

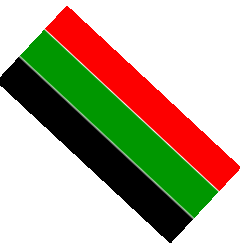


READINESS OF MAKERERE UNIVERSITY FOR EMERGENCY ODEL SYSTEM

**REPORT PRESENTED TO NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
HIGHER EDUCATION (NCHE)**

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

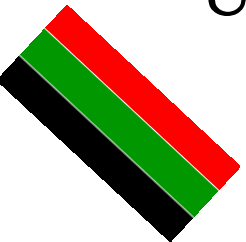
2ND SEPTEMBER 2020





Outline

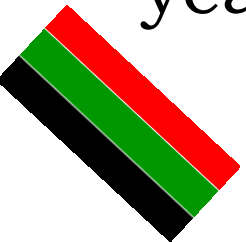
1. Background to Visitation
2. Brief History of ODeL at MAK
3. ODeL Policy and Institutional Readiness
4. Students and Staff Skills Capacity for ODeL
5. Students Readiness for ODeL
6. Student ODeL Technology Ownership & Access
7. ODeL Teaching and Learning
8. Institutional ODeL Technology Capacity
9. ODeL Learner Support
10. Continuous Formative and Summative Assessment in ODeL
11. Final Examination in ODeL Delivered Programmes / Courses
12. Conclusion & Roadmap for Emergency ODeL At Makerere University





Background to Visitation: Operationalization of Government Directive

- Government guided that universities can open BUT through e-Learning (Minister of Education and Sports; President of the Republic of Uganda)
- NCHE Issued Guidelines for Emergency Open, Distance and eLearning (ODeL) System
- Mak is addressing the NCHE Guidelines on Emergency ODeL
- Mak has applied to NCHE to roll out the Emergency ODeL – initially to complete Sem II and then for 2020/21 academic year



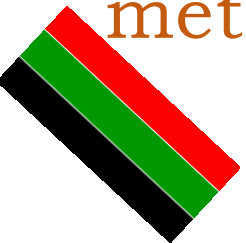


Background to Visitation: What is ODeL?

Approaches which utilize ICTs to extend teaching and learning opportunities to learners that are separated by time and space from the institution, facilitators and fellow learners.

ODeL approaches may include use of: e-Learning, distance learning, online learning, mobile learning, blended learning, OERs, MOOCs, flipped classrooms, etc.

MAK has opted to embrace **blended learning** – using a combination/mixture of technologies, approaches and methodologies





Brief History of ODeL at MAK

1991 - External Degree Programme

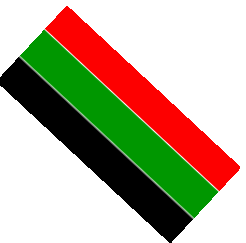
1997 - African Virtual University Project (Satellite based)

2002 - Blackboard introduced as LMS

Experimented with a variety of other LMS (KEWL, TUSK)

2007/08 - The University Strategic Plan 2007/08 -2017/18 puts ICTs at Centre of Teaching, learning, research & administration

2009 – Adopted Makerere University eLearning Environment (MUELE). A Moodle-based LMS





Brief History of ODeL at MAK...

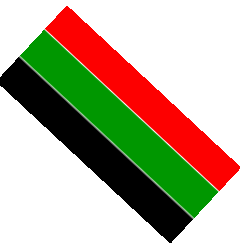
2010 - E Learning Policy (part of the ICT Policy/Master Plan)

2000 – to date Increasing connectivity (access points, bandwidth, wifi)

2015 - ODeL Policy approved by Council

2020 – Mak Strategic Plan 2020 – 30, ‘...mainstream Open, Distance and e-Learning (ODeL) to enhance access...’

