...Brown University happens to be my alma mater; it is known what that represents. You bring a certificate from Manchester University, or from McGill University, everybody knows what that represents. A name cannot be bought. A name is deserved. A name is merited.

**Your final remarks as UB celebrates 30 years.**

We should use this occasion to rekindle the image and the hopes of this institution. As I say, a university is worth its salt from the quality of its teaching, research, and products. So, let us keep that flame alive.

**Thank you Professor. It has been our pleasure to have you as Pioneer Vice-Chancellor as UB celebrates 30.**

Thank you very much. I thank God that 30 years on, I'll still be alive. As I look back to 1993, I have realised that all the colleagues with whom we started universities as institution heads have transited to the great beyond. I thank God for his blessings in keeping me alive and on my feet until now.





## PROFESSOR CORNELIUS MBIFUNG LAMBI (VC-UB, 2005 - 2006)

### *What are your thoughts on UB at 30?*

In celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UB, I settled on a number of salient reflections: Our journey at UB; the Academic Achievements of UB in the last 30years; Some ground breaking innovations at UB; my expectations of this Great Institution of Higher Learning, and my final remarks.

I am today obliged to say welcome to the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University of Buea – The Place to Be. The story of UB dates back to the balkanisation of the University of Yaounde. We came with the hope and determination to make UB succeed and also to make it the best Cameroon University opened to our children who wished to study under the Anglo-Saxon system of Education. We came, committed to train the new breed of Cameroonian students under the new language tradition. We came under the able leadership of Professor Dorothy Njeuma, a highly rated and seasoned administrator who stood for the progress and development of UB. Based on its astounding success and reputation, UB became a household word.

### *What is your assessment of the academic achievements of UB?*

UB has done excellently well in its 30 years of existence in the training of manpower. Our programmes have expanded to produce the essential manpower for various development sectors. For these great academic landmarks, I express profound gratitude to University authorities for UB' continuous growth. New lecture halls and amphitheatres have emerged to accommodate the rising demands for tertiary education. UB has churned out thousands of Bachelors, Masters, and Ph.D. graduates. They are everywhere – both in Cameroon and abroad – in Government, Schools and Universities, and reputed International Organisations.

### *How do you assess innovations at UB?*

Health is wealth! In pursuance of the need to address the health issues of our burgeoning population, we sued for a Medical School, since the lone Cameroon Medical School (CUSS) could not train all the doctors to serve nearly 25 million Cameroonians at the time. Perhaps, this is one of the greatest innovations at the University of Buea – the opening of the Medical School. Our evaluation of the Faculty of Health Sciences has been very positive. We are much indebted to the State for granting this essential Faculty of Health Sciences, which today stands tall in its significant contribution to the Cameroon Healthcare System.

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*We look forward to a continuation of the great successes of the University of Buea, so that our prowess in academia can be boldly inscribed in golden letters*”

It is also essential to mention the regularisation of university degrees and diplomas, on the one hand, namely, the Bachelors, Masters and Ph.D. degrees (BMP) for all universities in Cameroon in keeping with the international system, and the unique system of admission into UB through cut-off points.

### *What are your expectations?*

It is my fervent expectation that this Great Seat of Learning should continue to grow stronger and remain a resourceful and enterprising University at the service of mankind in the years that lie ahead. Furthermore, it is my wish that in the Cameroon academic landscape, UB will continue to make headline news as one of Cameroon's most cherished academic

Eldorado of our time. We look forward to a continuation of the great successes of UB so that our prowess in academia can be boldly inscribed in golden letters.

### *Your final remarks?*

First, ever since its creation, the Government of Cameroon has done excellently well in funding UB's growth and development in order to respond to the needs of administration, staff, and students. It is my view that the best for the University of Buea is yet to come!





## PROFESSOR VINCENT P. K. TITANJI (VC-UB, 2006 – 2012)

*What memories do you have of UB?*

My first memories of UB are very positive, particularly when I was Vice-Chancellor. I saw it as a period of growth and expansion, and a period during which UB changed gears and asserted itself in size and international outreach. During this period, UB grew into two campuses. This era also corresponded with government's decision to convert the Cameroon Higher Education System to align itself with the Bologna BMP or LMD system. We worked and put in place 116 new degree programmes –all of them professionalised, and 33 of them at the Ph.D.. Today, UB is a reference thanks, to a great extent, to these expansion programmes. Also, the turbulence, which was progressively mastered and addressed, nearly derailed the excellent take off of UB. By the time we bowed out, the campus was in peace. With support from staff and government, we took UB one step towards excellence.

*How did your science background impact on the developments in UB during your stewardship?*

By the time we came in 2006, the administration of UB had already been well entrenched under the leadership of the pioneer Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dorothy Njeuma. But our efforts in the area of research were still to take off. So, we tried to set up a framework for research at UB. I think my experiences as a scientist are factored through the team work I stimulated. The talents were already there, and very talented researchers came up with projects that got international funding. My laboratory too brought in substantial financial endowments for setting up the laboratories, equipping them, and supporting the training of teams. It is 11 years now since I retired. But I still collaborate with my former team and some other lecturers who are now colleagues.

*You were pioneer Dean of the Faculty of Science. What were your exploits and how did you cope with the challenges at the time?*

I came to UB in 1993 as Dean of the Faculty of Science. The first structure I got was a room in the main building where we now have the Development Office. A big signboard was

put there as Faculty of Science, not even as office of the Dean of the Faculty of Science. The first structure that was built from funds contributed by the general public became part of the Faculty of Science. Immediate challenges were funding, space, and staff. Government satisfied us to the extent it could. I think my scientific education, together with the fact that I was privileged to have served under three great Vice-Chancellors, prepared me well. I served under Professor Victor Anomah Ngu as a Research Fellow. I served under Professor Jacob Lifangi Ngu, former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Yaounde as a Senior Research Scientist. I also served briefly under Professor Luc Sondengam as a Lecturer. He was our Dean, he liked my way of working, and I worked very closely with him when he became Vice-

Chancellor. So, I had the opportunity to observe the University from the top, not to talk of when I was appointed Dean and my Vice-Chancellor was Professor Dorothy Njeuma, whose prowess in University management is self-evident.

*Any other comments you will like to make?*

Before I came to UB, I was the Coordinator of the Biotechnology Centre in Yaounde. I started a Biotechnology Unit in UB and we got external funds from the European Union, Volkswagen Foundation, especially the International Science Programme of Sweden which supported us for nearly 20 years to set up the Lab and get heavy equipment. The Biotech Labs are our trade marks in UB and the University of

Yaounde. I will also say that here at UB, one of the things that really propelled us ahead during the beginning years was the very high 'esprit de corps'. I think the name, UB, The Place to Be has been largely justified, despite several difficulties that we had, like student activism.

*What is your assessment of UB graduates?*

Those who have passed through UB in general perform very well. In the first, second, and third batches of students, virtually everyone who earned a Master's degree from UB went on to have a Ph.D. outside. We have heard so much praise on how well they were prepared. They have made it within our university system and abroad.

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One of the things that really propelled us during the beginning years was the very high 'esprit de corps'”





## PROFESSOR NGOMO HORACE MANGA (VC-UB, 2017 - PRESENT)

*Professor, 30 years, what are we celebrating?*

We are celebrating so many things after 30 years of existence. We are celebrating 30 years of training of highly qualified manpower to drive the development of the country. I think on that score, we are doing quite well. We are equally celebrating the excellence of this training. How do we know our training is excellent? It is from the feedback we get from the field. Our training has been quite diversified and our students are found everywhere, be it in industry, medicine, agriculture, technology, computer engineering. So, we think we are doing well in that. We are equally celebrating the resilience of the institution. The institution has been consistent in training and other aspects, and even when we recently had, in the past five years, violent perturbations around here, this institution has existed permanently even at the peak of the violence. At no moment in time during this period did we ever contemplate –we here at the university, neither did government ever ask us to do that. So, we think this University has been really resilient. It never compromised its capacity to train the numbers who came calling at its doors, and it never ever compromised quality. I think the fourth thing we are celebrating here...you know, because we cannot dissociate the quality of training from those who do the training... we equally want to take this opportunity to celebrate those who have had the reigns of leadership of this institution, who set the foundation of excellence which the University of Buea is today known for. By extension, we are also celebrating our teachers –past and present. We are also celebrating our support staff and students who, upon graduation, have made the University proud. I think after 30 years, we have a lot of things to celebrate.

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*As current Vice-Chancellor of UB, what are your experiences so far?*

My experiences have been quite good, let me characterize them that way. Before coming to UB, I never for a moment thought it would be an easy ride –No! Let me simply add that my past life in different administration probably, I want to believe, adequately prepared me for the kind of administrative and academic responsibilities I was going to encounter here. It has been challenging at every moment, but that is what management is all about. It is about taking decisions, choosing the right human resources to execute whatever one has had as vision, and mobilising the resources around us. Usually, the greatest capital is the human beings we have. On that score, I have really been elated at the quality of staff we have had here, who transmit the skills they do in all aspects of training. So, my experience in every aspect has been quite good. I didn't think it would go beyond what I encountered here.

*What is your vision for UB?*

My vision for UB is to maintain the rich legacy of excellence that has been the hallmark of UB since creation. We were lucky to have a very experienced founding Vice-Chancellor who put in place the smooth academic and administrative administrations which enabled successive Vice-Chancellors to be successful. I think beyond that, the usual preoccupation of maintaining the quality of graduates that we send out year in year out is quite imperative. At the same time, we want to see a university which adapts itself to the changing educational landscape and paradigms particularly with respect to professionalisation and the intensification of online learning. We want a university where all of us –students, the leadership of the university, staff all insert themselves squarely into information technology and make use of its

tools to enhance their productivity in whatever they are called upon to do.

***Where do you see the University of Buea in the nearest future?***

Given the resources we have, and the will of our teachers, the capacities that have been built throughout the years, the enthusiasm of our students, and our willingness to create partnerships, I see the University of Buea being a Centre of Excellence in several domains. I can cite Information and Communication Technology, Computer Engineering. Everybody keeps talking about Silicon Mountain, but few fail to mention that the actors in Silicon Mountain, the experts, are a direct product of our university. So, it is not by happenstance that Buea has constituted the foundation for the development of start-ups which are quite robust in our environment. I want to assure you that many people from elsewhere have come to meet the Vice-Chancellor to find out exactly what has been at the origin of the success. I think we are doing quite well. We want to be able to expand that excellence in other domains. Let me take this other sector where you belong to – Journalism and Mass Communication. A lot of finest journalists we find in our networks today, be it public or private, have been trained by the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication (JMC). That attests to the quality of the teachers there, and the training they give. I just want to mention those. I do not want to go into Engineering, and other areas where we think we have comparative advantage. On the whole, since our products define us, we want a university that produces high quality graduates who are very competitive, be it nationally or internationally. We have evidence of that. I think part of our challenge is to maintain that quality. I think we are doing that.

