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OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

6th September, 2010

To: Members of Staff

THE NINTH VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MONTHLY PRESS BRIEFING, HELD ON MONDAY 6TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Introduction

The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Venansius Baryamureeba welcomed the University Management, Members of staff and the media to the ninth monthly press briefing. Professor Baryamureeba then introduced the participating units namely the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI) under the Makerere University College of Health Science.

In attendance were:

- i. Professor Venansius Baryamureeba – Ag. Vice Chancellor
- ii. Mr. Alfred Masikye Namoah – Academic Registrar
- iii. Mr. David Kahundha Muhwezi - University Secretary
- iv. Mr. Joshua Karamagi. – University Bursar
- v. Mr. Cyriaco Kabagambe - Dean of Students
- vi. Dr. Alex Coutinho- Executive Director, IDI
- vii. Dr. Yuka Manabe – Head of Research, IDI
- viii. Mr. Andrew D. Kambugu – Head Prevention Care, IDI
- ix. Dr. Charles Bwana– Ag. Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
- x. Professor Charles Rwabukwali – Professor, Faculty of Social Sciences
- xi. Dr. S.K. Simba- Head, Department of Political Science
- xii. Dr. Vincent A. Ssembatya- Director, Quality Assurance
- xiii. Mr. Barugahare Charles- Director, Internal Audit
- xiv. Mr. Michael Niyitegeka- Member, Public Relations and Communications Board
- xv. Mr. Goddy Muhumuza – Ag. Senior Legal Officer

- xvi. Ms Ritah Namisango – Public Relations Office
- xvii. Mr. Mark Wamai – Public Relations Office
- xviii. Mr. Agaba Issa- Public Relations Office
- xix. Mrs. Maureen Mayanja- Public Relations Office

1. Acting Vice-Chancellor's briefing

Transcripts and Certificates

All transcripts for all students who graduated in January 2010 and previous years were produced. Those who have not picked their transcripts can now pick them as soon as possible.

All certificates for Masters and PhD programmes for all students who graduated in January 2010 and previous years have also finally been processed so all those who have not picked their certificates should do so.

All certificates for students who graduated before 2010 were produced with exception of the following:

- i. BA Education April 2004 graduands;
- ii. BA Education April and October 2005 graduands;
- iii. B.Ed April and October 2005 graduands;
- iv. BA Education March and October 2006 graduands;
- v. B.Ed March and October 2006 graduands;
- vi. B.Com March and October 2006 graduands;
- vii. BA Education February 2007 graduands;
- viii. B.Com February 2007 graduands;
- ix. B.Ed February 2007 graduands.

These pending certificates shall be produced before end of September 2010. Those who have never picked the already produced certificates should do so as soon as possible.

For undergraduate graduands of January 2010 the certificates of all graduands from the following units were printed in the UK by Smith and Ouzman Ltd and delivered at Makerere University in March 2010:

Faculty of Technology, Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation, Institute of Environment and Natural Resources, Faculty of Science, the College of Health Sciences [School of Public Health, School of Health Sciences, School of Biomedical Sciences and School of Medicine], Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Faculty of Law. The graduands from the above faculties who have not picked their certificates should also do so.

Certificates for graduands from the other academic units have also been printed in the UK by Smith and Ouzman Ltd and are expected to be ready and arrive at Makerere University next week.

All Transcripts for students who shall graduate in January 2011 shall be ready before end of October 2010 and the corresponding certificates shall be ready before graduation in 2011, i.e. students shall be given certificates on graduation day. Certificates should be picked any time from 1st November 2010 (or before 1st November 2010 for some faculties/ schools/ institutes as will be communicated by the Academic Registrar from time to time)

Conmen claiming to be employees of Makerere University

The public is warned of conmen claiming to be employees of Makerere University or claiming to be working on behalf of top officers of Makerere University. They are trying to take advantage of the recent development in regard to University land. We would like to make it clear that the University land is not up for sale or leasing. We shall develop it as a University in partnership with the private and public sectors.