1st June 2020 - Senate approved Fast Tracking ODeL Strategies at Mak





ODeL Policy and Institutional Readiness for ODeL

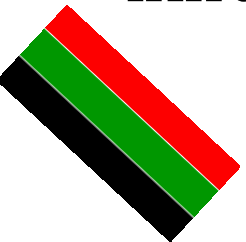
- **Compliance with Ministry of Health COVID 19 SoPs**
 - Set up Mak COVID 19 Task Force
 - Task Force submitted a Report & Guidelines on COVID 19
 - Carrying out Testing for COVID 19 for Mak staff
- **Structure and details of the proposed ODeL model** – Mak has adopted a Blended Learning approach (mix of technologies, methods & approaches)
- **Institutional Policy on ODeL** – ODeL Policy approved by Council in 2015
- **Existence of a dedicated ODeL pedagogy support unit** - IODEL established when Policy was approved
- **Existence of a dedicated of ICT support unit** – DICTS was established in 2000
- **Senate approval of Emergency ODeL delivery** – Senate Approved Emergency ODeL System 1st June 2020





ODeL Policy and Institutional Readiness...

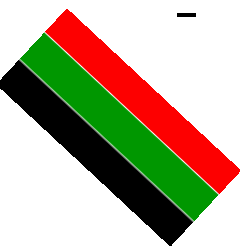
- **Governing Council approval of the Emergency ODeL system** – Council adopted the Senate approval of the Emergency ODeL System on July 2020
- **List of the accredited academic programmes for ODeL delivery**
 - Mak has a total of 282 accredited programmes (Mak)
 - Mak has 8 accredited ODeL Programmes
 - Jinja Campus – 9 programmes
 - Affiliated institutions - 48 programmes (<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/my-drive>)
- **Mak Strategic Plans (previous & current)** - have ODeL as major strategy
- **Quality assurance systems for ODeL system** – QA Policy
- **Budget to support ODeL approaches to teaching and learning** - (200m allocation, DICTS, Proposed re-alignment of budgets, Colleges ICT support infrastructure...)





Students and Staff Skills Capacity for ODeL Pedagogy

- **Staff readiness to roll out of ODeL delivered programmes**
 - Prior to COVID 19, 50% of faculty had been trained
 - April 2020 to-date completed 236, Ongoing 284, Total 502
 - College readiness survey by the VC – all Colleges ready to embrace blended learning & look forward to continue capacity building
- **Plan for pre-training of staff and learners on ODeL Pedagogy**
 - External students always sensitized on admission
 - Embarked on sensitization & training of all staff in 2019
 - Expanded & fast-tracked training is ongoing
 - Plan to cover the rest of the units/staff & students by end of September 2020

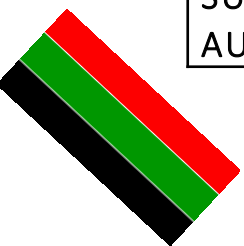




Staff Training Schedule Mon 31st Aug– Sun 6th Sept 2020

DAY	TIME AND GROUP										
MONDAY 31 ST AUG. 2020	8:00AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	11:00AM	12:00PM	1:00PM	2:00PM	3:00PM	4:00PM	5:00PM	6:00PM
		1. SCH OF INDUS. AND FINE ART									
		2. DRGT-CARTA									
TUESDAY 1 ST SEPT. 2020	8:00AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	11:00AM	12:00PM	1:00PM	2:00PM	3:00PM	4:00PM	5:00PM	6:00PM
		1. SCH OF LAW									
		2. CHUSS COHORT 2									
WEDNESDAY 2 ND SEPT. 2020	8:00AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	11:00AM	12:00PM	1:00PM	2:00PM	3:00PM	4:00PM	5:00PM	6:00PM
		1. COBAMS									
		2. CAES-SCH OF FORESTRY & SCH OF FOOD TECH									
THURSDAY 3 RD SEPT. 2020	8:00AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	11:00AM	12:00PM	1:00PM	1:00PM	3:00PM	4:00PM	5:00PM	6:00PM
		1. COCIS – EASLIS					2. COVAB-ONE HEALTH				
		3. UNIV-WIDE COHORT 3									
FRIDAY 4 TH SEPT. 2020	8:00AM	9:00AM	10:00AM	11:00AM	12:00PM	1:00PM	2:00PM	3:00PM	4:00PM	5:00PM	6:00PM
		1. SCHOOL OF MEDICINE-HEPI			2. GENDER CROSS-CUTTING COURSE						
SATURDAY 5 TH SEPT. 2020											
SUNDAY 6 TH AUG. 2020											

