

MAKERERE

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OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

5th January 2010

To all Staff,

ACTING VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MONTHLY PRESS BRIEFING 4TH JAN 2010

1. Introductions

The Acting Vice-Chancellor started off his briefing by introducing himself and members of the University Management;

- i) Prof. Venansius Baryamureeba – Ag. Vice Chancellor
- ii) Prof. Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza – Ag. Deputy VC Academic Affairs
- iii) Prof. Sande Tickodri-Togboa – Ag. Deputy VC Finance & Administration
- iv) Mr. Kahundha Muhwezi – University Secretary
- v) Mr. Alfred Masikye Namoah – Academic Registrar
- vi) Dr. Maria Musoke – University Librarian
- vii) Mr. Joshua Karamagi – University Bursar

2. Opening of up-country campuses

Makerere University will officially open two up-country university campuses on 30th January 2010. These will be based in Jinja and Fort-Portal.

Jinja Campus will offer the following programmes

- i) Bachelor of Science in Computer Science (CSC)
- ii) Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT)
- iii) Bachelor of Development Studies (DVS)

- iv) Bachelor of Tourism (BTM)
- v) Bachelor of Laws (LAW)

Fort-Portal Campus will offer the following programmes

- i) Bachelor of Science in Quantity Surveying (SQS)
- ii) Bachelor of Science in Land Economics (SLE)
- iii) Bachelor of Science in Quantitative Economics (BQE)
- iv) Bachelor of Science in Business Statistics (BBS)
- v) Bachelor of Business Administration (ADM)
- vi) Bachelor of Commerce (COE)

The recruitment of new staff to teach first year students at these campuses is currently in progress. Some of the current Academic staff at Makerere will be posted to the up-country campuses to back-up the new staff and some of the newly recruited staff will be positioned at the main campus, where they will get acquainted with the academic structure.

Future plans for the up-country campuses include linking them up to the nationwide fiber backbone, so as to receive real-time lectures via video conferencing facilities. Other courses like Nursing will also be introduced, which will also link-up via tele-medicine to the College of Health Sciences.

The University will initially admit one hundred students per course and the deadline for submission of applications is **15th January 2010**.

3. Makerere – Government relations

Over the last three months, relations between the Government and the University have greatly improved. Improvements have seen the President officially preside over the 20th anniversary of the Department of Food Science and Technology, where he opened the Food Technology and Business Incubator and so far, financial and technical support through the Uganda Industrial Research Institute has been received.

On 12th December 2009, the President met with members of the Makerere University Academic Staff Association, where he promised to address the plight of the Academics. On 28th December, a Team from the Faculty of Technology led by the Dean Ass. Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe met with the President at State House Entebbe, where he pledged the Government's support to allocate resources to the tune of Uganda Shillings 25 billion over 5 years aimed at rehabilitation of laboratories and funding selected research projects. Uganda Shillings 9 billion of the total is expected in the next financial year.

Strategic partnerships aimed at complementing government programmes have been formed at unit levels i.e. The College of Health Sciences and the Faculties of Veterinary Medicine, Agriculture and Computing & IT.

4. The Deposit Administration Plan (DAP) status

This retirement scheme was run by the National Insurance Corporation (NIC) on behalf of Makerere University staff between July 1996 and June 2005, when the scheme was halted.

NIC agreed to a forensic audit aimed at establishing the right amount of money the Corporation owes Makerere University. The cost of this audit is to be met by both NIC and Makerere University.

5. 60th Graduation Ceremony

This ceremony will run from 18th January to 22nd January 2010. On 18th January, His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni will attend the graduation ceremony, where he will be honored with an Honorary Doctorate of Law from Makerere University, for his distinguished service to this Nation, Uganda and the region.

6. Transcripts

As parents and graduands attend the 60th Graduation ceremony, 13,178 transcripts will be ready for issuing. As of this week, 8,502 transcripts have been produced and the remainder will be ready by graduation.

To date, only 6,429 students have cleared with the university as required before graduation. Only those students that have cleared with the University by the date of Graduation will receive their transcripts. Smith & Ouzman Limited, a UK-based Security Printing Solutions company won the tender to print the Graduation Certificates, which will be ready two weeks after the last day of graduation.

7. Relationship with the Media

Makerere University and its Management are committed to working with the Media. However, not everyone will be approached as a source of information. The Vice-Chancellor as the Chief Executive of the University is the primary source of information, assisted by the Public Relations Office.

Yours faithfully,

Gilbert Kadilo

SENIOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER