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This document contains: **1) Osiri University's Statement of Purpose** (page 2), **2) Proposed Offerings and Awards** with programs descriptions (Exhibit A, page 4), and **3) Tentative Timeline** (Exhibit B, page 9).

## OSIRI UNIVERSITY'S STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Osiri University is committed to uplifting humanity using the Ubuntu philosophy and an inclusive curriculum for all people regardless of ethnicity, sex, gender identification, or religious beliefs. Osiri University is a place where people can express themselves and find both allies and critics of their ideas. The culture at Osiri allows unfettered and unencumbered scholarship and the search for truth. At Osiri University, we believe that a person who lacks a positive self-image may be easily swayed by the whims and caprices of society. Therefore, it is important to develop confident leaders with a positive sense of identity. At Osiri University, leaders uncover their strengths and leverage their knowledge and that of others to create a better world. We strongly believe in the common humanity of all ethnicities and creeds and welcome people from all cultures to join us as students, faculty, staff and administrators.

Osiri University welcomes those who dare to be different including student learners (omsomis) who seek to make an impact through an unconventional learning experience; current and future leaders eager to deliver sustainable solutions for themselves and their communities; and educators who want to nurture self-confident, self-motivated, selfless students. Learning and student life at Osiri University are based on the Ubuntu philosophy, which is an African system captured by 3 C's: community, cooperation, and co-prosperity. Rather than simply granting certificates and degrees, Osiri University's focus is on developing learners' talents, the 3C's, and critical thinking skills. Consistent with the 3 C's, learners aspire to use knowledge to improve themselves first and then their communities. Osiri University challenges learners to be self-aware, open in their thinking, inclusive in their actions, and driven by the timeless value of Ubuntu. This approach helps them acquire the necessary knowledge and wisdom required to contribute to the sustainable advancement of their communities. We achieve this by empowering our students and by building team spirit and trust in our classrooms and learning communities.

Osiri University is a multidisciplinary-oriented, solutions-driven institution where ideas are born and dreams are realized. We are poised to innovate on how people acquire and use knowledge. We believe the traditional system of learning, with brick-and-mortar structures, is not well equipped to serve many communities. In fact, the COVID-19 global pandemic that started in 2020 has brought to the forefront an alternative approach to providing education and training: using emerging online technologies such as Zoom, Skype, Microsoft Teams, Webex, and Google Meet. We at Osiri University are embracing this nascent transformation of the education space. We plan to serve communities, regardless of their locations across the globe, by providing a myriad of pathways for people to acquire a high-quality transformative higher education experience.

Osiri University exists to educate and develop leaders to create a better world. We do this by adhering to our motto, UBUNTU, and by re-imagining time-tested African values that have undergirded great ancient civilizations (e.g. Kemet and Songhai). Osiri University stands in contrast to the colonial and post-colonial educational systems, which have alienated many from their cultures (religion, values, dress, music, etc.). Thus, we strive to be a fulfilling experience that prepares community-oriented leaders to make real sustainable positive impact in society.

Osiri University challenges leaders to connect with their communities and to solve their problems, a process that begins when leaders are empowered by their global citizenship, history, and culture. Osiri University endeavors to individualize education, making it culturally and locally relevant. Our vision is to deliver relevant, high-quality education at scale. This means that we must eliminate or lower barriers to education by keeping tuition and other costs associated with education affordable. We must also be lean and efficient in our operation while attracting talented staff, instructors, and administrators who prioritize making an impact.

Additionally, Osiri University values multidisciplinary education. Because societal issues are hydra-headed and multifaceted, our approach is to equip leaders with broad knowledge of different areas, making them well-rounded critical thinkers, who are literate in a variety of fields, including the humanities. Traditionally, Africans

have valued respect for life, diversity, and our elders, and favored the practical use of knowledge and we at Osiri University recognize and respect the different ways that many people and cultures acquire and use knowledge. Therefore, learners at Osiri University are encouraged to gather and apply knowledge to improve themselves and their communities in a manner that is ethical, sustainable, and consistent with their cultural identity.

