

Dear Friends of PAACS:

Is the pandemic peaking in Africa? Nobody knows. What is the future elsewhere on this globe? Nobody knows. But we can rest assured of this: "But I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living. Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord." (Ps 27:13-14, NIV).

In June, four PAACS faculty members announced their departure and they do not have plans to return in the near future. They and their stories will be featured in July. The pandemic has essentially cut off the flow of short-term helpers and the loss will be felt at their hospitals. We know that none of this catches God by surprise, but please pray for the missionary surgeons and hospitals that make up PAACS during this stressful time. Pray for God to supply other surgeons to take their place

Tomorrow, July 1, PAACS legally becomes an independent organization. With great gratitude toward the decades of support from the Christian Medical & Dental Associations, we look forward to the future even though we have no good idea what it will look like. We need your prayers and support more than ever.

The Editor



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

PAACS PAACS Bulletin Bulletin

**No. 192
June, 2020**

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

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

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

[From the Executive Director](#)

[From the Chair of the Board of Directors](#)

[White Coat Ceremony – Malamulo](#)

[Surgical Endoscopic Fellowship to Start](#)

[PAACS Anesthesia Training Program to Start](#)

[News Shorts](#)

ALMC Holds Short Retreat

Okemwa-Mwachiro Named Interim PD at Tenwek

PAACS Faculty, Assistant PD and PD Roles

PAACS In-service Exam

COSECSA Oral Exams Change

PAACS to Implement SIMPL App trial

PAACS Commissioner Honored

[Announcements](#)

PAACS Issues Statement on Racial Discrimination

Long-term Surgeon Needed at Bongolo

New Address for Donations to PAACS

Mark Your Calendars

[Prayer Requests](#)

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear PAACS Family:

Please join me in PRAISING GOD. The time has arrived. PAACS becomes an independent ministry tomorrow on July 1st.

Much prayer and work has gone into this effort. God's leading and presence has been with us throughout the process. It is with a grateful heart that I say thank you to our Heavenly Father for His goodness and grace to PAACS. In addition, thank you to the leaders who have been visionaries and blazed the path for the work of this organization. I want to specifically recognize the work and impact of Dr. David Thompson, PAACS Founder, and Dr. Bruce Steffes, PAACS former Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer, along with the many Commission members who helped lead this organization. Thank you also to CMDA for the years of support. We are grateful to CMDA for all they have done to help the PAACS ministry over the past two decades.

I want to especially acknowledge all PAACS supporters and prayer warriors who have stood with us, supported us, blessed us with your talents and helped us become a strong fruitful ministry. Your prayers and encouragement have made this moment possible. Thank You!

Please continue to pray for PAACS more than ever as we move forward on this journey. Our heart is to glorify and serve the Lord and His people through our work in Africa. The PAACS programs, leadership, and administration desire to be a pleasing aroma to God by caring for His people and sharing the love of Christ with those in need.

Thank you also for your financial support of PAACS. Our fiscal year ends on June 30th. Although we are not yet certain of the final numbers, the initial financial information appears promising. We are confident that our God has supplied all of our needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus. May God bless each of you for your sacrificial giving to PAACS. Every gift, no matter the size, has blessed this ministry. Thank you!

Blessings,
Susan Koshy, JD, MPH
Chief Executive Officer
Pan-African Academy of Christian Surgeons (PAACS)

FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear PAACS family,

It is with a thankful heart that I celebrate the wonderful news of PAACS becoming its own stand-alone ministry as of tomorrow, July 1, 2020. We praise God for His faithfulness and provisions throughout this transition period. He has blessed PAACS so much in the last 24+ years. How grateful we are that He allows us to participate in this mission with Him.

As part of our new beginning, the PAACS Commission will now become the Board of Directors of PAACS and Susan Koshy, JD, MPH will now change titles to become the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of PAACS. Keir Thelander, MD will now be known as the Executive Vice President (EVP) of PAACS and Steven Darst will be our Chief Financial Officer (CFO). We are blessed to have such an outstanding leadership team. Please join

me in praying for these individuals – that the Lord will provide them with His wisdom, vision and compassion to lead PAACS forward into this new chapter of our history.

