



African Leadership Bridge Announces Expanded Partnership With The University of Texas at Austin

Nonprofit partners with UT Austin to provide higher education for exceptional African students

June 1, 2014 (Austin, TX) – The African Leadership Bridge (ALB), a nonprofit organization that provides scholarships to promising African students who wish to attend university in the United States, today announced a significantly expanded partnership with the University of Texas at Austin (UT). After welcoming its newest ALB student, Takalani Mahliva in Fall of 2013, The International Office at UT Austin has now pledged significant financial support to ALB, which will enable the organization to welcome and provide six scholarships over the next five years to academically exceptional students from Africa who are admitted to UT Austin.

In 2011, ALB secured its first major supporter and university partner, Oklahoma State University (OSU). ALB's partnership with OSU served as the organization's first step toward sustainability and enabled the nonprofit to fulfill its mission of empowering young African leaders through education. By agreeing to provide scholarships for 25 ALB students by 2025, OSU bolstered the confidence of ALB supporters and their secondary school partner in Africa, the African Leadership Academy.

The decision by the International Office at UT Austin to provide support for the education of five additional ALB students is another major step forward for the organization. Moreover, ALB plans to raise additional funds to cover tuition, living expenses and related costs for its scholarship beneficiaries in order to reach their goal of bringing two students from Africa to the United States each year—one of whom will attend OSU and one of whom will attend UT Austin.

Dr. Teri Albrecht, Director of International Student and Scholar Services at UT Austin noted: "UT is excited to welcome these amazing young leaders to enrich our campus and classroom environment. We welcome the opportunity to expand our relationship with African Leadership Bridge." ALB's Founder and President, Mr. Rick Reeder added: "ALB is proud to partner with the University of Texas to educate the next generation of African leaders, further proving that what starts at UT does indeed change the world."

To learn more about ALB's mission, students, and how to participate, visit <http://africanleadershipbridge.org>. To learn more about the ALB/UT partnership, please contact Mr. Rick Reeder at (512) 924-7300 or rick.reeder@gm.com.