

IMPACT *mini*

February 2022

Dear friend,

Happy 2022! Here's hoping that your new year is off to a good start. In this issue, we asked leaders on our team to look to the future. What are they working on? What are they excited about? What challenges do they see? Last year we celebrated 30 years of NG; now it's time to think about the next 30.

You may have noticed something different about this newsletter. We changed our name! After much discussion, we decided that Impact better reflects the stories we tell. You will continue receiving the same great stories and interviews—only the name at the top is different. We hope you like it. Enjoy!

Your Impact Team



Compassion: food and firewood as well as comfort and care for the needy.



Team building: The annual coworker volleyball tournament raised funds for families in need.

What's Ahead for NG in 2022?

We asked our team what they thought ...

HEROLINDA SHKULLAKU

What are you working on and thinking about this year?

We have a wonderful teaching environment at NG that tops up with NGU. I'm focused on seeing continued excellence at all our schools and working with our team and partners to see stable, sustainable growth at NGU.

The difficulties of the past two years and our celebration of 30 years NG highlighted the importance of the identification of all the employees with our core identity. Our people are our greatest asset, and I'm thinking of ways to strengthen our team identity through group trainings or volunteering opportunities.

What challenges do you see on the horizon?

The Albanian economy has been deeply affected by COVID-19, supply chain issues, and geo-political developments in the region. For Albanians, this means their buying power is weakened and more people are struggling to meet their daily needs. NG Albania will be there to help, and must keep finding new sources of support for this area of our programming. Also, I think we will continue to see consequences of the pandemic, in education and in long-term health impacts.

Herolinda Shkullaku is Executive Director of NG Albania



Respect for nature: beach cleaning is a popular part of the school programs at NG.



Expansion: Scholars come from many countries all over the world.



Open days at the NG Campus in Buçimas.

ARNOLD GEIGER

What are you working on and thinking about this year?

In 2022 I'm thinking about Nehemiah Gateway University. I'm excited about finding new scholarship funders, and new scholars in Albania and our target countries in Southeastern Europe, Africa and Central America. We're also working on strengthening partnerships with other universities in Europe and the US.

What are you most excited about?

I'm excited about our efforts in sustainable agriculture at NG Albania and at our Lindenhof Hotel in Hubmersberg, Germany, which were inspired by projects we saw in Uganda. I'm excited to see how this new area grows as research and as a pilot project. I'm increasingly intrigued by investments in renewable energy in Germany and in Albania. Being self-contained with our energy needs could reduce costs and improve reliability, as well as greening our operation.

Arnold Geiger is NG Team's Managing Director

KAI UELLEND AHL

What are you working on and thinking about this year?

We are now finally hoping for the year that will lead us out of the pandemic. NG Switzerland was founded one week before the first Swiss lockdown. Therefore, our activities have been limited so far. We are looking forward to establishing contacts on a broader basis and inspiring people for NG's work.

What are you most excited about?

It may sound strange, but it gives me confidence that many people have seen that their apparent securities are only apparent securities. Hopefully, this will open new priorities in respectful interaction with each other and with nature.

What challenges do you see on the horizon?

Every movement also generates a counter-movement. The opposite of respect is selfishness. Unfortunately, we see how these forces have divided people. Here NG can make a very positive contribution to reconciliation with its social and educational initiatives.

Kai Uellendahl is President of NG Switzerland and a member of NG's Board of Partners

DR. PETER MAKIRIYADO

What are you working on and thinking about this year?

This year we focus on quality improvement and organizational review following the feedback and recommendations of the accreditation boards. We will look at our curriculum and instructional design with the aim of improving our offerings.

What challenges do you see on the horizon?

Human resources. As we strive to maintain quality in our educational offering, we are always in need of highly qualified instructors and staff who are willing to transition locally.

Dr. Peter C. Makiriyado is Rector and Head of NG University

MICHELLE MANN

What are you working on and thinking about this year?

At NG USA we are working to engage Nehemia School and NGU alumni and Albanian and Balkan immigrants here in the US. I'm really excited about this and am enjoying connecting people and introducing new friends to our work. We're also increasing our capacity to connect with Latin America and provide the excellent business education of NGU to an expanded student base.

In person connection has been a challenge in these past two years but we are optimistic that new ways of connecting are continually improving and more face-to-face time is returning.

Michelle Mann is Executive Director of NG USA

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