***Any additional remarks, especially with the mission and vision of the University of Buea since its creation?***

Yes. I would have liked to see many more opportunities to create workshops so that particularly, our very innovative College of Technology and Faculty of Engineering and Technology expand in the various domains that concern them. I would have liked to find a situation where they can move from the workshop to creating equipment and getting involved in creating machineries which can be directly applied in our environment. For now, they are unable to take advantage of their workshops to be able to replace the equipment that are used in various aspects like agriculture and forestry, transformation, micro scale industries, and so on. I will like to find a situation where we are useful and part of the vector of natural resources transformation, and by extension we can talk of import substitution. So, if we have a robust Engineering department, that moves deliberately and from what they do theoretically to be able to make their impact felt in these various domains of national development, in the various trades, in a qualifiable and quantifiable manner where we can measure the impact of inputs in our national development, I will be happier. It is not as if that is not done

now, but I think if we can take that further, I will be happier. I am not limiting myself to College of Technology and Faculty of Engineering and Technology. I want to see same elsewhere. We have had the opportunity to visit the on-campus radio coordinated by the Department of JMC. If there was the opportunity to expand that, so that we can be able to recycle others already in the field, we would like to see that. So, globally, we want a university that will represent centres of excellence in the various domains of training. I am really excited of what we have become; the transformation of our university, and what we today represent in the national higher education landscape.

***What have been your major challenges and how have you coped?***

The major challenge has been how to get everybody mobilised. I think my own personal disposition of being somebody who privileges reconciliation, who ensures that we can reason and negotiate with everybody, irrespective of status – students, teachers, and support staff. I look at the human being from a very simple premise; that everybody is good. Some people may be defensive because of their environment. They may be offensive because of their environment. But globally, they are not bad people. All it takes to manage well is to be open to everybody and to be able to listen. Generally, people only want to be heard, they only generally want to be listened to. The fact that I give everyone a chance and privilege reconciliation is what I think has kept this place stable and enabled me overcome all the challenges.

***As UB clocks 30, what is your general message to our stakeholders, especially alumni, and current students?***

I wish to assure our stakeholders that any investment made, any gift donated to UB is very good investment, because you are not only investing in today's human resources, but you are investing in people who are going to expand the limits of development in the future. For our students and staff, all I want to tell them is to have confidence in the leadership of this institution and to complain whenever they have to, so that we can anticipate some of those problems and resolve them. As we speak, we had no water a few days ago. We have worked hard and water is on campus. You realise that they are changing the bulbs as well.

***Your last word.***

My last word is to wish everybody well, to trust us, to trust management and to always inform us where they think there are weaknesses. We are not omniscient. We are open to correction. That is why my door has no particular time when I receive people. I receive students, support staff, teachers. So, if there are some difficulties anywhere, what I implore people to do is to walk in here and tell the VC that I am that there are problems here, or deficits there, or what is advertised as working well is not what it really is. We can always visit corrections. What I advise is that people should not be acrimonious. I do not think there are any difficulties we cannot handle through dialogue. That is the spirit!

***Thank you, Professor Ngomo, for granting us this interview.***

Thank you and best wishes to all.



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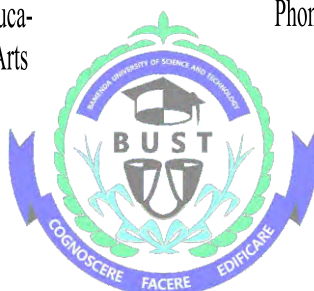
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## PROFESSOR NOL ALEMBONG, DVC/TIC

*Professor, teaching is one of UB's missions. As DVC/TIC, what is the progress report like?*

First of all, I will like to express my gratitude for having me in this programme and for letting me express my views with regards to university activities that relate to my office. As you rightly say, teaching is a key mission in the higher education system. And UB being part of this system, we take teaching seriously. Other aspects of the mission are research and outreach. With regards to teaching, UB is doing very well. In fact, we teach following the programmes approved by the Academic Planning Committee (APC). Every course taught must pass through the APC and approved by members of the committee. It is on the basis of that, that we start the teaching, but on condition that the course outlines are properly drawn up by those teaching the courses, and the academic office is always in the know. So, we need copies of the course outlines to follow up the progress of teaching and consequently the course coverage before every examination takes place. This implies that the establishments work hand in glove with my office. We monitor on a regular basis, what goes on in the establishments. Another important element that we take into consideration is the logbooks. We control teaching through the existence of logbooks at the level of departments. These logbooks are put at the disposal of course delegates who fill the logbooks and sign. The teachers concerned counter sign. With this, we are able to follow the progress of teaching. So, we cannot do without the establishments, and the establishments cannot do without us.

*How do you ensure quality control?*

In terms of quality control, many things come into play. First of all, the course outline must be well drawn up. Secondly, the quality of teaching is important. This is because you can have a good course outline, but a poor teacher. Thirdly, the profile of the teachers. We do not just give courses to any person to teach. The courses meet the profile of the teachers. That is very important. And of course, the classroom space and the laboratories all come into play in terms of quality control.

*How is UB coping with the professionalisation of programmes and the incorporation of ICTs in teaching, learning, and research?*

Let me say for a start that professionalisation is not a new concept. There are certain establishments that by their nature, are professional, like HTTTC Kumba, Faculty of Health Sciences, College of Technology, Faculty of Engineering and Technology, and Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI). These are the professional faculties created to meet the aspirations of the nation in terms of teaching, job creation, and employability. Then, with the classical faculties, we try as much as possible to make sure that their programmes are professional. There must be a professional element in their programmes. This is innovation that we brought to bear on the faculties that

were already professional, and the faculties that are termed classical. So, for instance, the humanities; we have to professionalise the humanities. What in the humanities can meet the challenges of professionalisation? If you take for instance, the Faculty of Arts, you have Performing and Visual Arts (PVA). You have even History; we have brought in archival studies in history. We have brought in a lot of innovation. Even in the Faculty of Social and Management Sciences; Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Accountancy. All of these are professional courses that we make sure our students are trained for employability and job creation. It is not just for employability. We make sure our graduates create jobs, we make sure they are employed. This is the whole concept of professionalisation. Then, ICTs. You know, with the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic, everything in this world is both positive and negative. It was a very disturbing phenomenon in the world. But, in the university cycle, it gave us the opportunity to go digital, and to conceive programmes that will need the aid of digital tools, ICTs. We teach through ICTs

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This anniversary is stocktaking in the life of the University of Buea. It is a forum to examine ourselves

using various tools like Zoom, Google Classroom, etc. Even now, we create WhatsApp groups for each of our courses. These facilitate communication between the lecturers and the students. So, ICTs now are completely integrated in our teaching at the level of UB. We also note that research and teaching go together. You need to carry out research in order to teach. You need to be abreast with new knowledge. You need to be involved in the knowledge economy to be able to be an effective teacher. All of these have to do with the ability of the teachers to carry out research

that is meaningful to their courses. Research now is not just going to the library to look for books. Research is now done online. There are many digital tools that aid in research. Journals exist online; a lot of journals. But, this is not to say that everything online is good. But at least, we have plausible research published online that our teachers use to facilitate our teaching. This is very important because in the world of globalisation, you cannot do without research. Virtual libraries exist around the world. We just need to subscribe to some of these libraries and make use of the facilities therein.

*Any challenges with respect to teaching and use of ICTs?*

Yes. In all domains, there are challenges, even in teaching. Massification - that is, too many students in courses is a big challenge for teachers. You go to a classroom that takes, say, 50 and you find 100 students. What do you do? But you have to cope with challenges. What is recommended is that in large courses, we split the classes into groups. That is where tutorials come in. We should not just think that because we lack classroom space, we should not teach. Teaching can also be done using digital tools, not necessarily the presence of teachers in class, especially at the postgraduate level. You give assignments and even supervise students online. They do their work, send to you, email to you, you read, you correct through track changes, and so on. With



ICTs, there is a challenge in the sense that internet connectivity is still a problem. Added to this perennial problem of electricity outage. So, in some cases, when there is no electricity, there is no internet. So, the question now is, if you insist so much on teaching through digital tools, what about the students, especially if they cannot afford internet connectivity? How do you go about with this? So, you see that face-to-face teaching is still en vogue. We must combine the two. You should be able to meet with your students, not just teaching from a distance. In terms of research, of course there are challenges. Students need money to buy books. But we are lucky that with research modernisation allowance, teachers are able to break even in terms of buying books, doing their research, and so on.

*How is your office preparing for the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University of Buea?*

We will have stands to showcase what we do in the academic office. We mentor private higher institutions through the establishments. We have invited these mentee institutions to set up stands on campus and showcase their programmes. This will demonstrate how our relationship with the private higher institutions is beneficial for both UB and the private higher institutions.

*Your last word.*

I think it is praise-worthy that the University is organising the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It is just like everyone would want to organise his or her anniversary or that of the children. This anniversary is stocktaking in the life of the University. It is a forum to examine ourselves, to see what we have been doing in 30 years, to see where we are coming from and where we are going to. I think it is a very important initiative.



## PROFESSOR KINGSLEY LYONGA NGANGE, DVC/RCB

*Professor Ngange, as Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research, Cooperation, and Relations with the Business World and former student of the University of Buea in top management position, how do you feel with the challenges of this office?*

Thank you very much. I am delighted to welcome you to this office of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research, Cooperation, and Relations with the Business World. As a former student of this University who came in here 25 years ago to read Journalism and Mass Communication, I am very delighted that we are celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our beloved University, UB, The Place to Be. I am a very satisfied ex-student who has gone through the ranks, having gone through the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at the Bachelor's level, having served in various ranks as Administrative Assistant some 22 years ago, attached to the Registrar of the University, the late Professor Herbert Endeley. I moved to becoming a Part-Time Lecturer, Assistant Lecturer, Lecturer, and presently Associate Professor in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication. Today, the Head of State, President Paul Biya, in his wisdom, has appointed me as Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research, Cooperation, and Relations with the Business World. It tells you of how productive the alumni of UB have become in their various

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I am a very satisfied ex-student who has gone through the ranks in UB. The spirit of hard work is what I bring to the team

areas of work and today, to be in top management of the University. I am grateful to God, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Paul Biya, my boss, and colleagues with whom I have to work every day to achieve the mission and vision of our University. I wish to quickly add that the results we are achieving are due to the spirit of the University as we saw it and as we committed to it over 25 years ago: the spirit of excellence, as we saw from the founding parents. I have worked with all Vice-Chancellors here, the five of them. The spirit of hard work when we were recruited here as young Administrative Assistants 22 years ago; we stayed in our office especially when we had activities on campus like Matriculation and Convocation, all night to produce the University Magazine, brochures, and things. The spirit of hard work is what I bring to the team, then the vision of the University, and the enormous sacrifices which we also saw in the founding parents. That is why we commit ourselves to the activities you already know like

the International Research Conference. We give visibility to UB activities through the University of Buea Newsletter, extending our network with mentee institutions. We are committed; the Vice-Chancellor in his vision for us, with my office, to very soon start a University Printing Press and Bookshop. One of the things I am delighted we have been able to do, first, as an ex-student and now one of the top managers of the university, is the organisation of this 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration. The Vice-Chancellor in his wisdom thought I could coordinate this by virtue of the office I hold,

and as an ex-student. I am delighted that Senate of the University in its wisdom in its 90<sup>th</sup> Meeting February 2023 approved this project for us to celebrate. What are we celebrating? The excellence, resilience, productivity, vision, and all the achievements that this University has been able to make and gain for itself, and the reputation for the past 30 years. So, as a former student at the undergraduate and Ph.D. levels, I am delighted that we are holding the forte, and this is the spirit of continuity as learned from even more senior administrators with whom we work in the University and are assisting. So, the future is bright. Here we are, 30 years. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, God knows who will be here to celebrate it. We would have done our part as alumni of the University to make sure that the story of the University of Buea, The Place to Be stays alive from generation to generation.

