

# THE BISHOP SCHOLAR NETWORK

NEWS AND STORIES FROM BISHOP SCHOLARS

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# Graduating Seniors

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## Allan Muzonzini

Allan is a pre-med major from Harare, Zimbabwe.

He was part of Discipleship and the International Club (Interact).

His future plans are going to medical school to become a surgeon.

Allan always brought joy and laughter to our community and he will be greatly missed.

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## Felix Aguayo

Felix is an athletic training major from Juarez, Mexico.

He was a member of Discipleship, Interact, and a RA.

His future plans are finding an internship that will help him continue his education while working as an athletic trainer.

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## Brian Kiprotich

Brian is a business major and during his time at Southwestern

College, he was a member of Discipleship and a staff reporter for the Collegian.

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## Tatenda Mbabvu

Tatenda is a business major from Harare, Zimbabwe.

He was part of the men's soccer team. Tatenda is actually a

December graduate and is currently in search for a job.

We hope he finds the perfect job for him and when he does, we would love to hear the good news.

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# Life Stories

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Are you tired of only hearing news about COVID-19?  
Then take a break to read the life stories of four Bishop Scholars.

## Senior Credits His Parents for Who He is Today

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Felix Aguayo is from Juarez, Mexico and he attended Lydia Patterson Institute which is a Methodist-affiliated high school in El Paso, TX.

You can't tell the story of Aguayo without talking about his parents' efforts and sacrifices. Both of his parents and Aguayo have worked very hard to give him the opportunity to have a good education and attend Southwestern. He is tremendously grateful for his parents and credits all his achievements to them.

Aguayo's parents come from a difficult past. However, their resilience pushed them to seek a better life for their children. Aguayo remembers his parents' efforts to give him a better life and also remembers their big heart for all of his family.

"My dad is an engineer; he came from one of the poorest areas of Juarez. When my mom was 13 years old her father left her family so she started to work and take care of her siblings at that age. My mom is a housewife, and I've always said that she has the hardest job of all of us because she takes care of us and always tries to help us be successful," Aguayo added, "when my parents married, my two aunts and my grandma moved in with them. Then, I was born. We still live in that little house." He said, "when I see people who are in need it's easier for me to relate to them, have empathy, and help them because I still remember what it is like to have little."

Aguayo also remembers their sacrifices to keep him in school. Without his dad's sacrifice, Aguayo wouldn't have had the opportunity to attend Southwestern College.

"My father worked as an engineer for a company that moved to a different city and his boss told him he needed to move there to continue with his job. At the time I was studying in Lydia Patterson and my father knew that I have been making a lot of effort to get a scholarship in the US. My dad decided to quit his job even though it had made us financially stable so I could get a chance to study in the US," Aguayo said.

Aguayo reflected back on the sacrifices he also had to make once he got to Southwestern.

*"When I graduate I want to tell my mom and dad that it's all because of them."*

*-Felix Aguayo*



"Freshmen year was a hard transition because sometimes I was alone and didn't have someone to talk Spanish with. I would miss my family, the food, my home. I was willing to sacrifice my home and being with my family and friends for what I will become and who I will be in the future," Aguayo said. When asked what rewards he has received from his sacrifices he quickly responded with "a lot of good experiences and a lot of good people I've met through whom I've encountered God and seen who God is and seen him working in my life. I know what true happiness is."

Aguayo is about to graduate and is seeking to continue his education.

"I'm looking for opportunities to get a graduate assistant position somewhere as an athletic trainer, so I can get my masters in business, kinesiology, or athletic training, basically anything. I just want to continue my education while working and doing what I love," Aguayo said.

## Bishop Scholar from Malaysia Grows in His Faith in Small-Town Winfield

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*"Here I'm surrounded by friends who encourage me and push me to grow"*  
- Jon Luis Koe

Jon Luis Koe grew up with his family in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Kuala Lumpur is the nation's capital and it's the largest city with a population of 1.73 million in only 94 square miles. His father is a pastor for the United Methodist Church and his mom is an IT specialist. Koe's Father pushed him to get out of his comfort zone and apply to come to Southwestern.

