The Inspirers Alumni Newsletter

3rd edition April, 2022























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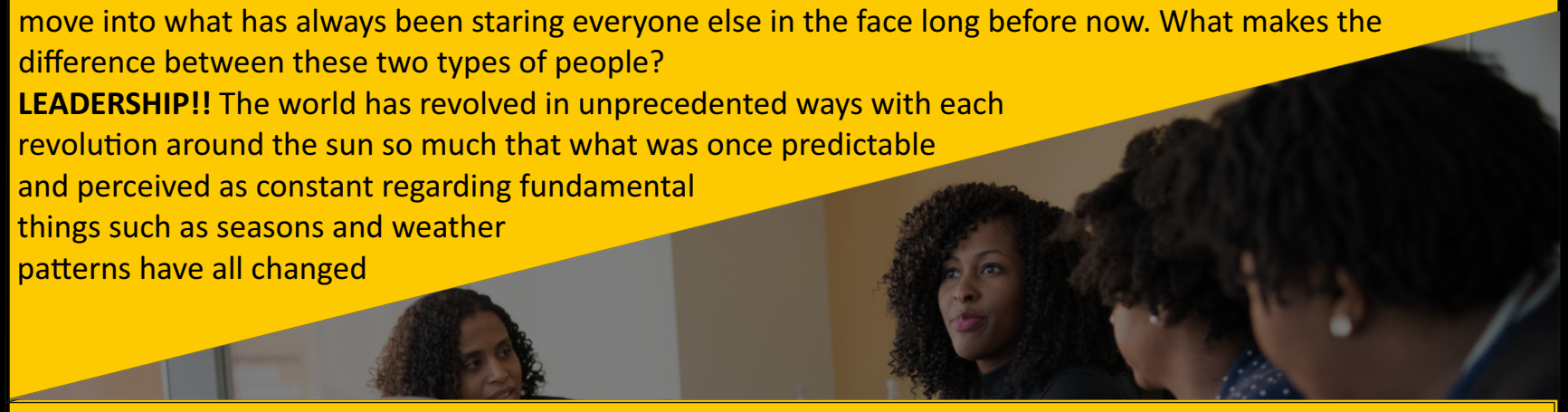
More...

The Rising Leader-shift

THE RISING LEADER-SHIFT

Have you ever wondered why it seems that some people always go up, become wealthier, more influential, appear stronger regardless of what the physical conditions pertaining to their times are?
And have you always wondered how you can equally become so successful that regardless of what seems to be going wrong in the world around you, you always come out on top and help others to do same?

All around us massive changes are happening on a wider scale than it has ever occurred in the past. This change came as a shock to so many people whilst to others who have been reading the times and seasons, preparing to position themselves by investing in themselves and their world, they are only getting ready to move into what has always been staring everyone else in the face long before now. What makes the difference between these two types of people?
LEADERSHIP!! The world has revolved in unprecedented ways with each revolution around the sun so much that what was once predictable and perceived as constant regarding fundamental things such as seasons and weather patterns have all changed



If you do not realize that massive unprecedented changes have occurred regarding such things as the norm, then you will find it impossible to even understand the changes happening all around you. Take a look at the pandemic and its effect on global trends, economies, health, movement, and it will hopefully enlighten you more to understand that indeed a lot has changed and will continue to change around us. Things will never be the same and things will continue to change drastically over the next ten years. The pandemic served as the trigger to the introduction of many new things that before nw were only considered as futuristic. Technological advancements, medical advancements, wealth creation and transfer, consumerism, just to mention a few are some of the areas that you can see these changes in.



If you will survive and begin to thrive in this new era, there's a key ingredient that you must have- **ADAPTABILITY**. You must grow and upgrade your leadership continually. You must apply all the skill knowledge and discernment that you have learnt and then buy advanced knowledge and information in order to be able to step out of what was into what is and then equip yourself into what is to come. A lot of power struggles going on in the world currently is all a function of leadership and these power struggles are creating a tipping balance that's progressively pushing the world to transfer leadership from one part of the global economy to another. If you do not prepare to shift, to change levels and become something more, you will soon realise that who you were or what you had that was more than enough to answer certain things for you in the past is no longer matching up to the present demands nor will be adequate to meet the coming ones. You want to ask yourself this question, "Do I want to be relevant to my past, my present or the world's future?" Your answer will help you to understand what kind of upgrades in yourself need to be done. The coming Leader-shift is here, where do you belong?

Sharon Y. Tetteh
Editor-in-chief

Going from Ordinary to Exceptional



By Dr. Samuel Jacobs-Abbey

There are examples of exceptional leadership, all around us, but can you define it? What makes an exceptional leadership, exceptional? It's certainly not a job title or economic status, so then, what is it?

Exceptional leadership is the ability foster and develop the love, trust and respect from others need to inspire them to both listen and follow you anywhere. This definition of exceptional leadership allows us to take a more holistic approach to identify and build out what it takes to be an exceptional leader.

