



UMass/UPIC Advanced Degree Activity



Quarterly Report #8

12 March 2003 – 12 June 2003

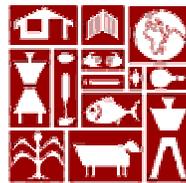
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Monitoring & Evaluation Results: Year Two

12 June 2002 – 12 June 2003

Submitted by:

**Center for International Education
School of Education
University of Massachusetts
Amherst MA 01003**



Contract Number: 690-A-00-01-00143-00



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Document Name: **Quarterly Report #8: 12 March 2003 – 12 June 2003 (Year 2: Quarter 4)
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Submitted by: Center for International Education
School of Education
285 Hills South
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
Phone: 413-545-0465
Fax: 413-545-1263
Email: cie@educ.umass.edu
Website: www.umass.edu/cie

Project Office: U.S. Agency for International Development/Malawi
Cognizant Technical Officer
USAID/Lilongwe
Department of State
2280 Lilongwe Place
Washington, D.C. 20521-2280

Authors: Dr. David R. Evans
Dr. Gretchen B. Rossman
Dr. Khehla Ndlovu
Mr. Dwaine E. Lee
Phone: 413-545-0465
Fax: 413-545-1263
Email: cie@educ.umass.edu

**United States Agency for International Development
UMass/UPIC Advanced Degree Activity**

Project 690-A-00-01-00143-00

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In this report the 8th quarter activities are presented in the following categories:

1. Project background;
2. Summary of 8th quarter activities;
3. Activities and progress in Malawi;
4. Activities and progress at UMass
5. Challenges;
6. Deliverables and other documents; and
7. Expenditure report
8. Year Two Monitoring & Evaluation Results
9. Annex A: Research Dissemination Conference Programme

1. Project Background

The Advanced Degree Activity (ADA) consists of a partnership between the University of Massachusetts Amherst (UMass), the University of Malawi's Chancellor College (CC), the Malawi Ministry of Education, Science & Technology (MOEST), and the Malawi National Examinations Board (MANEB). The purpose of this partnership is to address USAID/Malawi's Strategic Objective 9: Improved quality and efficiency of basic education. The ADA will help to build human resource and institutional capacity to promote the planning and leadership functions of the education sector by developing Chancellor College's capacity to offer post-graduate degree programs in Policy, Planning & Leadership and Testing & Measurement. Working in partnership with Malawi educators, the program will offer advanced degree training for more than 20 educators to serve two interrelated goals: 1) in the short term, to upgrade and develop the skills of educators, planners, and testing and measurement professionals currently working in the Planning Division of the Ministry and in its regional offices, in MANEB, and in Chancellor College; and 2) in the longer term, to build the sustainable capacity at Chancellor College to offer its own advanced degrees in those two areas. These new degree programs will then train policy analysts, planners, and experts in testing and measurement to contribute to the development of education in Malawi. Developing institutional capacity at Chancellor College and human resources in MOEST and MANEB will ensure sustained enhancement of the quality of education in Malawi.

2. Summary

The eighth quarter was an exciting one in the life of the project. The first cohort of M.Ed. candidates graduated, the second cohort of M.Ed. candidates was selected, the Ed.D.s successfully defended their

comprehensive examinations, and several capacity building activities occurred with Chancellor College and MANEB.

- In March, several workshops were offered for Chancellor College and MANEB, as well as planning meetings to further the design and development of Chancellor College's Master's degrees in Policy, Planning & Leadership and Testing & Measurement.
- In April and May, the six doctoral candidates (four from the first cohort and two from the second cohort) were busy with their academic activities at UMass. The four first-cohort Ed.D.s successfully completed their comprehensive exams, as well as the development of their dissertation proposals. The two second-cohort Ed.D.s completed their first semester of courses.
- In May, the six Ed.D.s returned to Malawi, where the first-cohort will conduct research through January 2004. June also saw the selection of the second cohort of eight M.Ed.s followed by an orientation for them, a graduation ceremony for the first cohort of M.Ed.s, a research dissemination conference hosted by UMass, and a PPL Steering Committee meeting to formally evaluate the course outlines, sequencing and structure of the proposed PPL Master's degree at Chancellor College.

3. Activities and Progress in Malawi

3.1 Research & Evaluation Design Workshop at Chancellor College



On March 24, 2003, Dr. Eugene Gonzalez conducted a workshop at Chancellor College titled "Research and Evaluation Designs in Education." The topic was proposed by the Dean and Faculty of the School of Education of Chancellor College. The workshop was conducted in two consecutive sessions. There were 10 lecturers that attended the first session. Of these, 4 remained for the second session since six of them had to attend a previously scheduled meeting. The topics covered during the workshop included the definition of educational research and of evaluation, description of the steps of the scientific inquiry, description of types of research

approaches used in education, and the steps in conducting educational research. During the workshop there was time for participants to ask questions about their own personal research projects. After the workshop concluded 2 copies of the book titled *Statistics for the Social and Health Sciences with a Guide to SPSS* by Argyrous were donated to the UPIC library.

