

# MAKERERE

P.O. Box 7062  
Kampala Uganda  
Website: <http://mak.ac.ug>



# UNIVERSITY

Tel: (Gen) +256-414-532631/4  
Fax: +256-414-541068  
E-mail: [pro@admin.mak.ac.ug](mailto:pro@admin.mak.ac.ug)

## OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

6<sup>th</sup> December 2010

To: Members of Staff

### THE 12<sup>TH</sup> VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MONTHLY PRESS BRIEFING, HELD ON MONDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2010

#### Introduction

The Office of the Vice-Chancellor held the 12<sup>th</sup> Monthly Press Briefing aimed at highlighting projects engaged in by the Institute of Psychology (MUIP), the East African School of Library and Information Science (EASLIS) and the Faculty of Computing & Informatics Technology (CIT). Representing the Academic Registrar, Mr. James Okello, the Deputy Registrar (Senate) welcomed the media and members of staff to the press briefing.

In attendance were:

- (i) Mr. James G. Okello – Deputy Registrar (Senate)
- (ii) Dr. George Kiyangi – Ag. Director, EASLIS
- (iii) Dr. David Luyombya – Ag. Head RAM, EASLIS
- (iv) Dr. Josephine Nabukenya – Ag. Dean, CIT
- (v) Mr. Tanga Odoi – Chairperson, MUASA
- (vi) Mr. Michael Niyitegeka – Head of Department, Corporate Relations, CIT
- (vii) Dr. Janet Nambi – Head, Mental Health and Community Psychology, MUIP
- (viii) Dr. Julius Kikooma – Head, Outreach Department, MUIP
- (ix) Prof. Peter Baguma – Head, Organisational Psychology, MUIP
- (x) Ms. Ritah Namisango – Ag. Public Relations Officer
- (xi) Ms. Marion Alina – Assistant Communication Officer, CIT

- (xii) Mr. Mark Wamai – Public Relations Office
- (xiii) Mr. Issa Agaba Mugabo – Public Relations Office
- (xiv) Mrs. Maureen Mayanja – Public Relations Office

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **1.0 President Museveni to receive Makerere University's Honorary Doctor of Laws**

Makerere University is organising a special ceremony to present Honorary Doctor of Laws to two (2) distinguished personalities in recognition of their valuable and outstanding contribution to development and societal needs.

The Chancellor of Makerere University, Professor George Mondo Kagonyera will preside over this special ceremony scheduled to take place on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2010 in the Freedom Square.

By the powers entrusted to him, Professor George Mondo Kagonyera will constitute a special congregation of Makerere University to confer an Honorary Doctor of Laws to H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. Professor Kagonyera will also confer an Honorary Doctor of Laws (posthumously) to H.E Rashid Mfaume Kawawa. The late Rashid Mfaume Kawawa passed away on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009. The family of the late Rashid Mfaume Kawawa will receive the Award.

#### **1.1 Why the special ceremony for the Awards?**

H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and H.E. Rashid Mfaume Kawawa were awarded Honorary Doctorates during the 60th Graduation ceremony held 18<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010. However, one of the recipients-H.E Rashid Mfaume Kawawa had passed away on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009. The family of the late and H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, who was a great friend of the late, were at the time of the 60<sup>th</sup> graduation still mourning his death. In light of this, H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni together with the family of the late requested Makerere University to organise a special ceremony for them to receive these prestigious Awards.

#### **1.2 Background to the Award of an Honorary Doctor of Laws to H.E. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni**

This was in accordance with the Makerere University Statute 13 on Honorary Awards Guidelines and Section 47 of the University and Other Tertiary Institutions Act, which states that *the Senate may consider conferring an Honorary Degree upon any person who has excelled in any sector of life as it*

*may deem fit on the recommendation of an Honorary Degrees Committee established jointly by the Senate and the University Council.*

The decision to award H.E. President Yoweri K. Museveni successfully passed through all the vetting procedures leading to this prestigious award. The Honorary Degree Awards Committee vetted the proposal and forwarded its report to the Makerere University Senate. The University Senate then discussed the report and having been satisfied with its work, recommended the proposal to the University Council.

At its 117<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009, the Makerere University Council studied Senate's recommendation and unanimously approved the proposal to honour H.E President Yoweri K. Museveni with an **Honorary Doctor of Laws**.

