Recruiting Women: A Strategy for Success

What does it take to recruit women for the GEM program in cultures and countries where they have been marginalized? It takes planning, hard work, and moving beyond traditional means of student recruitment. Just ask the hard working team at the Scalabrini Center in Cape Town, South Africa where 65% of their initial cohort launched in May were women (36 women, 19 men). We applaud your efforts.

One key component of Scalabrini’s success was their existing program which targeted women, called Women’s Platform. The program essentially served as a feeder program for GEM. The Women’s Platform is a peer-led women’s empowerment program that also functions as a small business incubator that has been running since 2014. As Yoni Pakleppa, one of the managers of the program, reflected, The Women’s Platform “meant that we already had many amazing and committed women on our radar.” Indeed!

What is clear is that targeting women with compelling content and opportunities is a strategy for success. Way to go Scalabrini!
GEM’s First Graduate from New Partner launch!

Congratulations to Jean-Marie Vianney Nduwayezu, GEM’s first graduate from the new partner launch! With diligence and effort, Jean-Marie Vianney finished his degree in two months. Having transferred 30 credits from Regis University, Jean-Marie worked tirelessly to finish his Associate’s Degree. About the CFA project feedback, Jean-Marie Vianney reflected that, “The feedback that I received was very helpful as it helped me understand the content of the projects.”

Jean-Marie Vianney has received a scholarship to study in Canada at Ottowa University. We know that the future is bright for Jean-Marie Vianney, and he will live in history as GEM’s first graduate from the new partner launch! Congrats to the amazing team at JWL Malawi as well!

The Global Education Movement has launched in four countries in 2018. Those countries are Kenya, Malawi, South Africa, and Lebanon. We are anchored by our first site, Kepler, in Rwanda.

### Country Launches

- **Rwanda**—Kigali and [Kiziba Refugee Camp. 2013 - Present](#)
- **Malawi**—[Dzaleka Refugee Camp. April 1, 2018](#)
- **Kenya**—Kakuma Refugee Camp. April 1, 2018
- **South Africa**—Cape Town. May 1, 2018
- **Lebanon**—Bekaa Valley. August 1, 2018
Meet the New Inkomoko Receptionist!

SNHU Kepler graduate Roxanne is completing her first week at her new job as a receptionist with Inkomoko. Located in Kigali, Rwanda, Inkomoko supports high-potential entrepreneurs and businesses. Roxanne completed her BA degree in Healthcare Management at SNHU. Congratulations, Roxanne!

Reflecting on her professional competency classes at Kepler, Roxanne reflected, "I have been able to develop skills like how to be professional in interviews, preparing my resume, knowing how to make proper introductions, and being eloquent."

Inkomoko CEO Julienne Oyler said, “We have been so happy with every graduate that we have hired from Kepler. We knew that if we hired Roxanne she would come in with critical thinking and multitasking skills, in addition to being friendly!”

Meet the New Inkomoko Manager!

SNHU Kepler graduate Rachel started out working as a receptionist, but has recently been promoted to Finance and Administrative Associate at Inkomoko. Congratulations, Rachel!

Thinking about her work at Kepler, Rachel noted that, "Kepler provided me with the skills needed for the workplace...For example, I did the accounting project, and from that project, I learned different accounting terminology and how to do some financial transactions. The skills I gained are very important as I am using it for my successful finance career."

Inkomoko CEO Julienne Oyler noted that, “Rachel impressed us because she was always so eager to learn, so eager to improve, and wanted direct and specific feedback.”
The adage that "practice makes perfect" is certainly apt in the area of professional skill development. GEM's goal is that all of our students develop a full cadre of professional skills and that these skills are practiced...a lot!

One example of practice is the work that Jesuit World Learning (JWL) in Malawi did recently. Collaborating with the SNHU team, the SNHU Dzaleka students put their networking, listening, and learning skills to work through day-long and small group visits to organizations and businesses. Nadia Asmal and Aggrey Masi from JWL did a great job utilizing their connections to help organize the visits, and the students received pre- and post-feedback on their performance navigating a professional setting.

The purpose of this work is two-fold. First, of course, is to expose students to different career paths and to help them experience different work settings. The second is to simultaneously expose employers and organizations to GEM's program and its students and to begin to shift mindsets on stereotypes about refugees.

The students did an incredible job presenting themselves professionally, asking questions and offering reflections about what they learned that might inform their own futures.

Nice work, JWL!

In the next issue, August, 2018: Kepler's graduations in Kigali and Kiziba!

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