3.2 Qualitative Research Workshop at MANEB

On March 24, 2003, Dr. Gretchen Rossman conducted a workshop for MANEB on qualitative research methods. The workshop was attended by four MANEB research officers. The workshop focused on an introduction to research, including the various research paradigms, followed by further elaboration on the various genres of qualitative research, including ethnography, phenomenology, and case studies. Dr. Rossman providing examples on the uses of interviewing and observation, and the participants discussed practical uses of these tools in their research capacities. The workshop also focused on ways to analyze the data and to generate research



reports. Three copies of Dr. Rossman's qualitative research text *Learning in the Field* were donated to MANEB and Chancellor College.

3.3 Data Analysis Workshop at MANEB

From March 25-28, 2003 Dr. Eugene Gonzalez conducted a workshop on data analysis at MANEB. The workshop was attended by 4 research officers from MANEB. The workshop was conducted each morning with readings and exercises assigned to be done by the research officers during the afternoon. During the workshop the participants reviewed concepts of calculating correlation and regression coefficients, t-test, chi squares, and analysis of variance. They also discussed the applications of each of these techniques to their current work at MANEB. As a guide to the presentations the same book by Argyrous used in the Chancellor College workshop (3.1 above) was utilized. Each participant received a copy of the book and an extra copy was given to Mr. Nkhoma to be added to the MANEB library. The workshop included sessions during which the participants were able to use SPSS and also perform statistical analysis using MS Excel. The participants were pleased with the contents covered during the workshop and recommended further training using computer software to conduct statistical analysis. One difficulty in conducting these kinds of workshop is the lack of computers available for the participants during the workshop as well as in their offices.



MANEB Research Officers learning new data analysis skills, including SPSS.

3.4 Meeting to Further Review and Design M.Ed. in Testing & Measurement

On March 28 a meeting was held with Dr. Gonzalez, Dean Msiska, Dr. Zoani, Mr. Lee and Dr. Ndlovu to discuss future activities in preparing the outlines for the courses for the T&M masters program to be offered at Chancellor College. Dr. Zoani shared the findings from the needs assessment he had carried out and much discussion took place around the needs of the stakeholders (i.e. practicality, mode of delivery, etc.). Dr. Gonzalez then presented a tentative list of topics for 6 courses that would constitute the core for the T&M students. It was agreed that Dr. Zoani and returned T&M M.Ed. graduates would review the list of topics and based on their recommendations Dr. Gonzalez will then proceed to draft outlines for each of the courses. The outlines will then be presented to the faculty senate of Chancellor College for their approval. NOTE: In June, 2003, after receiving feedback from Dr. Zoani on the course topics, Dr. Gonzalez completed the draft course outlines and submitted them to the Faculty of Education for review.

3.5 Selection of 2nd Cohort of UMass/UPIC Master's Candidates

As reported in Quarterly Report No. 7, interviews were held for 9 T&M and 11 PPL candidates in March, 2003. Following interviews, it was decided to send all applicants for medicals as a continuation of the selection process. USAID prepared letters advising them of the process for medical exams, and that final selections would only be made after the medicals.

Upon receipt of the results of the medical examinations, the University of Massachusetts made the final decisions about the selected candidates and informed project partners about the outcomes. All partners were in agreement with the final decisions. Those selected are:

MEd in Policy, Planning & Leadership:

Christina Chide (Lilongwe Girls' Secondary School)
Antonie Chigeda (Chancellor College)
Christopher Naunje (Chiradzulu District Education Manager)
Dezie Trigu (South West Division Methods Advisor - Blantyre)
Henry Gwede (Mulanje District Education Manager)

MEd in Testing & Measurement:

Ella Phombeya Banda (MANEB)
Augustine Gundula (MANEB)
Siegfried Mkandawire (Domasi College)

The candidates were informed of their selection in early June, 2003 and have all accepted their invitations to enroll in the program. An orientation was held for the participants later in the quarter (see section 3.9) and, pending approval of their visa applications, will begin their studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in early September, 2003.

3.6 PPL Design & Development Workshop

On June 18th, 2003 a workshop was held to further design and develop Chancellor College's Master's degree in Policy, Planning and Leadership. Present at the meeting were Mr. Lee, Dr. Ndlovu, Dr. Rossman, Dean Msiska, Mr. MacJessie-Mbewe, Dr. Mbano, Dr. Bisika, Dr. Chimombo, Mr. Haji, Dr. Kazima, Dr. Maluwa-Banda, and Dr. Zoani.

