

## DICOTA BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2018 CANDIDATES

\* Arranged alphabetically based on their last names:

### Dr. Miriam Abu



I have been involved with DICOTA activities since seven years ago. I have been an almost regular attendee of DICOTA conventions, which I have attended four of them including the 2018 one in Seattle, WA. I also attended the 2017 DICOTA Health Forum held in Maryland. As one of the New York Tanzanian Community Leaders, I was instrumental in connecting as many Tanzanians in NY as possible to DICOTA. I believe in the mission of DICOTA of connecting Tanzanians in America to economic and social opportunities back home in Tanzania, and be part of, at a small scale, Tanzania's progress. I look forward to adding more on that direction including the networking between Tanzanians in America and also with those in Tanzania and worldwide.



I work in Clinical Research industry and I am able to travel domestically and internationally on behalf of DICOTA.

### Mr. Michael Chiume



Experienced Civil engineer with Bachelor and Master's degree from India and Australia. Worked in both Tanzania and New York in transportation systems.

Currently Michael Chiume is a Board of Trustees chairman, is there to promote stability, community member's cohesion and cooperation; and oversee the community constitution adherence.



Have been member for DICOTA for over 4 years and in that time facilitated the debate of community leaders at the 2016 DICOTA Convention in Dallas. Also supported the DICOTA staff at the registration desk during the 2018 Seattle convention.

Promoted awareness to the NYTC members about DICOTA's mission of engaging the Tanzania American Diaspora by encouraging members to attend DICOTA convention and learn new things, network and attain clear understanding of the role of Tanzania diaspora on building our homeland Tanzania.

### Ms. Sware Derua



My name is Sware Derua. I live in Kansas City Metropolitan Area. I am a mother of three boys. I am currently serving as a president of Tanzanian Association of Kansas City (TAKC), a nonprofit organization for anyone Tanzanian residing in Kansas City Area in the state of Kansas and Missouri. I have held this position since July 2017. As a community leader, I assist members with any issues concerning our community, other communities and Tanzanian Embassy. My goal is to provide educational programs through various seminars which will cover specific areas such as finances, investments, health etc. I believe that knowledge is power and it's the main key for a stronger community.



I am also involved with Sister City Association of Kansas City. A nonprofit organization dedicated to connecting Kansas City to the world. Kansas City is the sister city to Arusha. My goal is to assist in maximizing resources to benefit both cities, through culture awareness, education and entertainment. Professionally, I am an electrical engineer. I received my bachelor's in Electrical and Computer engineering from Wayne State university in Detroit, Michigan. I also received master's degree in construction management from University of Kansas.

I am involved in Susan G Komen greater Kansas City race for the cure activities and events. I enjoy reading, working out and socializing.

### **Mr. George Ilankunda**



George Ilankunda is a Texas CPA and an active member of Tanzania Houston Community (THC). George is the former THC Treasurer 2014 – 2015. During his term in THC leadership, the leadership introduced and hosted the first THC Gala, a tradition that is still going strong, plus other several accomplishments including creating a culture of fiscal responsibility. Professionally, George works in accounting field and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accounting from Briar Cliff University in Sioux City, IA. George not only accepts the nomination to run for the DICOTA Board of Trustees (BOT) opening, but also pledges his commitment to the progress of DICOTA as an organization and the Tanzanian Diaspora in the US. If elected, George

will work hard to promote DICOTA to the diaspora and to get more businesses of Tanzanians and friends of Tanzanians to join DICOTA and its mission. George is married and has two daughters, 8 and 4 years old.

### **Mr. Kwame Kinabo**



Kwame's 14 years of business development has fostered strong relationships between professionals and clients in a variety of business endeavors. His MBA with an emphasis on Leadership Management coupled with his extensive travel to Europe, Africa, and the Americas have honed an in-depth understanding of international cultures and business relations. Kwame's enthusiasm and dedication enables the clients he serves to succeed in the financial realm of their business ventures. In addition to working in the Financial sector, he has a strong leadership background, is passionate about his community, and loves to play football and travel.

