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# UNIVERSITY

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## OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

April 04, 2011

To: Members of Staff

### **THE 16<sup>TH</sup> VICE-CHANCELLOR'S MONTHLY PRESS BRIEFING, HELD ON MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2011**

#### **Introduction**

The Acting Vice-Chancellor, Professor Venansius Baryamureeba welcomed the members of staff and the media to the 16th monthly press briefing. Professor Baryamureeba then introduced the presenters namely the Dean of Students, the Director Quality Assurance and the participating Unit- the School of Computing and Informatics Technology.

#### **In attendance were:**

- (i) Prof. Venansius Baryamureeba – Ag. Vice Chancellor
- (ii) Dr. Vincent A. Ssembatya – Director, Quality Assurance
- (iii) Mr. Cyriaco Kabagambe – Dean of Students
- (iv) Mr. Michael Niyitegeka – Head Corporate Relations-College of Computing and Information Sciences
- (v) Mr. Goddy Muhanguzi Muhumuza – Senior Legal Officer
- (vi) Ms. Ritah Namisango – Public Relations Office
- (vii) Mr. Mark Wamai – Public Relations Office
- (viii) Ms. Jane Anyango – Communications Officer, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

- (ix) Ms. Harriet B. Nyakaana – Communication Officer, College of Business and Management Science
- (x) Mr. Elias Tuhereze – Web Administrator, Public Relations Unit, Vice Chancellor's Office.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### **1.0 Presentation from the Vice Chancellor**

#### **Makerere University to raise the student population to at least 100,000 by 2015**

The National Resistance Movement (NRM) won the Presidential elections of 18<sup>th</sup> February 2011 for another term of five years. For the next five years, Makerere University, **a public university funded from the consolidated fund**, is going to align its human resource development strategies with the NRM 2011-2016 Manifesto on human resource development. We shall specifically expand higher education through manning over 20 e-degree programmes by 2012 and over 60 e-degree programmes by 2015, in addition to the on campus programmes. Students enrolled on e-degree programmes will not be constrained by time and space and will undertake the education without having to travel to Makerere University campus. This is aimed at increasing access to higher education by the poor yet bright students. The fees to be charged on e-degree programmes will be about 1/3 of the current fees of the similar on campus programmes. The National Council for Higher Education is currently working on guidelines for e-degrees (online degrees). We plan to triple the research output by 2015. Thus the quality of human resources and research as a result of quality education and research culture will spur economic growth and human development. ***Surely, as night follows day, come 2015, Makerere University will have a student enrolment of at least 100,000 up from 40,000 in 2011 and it will be ranked among the top 3 Universities in Africa regardless of the ranking criteria used.***

*“The NRM government has promised to increase funding to universities including private universities to carry out research. In addition, Public Universities will be assisted to rehabilitate and develop their infrastructure: NRM Manifesto 2011-2016”.*

Therefore, Makerere University as the leading public university will do all that is within its powers to ensure that as many youth as possible access **quality** higher education.

**“If our youth is and continues to be educated correctly, all our affairs will take a happy course, if not .... the rest is better left unsaid”, Platon.**

As a University we are going to work towards imparting vocational skills to University graduates, **mainly the youth**, who have failed to either access employment or create their own jobs.

*“Youth is the time of life between childhood and adulthood (maturity). Definitions of the specific age range that constitutes youth vary. An individual's actual maturity may not correspond to their chronological age, as immature individuals could exist at all ages”.*

### **Maturity (psychological)**

*“Maturity is a psychological term used to indicate how a person responds to the circumstances or environment in an appropriate and adaptive manner. This response is generally learned rather than instinctive, and is not determined by one's age. Maturity also encompasses being aware of the correct time and place to behave and knowing when to act appropriately, according to the situation. While it has been shown that older persons are generally more mature, psychological maturity is not determined by one's age. **However, for legal purposes, people are not considered psychologically mature enough to perform certain tasks (such as driving, consenting to sex, signing a binding contract or making medical decisions) until they have reached a certain age.** In fact, Judge Julian Mack, who helped create the juvenile court system in the United States, said that juvenile justice was based on the belief that young people do not always make good decisions because they are not mature, but this means that they can be reformed more easily than adults. However, the relationship between psychological maturity and age is a difficult one, and there has been much debate over how to tell if someone is mature, especially regarding social issues like abortion”.*

### **Makerere University Colleges earmarked as East African Community (EAC) Centres of Excellence**

The EAC Secretariat in Arusha-Tanzania, in pursuit of a recommendation of the EAC Council of Ministers, invited Partner State Ministries responsible for education to submit names of educational institutions by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011 to be designated as EAC Centres of Excellence. Makerere University colleges have been submitted as centres of excellence in their areas of mandate and competence.