The workshop began with a review of the rationale for the program by Dean Msiska. Key points included 1. Education and training is investment in human resources; 2. Education of the people is a key element that provides the necessary skills, knowledge, attitudes, and professional competencies for economic and social development; 3. Both PIF and PRSP admit the considerable need for human capacity development for planning and managing the education system in Malawi.

Next, Dr. Mbano presented the proposed structure for the MEd degree, which will consist of three semesters of coursework, followed by one semester of research and the writing of the thesis.

The PPL committee then discussed criteria for evaluating the course outlines. The following set of criteria were created:

- Rigor/appropriateness for MEd – challenging, give opportunity to put into practice what have learned;
- Overlaps – across course outlines;
- Relevance to Malawi – not an academic exercise; program is addressing a felt need among policy makers, planners;
- Balance between theory and practice – again, not an academic exercise; theory to guide practice;
- Timely reading list;
- Focus on contemporary and emerging issues;
- Order and sequencing – objectives should marry with content;
- Scope – can content be covered within a semester?

The majority of the workshop consisted of PowerPoint presentations, supplemented by hard copies of the draft course outlines, by the writers/developers of the course outlines for the degree. The following outlines were presented:

<p>Core Courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced Research Methods • Monitoring & Evaluation • Issues in Education Policy & Law • Education Planning & Financing • Issues in Education & Development • Leadership & Management 	<p>Elective Courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education & Law • Economics of Education • Program Design & Management Skills • Advanced Educational Psychology for Management
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Comments and recommendations were solicited following each presentation and rapporteurs were assigned to record all suggestions. The workshop concluded with the following next steps:

- a) All course outlines should be revised in view of the committee's discussions and resubmitted no later than July 8, 2003, at which time they will be prepared for submission to the faculty senate.
- b) The committee should prepared background information for the PPL degree and the due date will be determined by the PPL Committee which is scheduled to meet June 27, 2003.
- c) The Dean should explore the issue of scholarships with the UPIC Steering Committee for the first PPL cohort.
- d) Planning for the August/September Consultative workshop (for stakeholders) should begin as soon as possible and should take into account the availability of UMass personnel.

3.7 Meetings with MANEB

On June 13, Drs Rossman and Ndlovu and Mr. Lee had a meeting with Mr Mathew Matemba, Executive Director of MANEB. He provided us with an overview of his vision for building capacity at MANEB. He indicated that there will be a need to revisit the needs assessment conducted by Dr Odharo in the light of training conducted during the year and the possibility of additional funding for MANEB activities. Mr. Matemba also stated his pleasure at having two MANEB employees selected into the next UMass Master's degree cohort. He also stated his intent to enroll at least two, and possibly three, of his staff in Chancellor College's redesigned master's degree in testing and measurement, which is scheduled to begin in September/October, 2003.

3.8 M.Ed. Research Dissemination Conference

On June 19, 2003 a research dissemination conference was held in Chancellor College's Little Theater. The conference was an opportunity for the first-cohort M.Ed. candidates to share the results of their master's research and theses. The conference was attended by Vice Chancellor Rubadiri, Principal Moto, the University Registrar, Dean Msiska, Mr. Matemba (Executive Director, MANEB), the Deputy Executive Director of MANEB, several other MANEB representatives, Dr. Rossman (UMass), Mr. Lee (UMass), Dr. Ndlovu (UMass), Chancellor College faculty members, UMass doctoral candidates, and the new cohort of M.Ed. candidates. The presentations were well received and there were excellent questions from the floor. See Annex A for the conference agenda.



UMass/UPIC ADA Research Dissemination Conference

3.9 M.Ed. Graduation Ceremony

During the afternoon of June 19, 2003, the University of Malawi and the University of Massachusetts Amherst jointly organized a graduation ceremony for the 10 first-cohort M.Ed. students. The ceremony was held in the Great Hall at Chancellor College. The ceremony was officiated by Professors Rubadiri and Rossman. It was attended by the Deputy Minister of Education, USAID/Malawi Mission Director, Ministry officials, MANEB Executive Director, Chancellor College Faculty, graduates' families, the UPIC ADA Ed.D. candidates, and the UPIC ADA newly selected second cohort of M.Ed.s. Professor Rossman, Professor Rubadiri, Mr Yochelson and the Deputy Minister all pointed out to the role the project is playing in the development of education in Malawi. The graduation was followed by a reception in the Senior Common Room hosted by the UMass-UPIC-ADA Project.



Dr. Rossman representing the UMass Chancellor



The Deputy Minister of Education



The Graduates!!!