*You mentioned that you have worked with all five Vice-Chancellors of UB and other key founding parents of the institution. Could you shed more light on that?*

As I mentioned, I have had the opportunity to work with the different Vice-Chancellors and it has been exciting learning from great minds, starting with Professor Dorothy Limunga Njeuma who recruited me here as an Administrative Assistant 22 years ago. I worked with the late and pioneer Registrar of the University, Professor Herbert Endeley, I was Administrative Assistant attached to his office, and then later the Public Relations office of the University. At that time, we used to work till late at night for very little salary. That was not our driving force, it was the love to get the university going and move it forward. If you see what we earned as Administrative Assistants then and today, it is night and day. But, the commitment level today is the opposite. That too is a paradox. We had great founding parents who taught us administration meticulously. By the time Professor Dorothy Njeuma was transferred to Yaounde as Rector of the

University of Yaounde I, Professor Lambi came in. Then, I was still in the Public Relations Office, and it was a wonderful experience working with him and being able to move on with the vision of the University at that time. By the time Professor Titanji came in, I was already serving in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication as a Part-Time Lecturer, having been to Sweden for a Master's degree and returned as a Master's degree holder. My recruitment as full time into the University was concretised when Professor PK Titanji was Vice-Chancellor. More administrative positions were given to me when Professor Nalova Lyonga came in as Vice-Chancellor. I served as Faculty Officer of the then largest Faculty in UB, the Faculty of Social and Management Sciences, which had about 55% of staff strength and student population; from March 2013 to August 17, 2017 when I was appointed as Head of Department for Journalism and Mass Communication, a position I held for five and a half years, till June 17, 2022 when I was appointed to directly assist the current Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ngomo Horace Manga as Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research, Cooperation, and Relations with the Business World, still serving as Head of Department of Journalism and Mass Communication until I was replaced as Head of Department in November 2022. It is been an enriching experience for each Vice-Chancellor I worked with, and at different levels, a new twist of the vision is there, but the mission remains the same. The foundation is solid, but we can only add to the foundation, and it is amazing and dynamic how different Vice-Chancellors have moved the vision of the University forward. They all will be remembered by the ex-students and this community by the great job they have done, to continue giving Cameroonians great education that the University of Buea is known for. It is a great pleasure to be in the administration and in the winning team. The future is bright.



## PROFESSOR PETER SAKWE MASUMBE, DVC/ICE

*Professor, what are your experiences so far concerning Internal Control and Evaluation at the University of Buea?*

Thank you for the question. My experience, so far, is that there is much to be done concerning internal control and evaluation. The government was not wrong scholarly, administratively, and politically to create this position. It calls for the control of our academic activities, financial activities, and moral activities of students and staff, both academic and non-academic. It is important to evaluate their activities within a period and within the framework of rules and regulations governing the University of Buea and higher education. My experience is that it is an enormous job which calls for a lot of dexterity, carefulness –because you cannot control what you don't understand, and you cannot evaluate

what you do not understand as well. So, I try to take my time to study the environment and issues. I have also learnt new things from staff and students. I have been a lecturer here for several years, but I have not been a Deputy Vice-Chancellor all along.

*How do you cope with the challenges of this office?*

I cope because the government saw me competent and wise enough to put me here. The coping also has to do with the determination to want to succeed. I am determined to do the job and to succeed, so, I cope. I ensure that students come for their lectures as required by the law in the University of Buea. I ensure that lecturers come to teach, mark, and send in results at the due period. Control is there to facilitate the mission of the University of Buea. Our main



job here is to control for the production of students who are sound academically and who can fit into the larger political, economic and social landscapes of Cameroon and the world. My job cuts across the entire university. I am determined because a failure means the University of Buea has failed. I am determined to ensure that I do the job by capacity of my knowledge, and where I do not understand, I fall back to my colleagues who have been here before me. Even in the Ministry of Higher Education in Yaounde, I ask questions to gather information for me to succeed on the job. Sometimes, I go back to the Prime Minister's Office where I worked for 24 years to ask certain questions which have to do with Higher Education.

**UB is 30. How is your office preparing and what is your take home message concerning the anniversary?**

As I said earlier, our contribution to the celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University of Buea has to do with providing knowledge, information to the society on what this service has done towards success of the University of Buea till date so that from there, onlookers can make suggestions. Our contribution is also to ensure security during the anniversary celebrations. But we should note that security is also personal. We also appeal that within the context of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations, staff (academic and non-academic) and students should put more efforts to ensure that UB retains its mission. UB is The Place to Be, meaning it is a place where knowledge is dispensed amicably and harmoniously. So, people come here and after studies, get or create jobs. Let us all continue to put our hands on deck to ensure that UB maintains its

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Our main job is to control for the production of students who are sound academically and professionally

image. Parents too are part of this process. Let us promote the canons of The Place to Be. The anniversary should be a milestone for us to take stock of what we have achieved, what we have not achieved, and how to move forward. By so doing, the University of Buea will be consolidated in character and in learning. Let us forge together in higher heights and with new impetus.

**What role does security play in UB's mission?**

Security is also an important arm of our service. We cover HTTTC Kumba to ensure that goods and services are secure, and that teaching and learning take place effectively. So far, we have not heard rioting, attacks, stealing or loss of materials because our security services are very effective there. We have the Faculty of Health Sciences which we also cover. Our security officers ensure that teaching and learning go on smoothly. They work round the clock to ensure that the activities of UB move on smoothly. We also have the Alliance Franco campus at Bongo Square where our security officers are deployed. On the main campus, we have security in every faculty and other strategic areas on campus. They ensure that teaching and learning go on smoothly. They are very effective and up-to-date. I have a weekly report from the Security Chief to give updates on security matters. When I read it, I make comments and send to the Vice-Chancellor who also reads it, and we take decisions on what to improve or what to suppress. Security is consolidated, as we also have state security agents –gendarmes and soldiers who assist to strengthen security on campus.



## PROFESSOR ENEKE BECHEM, REGISTRAR

**Professor, tell us your experiences as the first female Registrar of the University of Buea.**

Thank you very much. I feel very humbled to be the first female Registrar of the University and as I would say, luckily for me, I have served in the Registrar's service since 2008 where I was Head of Service for Admission, and Head of Division for Admission and Records before becoming Registrar. So, I am used to the tasks carried out at the Registrar's Service. We manage students' records at the time of admission, we manage their academic records which are generated during their stay in the University. At the end of their training, we issue them transcripts to indicate the competencies which they have acquired during their stay here. We proceed with the production of attestations and eventually the issue of certificates for those who have met the

conditions.

**Apart from the functions you have mentioned, what other duties does this office entail?**

The Registrar is supposed to assist the Vice-Chancellor with the day-to-day running of the institution. On certain occasions, the Vice-Chancellor would request the Registrar to represent him in meetings, receive some guests, and other tasks as he deems necessary.

**We understand you are the first batch of students of the University of Buea, and now heading the office in charge of Alumni activities, how do you encourage the alumni to be part of the development process of UB?**

Yes, I am in the first batch, very privileged to be. In every University, the alumni association is very important in

the growth and development of the University. We have the Public and Alumni Relations Office, and presently, the President of UB Alumni is trying to organise the UB Alumni Association. It is still new, but we hope that by the time we generate a database of the alumni, and where they are, what they are doing, then we would have a good resource base to see how they can intervene in different areas that would help in the development of the University; whether coming here to participate in lectures, conferences, symposiums, to encourage the students who are here, and to network with the students so that they can also have opportunities for placements, internships, and mentorship, and sometimes, why not assist in awarding scholarships to those who are performing very well, and if they can in the future, even come and put up a building as a way of giving back to the community. There is still a lot to be done in terms of updating the records on where the alumni are, because UB has graduated over 60.000 students. It is a huge number, and we are trying to bring the database up-to-date. It is a challenging task, but not impossible. With the advent of social media, there are batches that have Facebook groups and WhatsApp groups. We are trying to use all these available opportunities to bring them together.

**How can UB Alumni partner with UB for development?**

Currently, the executive of the UB Alumni Association is having a discussion with those who have adhered to the call

in a WhatsApp group that was created, and another telegram group. They have meetings to chart the way forward to agree on what their objectives will be. I want to recall here that the Alumni Association has always been represented in the University of Buea Council. But it seems as if a lot of graduates were not aware of this opportunity. So, a lot of awareness creation is going on currently, and we hope that more and more alumni will come on board to continue contributing ideas in diverse ways to help in the growth and development of this citadel of learning.

**Your message to the Alumni with regards to the development of UB**

Every contribution is welcome. It must not be financial. Just coming here and talking to students, if you have opportunities to give them placement during internships, if you want to serve as a mentor, if you look at our academic curriculum and you think that there is something which we can modify to help better prepare the students for the job market, we are very open to listen to your contributions. So, everybody has a role to play to make sure that the students who are here now get the same opportunity, if not better than what we had when we were here. So, as alumni, we all have to give back.

**Professor Eneke, thank you for talking to us through this medium**

Thank you very much, the pleasure is mine.

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I am in the UB  
first batch, very  
privileged to be.  
As Alumni, we all  
have to give back



## EMERITUS PROFESSOR SAMMY BEBAN CHUMBOW

**What makes UB The Place to Be?**

That phrase was coined by the erstwhile Hansel Ndumbe Eyoh. It is a way of branding the University and its uniqueness. What makes UB unique is that within the landscape of universities in Cameroon, the uniqueness of UB is obvious from the fact that it was conceptually tilted towards the Anglo-Saxon tradition that is well known and respected. Student enrolment is selective. The student comes in with the possibility that he goes to the lab and has a place in the lab, he will have the equipment for practical, so that they are professionally competent. Students come to class and have a place to sit. Selectivity was based on the possibility of having real teaching and learning experience, good teacher-student ratio, and all of that. Also, the entire nation was very surprised to see one of the evidences of the specificities of the University of Buea on television when we

had the first matriculation. People expressed the surprise to see that these students, clad in suits, ties, well-dressed, with their hands raised for the oath of matriculation, to swear that they will be worthy in character and in learning. This is a departure from what we have in the other universities. In UB, you may be worthy in learning and satisfy the requirements for graduation, but if you have a problem with your character, you do not graduate. So, UB gives holistic education that prioritises morality. This was quite well emphasised. We also have the issue of ceremonies, which in the British system is very important. All our major ceremonies start with prayers. I remember that when we had the first convocation ceremony, the then minister came, and was sitting between the Vice-Chancellor Professor Njeuma and myself as DVC. When he saw the Reverend Father come in and say a few things, and then the





# Port Autonome de Douala

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# Port Authority of Douala







*" Douala must become 'the port' of Reference in the Gulf of Guinea".*

**H.E Paul BIYA**

*Douala, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011*



**Port Autonome de Douala**  
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protestant, and then the Imam for the ecumenical service, he grabbed my hand and said, 'mon ami, que'st ce que se passe ici?' and I said, Monsieur Le Ministre, you and the President said we should start a university of Anglo-Saxon character. This is one of the characters that needs to be entrenched because this is what happens in British universities. Every ceremony is started with prayers to God and we have simply adapted it to suit our situation to include the Imam. He verified that, and subsequently, no questions were asked. It is now a tradition. Beyond that, I think you can talk about classroom interaction. With the UB system, teacher-student relationship is intended to be different from what obtains in other universities, with mutual respect. But above all, problem solving efficiency is the goal of the teaching process. We believe that students are not there just to memorise and reproduce knowledge. When you get out of the university and you are placed in a situation where you face challenges, there are no textbook solutions that may be available for you. What do you do? So, we believe that in this system, the students have some knowledge. Certainly, they must have acquired basic knowledge in different areas, but they must be able to materialise this knowledge in terms of using that knowledge to solve identified problems. In that way, they will be in a useful position in life.