His community involvement brings about lasting positive, measurable change to both the Portland and Tanzanian communities. Kwame is a Board Member for Good Hope Orphanage & School in Arusha, Tanzania serving 200 children providing advocacy, education and a home for significantly underprivileged youth. He is a member of men's and co-ed soccer teams in Portland. He is on the Chamber of Commerce for the Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs Alliance. He is an adjunct lecturer for graduate students in Business at Eastern Oregon University. He is active in the local African Community serving as the DICOTA Treasurer. He is the Vice Chair for the Tanzania Oregon Association. He served as the International School of Moshi, Arusha campus Board member while living in Tanzania for a year in 2017-2018 accompanied by his 6 year old son who attended ISM. He is also an Africa Bridge member.

My plans for DICOTA is to go back to the local community and business owners to instill the sense of international pride I spread that Tanzania will grow prosperous using our local ingenuity and resources as the foundation for better future and a strong and lasting legacy for our youth in Tanzania. I will create

a platform in which we can share our stories and achievements, a place where we can achieve national awareness of current events that support and grow the interest of local communities.

### **Mr. Conrad Kwayu**



I live in the state of Connecticut and I work for Hartford Healthcare System, the largest healthcare system in the state as a Hospital Administrator. Hartford HealthCare is a seven-hospital system; I am responsible for directing and managing the business operations of the two of Hospitals (MidState Medical Center in Meriden and The Hospital of Central Region in New Britain).



Prior to joining Hartford HealthCare, I worked for Salem Hospital in Oregon as a budget/finance leader (3 years). I was responsible for rolling out the annual operating budget for the entire system. Before Salem, I worked for 6 years for Altru Health System in Grand Forks, North Dakota as a Primary Care Analyst.

I have a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management from Luther College, Iowa (2003) and an MBA (Finance) from the University of North Dakota (2007). I am a graduate of Umbwe High School in Moshi class of 1998.

I believe that all life situations can always be improved. I believe we/I have the power to make those radical changes if we wish to.

### **Ms. Christine Lasway**



Christine “Tina” Lasway is a wife and mum of 3 boys residing in Austin, Texas. She was born and raised in Dar-es-salaam, and an alumnus of Olympio, Bunge, Jangwani and Mzizima schools. Currently, a Global Health Specialist she works to improve health systems in developing countries, primarily in Africa. After being a sideline follower of DICOTA for years, she recently became a member after presenting at the DICOTA 2017 Health Forum, and thereafter, participated in the 2018 DICOTA Convention.



Throughout her 20+ years as a diaspora, Tina has always regarded herself as an ambassador for Tanzania.

In her professional work, she took every opportunity to direct health projects to Tanzania – including taking a 3+ year stint to Tanzania away from her husband. She has also been involved in several business and social projects at home.

If elected as a DICOTA board member, she sees her role as a natural progression of her contributions all along and her profound commitment towards the betterment of her beloved country. She plans to focus on two things that she has already started working on: One is to improve the image (“Taswira”) of the diaspora as relevant, trusted, and engaged contributors to our nation’s development. Tina already has a head start towards this goal – in early 2018 and on behalf of the #TZDiasporaAfya group, she spearheaded a project to define a roadmap to improve branding of diaspora engagements. Second, she’d like to explore ways of using the DICOTA platform to economically uplift Tanzanians. Recently, Tina along with 14 others, founded Azania Capital Partners, the first US-based Tanzanian diaspora investment firm. Tina believes that if the diaspora is steadfast, united, and organized, they can greatly

benefit from many opportunities right here in US and go beyond remittances to progressively engender positive impact at home.

**Mr. Peter Mkumbo**



Peter Mkumbo has over eight years of experience in the fields of sustainable natural resources, environmental management, and the tourism industry. He is currently a graduate candidate pursuing Ph.D. in Parks, Recreation and Tourism Management (with emphasis on Tourism Marketing) at Clemson University, SC. Prior to his admission at Clemson, Mr. Mkumbo was working for Tanzania



Tourist Board as a Principal Tourism Marketing Officer. He also worked as Assistant Lecturer and Program Coordinator for the Bachelor of Tourism Management at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). Before he joined the academic community at SUA he was working as Game Officer under then The Prime Minister Office – Regional Administration and Local Government (PMO-RALG) in Mvomero District, Morogoro. He holds Masters of Tourism Management with minor in Conservation Management from Victoria University of Wellington (New Zealand) and a Bachelor of Science in Wildlife Management and Conservation from Sokoine University of Agriculture (Tanzania). Mr. Mkumbo has a basic understanding of French, Spanish and Japanese languages.