Vice Chancellor Rubadiri

3.10 *New M.Ed. Cohort Orientation*

On June 20th, an orientation was held for the eight new candidates selected for the UMass Master's degree program. A representative from the Government of Malawi was there to discuss the training bond they have to sign. After carefully going over the forms and answering any questions, each candidate signed the training bond and the representative of GoM returned with them to Lilongwe. Since Chris Kaliu, USAID training officer, was unable to attend, Dr. Rossman went over the visa applications and explained the process to the candidates. The applications, along with revised CVs, were completed during the orientation, and were delivered to USAID/Malawi a few days later. A PowerPoint presentation was shown by Mr. Lee and Dr. Rossman with pictures of UMass, their colleagues in class, and other social and academic aspects of life at UMass. Living arrangements and financial arrangements were discussed, and were expounded upon by Mr. Bob Chulu, a current Ed.D. candidate, who was able to contribute additional insights and recommendations.

3.11 *Update on UMass Graduates*

The following chart lists the current status of the UMass ADA M.Ed. graduates, including any current positions held and promotions received:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Previous position</i>	<i>Current position</i>	<i>Action/comments</i>
Bob Chulu	Staff Associate, Chancellor College	Lecturer, Chancellor College	Promoted – now can teach both graduate and undergraduate courses
Jack Chalimba	Principal examinations officer, MANEB	Principal examinations officer, MANEB	Received two salary increments
Leah Kaira	Secondary school teacher, Lilongwe Girls Secondary School	Secondary school teacher, Lilongwe Girls Secondary School	Has applied for position of Research Officer with MANEB
Josephine Mkandawire	Senior Methods Advisor, MoEST – EMAS – Headquarters	Senior Methods Advisor, MoEST – EMAS – Headquarters	No promotion
Ken Ndala	Senior Planning Officer, Shire Highlands Division	Planning Officer, MoEST – Planning Division – Headquarters	Posted to headquarters; named liaison with donor agencies upon return

Maxwell Nkhokwe	Division Planning Officer, Southwest Education Division (Blantyre)	Planning Officer, MoEST – Planning Division – Headquarters	Posted to headquarters
Dyce Nkhoma	Senior Planning Officer, Chiradzulu District	Budget Officer, MoEST – Southeast Division (Zomba)	Posted to Division office
Martha Nyongani	Lecturer, Lilongwe Teacher Training College	District Education Manager, Lilongwe East District	Promoted to DEM upon selection to MEd program
Chokocha Selemani-Mbewe	Lecturer, Domasi College of Education	Dean of the Faculty of Education, Domasi College of Education	Posted to Lecturer in Education then promoted to Dean of the Faculty (P7 to P5)
Abraham Sineta	District Education Manager, Zomba Rural	District Education Manager, Zomba Rural	No promotion

3.12 *Planned Activities in Malawi for the Next Quarter*

Planned Activities for Quarter 9 include the approval by the Chancellor College Faculty Senate of both the PPL and T&M degree structure and content. The two second-cohort Ed.D. candidates, as well as the eight newly-selected second-cohort M.Ed. candidates, will fly to Massachusetts in late August to begin courses at UMass. The four first-cohort Ed.D. students will remain in Malawi to conduct research and gather data for their dissertations. It is anticipated that the regional office in Botswana will approve the UMass request for a budget revision, in which case further needs assessments will be conducted with MANEB and the Planning Division of the Ministry to ascertain the best ways in which to utilize the newly approved capacity-development funds.

4. **Activities and Progress at UMass**

4.1 *Academic Courses for the Doctoral Candidates*

The six doctoral candidates at UMass successfully completed their courses for the Spring 2003 semester. Below are the titles of the courses that each candidate was enrolled in during the quarter:

Name	Courses During Spring 2003 (Jan-May)
COHORT I	
Elias Chakwera – T&M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advances in Item Response Theory • Large Scale Data Analysis • Advanced Validity Theory
Fritz Kadyoma – PPL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participatory Action Research • Research Design for International Education
Dafter Khembo – T&M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advances in Item Response Theory • Advanced Validity Theory • Large Scale Data Analysis
Samson MacJessie-Mbewe – PPL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic Management • Research Design for International Education

COHORT II	
Bob Chulu – T&M	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advances in Item Response Theory • Advanced Validity Theory • Large Scale Data Analysis • Hierarchical Linear Modeling
Maxwell Nkhokwe – PPL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative Approaches to Education for Development • Introduction to Geographic Information Systems • Strategic Management • Strategies for Institutional Change

4.2 *Completion of Comprehensive Examinations and Dissertation Proposals*

The four first-cohort doctoral candidates successfully defended their comprehensive examinations during Quarter 8. For both of the programs in PPL and T&M the comprehensive examinations consist of two or three journal-quality papers that are publicly presented and defended before the candidate's academic advisors. The UMass academic community is also invited. Following the presentations the advisors and the audience are free to ask questions and challenge the research findings of the candidates. All four candidates presented their research and defended their findings in a superb manner. In fact, one new faculty member commented that she wished her own "comps" had been as well done as those of the Malawi participants.

