

MAKERERE

P.O. Box 7062
Kampala, Uganda
Website: www.mak.ac.ug



UNIVERSITY

Tel: +256-414-531202

Fax: +256-414-541068
E-mail: pro@admin.mak.ac.ug

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

7th June 2010

To: Members of Staff

THE SIXTH VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MONTHLY PRESS BRIEFING, HELD ON MONDAY 7TH JUNE 2010

Introduction

The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Venansius Baryamureeba welcomed the University Management, Members of staff and the media to the sixth monthly press briefing. Professor Baryamureeba then introduced the participating units as the Faculty of Forestry Nature Conservation and The Margaret Trowel School of Industrial Fine Arts.

In attendance were:

- i. Prof .Venansius Baryamureeba – Ag. Vice Chancellor
- ii. Dr. G. Nabanoga- Dean, Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation,
- iii. Dr. G.W. Kyeyune- Dean, Margaret Trowel School of Industrial and Fine Arts
- iv. Mr. K.F Mondo – Assistant Commissioner, Ministry of Gender.
- v. Mr. Godfrey Kagoro – Deputy Director, PDD
- vi. Mr. Banadda Godfrey – Head of Dept, PTG MTSIFA
- vii. Ms. Venny Nakazibwe – Deputy Dean, MTSIFA
- viii. Mr. Sserunjogi Patrick – Assistant Lecturer, MTSIFA
- ix. Mr. Ssematimba Joseph – Lecturer, MTSIFA
- x. Mr. Kabiito Richard – Lecturer, MTSIFA
- xi. Mr. Lubowa Paul – Lecturer, MTSIFA
- xii. Mr. Nsereko J Raymond – Assistant Lecturer, MTSIFA
- xiii. Mr. Sserunkuuma Bruno – Lecturer, MTSIFA
- xiv. Dr. Gerard Eilu – Deputy Dean, Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation
- xv. Prof. Philip Nyeko – Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation
- xvi. Mr. John Bosco Okullo – Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation
- xvii. Ms. Jane Frances Alowo – Lecturer, Institute of Languages/PR Board
- xviii. Ms. Rosemary Nakalanzi – Assistant Lecturer, School of Education /PR Board
- xix. Mr. Michael Niyitegeka – CIT/PR Board
- xx. Mr. Jimmy Sserugo – Team Leader HIC
- xxi. Mr. Peter Kimbowa – Team member HIC

- xxii. Mr. Edward Bakojja – Coordinator HIC
- xxiii. Mr. Ephraim Ssentamu Kaddu – Coordinator HIC
- xxiv. Ms. Ritah Namisango – Public Relations Office
- xxv. Mr. Mark Wamai – Public Relations Office
- xxvi. Mr. Issa Agaba Mugabo – Public Relations Office
- xxvii. Ms. Maureen Mayanja – Public Relations Office

1.0 Acting Vice-Chancellor's briefing

1. Makerere University Up Country Campuses

In November 2009, Makerere University announced that it would be setting up campuses in many parts of the country in order to bring University education closer to the people. Each of the campuses is expected to expand and eventually become a Constituent College of Makerere University that could in future develop into an independent University.

1.1. Makerere University Jinja Campus

The following programmes are currently running at Makerere University Jinja campus:

- a) Bachelor of Information Technology;
- b) Bachelor of Business Administration; and
- c) Bachelor of Development Studies.

In August 2010 we shall have a new intake of students on the following programmes:

- a) Bachelor of Information Technology;
- b) B.Sc. in Computer Science;
- c) Bachelor of Business Administration;
- d) Bachelor of Development Studies;
- e) Bachelor of Tourism; and
- f) Diploma in Project Planning and Management.

The idea is to finally have Makerere University Constituent College of Business and Computing in Jinja District offering programmes in business, computing and related disciplines.

1.2. Makerere University Fort Portal Campus

In August 2010 we shall have the 1st intake at Makerere University Fort Portal Campus based at the Kabarole District Farm Institute. Makerere University through the Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine will continue to provide extension services and training in Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine at this Institute to all the farmers in the region. The degree programmes that will commence in August 2010 are:

- a) B.Sc. in Quantity Surveying;
- b) B.Sc. in Land Economics;
- c) B.Sc. in Quantitative Economics;
- d) B.Sc. in Business Statistics;
- e) Bachelor of Business Administration;
- f) Bachelor of Commerce; and
- g) Diploma in Project Planning and Management.

