

## **Gollis University -Hargeisa, Somaliland, Somalia**

Gollis University is a Community-Owned university with its main campus located in the capital city of Hargeisa, Somaliland. Established in 2004, our intent was to provide a Teaching College and very promptly upgraded to university status with a charter in 2005 expanding its scope to the teaching of Science based courses and Humanities.

**Address:** Ibrahim Khodobuur Road, Red sea area, Jigajigayar, Hargeisa Somaliland-Somalia

**Contact Information:** Email: [info@Gollisuniversity.org](mailto:info@Gollisuniversity.org); Website: [www.Gollisuniversity.org](http://www.Gollisuniversity.org)

**Enrollment: 2195 -Hargeisa Main campus only**

**Founder:** Dr. Saeed Ahmed Hassan

**President of the main campus:** Dr. Abdi H. Gass

**Awards:** The Africa Education Leadership Award

**Colors:** Blue, White, Yellow and Red

## **History**

- Gollis University was formed in 2004 as a teaching college and upgraded to full university operation in 2005 after registration and classification by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in Somaliland and also recognized by the Ministry of Education and Culture of Somalia.
- The University started as majorly science and teacher education, offering civil engineering, telecommunication engineering in 2004 but today has specialization in eleven programs faculties including humanities and science.
- The pioneer course as engineering offered affordable and quick solutions in the post-conflict Somaliland for housing, teachers, road construction and management fields.
- Many of the university's achievements and engagements with the community have shaped the country's academic and technical progress in modern Somaliland and Somalia with the relative stability attracting teaching and training personnel to meet the professional gaps.
- As key education player in the region, closely following education dynamics and challenges in the Somali territories, the university expanded from Hargeisa to cover five district of Burao, Erigavo, Berbera and Las Anod, Borama and Gabiley.

**The Preamble-President**

For the last 15 years, Gollis University has enjoyed playing in the education field as one of the most progressive universities offering quality affordable education and preferred by the community in teaching and research, building academic and professional skills that provide solutions for socioeconomic transformation challenges.

No other university in Somaliland matches the breadth and depth of opportunities drawing us to the reputation through particular academic programs offered to our students and faculty in an interdisciplinary learning approach.

We have not only expanded the frontiers of knowledge through challenging curricula, but also enhanced skills through practical endeavors for the students and the communities, socially conscious and motivated to make value contributions for greater good of all. The Engineering labs and other labs, even though not up to par, do really enhance student’s practical experiences. Actually making a positive difference and a better world for living in for communities near or far has been more rewarding and important for us in defining the future lives of students and their communities through their core academic interests and university programs.

As one of the oldest universities in the country, we surround our students and partners by some of the greatest minds for each generation to benefit from the best teaching, research, project activities and innovation not only for Somaliland community but for global relevance supportive to community environment.

We believe that collaborations in research, technological development, institutional building with local and international players or organizations in serving humanity is an obligation that requires commitment, open, transparent, efficient and effective use of resources that are available. With due consideration of equity and inclusion, can provide ideas and programs designed to enhance education experience of diversity including those educationally and financially challenged.

Welcome!

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Dr. Abdi H. Gass

President of Gollis University, Main Campus, Hargeisa, Somaliland

## Vision, Mission, Goals, Purpose, Core Values and Philosophy

### Our Vision

- To be a leading World Class University in the Horn of Africa producing professional leaders committed to continuously making a positive difference for society and mankind.