In His name,
Thomas C. Robey, MD
Chair
PAACS Board of Directors



Susan Koshy, CEO



Keir Thelander, EVP



Steven Darst, CFO

WHITE COAT CEREMONY – MALAMULO

By Ron Cheney & Moses Kasumba

On June 18, Dr. Moses Kasumba, Dr. Gillian Seaton, Dr. Cassandra Graybill and Dr. Ron Cheney had the distinguished pleasure of welcoming our two new PAACS residents into the Malamulo program. This was done in the tradition of the foot washing ceremony which Christ Jesus gave to us as a symbol of humility and grace. This moving ceremony was attended by Malamulo’s CEO, Dr. Thomas Wilson and other top administrative staff in supporting PAACS with their goal and vision of training Christian surgeons in Africa.

Family, fellow residents and friends also attended in support of this event. Dr. Rumbidzai Mlewah and Dr. Gracious Magombo Sankhulani were presented with white coats and the Schwartz’s textbook of surgery by Dr. Gillian Seaton. Dr. Ron Cheney confirmed their commitment to PAACS with the reading of the PAACS Honor Code. It was special to see the joy of each resident as they went through this event.



Drs. Gracious Magombo and Rumbidzai Mlewah

Our Interim CEO, Wilson Thomas, awarded Dr. Cheney with a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of Malamulo Adventist Hospital for his contributions to the hospital and to the PAACS program for the past several months.

All our seven residents are excellent and performed very well in the recently completed annual in-service examination.

This was a proud moment for our Malawi program as we accepted these fine Christian Malawi residents into our PAACS program. May GOD bless us in training these surgery residents in spiritual and surgical knowledge. May they embrace this journey to the Glory of GOD. Please continue to pray and support Malamulo Adventist surgery program and all other PAACS programs across Africa.



Ron Cheney washes the feet of Rumbidzai while Kasumba Moses looks on.



Surgical Faculty at MAH. (From L to R): Dr. Cassandra Graybill (OB/GYN), Dr. Prosper Ngwang (3), Dr. Aaron Kokulol (4), Dr. Lijalem Garba Taye (5), Dr. Constance Ndum (5), Dr. Ron Cheney (GS), Dr. Admire Munjeri (2), Dr. Gracious Magombo Sankhulani (1), Dr. Rumbidzai Mlewah (1), Dr. Gillian Seaton (GS), Program Director Dr. Moses Kasumba (GS).

SURGICAL ENDOSCOPIC FELLOWSHIP TO START

By Jeffrey Hallett

As a Christian gastroenterologist, I have enjoyed working with the surgeons of PAACS. Only then did I realize the need for endoscopy education and services in Africa was so great! Africans receive only 10% of the

endoscopic services provided to North Americans. In addition, diseases requiring endoscopy such as esophageal and gastric cancers, peptic ulcers, and variceal hemorrhage are more common in Africa, so the need for upper GI endoscopy is even greater. One of the major obstacles to endoscopy in Africa is a shortage of trained endoscopists.

We are thankful that the first PAACS Surgical Endoscopy Fellowship is on track to launch in January of 2021, at Tenwek Hospital in Kenya. Endoscopy education has been progressing at Tenwek for a number of years. The American Board of Surgery (ABS) Fundamentals of Endoscopy Curriculum (FEC) will be integrated into the PAACS curriculum. These cognitive and technical milestones will be tested with validated high stakes exams. Fellows will receive instruction in diagnostic and therapeutic EGD and colonoscopy. Those who complete the PAACS Endoscopy Fellowship will receive certification certificates from PAACS and COSECSA.

The aim of the surgical endoscopy fellowship is to promote endoscopy education in Africa under the umbrella of PAACS, and to disciple African physicians as Christ followers, so they may provide excellent and compassionate care to those in need. With time, more PAACS residents will be taking endoscopy rotations to learn basic upper endoscopy and colonoscopy. Our vision is for all PAACS residents to receive endoscopy instruction at levels comparable to ABS FEC standards. Our prayer is to see graduates of the first PAACS fellowship starting, sustaining and staffing endoscopy programs at other PAACS sites, and at African hospitals where the need is so great.