The idea is to finally have Makerere University Constituent College of Business and Applied Sciences in Kabarole District offering programmes in business, applied sciences and related disciplines.

1.3 Enhancing Secondary Education in Kabarole District and Neighboring Districts

Makerere University is partnering with the Local Government in Kabarole District, Members of Parliament from Kabarole and the Parents and Teachers Associations of the Secondary schools around Fort Portal Town to uplift the teaching standards in the district. The arrangement that shall commence in August 2010 shall involve the best performing students, who will be studying at Makerere University Fort Portal Campus. The students will provide supplementary teaching at the secondary schools with which Makerere University will have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). These students shall be remunerated. The Lecturers will supervise and oversee this outreach activity. **It is a well known fact that most of the best schools around Kampala use Makerere University students as teachers.** Once successful this outreach service shall be extended to all schools around Makerere University upcountry campuses.

1.4 Restructuring of Academic Programme at Makerere University

The restructuring exercise was successfully done and as a result several programmes were either phased out, merged or restructured and some courses within programmes were either phased out, merged or restructured. Teaching mandates of all academic units have been restored e.g. economics shall be taught by the Faculty of Economics and Management in the whole University and mathematics shall be taught by the Department of Mathematics in the whole University. The School of Education shall not teach content but pedagogy to all students registered on programmes in the school.

Makerere University Business School (MUBS) programmes have not been affected by the restructuring with exception of the Bachelor of Commerce and the Bachelor of Business Administration that have been restructured to focus in different areas. A specialized committee of about 4 experts in business education will be set up by the Vice-Chancellor Makerere University and a letter to this effect has been sent to the Principal MUBS. All the names of the experts shall be proposed by the Principal MUBS. The experts shall discuss the draft report with MUBS and the final report shall be submitted to the Vice-Chancellor Makerere University and copied to the Principal MUBS. The Specialized Committee of Experts in Business Education which MUBS requested for, to look at the Makerere University programmes run at MUBS campus has been approved in principle by the Makerere University Senate and Council. And hence the final report shall be binding to both MUBS and Makerere University.

1.5 Undergraduate Applications

The application process ends today and thereafter Makerere University shall begin the admission process of private students to all its programmes as per the advertisement in the print media.

1.6 Government of Uganda Interventions at Makerere University

The government of Uganda in addition to supporting Universal Primary and Secondary Education, will, beginning with 2010/11FY, increase its funding to public Universities. The areas to benefit from the 2010/2011 budget increase include value addition in the Department of Food Science and

Technology, Technological Innovations in the Faculty of Technology, ICT innovations in the Faculty of Computing and IT and Skills Development in the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine to mention but a few. Additionally, all Scientists at all the public universities are expected to get a reasonable salary increase that is aimed at retaining the Ugandan scientists. All public universities are also expected to benefit from a grant from the African Development Bank (code-named ADB-V), that is aimed at institutional building at all the Public Universities in Uganda.

We would like to thank the government of Uganda for these positive initiatives aimed at re-building the Higher Education Institutions in Uganda and keep Uganda as the Education Hub in both the East African Community and the rest of Africa. Education is increasingly becoming a serious export and with these initiatives, Uganda as a country shall be able to attract more investors due to the skilled human resource, technological innovations and sound managers available in the country

2.0 Presentation from the Dean, Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation.

The Faculty is currently engaged in over 20 research projects ranging from forest ecosystems conservation, forestry for poverty alleviation with community participation, wood processing and value addition as well as Climate change mitigation.

Highlights of research

Research that could help in poverty alleviation through income generation from tree products

2.1 NUTRITIONAL VALUES AND PRODUCTS OF WILD FRUIT TREES IN UGANDA

2.1.1 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Wild fruit trees such as the shea butter tree (*Vitellaria paradoxa*) are of economic importance and highly valued mainly for the traditional uses of the different parts, e.g. the oil from the kernels (seeds). In the case of the Shea butter tree, the use of oil/fat especially by the rural woman, range from body smearing during traditional ceremonies, treatment of many ailments including cough, skin rashes and muscular pains among others. Internationally, shea nuts, fats and oil are sold to European, American and Japanese food industries and used in making cosmetic products. These enormous economic and nutritional benefits of shea tree need to be enhanced.

