# A PUBLICATION OF HERITAGE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE FOUNDATION JUNE 2020

Educating Christian Leaders for the Advancement of Kingdom and Community



# An update on the Professional Engagement Network from Deon Fair, Chairman of the Board for Heritage Christian College Foundation.

In our last newsletter we introduced to you our new initiative called **The Professional Engagement Network (PEN)**. In May we had the opportunity to virtually present PEN to the Barnabas Group and wanted to let you view this presentation by using the link we provide at the bottom of this page. I thought it would be helpful to catch everyone up to speed with exactly what the PEN is, and to answer just a few basic questions we received so far regarding this unique opportunity. Many of us struggle to find opportunities to use the exceptional skills and deep experience we have gathered in business or in our professional endeavors, to the benefit of God's Kingdom. If using your talents directly to benefit God's work appeals to you, then this Network is for you! We are currently engaged with several individuals who have reached out to us and have started the process of on-boarding and preparing to be part of our very first group of PEN mentors. So exactly what disciplines are we needing to focus in on for our future PEN teams?

# Currently HCC offers the following degrees:



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Here is my direct challenge to you today. As you read the list of degrees offered at HCC, I want you to ask yourself this one question. 'Am I looking for a new opportunity to use my experience and talents to further God's Kingdom? If the answer to that simple question is YES, then we need you to be part of our next PEN mentoring team! Our students at HCC need to learn from your experience, your wisdom, and your passion for success. They need to

hear from you about your walk in life, both personal and professional. How you faced the day to day challenges of balancing a career with your family and with your faith. You all have developed a unique and diverse skillset that these young men and women desperately need to have shared with them in a very private and empowering environment that we call the Professional Engagement Network.

#### WHAT WILL A MENTORING SESSION LOOK LIKE?

Our goal is to select a group of between 4-6 students who have developed a relationship on campus and are comfortable with sharing and learning in a small group setting, and pair them up with the same amount of mentors who have signed up to be in a PEN mentoring group. We think that by remaining flexible as we move forward in the group selection process that we will ultimately find the mix of students and mentors in each group that will achieve the results we envisioned when we developed the concept for PEN.

For example, one PEN group could be made up of two emerging student lead businesses that have come out of the Center for Entrepreneurship, Philanthropy, and Ethics (CEPE) incubator. These students might have just recently launched their new businesses and already be encountering challenges they might not have imagined or been prepared for. You cannot begin to place a value on the opportunity these students will have when they open up to you and discuss their concerns, their doubts, and their fears. What a remarkable opportunity for you to disciple these young men and women within the framework of your Christ centered perspective.

#### WHAT WILL MY TIME COMMITMENT BE?

We are asking everyone who joins our PEN to commit to a minimum of one mentoring term, consisting of at least 6 sessions. Each PEN mentoring session should be between 45-60 minutes in duration, and will be conducted virtually using a WEBEX connection. Each session will have a US and Ghanaian 'facilitator/staff person' to oversee the direction and development of each mentoring session. Our first group of PEN sessions are scheduled to start in October, 2020 and finish in June 2021. There will be extended breaks to accommodate the students scheduled semester breaks and final exams.

We hope that once you have completed your first PEN mentoring term that you will continue your commitment and thus help us maintain a level of trust and consistency that our students can rely and depend upon.



**So, are you in?** Will you consider engaging in a conversation with our team to discuss the possibility of joining our next PEN team? We need your help and we know that participating in PEN will be a life-altering experience-for you!I leave you with the words of those who have already engaged with the students and faculty of Heritage Christian College, and perhaps your experience in PEN will produce fellings such as these.

# Dr. Dora Akuetteh: Senior Medical Officer at the Naval Hospital, Camp Pendleton, California

'Seeing young entrepreneurs already making a difference in the economy of Ghana was life changing, ...I believe it is going to change destinies, and it's going to be a blessing to you and your families and businesses'.

(Dr. Akuetteh was born, raised, and educated in Ghana, and her words carry a very unique and qualified perspective)

# Mike Brooks: Entrepreneur and Ministry Leader

'There were so many things that were incredible on this trip (HCC graduation 2019), you will be inspired to join in this ministry, it is one of the most impressive ministries I'm aware of and ever seen, and I've been all around the world looking at different types of ministries'.

# Jim West: Co-Founder of The Barnabas Group

' I think as business leaders you are going to find that what HCC is doing in Ghana is going to be relevant to you and the things you care most about. The Kingdom impact that is going to come from HCC and what they are doing with these students is not only going to produce results now, but it's going to produce results for years to come'.

Empowering Christian Professionals in a new mission's opportunity. Leveraging their professional expertise and experience; through mentorship and direct engagement with Heritage Christian College faculty and students, in person and by video conferencing.

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