Makerere University Attracting Best Talent

In October 2009 the Chancellor of Makerere University, Prof. Mondo Kagonyera, on recommendation of the University Council that is chaired by Hon Mathew Rukikaire appointed Prof. Venansius Baryamureeba Acting Vice-Chancellor; Prof. Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic Affairs) and Dr. Sandy Stevens Tickodri-Togboa Acting Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Finance and Administration). The appointments were effective 1st November 2009. In Uganda, Makerere University has always attracted and retained top talented academicians. No wonder Makerere University is ranked the 13th best University in Africa and the best University outside South Africa and Egypt.

From November 2009, the Makerere University Appointments Board, chaired by Mr. Stephen Maloba, has been able to attract top talented Ugandans in both the **private** and **public** sectors into key management positions at Makerere University despite the fact that **most of those recruited were earning much more than what they are being paid at Makerere University today**. This has demonstrated that Makerere University is once again a priority employer not only for academicians but also for managers and administrators. With the best academicians and managers in place, **Makerere University without a doubt is slated to once again become the Harvard of Africa** (best/ University of Choice in University in Africa).

The new members of University Management that assumed office since 1st January 2010 include:

1.1. University Secretary – Mr. David Kahundha Muhwezi

Holds an MBA (Finance & Accounting) and a Bachelor of Commerce both from Makerere University. He also holds a Diploma of Education from Makerere University.

He brings a wealth of experience gained from working for over 15years in Makerere University. He was also the first founder Chairperson of the Makerere University Administrative Staff Association (MASA).

1.2. Academic Registrar – Mr. Alfred Masikye Namoah

He holds a Masters of Development Studies from the University College in Dublin and a Post Graduate Diploma in Education from Makerere University. He also has a Certificate in Peace and Conflict Transformation, from European University Centre for Peace Studies. He is a Social Scientist/ Graduate teacher by profession.

Mr. Masikye Namoah has had a commendable working experience over the years. He was appointed by the Ministry of Public Service (Ministry of Local Government) as Lecturer at Nsamizi Training Institute of Social Development. He then joined Makerere University administration as Senior Assistant Registrar in the Academic Registrar's Department and later became Senior Deputy Registrar, School of Graduate Studies. While serving as Deputy Registrar, Mr. Namoah also represented the Administrative staff on the Makerere University Council.

1.3. Director Investment – Mr. Patrick C. Mutimba

Holds the Chartered Financial Analyst designation, an MBA and other related designations including the ACI Treasury dealing certificate, and he is a Fellow of the Association of International Accountants.

He brings experience gained from a wide exposure to financial markets in the region spanning a period of about two decades. He worked with Stanbic Investment Management Services (EA), AIG Investments (now PineBridge Investments), Barclays Bank Treasury, Mengo Hospital, UGAFODE and Bank of Uganda in various roles.

1.4. Director Audit – Mr. Charles Barugahare

Holds a Masters in Business Administration from Eastern and Southern Africa Management Institute (ESAMI), Fellow Chartered Certified Accountant (FCCA), and a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting Option) degree from Makerere University.

Has worked as Chief Internal Auditor since January 2005 to July 2010 for The Aids Support Organization (TASO) Uganda Ltd. He has held positions of Senior Internal Auditor, Internal Auditor, Accountant/Administrator, Assistant Accounts officer respectively.

1.5. Director Finance/ University Bursar – Mr. Joshua S. Karamagi

Holds an MBA (Edinburgh Business School), CPA (Uganda & Kenya-Strathmore College) and a Bachelor of Commerce from Makerere University. He is a Professional Certified Public Accountant of both Uganda and Kenya.

He brings a wealth of experience from several years of financial Management in the Public and Private sectors such as: Ministry of Finance, National Social Security Fund (NSSF), Uganda Breweries Limited, Zain Uganda, PriceWaterHouseCoopers, among others.

1.6. Director Quality Assurance – Dr. Vincent A. Ssembatya

Holds a PhD in Mathematics from the University of Florida, USA, a Masters and Bachelors of Sciences from Makerere University

He brings experience gained as Dean, Faculty of Science-Makerere University (2005 – 2009) and Head, Department of Science. Nationally, he has been involved in a number of task forces including the Management Team for setting up the Uganda Petroleum Institute and the task force for writing the 2nd phase of the Lake Victoria Environmental Management Programme, among others.

