

## Cargo container saga —at long last it’s being delivered!



**Interim Rector Dr. Samuel Mampunza with newly delivered medical supplies**  
(photo taken by Jimmy Shafe at UPC during his visit in July 2023)



Education Congo, Congo Hope and World Outreach teamed up to

procure a 40’ container and fill it with medical equipment and supplies from MedShare in Decatur, GA to send to Congo. It took almost one long year to get there—but the materials are now being delivered!

### Eyes on the prize

Education Congo Board Member Jimmy Shafe was fortunate enough to travel to Congo in late July and put eyes on the prize! The supplies and equipment have a value of some \$250,000 and are being distributed between the new medical clinic/hospital on Université Protestante au Congo (UPC) campus, Good Shepherd Hospital in the Kananga area, Kimpese hospital and Vanga hospital—all

are locations where UPC medical students intern and will greatly benefit.

Kimpese hospital has already received its share, and the other locations will collect theirs soon. Among the shipment were hospital beds, walkers, an electrocautery machine and some 800 boxes of supplies.

### Many obstacles to overcome

The journey for the container was complicated, as items were being gathered when the war in Ukraine erupted in early 2022. During this time medical equipment and supplies from around the world were heading for Ukraine and surrounding nations to help victims. Finally, by October 2022, our container was full and shipped, reaching the port of Matadi in December 2022. Storms hit. The highway was washed out along the route. Delay.

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## In Memory of Daniel Ngoy Boliya, Former Rector of Congo Protestant University (UPC)

UPC Rector, Daniel Ngoy Boliya, was a longtime colleague, friend and partner of Education Congo. He was instrumental in the creation of Education Congo as a liaison between North American supporters and UPC.

Rector Ngoy died on Thursday, March 2, 2023, at the Centre Médical de Kinshasa. Education Congo President Ernie Ross attended Rector Ngoy’s funeral in Kinshasa. Education Congo has set up a scholarship fund in honor of Rector Ngoy and his contribution to higher education in the DRC. Following is a eulogy to our colleague:

Daniel Ngoy Boliya was born on October 14, 1949, in Bolenge/Mbandaka, the eldest of 7 children. He was educated at the mission in Bolenge, before enrolling at the Faculty of Theology at Université Libre du Congo in Kisangani (the precursor to UPC).

Subsequent to that he delivered a doctoral thesis at the University of Strasbourg in France, in the field of church history. Saint Augustine, Bishop of Hippo in Numidia, giant philosopher and theologian of ancient Africa, never ceased to fascinate him and to motivate his thoughts. Upon his return to the Congo, he climbed to the rank of Ordinary Professor at both UPC and UPN, where he taught in the History Department.

Rector Ngoy succeeded Professor Mgr. David Yemba Kekumba in 1991. He was therefore Rector of Congo Protestant University in its second phase of development after UNAZA (National University of Zaire). He experienced the ravages of UPC’s infamous looting in 1992 and 1993. It was in this latter context that his health-related struggles began.

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Daniel Ngoy Boliya led UPC as rector for 30 years

In his many years at the head of an institution of higher education, he proved himself to be a remarkable builder. He had great convictions and determination. "Work, perseverance and determination" are the descriptors that summarize

## In Memory of Daniel Ngoy Boliya, Former Rector of Congo Protestant University (UPC) *continued from page 1*

his life. These values guided him during his 30 years in the development of UPC. Rector Ngoy led the university as it built a student body of more than 8,000, over 50% of whom are women, and expanded the curriculum, most notably by adding a medical school to train doctors for the rural areas of Congo.

He cultivated good relationships with both national and international partners, which enabled his administration to bring UPC to a high level of development in the areas of

infrastructure, academic teaching and research programs. He had a great understanding of people, whom he did not hesitate to involve in his work, putting aside non-objective considerations and

often resisting the partisan influences that come from all sides in such a venture.

Under Rector Daniel Ngoy Boliya's leadership UPC signed numerous cooperation agreements with universities at home and abroad. In the Congo UPC signed agreements of cooperation with Université de Kinshasa and Université Catholique du Congo. In Africa, UPC is a leading member of the network of Protestant Universities in Africa (RUPA), and a formal protocol of cooperation was signed by Rector Ngoy and his counterpart at Université Marien Ngouabi in Brazzaville.

Numerous other universities are in formal collaboration with UPC as a result of Rector Ngoy's leadership, including Université Paris-Saclay, the Frankfurt School of Finance and Management, the University of North Carolina (UNC), Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Songsil University in Seoul, South Korea.



### Cargo container saga *continued from page 1*

In January 2023 there was an unexpected change in customs policies, and previous commitments were put on hold. Delay. In April 2023, the shipping company was threatening to declare our container "abandoned" and sell the contents! Fortunately, IMA World Health was finally able to negotiate with the port authority and gain the release of the container. Whew!

It arrived on campus at UPC two months ago, and supplies are in the process of finding their homes. A new clinic will get equipped, medical needs will be met, lives will be saved and our medical students will learn and develop new skills!

## New construction at UPC *by Jimmy Shafe, EC Board Member*

While I was at UPC in July 2023, Interim Rector Dr. Samuel Mampunza, Administrator Mr. Clement



New UPC Clinic/Hospital under construction

Mamba and Medical School Lab Technician Jeansy Mavinga gave me a personal tour of the campus,

including the newest star attraction, the UPC Clinic/Hospital! While still under construction, the building is 90% complete.

Hopefully, by the end of September all work will be completed on the new clinic/hospital on the UPC campus. The two-story building is quite impressive. It will have examining rooms, several semi-private rooms and several small wards. Patients will be able to access all parts of the building via elevator and large central hallways.

It was exciting to see where our scholarship recipients will be making good use of the newly arrived equipment!



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