



LIHEDE

LIBERIAN HISTORY, EDUCATION & DEVELOPMENT, Inc.

Motto: We Dare Preserve History

News Release

Greensboro, August 29, 2005: The Liberian History, Education & Development, Inc. (LIHEDE) and two Liberian universities, the AME Zion University and the AME University, are expected to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in Monrovia next week for the establishment of a Bachelor's of Arts Degree Program in Liberian Studies at the universities beginning the 2006 Academic Year.

The concept and curriculum for the degree program in Liberian Studies was developed by LIHEDE as a means of teaching Liberian students about the rich history and culture of Liberia, with the goal of instilling a sense of awareness, nationalism, patriotism and tolerance for the diverse cultures and peoples of Liberia. Degrees to be offered in the program will include but not limited to BA and Masters Degrees.

Dr. Syrulwa Somah, Executive Director of LIHDE, is expected to depart for Liberia tomorrow, Tuesday, August 30, 2005 to finalize arrangements with the two universities for the signing of the MOU and to meet with authorities of the Liberian government and the UN to discuss other projects of LIHEDE in Liberia.

During his last visit to Liberia in March 2005, the LIHEDE boss presented the concept paper for the Liberian Studies Program to several Liberian educators, including Dr. Evelyn Kandakai, Minister of Education, Dr. Al Hassan Conteh, President of the University of Liberia, Dr. Henrique Tokpa, President of the Cuttington University College and Dr. James Oliver Duncan, President of the United Methodist University. Others who received the document were Dr. Levi Zangai, President of the A. M. E. University, Rev. Sam Mulbah, President of the AME Zion University and Sister Mary Laurent Brown, President of the Don Bosco Polytechnic University. While all of the educators did express interest in the concept of the Liberian Studies program, the AME and AME Zion Universities adopted the curriculum and are officially expected to launch the Program at their respective universities following the signing of the MOU.

In a related development, while in Liberia on his current visit, Dr. Somah, an Associate Professor at NC A&T State University, is expected to meet with the UNICEF Mission Director to Liberia, Angela Kearny, Bishop John Innis, Baptist Church of Liberia, and Dr. Peter Coleman, Minister of Health and Social Welfare of Liberia to discuss other projects being undertaken by LIHEDE, including the Resolution adopted at the recent Malaria Symposium on Liberia organized by LIHEDE and held in the United States. The discussion with Minister Coleman will also focus primarily on the anticipated National Health Conference to be held in Liberia as a follow-up to the Malaria Symposium.



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Prior to his departure from Monrovia, the LIHEDE boss will appear on two radio talk shows to discuss about the 2005 Malaria Symposium Resolution and the proposed follow-up National Health Conference in Liberia. He is expected to deliver a speech before the National Muslim Council of Liberia. Among those anticipated to be in attendance at the Muslim Council event are Bishop Joseph Konah Garway, United Pentecostal Church of Liberia; The Reverend Father Dr. Robert G. Tikpor of the Catholic Diocese of Monrovia and Board Member of LIHEDE; Mr. Benjamin Dorme Lartey, Liberian Council of Churches General Secretary and other communities.

During other previous visits to Liberia, Dr. Somah had addressed Cuttington University College, University of Liberia, AME Zion University, AME Episcopal University and other community organizations in Liberia.

Signed:

Sam Togba Slewion

Director of Publications-LIHEDE

Approved

Dr. Syrulwa Somah

Executive Director-LIHEDE



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