Mr. Mkumbo has been an active member of DICOTA for the last four years. He attended the last two DICOTA Conventions in Dallas (2016) and in Seattle (2018). If elected as a member of DICOTA Board of Trustees he will work with other members and the Executive Committee to ensure that DICOTA remains to be a strong diaspora organization that delivers to exceed members’ expectations and significantly contributes to Tanzania’s economic growth through promotion of knowledge and entrepreneurial investments. He believes in democracy & diversity of opinions, freedom of speech and expression. UMOJA WETU NDIO NGUVU YETU.

Mr. Mkumbo likes traveling and road trips, he has visited 28 states in the United States in the last three years. He also likes outdoor recreational activities like hiking and camping. He climbed Mt Kilimanjaro to Uhuru Peak.

**Mr. Cleven Mmari**



I have strong leadership & interpersonal skills, love of community and take every opportunity to contribute in any capacity.



For the past 5 years, I have served as the President of Tanzania Association of Oregon (TAO). With the talented leadership team, I’m proud to lead, we have been able to advance a number of TAO’s goals. We have successfully organized the Independence celebration every December for the past 6 years. Our aim is to bring Tanzanians and friends together and share our rich social and cultural activities with one another. We use that time to invite NGOs and other organizations that work in Tanzania, in various sectors and to find ways that we can promote their efforts. We also find ways to collaborate with other associations to address community needs effectively. For

example, 3 years ago we collaborated with Tanza-Seattle, to organize the passport services in the Pacific Northwest in Seattle that served residents of Oregon, Washington and Idaho states. We also invite

community leaders and introduce our community members and expand their network for the betterment of our community.

I have been a member of DICOTA for the past 2 years and I was so fortunate to attend 2018 Convention in Seattle. I was impressed with self-help, financial, education and medical activities that DICOTA is promoting and advancing. As a member, I have participated to promote DICOTA values in the local community of TAO. I look forward to participating and contributing my skills and passions to enhance the collective aspirations of DICOTA members and friends, in America and Tanzania. To do this, I will strongly advocate for an avenue and a way forward, (e.g. National ID Card) that will allow our members to maximize their contribution to our beloved country in all sectors.

### **Mr. Sylvester Mwingira**



Sylvester Mwingira is a result oriented, and driven individual; who holds the utmost respect and regard for the constitution within the Organization. He stands with plans and established priorities, ranging from the engagement of members both locally, and from other geographical groups.



He has served as Chairman of the NYTC from 2016 to 2018. Currently he's a member of the Brotherhood of Railroad-56, DICOTA and the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE). He is also a member of Upwardly Global, an organization dedicated to helping immigrants and refugees find success in professional careers here in the United States of America.

Sylvester Mwingira attended Azania Secondary School, Dar-es-Salaam Institute of Technology, and the Colorado Technical University. Over the years he earned himself a Bachelors of Engineering in Telecommunication, and a Masters of Science in Project Management. He is currently a New York state employee, working for the MTA-Long Island Railroad Engineering Department.

### **Dr. Msia Kibona**



Dr. Msia Kibona Clark is an Associate Professor in the Department of African Studies at Howard University. She received her bachelor's degree in Political Science from Johnson C. Smith University, master's degree in International Studies from American University, and a doctorate in African Studies from Howard University. Her work has focused on popular culture, migration, and gender studies in Africa. Dr. Clark has written numerous scholarly publications, including three edited manuscripts and over a half dozen articles and book chapters on both popular culture in Africa and on African migrant experiences.