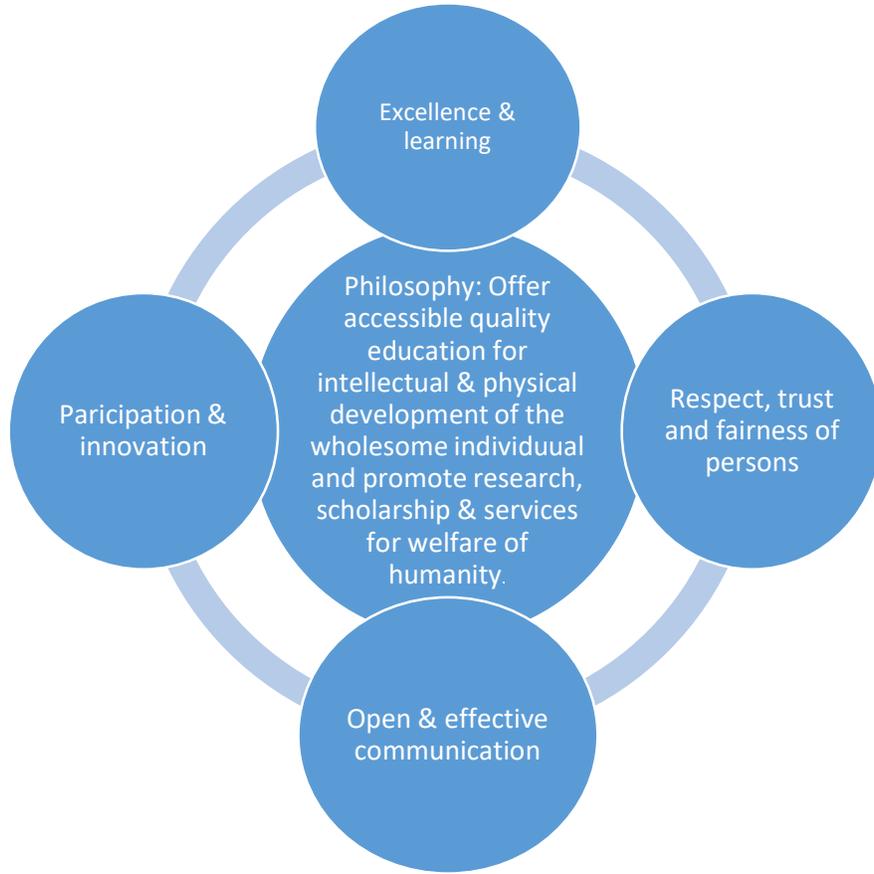
### Our Mission

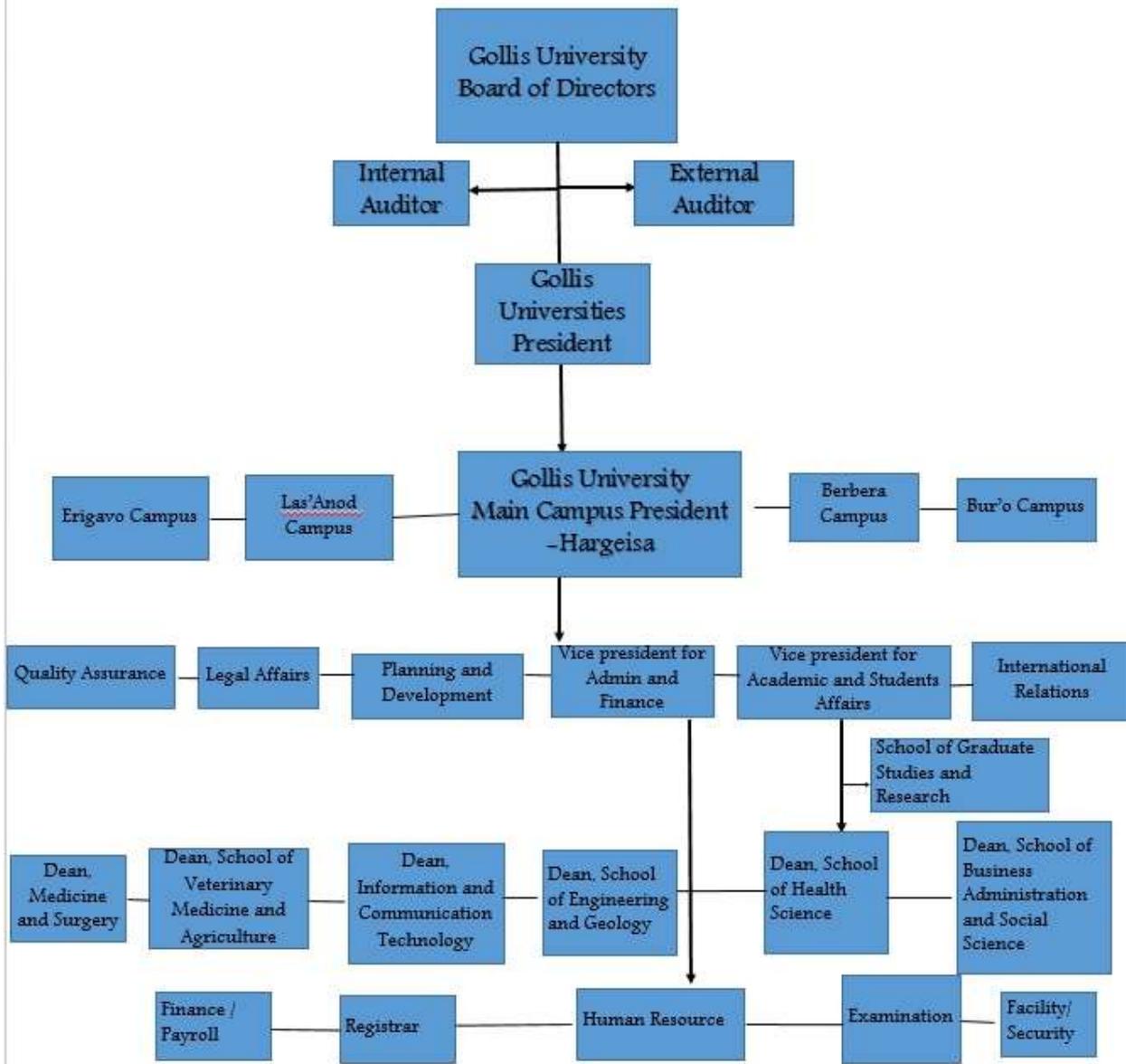
- To provide quality education training, research and promote excellence in scholarship service, innovation and creativity for the transformation of our society and to suit the needs of the challenging and rapidly changing globe.

