

Visit to HAU Kampala and Hoima by Jim Bennet as President of HAF

12th to 19th July 2019.

Objectives:

- 1 Ensure the success of the fact finding mission of Prof Burucoa, President of FISP and founder of ACA2 to observe the Uganda model of palliative care and the francophone course.
- 2 To monitor the progress of the current francophone course.
- 3 To teach on the francophone course
- 4 To monitor the effect on the morale and efficiency of HAU of the recent drastic cuts in staffing and expenditure.

Programme. All visits with Prof Burucoa from Sunday morning

Arrived Entebbe 2am Friday. To Dr Anne's house where I stayed. To HAU site Kampala Friday morning to meet new CEO, some of the francophone students, and talk to staff individually. Meeting with Tom Duku, acting chair of HAU board to hear his views and plans. Afternoon and Saturday recovering from travel. Sunday greeted Prof Burucoa on his arrival at Dr Anne's house. Meeting and lunch with him and Dr Maindet who had arrived to mentor some of the francophone students. Afternoon travel 200k to HAU Hoima to dine with the francophone students there. They had each cooked a dish from their country of origin in their guest house.

Monday.. Patient consultations in their homes and in Hospice with team and the francophone students. Evening drinks with students.

Tuesday. Drive back to HAU Kampala. 11am show Prof Burucoa round Kampala site except for training Institute and morphine production. Viewed adult and child day care. Long meeting with Kampala Community Volunteer Workers. Revise fund raising presentation with Grace the programs officer. Meeting with former CEO Dr Eddie. Dinner with Dr Anne who had returned from Liverpool.

Wednesday. Visit training institute. Meeting with Tom Duku. Meeting with CEO of African Palliative Care Association. Afternoon with palliative care unit of main teaching hospital, Mulago. Evening at cultural show.

Thursday. Joined staff for morning prayers and Prof Burucoa stayed for the case conference afterwards Then together we met with the pharmacist and visited the morphine production unit. Afternoon visit to Kawempe Home Palliative Care Service, a pc unit independent of HAU. Late afternoon and early evening party for the francophone students at Dr Anne's. Meeting with Drs Stephen and Heather to talk about the possibility of their working in francophone Africa.

Friday. Introducing HAF, FISP, and AC2 to the francophone students. Teaching fundraising and financial control.

Overnight flight back to Europe.

Conclusions

Objective 1. The visit was a success. Prof Burucoa was impressed by all he had seen and feels that the Ugandan model can be the basis for pc in francophone Africa. For the time being the francophone course needs to be run in Uganda. He was impressed by the quality of our nursing staff and the openness of case discussions.

Objective 2. The students are a lively bunch who have bonded well. They are very appreciative of the course. There is some criticism of the intensive nature of the first two weeks and poor use of time during the practical weeks. During the practical two weeks the experience of those students based in Kampala was spoiled by the presence of another group of trainees on a short course. It was good to see the training institute raising funds by having such a course but to have two lots of students on home visits when the number of clinical staff had been reduced put a great strain on those remaining. It was good to see the cooperation of clinical, institute and international programmes to ensure a good experience for the students.

Objective 3 The short time given to the financial elements of the course was shortened still by my choice of using some of that time to introduce HAF, FISP and ACA2 and allow a decent time for Prof Buruoca to interact with the students. I felt it was important for the future development of pc in the region.

Objective 4 I was very impressed by the new spirit of enthusiasm and the team spirit exhibited by staff. There is still a 20% shortfall in funding for the much reduced programme planned for the next twelve months but staff have at last realised it is as much their role to solve this as that of outside supporters.