**What is your account as UB celebrates 30?**

I have always privileged teaching which is my first calling, and supervision of research. In UB, I was involved in the Department of Linguistics within the Faculty of Arts. We put that in place and I taught undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. That is why as I said before, we did have some of the pioneer students of JMC who were my students. They had to take linguistics as part of their training. That is part of my contribution. But in terms of research, I started the first postgraduate programme because we knew that we needed to train and the first Ph.D. from the University of Buea was one of my students. He happens to be an international figure now. All of these contributions were shared responsibilities with colleagues, and there is no way I can take credit alone. We worked together with the Vice-Chancellor, the Registrar. We had meetings regularly, including statutory meetings of the various boards and committees. But we needed to work together at all times to ensure that the vision and mission that we had for the University of Buea were accomplished.

**What are some of the challenges you faced?**

We faced the challenge of resources. When UB was conceived, we had thought that there would be a lot of resources left when the lone University of Cameroon, the University of Yaounde was going to be decentralised so that the various university centres could now become universities, because in that process, the government had abolished the payment of salaries to students. By abolishing that system, it was thought that there would be enough resources to enable the universities function. But, there was a problem of the devaluation of the FCFA, and that created problems for the nation. Therefore, we had to cope with starting the University of Buea with very little finances. We tried to do what we could with respect to establishing a University of Buea Development Fund –UBDEV. We did that, and the initial resources we got were quite useful. We also tried to put together all the stakeholders into meetings which are similar to the Parent Teachers Association, PTA, so that they could realise that there is a need for them to participate in funding the university, because government cannot alone shoulder the responsibility for university training. We tried to get that done. We also thought of

getting into businesses which universities all over the world do; revenue yielding projects which will enable the university have self-generated funds to go along with subventions. This was to ensure the financial security of the university. Buea was still in its infancy and we didn't have the critical mass of lecturers who could and people who could get into such, but obviously it was one of those items we earmarked for future resource generation. We also had the challenge of ensuring quality. We were concerned about the outcome of our university system. The products we put in the job market, how competitive will they be in terms of knowledge acquired and the use of that knowledge in problem solving? We had to cope with that challenge, but we had Manchester University and the British Council to ensure that we appropriated a module that was quite useful. There was also a major challenge of capacity building as the university was growing. We started with a few programmes and we had the ambition of adding programmes in various faculties. As the student population grew, we needed to ensure that we had the kind of capacity that will ensure quality. So, we needed to proceed with capacity building. And to that extent, we looked for different avenues. We sought admission into foreign universities with scholarship programmes from the Canadians, British Council, the Commonwealth, and others. This was done so that our best graduates be selected and sent for training. Besides, we had recruited quite a lot of Assistant Lecturers from other

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*In UB, you may be worthy in learning and satisfy the requirements for graduation, but if you have a problem with your character, you do not graduate*

universities in Nigeria and elsewhere. But above all, we insisted on having postgraduate programmes which ensured that we could train staff for our university and other universities. We started with one in Linguistics, but others came from Biosciences with Professor Titanji in the Faculty of Science, and then eventually, all the other disciplines came in. The good news is that many of them who have gone through the Postgraduate school have proven themselves. Many are now Associate Professors and Professors. So, this was quite visionary in terms of proceeding with what we needed to do. We had challenges of equipment because

of our concern for excellence in terms of the value of the product we put in the market. It was important that for the professional disciplines, our products were professionally competent. It was necessary for them to have the equipment. But we could not have all the equipment, but we had some donations of equipment and books for the library. It was also quite an important initiative from professors who wrote grants and subventions which came along with equipment, even vehicles and the possibility of building labs. We need to thank those pioneers who did that and ensured that they complemented the efforts of the university in ensuring that we provided equipment used not only for research, but also for the students' teaching and learning experiences. I think we must mention the challenge of students' unrest. The students' unrest took us by surprise because as an Anglo-Saxon university, we had brought the students to understand what it means to be a students' union within the Anglo-Saxon system. We even had the student leader be a member of Senate and Council which was unique because Yaounde University did not have that. But we had the misfortune that the first batch of students we had. They were not students that were coming directly from the school system. Our students of the first batch were essentially those who had enrolled in Yaounde University, and had done a semester, and had been formatted I would say and inoculated with this idea of a student union leader being someone who can generate strikes. So, there was an unnecessary call for strikes. But anyway, we tried to ensure that the strikes were handled, though with several casualties.



## EMERITUS PROFESSOR TALA KASHIM IBRAHIM

*UB is 30! As pioneer, what is the story from an eyewitness account?*

I came to this campus in 1989 as Secretary General of the Buea University Centre under Professor Dorothy Limunga Njeuma as Director General. We had only one School - ASTI and 50 students. The idea of an Anglo-Saxon University was a very galvanising force amongst Anglophones. All Anglophone intellectuals contributed ideas. In 1992, the British Council suggested to the Cameroon government that somebody needs to be trained in Anglo-Saxon University Administration. I was retained and sent to the Victoria University of Manchester to study University Administration. It was a six-month course, sponsored by the British government. In January 1993, UB was established. I became the Director of Students' Affairs. Early problems were lack of staff, non-election of officials as required by Anglo-Saxon tradition, the University of Buea Students' Union with controversial demands, controversial religious organisations on campus, etc. The University of Buea Development Fund -UBDEV was another landmark in our humble beginnings. UB grew under the dynamic leadership of Professor Mrs. Dorothy Limunga Njeuma. She was very meticulous. She insisted on the cleanliness of the lawns, and thanks to her, UB became the cleanest campus in Cameroon. She also insisted on the quality of education that was delivered on this campus. One of the Ministers of Higher Education, His Excellency Atangana Mebara, in one of his speeches, addressed her as the 'Iron Lady'. She campaigned very seriously for increasing the budget of UB. She conceived the University of Buea Strategic Plan. UB was the first higher education institution in Cameroon to produce and defend a strategic plan publicly. The Vice-Chancellor followed the execution of the plan meticulously. So, if the University of Buea is what it is today, it is thanks to the effort, dynamism, temerity, and courage of Professor Mrs. Dorothy Limunga Njeuma. Of course, she did not do it alone, but, she was able to galvanise us.

I was Director of Students' Affairs (1993-1997) and Director of Academic Affairs (1997-1999). I was redeployed to the University of Dschang in 1999 as Technical Adviser. The first Rector I worked with was Professor Sammy Beban Chumbow, with whom I worked very closely in UB. Under Professor Jean-Louis Dongmo as Rector, I was appointed Vice-Rector in charge of Research and Cooperation, cumulatively with the position of Technical Adviser, until 2005 when I was again redeployed to UB. I came to UB when Professor Cornelius Lambi was Vice-Chancellor. I worked under him, until he was replaced by Professor Vincent Titanji. In late 2006, Professor Titanji appointed me as the first

Director of CALLAC -Centre for African Languages and Culture. He also made me Coordinator of Postgraduate programmes in the Faculty of Arts. We worked well, and in 2010, I gained my well-deserved retirement. Notably, I rose in the university ranking from Assistant Lecturer (1978), to Lecturer (1990), Associate Professor (1999), and Professor (2003). I also worked as the host Country Coordinator for the then University of Yaounde and Penn State University.

*What is your appreciation of what UB is today, especially as it celebrates 30 years?*

UB has grown exponentially in 30 years. It has retained its standards of quality assurance. I am happy that I have maintained my links with UB. I still teach at postgraduate level, supervise Ph.D. theses, and chair Ph.D. juries. My umbilical cord with UB has not been severed. I am still part of UB. With regards to today's students, my first regret is that they are not as serious as the first students used to be. It is a national malaise. Several things are responsible for this: first, the decadence of the country. My generation is partly to blame mostly because dishonesty and stealing of government's money were not started by the children. It was started by us. Most of those who are in prison today include university professors. It is a matter for regret. Today, examination malpractice has become the order of the day. The children dress the way we see them dress, and then, most unfortunately, Molyko has become the Sodom and Gomorrah of Cameroon.

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Hence, when I look at  
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government of  
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Education, empower the  
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UB can grow further

When I look at the future of UB, I say to myself, let the government of Cameroon, through the Ministry of Higher Education, empower the authorities of UB so that UB can grow further. As at now, the budgets of state universities are not only inadequate, but irregular. So, if the government can do that and adequately finance research -because the section that is suffering the most is research. We cannot produce without research, and we cannot research without adequate funding. I just saw the pictures of the Ngaoundere University Games, and I saw the stand of UB. You could see some great innovations. I do not want to say that it is thanks to the new Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research, Cooperation and Relations with the Business World, Professor Kingsley Ngange, but I think he has brought in a new impetus into that otherwise dormant Deputy Vice-Chancellery. I hope that with his dynamism, with his forward looking, I think that the University of Buea will stand to benefit, if only he is encouraged by being given the necessary finances.





## PROFESSOR ROSEMARY SHAFACK, DIRECTOR/CHIEF LIBRARIAN

*As Chief Librarian of the University of Buea, what is the library's role as UB celebrates 30?*

The UB Library has a lot to celebrate at UB 30: a platform that makes information resources accessible, and as a platform that enhances the achievement of the University's mission of teaching, research and outreach. The library also celebrates partnerships built and sustained over the years. With authorisation of the university administration, we have built a backlog of historic and current information resources in print and electronic formats to match with current world trends. UB Library at 30 is proud to talk about its virtual library with virtual platforms. It has thousands of print resources, including books and periodicals. We are thus celebrating the information resources; print and virtual, that UB, its faculties, departments, and programmes have created, acquired, and sustained over the years. The library building has equally expanded.

