



## NationsUniversity Alumni Awards for 2023

### Celebrating Excellence and Leadership at NationsUniversity!

We are delighted to extend our warmest congratulations to the outstanding recipients of the 2023 NationsUniversity Awards! Their remarkable dedication and exemplary achievements have truly distinguished them within our academic community, embodying the spirit of excellence we strive for at NationsUniversity.

Additionally, it is with great pleasure that we announce the appointment of our esteemed 2024-2028 NUA Ambassador! These individuals have been chosen to represent NationsUniversity with integrity and passion, serving as beacons of leadership and inspiration within our global network.

Join us in celebrating these remarkable individuals, whose commitment to excellence and leadership exemplify the values at the heart of NationsUniversity. Here's to their continued success and contributions to our vibrant academic community!

#### 2023 Award Winners:

|   |                                      |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Undergraduate Alumnus of the Year</i>  | Curtis Abraham, Dominica             |
| <i>Undergraduate Alumnus of the Year</i>  | Jaki Mabuka, South Africa            |
| <i>Graduate Alumnus of the Year</i>       | Rolando S. Improso Jr, Philippines   |
| <i>Overcomer Award</i>                    | Benjamin Brooks, USA, Alabama        |
| <i>Change Your World</i>                  | Mauricio Vanegas Carvajal, Nicaragua |
| <i>Sloan Lifetime of Kingdom Services</i> | Enoch Boamah Frimpong, Ghana         |
| <i>Sloan Lifetime of Kingdom Services</i> | Steven Mathews, USA, North Carolina  |

#### 2024-2028 NUA Ambassadors:

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <i>Asia Region</i>                           | Marc Bernard Gresset and Rolando S. Improso Jr.               |
| <i>Central Africa Region</i>                 | Winston Chirwa and McClintock AcSmhour                        |
| <i>East Africa Region</i>                    | Kamau Muturi and Abel Opunga                                  |
| <i>Europe Region</i>                         | Edmund Prizeman   |
| <i>Middle East/North Africa</i>              | Emad Issak  |
| <i>North America 1</i>                       | Benjamin Brooks   |
| <i>North America 2</i>                       | Eric Fishon   |
| <i>North America Released Prison</i>         | Joseph Myers  |
| <i>South &amp; Central America/Caribbean</i> | Mauricio Vanegas Carvajal                                     |
| <i>Southern Africa</i>                       | Gibson Muzhombwe  |
| <i>West Africa</i>                           | McIntosh Chimeziri, Enoch Boamah Frimpong, & Michael Yaw Tano |

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**CHANGE  
YOUR  
WORLD**

## Rolando S. Improso Jr., Alumnus of the Year—Graduate 2023

### From Online Discovery to Ministry Impact



#### NATIONSU IN THE PHILIPPINES

The amazing story of Rolando Improso has been featured before in and earlier *Partners* issue. We are glad to announce that he is now the winner of the NationsUniversity Graduate Alumnus of the Year, 2023.



In the realm of online education, the journey often begins with a simple search, but for many, the discovery of NationsUniversity (NU) proves to be a life-changing moment. For one individual, this revelation led to a profound transformation both spiritually and academically.

Having completed a Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies followed by a Master of Theological Studies, the decision to pursue a Master of Divinity became a natural progression, driven by the significant impact of his NU education on his life and ministry. Rooted in a holistic Christian worldview, his studies at NU encouraged a deeper exploration of faith while maintaining a firm foundation in Christ.

However, the path was fraught with challenges. Balancing studies across three different countries—the Philippines, Kenya, and Uganda—while actively engaged in pastoral and cross-cultural ministry tested his resolve. There were moments of doubt and fatigue, yet through the support of a fellow missionary and the encouragement of his spouse, he found the strength to persevere.

The culmination of his studies at NU marked not just an academic milestone but a testament to resilience and faith. Armed with newfound knowledge and practical skills, he returned to his ministry in Uganda with renewed purpose. Drawing from his own experiences as a distance learner, they spearheaded the development of a Bible school program tailored to meet the unique needs of his local community.

Now serving as a Bible school coordinator and teacher at Abounding Grace Bible Institute, Rolando seamlessly integrates the best of both online and face-to-face learning experiences, enriching the educational journey for his students. Moreover, his ministry has been profoundly impacted, empowered by a deeper understanding of scripture and practical ministry skills acquired through their NU education.

Through the challenges and sacrifices, the journey with NU has been validated. Equipped to share the gospel and train the next generation of ministers, students like Rolando stand as a testament to the transformative power of online education in service to the Kingdom, a living testament to the influence of NU's vision and mission.



# Jaki Mabuka, Alumnus of the Year—Undergraduate 2023

## From Missionary Work to Ministerial Education: Student's Journey with NU



Jaki Mabuka's story is one of dedication, faith, **NATIONSU IN ZIMBABWE** and the pursuit of knowledge. Born in Zimbabwe and now residing in South Africa, Jaki has dedicated his life to spreading the word of God as a minister and missionary. With a marriage blessed with two children, Jaki's journey took a new turn when he discovered the opportunity for education at NationsUniversity (NU).



Having served as a minister since 2001 and engaged in missionary activities across several African countries, Jaki's desire to deepen his understanding of God's word led him to NU. However, financial constraints initially hindered his earlier pursuit until a friend introduced him to the university, offering him the chance to receive a quality education at no cost.

Currently assisting a newly established church in Durban, Jaki aims to leverage his education from NU to raise up local leaders. His aspiration to attain all the degrees NU offers reflects his commitment to continuous learning and service to his community. He envisions monthly gatherings where he can share his knowledge and help others interpret the Word effectively.

