



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



School of Nursing and  
Midwifery, East Africa  
Alumni News

December 2019



## Ending the year on a high note!

In the last issue of Alumni News, we featured several stories of alumni who are agents of change. In this issue, we showcase alumni who are making an impact in their various communities.

Recently, we had three alumni reunions where we had the opportunity to rejuvenate, inspire and reconnect with each other. It was wonderful to welcome so many of you back to SONAM and to learn about your careers and achievements since leaving AKU.

2020 has been labeled “Year of the Nurse and Midwife” by the World Health Organisation and we at SONAM look forward to further engagement with you to mark this and many other milestones. From all of us at SONAM, I wish you Season’s Greetings and a prosperous new year! --- Eunice Ndirangu

## Alumni Spotlight: Harriet Nayiga, '19



#### **Harriet Nayiga is selected as Young Midwifery Leader**

As one of ten midwives globally to be selected to participate in the Young Midwifery Leader programme by the International Council of Midwives, Harriet attended the 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva and has been involved in several sexual reproductive healthcare activities worldwide. [More>](#)





## SONAM ALUMNI REUNION 2019



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**Over 50 SONAM alumni gathered in Tanzania in November for their first-ever alumni reunion.**

Elianeth Kiteni '17, stated: "It was such a remarkable event that brought us together from all over the country. We were privileged to hear from the Chief Medical Officer, and share successes and challenges we face as nurses. We should have this event annually and hopefully, someday we can have all the East Africa alumni together." [More>](#)  
Details of other reunions and images can be found on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

## Launching the Cancer Care Centre in Machakos



**In August 2019, a new Cancer Care and Research Centre was established in Machakos, Kenya with support from SONAM alumni.**

The Centre, the first of its kind, will provide free cancer screening, diagnosis, counselling, chemotherapy treatment and management to Machakos residents. [More>](#)

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**Providing Hope for Cancer Patients**



### **Learning from global best practice**

Joyce Marete '18, is part of a team working to provide an alternative treatment for cancer patients. Taking best practice from the University of Alabama, Joyce and her team are working to replicate these clinical trials in Kenya. [More>](#)

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## **Faculty Update**





### **Improving mental health and new-born care in Tanzania**

SONAM faculty regularly visit hospitals in Dar es Salaam to facilitate short courses on mental health and newborn care. These short courses provide attendees with the tools to build the capacity of nurses and midwives in applying the nursing process to mental health clinical practice. [More>](#)

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#### **No nurse left behind**

Beth Waweru, BScN '11 leads a range of continuous professional development courses in Kenya. These courses aim to ensure that working nurses and midwives are efficient in healthcare delivery and acquainted with best practices in the profession. [More>](#)

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## **Update from Alumni Affairs**



**We look forward to the upcoming Convocations in Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya and to welcoming the Class of 2019 to the AKU alumni family!**

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to keep up-to-date with campus news, events in your area and the latest about your fellow alumni and former classmates.

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