*What is your appraisal of UB's stock of academic documentation in this era of ICTs?*

The ICT environment is evolving very fast, and the library system is part of this evolution. The library is nothing if it cannot make accessibility to information sources easy. Access to information is a fundamental human right. So, UB library has built a very strong virtual presence. We have open access platforms where users can have access to quality educational resources.

We value our partners and what we have been able to achieve together in 30 years. For example, the American Corner, a partnership that UB has with the American Embassy, connected to the State Department, provides information resources especially in virtual format, equipment, internet, and free resources. No one needs any condition to use them. UB spends millions from its budget to subscribe to databases that cut across all subjects. Every registered UB student is a potential account user in our digital database. They can access the virtual resources at their convenience. We are subscribers to databases on EBSCOhost. Very high ranking universities subscribe to it. UB is connected through partnership to provide high impact factor peer reviewed resources, journal articles, e-books, reference books, and professional videos. ICT is part and parcel of us. We are now building an institutional repository for our research output.

We also have a plagiarism check software to scrutinise the

ethical use of information resources. That is an essential quality assurance tool. When you don't use resources ethically, you will be faulted for plagiarism, and plagiarism is academic theft that calls for litigation. You can be sanctioned by law, your certificate can be withdrawn, you could be sent to jail, and so forth. We are also building capacity. We have programmed a capacity building workshop in October 2023 to strengthen the competence of library staff. This is to prepare them for continuous transformations in the modern library system.

*How have you been coping with the challenges of managing a modern library?*

Our first challenge concerns changes in the ICT environment. As you are trying to master this skill to become literate, a new skill comes up. We also have challenges with the resources that we would have loved to have: material, financial, and human. If we were to have the requisite professionals to handle the specialised services that we are

rendering in the library, I think we will be more comfortable. To me, the University of Buea library is just a foundation. We have not built a library yet, but we are in the process of building one. A library should be some place where you can have a coffee corner to have a conversation while you discuss over topics, resources, and themes. It is a place where you have a graduate research section distinct from the undergraduate. It is a service that should

run 24/7. We should have three sets of staff running shifts so that anybody who wants to use the library at any hour of the day will find it open. Those are challenges but that cannot be done without financial, human and material resources. We hope that as time goes on, the budget of the library will keep improving so that we can provide services more efficiently.

Library archival and information science is very new in Cameroon and we are happy that UB is one of the first institutions to have expanded its programmes to cover this area. Another major problem is space. We need more space, we need the expansion of the library. Now, we are talking about the University of Buea Printing Press and the Bookshop. It is worth having a Printing Press and Bookshop now. We have a bindery already. Like Bernard Fonlon said, a university without a library, a printing press, and a bookshop is a glorified high school.

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**We are celebrating the information resources; print and virtual, that UB has created, acquired, and sustained over the years**



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## PROFESSOR MICHAEL FOSSUNG FORZEH, UB ALUMNI PRESIDENT

*What is your assessment of Alumni's contribution towards the development of UB?*

The UB alumni is first of all an instrument for us to put the university past students in the faculties and the entire university together, to synergize for the growth of the University of Buea. So, we think that having done this in an important event like the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we would be able to put together our alumni to participate in that very important event and bring to board some of the talents they have acquired while in UB, post UB, to the growth of UB and to the welfare of everyone in that ecosystem.

*What are some of the projects that the UB Alumni Association is currently focusing on?*

We have very agile University of Buea alumni out there. They want to help the University. They have personally contacted me. We have projects that we will support for the University to move for the interest of the young ones that we have left behind. We have projects like the halls of residence. The Halls of Residence we currently have is small to accommodate the number of students who seek that kind of service from the university. So, the Alumni Executive and the Alumni General Assembly have been looking at ways to improve on that particular project. Besides that, we have projects to facilitate students' studies in this university. Those of us who were here were privileged to be sponsored by those who were able to do that. There are students that need help. Those are the people we think need scholarship. The alumni network is putting in place this project. We already have alumni out there who have put special funds to finance various faculty students. The scholarships are needs-based and excellence-based. I think that when we put all of these together, we can help to improve on the manpower. We also have the project of the library. We have alumni who

have so many books abroad. We are looking for how we can transport those books to the university library; I mean current books. Most of the alumni want to finance an ultramodern library that can carry the capacity and assist us in the dissemination of knowledge. There are so many of these projects that we have in hand.

*What is your special message regarding the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UB?*

You know, the University of Buea has come a long way. Thirty years of existence since 1993 is something worth celebrating. UB has graduated so many. We expect those alumni who have benefited from this university to give back. Remember in Cameroon, education is as cheap as 50,000 FCFA. We have alumni out there who have benefited from this system. They are seeing what is happening where they

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*We have very agile University of Buea Alumni out there. They want to help the University. We have projects*

are. They have seen how much they are paying as fees. Though the government of Cameroon is responsible for paying lecturers and financing other things, we expect the alumni to chip in, in some of these projects and even build some infrastructure that we can label as UB Alumni as a contribution to what the University of Buea gave them. If you see what is happening in most universities in the world, the alumni network is a very important vehicle to grow the university.

Don't forget that we have people who were in this university who are good. Some are more than us, Professors. They are good in their own spheres of influence, thanks to this university that gave them the base. We expect those gentlemen and ladies, from our alma mater, UB, to be present physically or in spirit in this celebration, and to make some contributions and pledges on what they could do to assist the alumni assist the university. We have alumni who have already indicated on what they want to do for the university. They just want us to come with a strong framework and with the support of the university to be able to galvanise. We hope that more alumni will weigh in to support the idea of a UB Alumni Association that stands for the development of UB.

## SUCCESS STORIES OF UB ALUMNI

### Vuuu Sandra



This is Vuuu Sandra (UB 014280). I have lived 'ent-free' in my head ever since I graduated with a B.Sc. in Sociology and Anthropology in 2005. Since then, every step I've taken or door I've opened/entered in my quest for self-actualization, the doors I open for others through my trainings and skills building/ leadership workshops, have been a result of my learning experience and social exposure at UB and its environment/ culture.

I am the founder and CEO of a fashion brand called VuVu, soon to blossom into a

vocational training facility. My flexibility with people has also given me an opportunity to serve in different communities in and out of Cameroon in fulfilling ways. In 2016, I became a Mandela Washington Fellow and a Tony Elumelu Entrepreneur. I entered the network of the African Women' Entrepreneurship Cooperative in 2021 through an Applied Master's with them, under the Center for Global Enterprise. In 2022, I became the focal point for fashion for the North West Region under the Ministry of Arts and Culture, Cameroon. What can UB not do? I love who I am today.

## Dr Pippie Hugues



Department of English Law, UB (Undergraduate: SM08B024 (2008-2011); Masters: SM16P227 (2016-2018); Ph.D.: LP18P254 (2018-2022).

University Buea, The Place to Be, the cradle of academic excellence in Cameroon. I am a proud UB Alumni. I remember my first year as an undergraduate in 2008, struggling with registration procedures, leaving my mini cite at 4:30am to either take the line to pay fees or do medicals. On arriving campus at about 5am, you meet about 1000 students already waiting. You quietly take your position and wait. Officials in school, the bank, or Health Centre will come at about 9am and the struggle continues. These are exciting moments I recall in my early years at UB. In terms of the knowledge obtained, I will be

an ingrate not to recognize that, indeed the institution lived its motto: Knowledge with Wisdom. My lecturers at the Department of Law made my life the success story it is today. Being able to secure an LLB in Law, an LLM in International Human Rights Law, and a Ph.D. in Law - all from UB - is something I'm grateful for. UB prepared me for the job market and gave me added advantage over peers from other universities. If I' to write of my success story at UB, it will take more than a Ph.D. thesis. I enjoyed every second of my stay in UB from 2008 to 2011, 2016 to 2018, and 2018 to 2022. I graduated with a Ph.D. in Law with specialty in Human Rights and Conflict Resolution from the Faculty of Laws and Political Science, Department of English Law, under the supervision of Professor Sone Patience Munge.

## Njei Gisele



I am Njei Gisele (SM19A271), Department of Accounting, 2019-2022. Throughout my study years in the University of Buea, I gained invaluable experiences that have helped shape me into the confident and capable individual I am today. One particular experience that stands out to me is my involvement in extracurricular activities.

During my first year, I was hesitant to join any clubs or organizations as I was afraid of stepping outside of my comfort zone. However, after some coaxing from my friends and some personal reflection, I joined the University of Buea Accounting Association (UBAA), run by students.

Through this Association, I was able to

become the Academic Officer. This helped me to improve upon my leadership skills. This experience not only allowed me to hone my skills and build my portfolio, but it also helped me develop important soft skills such as communication, teamwork, and leadership. I learned how to effectively collaborate with others, delegate tasks, and take on a leadership role when necessary.

Furthermore, this experience in UB taught me the value of stepping out of my comfort zone and trying new things. It was through this organization that I discovered my passion of being a leader.

Currently a Master's student in Accounting, I thank my beloved lecturers for their dedication. UB is indeed The Place to Be!

## Ngoh Walters Tebid



I am Ngoh Walters Tebid. I applied to major in Accounting and minor in Management in 1996 / 1997. It was a very challenging for me because I was taking the Accounting Course for the first time at the University. Nevertheless, the teaching methods

deployed by the dedicated lecturers and my dream to become a manager gave me the drive. Upon graduation in 1999, I attended a few job interviews and discovered that I was a computer illiterate. I enrolled for computer classes at CENCOM International, a renowned Computer and

Information Technology Training Institute in Bamenda at the time. It is at CEMCOM that I picked my first job with Community Credit Company Plc (CCC Plc), a Category 1 Microfinance Institution with only two small branches in Batibo and Bamenda. I was recruited as the Marketing Assistant on a monthly salary of 30.000 FCFA and posted to the Batibo branch. My business drive and commitment after four months of work earned me an appointment as a Branch Manager and within six months, I was appointed to create and lead the pioneer branch of CCC PLC in Yaoundé. It is in this position that I worked tirelessly with other young and determined colleagues that CCC opened eight (08) branches within 7 years. By 2006, I was appointed the Assistant General Manager of the institution and three years later, I was appointed General Manager, a position I have occupied for over 12 years now. I embarked on attending training seminars on management and banking in and out of the country and enrolled in ESSEC Douala where I earned an MBA in 2011. CCC PLC is a very good friend of UB. Apart from the offer of rewards to deserving students of the University, CCC PLC has, over the years, admitted UB students for academic and professional internships. On the staff strength of CCC PLC, UB Alumni dominate in terms of numbers and managerial positions.



# Moses Ngwanah Akam



I am Moses Ngwanah Akam (UB018744). Department of Sociology and Anthropology, 2003 – 2006. I graduated from the University of Buea in 2006 with a Second Class Upper in Sociology and Anthropology. These years were characterized by academic and off

campus activities that honed and prepared me for the years ahead.

I began my career as an IT Instructor and Network Administrator with ADCOME, a position I held for three years. I also served as IT Specialist at Spectrum Media Group and was a key actor in setting up a digital

broadcasting system. I later joined Camair-Co, and then ASKY Airlines in Lome-Togo.

