



UCL Report Card 2015

The University Consortium for Liberia (UCL) connects U.S. and Liberia based students, educational institutions, research facilities, and academic professionals. These connections allow each group to advance their community. Despite the devastating impact of Liberia's Ebola crisis, The UCL accomplished much in 2015. With the support of the Embassy of the Republic of Liberia in Washington D.C., The UCL hosted many events and activities that provided *brighter futures through education and understanding*. In 2015, the Joseph N. Boakai, Sr., Vice President of the Republic of Liberia Scholarship Award was launched.

Overview

Established in downtown Atlanta, The UCL has a significant local presence in the Metropolitan Atlanta area. In addition, we have 21 educational partner institutions, seven board members, eight volunteers, and two honorary chairs. Out of the 21 UCL educational partners, 12 are located in the Greater Metropolitan Atlanta area.

The UCL office is located at 225 Peachtree Street Suite 515 Peachtree Center South Tower, Atlanta, GA 30303. The office phone number is 404-590-1655, the e-mail address is cblandford@UCLiberia.com, and the website is www.UCLiberia.com. The office is open Tuesday and Thursday from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Over 200,000 local students and academic professionals have access to our services and there are 20,000 Liberians living in the state of Georgia. Each year, The UCL obtains new partnerships, which allows the organization to offer more collaborating and learning opportunities.

Leadership and Volunteer Staff

The Board is comprised of seven members including:

1. Honorable Cynthia L. Blandford, President and Board Chair (Honorary Consul General Republic of Liberia)
2. Dr. David Smith, Director and Board Secretary/Scholarship Committee (Retired Savannah State University)
3. Dr. Judith Little, Director and Fundraising Co-Chair (Retired United Way Executive)
4. Dr. BK Robertson, Director and Scholarship Committee (Professor and Executive Director, Graduate Programs in Biology & Microbiology, Alabama State University)
5. Mr. William Settle, Director and Co-Chair Fundraising Committee (Retired Delta Air Lines Executive)
6. Mr. Saki Golafale, Director and CFO (PhD student at Clark Atlanta University, alumni of the University of Liberia)
7. Ms. Lorna Johnson, Director, Co-Chair Scholarship Committee and By-Laws Chair (Principal of Global Linkages, Inc.)

Below are the current UCL Volunteers who help to manage communications, community engagement, marketing, public relations, accounting and office tasks.

- Candace Bazemore
- Ardella Blandford
- Brandi Samuel
- Adem Sonii
- Miatta Sonii
- Delonte Egwautu
- Tod Ethridge
- Manseen Logan

Current Honorary Chairs:

- Dr. Emmet Dennis, President, University of Liberia
- Dr. Cheryl Dozier, President, Savannah State University

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Institutional Partners

AME University (Liberia)
Emory University
Georgia State University
Morehouse College
Kennesaw State University
Savannah State University
North Dakota State University
Fort Valley State University

Clark Atlanta University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Atlanta Technical College
Tuskegee University
Technical College System of Georgia
Georgia Gwinnett College

University of Georgia
The Carter Center
Alabama State University
University of Liberia (Liberia)
Morehouse School of Medicine
Tubman University (Liberia)

Sponsors and Donors

The UCL Inaugural Gala took place in 2015. Former NFL player Mohamed Massaquoi acted as the honorary chair of the event and award winning actor Louis Gossett Jr. attended as the guest of honor. Both Massaquoi and Gossett's attendance had a tremendous impact on the success of the event.



UCL also received great support from several of its member institutions and a group of notable sponsors. Their donations also added to the success of the event. Donors are listed below.

Member Institutions

- Clark Atlanta University
- Fort Valley State University
- Georgia Gwinnett College
- North Dakota State University
- Savannah State University
- University of Georgia

Sponsors

- Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport
- Delta Air Lines
- The Coca Cola Company
- UPS Foundation



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2015 Activities/Benefits

In the past, the UCL has arranged for student and faculty exchanges and service learning experiences in Liberia and for students from Liberia to participate in student exchange programs in Georgia. Due to the Ebola crisis some trips were canceled or postponed, in 2015. The UCL assists partners and participants with collaborations that have positive impacts on the local and global community. Last year was no different. Below describe activities, events, and benefits of the UCL during 2015.

EVENT/ACTIVITY/ASSISTANCE	DESCRIPTION	VALUE/BENEFICIARIES
1. Academic Scholarships from Clark Atlanta University (2015)	The president of Clark Atlanta University, Former UCL Honorary Chair Dr. Carlton Brown offered two Liberian students full academic scholarships to pursue their Masters in Chemistry. Both students are current PhD students studying Chemistry.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Varbah Sorsor \$32,190 in Tuition and fees (See photo of UCL Scholarship recipient on pg.6) • Saki Golafale \$14,000 in Tuition fees
2. Academic Scholarships from Savannah State University (2015)	The president of Savannah State University, UCL Honorary Chair Dr. Cheryl Dozier offered one Liberian student a full academic scholarship to pursue a Masters in Social Work. Another student was offered a full scholarship to complete her undergraduate degree in Journalism.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -- Randolph Glee \$31,999 in Tuition fees -- Roberthalyne Kollie \$7,600 in Tuition fees (See photo of recipients on pg.6)
3. Georgia Institute of Technology Memorandum of Understanding (2015)	Georgia Tech and the Republic of Liberia signed a Memorandum of Understanding solidifying their relationship around communication technologies and development.	Educational value for: - Georgia Tech and Republic of Liberia

