



FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Greetings and best wishes to all.

The EAF was established in 1993 as a non-profit organization. The aim of EAF is to support and enhance the functions of higher education in Ethiopia by bringing to bear the collective efforts of Ethiopians, Ethiopian Americans and American friends of Ethiopia. To this end EAF has been organizing biannual conferences in cooperation with other institutions as explained in this newsletter.

EAF would now like to hold annual conferences alternating one in Ethiopia during odd years, and one in the United States during even years. These proposed conferences are still under discussion. The conference in Ethiopia will continue to focus on Ethiopia's higher education, economic and social issues in a non-partisan way. The conference in the United States will be aimed at reaching out to the Diaspora community for the purpose of deliberating on our collective efforts.

EAF strongly believes that this two-pronged approach will be mutually beneficial. Without the continued cooperation of other institutions both in Ethiopia and the United States this vision cannot be realized. We would appreciate your inputs and suggestions regarding this proposal.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Addis Ababa University, Western Michigan University, and the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization for making it possible to hold the EAF biannual conferences to-date and count on their continued collaboration. Thanks to the conscientious participants who have invested their time and efforts in their presentations, the conferences have been very productive. We are confident that the proposed annual conferences will make equally significant contributions to the discussion of Ethiopia's development efforts as well as to the realization of the Diaspora's wishes for the motherland.

We would like to thank our valued members as well for the confidence they put in EAF by pledging financial commitments and by

contributing their time and resources to help out in running the foundation. Together we will continue to strive to live up to the ideals of EAF.

The Third International Symposium on DEVELOPMENT STUDIES IN ETHIOPIA: June 17-18, 2005, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Ethiopian American Foundation (EAF) in cooperation with the Ethiopian Agricultural Research Organization (EARO) and the Center for African Development Policy Research (CADPR) at Western Michigan University jointly announce the 3rd International Symposium on Development Studies in Ethiopia. This conference is a continuation of two successful international conferences that convened at Western Michigan University on August 16-18, 2001, and on July 11-12, 2003 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The idea is to hold the conference in the United States during even years; and in Ethiopia during odd years. The objective is to build an effective community in North America; and to deliberate on non-political, non-partisan economic and social issues in Ethiopia.

The primary objectives of the conference are to: 1. Raise awareness about critical development issues in Ethiopia; 2. Provide a forum for constructive and informed dialogue on key development policy issues; 3. Exchange research papers on the various dimensions of development; and 4. Build consensus on policy options that are crucial for future progress and economic development. The Symposium is intended for academics, researchers, policy makers, investors, and others interested in contemporary development issues in Ethiopia in particular and Africa in general. The Conference will convene in June 17-18, 2005 (Sene 10-11), in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. There are no funds available for conference travel and related expenses. Past participants have managed to get their own external research travel support. Prospective participants in this conference are also encouraged to do the same. Participants of accepted papers can ask for a letter of support or invitation to funding agencies. Conference

registration for participants (presenters, session chairs, and discussants) may be reduced or waived.

EAF Finances

Asrat Tessema

EAF Treasurer

Annual Foundation Fellows in Ethiopian Universities are financed by yields from the invested funds and CDs. For the 2004-2005 academic year, we have disbursed \$3,000 for scholarship and conference expenses. Our investments in the indexed mutual funds have lost some value as was the case for most Wall-Street investments. Therefore, we urge our members to continue their support for EAF by paying up their membership dues on time as they have done in the past so that yields from the invested funds and CDs would enable EAF to maintain the Fellowship program without interruption.

Financial Summary

Pledges and Receipts as of May 19, 2005

Member Category	Number of Members	Pledge* To-date	Collected* To-date
Lifetime	5	25,000	20,000
Founding	33	33,000	26,140
Founding (regular fee)			2,845
Honorary	26	---	3,510
Regular	14	---	6,240
Student	6	---	720
Other	6	---	7,063
Total	90	58,000	66,698

*Figures rounded to nearest whole dollar.

At any time, members may request information on the balance of their membership contributions and on the total EAF accumulation. The treasurer would be happy to send a certification of receipt for donations in cash and/or kind for your tax reporting purposes. EAF is a tax exempt organization. Members who need any information on EAF finances including their pledge status may contact the Treasurer at any time at the address provided above.

Member News

Dr. Sisay at Addis Ababa University on Fulbright

Dr. Sisay Asefa, professor of economics and director of WMU's Center for African Development Policy Research, is taking his

expertise on African development to Ethiopia for six weeks, thanks to funding he's received from the Fulbright Senior Specialist Program. Dr. Sisay is also Executive Director of the Ethiopian American Foundation. He will build on existing informal academic linkages with scholars at Addis Ababa University; give seminars on such topics as economic development, rural development policy, political economy and applied microeconomics; and conduct a needs assessment of Ethiopia's economic development challenges. During his last week there, he will co-direct the Third International Research Symposium on Development Studies in Ethiopia.

The conference is the third such conference to be held since the Ethiopian American Foundation launched the biennial event in 2001 in collaboration with Western Michigan University. The first research symposium brought more than 150 scholars and policy makers from around the globe to WMU to focus on Ethiopia's development challenges. A subsequent symposium was held in Addis, Ethiopia, in 2003.

The EAF Research Support Fellowship

EAF has launched the eighth round of the EAF Research Support Fellowship Program. The following seven sets of grants with a total of 33 grants have been made since the academic year of 1997-98. We continue to collaborate with the Institute of Development Research of Addis Ababa University to administer the Fellowship program. We would like to remind our members that EAF offers three faculty grants of \$500 each and three graduate student grants of \$200 each. As our members may realize, these are extremely modest grants. However, the grant level is determined by the expected yield of EAF's current capital funds.

