

FRIENDS OF MALAWI

BOOK PROJECT



A new university in Malawi, the University of Livingstonia

Founded in 2003 on Khondowe plateau, overlooking beautiful Lake Malawi is the University of Livingstonia. Prior to democratic reforms in the 1990s, Malawi had only one University, the state-run University of Malawi (UNIMA). Now, there are several new private and public universities and colleges, offering advanced learning to thousands more Malawians. The University of Livingstonia is operated by the CCAP (Church of Central Africa Presbyterian) and is open to students of all faiths and ethnicities. It currently has 500 students.



Dr. Augustine Msiska

For many years, Friends of Malawi Book Project sent college-level books to the UNIMA's Head Librarian, Dr. Augustine Msiska. Dr. Msiska retired from UNIMA in 2003 to become an Administrator and Librarian at the University of Livingstonia. He is spearheading the effort to increase the textbooks and reference materials available to students and faculty. The Book Project is helping in this effort. The University currently has no computers and internet access, and during the rainy season becomes somewhat isolated from the larger metropolitan areas due to impassable roads.

We were extremely fortunate to meet Dr. Msiska and his wife, Ninas, this past year in Portland, Oregon. It was their first visit to the U.S. He spent the Spring Quarter 2006 as Visiting Professor of

Book Shipments

1999 - 3,225 books
2000 - 6,200 books
2001 - 3,400 books
2002 - 3,280 books
2003 - 4,722 books
2004 - 10,570 books
2005 - 6,346 books
2006 (YTD September) - 5,244 books

Centralia College in Washington State, teaching a course in African History. His hosts were Dr. Henry P. Kirk and Mrs. Jenny Sheldon Kirk, University of Livingstonia's Vice Chancellor and Director of University Relations respectively. Dr. Kirk was President of Centralia College for 16 years, before he retired in 2002. Since his retirement, he and Mrs. Kirk have worked tirelessly in the establishment of this new University, and spend half of their time in Malawi.

The University's Faculty of Education is expected to graduate its first secondary school teachers in 2007. These graduates should help ease the country's dire shortage of secondary school teachers.

Please see www.ulivingstonia.org for more information.



Students at Thanganyika Primary School

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**FRIENDS OF
MALAWI**

The FOM Book Project has established relationships with many Northwest schools and libraries, and has a constant supply of like new text books and reading books. These books are sorted for appropriateness and quality and shipped to Malawian schools on a weekly basis. 100% of your tax-deductible cash donations are used on freight – there is no overhead.

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OREGON SUPPORT FOR BOOK PROJECT

The Book Project has been the grateful recipient of support from many Oregon schools, agencies and individuals. Special thanks go to Mrs. Susan Fairchild's classes at Jackson Middle School in Portland. For many years, her students have not only enthusiastically conducted fund-raising read-a-thons but also book drives that have resulted in thousands of like-new children's books going to the children of Malawi.

We would also like to give extra thanks to the "Books for Kids" program headed by Jerry Isom of Willamette Writers. "Books for Kids" has generously donated thousands of books to us, for which we are extremely grateful.

We thank all our supporters, who are too numerous to mention.



Library construction at Monkey Bay Primary School



Mwatrona Pre-school students

Facts about Malawi

- 7th poorest country in the world
- Population of 13 million
- 750,000 orphans
- Adult Literacy: 63%
- Average class size is 102 students
- Most schools have no books or libraries
- English is the official language and is taught starting in kindergarten
- Internet users: 46,100
- Life expectancy: 42 years
- HIV/AIDS adult rate: 14% (2003). Over 200 people die of AIDS each day
- Inflation rate 16% (2005)
- GDP per capita: \$600
- Fertility rate: 6 children born/woman
- Telephones - land lines in use - 103,000
- Telephones - Cellular - 222,100
- TV Stations - 1
- 3.4% of the population complete secondary education
- less than 1% of the population goes to university

Your support is needed

_____ Yes, I want to support a child and help send discarded books to Malawi. I have enclosed a contribution of:

_____ \$40 (shipping costs for one box of books) _____ \$100 _____ \$ Other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State, _____

Zip _____

Please make check payable to Friends of Malawi Book Project. Your gift is tax-deductible.

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