

# Annual Newsletter

December 2018

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## Award Ceremony

November 2018 marked another scholarship ceremony at Addis Ababa University (AAU). CGF Special Advisor, Goshu Wolde, was present for the award ceremony. He was enthused by the student's commitment not only to their academic goals but also to their fellow man. He found in the CGF awardees a group of advocates. Women who raised their voices on behalf of peers facing unique challenges of their own - from disabled students, who they felt weren't treated equitably, to male students, who like many of them also face significant financial hardship. The awardees also expressed their gratitude for the program and made suggestions for future improvements.

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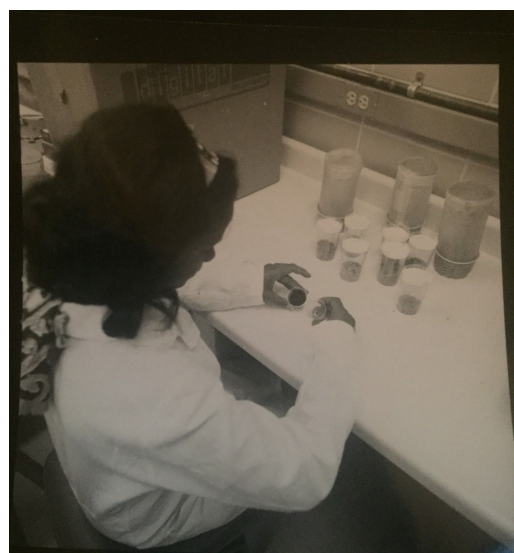
## Remembering Chaltu

*This regular column honors the memory of Dr. Gifawesen; each newsletter we ask someone to reflect on her memory.*

I recently came across these old pictures of my mother, Dr. Gifawesen. There is a certain nostalgia you feel when looking at a black and white photo. In my case, this nostalgia is mixed with a curiosity about the woman whose image the photos memorialize. You see, I didn't know her at this point in her life. At best I was a toddler when these photos were taken. My earliest memories were of a slightly older woman balancing Ph.D. studies with caring for her young children. She died when I was just 15 so I also never beheld her with the eyes of an adult.

I never got a chance to sit across the table from her, cup of coffee in hand, and hear in the first person what motivated her. I will on the other side of this life. In the meantime, I get to wonder about the young girl from the idyllic African countryside who came to Addis Ababa because she'd learned everything her small town school had to offer. I picture the young Masters student who left balmy Ethiopia for North Dakota and I want to send her a gabi, a traditional Ethiopian blanket. I marvel at the young mother who'd leave her well-rooted familial and social network to tackle a Ph.D. across the globe, in Philadelphia, with two rowdy kids in tow.

While there is much to ask, and much to know, what is certain is I am in awe of this woman. In these photos I see her tending to her first loves, science and education. I jokingly refer to myself as scientifically challenged because I didn't inherit *those* genes. I have, however, long been fascinated by people whose brains percolate with scientific theories. Friends, the great news for those of you who loved Chaltu, is that we have these type of women among us in the CGF program. Women whose passion for education and science will make a



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unique mark on this world. And what's more, **we get to be a part of their story**. Let's help the women of CGF see their dreams come alive. — **Lensi Goshu**

## CGF Board Updates

After over a decade in the role, Dr. Gobena Huluka will be stepping down as Board President. Dr. Huluka is a founding board member of CGF and has been instrumental to its success. As such, he will be staying on as both a Special Advisor to the Board and Board Treasurer. We've also asked Goshu Wolde to play a role as Special Advisor to the Board effective 2019. These exceptional men will provide advice to the new board members as they step into their roles.

Effective 2019, the CGF Board will be:

- Lensi Goshu, President
- Gulilat Tefferi, Vice-President
- Gobena Huluka, Special Advisor to the Board and Board Treasurer
- Goshu Wolde, Special Advisor to the Board
- Joee Tefferi, Auditor
- Liya Huluka, Public Relations Officer
- Ben Huluka, Secretary

For a number of years, our liaison with Addis Ababa University has been, and will continue to be, Dr. Tenagne Lemma. She is present for award ceremonies at AAU and other CGF activities and we are grateful for her consistent support and dedication to CGF.

Feel free to pose any questions about CGF's board composition, our award process, or anything else to us via [info@chaltufoundation.org](mailto:info@chaltufoundation.org).

## Donations

We are eternally grateful for your financial support. We accept online donations via paypal. You can initiate a paypal donation at our website - [www.chaltufoundation.org](http://www.chaltufoundation.org). Donations can also be made by check; make checks payable to CGF and mail to the address below.

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