Winter 2017

Newsletter Winter 2017

Grant Center for International Education

Ouachita Baptist University

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Dear Friends of the Grant Center,

It’s almost Thanksgiving Day as I am writing. First of all, I am thankful for the gift of salvation made possible by God’s love and grace through the Lord Jesus Christ. I am thankful for many other gifts. A significant one is Ouachita. I was still in high school when I made a commitment to ministry. My pastor must have suggested that I go to Ouachita; I have no memory of thinking about going anywhere but there. What a blessing: the best possible education with Christian professors, and life on campus with them, staff and students that provided every opportunity to grow spiritually and mentally.

And a big plus, I met a young lady who was committed to following Christ wherever he led, as I was, and she later agreed to be my wife, Evelyn and I still serve together after many years of stateside and international missions/ministry.

I am grateful that our two sons and five grandchildren have benefited from a Christian education and the spiritual life made possible at Ouachita. I am thankful that the best opportunities for spiritual, mental, emotional and physical growth are still found on that campus. I can enthusiastically recommend Ouachita to any student.

And very importantly, what a blessing life on the campus is for missionary kids and international students needing the right place and environment for a good education and adjustment to life in the US! My heart overflows with thanksgiving!

Bill Bullington
President, Friends of the Grant Center

A Note from President Sells

In September, the staff of the Daniel and Betty Jo Grant Center for International Education hosted a reunion for some former missionaries and former international students.

Dr. James Hampton is a 1951 alumnus who had a distinguished career with the International Mission Board, including service in Africa and an administrative leadership role in Virginia with CSI initiatives. Retired and living in Texas, he recently traveled to Arkansas for a Missions Celebration at The Bible Church of Cabot AR.

Also invited to the celebration were Elijah Wanje and other members of his family, whose ministry has developed a missions partnership with the church. The Wanje family was led to Christ through the influence of Dr. Hampton during his service in Kenya. As a result, Elijah and his brother, Steven Hapi Wanje, came to the U.S. to study at Ouachita. (Elijah graduated in 1982. Hapi, who was unable to make this trip, graduated in 1985.)

The Grant Center staff arranged a campus visit and reunion luncheon for the group while they were in Arkansas. They had a great time seeing the campus again and sharing Ouachita memories. President Emeritus Dan Grant and I had an opportunity to visit with these special guests while they were here.

I look forward to hearing other inspiring stories about Ouachita alumni who are making a difference for God’s kingdom, literally around our world. Thank you for helping to make this important part of our mission possible.

Ben R. Sells
President of Ouachita Baptist University

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Each year, the Grant Center sponsors a Fall Break trip for international students, third culture kids, and American friends. This provides an excellent opportunity for new connections to be made and for relationships to deepen.

This year, San Antonio was the destination. Thirty-five students and five faculty/staff members traveled to this vibrant Texas city for an thoroughly enjoyable, all too short adventure. They had the chance to visit Sea World, the Alamo, and the famous River walk.

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