Dr. Clark was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Dar es Salaam (2013/14), and she currently the Director of the Undergraduate Program in the Department of African Studies at Howard University, a member of the Scholarship Committee for the Diaspora Community of Tanzanians in America (DICOTA), and a member of the Senegal-based Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA). She is also an executive board member with Helping Underserved Communities (HUC) and an executive board member and past president of the Association of Social and Behavioral Scientists.

Dr. Clark is also a photographer who has exhibited her work online and in print publications, as well as in art and photo exhibitions in Tanzania and the U.S. She also produces the Hip Hop African blog and monthly podcast hosted at [hiphopafrican.com](http://hiphopafrican.com).

### **Dr. Suzy Nkurlu**



Suzy Nkurlu is a Tanzanian currently working as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Iowa, in Iowa City. Suzy received her Ph.D. in Adult Education with a specialization in Human Resources and Organization Development from the University of Georgia, her M.S. in Communication Studies, and her B.S in Hospitality and Tourism Management from Grand Valley State University in Michigan. Before moving to Iowa City, Suzy taught at the University of Georgia for eight years as an Instructor of Record and as a Graduate Teaching Assistant.



The first DICOTA event Suzy attended was the Fourth DICOTA convention held in Chicago in 2012. Since then, Suzy has been actively engaged with the organization and has never missed a DICOTA convention. Suzy's engagement with DICOTA started as a volunteer in 2017 when she joined the DICOTA's Young Leader Scholarship Program as a committee member. She is currently serving as its committee chair. During the 2018 Seventh DICOTA convention, Suzy assisted at the registration desk and helped guests with their needs.

Additionally, Suzy has extensive experience in qualitative research. She has designed and conducted various qualitative research projects. She will be able to draw on her analytical skills to collect, organize, analyze and disseminate data to conduct research for new ideas pertinent to marketing the DICOTA organization. Suzy brings expert knowledge and understanding of the best practices in planning and coordinating various programs. These skills will enable her to plan and coordinate the DICOTA convention; including logistics relating to event set up, and general event operations.

Suzy is enthusiastic about the opportunity to work as a member of the DICOTA's Board of Trustees. If given the opportunity to serve, she will dedicate herself to implementing the vision and mission of DICOTA so that the organization achieves its full potential.

### **Ms. Asha Nyang'anyi**



Asha Nyang'anyi served as the Secretary of the Steering Committee at 2011 DICOTA (Diaspora Council of Tanzanians in USA) convention. She has participated as a presenter at various events including – but not limited to – the 2014 DICOTA Convention, 2014 African Language Teacher Association (ALTA), 2015 Global Association for the promotion of Swahili (CHAUKIDU) and 2017 Global Health Catalyst Summit. At these events, Asha has spoken about an array of issues such as women empowerment within the diaspora.



She is one of the founder and CEO of HEAD, INC, a charitable, tax-exempt, 501(c)(3) organization, dedicated to improving quality of healthcare, education, and economic welfare in the community by engaging, educating and supporting its people. HEAD, INC carries out yearly medical missions to Tanzania. Asha is also a certified Foreign Language instructor and a pioneer for development and teaching of Swahili language and culture in the Tanzanian community in the DC metro area, under HEAD, INC.

Asha is a Scientist by profession, currently working at QIAGEN Sciences INC; one of the world's leading providers of innovative sample & assay technologies and a key player in the molecular biology revolution. As a Scientist in the department of Research and Development, she is involved in the

development of DNA technology for detection of Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) which has been associated with cervical cancer. Additionally, Asha has assisted in the development of QuantiFERON Technology; a unique approach to disease detection and monitoring. Her most important role is to provide support to customers, conduct training, and transfer of technology to developing countries in Africa and South America, and to facilitate the process for FDA submission domestically.

Asha got her Bachelor's degree in Marine Biology and Microbiology from University of Dar-es-salaam in Tanzania and her Master's degree in Cell and Molecular Biology from Howard University in The District of Columbia. She lives in Maryland.

**Dr. Anicetus Temba**



1: Ph.D in Applied Management, Decision Science s and Information management systems. 2. Masters in Project Management and Industrial Trandiformstion 3. Bsc in Industrial Engineering specialty in electromechanics. 4. Presentations: Emotional intelligence in the food industry for develping countries.