H.E. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni successfully qualified for this Award basing on a track record of excellence and outstanding achievements in the field of public affairs as outlined below:

1. **Campaign against HIV/AIDS:** H.E. President Museveni's tenure has witnessed one of the most effective responses to HIV/AIDS in Africa. He has received several international and local awards for this effort and attracted international attention to the extent that Uganda has become a reference point for the fight against HIV/AIDS.
2. **Affirmative Action Policy:** While he was still Chancellor of Makerere University, H.E. President Museveni's efforts resulted in a number of developments. Most notable was when he initiated the affirmative action policy by requesting Makerere University to come up with measures to increase the intake of female students. This initiative resulted in the Senate of Makerere University passing a policy on awarding 1.5 points to female applicants. This policy has increased female admissions from 25% in 1990/91 to the current over 40% in most Universities' programmes. He was also instrumental and supportive in the establishment of the Department of Women and Gender Studies. At National level, almost a third of the MPs in Parliament are women.
3. **Promotion of Agricultural Products, Value Addition and Industrialisation:** Since he became President, he recognized the need for Value Addition to agricultural products, Industrialization and Job creation in Uganda. As such, through his patronage and initiative, a Department of Food Science and Technology was established at Makerere University in 1989.

In 2007, the President also caused the allocation of Nakyesasa Farm to the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to enhance the development of Veterinary Medicine in Uganda. H.E. President Museveni has continued to identify Makerere University as a strong partner in Value Addition and food processing and has therefore pledged government's allocation of Shs4.485billion in the next budget towards this initiative.

4. **Governance and Security:** H.E. President Museveni was at the forefront of the bid for Uganda to host the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, which eventually saw the President assume the Commonwealth Chairperson-in-Office role and successfully host CHOGM 2007. As Chairperson of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) in 1991 and 1992, President Museveni permitted a free atmosphere within which the news media could operate, and private stations flourished during the late 1990s. Regionally, His Excellency spearheaded the revival of the East African Community and emphasizing the need to involve the business community, farmers and processors in the Integration process, noting that they were strong allies who understood the value of its realization. With regard to security, President Museveni has managed to restore stability in most parts of Uganda. He has also served as the Leader of FRONASA; Founder and Leader of the Uganda Patriotic Movement (UPM); the Leader of NRM and Commander-in-Chief of the Uganda Army.
5. **The Presidential Science Initiative:** In 2004, President Museveni initiated the Presidential Science Awards to recognize Ugandan Scientists and Technologists for their achievements and contributions to the advancement of Science and Technology in Uganda.
6. **Universal Primary Education (UPE) and Universal Secondary Education (USE):** Through his initiative, the Government of Uganda declared the policy of UPE in 1997, which entitled four children per family to receive free education in Government and Government Aided schools. Enrolment thus more than doubled from 2.5m in 1996 to 6.5m in 2007. In 2008 a total of 516,890 children sat for PLE exams, a completion rate of more than 60%. Further to this, the Government of Uganda started the Universal Secondary Education programme in February 2007 in order absorb pupils who complete Universal Primary Education.
7. **Contribution to the Higher Education Sector:** During his leadership as Head of State of Uganda, H.E Yoweri Museveni has created an enabling environment and supported the Higher Education Sector to expand tremendously, during which four new Public Universities have been set up. In addition, new policy guidelines have resulted in the establishment of over 20

Private Universities in Uganda. H.E. President Museveni has also participated in curriculum Development. Since 2004, he has been Patron of the Association of Uganda Professional Agriculturalists (ASUPA), which is housed at the Faculty of Agriculture, Makerere University. Under his patronage, ASUPA has contributed greatly in developing new Bachelor of Science programmes in Agriculture, Aquaculture and Animal Husbandry, which are crucial to national development.

8. **Preservation of Ankole Cows:** H.E. President Museveni is the only Ugandan farmer who has conserved a large herd of indigenous Ankole cows and has supported the conservation and sperm of the local breeds. University researchers have been working with him to ensure the Ankole Cow does not become extinct.

9. **Scholarly Contributions and Publications:** H.E. President Museveni has generously used his experience to pass on the treasure of knowledge through the following publications:

- a. *Fanon's Theory on Violence: Its Verification in Liberated Mozambique*
- b. *Sowing the Mustard Seed: The Struggle for Freedom and Democracy in Uganda*
- c. *What is Africa's Problem?*
- d. Kinyankore Dictionary (in Press)

H.E President Museveni has also received notable Honours and Awards from other universities namely

- i) Doctor of Laws, Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, University of Minnesota, June 23, 1994
- ii) Doctor of Laws, Mbarara University of Science and Technology

## **2.0 Makerere University to transform into a Collegiate University**

The Makerere University Council has approved the Senate recommendation to transform Makerere University into a collegiate university.

The University Council made the decision during its special meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2010.