"Because my Father is a pastor, he got to talk over lunch with one of the Bishops in Malaysia. He talked to my father about the Bishop Scholarship and my father just told him that he wanted his son to go to Southwestern and have the experience of studying abroad. My father wanted me to come to the US to learn new perspectives and open my view of the world," Koe said.

Initially, Koe was hesitant about coming to Southwestern because he had already started college in Malaysia, he had friends back home, and he also lived in a big city that can't compare to small-town Winfield, Kansas.

"At first, I didn't want to come to the US because I had my friends at home. What was challenging was the transition from living in a city to living in a small town such as Winfield. There are fewer things to do here in Winfield. I'm more of a city person, I like to explore, go on the train, the bus, and see what the city has to offer," he said.

Looking back, Koe doesn't regret coming to Southwestern and appreciates the good things that he has gotten to experience in Winfield.

One of the good things he has found at Southwestern College is Worship Outreach. Worship Outreach is a group of students who travel around Kansas to play in several different churches. They also play on Wednesdays at SC Chapel.

"I've enjoyed my time here so far, It's been fun. My favorite part has been joining the Worship Outreach and playing for different churches," he added, "I like playing the piano, I really enjoy it because I don't see it as work but as a game to play, so it's fun."

Koe also mentioned how he has embraced the Winfield community, even though it took him some time.

He said, "I enjoy the community here, the people here are nice. Everyone knows each other and they are very friendly. It took me some time to get used to their friendliness. People would say hi to me and I would think 'Who are you? I don't know you.' Back home no one says hi, they just mind their own business. So I like this community, I like how they are very close to each other."

Koe is part of the Discipleship Team, a faith-based group focused on helping students grow in Christian discipleship. They meet in small groups or so-called covenant groups every week, do service projects, and worship together. Koe reflected back on how Worship Outreach, the Winfield community, and Discipleship have helped him grow in his faith in ways he wouldn't have grown back home.

"Since coming to Southwestern College my faith has grown a lot, I don't think that would have happened at home. My faith has grown a lot because I go to Discipleship every week, practice for Worship Outreach every week, and my covenant group meets every week. Back home I wouldn't have had that exposure to the Christian faith because my friends back home are not Christians so they don't push me to grow in my faith, only my parents would be pushing me. Here I'm surrounded by friends who encourage me and push me to grow," Koe said.

Koe hopes to continue to grow in his faith and will even take a leadership role next year. He will be part of the Sheperd Team of Discipleship which leads the team.



# Bishop Scholar Receives Second Chance at SC

Sandra Nyembo is from the Democratic Republic of Congo, where she grew up with her siblings and mother who is a nurse. In Congo, Nyembo attended college and hoped to become a medic. However, a roadblock on her path kept her from following her dream.

"I wanted to go to medical school, but there was a high level of corruption and sexual harassment at universities back home. I started medical school and I didn't finish because I was harassed by a professor and I didn't know what to do. I remember that when he was after me I said to him, 'I can't do this, I'm a Christian and Jesus doesn't want this,' he then told me, 'We'll see if Jesus can save you.' After he didn't get what he wanted he failed me," Nyembo continued, "When they posted grades, they post them in a public space, everyone can come and see them. I remember seeing the results and crying because I would have had to repeat the year even after I had made good grades on my other classes. The professor who failed me then passed by and told me, 'Did Jesus save you?' and everyone heard him. It was an embarrassing and very sad experience. I was traumatized by it."

Nyembo decided to transfer to a different institution where she felt safe which was a Methodist university. However, this institution only had degrees in Education, Computer Science, and Theology. Nyembo decided to get a degree in Computer Science and after that, she got a job teaching computer science.

"When I did Computer science, I didn't like it, that wasn't my passion," Nyembo said.

Nyembo continued with her life and was filled with many blessings. She married and built her family.

Nyembo's life turned upside down when her family discovered that her daughter was sick and required a great amount of medical attention. She then decided that in order to give her daughter the best medical attention, she would have to take her to a different country with better resources. Thus, when a friend of hers called her and introduced her to the idea of continuing her studies in the United States she went for it. Her friend gave her a list of schools where she could get her master's and told her to take a look at it and apply.