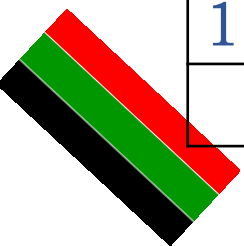
Plan to continue training throughout September 2020





Academic Staff Trained Since April 2020

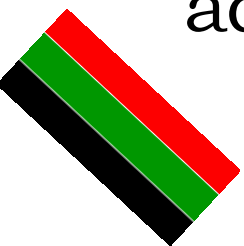
	College	Number Trained Since April 2020	Number involved in ongoing training	Totals
1.	CAES	12	88	100
2.	CEDAT	9	22	31
3.	CEES	27	4	31
4.	CHS	45	30	75
5.	CHUSS	72	26	98
6.	COBAMS	4	50	54
7.	COCIS	9	9	18
8.	CONAS	9	9	18
9.	COVAB	28	3	31
10.	SoL	21	23	44
11.	Library	1	1	2
	Totals	236	284	502





Training of administrative & Technical Staff

- Started with orientation & training of IODeL technical staff to support staff
- Sensitization of all University staff on ODeL Policy started in 2019
- Identified School based e Learning Coordinators – planned training in September 2020
- Planned training of all College based IT staff to provide College-based technical support to staff & students
- Planned continued sensitization & training for other administrative staff





Students Readiness for ODeL Approaches

(<https://bit.ly/33hffga>)

- **Tracking of continuing students during COVID 19 period**

- The Directorate of QA has carried out a tracer study
- 12,428 students responded
- 132 districts and municipalities in Uganda
- 22 students in 13 foreign cities.
- 1,028 in Kampala, 612 in Wakiso

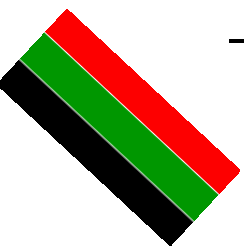
- **Students' readiness for ODeL pedagogy**

- 10% of the students are already in ODeL programmes
- 75% were able to study through the ODeL system

- **Plan for supporting the 25%**

- 1st generation distance education (print based hard copy materials),
- VCs initiative of zero rating, hire purchase, etc.
- Blended learning e.g. supplementing with mobile learning, controlled face to face sessions, lab practicals

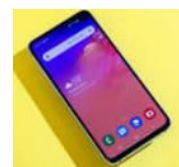
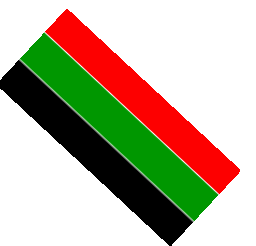
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1							
2	COUNTA of Enme Please indicate your willingness to continue your studies under Emergency OdeL (Online Teaching and Learning)						
3	Program registered for						
4	Afternoon	1	49	2760	153	202	0.00%
5	Day	10	597	6287	20	9116	75.74%
6	Evening		130	2090	68	2707	68.87%
7	External		3536	475	4	609	77.21%
8	Grand Total		9005	92	12845		78.00%





Student ODeL Technology Ownership & Access Profile

- Percentage of students owning laptops - Hire purchase plan
- Percentage of students owning smartphones - 95% (76% smart phones)
- Desktop computer to student ratio in the institution - 1:5
- Percentage of students with access to Internet - Zero rating
- Percentage of students with access to electricity - Solar + hydro coverage nationally
- Percentage of students owning other access devices - 10%
- Student presence on Social Media – Over 95% (WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Youtube)





