Country of Study: USA
University: Virginia Tech
Department: Agriculture and Life Sciences
Student Position: Graduate Research Assistant — Ph.D.
Home Country: South Sudan
Home Institution: University of Juba
Home Position: Lecturer
Mentored By:
USA: Prof. Alan Ealy
Animal and Poultry Sciences
S. SUDAN: Prof. Yousif Rizigalla Suleyman

Research Area: Animal Science

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: July 2014
HOMETOWN: Maridi, Western Equatoria State
UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: Natural Resources & Environmental Studies, University of Juba
GRADUATE EDUCATION: Dairy Science, University of Juba

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Dairy Science

PERSONAL STATEMENT:
Martin says earning his PhD from Virginia Tech will help him gain technical, managerial, and intellectual leadership skills to manage and guide agricultural innovations in South Sudan. He says these skills will enhance his research and help him grow as a lecturer at the University of Juba. Martin describes himself as life-long learner who plans to “transform and improve the livestock sector in South Sudan and the surrounding region at large.”

Ultimately, he hopes his presence in the United States will “enhance the relationship between South Sudan, the University of Juba, Virginia Tech and the United States of America.” In his spare time, Martin enjoys reading, listening to news, music, and playing sports.