A successful student at Osiri University is one who not only demonstrates a mastery of the material taught, but one who internalizes the values of Osiri University. As one progresses through Osiri University, a successful student will experience a corresponding positive change in his or her life and the way he or she relates to his or her community. As such, graduating from Osiri University is a celebration of a student's readiness and confidence to unleash his or her full potential for self-growth and community advancement.

We at Osiri University believe that knowledge acquisition and the wise application of this acquired knowledge are the highest forms of service. We believe in and encourage students to become lifelong learners, regardless of where they are in their life's journey, whether they are raising a family, pursuing a career, getting a unique experience, and so on. Moreover, learning opportunities may occur in a wide variety of environments such as in a formal brick-and-mortar environment, on the job, among friends and acquaintances, within one's larger community, and/or virtually, just to name a few places. We at Osiri University embrace knowledge and truth irrespective of the source, place, and time. At Osiri, instructors (malamai) are committed to helping leaders transition ***from success to greatness!***

**EXHIBIT A – PROPOSED OFFERINGS AND AWARDS (All courses are 3 credit hours unless otherwise stated, Practicum and thesis can be 6-12 credit hours)**

***AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE & NATURAL RESOURCES***

***Master of Science in Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture (8 Courses and thesis)***

**Program Description**

The Master of Science in Food Systems and Sustainable Agriculture will equip students with the tools, knowledge, and training to develop and manage food systems. The program considers the agricultural value chain - from farm to table - at the local, regional, and global levels. Graduates will understand the relationships and connections between planetary activities and food systems, with an emphasis on climate change, renewable resources, waste reduction, responsible sourcing, regenerative agriculture, and healthy oceans. Additionally, graduates will develop and sharpen the leadership skills essential to create change and achieve impact—from the local to the global level. Graduates will transform food systems and use sustainable agricultural practices at the local level, in small, grassroots initiatives and from within large organizations by influencing change up, down, and across departments. Graduates will drive reform and influence mindsets to inspire and create sustainable business models for the future.

***Certificate in Food Product Development***

1. Food Safety and Preservation (Prof. Helen Onyeaka)
2. Food Product Development (Prof. Charles Nwaizu)
3. Food Materials and Processing Operations (Dr. Idaresit Ekaette)

***Certificate in Food Security and Sustainability***

4. Food Sustainability and Security (Prof. Helen Onyeaka, Dr. Semiu Bello)
5. Global Challenges in Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ozioma Nwabor, Dr. John Dickson)
6. Managing Agriculture in a Changing Global Climate (Dr. Theo Udeigwe, Dr. Ikechi Agbugba)

***Required Core for Graduate Degree***

7. Human Knowledge, Philosophy and Ethics (Dr. Mammo Muchie, Dr. Nneka Onuma & Nwabueze Nwokolo)
8. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Leadership (Dr. Amarachi Amaugo, Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi, Dr. Prabha Bholá, and Dr. Chiogo Ikokwu)
9. Practicum/Research thesis (Dr. Lucky Gospel Amaugo, Dr. Prince Zogli, Dr. Deepa VK)

***BUSINESS***

***Master of Business in Sustainable Business Leadership (8 courses and thesis/practicum)***

**Program Description**

Graduates of the Master of Business Administration in Sustainable Business Leadership will develop business management skills while focusing on leading responsible fiscal, environmental and societal practices. Graduates will demonstrate the impact of an organization's or society's activities on humanity, profits and the environment and the role of leadership on the three. Graduates will develop and sharpen the leadership skills essential to create change and achieve local and global impact. Graduates will help people change and reach their team and personal goals. The practicum course will prepare students to pursue a Six Sigma Green Belt Certification through the Six Sigma Council.