The aim of EAC creating centres of excellence in the region is to provide new and enhance existing training provision in order to develop and strengthen innovative approaches aimed at improving and providing top quality training and education focused on meeting current and future skills needs and technical innovations in the region. This is a fundamental prerequisite for the implementation of a successful regional integration process. **This is one immediate benefit to the EAC out of creating**

**viable Colleges at Makerere University i.e. Makerere University colleges as EAC Centres of Excellence.**

### **Guild Elections 2011**

The Dean of Students will provide a detailed report on the just concluded Guild Elections. Needless to mention Makerere University through the amended Guild constitution 2011 has been able to ensure that 54 out of the 92 (**58.7%**) GRC members come from the 27 schools to specifically represent academic matters of those schools in the GRC. We also noted that the voter turn up for GRC was approximately double that for the Guild Presidential elections. So next year, 2012, the campaigns for both GRC and Guild President will take place in the same period and the elections for both the Guild President and GRC will take place on the same day at the same time. This will ensure higher voter turn up, save on time spent on campaigns by the students, and lead to reduced cost for conducting guild elections just like it is done for Presidential and Parliamentary elections at National level.

### **Makerere University ranked 8<sup>th</sup> best University in Africa as per University Ranking by Academic Performance 2010**

As globalization drives rapid change in all aspects of research & development, international competition and collaboration have become high priority items on the agenda of most universities around the world. In this climate of competition and collaboration, ranking universities in terms of their performance has become a widely popular and debated research area. All universities need to know where they stand among other universities in the world in order to evaluate their current academic performance and to develop strategic plans that can help them strengthen and sustain their progress.

In an effort to address this need, several ranking systems have been proposed since 2003, including ARWU-Jiao Tong (China), Leiden (The Netherlands), TIMES (United Kingdom), and Webometrics (Spain), which rank universities worldwide based on various criteria. The use of bibliometric data obtained from open-access and credible information resources such as ISI (Information Sciences Institute) and Google Scholar has contributed to the objectivity of these ranking systems. Nevertheless, most ranking systems cover up to top 500 universities around the world, which mostly represents institutions located in developed countries. Universities from other countries around the world also deserve and need to know where they stand among other institutions at global, regional, and national levels. This motivated University Ranking by Academic Performance (URAP) to develop a ranking system that is more comprehensive in coverage, so that more universities have a chance to observe the

state of their academic progress at global and national levels. The figure below summarizes the main steps of URAP's methodology.

URAP's ranking of Top 2000 world universities is based on 6 academic performance indicators. Since URAP is an academic performance based ranking, publications constitute the basis of the ranking methodology. Both quality and quantity of publications and international research collaboration performance are used as indicators. The indicators, the data sources, and the duration of coverage are summarized in Table 1 below.

Indicators	Objectives	Years	Sources
<b>Number of Articles</b>	Current Scientific Productivity	2009	ISI
<b>Google Scholar Results</b>	Long - Term Overall Productivity	2005 - 2009	Google Scholar
<b>Citation</b>	Research Impact	2009	ISI
<b>Cumulative Journal Impact</b>	Scientific Impact	2005 - 2009	ISI
<b>H-Index</b>	Research Quality	2005 - 2009	ISI
<b>International Collaboration</b>	International Acceptance	2005 - 2009	ISI

According to University Ranking by Academic Performance [<http://www.urapcenter.org/2010/>], Makerere University is 783<sup>rd</sup> best University in the world and the 8<sup>th</sup> best University in Africa. **Again Makerere University is the best University in Sub-Saharan Africa outside the Republic of South Africa.** Ahead in Africa is University of Cape Town at 253<sup>rd</sup> position in the world. Details will be provided by Director Quality Assurance in his presentation on University rankings.

## **2.0 Presentation from the School of Computing and Informatics Technology**

### **Makerere University develops a Human Resource Management Information System for the Uganda Police Force**

A Memorandum of Understanding between Makerere University and the Uganda Police Force to provide assistance in the implementation of the different ICT initiatives in the force has saved over USD500,000 of the Uganda Police Force's budget.

Under this Memorandum of Understanding, Makerere University has been able to develop for the Uganda Police Force a Human Resource Management Information System which has enabled the force computerize its Human Resource Records.

We have successfully automated the Human Resource component of the Uganda Police Force and with a click of a button, one is able to know how many people are on the force or even how many are about to retire. This will lead to an end of manual record keeping at the Police Force.

This application developed by graduates of CIT and the National Software Incubation Program has been fully deployed and it is envisaged that it will be commissioned in May 2011 after all the tests have been concluded.