I have a decade plus of experience in the airline sector, working as a Consultant for Airlines in Cameroon, Togo, Guinea, Gabon, Congo, Equatorial Guinea and the Democratic Republic of Congo. I have been panelist at several aviation conferences in Africa, focusing on how digitalization can help grow the industry and improve environmental sustainability.

Currently, I am Chief Operating Officer (Deputy Accountable Manager) with GS Aviation, based in Antananarivo - Madagascar.

I also hold a Master's degree in Sustainable Air Transport Management from ITAérea Aeronautical Business School-Spain, and a Master's in Applied Leadership & Management from Arizona State University, USA as well as several certifications in aviation; Quality, Safety, Security, Emergency Response.

# Neba Noela Buwah



Neba Noela Buwah (UB016485). I grew up as a peasant girl in Bafut, Mezam Sub-Division, North West Region, Cameroon. Thanks to UB Admission Board that granted me the opportunity to study B.Sc. Management, I went out of North West for the first time in my life. Recognising my financially challenged family background, I had no option but to be determined to finish after three years (my sponsor declared that in case of an additional year, I will sponsor myself). I resorted to be a "Mary book". I took studies as a challenge and I was always present on all Presidential Grant lists. While at UB, the challenges were numerous; small classrooms for hundreds of students, coming to class three hours

earlier, carrying chairs to class, no microphones, financial constraints, social misfit, complete new field of study, etc. Despite these challenges, I emerged as Best Graduating Student. This gave me corporate exposure. However, my passion for academics brought me back as Pioneer batch of M.Sc. Management wherein I still emerged as Best Student. This brought open doors as I started teaching at UB on part-time basis. I later got absorbed as Instructor, got recruited by the State, and today, I am a Lecturer at UB. Recently, I was appointed as Head of Department (HOD) of Marketing at the Higher Institute of Commerce and Management (HICM), University of Bamenda (UBa).

# Hon. Dr. Nicolas Nguh Santo



I am Hon. Dr. Nicolas Nguh Santo, PsyD, MSc, B.A Hons. I graduated from UB first batch (1993-1996/1997) with a History Major and Political Science Minor. My Matriculation Number was 000584. I was Pioneer auditor in-chief of UBSU and member of the Constitutional Drafting Committee. I also served as Vice President of the Youth wing of CPDM Molyko Sub-Section. Currently, I work for the USA Department of Health with a Doctorate in Applied Clinical Psychology and Master's in Counseling Psychology from American Universities. In 2022, I was

recipient of the United States Presidents Lifetime Achievement Award for Mental Health and Psychiatric volunteer work in USA. In 2023, I was recipient of the Roving Ambassador for Peace award from the Cameroon National Press and Watchdog Society. I am also Chief Executive Officer of two mental health Clinics; one in USA named APPS-USA and another audiovisual clinic in Cameroon named APPSCAM. Very glad to contribute to our UB Anniversary Magazine. Email: [appsusainfo@gmail.com](mailto:appsusainfo@gmail.com) Phone: +1-4423477045

# Mbain Erica Andiensa



Enrolling in UB (2011-2014) was a big step towards achieving my goals. While in UB, I served as Vice President of the Association of Banking and Finance Students (ABSUB). This contributed to building my leadership skills. Upon graduation with a Bachelor of Science degree in Banking and Finance, I enrolled for the Masters in Business Administration (MBA)

programme in UB (I was among the second batch). The knowledge and experience gained in UB gave me courage and boldness to face the Cameroon business market. I spearheaded the creation of a Category One Microfinance Institution (KOMCCUL), where I am the General Manager. Thanks to UB, I am surviving the Financial Market in Cameroon.

# UB ESTABLISHMENTS AND THEIR PROGRAMMES

## FACULTY OF ARTS



**Prof. John Nkemngong Nkengasong**  
DEAN

### DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND CULTURAL STUDIES

BA ENGLISH  
BA LITERATURES IN ENGLISH  
MA IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE  
MA IN AFRICAN LITERATURE  
MA IN ENGLISH AND CULTURAL STUDIES  
PHD IN AFRICAN LITERATURES  
PHD IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

### DEPARTMENT OF FRENCH

BA BILINGUAL LETTERS

MA DACTIQUE DU FRANÇAIS  
LANGUE ETRANGERE  
MA EN SCIENCES DU LANGUAGE  
ET LITTERATURES  
FRANCOPHONES  
PhD IN FRENCH LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS  
PhD IN LITERATURE IN FRENCH  
PhD IN FRENCH STUDIES

### DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND AFRICAN CIVILIZATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY  
BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) DEGREE  
PROGRAMME IN TOURISM,  
HOSPITALITY AND CULTURAL  
HERITAGE PROMOTION  
MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY OF  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
MASTER OF ARTS IN POLITICAL  
AND ECONOMIC HISTORY  
MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY OF  
AFRICAN CIVILIZATIONS,  
CULTURE AND SOCIETY

MASTER OF ARTS IN TOURISM  
AND HERITAGE  
MANAGEMENT  
PhD IN HISTORY OF  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION  
PhD IN POLITICAL/ECONOMIC  
HISTORY  
PhD IN HISTORY OF AFRICAN  
CIVILIZATIONS, CULTURE  
AND SOCIETY

**DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS**  
BA IN THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS  
MA IN THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS  
MA IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS  
MA IN COMMUNICATION FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
PhD IN THEORETICAL LINGUISTICS  
PhD IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

**DEPARTMENT OF PERFORMING  
AND VISUAL ARTS**  
BA IN PERFORMING ARTS

## FACULTY OF EDUCATION



**Prof. Margaret Nalova Endeley**  
DEAN

### DEPARTMENTS

Educational Psychology (EPY)  
Curriculum Studies & Teaching (CST)  
Educational Foundations &  
Administration (EFA)

### POST GRADUATE

#### QUALIFICATIONS

Higher Certificate in Teaching (HCT)  
Master's of Education (M.Ed)  
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

### CURRICULUM STUDIES &

#### TEACHING

Higher Certificates in Teaching (Paid)

Master's Degree in Curriculum Studies  
and Teaching  
Master's Degree in Educational  
Technology (Paid)  
Masters Degree in Educational  
Management and Evaluation (Paid)  
Masters Degree in English Language  
Learning and Teaching (Paid)  
Master's Degree in Nursery and Primary  
Education (Paid Distant mood)

### EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Master's Degree in Educational  
Psychology  
Master's Degree in Special Education  
(Paid)  
Master's Degree in Animal Psychology  
(Paid)  
Master's Degree in Guidance and  
Counseling

### EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Master's Degree in Educational  
Administration  
Master's Degree in Economics of

Education (Paid)  
Master's Degree in Educational  
Leadership (Paid)  
Master's Degree in Educational Planning  
and Policy (Paid)

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN EDUCATION (PhD)

**DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM  
STUDIES AND TEACHING**  
PhD in Educational Test and  
Measurement (Paid)  
PhD in Curriculum Studies and Teaching

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

PhD in Animal Psychology (Paid)  
PhD in Guidance and Counseling  
PhD in Educational Psychology  
PhD in Special Education (Paid)

### DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AND ADMINISTRATION

PhD in Educational Administration



# FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE AND VETERINARY MEDICINE



**Prof. Jean-Pierre Mvondo Awono**  
**DEAN**

## DEPARTMENTS PROGRAMMES DE PARTMENT OF AGRONOMIC AND APPLIED MOLECULAR SCIENCES (AAMS)

- BSc Crop Production (CPR)
- BSc Plant Health Management (PHM)
- BSc Postharvest Technology (PHT)
- BSc Soil Science (SSC)
- MSc Crop Production (CPR)
- MSc Crop Protection (CPS)
- MSc Postharvest Management (PHT)

- PhD Crop Production
- PhD Crop Protection
- PhD Postharvest Technology

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS AND AGRIBUSINESS (AEB)

- BSc Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness (AEB)
- MSc Agricultural Economics
- PhD Agricultural Economics

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (AERD)

- BSc Agricultural Extension and Rural Development

## DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL SCIENCE (ANS)

- BSc Animal Science
- MSc Animal Science (Livestock Production)
- PhD Animal Production

## DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE (FOR)

- BSc Forestry and Wildlife
- MSc Wildlife Health

## DEPARTMENT OF FOOD SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (FST)

- BSc Food Science and Technology

## DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUATIC RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (FAREM)

- BSc Fisheries
- MSc Fisheries and Applied Aquaculture
- MSc Fisheries and Aquatic Science
- PhD Fisheries and Applied Aquaculture

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY MEDICINE (VM)

- Doctor in Veterinary Medicine

# FACULTY OF SOCIAL AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES



**Prof. Emmanuel Yenshu Vubo**  
**DEAN**

## Department of Banking and Finance

- B.Sc. Banking and Finance
- M.Sc. Banking and Finance
- Ph.D. Banking and Finance

## Department of Economics

- B.Sc. Economics
- M.Sc. Economics
- Ph.D. Economics
- MBA Accounting and Finance
- MBA Accounting, Auditing,

and Taxes

- MBA Bank Management

- MBA Entrepreneurship
- MBA Human Resource

Management

- MBA Management
- MBA Marketing
- MBA Project Management

## Department of Geography

- B.Sc. Geography
- Professional Masters in Urban

and Regional Planning (MURP)

- Professional Masters in

Transport Planning and Logistic

Management

- M.Sc. Geography
- Ph.D. Geography

## Department of Journalism and Mass

### Communication

- B.Sc. Journalism and Mass

Communication

- M.Sc. Journalism
- Masters in Corporate

Communication (MCC)

- Ph.D. Mass Communications

## Department of Management

- B.Sc. Management
- M.Sc. Management.