2.1.2 AIM

Determination of nutritional values of shea butter and other related products for improved income and food security in shea zones of Uganda.

2.1.3 MAJOR FINDINGS

Processing technology

- The results of shea oil processed by different methods indicated no significant variation in the physico-chemical characteristics and fatty acids of shea products. This implies that the traditional processing of shea oil in Uganda is a very unique technology that can be modified to become acceptable to a wider community beyond the shea zones. Once this has been done then the modified technology for processing shea can be patented.
- Development of technology for processing shea pulp into dry food products such as shea cake for longer shelf life is a possible a technology that can be developed and patented.

Food products development

- Database and information generated on nutritional values of shea fruit pulp, physico-chemical and fatty acid profiles of shea for the current shea oil processing methods can be used to develop specific shea products of various formulations for a food industry. Once these formulations become available, this particular product can then be patented for upscale production.

Health supplement

- The findings on both the nutritional and chemical composition of shea fruits/oil can be further developed into health supplement that can be patented for managing malnutrition and diseases as high blood pressure. Further fractionation of shea oil can result in very useful patents in the cosmetic and pharmaceutical world.

Other fruit trees under considerations are *Tamarindus indica*, *Balanites wilsoniana*, *Anona senegalensis*

2.2 COMPENDIUM AND TRAINING MANUAL ON IMPROVING THE EFFICIENCY OF SMALL SCALE WOOD FURNITURE INDUSTRIES IN UGANDA

2.2.1 Introduction

The furniture industry is characterized by the use of inappropriate timber species, poor timber grade and unseasoned or partially unseasoned timber. The result is poor quality products that fail in service after only a short period. The frequent replacement of furniture is to the consumers and leads to unsustainable utilization of forest resources. However, the small scale, furniture industry in Uganda has the potential to produce high quality furniture for the local and export markets. The full potential of the furniture industry can be realized if the people employed in this sector are trained and equipped with knowledge about furniture quality control.

2.2.2 Contribution

As part of its private sector partnership programme, the Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation (Department of Forest Products Engineering) is contributing to the building of capacity of small scale furniture makers in Uganda to produce better quality furniture and improve their profitability while sustain ably using forestry resources. A compendium for use by vocational institutions and an easy to use training manual for carpenters have been developed. We are also training individuals to use better kilns of producing charcoal that you use fewer woods as well as utilizing the off cuts, we are actually in the process of training individuals on the best kilns which will be the most effective and will produce charcoal of a higher energy value instead of using one whole sack for one meal,

you can use 1/10 sack for the meal and that project is already ongoing. For more information, please contact the faculty.

The compendium and the training manual are composed of five modules:

Module 1: The regulatory framework governing timber harvesting and licensing and explains the licensing requirements and procedures for timber harvesting and transportation. The module will assist furniture makers procure timber through appropriate legal means and avoid their timber being confiscated by the authorities.

Module 2: Timber management practices in furniture workshops: deals with selection and use of timber for furniture; and proper seasoning as well as handling of timber to minimize distortion.

Module 3: Importance of appropriate product design, production, finishing, handling and storage of furniture products.

Module 4: Formation of co-operatives and associations in the furniture sector: Explains the functions of a cooperative and how to start a co-operative.

Module 5: Business and financial management issues: Will enable small scale furniture entrepreneurs to run businesses successfully and be able to source funds from financial institutions. It highlights the need for proper business and financial planning and management.

NORAD support to Makerere University; Sustainable Timber-Based Batch Production-Horizont 3000 who helped us develop an “easy to use training manual” from the compendium; KAVA LTD who has partnered with us to use the training manual to train carpenters and Wood science and Technology students.

2.3 Diseases and Pests of Trees in Uganda

2.3.1 Introduction

Plantation forests are an increasingly important source of wood products because of dwindling wood supplies from natural forests. In Uganda, over 10,000 ha of forest plantations have been established by private tree growers in the last decade. However, increasing plantation forests in landscapes also increases the resources for tree pests, and therefore the risks for pest and disease outbreaks. Such tree health problems may be aggravated by several factors, for example, poor silvicultural operations, monoculture, planting trees in marginal areas and climate change.

