

**WELCOME REMARKS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR, MAKERERE
UNIVERSITY, SATURDAY 20TH NOVEMBER 2010, 6:00PM**

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- Our Chief Guest, Rt. Hon Professor Apolo Nsibambi, Prime Minister of Uganda
- Your Excellencies, Ambassadors and High Commissioners
- Your Royal Highness Sylvia Nagginda Luswata, the Nabagereka of Buganda Kingdom and Patron of the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation
- Honorable Ministers and Members of Parliament of Uganda and of East Africa
- Chancellor, Professor Mondo Kagonyera, and Chancellors of sister Universities here present
- Chairperson of Council, Hon Mathew N. Rukikaire, our host tonight, and all Council members
- Our Special Guest, Ms Deana Arsenian, Vice President, Carnegie Corporation of New York, and your esteemed delegation: Prof. Tade Aine and Ms. Andrea Johnson
- Vice Chancellors of other universities
- Makerere University Management, Deans, Directors and staff
- Distinguished guests from the private sector and business community
- Our friends from the media
- Ladies and Gentlemen:

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It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to this historic event, to celebrate the successes reaped during the ten (10) year Carnegie Corporation of New York's support to the Female Scholarship Initiative.

I am happy to note that the Female Scholarship Initiative (FSI) begun in 2001 with a US \$4million grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York has been one of the most rewarding achievements to date. The Female Scholarship Initiative is one of the many initiatives that have transformed Makerere University from an originally male-dominated institution to an equal opportunities institution. Other initiatives include the 1.5 Points Scheme introduced in 1990 that has greatly contributed to raising female enrollment from 30% (1990) to 50% (2010); the establishment of the Women; and Gender Studies Department in 1993 and the Gender Mainstreaming Programme in 2000, where the FSI has been based. These developments have made Makerere University a pace-setter in gender mainstreaming in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In addition to supporting the Female Scholarship Initiative, I would like to inform you that during the period 2001 to 2011, the Carnegie Corporation of New York has provided support of up to USD 16,152,900 to Makerere University to strengthen her institutional capacity, human resource development and research. In particular, the support has built library resources, 20 PhD training and 17 doctoral teams to carry out research on 'Food, Nutrition and Value addition.' Furthermore, Carnegie Corporation has extended a grant of USD 1.9million to support the programme to build, nurture and retain the next generation of Academics.

On behalf of Makerere University, I wish to register my appreciation to all those who conceived and successfully nurtured the Makerere University Female Scholarship Initiative over the last 10 years of its existence. My sincere gratitude is extended to the Carnegie Corporation of New York for the generous support to Female Scholarship Initiative.

Makerere University has therefore decided to sustain the vision of the Female Scholarship Initiative by launching the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation (MUFSS) whose objective is to support many more girls from disadvantaged background to attain higher education. Distinguished Ladies and gentlemen, we are glad that you are here to witness the launch of the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation; the first of its kind in the history of this great institution.

I am confident that with the continued support of government, development partners, the corporate world, and individual men and women of goodwill, we can together see the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation thrive to greater heights, as WE BUILD FOR THE FUTURE.

Sincerely: Professor Venansius Baryamureeba, Acting Vice Chancellor