Emmanuel Kiniga and Nyail Chol are examining a colon cancer while Dr. Hallett attends.



Endo tech David Ngetich prepares Bibles for distribution to patients who need them.

I'm praying that Christian gastroenterologists and surgeons would be willing to join PAACS in its training and discipleship mission. I pray that someday each hospital with a PAACS general surgery program would also have a good endoscopy theater. Each location will need an endoscopy champion, a need I have been blessed to fill at Tenwek for the last several years. I am also building a network of endoscopy nurses and technicians willing to help enhance the quality of endoscopy services and education in resource limited settings.

For further information, please contact Dr. Jeffrey Hallett at <https://friendsoftenwek.org/medical-specialties/endoscopy-gastroenterology/>

PAACS ANESTHESIA TRAINING PROGRAM TO START

By the Anesthesia Task Force

In 2017, Dr. Jeff Lane and Dr. Greg Sund were sitting in a coffee shop in Albertville, France discussing the massive global need for anesthesia education. At that time, both were in language school preparing to serve as full time missionary anesthesiologists in Gabon and Burundi, respectively. Dr. Lane had already spent time working at Bongolo Hospital in Gabon and was familiar with the PAACS model of resident training; he thought it a natural progression of the PAACS mission to launch an anesthesiology residency under the PAACS umbrella.

In 2018, after multiple discussions with the leadership of PAACS, an Investigative Task Force was formed to explore the creation of an anesthesiology residency program. And in November 2019, at the PAACS general assembly in Chicago, the proposal for this program was presented, and then formally accepted by the PAACS leadership in the spring of 2020.

The need for anesthesiologists in East and Central Africa – and in many other areas of the world – is mind-boggling. The recommended number of anesthesiologists per 100,000 of population is 5. In Kenya there are 0.43/100,000 of population. To be more specific, there are approximately 1,000 individuals trained in the safe administration of anesthesia in a country with a population of 54 million people, and less than a third of that number are physician anesthesiologists. In other East and Central African countries, the numbers are even lower. And there are currently no physician anesthesiology programs in South Sudan, Central African Republic, Eritrea, Congo, Niger, Togo, Liberia, Somalia, Chad, or Guinea!

The soon-to-be PAACS anesthesiology council is now in the process of forming, planning and preparing to launch the first PAACS anesthesiology residency program in Kijabe, Kenya in January 2021. That group consists of 10 members (Drs. Matt Kynes, Liz Drum, Rodger Barnette, Mark Newton, Greg Sund, Jeff Lane, Donna Spratt, Harold Mayweather, Dan Nahrwold and Dennis Wagner). AIC Kijabe hospital was chosen as an ideal site for the launch of the initial PAACS anesthesiology residency program as it is already a site for other PAACS training programs, has a large surgical volume, and is currently staffed by Dr. Rodger Barnette and Dr. Mark Newton. In August 2020, Dr. Greg Sund will be joining them. These three anesthesiologists will be serving full-time in Kijabe, have broad experience in providing care in under-resourced areas, and have sub-specialty certification in pediatric anesthesia (Dr. Newton), critical care medicine (Dr. Barnette), and cardiothoracic anesthesia (Dr. Sund).

The anesthesia council has been meeting by video conference monthly since its inception in 2018 and has been working to partner with the College of Anaesthesiologists of East, Central and Southern Africa (CANECSA) as well as the Kenya Society of Anesthesiologists (KSA). This is designed to ensure that our residents, who we hope will be future leaders in the field of anesthesiology in Africa, will be certified to practice throughout numerous countries in East, Central and Southern Africa.

The council has already laid a foundation by designing a robust program and creating a curriculum, which will ensure that graduating residents are thoroughly trained in anesthesiology and critical care medicine, it includes training in all of the sub-specialties of anesthesiology, as well as in hospital management and leadership development. This program will also be the first Christian-based anesthesiology residency program in Africa. The council will participate in the PAACS spiritual curriculum to create spiritual discipleship and development.

