

## GRADUATION PROJECT - UGANDA

Following six months of preparations we set off for Kampala, the capital of Uganda, on Wednesday January 14<sup>th</sup> 2009. After traveling for almost 11 hours we reached our destination, an apartment in Ntinda, a suburb of Kampala. In the first couple of days two Dutch girls, who had already been in Kampala for five months, showed us the city. They taught us a lot about everyday city life and helped us to get familiar with the African way of life really quickly.

Our first working day was the following Monday when we went to Mulago Hospital to start our graduation project. Despite the department forgetting that we were coming, they immediately made us feel very welcome. The topic of our project was to develop radio-diagnostic protocols for the Radiology Department in Mulago Hospital. The Radiology Department is divided into four sub-departments and for each department we developed an appropriate book of protocols. To acquire the information we needed to develop the radio diagnostic protocols we worked in the hospital for six weeks. During this time we observed the work methods of the radiographers in each department and interviewed radiologists. After six weeks of work we had enough information to enable us to compile "Radio-diagnostic Protocols for the Radiology Department in Mulago Hospital." We finished the books in the Netherlands and Mulago Hospital will receive a copy of them in October 2009.

During our observations we noted that there are a lot of differences between the work methods in Kampala compared to the work methods in the Netherlands. In our final graduation report we have made a couple of recommendations which we anticipate will improve the quality of the department. We hope that the protocol books will contribute to a more efficient way of work and look forward to it being used frequently by the radiographers.

We had a great time working for the Mulago Hospital and we met a lot of nice people.

As well as the work we did for the hospital we had time to do other 'stuff'. In the six weeks we stayed in Kampala we visited an orphanage and a school where we helped out for a day. We also visited the Botanical Gardens and Zoo in Entebbe and we went to Mabira Central Forest Reserve, a National Park near Jinja. The last weekend of our stay in Kampala we visited the Ssesse Islands on the Lake Victoria. We reached them by catching a ferry that departed from Entebbe. We had a lot of fun and we discovered that Uganda is a beautiful country.

We wanted to see more of Uganda so after our stay in Kampala we were ready to see more of this country. We travelled around with a guide for two weeks. We visited several of National Parks such as Murchison Falls, [Kibale National Park](#), [Queen Elizabeth National Park](#), [Bwindi Impenetrable National Park](#) and [Lake Mburu National Park](#). We also went to [Lake Bunyoni](#) and the last days of our trip we went rafting and visited the [Source of the Nile in Jinja](#). It was amazing. The nature is beautiful; we saw a lot of wild animals we have never seen in real life before, everything is so green - on these topics, Uganda is a really rich country. This journey to Uganda was an unforgettable, very impressive trip. We are glad we could help Mulago Hospital and that we discovered a lot about the culture and nature of this beautiful country.

Our advice to other students is:

**"Go for it, we can assure you that you will never regret it".**