

INTERIM PROGRESS REPORT

It is an honor and privilege for me to have been awarded with the Garissa Master Scholarship Kenya by the DAAD-Stiftung, which gave me the opportunity to restart the pursuit of academic excellence and advance my career field after successfully finishing my undergraduate studies. The selection committee that awarded me the scholarship were extraordinarily effective in selecting the very most suitable applicants for the Garissa Master Scholarship.

The Garissa Master Scholarship could not have come at a better time than the current uncertainty of Covid 19. The classes were blended, with both the physical and online classes mode of teaching been utilized. An average of fifty (50) students attend a class with mask wearing mandate of the Government being observed. The study program for the first year commenced on the 10th of September 2021 and is expected to come to a completion by end of July 2022.



During the first year I studied and successfully finished the exams for 12 units for the Master courses of Business Management. The units include: Theory and Practice of Management, Human Resource Management, Business Research Methods, Marketing Management, Quantitative Methods of Management, Financial Management, Global Strategic Management, Managerial Economics, Management Information Systems, Strategic Management, Research Proposal Seminar, and Financial Accounting.

The first semester results were impressive, and I am waiting for the second semester results of the first year, which I expect to even achieve excellent results. The Strategic Management unit was particularly appealing to me because of the deep ingrained interest I have on how to change the current status quo of the society I live in with their myopic thinking towards the importance of education with a strategic mindset. Quantitative techniques have improved my research methodology in arriving at accurate data analysis and interpretation.

During that period, I gained a lot of insight into my Strategic Management field. I appreciated the impact of sound judgements made by strategic leaders in bringing about positive change at all levels of an organization. I gained knowledge on how leaders should handle situations and circumstances in order to bring the desired results. My country Kenya and Africa at large need leaders with strong foundation of leadership skills and attributes to mend and fight off the prevailing economic, social and political turmoil that currently exist. The award of the Garissa Master Scholarship will come a long way in realizing my quest of becoming an African leader someday.

The quantitative and qualitative techniques of solving problems, which was part of the course work, came in handy as I was able to identify different problems that exist and how to possibly find the best solutions.

Working at the university and interacting with instructors and fellow students was key in improving my understanding of different concepts better as our interaction was very engaging and lively. Public speaking is where I am currently doing well as opposed to when I was at the undergraduate's level. Master level studies at our university is lively engagement and addressing a group of students with a presentation This is personal to me because of my disassociation and withdrawal from social interaction with people as a result of my disability and fear of not being treated well or welcomed. This has changed since I started the Master Program.



With a continued support from DAAD-Stiftung and its benefactors, I am very confident that I will achieve all my aspirations and foster positive change at the societal, national, regional and even at global level. The Scholarship Program was particularly personal for me as I always strive to overcome the personal challenge of living with a visual disability; I lost my right eye to Retinitis Pigmentosa and am gradually losing my left eye, too. Living with partial vision is not easy as you have to overcome challenges often as the vision keeps on deteriorating, I got difficulty reading scripts if they are not of extra-large size. The difficulties I face include straining during reading, walking by myself especially during nighttime, and the lack of a personal guide to help me move around. The digital allowance by the DAAD-Stiftung was a bridge to my interactive engagement with Information Technology as it allowed me to purchase the very laptop that I regularly use for my studies.

During my free time I watch football matches though during my teenage years I used to play with friends, but due to my deteriorating eye condition as a result of Retinitis Pigmentosa, I can no longer play active football. I go swimming and beach walk during weekends.

THE LIMIT IS BEYOND THE SKY