

My remarkable journey to SIA

*“Commencing my Studies at Uni-Gottingen and specifically in SIA
Is a dream come true, leave alone representing incoming students who might have had a journey like mine,
this will be more meaningful and fulfilling to me”.*

Closing remarks from Albert Nsengumuremyi, the Admissions Committee Students representative as he was being elected into office early in WiSe18/19.

Coming from a war torn Country and surviving one of the worst horrors of the 20th century that made me a partial orphan, I was left with nothing substantial for survival in the aftermath of the 1994 Rwandan genocide. My family sought Refuge in Kenya and at an early age, I became passionate about my studies, excelling both in class & sports though with a year of dropping out due to lack of school fees. I was later lucky to be granted a scholarship from Great Lakes & Faraja Organizations that helped needy children in Nairobi/Kenya.

After High school, I yearned to be the first one of my family to pursue University education, with my previous scholarship bodies not funding university studies. I decided to solicit for funds from my extended family which I had just recently discovered about helping me enroll for my degree at Kenya Methodist University.

After joining campus, I pursued a Bachelor of Science degree in Agriculture inspired by the need to improve food supply and distribution to the poor communities. At University I joined the Soccer team that competed in a local league. A team that fostered community involvement, it really grew my teamwork as well as building on my leadership skills. As a player achieving goals always rejuvenated and motivated me, this energy granted us promotion yearly up to the Super League.

In the early days of 2013, I was elected as the President of the Students Union at Kenya Methodist University for a yearly term. This opportunity gave me vast knowledge and growth in my interpersonal skills since I oversaw a diverse group in a cabinet of thirty elected Associates. We provided services to over fifteen thousand students through planning, organizing and executing events. This we did successfully that year attaining an Honor from the University Management. Our Soccer coach, together with the Dean of Students then referred my case to the Kenya Methodist University Developmental Association (KeMUDA) that awarded me an Excellence Study Scholarship.

Upon my graduation I got attached to the University Recruitment office as a Marketing and student recruitment officer. I have had mentorship and teaching opportunities at my former workplace that kept growing me, driving me to seek more knowledge and expertise abroad.

My drive has always been, to contribute in the Engineering of reliable Sustainable models and policies

in Agriculture. With an objective of ensuring a food secure society while having equity in distribution of food resources. A society that meets its needs and of its future generations. A Masters in Sustainable International Agriculture seemed the preferred program for me, I first applied as I was completing my Undergraduate Degree in 2015 without Success as I had not inscribed my motivation and did not know how to compose a complete application. After my two-year work experience at my former University in Kenya, my zeal and persistence to be part of this transformative program grew and pushed me to apply again, this time with immediate success.

SIA gives me a chance to access the world-class research centers that I have never had before as I strived through studies in my life. Being guided by the internationally experienced Professors at Uni-Gottingen besides the multicultural environment gives me an opportunity to be propelled into an Agricultural research career that is destined to touch my community, and why not further my research topics in a Doctoral Program maybe. This is an ideal program and it has effects beyond me, but rather on a global scale.

Albert N.