2.3.2 Evidence of Tree Pests and Diseases

Indeed there is increasing evidence of pest and disease problems on important forest plantation trees in the tropics. The recent worldwide infestation by the gall-forming, *Leptocybe invasa* on *Eucalyptus*

in Uganda illustrates how such pest and disease problems raise serious concern to developers of tropical tree plantation enterprises. They have no hazardous effects to the environment, the problem is we do not site match the different eucalyptus species. We have 100 species so when you plant the wrong species in the right place, then you're going to get the wrong result because we have species that consume a lot of water, if you don't it in a water logged area, it will take up a lot of water in your farm then it will course drying out of your other crops which means we need proper site matching for different species of eucalyptus and eucalyptus parse is a first growing species and like any other plant that is first growing it needs a lot of water uptake so put it in the right place. You have seen eucalyptus growing very well in a very mountainous stony areas because of proper site species matching, there is no problem so if you want to plant please consult.

There have also been outbreaks of the conifer aphid (*Cinara cupressivora*), on cypress, *Botryosphaeria* canker on *Eucalyptus*, and Bacterial wilt on *Eucalyptus*. Others that occur elsewhere in Africa and could spread to Uganda include, the sirex wood wasp (*Sirex noctilio*), and *Fusarium circinatum* on pine.

2.4 Contribution of the Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation

It is therefore imperative that field-based employees of such enterprises are equipped with basic knowledge of tree health problems for timely management interventions. Research is being conducted on tree pest and diseases problems in Uganda.

The Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation is therefore engaged in

- Training forest workers on diseases and pest recognition.
- Disease diagnosis
- Research on disease and pest management
- Research on pathogen-host interaction
- Research on pest-host interaction

Future Plans

Equip the laboratories for further research and training.

Other Partners

SPGS, UTGA for the problem that we cannot reach onto each and everybody however , the private sector has come up together with all those who people who are interested in tree planting and formed an association that association(Uganda Timbers Association)which actually gives information every time.

3.0 Dean, Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Arts.

Preamble

The Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Arts (MTSIFA) is a community of dynamic and hardworking individuals actively engaged in the training of art practitioners, research and knowledge transfer partnerships.

Both on its own and in collaboration with other Universities, MTSIFA has in the last 20 years sought funding from both local and international agencies and has successfully undertaken projects that are conscious and responsive to community concerns as well as contributing to the existing fund of knowledge in Art and Design. Below are two examples of projects at MTSIFA that have played an outstanding contribution to the development of Art and Design in Uganda and beyond.

2.1 DESIGN, HEALTH and COMMUNITY

Capacity building for cultural enterprises, promoting an integrated and symbiotic approach to health education and economic advancement in Africa

The ‘Design, Health and Community’ project (2007- 2008), was a collaboration between the School of Design, Northumbria University, UK, the Dept. Graphic Design, Durban University of Technology, South Africa, and the Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Arts (MTSIFA), Makerere University, Uganda. The key names behind this project were Jackie Guille from Northumbria, Dr Venny Nakazibwe and Bruno Sserunkuuma from MTSIFA. The project focused on the role of design in the development of an integrated and symbiotic approach to health education and economic advancement.

The project aimed to strengthen and enhance creative capacity together with knowledge on HIV/AIDS and other health complexities amongst the participating craftswomen from Kalisizo Post Test Club, located in Rakai district in southern Uganda, the National Association of Women Organizations in Uganda (NAWOU) and the Mildmay Uganda Centre¹ in Kampala district, and Nalumunye Balikyewunya Women’s Group from Wakiso district in central Uganda.

The project introduced the craftswomen to new approaches in crafts. For example, they embellished the surface of barkcloth with motifs taken from their lives and experiences.

The resultant artifacts have created synergies between indigenous knowledge and innovation in craft practice, coupling artistic and health and well being elements that are not conveyed by the common notion of ‘production’. The project empowered the craftswomen to use their crafts to ‘speak about themselves’

These women have continued to build on the newly acquired knowledge and skills to create provoking crafts that address their social concerns. An awareness of HIV/Aids has improved among the communities these crafts women have interacted with.