- Ph.D. Management

## Department of Sociology and

### Anthropology

- B.Sc. Sociology and

Anthropology

- M.Sc. Anthropology
- M.Sc. Sociology
- M.Sc. Development Studies
- Ph.D. Anthropology
- Ph.D. Sociology

## Department of Women and Gender

### Studies

- B.Sc. (Double Major) Women

Studies and a Second Major

- M.Sc. Women and Gender

Studies

- Ph.D. Gender and Development

Studies

## Department of Accounting

- B.Sc. Accounting
- M.Sc. Accounting
- Ph.D. Accounting
- Chartered Public Accountancy

(CPA)

# ADVANCED SCHOOL OF TRANSLATORS AND INTERPRETERS (ASTI)



**Prof. Sakwe George Mbotake**  
**DIRECTOR**

- B, Arabic C
- Ma in Translation French A, English B, German C
- Ma in Translation French A, English B, Spanish C
- Ph.D in Translation, Interpretation and Intercultural Studies

**In view**

- Ma in Audiovisual Translation
- MSc in Translation Technology

**Division III**

- BA in Translation, Interpretation and Intercultural Studies
- Certificate Courses in Translation

- Certificate Courses in Interpretation

**In view**

- BA in Translation in Foreign Language Teaching
- MA in Translation and Bilingual Communication
- MA in Bilingual Revision, Editing and Proofreading

**Pan African University Programmes**

- MA in Translation
- MA in Interpretation
- MA in Transborder Languages and Intercultural Communication

**Division 1 – Translation**

- Ma in Translation English A, French B
- Ma in Translation French A, English B
- Ma in Translation French A, English

# COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY



**Prof. Michael Ekonde Sone**  
**DIRECTOR**

- Thermo-Fluid Engineering (TFE)
- Welding Technology (WT)

**Master of Technology (M.Tech)**

**Duration 2 years**

- Computer Engineering**
- Software Engineering

**Electrical and Electronic Engineering**

- Electrical Power System (EPS)
- Telecommunications and Network
- Hydraulic and Coastal Engineering (HCE)

- Industrial Maintenance and Manufacturing (IMM)

**Mechanical Engineering**

- Mechatronics Engineering (MEE)
- Thermo-Fluid Engineering (TFE)
- Welding Technology (WEE)

**Higher National Diploma (HND):**

**Duration 2 years**

- Computer Engineering**
- Software engineering
- Database Management
- Digital Forensic
- Computer Science Network
- Full-stack web development (front end and back end developer)
- Hardware Maintenance (HWM)

**Electrical and Electronics Engineering**

- Electrical Power Systems
- Telecommunications
- Network and Security

**Mechanical Engineering**

- Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (ACR)
- Sustainability and Renewable Energy(SRE)
- Automotive Maintenance and Services

**Professional Programms**

- Training of World Class Engineering Technicians (TWCET)
- SQL Server and Azure Database and Administration Training
- System Administration/IT Support Technicians
- Network Administrator/Network Engineering
- Software Developers
- Cyber Security Analysts
- Security Administrators

**Professional Master of Technology (PRO.M.TECH)**

- Materials Characterization and Maintenance Management (MC2M)

**Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech):**

**Duration 3 years**

**Computer Engineering**

- Computer Systems and Networks
- Software Engineering

**Electrical and Electronic Engineering**

- Electrical Technology
- Telecommunications

**Mechanical Engineering**

- Mechatronics (M)
- Automobile Engineering (AEE)
- Coast and Harbour Engineering (CHE)
- Manufacturing Engineering (ME)

# HTTTC KUMBA



**Prof. Akume Daniel Akume**  
**DIRECTOR**

- Building (DIPET II)
- Renewable Energy (DIPET II)
- Agriculture (DIPET II)
- Building and Public Works (DIPET I)
- Topography (DIPET I)
- Woodwork (DIPET I)
- Forestry Exploitation (DIPET I)
- Electronics (DIPET I & II)
- Electrotechnics (DIPET I & II)
- Mechanical Design (DIPET I & II)
- Mechanical Manufacturing (DIPET I & II)
- Automobile Mechanics (DIPET I & II)
- Fashion Clothing and Textile (DIPET I & II)

- Home Economics (DIPET I & II)
- Industrial Computing (DIPET I & II)
- Information and Communion Technology (DIPET I & II)
- Information Management and Communication (DIPET I & II)
- Accountancy (DIPET I & II)
- Real Estate Management (DIPET I & II)
- Marketing (DIPET I & II)
- Management (DIPET I & II)
- Law (DIPET II)
- Science of Education (DIPET II)
- Tourism (DIPET I & II)
- Hotel Management (DIPET I & II)
- Guidance and Counselling (DIPCO II)



# FACULTY OF LAWS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE



**Prof. Atangcho Nji Akonumbo**  
DEAN

## Department of Business Law

- LL.M in Corporate Law
- LL.M in Business Law

## Department of English Law

- Bachelor of Laws (LL.B)

- LL.M in International Law
- Ph.D. in Law

## Professional programme

- LL.M in Human Rights and Development

## Department of French Private Law

- LL.B in Civil Law
- LL.M in Civil Law
- Ph.D. in Civil Law (newly approved to run as from the 2023/2024 academic year)

## Department of International Relations and Conflict Resolution

### International Relations

- B.Sc. in International Relations
- M.Sc. in International Relations
- Ph.D. in International Relations

### Conflict Resolution

- B.Sc. in Conflict Resolution
- M.Sc. in Conflict Resolution
- Ph.D. in Conflict Resolution

### Professional programme

- M.Sc. in Conflict, Security and Peace

## Department of Political Science and Comparative Politics

- B.Sc. in Political Science
- M.Sc. in Political Economy
- Ph.D. in Political Economy
- Ph.D. in Comparative Politics

## Department of Public Law and Public Administration

### Public Law

- LL.B in Public Law
- LL.M in Public Law
- Ph.D. in Public Law

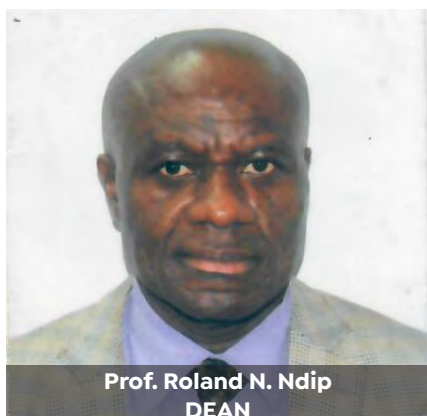
### Public Administration

- B.Sc. in Public Administration
- M.Sc. in Public Administration
- Ph.D. in Public Administration
- M.Phil. in Public Administration (newly approved to run as from the 2023/2024 academic year).

### Professional programmes

- Master in Local Government Administration (MLGA)
- Master in Public Administration (MPA)

# FACULTY OF SCIENCE



**Prof. Roland N. Ndip**  
DEAN

## Department of Animal Biology

- BSc in Zoology
- MSc in Zoology
- PhD in Zoology

## Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

- BSc in Biochemistry
- BSc (Double Major) in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Professional)
- BSc in Molecular Biology (Professional)
- MSc in Biochemistry
- MSc in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology (Professional)
- MSc in Molecular Epidemiology and Diagnostic Science (Professional)
- PhD in Biochemistry

## Department of Chemistry

- BSc in Chemistry
- MSc in Chemistry

MSC in Industrial Chemistry (Chemistry)

PhD in Chemistry

## Department of Computer Science

- BSc in Computer Science
- MSc in Computer Science
- PhD in Computer Science

## Department of Environmental Science

- BSc in Environmental Science
- Occupational Health and Safety
- MSc in Disaster and Risk Management (Professional)

MSc in Natural Resource and Environmental Management (Professional)

PhD in Natural Resource and Environmental Management

## Department of Geology

- BSc in Geology
- MSc in Applied Geology (Professional)
- PhD in Applied Geology

## Department of Mathematics

- BSc in Mathematics
- MSc in Mathematics
- PhD in Mathematics

## Department of Microbiology and Parasitology

- BSc (Double Major) in Biochemistry and Clinical Laboratory Technology (Professional)
- BSc (Double Major) in Chemistry and Clinical Laboratory Technology (Professional)

BSc in Clinical Laboratory Technology (Professional)

BSc in Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases (Microbiology and Parasitology)

BSc in Microbiology

BSc in Parasitology

BSc (Double Major) in Zoology and Clinical Laboratory Technology (Professional)

MSc in Epidemiology and Control of Infectious Diseases (Professional)

MSc in Field Epidemiology (Microbiology and Parasitology)

MSc in Microbiology

MSc in Molecular Parasitology and Vector Biology (Professional)

PhD in Cellular and Molecular Parasitology (Microbiology and Parasitology)

PhD in Microbiology (Infectious Diseases and Immunology)

## Department of Physics

- BSc in Applied Physics
- BSc in Physics
- MSc in Physics
- PhD in Physics

## Department of Plant Science

- BSc in Botany
- MSc in Botany
- MSc in Crop Protection (Plant Science)
- MSc in Wetlands Ecology and Management (Professional)
- PhD in Botany

# FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY



**Prof. Agbor Dieudonne Agbor**  
DEAN

## 1) DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AND ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING

### BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING

(BEng)

Specialties:

- Civil Engineering

### MASTERS OF ENGINEERING

(M.Eng)

Specialties:

- Building Construction and Management

- Public Works

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

Specialties:

- Structural and Environmental Engineering
- Hydraulic Engineering
- Roads and Transportation Engineering

## 2) DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

### BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING

(BEng)

Specialties:

- Software Engineering
- Network Engineering

### MASTERS OF ENGINEERING

(M.Eng)

Specialties:

- Software Engineering
- Network Engineering and Security

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

Specialties:

- Software Engineering
- Network Security and Distributed Systems

## 3) DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC ENGINEERING

### BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING

Specialties:

- Power Systems Engineering
- Telecommunication and Network Engineering

### MASTERS OF ENGINEERING

(M.Eng)

Specialties:

- Power Systems Engineering
- Telecommunication and Network Engineering

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD)

Specialties:

- Power Systems Engineering
- Telecommunication and Network Engineering

## 4) DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL AND INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

### BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING

(BEng)

Specialties:

- Mechanical Design
- Industrial Processes
- Automobile
- Thermofluids
- Mechatronics

# FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES



**Prof. Gregory Edie Halle-Ekane**  
DEAN

## Ongoing Programmes DepartmentsProgrammesInternal

### Medicine & Paediatrics.

- Doctor of Medicine (MD)
- Specialization in Obstetrics & Gynaecology

### Surgery & Specialties

### Obstetrics & Gynaecology

### Biomedical Sciences

- Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences
- Master's in Infectious Diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance
- Master's in Morphological Sciences
- Master's in Pharmacology
- PhD in Pharmacology
- Master's in Toxicology
- PhD in Toxicology

### Nursing

- Bachelor of Nursing Science
- Bachelor of Midwifery
- Master's in Nursing Education
- Master's in Medico-Surgical Nursing

### Medical Laboratory Sciences

- Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science
- Master's in Haematology & Blood Transfusion
- Master's in Chemical Pathology
- PhD in Chemical Pathology
- Master's in Medical Microbiology & Parasitology

PhD in Medical Microbiology & Parasitology

**Public Health and Hygiene** Master's in Public Health (MPH) with Specialization in the following:

- Epidemiology & Biostatistics
- Health System Management
- Environmental & Occupational Health
- Health Economics

PhD in Public Health

### Programmes envisaged as from

#### 2023/2024 academic year

- Bachelor in Public Health
- Master's in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care
- Master's in Midwifery
- Doctor of Pharmacy
- Specialization in General Surgery
- PhD in Medico-Surgical Nursing



# U-GAMES 2023:

## GENERAL STATISTICS AND ANALYSIS

By Dr. Nseme Stephen Nnode

Rank	Institution	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1 <sup>st</sup>	UYI	17	10	10	37
2 <sup>nd</sup>	IUG	10	08	09	27
3 <sup>rd</sup>	IUS	08	10	14	32
4 <sup>th</sup>	UYII	08	08	08	24
5 <sup>th</sup>	IUC	08	05	11	24
6 <sup>th</sup>	UDo	06	04	07	17
7 <sup>th</sup>	UB	05	06	09	20
8 <sup>th</sup>	UN	04	05	09	18
9 <sup>th</sup>	UEb	03	06	04	13
10 <sup>th</sup>	UDs	02	02	12	16
11 <sup>th</sup>	SUPPTIC	01	02	04	07
12 <sup>th</sup>	UMa	01	01	05	07
13 <sup>th</sup>	UBe	01	01	01	03
14 <sup>th</sup>	UCAC	01	00	00	01
15 <sup>th</sup>	UBa	00	04	04	08
16 <sup>th</sup>	UGa	00	02	01	03
17 <sup>th</sup>	ENSTP	00	00	02	02
18 <sup>th</sup>	ISTM	00	00	00	00
18 <sup>ex</sup>	IUCStJ	00	00	00	00
18 <sup>ex</sup>	LINAFI	00	00	00	00
18 <sup>ex</sup>	UdM	00	00	00	00
18 <sup>ex</sup>	UPAC	00	00	00	00

The overall best performance at Ngaoundere 2023 was recorded by the University of Yaounde I (UNYAO I), with 37 medals: 17 gold, 10 silver, and 10 bronze. The University of Buea won 20 medals: 5 gold, 6 silver, and 9 bronze. UB also won the first prize for the most well behaved institution during the competition. Some surprises on the UB delegation include: Kombe Rose Namondo, a UB female football team player, won gold in wrestling. Meanwhile, Signe Veronique, a basketball player, won silver in athletics (Discuss throw).