ODeL Teaching and Learning

- **Action plan** of how teaching and learning will be implemented online
 - External students - continue as before
 - Internal students – use Emergency Remote Teaching (ERT) model
- **Strategy** to cover learning content missed
 - ERT model, lab work & clinicals for practical subjects
- **Using MUELE** – a Moodle-based LMS since 2009
- **Created Course shells on MUELE** for majority of programmes & courses
- **Appointed e learning Coordinators** for each School
- **Mak has Inclusivity plans** - e.g. for disability and gender inclusivity, researches on inclusivity
- Strategy for completion of **practicums**
 - Use blended learning, following SoPs
 - Modified internship & School Practice





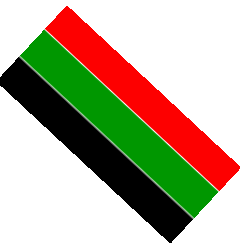
Institutional ODeL Technology Capacity

- **Compliance with Data Protection and Privacy Act 2019**

- Data Security Policy
- Physical ICT Security Policy
- Acceptable Use of ICT Resources

- **Basic security aspects for e-learning system** e.g.

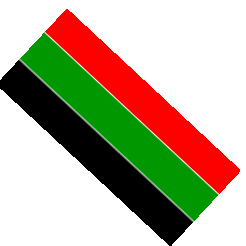
- Running a Firewall
- Operating System Hardening and Patching (continuous security updates)
- Antivirus Software
- Communication between users is encrypted using SSL (https security)
- Use of Logins including Easy Proxy Affordances





Institutional ODeL Technology Capacity...

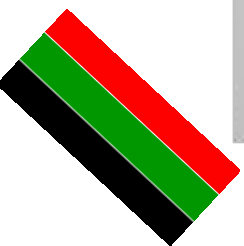
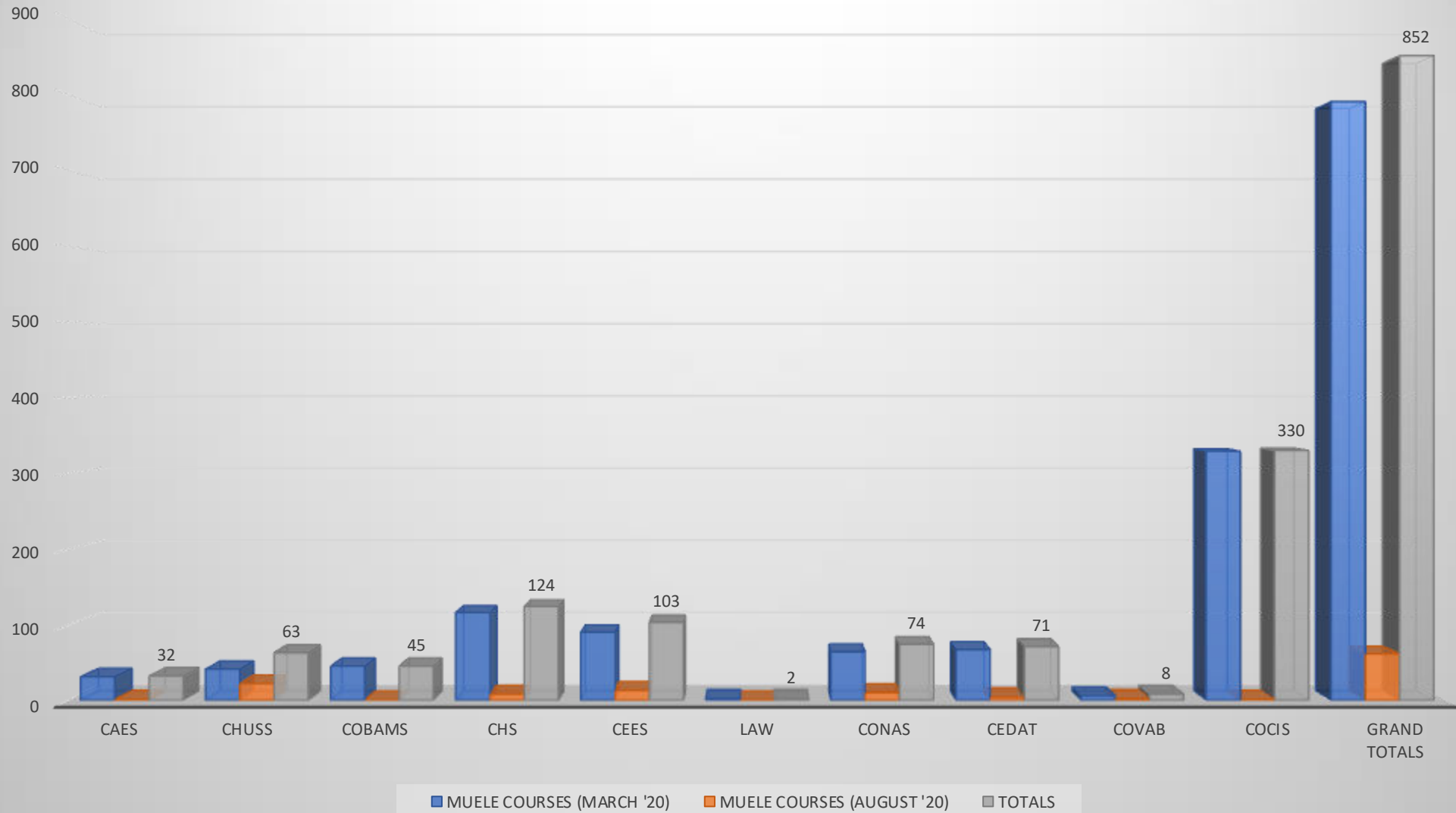
- **LMS used** – Makerere University Elearning Environment (MUEL) – Moodle based
- MUELE is one of the applications **Zero rated** by MTN & Africell
- **Instructionally well-designed interactive activity-based courses in the LMS**
 - Adopted the Sub-Saharan Onlinisation Pedagogy (Muyinda & Kajumbula, 2020)
 - 157 courses developed since April 2020 (interactive activity based)
 - 791 courses before April 2020 (At various levels of interactivity)
 - Bandwidth Capacity – 0.5Mbps per student at given time of usage