Under this Memorandum of Understanding, Makerere University, through the School of Computing and Informatics Technology, has also trained police officers in ICT. To date, over 300 police officers have undergone ICT Training.

The Police Force, on request from the School of Computing and Informatics Technology, recommended Commissioned Officers to undergo this training. The School supported the development and establishment of a Computer Applications Curricula for cadet officers undergoing training at the Police Training School Masindi.

This is a major milestone in our quest to becoming partners in progress by supporting government initiatives.

### **Makerere partners with Nokia to Support Local Mobile Software Development**

On 9<sup>th</sup> February 2011, the College of Computing and Information Sciences started a 3months Java Programming for Mobile Applications Development after being contracted by Nokia East and Southern Africa. This initiative will make it possible for the general public to use Ugandan mobile products world over, improving the visibility of the local software developers in this country.

The School of Computing and Informatics Technology started this initiative with training 100 applicants who had been recommended by NOKIA East and Southern Africa. “Applications for this training were

open to the entire country for students with skills and a passion for Software development specifically Mobile Applications.

The key output of this training will be a number of applications that will be published on the Nokia Ovi Store, the Nokia Applications Store. Over 30 mobile applications have been approved for further development under this arrangement. These include; “Mobile Doctor”, “News Aggregator”, “Call me later”, “Kwepena” and “M Reporter” to mention but a few.

So far, only one Ugandan developer has successfully had his application approved. When your application is vetted and approved, Nokia does not only house it on the Nokia Ovi Store, the developer remains with the copyright and Nokia launches and markets it for him/ her.

The initiative serves to strengthen the existing relationship between the College and Nokia, which was instrumental in the establishment of the mobile computing lab.

We are in advanced stages of establishing regular training schedules for this program in partnership with Nokia.

### **3.0 Presentation from the Directorate of Quality Assurance**

#### **Makerere’s 2010 Academic Performance confirms top-ten Africa position**

According to results released by the University Ranking by Academic Performance (URAP) Research Laboratory, Turkey, Makerere University is indeed one of the top-ten Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Africa.

URAP, established at the Informatics Institute of the Middle East Technical University in 2009, aims at developing a ranking system of world universities by academic performance that is more comprehensive in coverage. By covering 2,500 HEIs in the world, the URAP ranking avails more universities the opportunity to observe the state of the academic progress at both global and national levels.

Unlike the popular Webometrics rank which is based on the criteria of Visibility/Inlinks, Size and Rich files, URAP considers the six academic performance indicators of; Number of articles (Current Scientific Productivity), Citation(Research Impact), Cumulative Journal Impact (Scientific Impact), H-

Index (Research Quality), International Collaboration(International Acceptance), and Google Scholar Results (Long - Term Overall Productivity), an indicator also considered by the Webometrics rank.

The URAP research laboratory ranked Makerere University as **736<sup>th</sup>** in the world, with the University of Cape Town ranked top in Africa at the **253<sup>rd</sup>** position and Harvard University ranked number one in the world. Please refer to **Table1** for the top five Universities worldwide and **Table2** for the top 10 African Universities. Most notable (ref **Table1**) is that the Massachusetts Institute of Technology-MIT which regularly tops the Webometric rankings comes in at number **thirteen** by the URAP ranking.

The data used in the ranking is gathered from Web of Science – an online tool for retrieving accurate citation counts, Google Scholar, open-access sources and credible sources which provide lists of HEIs, such as the ISI (Information Sciences Institute) – a world leader in research and development of advanced information processing, computer and communications technologies. According to information available on the website for the rankings, 2500 HEIs with highest number of publications were initially considered, and 2000 of them were ranked after data processing. A total score of 600 is distributed to each indicator as follows; Number of Articles 24%, Google Scholar Counts 10%, Citation 21%, Cumulative Journal Impact 18%, H-Index 12%, and Collaboration 15%. The institution with the highest score, in this case **Harvard-583.44** takes the first position.

With the vision to be the leading institution for academic excellence and innovations in Africa, Makerere has embraced academic reforms so as to enable her to become a research-led university, through ensuring that crosscutting issues such as internationalization are fully implemented. This will be manifested in the form of integration of the international perspective in teaching, learning and collaborative research, as well as joint degree awards.

The result of this will not only be an increased volume but also an improved quality of research. Therefore, as international competition and collaboration have become high priority, items on the agenda of most universities around the world, the URAP rank accords Makerere University an additional tool to regularly evaluate her academic performance and progress as spelt out in the ten-year strategic plan, so as to help strengthen and sustain this advancement.