Established in 1922, Makerere University has grown over the years to become one of the leading universities in Africa. Currently, Makerere University has one Constituent College (the College of

Health Sciences) and twenty two Faculties, Schools and Institutes offering day, evening and external study programmes to a student body of over 30,000 undergraduates and postgraduates.

The University Council together with the University Senate observed that Makerere University had become too big to be managed at the Centre. There was a need to divide functions between the central administration of the university and viable constituent colleges.

The transformation into a collegiate university involves restructuring of the twenty two existing academic units into eight (8) constituent colleges and two (2) schools.

A statement from the University Senate stated that restructuring of the academic units into constituent colleges is aimed at improving service delivery, reducing the red tape in the management of the university's affairs and enhancing quality in the core functions of the university.

**The following eight (8) constituent colleges will have been established not later than 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011**

1. College of Health Sciences (*Established 1<sup>st</sup> December 2007 under the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act-Establishment of College of Health Sciences, Makerere University Order 2008.*)
2. College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
3. College of Humanities
4. Colleges of Computing and Information Sciences
5. College of Business and Management Sciences
6. College of Education and External Studies
7. College of Natural Sciences
8. College of Engineering, Design, and Technology

**Schools**

The Faculty of Law and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine be transformed into schools

1. School of Veterinary Medicine
2. School of Law

**3.0 Presentation of the East African School of Library and Information Science (EASLIS)**

**3.1 Makerere University reaches out to the South-Sudan Population**

Makerere is now educating the South Sudan population, especially the female, on different methods of librarianship, while strengthening the capacity of libraries in Southern Sudan and reviewing Library and Information Science curriculum in the institutions of higher education under the project ***Capacity Building for Southern Sudan-Educating Librarians for the Future (EDLIB)***.

The EDLIB project is about building capacity in Sudan, especially in the South, which has been almost destroyed by war. The EDLIB project therefore comprises a number of initiatives in form of development programmes and projects aimed at revamping and developing education, and management of libraries in the region.

Funded by the Norwegian University Cooperation Programme for Capacity Development in Sudan (NUCOOP) in the Norwegian Programme for Development Research and Education (NUFU), The EDLIB project that started in 2009 is under the East African School of Library and Information Science (EASLIS) at Makerere University.

This project is a follow-up of an earlier project on “Juba University Automation Project (JULAP)”. The main objective of JULAP was to develop and automate the Juba University Library in Southern Sudan. Consequently University of Juba staffs were trained by EASLIS staff in basic library science and library management systems to enable them to acquire skills and knowledge for running their library. Within a year of implementation of this project, there were requests from other Universities and government authorities in Southern Sudan for expansion of the project in the whole of Southern Sudan, which led to the new EDLIB project. Other institutions including University of Juba, University of Bahr el Ghazal, Upper Nile University, University of Bergen Library and the Oslo University College-Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science now benefit from EDLIB.

EDLIB also offers grants to female applicants to undertake their Bachelor’s programme or Master of Science in Information Science at EASLIS. So far, five (5) students have acquired this grant. With this project in place, it is expected that there will be practical observation of factors that hinder women in Sudan from attending higher education/further education. This will inform the process of women education development in South Sudan.

In the next few weeks, EASLIS will also launch the Information Universe Think Tank: Exploring the Information base. The objectives of this Think Tank are to: identify national and global developments and interpret them in information needs; create forum for a dialogue, discussion for information systems

and services, to address new national and global developments; publishing and disseminating relevant research in information science to national development among others.

#### **4.0 Presentation by the Institute of Psychology (MUIP)**

##### **4.1 Makerere boosts World Vision staff and Community Volunteers training**

The Department of Mental Health and Community Psychology, Institute of Psychology is collaborating with World Vision Uganda to improve its psychosocial interventions. Under this arrangement, members of the department are providing training and supervision of both World Vision staff and community Volunteers in Masaka and Rakai districts.

World Vision directly works with the communities by helping those infected or affected by HIV/AIDS deal with depression, regain control over their lives and live a more satisfying and productive life. This partnership with Makerere University will be a boost to the operations of World Vision.

The Institute of Psychology is also in the process of extending this successful collaboration for another six years in a revised memorandum of understanding due to be signed early next year.

Through World Vision, Makerere University has also linked up with Columbia University in a collaborative venture, where organisations which work directly with the communities will benefit from expertise in psychology from both institutions, to improve on their service delivery. In the collaboration, Columbia University will participate in the training of both department staff and students in the Interpersonal Therapy for Groups (IPT-G), an intervention that has been successfully applied in Masaka and Rakai communities.