Distribution of Courses on MUELE

MUELE COURSES MARCH 2020 & AUGUST 2020





ODeL Learner Support

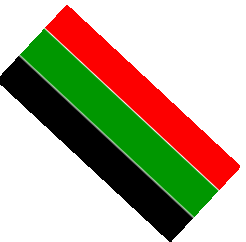


- **Plan for ODeL learner support**

- Leveraging on ODeL learner support experience from IODeL
- Having interactive study materials
- Virtual learner support teams at IODeL and at College level
- School based e-learning focal persons
- ODeL programme committees at each College
- Centers – Lira & Jinja
- Mak Library e resources

- **Plan for student communication mechanism during the ODeL provision**

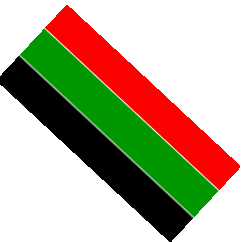
- E-mail
- Social media groups – University, College, School, Department, programme, etc.





ODeL Learner Support...

- **ODeL multiple media material development capability**
 - AfDB HEST V multi-media studio at CTF
 - DELP Video Conferencing Facility at CEES came with training,
 - Mobile Broadcast system at IODEL
 - COBAMS Conferencing facilities
 - COCIS Amity systems, etc.





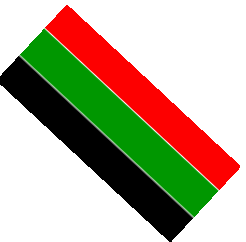
Continuous Formative and Summative Assessment in ODeL

- **Plan for formative assessment**

- This is assessment of learning. Are learners attaining the intended learning outcomes? Not graded.
- We shall use e-tivities and ePortfolios (electronic activities & electronic portfolios)

- **Plan for delivering online-based summative continuous assessment**

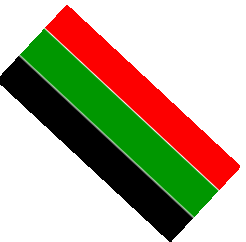
- This is also assessment for learning. Have learners attained the intended learning outcomes? It is graded.
- Can be CAT or take home CW