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(2015 Activities/Benefits Continued)

EVENT/ACTIVITY/ASSISTANCE	DESCRIPTION	VALUE/BENEFICIARIES
4. Emory University Master's in Development Practice Group (2015)	Emory University students researched and constructed three solid reports focused on orphan well-being, Liberia's economy, and a clean water campaign. Students provided technical assistance and support to the UCL President.	Educational value for: 11 Emory University students working in 3 separate groups.
5. Georgia Gwinnett College Commencement Speech (2015)	The Republic of Liberia Ambassador Jeremiah C. Sulunteh delivered the keynote address to more than 420 graduates.	Georgia Gwinnett College Class of 2015
6. University of Georgia Agricultural Research (2015)	The University of Georgia extended their proposition to develop 4-H programs in Africa to Liberia. The program will engage the country's youth in order to disseminate agricultural best practices while fostering life skills and leadership development.	Educational value for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - University of Liberia students and faculty - University of Georgia - Donation of land valued at \$10,000
7. United for Liberia Gala (2015)	The UCL hosted an Inaugural appreciation and scholarship fundraising dinner, including several VIP guests. At the event, Academy and Grammy award winner Louis Gossett, Jr. was inducted as an Honorary Liberian citizen.	Over 200 in attendance. The Vice President of Liberia Joseph N. Boakai, sends letter to accept the UCL Scholarship in his name. Each recipient of this scholarship is awarded \$500. In 2016, The UCL will award three recipients. (See photos on page 7).

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(2015 Activities/Benefits Continued)

EVENT/ACTIVITY/ASSISTANCE	DESCRIPTION	VALUE/BENEFICIARIES
8. Morehouse School of Medicine Post-Ebola Discussion (2015)	The Morehouse School of Medicine hosted recovery strategies and partnership discussions with Liberian Vice president Joseph N. Boakai. The event was followed by a question and answer session with Dr. Emmanuel Dolo, Presidential Advisor on Ebola Special Taskforce and the President of Liberia's son, Dr. James Sirleaf.	Over 60 attendees including, MAP International, MedShare International, Morehouse School of Medicine faculty, Emory University School of Nursing, the Liberian Nurses Association of Georgia, President of Savannah State University, UCL Board members and more attended to further strengthen relationships between Morehouse School of Medicine and our partners. (See photo with Liberian Vice President on page 8).
9. The Carter Center (2015)	The Carter Center hosted the Vice President of Liberia to discuss their Access to Justice program; Democracy, and a Mental Health training program for Liberia.	20 Carter Center staff and members of the Liberian delegation participate in a lunch meeting to further strengthen relationships between the Carter Center and Liberia.
10. Alabama State University (2015)	Dr. Emmet Dennis and President of Alabama State University Gwen Boyd and Honorary Consul General sign MOU to expand educational programs	Educational value: ASU and UL will plan and coordinate student and faculty exchange, study abroad, and joint research efforts between institutions

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I. Joseph N Boakai, Sr. Scholarship Recipients

Varbah Sorsor

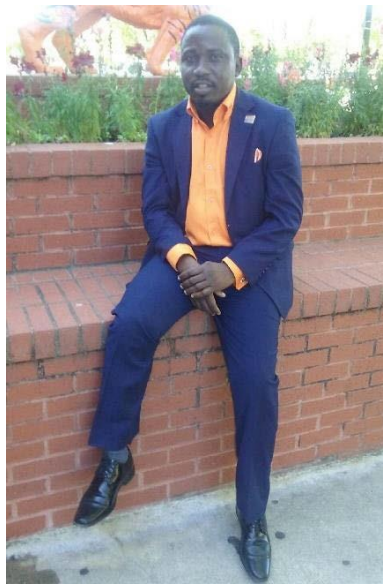
Clark Atlanta University



PhD Student, Chemistry

Randolph Glee

Savannah State University



MSW Candidate

Roberthalyne Kollie

Savannah State University



Pursuing BA Journalism

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II. United for Liberia Gala photos

The Inaugural UCL Scholarship Fundraising event, held on the campus of Emory University on September 26, 2015, raised funds to support the UCL Scholarship. Over 200 guests attended and the UCL Board of Directors received approval from the Vice President of Liberia, His Excellency, Joseph N. Boakai, Sr., to name a UCL Scholarship in his honor.



UCL President Cynthia Blandford and Dr. James Sirleaf, the President of Liberia's son, bestow Liberia Honorary Citizenship on Louis Gossett, Jr.



Georgia Tech, Emory University, the University of Georgia, the Carter Center, and Savannah State University were given the "United for Liberia Award."



Seven community partners were given the UCL Community Service Award for their outstanding support during the Ebola Crisis in Liberia. MAP International, MedShare International, the Centers for Disease Control, Urologist Dr. Frank Glover (father accepting), and Samaritan's Purse. Event MC, Errol Barnett of CNN, stands in background. UCL President and Honorary Chairs also pictured.

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III. Morehouse School of Medicine Post-Ebola Discussion photo

Picture of Vice President Joseph N. Boakai, Sr., of Liberia at Morehouse School of Medicine for Post-Ebola Discussion with Liberian Nurses Association, UCL Honorary Board Chair and President of Savannah State University Dr. Dozier, Emory University faculty and other partners:

