



2014 BHEARD Scholar John K.B. Alosias

Profile **Country of Study: USA University:** Virginia State University **Department:** Agriculture **Student Position:** Graduate Research Assistant — MSc Home Country: South Sudan Home Institution: University of Juba Home Position: **Teaching Assistant: Department of Fisheries** US: Dr. Brian Nerrie and Dr. Laban Rutto Virginia State University **Mentored By:** S. SUDAN: Dr. Denis Duku, Dr. Pascuale Moilinger and Dr. Francis Lado

University of Juba

Research Area: Fisheries and Aquaculture

BHEARD PROGRAM START DATE: September 2014

HOMETOWN: Juba, Central Equatoria State, South Sudan

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION: Fisheries, University of Juba, Khartoum, SUDAN

RESEARCH INTERESTS: Fisheries, Aquaculture and Fish Nutrition

John is currently working on a three-month project: "design of mechanical and eco-security to limit double-crested cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*) predation on fingerling channel catfish (*Ictalurus punctatus*)." The objective is to provide an easy and low-cost solution to reduce the conflict between cormorants, fish, and farmers. In his second area of interest (Fish Nutrition) John wants to test "DIY fish-feed formulation and its effect on the performance and growth of Nile tilapia" in an intensive system using glass aquaria as the experimental unit. The purpose is to prepare fish feed using locally available ingredients. His research interest in South Sudan is to explore local feed formulation and production strategies to support the small-scale aquaculture.

PERSONAL STATEMENT:

John desires to advance his knowledge, through this MS program, in the field of fisheries and aquaculture as well as education. He's hopeful he can register for and obtain a PhD degree soon after graduating from the MS program. Obtaining these qualifications will prepare him to provide quality teaching and research support at the University of Juba, and good networking and/or partnership with Universities and other academic and non-academic institutions in the Republic of

South Sudan as well as in the U.S. Furthermore, he plans to be actively involved in extension and outreach programs at the University of Juba.

In his spare time, John enjoys reading books related and unrelated to his area of specialization, participation in voluntary work, and exercising including jogging and soccer. John prefers reading in the morning and at night. John does his work from 8am to 4pm including brunch, and exhausts his evening hours in social interactions (visits, news, music, and cooking among others).