"I didn't even look at the colleges on the internet or anything, I decided to pray about it and two weeks later I told my friend that Southwestern was the place I wanted to go. My friend said, 'Sandra, this is one of the smallest and I don't know if they have the master's programs that you want,' so he told me that I could do an undergrad instead, in education and biology. I thought, Seriously, Oh my God! I'm on my thirties, but then I realized it was an opportunity for me to go back into the science field. I thought that going into the medical field was too late for me, but this turned out to be a second chance to at least go back to studying something related to science," Nyembo said.

Nyembo came to Southwestern as an undergraduate in 2017, without her family. She originally planned to study biology and education.

*"I hope that by God's grace I can make an impact"*

*- Sandra Nyembo*



"I was so convinced about studying education. I didn't want anything complicated, I'm old enough already" Nyembo said laughing.

However, while Nyembo was studying in the United States, her daughter Chrisma passed away. Being far from home was challenging for Nyembo at this time but she commented that "I don't regret coming here, this has been a great community, and with what I've been through, they have been so awesome and I'm so grateful."

"After Chrisma died, my goals shifted. Now I'm thinking of becoming a PA (Physician Assistance). Children are dying, dying is normal, but at least when they are dying we need to try and be able to say we tried our best. I feel like my government is not trying. I'm not trying. No-one is trying," Nyembo said, "We have big provinces where there are no hospitals for children and the rate in which kids are dying tells me that we are not trying. The way that my daughter died, I feel like if there would've been a hospital nearby, she could've been saved."

Today, Nyembo is finishing her junior year and her husband and son are now living with her in Winfield, KS. This summer will be two years since they were able to move to the US and be reunited with Nyembo.

# SC Introduces Sophomore Jesus Flores to New Perspectives

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Jesus Flores is from Juarez, Mexico, and attended Lydia Patterson Institute. Lydia Patterson is a Methodist-affiliated high school in El Paso, TX, where the majority of their students live in Juarez, Mexico, and commute to EL Paso every day to go to school. Lydia Patterson was the connection to Southwestern College that helped him become a Bishop Scholar and attend college.

Flores reflected back on how the challenges of studying abroad have been worth it. For they have helped him learn new perspectives from students around the globe.

"I never thought I would be friends with someone from Wales, someone from Malaysia, and someone from South Africa," Flores said.

One of the challenges for him was adjusting to the American culture. "Some think that because Mexico is right next to the US, the culture is not very different, but it is. That is something I've realized living here in Winfield," Flores commented.

The language was another challenge for Flores. "When I got here it was difficult to communicate with others. I had the words in my head but couldn't put them together. When I got here my English was bad. Now, it has become better, but I remember coming here and wanting to talk with others, but I would either not have the words to communicate with them, or they would speak very fast to me and I would have to ask if they could slow down. I have developed the ability to continue conversations, but communicating was definitely the hardest part," Flores said.

Flores has found that adjusting to the culture and speaking a second language comes with rewards that have made his time at Southwestern valuable. Flores has been exposed to multiple cultures besides American culture. He has been the president of the International club for almost two years.

*"I used to think a certain way, right now I have a more open view of things."  
-Jesus Flores*

"A big reward from being exposed to different cultures is learning new perspectives. Before I came to the US I used to think a certain way, right now I have a more open view of things," Flores added, "This has helped me a lot to understand others when I talk and interact with them. I feel like after learning about their culture I can contribute to their life more."

Flores's passion for learning other people's perspectives translates to his passion for psychology where he gets to study people's inner feelings and thoughts. He is majoring in psychology and plans to get his master's to become a clinical psychologist.

"My dream is to run my own clinic or work as a school counselor. It's so good to see people reach their maximum capacity, physically, mentally, and spiritually. That's what I would love to do. My other dream is to become a forensic psychiatrist. They profile criminals, analyze what they are thinking and what are their patterns of behavior. That would be my dream job. But I would be content with either thing," Flores said.





# Remembering Jorge Mucambe

Jorge Mucambe was a Bishop Scholar from Maputo, Mozambique.

