



Dear Priciliano and Nelly,

Bright lights glare down on bloody exposed flesh. Masked men and women are gathered around the open body cavity, intent on every movement. Union College Physician Assistant graduate Ricky Amimo is exploring the area with surgical tools in hand. The room is mostly silent, except for the clinking, beeping and rustling sounds of the surgery suite.

“FLAVOR-FLAV!!!” exclaims Ricky as bewildered eyes peer over paper masks at his outburst.

“I’ve had to explain myself so many times!” laughs Ricky. “We have terms that we use to remember the surgeon’s structure. One of our professors at Union referred to the Ligamentum Flavum as rapper Flavor-Flav. So every time I see it in surgery I yell out, “Flavor-Flav!”



Ricky Amimo

Priciliano and Nelly, Do you know what a Physician Assistant is?

There seems to be some confusion about what a PA is or does. People ask, are they real doctors? Are they nurses? The answer is a nuanced, neither.

PA’s diagnose and treat patients, order tests, prescribe medications, and even assist in surgery. They do many of the things doctors do, under the umbrella of a supervising physician.

For many students going into the medical field, the time and cost of medical school is a major impediment. Some choose to become Physician Assistants, and can begin their careers providing patient care many years sooner (*with much less student debt.*)

Your financial support helps Union provide training for the careers young people feel called to pursue. Union is constantly adapting to meet changing student needs. Will you consider making a gift today to help students find their calling?

Ricky moved from his home country of Kenya to chilly Nebraska with a big goal. He chose Union because of the PA program, and because he could condense his studies by integrating undergraduate and master’s level classes on the same campus.

“I think the #1 thing that stood out to me was the intentionality and care of the professors in the program,” says Ricky. “We could admit if we didn’t know something and not be met with negative critique. That contributed to the positive student culture. We weren’t competing, but on a journey together.”

You might identify with Ricky’s experience. His journey was about more than classes and labs. Ricky was very active on campus. He played basketball for the Warriors, attended banquets and weekend activities, and served other young men as head RA in both Culver and Prescott Halls.



I want to be a Union College supporter!

Please use my gift to support Union College and continue the legacy of supporting students 100%.

Enclosed is my gift of:

- \$100.00
- \$75.00
- \$50.00

- \$ _____
- I wish to give \$ _____ MONTHLY to support Union all through the year!

I want my gift to go to:

- Union College Fund
- Student Scholarships
- Other Fund: _____

When Ricky got his board exam results in the mail last summer, his heart was pounding. "I'm not usually nervous, but I was that day!"

When he opened the envelope and saw the PASS result, a huge weight fell off his shoulders. With adrenaline still surging, he immediately called his family to tell them the good news. "I felt validated in my ambitions and goals," says Ricky. "It felt like I was being told, *you were on the right track this whole time.*"

Ricky didn't immediately make the news public, or call any of his classmates. He knew they were all waiting on results, and didn't want to callously celebrate his success if one of his friends had failed.

However, in 2018, for the second year in a row, every single Union College PA graduate passed their certifying board exam on the first try!

In just six years, Ricky graduated from Union with a Master of Physician Assistant Studies and began practicing medicine. Though it seemed like a long journey, he entered the workforce in half the time it takes a physician to begin working.

After accepting a job in sunny Florida, it took Ricky awhile to get used to his new role. "All the other medical staff were looking to me and asking questions," says Ricky. "It was crazy. But lo and behold, I knew the answers!"

Ricky's six years of training at Union are paying off!

PrCILIANO and Nelly, you support Union students to be their best selves, personally, professionally, and spiritually. Your financial gift directly impacts young people, and provides opportunities for a bright future.

Union College students depend on your gifts to help provide quality education. From scholarships to funding new programs, your generous contributions keep students learning at Union.

Would you please consider making a gift of \$100.00 to help students like Ricky?

Thanks to your generous support, Union students are prepared not just for a successful career, but for a fulfilling life. Great Christian education is a gift that keeps giving back!



Vinita Sauder
President

PS You are an important part of the Union experience, [Name]! Thank you for helping keep this campus alive and thriving! Your support really matters!



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