

OLIVIA ELLISON



I am Olivia Ellison a Ghanaian and a graduate of Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Kumasi in Ghana. I graduated with a first class honours in Publishing Studies.

I never heard of the Publishing Studies programme until I had a free admission through the less endowed programme of the university. This is to say I didn't apply for the programme, it was given to me by the university. At the beginning of the first semester of my first year I had no interest in the programme but at the end of the second semester, my interest began to grow due to its content, skills learnt and knowledge acquired.

Educational Pathways International (EPI) has impacted and shaped my life since I joined. During the first year of my undergraduate study, I was struggling financially and was wondering how I could complete my four-year degree programme. Fortunately for me, I had the opportunity to be a beneficiary of the EPI scholarship and that gave me hope and assurance that I would be able to complete my four-year undergraduate programme. Thanks to EPI, I excelled academically.

EPI did not only affect my academics positively, my life was also changed for the better. Through our monthly meetings/seminars, we were introduced to various topics amongst which were communication skills, how to save money, entrepreneurship skills and many others. In the second semester of my second year, I learnt a skill and with the entrepreneurship lessons we were taken through by EPI, I started a small business.

My long term career goal is to become a Project Manager and an Entrepreneur. I would want to further my education after my national service by pursuing a Master's degree in Project Management. This will help me acquire the needed skills to be a better Project Manager. In my country, Ghana, there are many abandoned projects and I believe it's as a result of poor management. Acquiring more skills as a Project Manager and Consultant will enable me serve both the government and individuals.

I also intend to start an NGO to help young females in my community who are teenage mothers to learn skills such as tailoring, hair dressing, baking etc. This will provide them with the opportunity to contribute to the society and live better lives.

I want to use this opportunity to say a very big thank you to EPI once again for laying a good foundation for me during my undergraduate studies.