The titles of the comprehensive examination papers for each first-cohort Ed.D. candidate were:

Elias Chakwera:

1. Review of literature for content validity of high-stakes achievement
2. Investigating generalizability of domain independent MSCE history examinations across topics and raters
3. Evaluating content validity using incomplete data designs



<p>Fritz Kadyoma</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Towards educational quality: The place of continuing professional development of teachers in school effectiveness and school improvement traditions 2. Developing a comprehensive guidance and counseling program for Malawi primary schools: Lesson from guidance and counseling models in the USA 	
<p>Dafter Khembo:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Standard setting procedures in high-stakes examinations 2. Evaluation of content validity of a grade eight physical science test 3. Applying IRT and DIF analyses to the 2000 MSCE English multiple-choice items 	
<p>Samson MacJessie-Mbewe</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The relationship between education and rural communities: How can we foster it? 2. The relationship between primary education and rural communities: The case of Malawi 	

Following the successful completion of their comprehensive examinations each of the four first-cohort doctoral candidates prepared a dissertation proposal that detailed the research questions and data gathering mechanisms for their doctoral dissertations. Each of the four proposals were successfully

approved by the candidates' academic advisors. Dissertation research will take place in Malawi during Quarters 9 and 10.

4.3 *Chancellor College's PPL Degree - Design & Development of Course Modules*

As stated in Quarterly Report No. 7, the Chancellor College PPL Steering Committee was to meet early in Quarter 8 to finalize the courses and sequencing for the PPL degree. Following the meeting, various experts were delegated the responsibility to design the first draft of the course outlines. The UMass team had either full or partial responsibility for the following courses:

- Issues in Education and Development
- Issues in Education Policy
- Leadership and Management
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Advanced Research Methods
- Leadership and Management Skills
- Program Design

Project staff and the PPL doctoral candidates met regularly to discuss the course outlines, steps for completing them, and to assign individuals or teams that would take primary responsibility for drafting the outlines. The UMass PPL team regularly reviewed each other's progress, shared outlines with colleagues and stakeholders in Malawi, and provided feedback on outlines developed by Malawian colleagues.

Following the design of the draft outlines, a workshop was held at Chancellor College to present the details of each of the courses and to receive feedback from the committee. Details of the workshop are in section 3.7 of this report. UMass team members, in collaboration with Chancellor College and other stakeholders, will make final revisions to the course outlines and submit them for CC faculty senate review during the next quarter.

4.4 *Chancellor College's Degree in Testing & Measurement - Preparation of Course Outlines*

As indicated in Section 3.4, Dr. Eugene Gonzalez, in collaboration with Dr. Zoani, completed the course outlines for the degree in Testing and Measurement. The revised course content and structure were previously approved by the Faculty of Education. The revised course outlines will be presented to the Faculty Senate during the next quarter. Since the degree in Testing and Measurement is already established, and the revised outlines mostly reflect an updating of the curriculum, methodologies and assessment practices, it is expected that the course does not need to go through the entire approval cycle, but needs only to be submitted to the Faculty Senate for informational purposes.

4.5 *Participation at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting*

In April, 2003, T&M doctoral candidates Elias Chakwera, Dafter Khembo and Bob Chulu attended the annual meetings of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) in Chicago, Illinois. The theme was "Accountability for Educational Quality: Shared Responsibility".

4.6 *UMass Graduation Ceremony for Bob Chulu and Maxwell Nkhokwe*

In May 2003 Bob Chulu and Maxwell Nkhokwe participated in the UMass commencement exercises. Both received their Master's degrees. They were able to participate in the ceremony since they had remained in Amherst to begin their doctoral studies and were still in residence when the event was held.

A similar graduation ceremony was held in Malawi in June (see section 3.9) to honor all of the Master's graduates since eight of them had already returned to Malawi in December 2002 and were unable to participate in the UMass commencement program.

4.7 *Procuring Textbooks and Digital Projectors for Chancellor College*

Project staff at UMass collaborated with Chancellor College's Faculty of Education to procure textbooks and two digital projectors, both of which are primarily intended to enhance the instructional capabilities of faculty involved in the delivery of the two new Master's degrees. The funds to purchase the books and projectors were provided by Chancellor College, who had received funding from USAID/Malawi for this purpose. During their visit to Malawi in June, Dr. Rossman and Mr. Lee carried the two projectors and the first 25 textbooks to Zomba and handed them over to the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Dr. Msiska. Approximately 150 more textbooks will be ordered and carried/shipped in the near future.