**Table1 – Top World**

University	World Ranking	Category	Article	H-Index	Citation	Google Scholar	Impact	Collaboration	Total
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Harvard – US	1	A++	144.00	72.00	126.00	43.44	108.00	90.00	583.44
Johns Hopkins- US	2	A++	108.02	56.68	108.56	43.66	77.64	68.58	463.14
Toronto- Canada	3	A++	114.44	53.44	101.25	36.77	71.96	79.74	457.60
Stanford- US	4	A++	106.10	56.83	106.31	42.88	77.21	65.78	455.10
Washington- US	5	A++	108.57	56.78	105.74	40.55	74.01	64.51	450.16
<b>MIT- US</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>A++</b>	<b>96.18</b>	<b>57.39</b>	<b>97.78</b>	<b>37.38</b>	<b>71.48</b>	<b>60.80</b>	<b>421.02</b>

**Table2 – Top Africa**

University	World Ranking	Categor y	Articl e	H- Index	Citatio n	Google Scholar	Impact	Collaboratio n	Total
1.Cape Town -S.A	253	A+	78.19	41.92	67.35	30.71	56.44	51.69	326.29
2.Witwatersrand- S.A	401	A	76.24	38.73	64.86	30.48	55.35	48.84	314.50
3.Stellenbosch-S.A	416	A	76.35	38.93	64.89	30.24	55.23	48.25	313.90
4.Pretoria-S.A	470	A	76.58	37.21	64.22	30.65	54.57	48.26	311.49
5.KwaZulu Natal- S.A	510	B++	75.48	37.87	64.03	30.26	54.46	47.71	309.81
6.Cairo-Egypt	562	B++	75.48	36.81	63.67	30.38	54.70	46.96	308.01
7.Ain Shams-Egypt	712	B++	74.15	36.15	63.21	30.15	54.28	46.04	303.97
<b>8.Makerere</b>	<b>736</b>	<b>B++</b>	<b>72.27</b>	<b>36.76</b>	<b>63.16</b>	<b>30.07</b>	<b>54.08</b>	<b>46.45</b>	<b>302.79</b>
9.Rhodes-S.A	898	B++	72.13	34.94	59.91	30.07	47.88	45.31	290.24
10.Ibadan-Nigeria	931	B+	72.38	29.11	63.16	30.09	46.22	45.35	286.29
<b>Nairobi</b>	<b>1146</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>42.69</b>	<b>31.76</b>	<b>46.06</b>	<b>26.88</b>	<b>36.67</b>	<b>45.48</b>	<b>229.54</b>
<b>Dar es Salaam</b>	<b>1498</b>	<b>B+</b>	<b>15.73</b>	<b>21.15</b>	<b>26.79</b>	<b>21.24</b>	<b>16.59</b>	<b>37.47</b>	<b>138.97</b>

### *Resources*

<http://urapcenter.org/2010/index.php>

<http://www.webometrics.info/>

## **4.0 Presentation by the Dean of Students**

### **Brief Report on Guild Elections 2011/12**

#### **A. Background**

Prior to the just concluded elections, Guild Elections in Makerere University were held under a Guild Constitutional framework of the 1990s which provided that the elections be held at Hall of Residence level. Halls were the polling centres for both Presidential and Guild Representative Council (GRC) elections. Voters' registers were generated at Halls of Residence through a process of registration carried out at Halls

However, this system of electioneering had several challenges, including but not limited to a lopsided guild representation as the academic units were never considered, defective voter registers as some non-resident students would never register in their halls of attachment and over concentration on student issues relating to the non-academic life of the university.

#### **B. Turn-Round**

A few years ago, the idea of moving away from over concentration on Halls of Residence took root and the starting point was a constitutional review process. This was finalized on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2011 with the approval by the University Council of a revised Guild Constitution that paved way for a better electoral process. The process involved voting at Schools and Halls.

#### **C. The Events of the Election Process**

- i) Dissolution of the old government- 14/2/2011
- ii) Appointment of Electoral Commission- 14/2/2011
- iii) Nomination of Presidential Candidates- 22/2/2011 and 24/2/2011
- iv) Presidential Campaigns- 25/2/2011 to 10/3/2011
- v) Presidential Elections- 11/3/2011
- vi) GRC Elections- 16/3/2011
- vii) SCR Elections- 18/3/2011

viii) Swearing-in Ceremony- 25/3/2011

ix) Election of Speaker- 2/4/2011

**D. Advantages**

- i) The revised constitution redistributed guild representation to cover all the units of the University ie. Academic and non-academic
- ii) It made elections more peaceful by ensuring that voting was based on updates registration records obtained from the Academic Registrar
- iii) Voter turn up increased

.....We Build For the Future.....

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