It's the qualities of a person that endear others to listen and follow, not a title or position of power, and it's these qualities that are important for leadership. There are four leadership qualities that I feel are the most critical to exceptional leadership above all others, and these are what I'd like to discuss today. As we detail these out, my aim is to demonstrate how these qualities can help you improve your own leadership, regardless of who you are and what you do professionally.

The first quality I want to talk about is how exceptional leaders re-frame the problems we face to find a viewpoint that can motivate and empower proactive solutions.
Exceptional leaders will always seek to understand the problems they face and then re-orientate their frame of view to one that empowers meaning from the situation. They will seek to frame the problem so that it provides themselves and others with the motivation to resolve that problem.
Exceptional leaders will always resist the temptation to blame negative situations on things outside of their control. They understand that blaming things outside of their control will almost never improve the situation they face and is therefore unproductive.
Instead of seeking to blame an external force, an exceptional leader will ask themselves "What did I do to cause this situation?" and "What can I do to improve it?". They then empower every member of their team to do the same.

Asking these two questions will elicit the things that are within their control and allow us to identify those things that aren't. By focusing on the things, we can have control over, and ignoring those that we can't, we can ensure that our energy is best spent on achieving productive future outcomes.

The third quality is an interesting and often misunderstood quality, where exceptional leaders favor being process orientated over goal-orientated in how they approach delivering their work.



Exceptional leaders focus less on the goals they are trying to achieve and more on continually improving the processes they use to achieve those goals. They understand that by continually improving how they execute, their outputs will always improve as a result. This is essentially the core premise of Lean thinking. i.e., continually iterate upon factors you can measure for improved work outcomes. The leaders' intention is to seek perfection in how they work, knowing that this will naturally result in improving what they output.

Being process focused means leaders need to measure the effects of any changes they make to how they work. It's these measurements of improvement that then become the backbone for any performance indicators and are what the leader will use to inform their decisions on. By focusing on improving the way we work to achieve our goals we ensure our goals are continually met and exceeded.

The fourth quality and final quality is the most important of them all. Exceptional leaders will make it all about other people.
Building up others is not something that comes naturally to everyone, especially in larger corporate environments. It is, however, something exceptional leaders do by habit.

In a team working environment they understand that building others up around them and focusing on ensuring their success considered, achieved, and celebrated, is the only way to lead people. By aligning individual goals with more holistic team goals, the consequence of ensuring all individuals succeed will result in the teams meeting its goals.
Exceptional leaders understand that this is the hidden advantage of making it about other people and that such an approach is why exceptional leaders learn to enjoy and encourage the success of others. The best leads often get to a point of making others success a core personal driver for themselves.

There you have it, the four leadership qualities that help define exceptional leadership. It's important to remember that leadership is not rocket science and it's something we can all improve. By re-framing the negative situations, we face, focusing on what we can control, seeking to continually improve HOW we do things, and empowering those around us to succeed, we can all become exceptional leaders, should we wish to be. Are you an exceptional leader?

Ambassador Dr. Samuel Jacobs-Abbey

Chief Executive Officer, Professor

Jacobs-Abbey Global Institute for Leadership Studies



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20 12
LEADERSHIP WITH RESILIENCE

THE EXECUTIVE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP MASTERCLASS (2022)

The Executive Strategic Leadership Masterclass of 2022 (1st in-take) have successfully completed their 10 week program in Strategic Operational management. This year saw 60 participants from across the world in countries such as Ghana, Nigeria, Liberia, uganda, Togo, Tanzania, Burundi, Portugal, USA, Zambia, Cameroon, etc. This intake for the Executive Strategic Leadership Masterclass was designed to equip students with cutting-edge leadership training skills to enable them apply strategic decision-making principles at their various leadership roles whilst improving employee retention. The Masterclass covered topics such as:

Leadership
Analytical management
Conflict management
Building business networks and workplace politics.

The course material was thoroughly delved into by lead faculty of JAGILS as well as visiting lecturers such as Prof, Bintou Dialo, Ambassador Yohan Bryde, Dr. Chibunna Nwaobia, P.K.M, etc.



The program lasted 10 weeks with live lectures being held via zoom on Saturdays at 11:30am ETS. Lectures were carried out in an interactive manner that allowed students to interact with their lecturers, answer questions in real time, work on small projects in class, as well as have their questions answered directly by the lecturer or their peers. By the 3rd week, students were placed in cohorts to prepare them to begin working on the end of program group project work. The end of the tuition periods are always marked with a project presentation opportunity for all cohorts. The students are allowed to choose their own leaders for each cohort as well as members to play critical roles in each cohort to enable them succeed. The project questions are then handed over to each cohort to begin their project preparations.



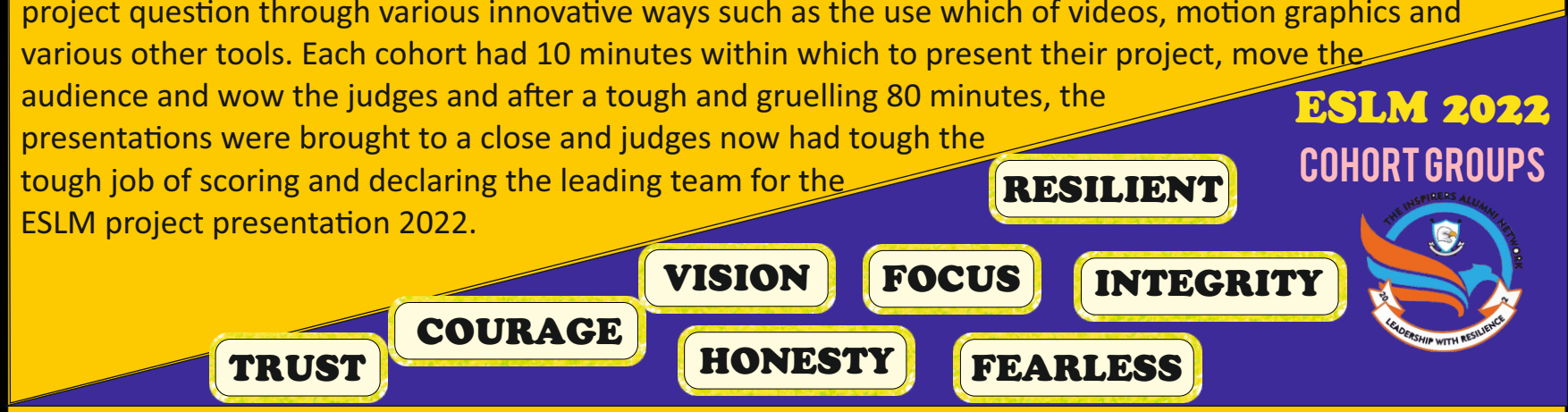
Sharon Y. Tetteh
Editor-in-chief

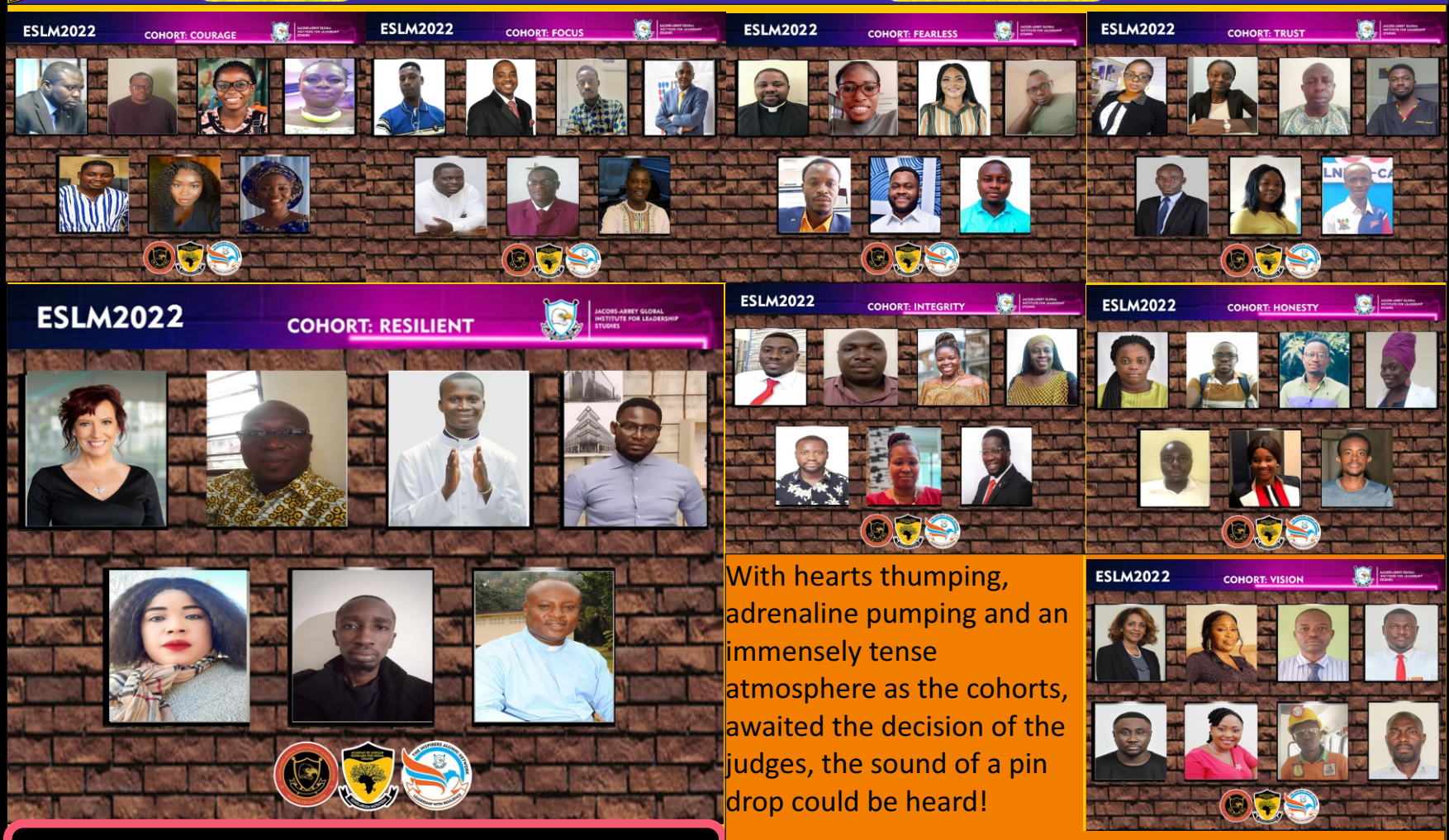
COHORT-MENTORING

This year, something dynamic was introduced by the Lead Faculty, Dr. Samuel Jacobs-Abbey called Cohort Mentoring. This was an opportunity given to past cohort leaders to mentor their current cohort lead and members. This helped to bring the much needed clarity, focus and a sense of direction to each cohort. The cohorts remained the same as from the previous year, being namely; Courage, Trust, Integrity, Resilient, Honesty, Vision, Fearless and Focus. The various cohort leaders with the help of their cohort mentors worked on project topics that covered leadership, motivation, mentorship, website assessment, etc. Several tools were employed to ensure that each cohort came up with the best presentation possible for the final project presentation from graphics design to motion graphics to mention a few. Team mates and cohort mentors met over zoom or whatsApp at all manner of hours just to work together to achieve the best of results and to win the much coveted prize at the end of the project presentation. Students were graded by their inputs and activeness during the project preparation stage to encourage participation from all team members

. This was a very important learning curve and an enriching tool in the learning experience of the students because it motivated people who before now had never led teams to rise up to the responsibility of leading their teams to victory. The presentation of cohort projects was slated for April 16th, 2022 and the day was abuzz with much excitement as cohort leaders and their teams gathered together via Zoom with an extended invitation to about 500 observers made up of top officials from international organizations, family and friends from across 15 countries.

The project presentation event was judged by the likes of Ambassador Johan Byrde (Global Diplomatic council), Prof. Bintou Diallo (Dir. Africa tomorrow), amongst others. The rubrics for judging the project covered: project introduction, content, addressing the question, creativity/innovation, presentation style, recomendations, conclusion, etc. Each cohort strove to give best possible presentation of themselves and the project question through various innovative ways such as the use which of videos, motion graphics and various other tools. Each cohort had 10 minutes within which to present their project, move the audience and wow the judges and after a tough and gruelling 80 minutes, the presentations were brought to a close and judges now had tough the tough job of scoring and declaring the leading team for the ESLM project presentation 2022.





With hearts thumping, adrenaline pumping and an immensely tense atmosphere as the cohorts, awaited the decision of the judges, the sound of a pin drop could be heard!

PROJECT PRESENTATION WINNERS, ESLM 2022

WINNER

RESILIENT

Expectations were high. Most participants couldn't help wondering if Resilient would retain their winning streak or if another cohort would be proclaimed winner. Finally the judges decision was made and with a whopping 544 points, team Resilient won the day and retained their title. CONGRATULATIONS RESILIENT! You won gallantly!

SOME EXCITING FOOTAGES FROM THE ESLM (2022)



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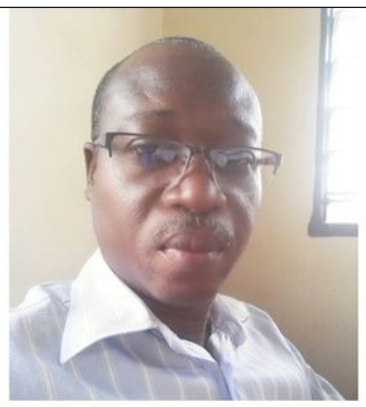
PEACE & SECURITY

SPECIAL FEATURE

Team Resilient is the winner for the 1st intake of the ESLM program, 2022. This special feature takes a look at a cross-section of the members of this amazing cohort that has maintained their winning streak from the inception of the 1st cohort project presentation. The ESLM cohort presentation is a rewarding experience that motivates team members to strive hard to win the final presentation. JAGILS offers amazing prizes for the winning team and this year is no different. The team will benefit from the coveted prizes attached to winning the title.



Kim is President / CEO of Kim LaMontagne, LLC, International Speaker, Corporate Mental Health Trainer, and Author. As a solution to address mental health in the workplace, Kim created a corporate leadership training called, “The 4 Pillars of Creating and Sustaining a Mentally Healthy Workplace Culture" to teach leaders how to recognize the impact of unaddressed mental health in the workplace, decrease stigma, shift to person centered language, create a peer support network, and build a 'culture of safety' in the workplace that fosters open dialog about mental health. Her mission is to share her life’s experience and teach leaders how to create a culture in the workplace that empowers individuals to speak openly about mental health. Lives depend on it.



Kafui Kwamy Togbey. A social entrepreneur with a professionnal certificate in International Organisations Management and a certificate in WASH Project Cycle management. A reseacjer by passion, I love sharing my discoveries with anyone that needs them for I beleive that service to manking is the legacy a man can leave behind.



