



Fellow Regentonians and Patrons;

First and foremost, I want to congratulate Regentonians around the world on the 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our alma mater this year. As the premier secondary school in Sierra Leone, the Sierra Leone Grammar School continues to produce responsible and contributing members to society. To celebrate this anniversary, our alumni association in the Washington, DC Metro Area embarked on several events which included fund-raising sponsored walks in September 2014 and 2015 to purchase new band instruments for the school; a successful symposium and exhibition on March 21, 2015; a 170<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Thanksgiving Service in which alumni were attired in bowties with the school colors; and reminiscences on Foundation Day, March 25, 2015. The celebrations culminates with a grand banquet on Saturday, November 28, 2015 at the Loft Ballroom in Laurel Maryland.

As I complete the final year of my 3-year term of office as President of this illustrious organization, I must thank all our patrons for their continued financial support. My sincerest appreciation to members of my executive and the other members of this association without whom I would not have been able to satisfactorily perform my duties. I am greatly indebted to members of the Past Presidents' Committee – Dr. Robert Metzger (Chair), Rev. Canon Dr. William Lewis, Dr. Bob Thomas, Mr. George Nicol, Dr. Radcliffe Thomas, and Dr. Cyrus MacFoy who have been the cornerstone of my presidency. They have assisted me in all areas of my endeavors with the association including the important amendments of the constitution.

During my presidency, I have tried to maintain the cordial relationships with other alumni associations; continued the collaboration with the alumni associations in the United Kingdom, the USA South East and West Coast Chapters with matters pertaining to the educational advancement of our alma mater. My frequent dialogue with Mr. Akiwande Lasite, Principal of our beloved Grammar School, has created closer ties and regular updated information of activities at the school.

The association's financial status continues to improve as we strive to increase our financial commitments to the school. For the School Year 2014/2015, the association donated \$7,175 to the school staff as stipends and Christmas gifts. Also, twenty (20) tuition scholarships by the association and scholarships from Regentonians and patrons amounting to \$21, 435 were awarded to deserving students. We are in the process of shipping new band instruments to the school at a cost of \$44,298 excluding the shipping cost. In this regard, I would like to thank all

Regentonians who contributed the \$170 and more towards the purchase of the new band instruments. At our Thanksgiving Service on March 21, 2015, \$3,200 (collected from Regentonians in the USA) was donated to “Doctors without Borders” to help fight the ebola crises in West Africa.

As I bid farewell to the presidency, I am appealing to Regentonians (especially young Regentonians between the ages of 20 and 50) to become more active in the association. Attending Thanksgiving services and dances alone does not bode well for a true Regentonian. As we marshal into a new era of the presidency, it is my fervent hope that the association will continue to muster support from more Regentonians and patrons.

Floreat Regentonia – God Bless Our Grammar School