The Department has also been collaborating with the Center for Children in Vulnerable Situations (CCVS) based in Brussels. Recently, CCVS opened up a counseling center in Lira, where students from the Institute will be admitted for their internship and where future graduates have a great chance of employment. Through this collaboration, the department was also able to get a Ph.D. scholarship for one of the members.

#### **4.2 Makerere Partners with worldwide reputable Universities to address global psychology needs.**

*The Partners in Indigo Project (International Doctoral School in Global Health)* is a collaborative effort between five (5) Universities in Africa (Cape Town, Ibadan, Malawi, Addis Ababa and Makerere University), and Trinity College Dublin as the Lead Partner, and University of London and University of Columbia (USA) who have come together to promote higher education especially at Masters and PhD level.

This project, in which the School of Public Health, Makerere is also participating, is mainly to help develop the Makerere University Institute of Psychology PhD supervisory panel, as they train more Ugandan students to become PhD holders and supervisors.

In this partnership, doctoral-level graduates who have the ability to address health problems using a systems framework, utilizing interdisciplinary research will also be produced. These graduates will provide an evidence-based information that will indicate practiced and policy-relevant action to improve the effectiveness of public health services in Africa. As part of the project, the Indigo School which is currently administratively supported from Dublin, Ireland by the Indigo Board will soon shift its administration to Makerere University.

The ten year project will train 30 PhD students and will cost **6,820,000 Euros**. One staff member at the Institute of Psychology is pursuing his PhD in advanced research methods at Trinity College under this project. The University will in future send many more staff members and students to the partner universities.

### **5.0 Presentation of the Faculty of Computing & IT (CIT)**

#### **5.1 Recognition of student innovations**

CIT students have broken ground in key research areas. During the Uganda Communications Commission Awards held in October 2010, CIT students scooped the Annual Communication Innovation Award for best undergraduate student project of the year 2010 for their project on how to manage finances using a mobile phone. The Faculty also took home the best Postgraduate Student Research Award 2010, for a project that focused on how to deploy and utilize learning objects on Mobile Phones.

Internationally, CIT has been recognized for its participation in the annual Imagine Cup Students' Challenge. For three years running, the Faculty have emerged regional winners and represented East and Central Africa at the Global level famously known as the World Cup for Software Development. This year, CIT students represented the East African region in the July finals in Poland, with their project on an SMS based system that focuses on improving prenatal and postnatal care of expectant mothers in developing countries.

## **5.2 Support to other Units and Universities**

The Faculty is also involved in a number of projects that are being implemented within the University to improve the usage of ICT's like;

1. End User Training for all staff; to equip them with relevant ICT skills. To date, over 3,000 members of staff have been trained at different levels
2. Web Visibility Implementation; CIT is involved in the improvement of the University Web Rankings, and working with the other units like the Quality Assurance Directorate and Directorate of ICT Support DICTS. CIT students and staff support sister units in developing and maintaining their websites.
3. CIT has been involved a NUFFIC project of Strengthening ICT Training and Research in the Public Universities of Uganda. Through this project the Faculty have been the lead implementers and have provided support to the other Universities through developing their capacities like training their members of staff at graduate level as well as PhD level. As partners in progress, the Faculty has also supported a number of projects at these universities.

## **5.3 Collaborations**

The Faculty has aggressively engaged in key collaborations over the last couple of years with Government and Private Companies. The number collaborations with both local and international companies as well as the Government include; The Uganda Police Force, The Uganda People's Defence Force (UPDF), MTN Uganda, Orange Uganda Ltd, SMS Media, Blue Cube.

Currently, the Faculty is in the process of concluding talks with the Ministry of ICT to support the different Government projects that are being implemented such as;

1. **E-Government Implementation;** CIT will provide technical support to the government in the implementation of the projects under this umbrella
2. **Securing Government Systems;** The Faculty through the security research group will honor the Government's request to develop a security road map as well as implement it, through provision of technical support.
3. **Research and Development;** The Faculty is working with The National Information Technology Authority, Uganda (NITA-U) to set-up a research network and participate in the different research initiatives that government intends to undertake. CIT has set-up different research groups that have capacity to respond to national needs.
4. **Capacity Building for the BPO Sector;** CIT has been identified by Government to specifically provide training to the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) Sector that is starting in Uganda. The Faculty will partner with some of the lead agencies in doing this at a local as well as global scale.

The Faculty plans to continue working with and supporting entities that desire to improve their utilization of ICTs for development.

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

**Sincerely: Ritah Namisango, Ag. Public Relations Officer**