4.8 *Drafting of Year 3 Annual Workplan*

The Annual Workplan for Year 3 of the project – June 2003 to June 2004 – was drafted and shared with partners in Malawi, including Chancellor College, MANEB, the Planning Division of the MOEST, and USAID/Malawi. Comments and feedback from partners was incorporated into the draft and a final version was written that will be submitted to USAID/Malawi early in the next quarter for their approval.

4.9 *Planned Activities at UMass for the Next Quarter*

Quarter 9 at UMass will be largely comprised of preparation activities for the entrance of the eight second-cohort Master's candidates and the return of the two second-cohort Doctoral candidates. Project staff will be responsible for ensuring that all of the logistical issues around their arrival, including transport, accommodation, orientation, and registration within the university are properly arranged. As the quarter comes to an end in mid-September, the new Master's participants should all be on campus and enrolled in the first semester of their programs, while the returning Doctoral candidates will begin the second semester of their programs.

5. **Challenges**

The Advanced Degree Activity continues to make good progress towards its goals of building human and institutional capacity within Malawi's education sector. There are, however, a few challenges facing the project.

First, project staff are very concerned about the projected timeline for procuring visas for the ADA participants planned to attend courses at UMass beginning in September 2003. Despite efforts made by project staff and partners to accelerate the selection process of the second cohort of Master's candidates, it appears that visas may not be available in time for the participants to be in Amherst for the start of classes. It also appears that the second-cohort doctoral candidates, who were previously on visas for their Master's programs and need to obtain new visas for their doctoral programs, will also not receive their new visas in time for the beginning of the academic semester. USAID/Malawi seems to be doing their best to obtain the visas in a timely manner, but states that the bureaucratic process can take up to three months to complete. Therefore, the project has been advised by USAID/Malawi to not purchase airline tickets until the visa process is completed. The uncertainty surrounding the visas presents the project with two possible problems. First, if visas *do* arrive in time, but at a later date (for example, mid-August), our travel agency has told us that airline ticket availability and costs will be unpredictable, and there is a good chance we will be unable to find available seats on such short notice. Second, if visas *do not* arrive in

time (or if no space is found on the airlines), then the project will be faced with the possibility of having to delay the delivery of the program. UMass has an “add-drop” date, after which the participants cannot enroll in classes, therefore the project would like to advise USAID/Malawi that if we cannot get the 10 participants to UMass by September 16, 2003 then it will be necessary to postpone their arrival until at least January 2004, and possibly September 2004. The programmatic and financial consequences of delaying the program would be quite unfortunate. Core courses, which are only offered once every three semesters, would be forfeited; non-refundable deposits placed on accommodations would be forfeited; non-refundable university enrollment fees and health fees would be forfeited; Mr. Chulu and Mr. Nkhokwe would have their graduation dates extended by an extra semester. We hope that USAID/Malawi understands the severity of this problem and will do all in its power to facilitate the rapid processing of the visas for the 10 participants expected to arrive at UMass in late August.

We would also like to reiterate a few of our concerns from the last quarterly report:

Second, it is becoming clear that Chancellor College will be under-staffed once the new degree in T&M becomes operational. T&M will begin in October, 2003 with only Dr. Zoani employed as a full-time CC faculty member in residence. Bob Chulu will not be available to contribute to the program until he graduates in 2006. UMass staff have been strongly encouraging Chancellor College to explore ways of utilizing returned Master’s graduates. The proposed “modularization” of the degree programs would allow for Master’s graduates, and other experts, to be utilized on short-term contracts. This is only a temporary solution, however. We believe that the MOEST needs to provide additional faculty resources to CC in order to make this degree fully sustainable and successful. We are very pleased with the progress being made to increase staffing for the degree in PPL. The hiring of Mr. Lawrence Haji to teach educational financing and economics is to be applauded. Also, it is anticipated that the hiring of a lecturer in educational planning will be forthcoming. We hope that similar faculty resources can be added to the T&M program.

We believe that the two new degrees need to “kick off with a bang!” It is extremely important to the success and reputation of the degree that things go right the first time around, including the enrollment of a highly competent and well-respected first cohort of participants. In an effort to ensure the enrollment of such a cohort, we have proposed to USAID/Malawi that they speak with other donors to encourage them to sponsor participants to enroll into the degree programs. We also propose that USAID consider offering full or partial sponsorships to the first, and perhaps also the second, cohorts enrolled into the degree programs.

