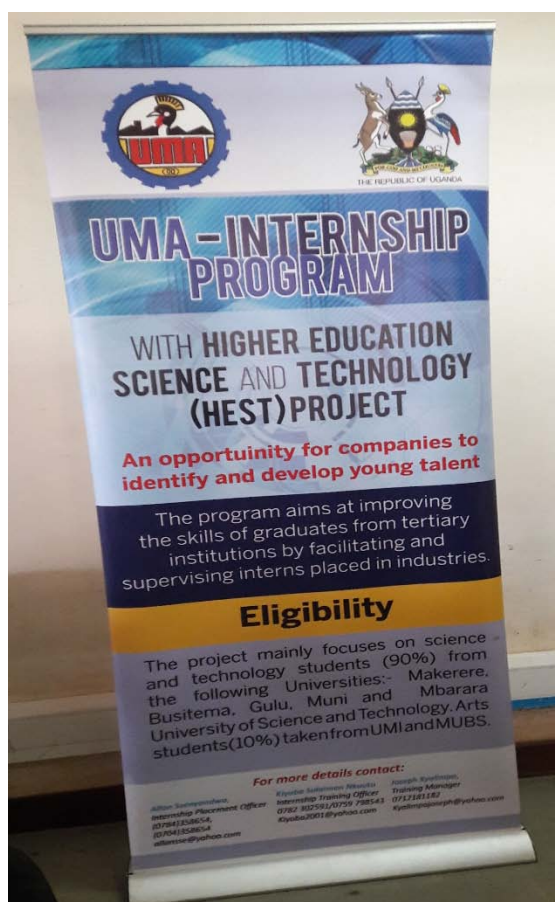


UMA Trains Mak Final year students in soft skills with support from AfDB

The Uganda Manufacturers Association (UMA) in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Sports with support from the African Development Bank (AfDB) organized a two-day internship training program to provide students with an opportunity to secure practical work experience that employers look for in addition to academic qualifications. The students shall thereafter be posted to companies for a 2-6 months internship period.



The training was held on 30th June and 1st July 2017 at the College of Computing and Information Sciences Block B. The training targeted finalist students from the Colleges of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES), Veterinary Medicine, Animal Resources and Biosecurity (COVAB), Computing and Information Sciences (CoCIS), Engineering Design Art & Technology (CEDAT),

Business & Management Sciences (COBAMS) and Natural Sciences (CONAS). This is the 3rd cohort of the training where final year students were taken through soft skills to enable them transition into the job market.



The Director, Planning and Development, Dr. Florence Nakayiwa, thanked the students for expressing interest in the training. She informed the students that the training is aimed at bridging the gap between university graduates and the work place. This is the 3rd cohort benefiting from the training. “Approximately 200 students that benefited from the training last year secured job placements after their session. So, take this training as a stepping stone into the job market,” remarked Dr. Nakayiwa. This program is being implemented by the Planning and Development Department (PDD) and will run from July 2017 through to June 2018.



Speaking during the opening of the training, the Academic Registrar Mr. Alfred Masikye Namoah thanked UMA and AFDB for availing this great opportunity and hoped that this kind of partnership would continue. He emphasized that these kinds of skills could not be passed on to students during their time spent at Makerere University. “Attitude is the key to your success in that a bad attitude will not take you any far. You need to be people of integrity especially now that you are our ambassadors as Makerere University” emphasized Mr. Namoah.

He reminded them that Makerere University students are known for strikes and so there is need to change that mindset, a feat that all starts with individual effort.

The facilitators of training included Mr. Suula Nkuutu and Mr. Joseph Kyalimpa who took students through the different soft skills.

By the end of the training, the students were equipped with the following skills:

- ❖ Personal development and marketing of themselves better
- ❖ Time management
- ❖ Interpersonal relations and teamwork
- ❖ Effective communication
- ❖ Customer care, ethics at work place and problem solving
- ❖ Key principles of Occupational Health and Safety
- ❖ Report writing

Distribution of students trained from Science and Technology Colleges

S/N	College	No Trained
1	CEDAT	157
2	COCIS	101
3	COVAB	31
4	CAES	50
5	CHS	3
6	CONAS	75
7	COBAMS	152
8	CHUSS	5
	TOTAL	574



Students during the training