***Certificate in Business Strategy***

1. Business Strategy (Prof. Stephen Little)
2. Finance for Leaders (Prof. Adrienne Muldrow)
3. Marketing for Leaders (Dr. Mike Manga, Napa Onwusah)

### ***Certificate in Applied International Trade***

1. Macroeconomics (Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi and Dr. Phemelo Tamasiga)
2. International Trade (Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi and Dr. Phemelo Tamasiga)
3. Data Science and Analytics (Dr. Phemelo Tamasiga, Tochukwu Uwakeme, and Lorenzo Ball)

### ***Required Core for Graduate Degree***

7. Human Knowledge, Philosophy and Ethics (Dr. Mammo Muchie, Dr. Nneka Onuma & Nwabueze Nwokolo)
8. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Leadership (Dr. Amarachi Amaugo, Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi, Dr. Prabha Bhola, and Dr. Chiogo Ikokwu)
9. Practicum/Research thesis (Prof. Daniel Bumblauskas, Dr. Prince Zogli, Dr. Prabha Bhola)

## ***HUMANITIES***

### ***Master of Arts in Inclusive Education (8 courses and thesis/practicum)***

#### **Program Description**

Graduates of the Master of Arts in Inclusive Education will be able administer and consult within the field of education as well as instruct on the techniques of successfully disseminating material to people of varying age, cultural background, experiences, gender, physical ability and ethnicity. Focusing on removing barriers ensuring all students have an equal opportunity at education, the program will prepare graduates to: 1) teach in the classroom effectively, 2) start or administer a school, or 3) become a consultant for other schools. Osiri University is currently discussing affiliation with the American Montessori Society, which would allow graduates to obtain a professional Montessori credential.

### ***Certificate in Advocacy, Inclusion, and Diversity in Education***

1. Leadership, Personal Growth and Development (Dr. Paul Easterling; Eliana Martins)
2. Leading with Humanity: Creating Positive Learning Environments (Archie Darwin, Dr. Amarachi Amaugo, Dr. Mike Manga)
3. Understanding Barriers to Learning: Education and Human Flourishing (Dr. Paul Easterling, Thomas Christie, and Prof. Natasha Ramsay-Jordan)

### ***Certificate in Educating Children***

4. Child Development (Dr. Ariri Onchwari, Dr. Uloma Obi, Joy Oju, and Aggie Mejooli)
5. Child, Family, Community and Environmental Design (Prof. Natasha Ramsay-Jordan, Prof. Serie McDougal, Dr. HaniHani Moundiba)
6. Human Centered Pedagogy and Philosophy (Dr. HaniHani Moundiba, Dr. Serie McDougal, and Dr. Paul Easterling)

### ***Required Core for Graduate Degree***

7. Human Knowledge, Philosophy and Ethics (Dr. Mammo Muchie, Dr. Nneka Onuma & Nwabueze Nwokolo)
8. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Leadership (Dr. Amarachi Amaugo, Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi, Dr. Prabha Bhola, and Dr. Chiogo Ikokwu)
9. Practicum/Research thesis (Dr. Deepa VK, Dr. Lucky Gospel Amaugo)

### ***Master of Arts in Acting and Performance (8 courses and practicum)***

#### **Program Description**

Graduates of the Master of Arts in Acting and Performance train in theatrical performance, voice, movement and acting for a career as instructor or artist. Graduates will awaken their creativity and unleash their expressive prowess in theater and acting. Additionally, graduates will be able to leverage their skills to tell their own stories and those of others in their study. The acting practicum is dedicated to teaching a professional acting technique called The Chubbuck Technique. Therefore, graduates of this program will meet the Advanced Level of the Chubbuck Acting Technique and will be on their way towards fulfilling the Masters Level of the Chubbuck Acting Technique, if they so choose.

