

## Presbyterian Pan American School

P.O. Box 1578 Kingsville, Texas 78364

(361) 592-4307

Fax (361) 592-6126

WWW.PPAS.ORG

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Dear Friends of Pan Am,

Summer 2016 has seen events that manifest the connectedness of the global community.

The UK exited the European Union, setting off unknown international ripple effects. Terrorist attacks in the US and abroad reminded us, yet again, that violence knows no borders. And though the Olympic Games are yet on the horizon, the spirit of unity "for the glory of sport" that binds the athletes together recalls that there is but one race — the human race.

Indeed, we are all in this thing called life together.

Access to education should depend neither on the country from which a student hails, nor financial circumstances. This has been a core belief of PPAS since its humble beginnings in 1912. This last academic year, we welcomed students from 13 different countries, 91% of whom received scholarship support. And, due to the continuing devaluation of the Mexican Peso, an increasing number of our students will require financial assistance to return in the fall.

Like all students who pass PPAS' rigorous admission requirements, Gidel, a junior, from Honduras, was accomplished before he arrived on campus. His family, however, lacked the ability to pay all of his tuition; and, without financial assistance from both Honduran and American donors, he wouldn't have been able to come.

Gidel does not take his education at PPAS for granted. "If it weren't for this opportunity to attend Pan Am, I would still be stuck in the murder capital of the world," he says. "This school is the step forward I needed to make something of myself."

After graduating, Gidel plans to attend college and become a cardiologist or a pediatric neurologist. He expresses his gratitude by taking his schoolwork seriously. He applies himself as not to "let down the people who work hard to help students like me."

Gidel's story is an example of how the global is localized, and how God links people to change lives through this exceptional school. The new academic year approaches, and soon the students will return, ready to transform their scholarships into knowledge, and their dreams into reality.

I hope you will join me in making a gift to the PPAS scholarship fund this school year. As Gidel will tell you, the impact of your giving extends to communities here at home and around the world.

With deep gratitude,

Rev. Dr. Doug Dalglish

President