

MAKERERE



UNIVERSITY

VICE CHANCELLOR'S MONTHLY MEDIA BRIEFING, MONDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 2017

COMMUNICATION FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR, PROF. BARNABAS NAWANGWE

1.1. Welcome Statement

I welcome you all to the Vice Chancellor's Media Briefing. I value your presence, for each and everyone participating in the Vice Chancellor's Media Briefing is a team player in the advancement and promotion of Makerere University core functions of teaching and learning, promotion of research and innovations as well as knowledge transfer partnerships and networking.

1.2. Vice Chancellor reiterates the importance of research presented by the researchers from the College of Natural Sciences

Makerere University has a strategic focus of becoming a research led University. We are convinced that through research, the University will be able to impact on society, contribute to a better society and improved livelihoods, come up with research outputs that will eradicate poverty, as well as research positions that will inform government policy.

I am happy that Makerere University through the College of Natural Sciences is partnering with key stakeholders to increase the productivity of bananas in East and Central Africa.

In the same spirit, I commend the College of Natural Sciences for the ongoing research project aimed at improving the health of Honey bees; and enhancing production and incomes in the honey value chain by addressing the challenge of pests and parasites of honeybees in Uganda.

The presentations from the College of Natural Sciences are a clear testimony of the relevance of research and Makerere University in addressing societal problems. The research will contribute to the reduction of hunger; improve food security as well as household incomes.

1.3 Semester One (1) Examinations for the 2017/2018 Academic Year

Today, Monday 27th November, 2017 marks the beginning of Semester One (1) examinations for the 2017/2018 Academic Year.

I take this opportunity to wish all the students success in the end of Semester One Examinations.

I pray that the Almighty God grants our students good health throughout the Examination period scheduled to end on Saturday 16th December 2017.

1.4 Important Dates in the Makerere University Almanac 2017/2018

- **Semester One Holiday Break:** Saturday 16th December 2017 to Friday 19th January 2018
- **68th Graduation Ceremony:** Tuesday 16th to Friday 19th January 2018
- **Semester Two Duration:** Saturday 20th January 2018 to Saturday 19th May 2018

1.5 Makerere University Property Investor Conference, 5th December 2017

Strategic Approach: Widening the Revenue Base for Makerere University

Strategic Goal: Financial Sustainability of Makerere University

Makerere University Holdings Limited in collaboration with Makerere University Management is hosting the Makerere University Property Investor Conference on Tuesday 5th December 2017, to engage national, regional and international property development stakeholders (financiers, developers and advisors and among others) in order to market Makerere University properties and projects.

Most of you have been asking why Makerere University does not use its properties and assets such as land in prime locations to generate income!

Starting at 8:30am at Serena Hotel Kampala, the Makerere University Property Investor Conference presents us with a platform to present to Investors in Property Development, national and international partners the opportunities that we have.

To improve her financial position and the nature and extent of the services offered by the University to its students and personnel, Makerere University Council established Makerere University Holdings Limited (Mak Holdings) in 2014, as her corporate entrepreneurial and investment arm mandated to manage all her economic interests. Mak Holdings Board which is chaired Mr. Charles Mbire consists of Seven (7) members from private and public sectors as well as the University.

In collaboration with Makerere University Council, the Mak Holdings Board embarked on the journey to effectively utilize Makerere University's land assets motivated by the following:

- To unlock value, generate benefits and income for the University;
- To contribute to the University's long-term ambition of financial sustainability; and
- To ultimately change Uganda's higher education financing for generations to come.

Consequently, Mak Holdings undertook feasibility study and after its finalization, the following has been prioritized;

- (i) The development of additional facilities for the University; and
- (ii) The commercialization of land through commercial property development of the University's underutilized and/or unoccupied land to unlock its value and generate income.

In both instances, property development is to be undertaken by means of private sector participation and investment. This is because Makerere University (and by extension Mak Holdings) lacks or does not wish to commit its own financial resources to undertake the development of each Project and does not wish to incur capital investment commitments or other financial commitments (current and/or future) in relation to the development and procurement of any Project; the Makerere University (and by extension Mak Holdings) wishes to leverage the value of each Project Site and private sector expertise and innovation.

The Projects comprise:

- Project 1: Conference Centre and 3-Star Hotel at the current Makerere University Guest House
- Project 2: 5 Star Luxury Hotel, Commercial Centre and Upmarket Apartments – Kololo
- Project 3: Gated Community and Upmarket Apartments – Makindye
- Project 4: Student Accommodation at Makerere University Main Campus
- Project 5: Student Centre at Makerere University Main Campus among others.

The expectation is that any participation by private sector in the projects outlined above shall take the form of a Development Lease – the letting of the relevant Project Site by Mak Holdings to a Private Sector Party who will conclude a long term commercial lease with Mak Holdings with a view to undertaking the development (designing, financing, procurement, construction, operation and maintenance) of the relevant Project for its own account.

Through the Makerere University Property Investor Conference, we will hook partners with a vision, a long-term outlook, and the best team to deliver on the Project with financial capacity and experience.

1.6 The Mak Bulletin

I am pleased to present to share with you the November 2017 Edition of the Mak Bulletin, a joint publication between the University Management and the Students' Guild.

If an organization has to survive and thrive, then it must communicate effectively with all stakeholders. The Mak Bulletin is aimed at ensuring a two-way, open, effective and timely flow of information. We acknowledge that students are the reason we are all here. Our students are an important part of the University, and we value their contributions and participation.

The University Management will continue devising ways of ensuring that information reaches its stakeholders using the most effective means. Management commits itself to keep the door open for all the students and other stakeholders to make our University better and competitive.

.....**I thank you for listening to me**.....