1.7. Dean of Students – Mr. Kabagambe Cyriaco Mboherwa

Holds an M.A .Ed.Mgt (MUK), BA (Hons) MUK, Dip.Ed.(MUK) and was Dean of students at Kyambogo University prior to becoming Dean of Students at Makerere University. He had outstanding and distinguished experience in student affairs management especially in governance, student leadership and welfare administration, career guidance, discipline and networking.

1.8. University Librarian – Prof. Maria Goretti Musoke

Prof. Maria Musoke holds a PHD in Information Science and a Masters of Librarianship and Information Science from the University of Wales, UK. She also holds a Post-graduate Diploma in Librarianship, Makerere University and a Bachelor of Science and Diploma in Education, Makerere University.

2.0 Presentation from the Ag. Dean Faculty of Social Sciences

Faculty of Social Science embarks on professionalizing UPDF

Since 2004, the Faculty of Social Sciences has been having collaboration with the senior Command and staff College, Kimaka. The Senior Command and staff College was set up by government on way of professionalizing the Uganda Police's Defense Forces. Makerere University was invited to participate in this process of professionalizing the military.

Specifically, the Faculty offers lectures on national and international affairs to the senior military officers at the College. The objective of the lectures is to enhance the officers' understanding of the international system particularly on issues relating to international security. The lectures also aim at enhancing the ability of the senior military officers at the college to understand Uganda's security threats. The military officers at the College are from Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Southern Sudan.

The Senior Command and Staff College, Kimaka has written to Makerere University requesting to be affiliated to it. When this happens, the college in collaboration with the Faculty of Social Sciences intends to give a Masters degree in Defense and Strategic Studies to the senior military officers, who meet the requirements as part of government efforts to professionalize the army.

3. Presentation from the Director, Infectious Disease Institute (IDI)

Innovative treatment approaches facilitating HIV care for over 17,000 PHAs

Since the inception of the clinical care programme for persons living with HIV/AIDS (PHAs) at the Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI) in October 2004, the Institute has innovatively responded to the high demand for HIV treatment. These innovations have enabled IDI to provide HIV care services to over 17,000 PHAs representing almost 5% of national HIV care burden.

Since 2006, the IDI has implemented a number of innovative strategies to handle the increasing volumes of patients. These can be summarized into 2 broad strategies;

- Internal strategies (within the IDI clinic) to increase clinic efficiency through “task shifting”. As the quality of life for patients on medication improved, categories of clinic visits that do not require a doctor were introduced in a systematic criteria-driven way. This enabled up the doctors to attend to more complicated cases, while reducing the overall transit time of patients through the clinic.
- An external strategy through the development of a referral system with Kampala City Council health facilities (6 health centres including Kiswa, Kiruddu, Kitebi, Komamboga, Kisenyi and Kawaala). Under the latter arrangement HIV care capacity was developed for the 6 health centres resulting in the ability to enrol patients at these facilities.

To date up to 10,000 active PHAs are followed up at the IDI clinic with 6500 on the life-prolonging antiretroviral therapy (ART). Almost half (42%) of the clinic visits at IDI are now non-doctor visits and a preliminary analysis reveals of this initiative indicates that the quality of life of patients on non-doctor visits has not deteriorated.

“Furthermore, an additional 7300 PHAs are receiving care from the 6 KCC clinics that IDI has developed. This number includes 2873 that are on antiretroviral therapy” added Dr. Coutinho, Executive Director-IDI.

Effects of antiretroviral therapy (ART) initiation

The Research Department at IDI has been engaged in clinical research since 2005 and currently has over 40 funded studies looking at various clinical questions surrounding HIV and related infections. Findings reveal that initiation of ART late in HIV disease when patients are severely immuno-compromised increases the risk for early mortality, opportunistic diseases and immune reconstitution inflammatory disease. Findings suggest that if ART is initiated at higher CD4 T cell counts when

patients are less immuno-suppressed, fewer patients will die after ART. IDI is currently involved in 2 prospective studies to examine the issue of early mortality after ART:

- 1) A demonstration study in Kiboga District Hospital in which patients are initiated on ART within weeks of eligibility determination and screened for both TB and cryptococcal disease
- 2) PROMPT randomized clinical trial to examine the treatment of severely immuno-suppressed patients with low body mass index empirically with anti-TB medications compared to ART alone

.....We build for the future.....

Sincerely: Ritah Namisango, Makerere University Public Relations Office.