Kokou Tegbe (Rev. Father Rodolphe Carlos Tegbe) is a Roman Catholic Priest from the Archdiocese of Lome (Togo, West Africa). Holding a double Bachelor Degree, both in Philosophy and in Theology, his life motification is to love and serve God through loving and serving his fellow humans and the whole creation. He is currently on pastoral mission in Ho Diocese (Ghana).



KOSSI ATCHRIMI is a biomedical and hospital maintenance engineer. Holder of a Bachelor in Electronic Engineering, an international master's degree in Bioinformatics, and a diploma certificate in Global Governance. Founding president of the JED association, he is currently the Technical and Applications Director of the ENGIMED Company, and the Country Delegate to the High Council of Togolese Abroad in Portugal. He is committed to issues of development and good governance

Sharon Y. Tetteh
Editor-in-chief

WINNER

CONGRATULATIONS, TEAM RESILIENT

ALUMNI FEATURE



Loretta Ota Ahuokpeme(MBA) is a dynamic leader based in Port Harcourt, Nigeria who is passionate about women and girls, citizen engagement, and care for elderly people. She is the Founder & Executive Director of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Initiative (OLPHI) and is also involved in many community projects. She holds an MBA in Marketing and a PGD in Management from the University of Calabar, Jacobs Abbey Global Institute for Leadership(JAGILS) International Human Rights Education & Masterclass in Strategic Leadership certificates, The Geneva Learning Foundation Certificates on Immunization and certificates from other institutions. Her wide-ranging skills include communication, facilitation of seminars and workshops , community mobilization, collaboration, and Event management. Her personal philosophy is, "to be the best I can in whatever situation I may find myself."

"*Love for family and others is foremost to development. Love, justice, honesty and integrity bring about development and growth in communities; they are all interwoven and cross cutting.*"

Her community service is extensive and started with the bias and segregation against female children she experienced from childhood. Her mother had 8 girls and her father was under immense pressure to marry another wife that will give him a male child. In all of these, her father did not give up on them as suggested and advised by his siblings and friends. He enroled his girls to the higher institutions and ensured they were well educated. She and her sisters are all comfortably placed in different spheres of live and were sustainable influence during my father's retired life. The discrimination from her father's family against her mother and other women around them that had female children and the evil practices of widowhood formed her passion to work on Human Rights abuse Prevention, Promotion & Protection of women and children. The Human Rights violations she noticed and observed during so many outreaches of Laurel Clinic, being run by her husband was another eye opener on the violations happening all around her.

Her foundation, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Initiative (OLPHI) is a non-profit, non-governmental and non-faith organization with focus on 4 major Sustainable Development Goals – SDG 3 – Health & Wellbeing, SDG 5 – Gender Equality, SDG 13 – Climate Change, SDG 16 – Peace, Justice & Strong Institution and of course the most and important goal – SDG 17 – Partnerships and Collaborations; In working in the above mentioned goals herr intention and motivation has been to create an atmosphere of Peace and promote Human Rights for all to thrive through the approach of sensitization, advocacy in communities, religious groups, government and schools. She holds an ambassadorial certificate from the Institute of Economic & Peace (IEP an international Peace Building Organization. She joined the World Pulse Online Community (a women platform) where she is also currently a Digital Ambassador, Changemaker as well as Women's Creative Leadership Network. Their mission is to learn more about leadership and amplifying of women voices. She has made many media appearances, participated in so many international competitions where we showcased our work – Voices of SDG16+: Stories for Global Action Campaign in 2020 and we were one of the fifth finalist organized by Civil Society Platform for Peacebuilding and Statebuilding Secretariat (CSPPS) and partners; United Nations Association of United States of America (UNA_USA) YIEEP competition based on the specific SDG goals we focus on as an organization, which we also came out as one of the 3rd finalist. These competitions was entered in the bid to test their work for best practices as well as show case what they do in their corner in Nigeria. They are an alumni of both organizations and they hold continuous meetings to brain storm on the way forward.

Loretta Ota Ahuokpeme(MBA)

HUMAN RIGHTS CORNER

Invisible and Excluded: The Fate of Widows in Africa

Across Africa, the impact of marital death and divorce falls more heavily on women, who may be excluded socially and lose their home and property after a marriage ends. One in ten African women above the age of 18 is widowed, and six percent are divorced. Many more have been widowed or divorced at some point in their lives. “In the face of divorce or widowhood, women often struggle with serious economic hardship,” said Asli Demirguc-Kunt, Director of Research at the World Bank. “Unfortunately, designing effective policies to prevent these women from falling into poverty is hamstrung by sparse data and research.”Women frequently inherit nothing when a marriage ends, and official legal systems offer little recourse. Some may even lose their children to the husband's lineage. Broader patterns of gender inequality add to the heavy burden on women's shoulders. They are shut out of labor markets, have fewer productive assets, and bear greater responsibility for the care of children and the elderly.
Just as widows are often hidden from view in their own communities, the absence of data limits broader public awareness of the issue. Quantifying the prevalence of widowhood and divorce requires information on both current widows and divorcees as well as the marital history of currently married women, and this is only available in 20 countries.* The numbers show that brief marriages are a fact of life for many. Women tend to get married while young to much older men, and men are more likely to die in work-related accidents or in conflict. Many also succumb to HIV/AIDS. In addition, men who lose a spouse are much more likely to remarry than women, in part because of polygamy which is legal in 25 countries.