As a tribute to Professor Harold Marcus, a prominent scholar of Ethiopian History and Ethiopian Studies, who passed away in January 2003, EAF has designated one of the graduate student fellowships as "Harold Marcus Memorial Scholarship (HMMS) for Ethiopian Studies" for three consecutive rounds. The HMMS grant will be for \$1,000 for each of the three years. Graduate Students who would like to compete for the HMMS should specify on the application form in the check box so marked. HMMS applications may be submitted from all fields but

they will be evaluated on the basis of their potential contribution to Ethiopian studies generally. The HMMS grants will be processed in collaboration with the Institute of Ethiopian Studies, Addis Ababa University.

1997-98 Fellows

1. Ayalneh Bogale, Faculty, Alemaya
2. Amauel Gebru, Faculty, AAU
3. Hussien Jemal, Faculty, Alemaya
4. Haile G. Kebede, Grad Student
5. Melaku Kebede, Grad Student
6. Paulos SHEMELES, Grad Student
7. Birhane W. Gerima, Grad Student

1998-99 Fellows

1. Teshome Abay, Faculty, AAU
2. Abebayehu Aemero, Faculty, AAU
3. Banchiamlak Demissie, Faculty, Gonder
4. Solomon Lemma Lodesso, Grad Student, AAU

1999-2000 Fellows

1. Dejene T. Degaga, Faculty, AAU
2. Elizabeth Ayalew, Faculty, AAU
3. Mulugeta Gebresellassie, Faculty, AAU
4. Berhanu G. Mohammed, Graduate Student, AAU

2000-2001 Fellows

1. Aboneh Ashagre, Faculty AAU
2. Seifu Kebede, Faculty, AAU
3. Tsegaye Berhe, Faculty, AAU
4. Tesegaye G. Meskel, Faculty AAU
5. Jalele Erega, Grad Student, AAU
6. Yonas Getaneh, Grade Student, AAU

2001-2002 Fellows

1. Tamiru Alemayehu, Faculty, AAU
2. Abebe G. Tsadik, Faculty, AAU
3. Daniel Zerfu, Faculty, AAU
4. Ashenafi Demoze, Grad Student, AAU
5. Binyam Mendisu, Grad Student, AAU

2002-2003 Fellows

1. Daniel Alemayehu, Faculty, AAU
2. Akalewold Eshete, Faculty, AAU
3. Wondimu Tadesse, Faculty, AAU
4. Sisay Teklu, Grad Student, AAU
5. Gutu Tesso, Grad Student, AAU

2003-2004 No Awards

2004-2005 Fellows

1. Dereje Ayalew, Faculty, AAU
2. Mulugeta Feseha, Faculty, AAU

We want to inform our members that the EAF Fellows have begun producing monographs and articles from their research projects supported by EAF. We want to congratulate the following scholars who have produced manuscripts for publication whose copies they have filed with EAF.

1. Elizabeth Ayalew, "*Faculty Gender and Classroom Interaction in EFL Classes*," November, 2000.
2. Abebaydhu Aemero, "*Problems of Female Education in Institutions of Higher Learning in Ethiopia*," January, 2001.
3. Tsegay Berhe, "*Academic Women in Public Colleges in Addis Ababa: Problem, Progress and Prospects*", November, 2000
4. Amanuel Gebru, "*Students' Ratings of their College English Instructors before and after the Issue of Grades: Evidence from Addis Ababa University Social Science College*," November 1999.
5. Aboneh Ashagre Zeyesus, *YeEthiopia Tiytregnotch Yehiywot Tarikna Sira*, Addis Ababa University Department of Theatre, 2002.
6. Yonas Getaneh, *Critical Success Indicators in Strategic Management of Banks: The 1998 Performance Review and Future Prospects*, Addis Ababa, December 2002.

Members of the Board of Trustees Terms Ending September 2005

Carl Robson
Erku Yimer
Fifi Hussein
Hailu Abatena
Teshome Abebe
Teshome Tadesse
Wongelawit Teferra

Terms Ending September 2007

Asrat Tessema
Assefa Mehretu
Ayalew Kanno
Birhanu Getahun
Daniel Teferra
Paul Henze
Sisay Asefa
Sisay Tezera
Teshome Wagaw
Yitayih Zelalem

Email Addresses

For your convenience and future use, the email addresses of the Executive Committee are listed below. Feel free to use them for comments and suggestions. Please use Assefa Mehretu's email address to send your email address. We do appreciate your cooperation.

Teshome Wagaw, Chairman of the Board,
twagaw@umich.edu

Wongelawit Tefera, Vice Chairman of the Board,
wongelawit.tefera@pfizer.com

Assefa Mehretu, Member of the Founding
Board, mehretu@msu.edu

Asrat Tessema, Treasurer,
asrat.tessema@emich.edu

Daniel Teferra, Board Secretary,
DTEFERRA@AOL.COM

Sisay Asefa, Executive Director,
asefa@wmich.edu

Ayalew Kanno, Deputy Executive Director,
kannoa@msu.edu

Call for New Members

We would like to request our members to share the Newsletter with their relatives, friends and colleagues so that they would know about EAF and possibly consider joining the Foundation. Please send requests for membership forms to the EAF Secretariat at:

Ethiopian American Foundation
971 Daisy Lane
East Lansing, MI 48823
USA

Thank you.