### ***Certificate in Performance Arts***

1. Script Analysis and Interpretation (Fiifi Coleman and Dr. Tia-Monique Uzor)
2. Performance (Siza Kalu Amah and Dr. Tia-Monique Uzor)
3. Essentials of Film Acting (Jonna Johnson)

### ***Certificate in Acting for Film and Media***

4. Method and Character Acting (Dr. Tia-Monique Uzor, Jonna Johnson and Chuma Anagbado)
5. Directing for Stage and Television (Fiifi Coleman and Chuma Anagbado)
6. Acting for Stage, Screen and Film (Fiifi Coleman and Jonna Johnson)

### ***Required Core for Graduate Degree***

7. Human Knowledge, Philosophy and Ethics (Dr. Mammo Muchie, Dr. Nneka Onuma & Nwabueze Nwokolo)
8. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Leadership (Dr. Amarachi Amaugo, Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi, Dr. Prabha Bhola, and Dr. Chiogo Ikokwu)
9. Acting Practicum (Jonna Johnson)

## ***ENGINEERING***

### ***Master of Science in Smart Manufacturing (8 Courses and thesis/practicum)***

#### **Program Description**

The Master of Science in Smart Manufacturing will equip graduates with cutting-edge digital technology and advanced level of knowledge in computing, networking, sensing technologies, security and the digitally-enabled value chain that supports the development and operation of Industry 4.0. Graduates will contribute and actively participate in the highly demanded market of modern manufacturing. The program considers new and sophisticated manufacturing trends, which rests at the intersection of people and machine. Thus, graduates will learn how to use computational tools to generate scenarios and make prudent decisions in manufacturing. Graduates will learn how lean methods can be applied within any industry. Graduates will develop and sharpen their leadership skills essential to create change and achieve impact in manufacturing by considering recycling, waste reduction, logistics issues, automation, robots, and co-bots. Graduates will also learn how to integrate people and their cultures on a common work platform. Applicants will have the option of completing a practicum course that prepares them to take the Six Sigma Green Belt Certification exam.

### ***Certificate in Sustainable Designing and Modeling***

1. Computer Aided Design (Dr. Emmanuel Akintunde, Tochukwu Uwakeme, and Dr. Charles Nwaizu)
2. Computational Modeling (Dr. Noble Anumbe, Prof. Debraj Bhattacharjee, Tochukwu Uwakeme, Victor Kaukha and Dr. Charles Nwaizu)
3. Computational Physics (Dr. Bonny Onuikwe, Tochukwu Uwakeme, and Dr. Charles Nwaizu)

### ***Certificate in Sensors and Robotics***

4. Data Science and Analytics (Dr. Phemelo Tamasiga, Tochukwu Uwakeme, and Lorenzo Ball)
5. Robotics and Embedded Systems (Cyril Azubuine, Dr. Anselm Ogah, and Dr. Charles Nwaizu)
6. Integrated Power Resource Planning (Banteyun Tezazu, Dr. Urenna Onyenwuchi)

### ***Required Core for Graduate Degree***

7. Human Knowledge, Philosophy and Ethics (Dr. Mammo Muchie, Dr. Nneka Onuma & Nwabueze Nwokolo)
8. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Leadership (Dr. Amarachi Amaugo, Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi, Dr. Prabha Bhola, and Dr. Chiogo Ikokwu)
9. Practicum/Research thesis (Prof. Daniel Bumblauskas, Prof. Debraj Bhattacharjee)

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS**

### ***Master of Science in Data and Information Systems (8 Courses and thesis/practicum)***

#### **Program Description**

The Master of Science in Data and Information Systems will equip the graduate with latest tools and analytical methods necessary to work with large-scale data. In the information age where data and information are abundant, students will learn how to analyze, manipulate, extrapolate, interpret and configure data to derive insights from complex and unstructured data. You will learn how to use these tools and methods to tackle problems that plague the world at the individual, organizational and societal levels. Graduates will be prepared to take the certification exams in data science and artificial intelligence to become a Certified Data Science Practitioner (CDSP) and Certified Artificial Intelligence Practitioner (CAIP).