The options open to widows and divorcees after a marital dissolution vary greatly based on age, ethnicity, and social norms, but are often limited. In some regions, young widows are encouraged to remarry. Levirate marriage—a tradition in which a widow marries a relative of the deceased husband—provides a modest safety net, but the remarried widow often occupies an inferior position in the new household. In Ghana, for example, levirate marriage is associated with the lowest consumption levels for previously widowed women. These marriages can act as a poverty trap for those who cannot refuse due to a lack of means. In other settings, widows and divorcees may be shunned, ostracized, and dispossessed. Divorcees and widows are also much more likely to suffer other forms of disadvantage. Relative to similar women in their first union, both groups have worse nutritional outcomes on average across Africa.
The disadvantages that widows and divorcees suffer also affect their families. Research in Ghana shows that the children of widowed mothers have worse health and are less likely to be enrolled in school. In areas where customary rights do not support land inheritance for widows, married couples make fewer productive investments in their land. Where widows and divorcees suffer, society at large suffers as well.

Policy Can Help Address the Disadvantages Faced by Widows and Divorcees
“In many settings, working with the affected women solves one part of the problem,” said Bénédicte de la Brière, a Lead Economist at the World Bank. “But there also needs to be broader engagement with the community at large, and especially those in power.”
The right policy measures could shield widows and divorcees from the threat of poverty. Given the variety of countries, institutions, and legal systems covered in van de Walle's research, no single policy formula applies across the board. Rather, policymakers will have to stitch together policies to fit their specific circumstances. Policies that address systemic inequalities can enable women to support themselves in the face of marital dissolution. These include reforms to credit markets, where women are particularly disadvantaged; ensuring equal ownership and inheritance rights for women; and securing customary marriages through registration and legal documentation. Responsive policies can buoy widows and divorcees after a marriage ends.

A widow's pension can serve as a temporary safety net, as long as the benefits are transferred directly and securely to widows. Preferential access to housing and shelters is another measure that could help widows and divorcees in the event of marital dissolution.
But van de Walle cautioned that research on the effectiveness of these policies is limited. The fate of widows and divorcees may depend on the willingness of African countries to invest in their most vulnerable people by evaluating whether these policy options notably improve the financial stability and social standing of their widows, divorcees, and their families.
Perfect Relief Foundation International is looking at ways to bridge the gap and create a platform for the voices of widows to be heard and acted upon.

Jolene Anom-Clottey

MENTAL HEALTH IN THE WORKPLACE





Anxiety, depression, substance misuse and suicidal ideation are all on the rise in the U.S. Workplace leaders are in a unique position to stem the tide and reverse this killer trend. Generally, anxiety is often thought of as excessive worry and fear about the future while depression is usually connected to hopelessness and excessive rumination about the past. On their own, either mental health condition is mentally debilitating and has severe negative impacts on your 'present-day' thoughts, feelings, actions, and emotions.

Anxiety and depression often come as a package-deal, doubling the weight of two already-crushing mental health conditions. That's where I was in 2016, and I honestly don't know where I'd be today if one conversation with my leader hadn't happened when it did. This is that story.

In 2016, I was 7 years sober, but sobriety hadn't made my life better or easier. In fact, it made it so much harder. Anxiety and depression were now in complete control of my every thought, feeling, action and emotion. Despite this, I powered through at work and stayed on top of my game like the "true professional" I thought myself to be. But one day, a particularly observant and caring leader noticed subtle signs I was displaying in the workplace that caused her concern. I had started to withdraw from conversations I would normally have been a huge part of. My ideas were still great, but just not as "out-of-the-box" as my leader had seen before. I was still meeting goals and even over-delivering at my job, but something was just … different. This leader noticed. One day, she flew from NJ to Boston to spend the day with me, to check in. We found a quiet, private space and she asked me to be honest about how I was feeling. She asked me what was really going on "behind my mask of high performance." I shared everything with her that day. The floodgates opened. Everything came pouring out: The fact that I was, 7 years sober, severely depressed, filled with anxiety and struggled daily with crushing suicidal thoughts. And that as I drove my car, I often thought about how easy it would be to just … yank the wheel into an oncoming semi-truck. She leaned forward, looked me in the eyes and said, "Kim – how have you been functioning at such high levels while dealing with so many mental health issues?"We talked, we cried, we hugged, and we laughed. My leader held a safe space for me that allowed me to feel comfortable opening up. For the first time since I could remember, I didn't think about this conversation or my personal struggle costing me my job. I didn't think about losing respect or status. I just thought about how safe it felt to finally let this out. Because of her, I now realized it was ok that I wasn't ok and that my life would not fall apart if I got help for how I was feeling. In fact, it became clear my life would very likely fall apart if I didn't take steps towards mental wellness. The way I was living was fast-becoming unsustainable. According to Mental Health America, more than half of adults with a mental illness don't receive treatment. That number equates to 27 million adults in the U.S. who are going untreated and almost one third of American adults living with mental health disorders also experience substance misuse as of 2020. In hard numbers, that's 17 million people who are struggling with both mental wellness and substance misuse… 17 million people who feel like they are alone in their struggle and tried to manage it on their own, just like I did. I praise my brave leader who saw the signs, acted, opened a safe conversation, and allowed me to speak openly about my mental health. She saved my life. Do you or your workplace leaders feel prepared to see the signs and open a safe conversation about mental health in the workplace? Are you fostering positive language around mental health and creating safe spaces for people to speak openly? It's ok if you're not sure… it's not ok to not be sure and do nothing to change it. Let's connect. I can help.

