

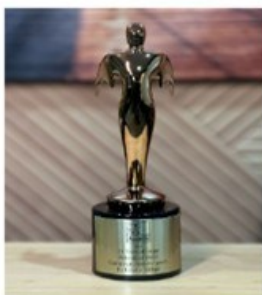


FRIENDS OF HOPE AFRICA UNIVERSITY

FRIENDS NEWSLETTER November 2025

New Hope Africa University Videos Win Telly Award

Preparing for the 25 Years of Hope Campaign, the Friends of Hope Africa University commissioned several new videos to showcase the university's growth and present its ongoing needs to old and new friends. We asked Seattle Videographer Andy Yardy to work with us on the project. He visited Burundi in January 2025 to get footage for six new videos. We know we have a compelling story about HAU, and with Andy's creativity and technical skills, this turned out to be an award winning partnership. Here is Andy's testimonial about the work.



Going to HAU to create videos for Friends of Hope Africa University was the best way to start my 2025. It was so much fun getting to know the people, students, and staff that are the future of this region of Africa. It was these people that inspired me to edit six videos for the 25 Years of Hope Campaign.

A few weeks after finishing the videos, I submitted them for consideration in the Telly Awards. The Telly is the premiere video production competition for non-broadcast video production. This includes promotional, marketing, training, and informational videos produced for corporate, non-profit, church, medical, etc. The majority of the videos made every year are among these categories but most videos are hardly ever seen beyond the niche organization or company that produces them. The Telly Awards exist to give recognition for the creativity and talent that goes into these kinds of videos.

The 25 Years of Hope series won a bronze statue for excellence in the Non-Profit Fundraising Campaign category. As a video producer, it's really exciting to be recognized for this work. And, this work is not just mine, it's for the Friends of Hope Africa University who gave Kinetic Village the opportunity to produce these videos. It's also for all the people at HAU who shared their stories to help make these videos shine.

We will be featuring all six videos on our webpage over the next three months. To view the first two videos, visit our webpage at <https://haufriends.org>. For more information about Andy's work, please see his webpage at www.kineticvillage.com.

So What Do You Do With An HAU Degree?

You serve. Over the years, we have touted the value of an HAU education, and the fruits of that education are manifest as we increasingly see HAU graduates emerge as national leaders in many fields. One of the individuals who continues to demonstrate how he is utilizing his HAU degree to serve his nation and the larger African community is Dr. Ezechiel Nibigira. In addition to winning (June 2025) a seat in the Burundian National Assembly, Dr. Nibigira was recently appointed by the Heads of State of eleven Central African countries to lead the Economic Community of Central African States (the ECCAS). Starting in September 2025, Nibigira became the President of the ECCAS headquartered in Gabon. The organization works to raise the standard of living in the Central Africa Region and maintain economic stability through cooperation among the member nations. Nibigira acknowledges this is a big responsibility, but his education and experiences have prepared him for this job.

A member of the first HAU graduating class (2004), he says, “I would not be where I am without HAU. My success started with my education.” Nibigira has served as head of Burundi’s import-export office, as Ambassador to Kenya, Minister of Foreign Affairs for Burundi, and Minister of East Africa Community Affairs, Youth, and Culture.

In addition to his government service, he is a local entrepreneur, managing a number of enterprises with his wife (also an HAU graduate). A member of the Free Methodist Church of Burundi, he is never too busy to serve his church or the university, and has served as the chair of the Board of Trustees for HAU and currently chairs the Church’s IMELEA Committee, which oversees Hope Africa University, Van Norman Clinic, and Kibuye Hope Hospital. Dr. Ezechiel Nibigira is only one example of the fruits of HAU’s Christian education. We congratulate him on his new role and we commit to praying for him.



Dr. Nibigira and Rector Servilien Ntunga visit Free Methodist Financial



Dr. Ezechiel



Dr. Nibigira at diplomatic meeting

Launching the New Medical Sciences Building

A campus ceremony was held September 24 to mark the beginning phase of the construction of a Medical Sciences Building at HAU. One of the major projects of the 25 Years of Hope Campaign, the building will serve the Frank Ogden Medical School at HAU, preparing doctors, nurses, and other health professionals for Burundi and Central Africa. Construction workers on the roof of one of the existing classroom buildings are starting the demolition process to prepare space for the new building.



Monthly Prayer Requests

Please join us in praying for:

- Dr. Ezechiel Nibigira for health and wisdom as he tackles his new work and continues the work with the church and HAU.
- 25 Years of Hope Campaign for many new people to catch the vision and join in support of the campaign goals.

Donate: There are many ways to give. Please consider giving to Friends of Hope Africa University online at <https://fofhau.kindful.com>. Or, if making a gift by check is preferred, you can mail your gift to Friends of Hope Africa University at PO Box 580, Spring Arbor, MI 49283.

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