*Any six courses from this list:*

1. Internet of Things (Dr. Fred Ezeh and Bamidele Christopher)
2. Geographic Information Systems (Bamidele Christopher)
3. Computer Networking and Data Communication (Dr. Oluwatola Akintoye)
4. Cybersecurity (Dr. Oluwatola Akintoye, Wise Osagie)
5. Database Management Systems (Dr. Chioma Bedford Fubara and Catherine Opara Ujuchukwu)
6. Data Science and Analytics (Dr. Phemelo Tamasiga, Tochukwu Uwakeme, and Lorenzo Ball)
7. Artificial Intelligence (Dr. Nne Saturday and Dr. Chioma Bedford Fubara)
8. Machine Learning (Dr. Eddie Salakpi)

#### ***Required Core for Graduate Degree***

9. Human Knowledge, Philosophy and Ethics (Dr. Mammo Muchie, Dr. Nneka Onuma & Nwabueze Nwokolo)
10. Sustainable Entrepreneurship and Leadership (Dr. Amarachi Amaugo, Dr. Richard Adu-Gyamfi, Dr. Prabha Bholá, and Dr. Chiogo Ikokwu)
11. Research thesis/practicum (Dr. Fred Ezeh, Dr. Prince Zogli)

### **Career Readiness Certificate**

The Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) program aims to brand job seekers while providing them with strategies and skills that will help them become resilient in the ever-changing global economic landscape. Nebraska has a very low unemployment rate (<2%) and many company positions remain unfilled for a long time. Though the CRC program is one hundred percent online, immigrants and refugees residing in the State of Nebraska can leverage the CRC program to jumpstart their careers by participating virtually. The CRC program at Osiri University is available to in-state and out-of-state residents, including those who are interested in relocating to Nebraska for new careers.

The CRC program goes beyond the career development pyramid approach to help students explore and enhance their skills, understand the employment landscape and plan their careers. At the base of the pyramid, which describes the process of career development is Self-Assessment, which considers ones personality, values, skills and interests. Above Self-Assessment is Industry Research, followed by Focus and Preparation, then Job Search, and finally ending with Career Management at the apex of the pyramid.

Modeled after the NACE (National Association of Colleges and Employers) career readiness competencies, the CRC prepares students for success in the workplace. The certificate will cover eight topics in a span of eight weeks.

- 1) Career and self-development: Discovering interests, identifying and building on core competencies, career planning, job search activities, such as job shadowing, interview skills, and resume-building
- 2) Communication: Effective workplace communication and Public speaking
- 3) Critical Thinking: Problem solving and Decision-making strategies

- 4) Equity and Inclusion: Key aspects of successful cross-cultural interactions
- 5) Leadership: How to engage with and motivate others towards a common goal
- 6) Professionalism: Dependability, consistency, commitment to doing a good job
- 7) Teamwork: Building strong positive working relationships
- 8) Technology: Basic computer skills to enhance efficiencies, complete tasks, and accomplish goals

The following will be involved in the CRC program: Dr. Agatha Ampaire, Dr. HaniHani Moundiba, Dr. Emmah Mwema, Dr. Benita Bulle, Archie Darwin, Victor Kaukha, TJ McDowell



**EXHIBIT B – TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND TIMELINES (Courses are 5 or 8 week long)**

**January 2023 – April 2023:** Student recruiting by consultant and promotion of degree programs by RedThread Ad Agency.

**May – July 2023:** Enrollment in graduate degree and certificate programs.

**Fall 2023:** Launch of Osiri University courses for graduate and certificate degree programs. Five-week courses can be offered in any session. Eight-week courses can start in sessions 1 or 2, not in session 3.

**Fall 2023:**

*Session 1: Aug 21 – Sep 28, 2023*

*Session 2: Oct 1 – Nov 5, 2023*

*Session 3: Nov 7 – Dec 13, 2023*

**Spring 2024:**

*Session 1: Jan 21 – Feb 28, 2024*

*Session 2: Mar 1 – April 5, 2024*

*Session 3: Apr 7 – May 13, 2024*

**Summer 2024:**

*Session 1: May 21 – Jun 28, 2024*

*Session 2: Jul 1 – Aug 6, 2024*