2.2 THE NEW FAMILY OF BANK NOTES

¹ The Mildmay Centre is a specialist HIV/AIDS Care and Training Centre. The centre provides palliative care and rehabilitation services including the provision of antiretroviral therapy.

In 2008, Bank of Uganda decided to change the existing Bank Notes in circulation. There were two main reasons for this: first the outgoing bank notes lacked a connecting thread tying them as a family and second, they were not adequately attentive to Uganda's rich natural history and traditions inherited from the past. The bank of Uganda said that they had to improve them and it becomes more difficult to be forged. However, we are not responsible for security measures but the design.

In short, Uganda's outgoing Bank Notes were not secure and lacked integrity in terms of design. Bank of Uganda believed that to address these design challenges, the approach had to be multi-disciplinary involving focused research and perceptive analysis.

To come up with a new family of Bank Notes Bank of Uganda commissioned the following team: Assoc. Prof. George Kyeyune, Mr. Ssematimba Joseph, Mr. Sserunjogi Patrick and Mr. Nsereko Raymond all MTSIFA lecturers, in partnership with Mr. Mutungi Emmanuel-PhD student at MTSIFA and lecturer at Kyambogo University Department of Industrial Art and Design and Hon. Gen. Elly Tumwine – patron of Uganda Artists Association.

The new Family of Bank Notes was unveiled on 3rd May 2010, and went into circulation on 17th May 2010.

The New Bank Notes are design friendly and because of their local flavor, Ugandans can identify with them. The task was to design and make them truly Ugandan and international.

3.0 The East African' Premier University Students' Camp

The Holiday Innovations Camp (HIC)

The HIC is not just an event, but a process that is going to be continuous during the Campus holiday break. This will be a process of renewing our thinking from having a university as just an Ivory tower to transforming it into an economic engine. The word innovation comes from a Greek word “nova” which means new ways of thinking and a new mindset.

It is a camp with residential programs intended to change the mindset of fresh graduates to roll back the job seeking mentality and roll out a job creation mentality. Uganda as a country is undergoing economic recovery. However, this may not necessarily translate into job creation in the formal employment sector, which eventually leaves many fresh graduates jobless. As such, there is a need to ensure that students leave university with a job creating mentality so as to match the economic growth.

Objectives of HIC

- To change the mindset of our students: make them a lot more curious about what can ensue.
- Open up students' minds to options and possibilities in our communities.
- Develop a sense of risk taking because many of the students leave the university knowing that they have to look for security first of the job, therefore there is a need to embrace open mindedness, sense of curiosity and also a sense of risk.

What is going to be done in this camp?

It is going to be a very fast paced practical oriented program, where about 2,000 students are expected to come from different universities in Uganda and East Africa

This program is going to be divided into various parts such as having speakers and presentations, from 8:00am -1:00pm. This session will consist of lectures, interactive discussions, presentations of case studies, and testimonies of those who have succeeded as well as failed. Therefore, it will be a session of sharing.

In the afternoon the students will work in brigades. They will form teams, which will be supervised by Kampala City Council (KCC). The students will descend on Rubaga Division, where they will work alongside the communities in areas like the markets, drainage channels so as to get a real feel of community problems.

Eventually the best performing brigades will be transformed into business and investment clubs, and they will be attached to different financial institutions like our partner DFCU bank.

Participants will learn that the opportunity for entrepreneurship and for business lies in the problem. Income can be generated and livelihoods can be set up irrespective of circumstances. Students will therefore be able to change their mindset from thinking that livelihood can only be earned from formal employment to relying on themselves to create the desired livelihood.

The evening program which starts at 7:30pm is geared towards celebration of our cultural diversity. It will also be a time of building networks and reinforcing experiences acquired in the field, networks based on ideas, insights and perspectives built in the morning session.

After 10 days, students will graduate in a colorful ceremony to be hosted at Makerere. The Cabinet of the Republic of Uganda will be invited for this function, as it is important in terms of exhibiting what Makerere is doing in various fields of innovation and research.

What Makerere has started therefore, is not simply an event. It is a process of changing the mindset of the graduates from job seeking to job creation with the right concepts, right tools of analysis and techniques to apply education in its true form which is action. Innovations like this have previously been done in South Korea, Philippines and we believe Uganda shouldn't be an exception to this novelty.

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

Sincerely: Ritah Namisango, Makerere University Public Relations Office.