Kim LaMontagne (MBA)

ESLM 2022 TESTIMONIALS



Having worked in various entities in various industries, I have over time been exposed to great dynamics in Workplace environment and Culture. I have been led and managed by different people with different personalities and different expectations. I as well have led teams and groups in these workplaces and other formations such as my local church and a youth NGO, Jabulani Youths for Transformation. In this period, I learnt the reality that I had gaps in the skills and knowledge to manage and steer a formation for a certain cause. I discovered that leadership forms the key in how an organization is set up and how different workstreams and persons interact in that organization. Having also worked in the Environment, Sustainability and Governance space and been passionate about leadership and mentorship, I had a growing desire for corporate Sustainability from these aspects. For this reason, I started pursuing opportunities in Leadership Training. I came across the Jacobs-Abbey Global Institute Master Class in Executive Strategic Leadership Management and upon reviewing the content and listening to the testimonial from close contacts, I signed up for the program. I soon came to realise that the course is very intensive and very practical in nature.
I loved the grouping in cohorts to tackle certain question and problems as a team.

Being part of the Resilient Team was an amazing experience. People from different parts of the world and different walks of life coming together for a specific purpose. The need to overcome barriers and compromise for a common good was outstanding for this group. The course content was concise and rich, giving insights on impacts of leadership and the skills and knowledge in organizational Leadership. I feel more equipped today to better anticipate dynamics in workplaces and to intentionally contribute positively to the growth of the workplace. Working in the Corporate Health Safety and Environment function, where a lot of social interaction is required, I feel better prepared to design better solutions and processes that can have a sustainable impact in my organization.
Many thank to Doctor Samuel Jacobs-Abbey and the entire JAGILS fraternity for this overwhelming opportunity for professional growth.
Levin Ingati Nyonje
JAGILS220197
Kenya



My experience, as Valedictorian, in the 2022 JAGILS Executive Strategic Leadership Masterclass was exceptional. The caliber of faculty and students in the program are beyond stellar. Dr. Abbey leads an intense course that challenges every student to grow and learn in ways we didn't even know were possible. The content we learned over 10 weeks in the program was more than I learned in my entire MBA. I had the honor of leading Team Resilient through our winning research project and witnessing every team produce high quality and impactful projects. I formed relationships in this masterclass that will be lifelong. We are a family at JAGILS. I am honored to be part of this extraordinary family. This masterclass is life changing.
Kim LaMontagne, Valedictorian, Leader, Team Resilient, JAGILS 220190.

ESLM NEXT INTAKE COMING SOON!!

TECHNOLOGY TRENDS IN GHANA TODAY





Reported by the World Bank as one of the fastest growing economies in Africa, Ghana is by no means shielded from the shocks of the global economic market challenges. While the country will not suddenly become an industrialized and fully digitized economy overnight, Ghana has reached a period when her collective appetite for technology has begun to visibly influence the academic, public administration, social and economic systems and structures. As everything becomes increasingly interlinked, the way Ghanaians run businesses is radically changing as institutions and societies emerge into the era of data responsibility, Ghana is beginning to understand the need for tech-inclusion, and has embraced its possibilities. While the nation joined the league of oil producing countries several years ago, tech and data have also been described by technology doyens as the “new oil”, and an attractive source of wealth for nations to be used responsibly for the common good. Although it is estimated by Gartner that the world's information will grow by 800 percent over next five to seven years, with 80 percent of that data being unstructured — including health records, media files, e-mail messages, web pages and more, technology analysts have studied and observed trends that, companies and public-sector institutions in West Africa's leading economies, namely, Ghana, Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal and Nigeria, seem to be in the lead of this digital transformation drive, as manifested by their progressive policies and fast-growing financial services sectors. The inclusion of women in tech in Ghana is making intriguing waves and gaining recognition as start-ups like Mentor-Street, The Pitch-Hub, Developers in Vogue etcetera are all tech-inspired start-ups run by young females.

These initiatives focus on mentoring, sensitising and training other young girls to take on STEM, while connecting them to real time internships and jobs across the country. In the field of money transactions, lots of innovations have emerged in Ghana. Companies like 8D Ghana, SlydePay and Hubtel have made it easier to pay for things. 8D Ghana has an innovative company has one of the most secure and easiest integrated way for banks and businesses to process payments across Ghana. Customers are allowed to pay in their local currencies and send money from Ghana to mobile money wallets across Africa- the customers are charged a small service fee, which the company shares with banks.

