MVP Malawi Mwandama Field Site

- Marie Aberger, Duke University
- Eleanor Cooper, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill
North Carolina MVP

- Partnership between University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill, Duke University and the village of Marenyo, Kenya

- Working to raise $1.5 million to sponsor the first student-funded village
Focus Group Discussions with PTAs and SMCs

July 21, 2008 – August 8, 2008
Checklist

- Pupil Enrollment and Retention
- Teacher Retention
- Capacity Building
- Infrastructure
- School Feeding Programme
- Community School Fund
- Teaching and Learning Materials
Infrastructure

- **Successes:**
  - Mobilizing communities to bring sand and water
  - Burning bricks
  - Constructing toilets and temporary school blocks

- **Challenges:**
  - Constructing a sufficient number of latrines for students (1 toilet for every 25 boys and 1 toilet for every 15 girls)
  - Funding and constructing girl-friendly latrines with hand-washing facilities
  - Finding a donor to support the construction of teachers’ houses and permanent classrooms
  - Building new boreholes and fixing broken boreholes
  - Expanding schools to accommodate students from Standards 1-8
School Feeding Programme

- **Successes:**
  - SFP has increased enrollment and improved student performance.
  - Committees mobilized volunteer cooks.
  - Students are fed 100g of maize, soya and fortificant daily.

- **Challenges:**
  - The communities cannot sustain SFP without assistance from MVP and WFP.
  - Constructing permanent kitchens.
  - No SFP at St. Anthony Boys and St. Anthony Girls; most of these students do not eat anything during the day and have problems paying attention in class.
Community School Fund

- **Successes:**
  - Some schools have permanent, annual funds; others only collect money from the community when there is a need.
  - Most households contribute to school funds. Committees visit those who do not contribute and talk to them about the importance of the fund.
  - Funds are used to pay for watchmen, post office boxes, materials for temporary structures, and any other needs.

- **Challenges:**
  - Some households are reluctant to contribute because they do not understand why they must pay if primary education is free.
  - Households are overburdened and cannot contribute enough to pay for everything. Volunteer teachers often receive little financial support.
Teaching and Learning Materials

- Collected spreadsheets with detailed materials requests.
- Teaching Guides
- Textbooks
- Other Materials: blackboard paint, exercise books, dusters, pens, desks etc.
Future Intern Projects

- Expansion of Girl’s Empowerment Clubs
  - Curriculum development
- Securing donors for classroom materials

St. Anthony Girls
Agriculture and Nutrition

June 1, 2008 – August 1, 2008
Agriculture and Nutrition

Research Assistant under Roseline Remans

- 30 household surveys
  - Crop and livestock diversity, food insecurity, nutrition

- 2 focus groups
  - Crop harvesting, storage, and processing
Household Survey

- Land assessment
  - Size of plots, crop and livestock diversity, soil samples
  - Home gardens

- Household interview
  - Food insecurity
  - Dietary diversity
    - Family
    - Women
Key Results

Crop Diversity

- Avg. # different crop species: 12.8
- Common crops: maize, black jack, cassava, and pigeon pea
- Underutilized crops: millet, okra, turnip leaves

Food Insecurity and Nutrition

- Avg. # months of food shortage: 1.6
- Avg. HHDDS: 4.9
- Avg. IWDDS: 4.3
- Nutrition differences in business owners and farmers
Focus Groups

- ≈15 men and women
- Community input-oriented
- Issues addressed:
  - Harvesting and storage
  - Uses of various parts of crops
  - Areas of particular economic or physical difficulty
  - Causes of crop loss
Small Business

Opportunity International Bank of Malawi
OIBM

- Initial Loan Assessment Surveys
  - Loan use

- Baseline Survey
  - New assessment tool
Loan Assessment Survey

- Demographics
- Business Assessment
  - Revenue, capital investments, employees
  - Loan use
  - Achievements
  - Savings
- Client Satisfaction
  - Desired skills/training
Key Results

- 75 Loans- 62 Survey Assessments Completed

- Demographics:
  - 50% Female
  - 31% Sole household provider
  - 16% Live in mud brick homes

- Loan uses: product purchase, capital investments

- Assessment:
  - Average monthly revenue before loan: 74,330 kwacha ($212)
    - **Average revenue increase: 74%**
  - 61% of clients kept financial records
  - 13% of clients kept all savings in a bank
Baseline Loan Survey

1. Standard of Living
2. Business Activity
3. Decision Making
4. Health
5. Community Involvement
6. Client Satisfaction
Key Results

- 45 surveys completed

Demographics:
- 62% Female
- 40% Sole household provider
- 22% Live in mud brick homes

Loan assessment:
- Average monthly revenue: 38,209 kwatcha ($110)
- 13% of clients kept all savings in a bank
Future Intern Projects

- Agriculture
  - Home gardens
  - Fertilizer
  - Food preparation

- Business
  - Loan assessment
  - Additional income opportunities