

NEWS RELEASE



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Laurier alumnus wins national student leadership award

WATERLOO – Torwomenye Kwasi Mawuli Azaglo, a recent graduate of Wilfrid Laurier University, has won the Student Leadership in Internationalization Award from the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE). Azaglo, known by many as “TK,” received the honour at an awards ceremony at the CBIE’s annual conference, Nov. 23 in Ottawa.

After arriving at Laurier from his native Ghana in 2006, Azaglo co-founded Future of Africa, a student club dedicated to raising awareness and supporting development initiatives, which now operates on two Canadian university campuses and at a high school. He also spearheaded the creation of an international students advisory committee, was president of the international students association, and facilitated workshops on diversity and equity.

“Receiving this award is very humbling and challenging as well. The recognition is great, but what is most important to me is to continue pursuing my passion and dreams for Africa,” said Azaglo, who graduated from Laurier in 2011 with a BA degree in Political Science and Global Studies. “Laurier gave me the perfect nurturing environment that encouraged me to explore my potential and has allowed me to think of the world past my immediate realities.”

Azaglo was nominated for the award by Lise Pederson, manager, international programs and services at Laurier International. Peter Donahue, director of Laurier International, and Adam Lawrence, manager, diversity and equity, provided supporting letters of recommendation.

“TK is a true leader who leads by example, with a positive attitude no matter what challenges or obstacles may get in his way,” noted Pederson in her nomination letter. “His contributions to student life and internationalization at Laurier have been significant – through his studies as a Global Studies and Political Science major and through his employment, volunteer and extra-curricular activities.”

Following his graduation in the spring, Azaglo returned to Ghana, where he is leading the creation of an NGO dedicated to African development issues.

The CBIE is a national, bilingual, not-for-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of Canada's international relations through international education.

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