6. Deliverables and Other Documents

Deliverable	Projected Date	Status
Annual Workplan		
▪ Year 1 (June 2001 – June 2002)	August, 2001	<i>Submitted August 7, 2001 and approved September 12, 2001</i>
▪ Year 2 (June 2002 – June 2003)	August, 2002	<i>Submitted August 21, 2002</i>
▪ Year 3 (June 2003 – June 2004)	July, 2003	

Monitoring & Evaluation Plan		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Years 1-5 	August, 2001	<i>Submitted August 7, 2001. Approved September 12, 2001</i>
Monitoring & Evaluation Results		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 (June 2001 – June 2002) 	July, 2002	<i>Submitted July 12, 2002</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 2 (June 2002 – June 2003) 	July, 2003	<i>Submitted July 12, 2003</i>
Quarterly Reports		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #1 (June 12 – September 12, 2001) 	Oct. 12, 2001	<i>Submitted October 4, 2001</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #2 (September 12 – December 12, 2001) 	Jan. 12, 2002	<i>Submitted Jan. 8, 2002</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #3 (December 12, 2001 – March 12, 2002) 	April 12, 2002	<i>Submitted April 12, 2002</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #4 (March 12 – June 12, 2002) 	July 12, 2002	<i>Submitted July 12, 2002</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #5 (June 12 – September 12, 2002) 	Oct. 12, 2002	<i>Submitted October 28, 2002</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #6 (Sept. 12 – Dec. 12, 2002) 	Jan. 12, 2003	<i>Submitted January 18, 2003</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #7 (Dec 12, 2003 – March 12, 2003) 	April 14, 2003	<i>Submitted April 14, 2003</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QR #8 (March 12 – June 12, 2003) 	June 12, 2003	<i>Submitted June 12, 2003</i>

8. Monitoring and Evaluation Results for Year 2

SO9: Improved quality and efficiency of basic education.

Primary goal: To build the human resource and institutional capacity at Chancellor College to offer post-graduate degrees in Policy, Planning & Leadership and Testing & Measurement.

Result 1: Malawi educators trained in Master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Massachusetts.

indicator	year 2 target	results for year 2	evaluation	commentary
up to 30 advanced degree students trained by UMass	10-12 Master's graduated (cohort 1); doctoral students completed 36 credits	10 Master's graduated (2/03); 2 selected to continue in doctoral program; four original doctoral students completed all course work, sat for comprehensive exams, and received approval for dissertation research	results achieved for Master's cohort 1; results for doctoral students exceeded targets	UMass faculty evaluations judge the Master's students (cohort 1) and the doctoral students as "among the best they have ever taught"; doctoral student progress exceeded targets

Result 2: Advanced degree in Policy, Planning & Leadership implemented at Chancellor College.

indicators	year 2 target	results for year 2	evaluation	commentary
strategic plan for new degree developed	plan refined	plan refined through PP&L committee; plan for marketing new degree in process; plan for stakeholder workshop set for September; 2 study tours conducted by Chancellor College faculty; 3 technical workshops conducted for Chancellor College faculty	results exceeded targets due to workshops offered by UMass and through capacity building grant from USAID	with the infusion of a capacity building grant from USAID, the PP&L committee has taken study tour trips to So Africa and Tanzania; course outline development is well under way; UMass-Chancellor College workshop on refining course outlines very successful

curriculum designed and instructional materials developed	curriculum and instructional materials produced	course outlines in process of being finalized with a July 1 target date; curriculum materials in process of being gathered	results achieved	plan for broad-based participation has been finalized to include stakeholders in the private sector and other potential consumers of the new degree; UMass will continue to bring books and other materials for course development and refinement
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Result 3: Existing advanced degree in Testing & Measurement strengthened at Chancellor College.

Indicators	year 2 target	results for year 2	evaluation	commentary
existing curriculum revised and modified	new instructional materials developed as needed	existing curriculum reviewed by two UMass faculty members; revisions in course content proposed; revisions in sequencing approved by Chancellor College faculty; new cohort selection for September start-up of T&M degree at Chancellor College has taken place – 6 candidates will enroll in the degree	results achieved	implementation of this result will be strengthened with the return of the doctoral students in T&M to Malawi to augment the faculty resources at Chancellor College
student admissions procedures developed	already in place	no action required	NA	NA
students selected, admitted, and enrolled in courses	cohort 2 of new students graduates	cohort of 6 students enrolled in existing degree program in February 2002; will complete degrees in February 2004; new cohort selected to begin September 2003	results partially achieved	results were delayed by financial challenges at Chancellor College; the cohort to enroll in the revitalized degree will begin in September 2003

Secondary goal: To build human resources and institutional capacity at MANEB and the Planning Division of MOEST to serve the assessment and planning needs of basic education.

Result: To strengthen professional/technical expertise within the Malawi National Examinations Board and the planning division of MOEST.

