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## PAMBE GHANA

Partnership for Mother Tongue Based  
Bilingual Education in Ghana

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# PAMBE GHANA

Partnership for Mother Tongue-based Bilingual Education in Ghana

DECEMBER 2018

## Meet Eric Bugri Gumah, PAMBE Ghana's New Program Director

PAMBE Ghana is thrilled to announce that **Eric Bugri Gumah** has accepted the position of Program Director of La'Angum Learning Centre (LLC). Eric was educated at the University of Cape Coast and University of Education, Winneba in Ghana, and trained in primary and elementary Montessori methods in Germany and the United States. Prior to joining LLC, Mr. Gumah taught in the Gumyoko Primary, Junior High, and Montessori Schools in Bawku, Ghana. He also participates in the Association Montessori Internationale (AMI)-sponsored Corner of Hope Project to train teachers in Nakuru, Kenya. Shortly after Eric accepted the



offer to become Program Director, he was invited by the AMI to participate in its Sixth Assembly of Educateurs sans Frontieres, which was held in South Africa for two weeks this August. The theme for the Assembly was *Strengthening Communities for a Sustainable Future*. Eric was able to use his time at the AMI conference to gain inspiration and ideas for LLC, network and collaborate with Montessori educators and visionaries from around the globe, and introduce PAMBE Ghana's work at LLC to the other collaborators.

PAMBE Ghana is fortunate to have such a qualified and experienced person join our team. We believe Eric has the training, experience, enthusiasm and vision to continue PAMBE Ghana's work into its second decade, while infusing the program with new ideas.

As Executive Director, Alice will continue to oversee and work with Eric in Ghana through August 2019. After that, as Executive Director Emeritus, she will continue to support the program in myriad ways. She is excited to bring her founder's passion to the ranks of PAMBE Ghana's famous volunteers.

# New Directors Bring On-the-Ground Experience to Board

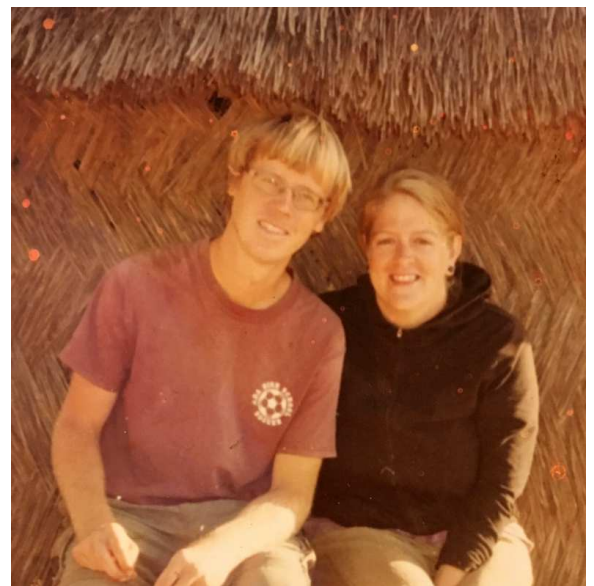
Scott Robertson and Jennifer Bryant are the newest members of the PAMBE Ghana Board. Scott is originally from Ada, OK and works as a senior research associate at the Noble Research Institute. He earned his Bachelor's in Wildlife Ecology and Master's in Rangeland Ecology from Oklahoma State University.

Jennifer Bryant is a Chickasaw citizen with a passion for food security. She received her Bachelor's in Forestry with a minor in Wildlife Ecology and Masters in International Agriculture from Oklahoma State University. She has worked for the Chickasaw Nation since 2014 and currently is the Agriculture Supervisor at the Chickasaw Gardens, which provides fresh vegetables to Chickasaw Senior Sites, Head Start Programs and Child Development Centers.

Scott and Jennifer have been married for eight years. They both enjoy gardening, birding, camping, hiking, and traveling. They served in the United States Peace Corps in Ghana from 2011-2013. During their service they helped establish a farm that provides fresh vegetables to four rural primary schools and worked closely with the shea butter women's group in their village. The village they lived in is just south of the La'Angum Learning Centre. Their service made them fall in love with the people of northern Ghana. PAMBA Ghana has given them an opportunity to continue to serve the children and people of the Northern Region. Currently they live in Sulphur, Oklahoma with their two cats, one dog, five chickens, and duck.



In the U.S.



In Ghana



*La'Angum Learning Center's 2018 sixth grade graduates are proud to show their new middle school uniforms and backpacks*

## 2018-2019 School Year Promotions Announced



The new academic year began with teacher preparation in early September. Students, including 35 4-6 year old children joining the pre-K class, arrived September 11<sup>th</sup>. Longtime teachers Mary Azure (left) and Salifu Majeed (right) were elevated to assistant heads of school. Program Director Eric Bugri Gumah has implemented a Montessori training program in the classrooms to deepen the teachers' understanding of the methodology and materials.



### PAMBE Ghana's Fair Trade Global Market Opens At The Sieber for a Second Season

Global-minded shoppers are once again finding the seasonal fair trade Global Market in Oklahoma City's Midtown, at the Sieber Apartments, 1307 N Hudson. **The Market will be open this year on Tuesdays thru Saturdays, noon to six** (but closing at 3:00 p.m. on December 24).

"We're so grateful to the Sieber for donating space to our Global Market again this year," said PAMBE Ghana president Tom Temple. "This is a significant gift, which allows us to redirect those funds to benefit the children at the La'Angum Learning Centre."

### Your Donations Double!

A \$30,000 grant from the Paul and Ann Milburn Fund of the Oklahoma City Community Foundation (OCCF) will enable PAMBE Ghana to continue to build excellence in academic programs in all grade



*Paul Milburn*

levels. The generous grant will fund: (1) additional teacher training by Program Director Eric Gumah, who received his education in Montessori methods at the primary and elementary levels in Germany and the United States; (2) library materials and librarian training; and (3) a computer program upgrade including laptops, printers, solar power array and IT staff training. With outstanding teachers, an inviting library and opportunities to learn computer technology, we anticipate that the graduates of La'Angum Learning Centre will have bright futures and ultimately make a difference in their Northern Ghanaian community!

Remember, **your donation will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Paul and Ann Milburn Fund** of the OCCF.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**Did you know that you can donate to PAMBE Ghana directly from your IRA for a tax savings? *Contact your financial advisor for more details.***



## INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

- Promotions Announced
- New Board Members Bring Ghana Experience
- Meet the New Program Director

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Global Market is OPEN!**  
Open Tues—Sat until Dec. 24.

DETAILS INSIDE