### Purpose

- To provide excellent education, research and technology for excellent service in community by excellent graduates performance through practical learning and professional excellence in market driven programs, training and skills development at excellency centers of the university for sustainability of institutions and resources management procedures.

## Our Core Values and Philosophy





## **Location and Transport**

- The University facilities in all campuses across the country have excellent conditions for learning and living in quick-to-reach distance of the city center.
- The University is part of the range of social services within close proximity to shops, printing facilities, transport links, restaurants and sport facilities.

## **Entry Requirements**

Freshmen applicants for admission are evaluated on the following criteria:

- High School Transcripts
- Entrance Examination
- Class rank and grade point average (GPA)
- Recommendations and/or personal interviews, upon request

Graduate admission requirements:

- Copies of the academic transcripts
- Presentation of the original copies at registration time
- Expression of interest letter.
- A CGPA of 2.8
- Two years working experience or CGPA 3.0 for fresh Graduates seeking master admission.
- Two passport size photographs
- Fully filled application form should be returned to the dean's office in the coordination office for master program.
- An admission letter is issued after payment of the admission and proof of authenticity of academic qualifications.

**Students:**

***NUMBER OF CURRENT STUDENTS AT MAIN CAMPUS BY SEMESTER AND GENDER***

<i>semester</i>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
<i>semester One</i>	523	327	850
<i>Semester Four</i>	518	200	718
<i>Semester Seven</i>	483	264	747
<i>Semester Eight-</i>			
<i>Semester Six-Medicine</i>	15	8	23
<i>Semester Ten-Medicine</i>	10	4	14
<i>Semester Twelve-Medicine</i>	35	10	45
<b><i>Overall Total</i></b>	<b>1584</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>2397</b>

***Summary of current student number by level, gender & mode of study***

<b>• Level of study</b>		
<i>Undergraduate students</i>	=2397	97.0%
<i>Graduate Students (new program)</i>	=74	3.0%

**Staff & Faculty for 2019:**

<b><i>Category</i></b>	<b><i>Male</i></b>	<b><i>Female</i></b>
<i>Staff</i>	30	8
<i>Security</i>	39	3

<i>Lecturers</i>	345	5
<i>Cleaners</i>	00	24
<i>Administrators</i>	22	2
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b>436</b>	<b>42</b>

## Courses:

- The five campuses ensure a large regional audience and the great number of students are educated in a professional environment and a wide range of curricula determined demand of the communities, business sector and the changing market needs.
- Education opportunities are in programs offered such as ;**Civil Engineering, Medicine and Allied Health Sciences, ICT and Computer Engineering, Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Islamic Studies and Sharia, Management Science and Economics, Telecommunication Engineering, Geology and Water Resources Management and English Languages for undergraduate level.**
- Graduate courses and Research are offered including on-campus and distance learning study modes to meet the graduate needs for training in all districts namely; **Development Studies, Conflict Resolution and Peace Building, Project Planning and Management, Public Administration, Engineering Management, Public Health, Telecommunication Engineering and Business Administration.**
- Interdisciplinary courses have come as part of Higher Education changes offered across programs in Gollis University to offer a broad educational horizon for many students to study courses outside their main degree program such as; Renewable Resources Management, Solar Energy Installation, Entrepreneurship, Leadership and Management, Monitoring an Evaluation, Guidance and Counseling, Risk Management, Conflict Management, Data Analysis and Computer Applications as well as Business Planning.