What can we expect for 2019:

With the rapid adoption and expansion of the use of technology in monetary exchanges, we anticipate that more improved payment systems will be developed and explored extensively.

Esther-Nicole Adomako

JAGILS 2ND QUATER EVENTS



International Women's day was celebrated amidst much pump at JAGILS this year. The theme, "Breaking the Bias" was timely and appropriate as women all over the world are rising up to change the narrative. JAGILS held a live online event that saw the likes of Amb. Regina Inem (Ragmos Foundation), Lorreta Ahuokpome (Our lady of Perpertual Help Initiative) and Juliana Kplorfia of GEM address the large audience of women from across the world present at the event. The Guest Speaker Ms. Juliana A Kplorfia, Executive Director, Girls Excellence Movement (GEM) reminded participants that Gender bias does not only affect women, but it also hurts economies and stalls national development. The theme coincided with the UN International Women's Day celebration theme for 2022. The event was organised and hosted by the Inspirers Alumni Network of Jacobs-Abbey Hosted by the Inspirers Alumni Network of Jacobs-Abbey Global Institute for Leadership Studies in collaboration with the Academy of African Scholars for Social Change.



The January 2022 intake of students to study International Human Rights Leadership Education for human rights activists and advocates took place from January 6th to the 29th of January. This intake admmited over 86 students from 4 continents who were taken through Foundation of Human Rights & Human Rights Systems, Development of Human Rights Laws & Leadership Skills in Human Rights, Increasing public awareness about the risks and signs of human trafficking, etc. The trainees were enriched with human rights information, access to networks and detailed research to enable them continue in their advocacy work. The graduation event from the course was held on the 12th of February, 20212 and was attended by the likes of human rights activists and advocates from across the world Honurable Francis Xavier Sosu (Member of Parliament, Constitutional, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Committee and the Appointments Committee of Parliament member of Ghana Parliament and a Human Rights Lawyer)was the guest speaker. In his congratulatory speech, he encouraged the trainees to become agents of change wherever they find themselves, fight for and uphold human rights. Upon completion of the course, all trainees were inducted into the JAGILS Alumni Network to become a part of the wider JAGILS Alumni Family.



The maiden flagship program in International Relations and Diplomacy kicks off in June 2022. This program provides the expertise and skills in global governance and diplomacy required to pursue a fruitful career within an international organization and their member states, or a non-governmental organization operating within global politics. Understanding and confronting the complexities, challenges and opportunities of the contemporary global order requires drawing on multiple disciplines and the ideas of numerous theorists, thinkers, activists and political leaders.

For further enquiries concerning the program, kindly send an email to enroll@jaglobalinstitute.org

Sharon Y. Tetteh



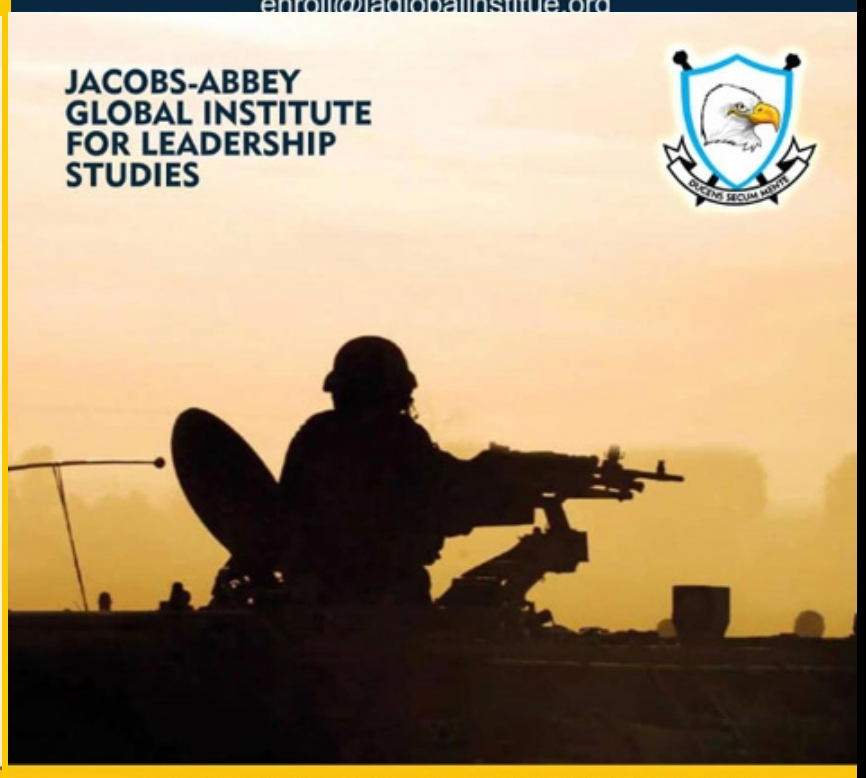
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