Please pray for this program, and for the many working to grow it. We need to raise funds to support trainees, to acquire needed government approvals in Nairobi, and to recruit our first residents. We believe caring for the poor and needy throughout the world, and training others to do the same, is a way of serving our Lord. God has been faithful in casting vision for this program and in continuing to move this vision forward. We pray He

will be glorified by the African anesthesiologists who will be trained at Kijabe - as they love and follow Christ, as they care for the sick, and as they grow to become leaders in their churches and communities across Africa.

NEWS SHORTS:

- **ALMC Holds Short Retreat** – Each year, the Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre PAACS program has a “short retreat”, an afternoon dedicated to camaraderie, games, food and Bible study. This occurred prior to the COVID-19 lockdown in the country.

The Halters had the perfect outdoor space to host such a gathering and sufficient indoor and outdoor space for children to play. Good, plentiful food is central to any Tanzanian gathering. The Halters surprised and delighted our guests with a traditional meat and banana stew/porridge from the Kilimanjaro region as a welcome appetizer. Dr Laurens Ven Der Goot, anesthesiologist, led them in the ever popular “King’s Game”. Dr Frank Madinda, Program Director, led them in a Bible Study from 1 Corinthians about what it means to be the people of God.



- **Okemwa-Mwachiro Named Interim Program Director at Tenwek:** As Dr. Heath Many has stepped down as Program Director at Tenwek and returned to the United States, Tenwek PAACS graduate (2016)

Dr. Liz Mwachiro was proposed and nominated by Tenwek Hospital leadership to fill the role of Program Director of General Surgery. PAACS is pleased to see our own graduates moving into leadership positions that exemplify 2 Timothy 2:2. Although Dr. Mwachiro has less than 5 years of experience as required by PAACS for the position, her experience as Assistant Program Director and knowledge of Tenwek, having trained at Tenwek, has positioned her well to take over this role as Interim Program Director. She does so with the full agreement and confidence of her Tenwek colleagues. We look forward to supporting Dr. Mwachiro in this Interim role and seeing her progress to full status as Program Director under the tutelage of Dr. Russ White, in the coming years.

- **PAACS Faculty, Assistant Program Director, and Program Director Roles.** PAACS is privileged to collaborate with mission hospitals across Africa and Loma Linda University (LLU) in the training and disciplining of African Christian surgeons. Yet, training occurs not by institutions, but by people who pass along what they have learned and who administer and facilitate these programs. PAACS is proud to call them PAACS Faculty Members.

Though an oversimplification, there are three components to the training to be considered: experience (patient care), didactics (teaching from faculty members), and administration (Program Directors, Assistant PDs, hospital administration and finance departments). The PAACS academic curriculum is implemented by the programs through its faculty members, each of whom has completed an internationally recognized surgical training program, whether COSECSA, or Masters in Medicine, or other known programs in N. America or Europe. To promote quality in those areas for its own benefit, PAACS will soon require Faculty Development courses for the members of our faculty. The requirements of terms of CME hours dedicated to this type of CME will increase as a surgeon takes on more leadership within the PAACS training programs.

A desired minimum of 3-years' experience as a practicing surgeon (preferably with an educational component) is required for the position of Assistant Program Director; the soon-to-come faculty development training involving administration of a residency program will also be required. After 5 years of experience, PAACS may consider a surgeon for a Program Director role, which requires another level of expectation in administrative understanding and education. As PAACS and its programs have matured, it has arrived at a point that it will soon require certain faculty development courses and learning prior to assuming these roles. Each role will have both practical and additional educational requirements as one moves from being a faculty member, to serving as Assistant Program Director, to becoming a Program Director.

Additionally, PAACS partnership with LLU allows qualified national and expatriate trainers to become Global Surgical Faculty Members under the authority of LLU. Loma Linda University offers faculty appointments in the LLU Department of Surgery with a voluntary/global status to all missionaries and national surgeons active in the PAACS program (including the fellows). Those faculty members who are board-certified (or its equivalent) are offered a 3-year appointment as an Assistant Professor; those who are not at that level are offered an Instructor position. Remote access to the LLU digital library is one of the greatest benefits to the individual with this appointment.