## Teaching Standards:

- The University emphasizes quality teaching approaches to guarantee value for money expressed in sound management of both academic standards of its awards and the quality of learning opportunities available to students backed by education technologies.
- While there are quality and professional gaps, professional development of the locally available human resources is encouraged alongside sourcing for lecturers from neighboring countries with PhDs or Masters accompanied by good experience in higher education and specialized fields.

- The Digital Library equipped with tens of thousands of latest teaching resources and books for inquiry-based learning at the main campus, school of medicine all of which support the teaching-learning process.

### **Research standards**

- In the 2015-2020 excellence in research framework, the university has engaged in research collaboration with government and non-governmental institutions local and international, engaged communities in applied inquiry as well as basic research in socioeconomic problems, scientific and social research for innovation and community transformation. The hiring some more PhDs for Postgraduate programs further enhanced the number of research papers in international renowned publications.
- Archiving and publishing students and faculty researches as part of the strategic motive of research and technology, information generation that have been achieved in recent years with dissemination of key findings for application in policy and knowledge formation.
- Students are taught by staff recognized internationally to be at the front of their subject and such staff are professional researchers as well as tutors or lecturers. It is the university strategy and policy to achieve the highest quality of data that is supportive and develop excellent people with impact beyond academia to yield economic, social technical, industrial and cultural benefits.

### **Some of the key research accomplishments are:**

- Sea Water Green House Company-Auston University-Gollis University: Three Year Research Project at Berbera focusing on Socioeconomic Impact of green House Technology, Supply Chain Management; covering 12 quarters. So far, the socioeconomic study component report has been submitted to Sea Water Green House Company while Data Analysis is underway for Supply Chain Study Component.
- Gollis University implemented the Joint Nutrition Program Survey of Somaliland, hosted by Ministry of Health under funding of UNICEF.
- Together with Altai Consulting, engaged in Sustainable Water Resources Assessment Management Project funded by World Bank in Puntland and Somaliland.
- Waste Disposal Management was completed by Clinical/ Laboratory Students-with Public Health Department of the Municipal Council of Hargeisa.
- Basic Research has also been conducted by final year students both at graduate and undergraduate levels.

### **Academic Strengths:**

- By 2020, Gollis University aims to be among the Top Eastern African Universities and Top African Research Universities.
- Our Renewable Energy and Water Engineers pioneered insights into affordable energy solutions for rural agriculture, funded by World Bank and SDF.
- Gollis is currently running an eight Greed House Sea Water Project, the first of its kind in Somaliland and the Horn of Africa Region.
- The Gollis University Student won a Software Innovation Award supported by SPARKS Project over all other universities in Somaliland, the **online business portal Koobe was named the winner of the Muhandis Challenge worth \$2500 against nine challengers.**
- Gollis University is the only Somaliland University that has the state of the art Engineering Laboratory for Soil Testing usable for advanced road construction laboratory needs which gives the students an academic edge for training over other universities.
- Gollis University is trusted by local and International Agencies for Training and Skills Development of their staff because of international experience offered.
- Gollis University is the only University in Somaliland and perhaps East Africa that has established a GIS center which has been useful in water resources management information and mapping, geological sciences, conflict mapping, climate change and land mapping both by government and students.
- The Gollis University Research Institute is one of the latest Institutional innovations to promote generation of information for knowledge generation usable in idea technology.

### **Student Facilities:**

- Gollis University Library is equipped with over 20,000 printed textbooks and manuscripts, over 20,000 electronic journals and 20,000 electronic books.
- Also, in the main library, principal collections for teaching and research in humanities, medicine, Engineering and social sciences are supplemented by virtual library materials in affiliated associations and universities as AAU offering specific subject content.
- There are over 200 computers in libraries and academic schools fixed with help services and IT support from librarians and IT personnel.
- The Engineering Laboratory in the Faculty of Civil Engineering, the Telecommunication Engineering Laboratory, the Skilling Laboratory in the School of Medicine and Allied Sciences are equipped with a collection of apparatus for practical purposes and keeping pace with advances in learning technologies.