Final Examination in ODeL Delivered Programmes /Courses

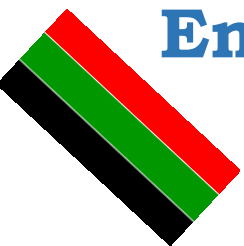
- **Evidence of staff trained to deliver examinations online**
 - Ongoing training sessions
 - Graduate thesis examinations – guidelines approved
- **IODeL is undertaking research in:**
 - Authentic assessment and examination model
 - Setting non-plagiarisable online assessment tasks
 - Online examination integrity
- **Practical examinations** will be conducted using a blended approach – lab work, clinicals, modified internships
- Exams will be **done in phased manner** to allow COVID-19 SOPs – a detailed program will be issued





Conclusion

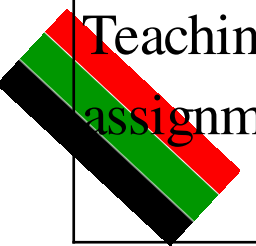
- Makerere University has had a long period of preparation for ODeL delivery since 1991.
- Already the National Council for Higher Education has been accrediting ODeL delivered programmes at Mak.
- 8 distance learning programmes at Mak already accredited two of which are online learning programmes.
- The infrastructure and human capacity developed over the years for running distance learning programme
- The recent re-energization of the ODeL Policy & Strategies makes Mak ready to roll out the Emergency ODeL system to traditionally face-to-face programmes while strengthening the existing ODeL programmes.
- **Mak therefore requests for permission from NCHE to run Emergency ODeL System**





Roadmap

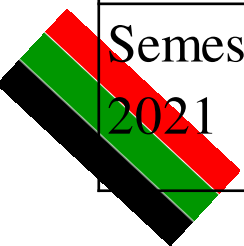
Activity	Proposed Timelines	Comment/ Notes
Submission of ODeL status and application to NCHE	25 th August 2020	Report ready for submission
NCHE Inspection and Approval	1 st – 7 th September 2020	
Ongoing Training of Staff/ Designing of Course material/ and upload of Content in MUELE	1 st – 30 th September 2020	Training of staff started April 2020 on: Use of digital technologies, ODeL course design, E-Learning systems and pedagogy etc.
Ongoing Stakeholder engagement/ Training and sensitisation of students	1 st – 30 th September 2020	ongoing stakeholder engagement: (Students, Government, Telecom Companies, seeking grants)
Completion of 2 nd Semester Teaching/ Coursework assignments	5 th – 31 st October 2020 (4 Weeks) 2 nd – 14 th November 2020 (Extra 2 Weeks) <small>NCHE Inspection</small>	Some programmes already completed teaching and coursework. Two extra weeks will be given.





Roadmap...

Activity	Proposed Timelines	Comment/ Notes
End of 2 nd Semester/ Year Examinations	16 th – 30 th November 2020 (2 Weeks); & 1 st – 12 th December 2020 (Extra 2 Weeks)	Normally exams conducted in 2-3 weeks. Two extra weeks given. Exams will be done in phased manner to allow COVID-19 SOPs – Each College will make an examination plan/ proposal, which will be integrated into a detailed program to be issued/ published.
Further capacity building for ODeL; scaling-up MUELE; infrastructure, equipment & support	October, November, December 2020; and January, February 2021	There will be continuous capacity building & support initiatives for students (including acquisition of digital equipment for E-learning)
Beginning: Academic Year 2020/ 2021, Semester One	February – May 2021	University will have more time (six months) to build formidable capacity to deliver ODeL for 17 Weeks of Semester one (February – May 2020); and Semester two
Semester Two, Academic Year 2020/ 2021	June 2021 – September 2021.	





Food for thought

**If you can't fly, then run,
if you can't run, then walk,
if you can't walk, then crawl,
but by all means keep moving.**

~~ Martin Luther King Jr. ~~

