

## PRESIDENT'S WELCOME MESSAGE FOR THE 2019/2020 ACADEMIC YEAR

Imagine a Catholic University in Cameroon, West Africa, that has taken the bold step to train a new generation of Growth Mindset African Entrepreneurs, *from Nursery, Primary, Secondary, High school and University*, who will approach every situation in life with the outlook that, no matter what, it can be done. Where they consistently use phrases like “We can do it”, “Let’s make it happen”, “Let’s work it out”, “Let’s figure it out”, and always maintain that a solution exist?

Imagine a Catholic University in Cameroon, West Africa, where all its members don’t feel threatened by the success of others but find lessons and inspiration in the success of others; where they don’t spend their time comparing their marks with one another, competing against one another but believe in one competition only – competition with themselves to attain their greatest personal potentials?

Imagine a Catholic University in Cameroon, West Africa where the members are trained and know that in this age of *homo exercens (practicing man)*, there is no shortage in success because it is created by those who have no limits in terms of ideas, creativity, ingenuity, talent, intelligence, originality, persistence, Grit, determination and deliberate practice?

Imagine a Catholic University in Cameroon, West Africa where members know that they have all been gifted by God and each of them have potentials that are unimaginable and don’t waste their energy attributing their lack of success to witchdoctors, Parents and relatives whom they purport have “bewitched” them or are responsible for their failures and poor choices in life?

Imagine a University in Cameroon, West Africa, that is boldly Catholic in its mission and identity to train its members not just to be job ready but life ready, truly *Sancti et Scholari* (Saints and Scholars) to face a constantly changing world?

Imagine a University in Cameroon, West Africa, where all this is done with compassion and care in a culture which values honesty about failures and mistakes, seeing them not as labels but as opportunities to learn.

This is what it looks like, sounds like and feels like in CUIB, the Growth Mindset Entrepreneurial University that is not only an International member Institution of the Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities in the US (ACCU), but also a member of the prestigious International Federation of Catholic Universities (IFCU). It is to this university that I have the privilege of welcoming you to.

What an honour that you are joining this family at a time that she has three Satellite Campuses, one in Douala at Bonamoussadi, one in Buea at Molyko, the Seat of the University, and a unique Ubiquitous Campus whose onsite office is in Douala. What an honour that you are entering CUIB at a time when she is preparing to celebrate her 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in December 2020 as the Premier Game changer of Growth Mindset Entrepreneurial Education in Africa.

Above all you are joining this family at a time when she has released her new Strategic Vision Statement for 2023. In 35 selected words, “*CUIB will be the cradle of innovation, growth mindset and wealth creation in preparing a new generation of young African Entrepreneurs, who are servant leaders, saints and scholars, to flourish in a rapidly changing world*”.

This New vision statement is the outcome of reflections by all CUIB stakeholders due to the socio-political crisis affecting schools in the English-speaking regions of Cameroon since 2016. It will be important to note that as this crisis continues, CUIB has remained apolitical, non-partisan and succeeded to provide learning to its students even in very rough circumstances.

A word of caution: many of you are coming from your homes where your parents have been in control in terms of discipline. You may be living now by yourselves, taking your own destiny into your hands. Your future is to be determined by you from now. This can be very exciting and full of promise. However, beware of the ills of the current environment such as bad friends, drugs, insecurity, fake religious sects, dangerous diseases and drugs at all corners available to attract and destroy you.

Whether in Douala or Buea campus, the environment is the same. As you settle down, you will have to study the University Rules and Regulations. They are made to guide you and the different activities in the University. If you study and respect them, CUIB will be a paradise for you. So you can see that you are joining a university that cares about its students and is consistent and reliable. *These are truly exciting times for CUIB.* I would like to assure you that you will not regret choosing CUIB. Enjoy the ride! I love you all!

Berakah!



Rev. Fr. George Nkeze Jingwa  
President & Pro-Chancellor, CUIB.