Despite facing challenges like South Africa's inconsistent electrical service issues and balancing family responsibilities with studies, Jaki persevered. The support of NU's professors and the quality of education received have been instrumental in overcoming these obstacles. Even a friend, a lecturer at the University of Botswana, was impressed by the caliber of NU's materials, affirming its status as a provider of a sound biblical university education.

Jaki's journey exemplifies the transformative power of biblical education, not only for personal growth but also for empowering communities. Through his dedication and the support of institutions like NU, individuals like Jaki can continue to make a profound impact in their spheres of influence, spreading knowledge, faith, and hope to those they serve.

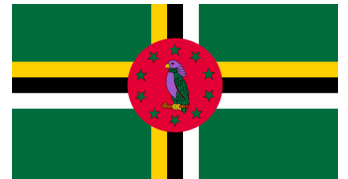
# Curtis Abraham, Alumnus of the Year—Undergraduate 2023

## Navigating Spiritual Waters: A Preacher's Journey in Dominica



In the heart of the Caribbean lies Dominica, a vibrant island where culture, faith, and nature intertwine. For one preacher, Curtis Abraham, this lush backdrop became the canvas for a profound spiritual journey marked by challenges, growth, and unwavering determination.

**NATIONSU IN DOMINICA**



Amidst the rhythmic dance of sun and rain, this preacher embarked on a mission to establish a faith-focused Christian community. Yet, the journey was not without its trials. Skepticism and resistance loomed large in a populace shaped by diverse faiths and cultures. Despite these obstacles, Curtis persisted, grappling with the task of nurturing faith amid skepticism and harmonizing differences into similarities.

Driven by a thirst for deeper understanding, Curtis sought academic enrichment at NationsUniversity (NU). With the difficulty of balancing studies with ministry and family commitments, Curtis' voyage was steeped in challenges. Yet, through resilience and determination, he emerged victorious, equipped with enhanced biblical knowledge and critical-thinking skills essential for 21st-century ministry.

Being married and with many ministry responsibilities, Curtis' academic learning transformed the nature of his service. Biblical study armed him with a deeper understanding of biblical texts, and his counseling became an integral part of ministry, enriching interactions with the faith community.

Completing a Bachelor's in Religious Studies marked the culmination of this odyssey, a testament to perseverance and dedication. Grateful for the transformative experience, Curtis hopes to share the blessings of NU with others, affirming its status as a beacon of academic excellence.

In Dominica's enchanting landscape, amidst its rich tapestry of culture and faith, one preacher's journey stands as a testament to the power of determination, resilience, and the pursuit of knowledge in service to the divine.

# NationsUniversity Graduates December 2023

## Certificate In Biblical Studies

Lucia Onneile Serai, *South Africa*  
Sean. F. Franke, *United States*  
Amy L. Selle, *United States*

## Certificate in Christian Ministry

Steven Ndine, *Kenya*

## Bachelor of Religious Studies

Akwasi Kusi, *Ghana*  
Stephen M Ndine, *Kenya*  
Abel Eyibio Umoh, *Nigeria*  
Michael D. Aleck, *United States*  
Cary D. Hartman, *United States*



## Graduate Certificate in Biblical Studies

Pius Muiru Mwangi, *Kenya*  
Aaron Quinlan Smith, *Serbia*  
Jaki Mabuka, *South Africa*  
Kristen Turner, *United States*  
David A. Wheately, *United States*  
George Mwape Musendeka, *Zambia*

## Master of Theological Studies

Eric S. Fishon, *Algeria*  
*B.L.S., University of Maine at Presque Isle*  
Emilio Alfeu Quissanga, *Angola*  
*Bachelor of Finance Technology, Association of International Education*  
Abel Nyapinda Opunga, *Kenya*  
*B.S., Lee University*  
McClintock AcSmhour, *Malawi*  
*B.Th., African Christian College*  
Ngalibi Y. Samson, *Nigeria*  
*B.A., All Nations For Christ Bible Institute International*

Kolton Blanda, *United States*  
*B.R.S., NationsUniversity*

Steven Hugh Mathews, *United States*  
*D.Min., Liberty University*

Robert Lee McCain Jr., *United States*  
*D.Min., Andersonville Theological Seminary*

Joseph Carl Quao, *South Africa*  
*Bachelor of Public Administration, MANCOSA*

Kohlwani Dube, *Zimbabwe*  
*B.R.S., NationsUniversity*

## Master of Divinity

Igwe Thomas Onyebuchi, *Nigeria*  
*M.T.S., NationsUniversity*

Gibson Muzhombwe, *Zimbabwe*  
*M.T.S., NationsUniversity*

SAVE THE DATE

**Mac Lynn**

**90 FOR 90!**

NationsUniversity  
Annual Fundraising Dinner  
6pm April 25, 2024

## Upcoming Calendar Events!

- February 9 – M.A.P.S. Meeting- Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students
- February 19 – President’s Day
- March 8 - M.A.P.S. Meeting- Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students
- March 15 – Apply with Advisor for May 1st Graduation
- March 29 – Good Friday – As Identified on the common US Calendar (Dates Vary Annually)
- April 1-5 - NationsU Spring Break (Dates Vary Annually)
- April 12 – M.A.P.S. Meeting-Monthly Ambassador Prayer with Students
- April 15 – Deadline for Completing Academic Graduation Requirements and Paying Grad Fee
- April 25 - NationsU Spring Benefit Dinner
- May 1 – NationsU Spring Graduation Day

**Nations University Alumni Association**

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## The Voice of Nations

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