The University of Ngaoundere won the male football finals by defeating the University of Bamenda 1-0. The University Institute of the Golf of Guinea (IUG) was 3<sup>rd</sup>. The University of Buea crashed out of the competition during the quarter finals. They fell to IUG by 0-1, a goal they conceded at the 8<sup>th</sup> minute of play. Reacting, the coach of the UB male football team, Asongu Nicolas said, *“we had young players, and it was difficult. Most are still discovering the games. Individually, it was not bad, but collectively, it was not the best. So, in future, we will insist on the collective techniques of the team. The maturity was lacking in defense and attack. We are learning from our mistakes and will do better in subsequent competitions”*. The UB male football team played four games: won the University

of Bertoua 1-0; drew 0-0 with the University of Bamenda, drew 0-0 with the University of Yaounde I, and lost 0-1 to IUG at the quarter finals.

Meanwhile, IUG won the female football finals by also defeating the University of Bamenda 1-0. The University of Douala was 3<sup>rd</sup>. UB crashed out of the competition through a 0-3 loss to IUG.

The other performances are presented as follows: Carnival (Gold = University of Ngaoundere; Silver= UNYAO II; Bronze= University of Bamenda); General Animation (Gold = University of Bamenda; Silver= SUP'TIC; Bronze= University of Ngaoundere); Best male tennis team = UB; Best female tennis team = Institut Universite de la Cote (IUC); Best male table tennis team = IUC; Best female table tennis team = IUG; Judo (Best male and female teams= University of Dschang); Best in male and female athletics = UNYAO I; Best male and female basketball teams = University of Douala; Best male and female handball teams = UNYAO I; Best male volleyball team = UNYAO I; Best female volleyball team = UNYAO II; Best male wrestling team = University of Ebolowa; Best female wrestling team = UNYAO II; Best male Paralympic team = University of Ngaoundere; Best female Paralympic team = University of Douala. UNYAO I lifted the fair play trophy.



# GETEC 2023: UB showcases strength in Research, Science, Health, Agriculture, and Technology

*By Dr. Nseme Stephen Nnode*

The University of Buea was led by a powerful delegation at the Cameroon Students' Ingenuity and Talent Contest (CSITC), popularly known by its French acronym GETEC. The delegation, led by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research, Cooperation and Relations with the Business World (DVC/RCB) at the University of Buea, Professor Kingsley Lyonga Ngange, proved that the University of Buea is making great strides in research, healthcare, agriculture, social science and humanities, and technology.

In the evening of May 5, 2023, the eve of the closing ceremony of the University Games in Ngaoundere, the Minister of State, Minister of Higher Education, and Chancellor of Academic Orders, Professor Jacques Fame Ndong, chaired the closing ceremony of GETEC 2023. He was accompanied by the Minister of Sports and Physical Education, Professor Narcisse Mouelle Kombi, and the Minister of Youth and Civic Education, Mounouna Foutsou, and the Rector of the University of Ngaoundere, Professor Florence Uphie Chinje. Also present at the ceremony were Rectors and Vice-Chancellors of other state universities, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Directors, Administrative officials of the Adamawa Region, as well as lecturers and students from State and Private Higher Education Institutions in Cameroon. The ceremony took place at the Amphitheatre 750 of the University of Ngaoundere.

In her opening remarks, the Rector of the University of Ngaoundere saluted the Ministry of Higher Education for strides the Ministry is making to promote student creativity and entrepreneurship. She remarked that GETEC 2023 has been an amazing experience with innovations in science, technology, and engineering taking centre stage at the exhibition ground. She also appreciated all actors who put hands on deck to ensure the smooth running of GETEC 2023.

On his part, Professor Jacques Fame Ndong insisted that it is the number one priority of MINESUP to promote students' creativity and entrepreneurship. He said GETEC is meant to help students grow in thinking and innovation in line with current world trends. Minister Fame Ndong encouraged students to innovate, and never be afraid to create. He also reminded the audience that MINESUP has

an open approach that welcomes student initiatives at any time. The Minister reiterated that students' innovations are expected to contribute meaningfully towards the National Development Strategy of 2030 and Vision 2035. He saluted the ingenuity of the students and urged them to keep breaking new grounds. He also appreciated the efforts of teachers, students, and partners who see into it that Cameroonian students remain on the global spotlight of technology and innovation. He concluded that the period of the games is not only for sports, but also an opportunity for students to demonstrate ingenuity and talent in research, science, and innovation.

Six best projects were selected and awarded at GETEC 2023: First Prize in Literary and Artistic Creativity (Creative Recycling) = University of Yaounde I. First Prize in Science and Technology (Smart Parking) = Institut Africain D'informatique (IAI). UB was 2<sup>nd</sup> with the project on Multipurpose Agriover. First Prize in Agriculture, Livestock, and Food Industry = UNIYAO I. UB came 2<sup>nd</sup> with project on Formulation of Snail Protein Rich Maize Base Weaning Food. First Prize in Social Science and Humanities (Inclusive E-Learning Platform) = SUPTIC; First Prize in Science, Technology, Humanity, and Digital Arts (Custom-made engraver for arts and wood product) = University of Bamenda. Again, UB came 2<sup>nd</sup> with project on Intelligent learning Space: An intelligent E-learning platform. Finally, First Prize in Human and Animal Sciences (Hybrid neonatal incubator and telemedicine) = Institut Universite de la Cote (IUC).

Reacting to UB's performance at GETEC 2023, the DVC/RCB UB, Professor Kingsley Lyonga Ngange, who was also Head of UB's Delegation at GETEC 2023, said the institution keeps making great strides in science, technology, and innovation. He cited the agriculture project demonstrated at GETEC 2023 as well as machinery innovations proposed by students to better agricultural productivity. He also cited innovations in medical technology, fronted by students of the College of Technology and the Faculty of Engineering and Technology at the University of Buea. To him, second prize in Science and Technology (Multipurpose Agriover), second prize in Agriculture, Livestock, and Food Industry (Formulation of snail protein rich maize base weaning food), and second prize in Science, Technology, Humanity, and Digital Arts (Intelligent Learning Space: An Intelligent E-learning Platform) are wonderful examples to show the strides UB is making in







VC Ngomo encouraging UB athletes

# UB Male Handball team exploits, spectacular performance, and exit

By Dr. Nseme Stephen Ndode

One of the major heartbeats of the performance of the University of Buea was registered by the male handball team. In the opening game, they defeated the University of Yaounde II 31-20. On Tuesday, May 2, the team staged another spectacular performance by thrashing the University of Ebolowa 46-16, a difference of 30 goals. The gap was so wide that spectators hailed the University of Buea male handball team as domineering. This qualified them for quarterfinals.

The quarter final match between

the University of Buea and the University of Douala, Wednesday, May 3, 2023, was one of the most contested. Both teams came to the game well prepared with a spirit of determination to win. The University of Douala team had learnt of the exploits of UB during UB' games versus UNIYAO II and the University of Ebolowa.

From start to finish, the quarter final game between UB and University of Douala was hotly contested with very narrow goal margins. It ended 26-25 in favour of the University of Douala.

The result left UB players wailing, to see them crash out of the competition narrowly. Seeing this, the UB administration, led by the VC, Professor Ngomo Horace Manga had to weigh in to console the players: *"I had a great deal of confidence in handball. But, you cannot win all the time. Back to back, this university won gold. I know you wanted to perform as much as the others before you, but it did not happen. It is not to say that you are not good. But the trouble with competitions and particularly knockout is that one person must leave. It could be you. It could be a situation of one or two mistakes. It is saddening, but the reason I said I should talk to you is that you should know that you are in a competition. University Games are next year. From this one, you would have corrected your mistakes. You had the game in hand, but along the line, it slipped off. You are very good. The margin is 26-25; a difference of just one goal. Maybe that is why it is too painful. But let us learn from the mistakes and move on"*. This gave renewed hopes to the team.

The head coach of the UB male handball team, who is also national team trainer of the male handball team, Simon Burchard Menguède, remarked: *"We went for the*

*university games with a very young team. Partly, we had little time for preparation since we were not sure about the games. However, they did well. We came back with the highest goal scorer of the tournament, who scored 42 goals. Technically, we knew that Douala will be a tough battle. Our players made a few errors since they are relatively young. Also, the environment around the games, especially organisational, also made things difficult for our players. When we lost to Douala, I told myself we now have to be more focused and prepare for future competitions. We have previously won three gold medals consecutively, and we want to keep the standards."*

Meanwhile, the goalkeeper trainer of the UB male handball team, Coach Mackongho Jean-Christiane, said the performance of UB will improve if the team is given the opportunity to participate in the national championship.

## ANNIVERSARY POEM

### University of Buea at Thirty

By Dr. Akem Henry Mesappe Egbe,  
Faculty of Arts, UB

At the foot of Mt. Fako,  
Summit of hope,  
At the heart of Buea,  
Chief town of the South West  
Lies the Citadel of academic excellence,  
First Academic lifeline  
To a people drowning  
With the desire to study,  
Food for academic hunger,  
Centre for strategic solutions  
From the genesis,  
The infancy of her life.

Premier Anglo-Saxon nationwide,  
Former host of innumerable  
Impactful alumni worldwide.  
Mould for ingenious graduates,  
Winner of prestigious awards from far and wide.  
Pride of the South West region,  
Pride of Cameroon.

From Njeuma to Ngomo  
From 1993-2023  
You have grown from child to mother  
Feeding children from Maroua to Ebolowa,  
From Bertoua to Bafoussam  
With strategic solutions,  
Through innovative solutions,  
With academic, professional,  
And vocational trainings,

At thirty you are most beautiful  
Having survived thick and thin.  
At thirty you are stronger than ever  
Staying stable through crisis and strife.

At thirty you are ripe  
for (re)production and to care.  
And so the world comes to you,  
Because the best scholars  
come from the University of Buea,  
The Place to Be.  
Happy Thirtieth Anniversary UB.



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