Thelander, Executive Vice President of PAACS, says, "We are so thankful to each of our partners and collaborators who are the boots on the ground. Without them PAACS certainly could not do any training nor disciplining in Africa. May the Lord bless them and their efforts and equip them with everything they need for the immense responsibility of training a generation of Christian African surgeons."

- **PAACS In-service Exams:** On May 29 and 30, the largest cohort of PAACS residents, 78 in number, sat for their annual in-training exam in general surgery. Modelled after COSECSA's two-tiered system, over the last several years, PAACS has administered a junior exam (1st and 2nd year which corresponds to the COSECSA MCS level) and a senior exam (3rd, 4th, and 5th years or the COSECSA FCS level). Each exam

consisted of 200 questions covering the breadth and depth of general surgery and taken over 7 grueling hours. This comprehensive exam allows a summative assessment, and is used as one component of progression from one year to the next. Additionally, a formative aspect is involved in the exam reporting as areas of strength and weakness are given as feedback to the residents after the exam results have been analyzed.

Congratulations to second year resident, Dr. Verdiana Vedasto, from Arusha Lutheran Medical Centre, for her impressive performance resulting in the highest score for all 43 residents who sat the junior exam. Congratulations also to Dr. Lijalem Garba, 5th year at Malamulo Adventist Hospital on his outstanding performance on the senior annual exam besting the 33 others who took the senior-level exam.

Thirty-three residents (76.7%) in the first and second years passed the junior exam. Of the ten who failed, four are first-year trainees and six are second-year trainees. Twenty-six senior residents (76.5%) passed the exam. Three third-year, one fourth-year and four fifth-year residents will be taking the remediation exam in July; the fifth-year residents must perform acceptably to receive their PAACS certificate of competence. The reliability (as measured by the KR-20) of each exam each year, as in years past, was consistent with other high-stakes international exams, with KR-20s of 0.90 (junior) and 0.82 (senior).

Keir Thelander would like to extend once again a big thank you to Dr. Bruce Steffes and Dr. Carl Haisch for their time, effort, and excellence in putting the exam together. Their tireless and comprehensive work, in other organizations, is carried by a large committee meeting multiple times throughout a year to attain the quality of exam that Drs. Haisch and Steffes are able to produce. Also, again congratulations to all those who passed their respective exams and may God lead and guide each resident in their studies for these coming years.

The remediation exam is scheduled for the last weekend in July – please pray for those who will be taking that exam.

- **COSECSA Oral Exams Change.** The written MCS and FCS exams will be administered as usual on the first Wednesday in September. However, as the result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the COSECSA AGM and oral exams scheduled for Zambia in December have been cancelled. The exact date of the online OSCEs exam for the MCS level has not yet been determined. Most MCS candidates will go to examination centers in their own country but some will be asked to fly to another country if the numbers of potential examiners and COSECSA fellows in their country are too small to make the administration of the exam feasible. Exact details and assignments will be announced in the fall. The examiners will use a combination of in-person and video-conferenced interviews for the examination.

The public notice published in early June by Dr. Eric Borgstein, the Secretary-General, is reproduced below.

Considering the status and progression of the Corona virus pandemic in the region and after extensive discussion and consultation, we wish to inform you of the following Executive Committee resolutions:

1. The COSECSA Council meeting due to be held in Mozambique on 20th to 23rd August 2020 will not be held as a physical meeting. Three (3) committees will hold online meetings in preparation and on Friday 21st August from 900am to 1200am the Committee chairs will report to Council in an online meeting.
2. The COSECSA Annual General Meeting and Scientific Conference due to be held in December in Zambia will be postponed to December 2021. (Pandemic permitting).