- The University farm is available for student practical experiences in agricultural and veterinary practices; and further more for community support in modern agro-business techniques, value chain management and research.

### **Community Services:**

- Community outreach is a critical component of activities carried out by the university engaging communities in awareness services and information. For example public health information, basic first aid training, waste management, hygiene and sanitation awareness, nutritional information by the departments of public health and medicine.
- Animal mobile clinic by the department of veterinary medicine has been fundamental in reaching out to pastoral communities for basic treatment and routine practices.
- Community needs assessment and awareness raising by students of social sciences and humanities has cemented the University's social responsibility.
- Internships and youth's trainings conducted by the Vocational department as well as the main stream programs have increased productive skills especially for the rural communities for welfare improvement.

### **Gollis University in working with Local and international partner organizations has successfully implemented the following community capacity building projects;**

- GU was running the SCOTT program, a nine year project starting in 2006 implemented in three phases in four universities of Somaliland (worth \$1400,000-1<sup>st</sup> phase \$800,000, 2<sup>nd</sup> phase \$450,000, and 3<sup>rd</sup> phase \$150,000).
- Alternative Energy Installation Project for Agro-productivity capacity building in Sheik under GU institute of Renewable Energy Resources, funded by SBF-World Bank (\$60,000). Also, the Renewable Energy Institute was funded by a World Bank for building and equipment installation (\$228,000).
- GU handled a UNDP project for training Somaliland Police in Criminal Justice and Police Science a two years free and two years sponsored by UNDP (\$120,000).
- Monitoring and Evaluation Project funded by IOM, a health intervention project in agricultural sector for six months (\$50,000).

- Technical Vocation Skills Training for youths, a two year project focusing on rural youths (\$19,200).
- Capacity building project for Civil Engineering department laboratory soil testing equipment to enhance students and community construction needs funded by SBF-World Bank (\$80,000).
- Capacity building for Telecommunication Engineering Skilling Laboratory funded by Nation Link Ltd for practice and internship students (\$2 million).
- Capacity building project for universities in Somaliland implemented by Save the Children International, funded by EU (\$10,000) on top of equipment in form of computers and projectors (\$15,000) to facilitate teaching.

### **Needy Students Services and Special Needs Education:**

- The University has keen and still is about the poverty situation of the region and as such to offer an all-inclusive education and opportunity for all to access an education over 100 students benefit from the scholarship scheme for the needy students.
- The tutoring program is separated for students with special learning needs to give them a chance and improve their performance as well as achievement than being eliminated for specific learning difficulty.
- To further improve English proficiency among students, the university has established an ILTS center to prepare students for the English proficiency examination to earn a certificate.

### **International Visibility and collaboration:**

Success of students, the institution, the Nation cannot be achieve in isolation of the international partners in a challenging national and global economy. As such Gollis University seeks and maintains international links with research institutions, INGOs, charity Organizations, Humanitarian agencies, Universities, and governmental agencies to achieve the greater goal of serving humanity through education and community transformation. The following are some of the past achievements in international collaboration and membership;

- Kenyatta University
- Great Lakes University
- Open University of Sudan
- Addis Ababa University
- Mekelle University

- Collaboration on projects with Sea Water Green House Company and Austin University
- Membership with Association of African Universities

**Recent and Prospective New Builds:**

- Recently the university relocated to a larger single site in downtown to accommodate the increasing number of students that require spacious academic environment.
- The university is also in the process of purchasing land in downtown to establish its own building.
- We have done career development for the teachers to cope with the skill needs through the School of Graduate Studies and Research despite the greater financial requirement that comes with the changes implemented.
- Salaries and wages promptly paid are very crucial to providing a conducive environment for quality teaching and learning. Therefore, Gollis seeks to work with development partners and charity organizations in achieving the strategic objectives of institutional resources sustainability sourcing international professionals to build local capacity as well as supplement student fees in a post-conflict poverty ridden society.
- The Scholarship Scheme to support the over 100 who are unable to access university education due to poverty causes will be consolidated by seeking support from charitable donors ready to work with Gollis University in offering humanitarian support.
- The Gollis University Research Institute (GURI) is part of the strategic development plan where research and technology are priorities to drive innovation for the community. To fully function, the university plans to install strong internet facility archiving infrastructure funding research initiatives for professors and students' practical innovations and projects. This will make Gollis a research intensive institution that is public oriented.