Indicators	year 2 target	results for year 2	evaluation	commentary
up to 10-12 MANEB staff professional skills upgraded through advanced degrees	up to 5-6 Master's candidates graduated (cohort 1)	4 Master's candidates graduated (1 from MANEB); 2 MANEB officers selected for cohort 2 of UMass Master's degree; 2-3 MANEB officers selected for re-vitalized MED in Testing & Measurement at Chancellor College	results partially achieved	of the 6 T&M Master's graduates, 1 is an officer at MANEB; 1 doctoral student is an officer at MANEB; 2 additional officers have been selected to participate in Master's cohort 2; 2-3 officers will participate in the MED in T&M at Chancellor College
up to 10-12 MOEST staff professional skills upgraded through advanced degrees	up to 5-6 Master's candidates graduated (cohort 1)	6 Master's candidates graduated; all represent MoEST, 3 from the Planning Division; 1 MED graduate selected to continue in the doctoral program; 5 selected for cohort 2, 4 represent MoEST	results achieved	while not all participants are from the Planning Division, there is strong representation from that division; MoEST officers from DEOs and Division Offices are among the graduates and those selected for cohort 2
professional skills upgraded through participation in technical seminars	1-2 technical seminars delivered jointly by staff from MANEB, MoEST and UMass	3 technical seminars offered at MANEB; no seminars offered at the Planning Division	results achieved with MANEB; not achieved with the Planning Division	seminars very well received by MANEB officers; plans underway for technical training at the Planning Division through EQUIP 2 and UMass budget augmentation

Other Results:

Building relationships with Malawian institutions:

Because of the strong work provided by the first ADA STA, Dr Johnson Odharo, especially in developing the physical infrastructure for the project, over Year 2, the new STA, Dr Khehla Ndlovu, has been able to focus on building relationships with the partners and facilitating progress towards results. The partners seem quite pleased with the new STA who has been able to deepen the relationships already in place. Year 2, in fact, has witnessed a substantial improvement in collaboration among the partners. This is attributable to the strengths of the new STA; to

UMass' delivery of technical seminars to both MANEB and Chancellor College; and especially to the capacity building grant to Chancellor College from USAID. This grant has enabled faculty to go on study tours to learn about other similar PP&L degrees in Southern Africa, to augment the teaching resources, and to bring modern technology (PowerPoint projectors) to the faculty. In all, Year 2 has seen deeper trust and commitment among all partners.

Physical infrastructure:

The UMass Master's and doctoral students raised a substantial amount of funds to paint and upgrade electricity in the classrooms of the Faculty of Education. This was an entirely voluntary activity on their part. A formal ceremony celebrated this philanthropic gesture, an unintended, quite positive outcome of the project.

Other philanthropic activities:

In another unintended outcome, a UMass doctoral student working in a primary school near the university was invited to receive, on behalf of Malawi, a heifer from Heifer International. Students and families of this primary school wanted to donate the cow after learning about education in Malawi from the doctoral student. Working through one of the recent MEd graduates – DEM Zomba Rural – a primary school was identified to be the recipient of the training that accompanies the heifer.

In yet another unexpected philanthropic event, an MEd graduate appealed to his colleagues and friends at UMass to help defray the considerable costs of medical attention for his wife. This appeal raised a substantial amount of money to help him out (over \$4000US).

These three events show clearly the mutually beneficial, unintended consequences of the project.

Annex A

**PROGRAM
RESEARCH DISSEMINATION CONFERENCE
BY UPIC-ADA MASTER'S GRADUATES**

**UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI
CHANCELLOR COLLEGE**

**19 JUNE 2003
8:30 – 12:45**

Programme Director: Professor Gretchen Rossman

- 8:30 – 8:45 Welcome
- 8:45 – 9:00 Overview
- 9:00 – 9:45 Policy Issues in Testing & Measurement
- 9:00 – 9:15 Chokocha Selemani-Mbewe
*Knowledge, attitude and practice of classroom assessment:
Implications for the implementation of school-based assessment in Malawi*
- 9:15 – 9:30 Leah Kaira
Malawi teachers' knowledge of and attitude towards standardized tests
- 9:30 – 9:45 Discussion and Questions
- 9:45 – 10:30 Subject-Based Issues in Testing & Measurement
- 9:45 – 10:00 Bob Chulu
*Evaluating the content validity of the Malawi School Certificate
of Education physical science examination*
- 10:00 – 10:15 Jack Chalimba
*Consistency of measurement across four subtests of the Malawi School Certificate of
Education English Examination*
- 10:15-10:30 Discussion and Questions
- 10:30 – 11:00 Tea Break
- 11:00 – 11:45 Policy and Planning Issues in the Malawian Education System
- 11:00 – 11:15 Josephine Mkandawire
*The growth of private secondary schools in Malawi: Implications on the registration and
quality monitoring*
- 11:15 – 11:30 Maxwell Nkhokwe
Improving Malawi's Education Management Information System (EMIS)
- 11:30 – 11:45 Discussion and Questions
- 11:45 – 12:00 Vote of Thanks and Closure