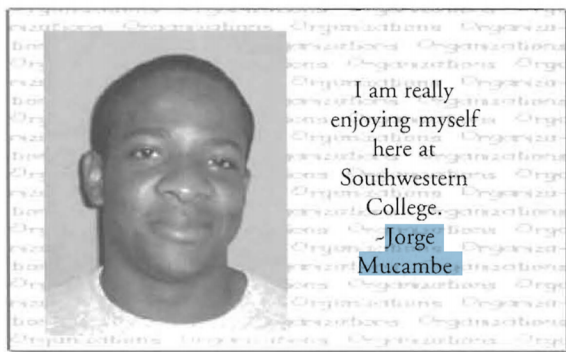
During his time at Southwestern he was part of Men's Soccer, Discipleship, International Club, Acapella Choir, and Math Club.

We were sad to hear of his passing early this year and we send prayers to the Mucambe family.

Here are a few pictures of Jorge to remember him dearly.



2001-2002 Men's Soccer *Front row:* Trainer Lisa Braun, Farai Simbabwe, Zack Paris, Joe-David Gilmore, Shaun Kellar, **Jorge Mucambe**, Tim Garcia, Nicole Hovie. *Back Row:* Coach Roberto Dos Santos, Coach Dawn Spelman, Phillip Chingunda, Lamuel Matate, Jeremy Hall, Travis Hastings, Brannndon Westhoff, Josh White, AJ Freeman, Coach Tanner Lundy (photo by Eric Ellis).



I am really  
enjoying myself  
here at  
Southwestern  
College.  
-Jorge  
Mucambe



*Right: 1998-1999 Math Club.*  
1st row: Mehri Arfaei, Kylie Harman, Ashley Helfrich, Thyrsa Mucambe, Reza Sarhangi and Simon Luhur.  
2nd row: Hubert Dutton, Kristin Kraemer, Jeff Rahm, Jesus Munoz and Jorge Mucambe.  
(Photo by Amy Govert)



The 2000-2001 International Club *Front Row:* Gloria Tham, Natsai Gumbanjera. *Second Row:* Unknown child, Augusteady Silky, Kyoko Nakata, Yuuki Kikuchi, Mika Mihara. *Third Row:* **Jorge Mucambe**, Josphat Muturi, Rigo Trisan, Gareth Maclean, Alma Munoz. *Fourth Row:* Jacob Maforo, Hector Munoz, David Abarca, Michael Gicoga. (photo special to the Moundbuilder).



Above Left: **Jorge Mucambe** dribbles the ball up the field with teammate ready for the pass (photo by Fred Howie, SC Alumni)

## Students Doing Yoga to Stay Healthy During Covid-19

While most students have returned to their hometowns because of Covid-19, most international students are still in Winfield.

Being in isolation can be extra difficult for students away from friends and family. However, these three Bishop Scholars found a creative way to connect and stay healthy by doing yoga.

Bishop Scholar Rebeca Dominguez says that since the beginning of April she has been practicing yoga outside, in front of her Warren apartment, because yoga helps her stay sane and active during quarantine.

"It is so much fun when my friends join me to do yoga, we just set my computer on the ground and we just follow a youtube video," Dominguez said.



Bishop Scholars Rebeca Dominguez, Sheka Olenga, and Jon Koe, doing yoga in the lawn of the Warren Apartments while keeping social distancing.

### What's New with You?

Send us an update about your life and we will include it in our next newsletter. Whether you are starting a new job, having your first baby, we would love to celebrate it with you!

Send your life updates or news to: [rebeca.dominguez@sckans.edu](mailto:rebeca.dominguez@sckans.edu)



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[www.institutefordiscipleship.org/bishop-scholars/](http://www.institutefordiscipleship.org/bishop-scholars/)

### Become a Member of the Network

Join the Bishop Scholar Network to receive the newsletter twice a year and occasional invitations to events and upcoming reunions.

[All you have to do is click here to submit a membership form.](#)

### Invite a Friend to Join the Bishop Scholar Network

We want to challenge you to share this newsletter and invite at least one person to join the network.

We have sent a pdf version of the newsletter to your email, so all you have to do is share it with a friend.