3. The 2020 COSECSA Examinations:

EXAMINATION	MODE/PLACE	DATES
MCS and FCS written papers	In each Country as usual	2 nd September, 2021
MCS OSCE examination	online OSCE in designated centers in each country	First 2 Weeks of December
FCS clinical and oral examinations	Postponed to 2021	TBC

NB: The exact timing of the 2020 FCS examinations will be decided within the next few months and will depend on the developments in the pandemic. The FCS examinations will not be held before March 2021.

- **PAACS to Implement the SIMPL App Trial for Technical Feedback:** We are pleased to report that through the connections of Dr. Grace Kim and partnership of the “Procedural Learning and Safety Collaborative”, that PAACS has access to a new tool for assessment of operative technical ability.

PAACS Tenwek Hospital General Surgery training program will be running a pilot program implementation of this phone app tool, designed to improve faculty to resident feedback on procedure performance. PAACS Executive Vice-President, Keir Thelander, and Dr. Brian George, MA, Assistant Professor of Surgery, Director of Educational Research, Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Director, Center for Surgical Training and Research, at the University of Michigan, and the Executive Director of PLSC and Member, PLSC Steering Committee, met by Zoom to discuss the benefits of this tool and how it might be applied to the PAACS setting. They concluded that a pilot attempt would be best as an entrée.

This app is designed to allow quick feedback from the attending to the resident. It is done by the attending surgeon immediately post-procedure through a series of simple phone screen interfaces. The resident is also expected to review an audio recording giving feedback from the attending directed specifically to that resident regarding the specifics of the procedure performance. Analytics are used to present a dashboard to the resident and the program faculty that compares the performance of each resident to the average performance scores for that procedure by residents of similar academic year. Dashboard assessment is also available to the faculty and Program Director which permits the tracking of progress for a specific resident as well.

One of the more powerful aspects of the tool is its comparison of different attendings feedback such that a score by “hawks”, attending surgeons who tend to be “tougher”, is corrected for as is a score from a “softer” attending, a “dove”.

We look forward to seeing how this unique progressive tool, will positively impact the feedback to residents and subsequently improve their surgical care of patients.

- **PAACS Commissioner Honored:** The Houston Global Health Collaborative, a collection of individuals from various institutions and organizations throughout the Texas Medical Center and greater Houston area dedicated to realizing the vision of seeing the area as global leader in global health research, service and education, has instituted an annual global health award named the establishment of the eponymous “Bruce and Rosemary MacFadyen Global Health Award” The first award was announced and given at the conclusion of the 8th annual global health conference on March 7, 2020.

The global health impact of this year’s inaugural recipients, the MacFadyens, spans many continents from Africa to Asia. This very special couple are parents to 4 children, and teachers of countless others. Rosemary MacFadyen earned an B.A. and M.A. in English literature, subsequently taught in this field and

then served as a senior consultant with Birkman International Inc., a testing program that helps people make occupational and career decisions. She is very cross-culturally sensitive, devoted to her faith and her husband whom she has accompanied on many international endeavors.

Dr. MacFadyen recently retired from the University of Texas McGovern Medical School as Professor of Surgery and had served prior to that as Chairman of the Department of Surgery of the Medical College of Georgia. He is well known in the area of laparoscopic surgery and was the former co-editor of the Journal of Surgical Endoscopy; former editor of Seminars in Laparoscopic Surgery; co-editor of three surgical textbooks, and author of numerous articles and book chapters on minimally invasive surgery, flexible endoscopy, and surgical nutrition. He is Past-President of SAGES (Society American Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Surgeons), Past-President of the Houston Surgical Society, and Past-President of the Houston Gastroenterology Society. When coming to Houston in 2012, he elected to work part time at UT so he could devote his time to teaching surgery at mission hospitals.

He is a founding member of PAACS. He and Rosemary have spent considerable amount of time training surgeons to serve in the neediest areas of the world. This exemplary couple has been instrumental in leading the HGHC organization and Bruce has served on the board since its inception in 2013. He is wise, compassionate, inquisitive and devoted - no one is more deserving and he has set the bar to which future recipients will aspire.

