



**AWBC|USFC**

Academics without Borders Canada  
Universitaires sans frontières Canada

*Supporting Higher Education in the Developing World*

## **Executive Director Report**

**Steven Davis**

**Executive Director**

**July 1, 2013**

### 1. Fund Raising

In my May 1 report, I indicated that Grand Challenges Canada had turned down our request for a grant for our work at the Patan Academy of Health Sciences. This was a mistake. On April 29, GCC issued a press release announcing grantees for a GCC competition without indicating the round of the competition. When our proposal was not among the winners, I assumed that we had not been awarded a grant. There was however no indication in the press release that it was for Round 4 applicants. I am happy to report that we applied for Round 5 and that the winners for this round will be announced at the end of July or the beginning of August.

### 2. Publicity

I had a piece entitled [Canada should bolster Africa's universities, not drain their best students](#) published on June 30, 2013 in the on-line edition of the *Globe and Mail*

### 3. News

The Canadian International Development Agency has formally been merged with Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. The acronym *CIDA* will disappear. Apparently, Canada's foreign aid to the developed world will be driven in part by considerations connected to foreign affairs and international trade.

### 4. Projects

Dominique Sotteau, the scientific advisor for the AWBC project to assist the University of Cape Coast in Ghana mount a graduate programme in computer science, was invited to a conference on Ghanaian higher education organized by the French Embassy. The French Embassy picked up the cost of the hotel and AWBC the other expenses. While in Ghana, Dominique met with the stakeholders in the UCC project.

Simone Santini and Jean-Claude Lamirel, who are offering two courses in computer science, are on placement until the end of July at the University of Cape Coast. Lisa Fisher is continuing her assignment at UIN Suka in Indonesia to aid the University make its library accessible to handicapped students. And Robin Farquhar and Anthony Morgan are on an assignment in Rwanda as strategic advisors helping the country create a University of Rwanda, which will group together all the institutions of higher education in the country.

AWBC will have volunteer placements this summer/fall in Bhutan at the Jigme Namgyel Polytechnic, Royal University of Bhutan to assist it to upgrade its civil engineering curriculum and in East Africa at Aga Khan University to continue the AWBC 2012 project to help the University upgrade its nursing education.