

# A tribute to Dr. Steve Graham

The departure of Dr. Steve Graham will be felt by many; students of the College of Medicine, staff in the Paediatrics Department, patients in the paediatric ward of Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital, and staff at the Wellcome Trust. Steve came to Malawi over ten years ago as a lecturer in paediatrics in the College of Medicine, University of Malawi. Since his arrival in 1995, Steve has given himself selflessly to his work in international child health. In 2001 he was appointed as Deputy Director of the Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Trust Programme while at the same time holding positions of senior lecturer at both College of Medicine, University of Malawi and Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, and honorary consultant paediatrician at Royal Liverpool Children's hospital.



He has a long history of outstanding interest and commitment to international child health having served in a senior capacity on several international boards including as the chair of the Respiratory Disease Section of the International Union against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease. He has also worked as a consultant for the World Health Organization. Steve's passion for his work has taken him far and wide to South Africa, Thailand, Brazil, India, and Papua New Guinea. He has assisted in the development of global management guidelines in pneumonia, tuberculosis and HIV for resource poor settings. He has always strived to translate research findings into policy and practice by training different cadres of health workers. He worked with the National TB Control Programme and IUATLD. He had a pivotal role in the Bill and Melinda Gates Malawi Child Lung Health project which trained health workers from all district hospitals in Malawi, leading to improved pneumonia-case management reducing case-fatality by 50%. He has nurtured the careers of several successful undergraduates and Masters students. His research work is portrayed in numerous articles published in high impact journals authored by him.

Steve places a huge importance on dissemination and to this end has been extremely active as the Editor of the Malawi Medical Journal and Organiser of the Annual College of Medicine Research Dissemination Conference. He joined the editorial board in 1997 and rose to position of editor in 2001. Steve has been instrumental in the revival of the MMJ and during his tenure the MMJ has enjoyed regular publication and increasing popularity.

He is well known amongst the staff at Wellcome Trust as not only being compassionate and cheerful but honest and fair. Steve will also be remembered for his ease in talking to staff of different cadres, never fearful to commend or reprimand. His approach to his work, his dedication to duty, his relationships with staff, students and patients is an inspiration to us all. He will be sadly missed by one and all. It is hoped, however, that with the world becoming smaller through increased connectivity he will still contribute to the Malawi Medical Journal. The Editorial Board of the MMJ wishes him all the best in his future endeavours.

M.G.



*Malawi Liverpool Wellcome Trust Laboratories*