The Bruce and Rosemary MacFadyen Global Health Award will be an annual award selected by the board of directors of Houston Global Health Collaborative and will be open to individuals working within and outside academia who have demonstrated a sustained and meaningful commitment to global health, made a significant contribution impacting global health in the area of service, research, and/ or education, and exemplified excellence among peers and be well-respected in the global health community locally and globally.



ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **PAACS Issues Statement on Racial Discrimination:** PAACS released a statement on June 2 on the ongoing challenges of discrimination throughout the world. The purpose of this statement was to make clear where PAACS stands on these issues. Though the circumstances referenced in the statement are surrounding the tragic death of George Floyd, this is a statement to recognize that injustice and discrimination occur regularly. This is an issue without borders. This statement was developed as a message that we are together in this battle against discrimination in all forms.



Read the PAACS statement on social injustice found on the website by [Clicking Here](#) or clicking on the banner above.

- **Long-term Surgeon Needed at Bongolo:** The Bongolo Hospital general surgery residency program needs a general surgeon who is able to serve under a sending agency for at least 2 years starting in 2021. Please contact bongolopd@gmail.com if you are interested.
- **New Address for Donations to PAACS:** As of July 1, 2020, all donations should be sent to:

PAACS
PO Box 735262
Dallas, TX 75373-5262
- **Mark your calendar** for the following events you may wish to attend or uphold in prayer:
 - **African Colleges Exams & Conferences:**
 - COSECSA written exams for MCS and FCS will be given on Wednesday, September 2, 2020.
 - COSECSA oral exams for MCS and FCS (Zambia) have been cancelled. The MCS will be in the first two weeks of December but the date has not yet been set. The FCS oral exam will be delayed until sometime in 2021.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Pray for healing and salvation for this world in the face of this pandemic.
- Pray for internal peace as the PAACS family faces the uncertainty of separation from family, of unknown medical demand, and limited medical resources.
- Pray for all the patients who cannot get transportation to the hospitals for their care.
- Pray for all the missionaries and the hospitals – for personal health and safety and for financial viability of the charity hospitals in this tough time.
- Pray for the manpower shortage at the mission hospitals. Pray that the international flights will re-open to allow two-way traffic to the hospitals so that both long-term and short-term faculty can travel

safely and conveniently. Pray that God will make it possible for the short-term missionaries to return to service in the mission hospitals.

- Pray that God will call on the hearts of His candidates to replace the four surgeons who are leaving – and that they will be obedient to his calling.
- Pray that the Browns will soon be able to return to service in Cameroon.
- Peace and stability in the PAACS countries.
- Pray for PAACS as it strikes off on its course as an independent organization.
- Pray that PAACS will glorify God and be used to impact Africa for His Kingdom. Plead that many lives will be saved through surgery and many people will come to know the love of Jesus.
- Request strength, stamina, wisdom, and blessings upon the PAACS faculty as they seek to train and mentor PAACS residents. Pray that God will bring His chosen long and short-term missionary and national surgeons to help train African residents in the PAACS training programs.
- Pray for PAACS graduates that are serving God's people. Pray for God's grace, protection, provision, strength, and blessings to cover the PAACS graduates.
- Beseech God for success and needed help for all of the 16 current PAACS programs. Pray that governmental approval of the plastic surgery program will come for the AIC Kijabe Hospital in Kenya.
- Pray for the administrative (and other) preparations needed for potentially opening the recently approved new programs of Neurosurgery and Anesthesia. Also, pray for the opening in January 2021 the previously approved new program in General Surgery at Kibuye Hope Hospital in Burundi and Plastic Surgery at Kijabe Hospital.
- Pray for Liz Mwachiro as she shoulders the new role and responsibility as Interim Program Director at Tenwek.
- Pray for the needs at Bongolo Hospital – for coverage during the O'Connor's home assignment and for additional career missionary surgeons.
- Pray for the Soddo-Cure Orthopedic Program in Ethiopia that has a great need for additional faculty members at Soddo Christian Hospital and pray for the Tenwek Orthopaedic Training Program which has an equally great need.

Editor: Bruce C. Steffes, MD