



COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES **ANNUAL REPORT** 2024

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES



VISION

A leading and transformational institution for academic excellence and innovation in health sciences in Africa



MISSION

To Improve the health of the people of Uganda through innovative teaching, research and provision of services responsive to societal needs



CORE VALUES

Innovativeness and Adaptability to Change	Social Accountability	Diversity	Excellence and Quality	Equity and Social Justice	Professionalism

Acronyms

AHPC	–	Allied Health Professionals Council
AI	–	Artificial Intelligence
CHS	–	College of Health Sciences
CPD	–	Continuous Professional Development
JASHC	–	Joint Annual Scientific Health Conference
Mak	–	Makerere University
MakCHS	–	Makerere University College of Health Sciences
MoH	–	Ministry of Health
OAU	–	Optometrists Association of Uganda
SBS	–	School of Biomedical Sciences
SCA	–	Sickle Cell Anaemia
SHS	–	School of Health Sciences
SOD	–	School of Dentistry
SOM	–	School of Medicine
SPH	–	School of Public Health
UMPDC	–	Uganda Medical Practitioners & Dental Council
WHO	–	World Health Organisation



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Assoc. Prof. Bruce J. Kirenga

It is with great honor that I present to you the Makerere University College of Health Sciences Annual Report 2024. On behalf of the entire College of Health Sciences Community, I express my sincerest thanks and gratitude to the college management team that delivered the work led by Principal Professor Damalie Nakanjako.

The reporting saw several significant achievements that you will be able to read in this report. Notable among these achievements included kick starting the activities to celebrate 100 years since the medical school was started (CHS@100). The College of Health Sciences led and participated in a number of conferences, research dissemination and collaborations notably the college flagship scientific conference, the Joint Annual Scientific

Health Conference (JASH) under the theme, “Global Health Security. Partnerships for Epidemic Response and Control in Sub-Saharan Africa”. Other activities included: hosting Dr. Yin Ye, President of the BGI group in China, a leading institution in genomics research and a manufacturer of whole genome sequencers (alongside illumina Inc. in California), several research dissemination activities of key studies and a symposium on parenting, a ground breaking initiative of our Child Health and Development Centre.

Our faculty continued to engage in research along teaching and providing clinical care and other services in our teaching site. About 400 publications were published and I congratulate all those who made a contribution to this scholarly achievement.

In the area of teaching and learning, I thank all staff academic and non-academic who ensured that our students were taught and examined. I congratulate the School of Biomedical Sciences for having the Biomedical Sciences programme accredited. Two clinical fellowships were also approved by the Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council.

The College of Health Sciences has achieved a lot in this reporting year and the previous years. A lot remains to be done. My team is ready and prepared to take on the challenges of the college in our administration period of 2024–2028.

I wish you all a nice and enjoyable read.

Sincerely,

Assoc. Professor Bruce J. Kirenga
PRINCIPAL

MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY PRINCIPAL



Assoc. Prof. Richard Idro

I am delighted to write this message as we reflect on the remarkable achievements of Makerere University College of Health Sciences in 2024 and the progress we have had over the year.

Like it has been over the years, our staff, students and the Alumni have continued to excel and in so many areas. Our commitment to academic excellence, teaching and character development of our students, and community engagement has continued to yield outstanding results in research, innovations and service to our community. Highlights of only some of these achievements are presented in this year's report.

I would like to express my deepest gratitude to you our dedicated staff, the students, and parents for your tireless efforts and unwavering support. Together, we have created a nurturing environment that fosters growth, innovation, and social responsibility.

This year, the College marks 100 years of health professionals' education since its inception in 1924, and we have set on year long celebrations that will culminate into a festival at the end of 2025.

As we look to the future – **Celebrating a Century of Excellence and Shaping the Future** –, I am excited to see our college continue to thrive and evolve, driven by our passion for education and our commitment to empowering the next generation of leaders.

Thank you for being part of our journey.

Assoc. Professor Richard Idro
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

COLLEGE ACADEMIC LEADERS

MAKCHS Leadership



Assoc. Bruce J. Kirenga
(Principal)



Assoc. Prof. Richard Idro
(Deputy Principal)

Deans of Schools



Prof. Rhoda Wanyenze
(Dean School of Public Health)



**Assoc. Prof. Annetee
Olivia Nakimuli**
Dean School of Medicine



Assoc. Prof. David Kateete
(Dean. School of Biomedical
Sciences)



Dr. Richard Muhindo
Dean School of Health
Sciences



**Prof. Josephant
Byamugisha**
Director, Makerere University
Health Services



Prof. Elzeus Rutebemberwa
Deputy Dean School of Public
Health



**Assoc. Prof. Kaddu
Mukasa**
(Deputy Dean School of
Medicine)



Dr. Annette Kutesa
(Dean School of Dentistry)

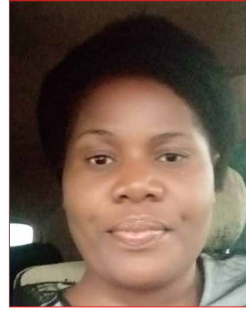
COLLEGE ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERS



Connie Masane
Admin. Secretary
Principals Office



Ms. Juliet Kamanyi
Senior Grants Manager



Irene Rebecca Namatende
Quality Assurance
Manager



Zaam Ssali
Principal Communication
Officer



Tom Vok Elwana
(College Bursar)



Herbert Bataamye
(College Registrar)



Josephine Nalweyiso
(Human Resource Officer)



Stephen Byaruhanga
(Procurement Manager)



Bob Shine
(Head IT)



Susan N. Byekwaso
Coordinator
International office



Rachel Mirembe
Senior Administrator
Principals Office



Bonny Tusiime
Grants Assistant

Heads of Department



Prof. Moses Galukande
(Surgery)



Dr. Patrick Sekimpi
(Orthopedics)



Dr. Suzanne Kiwanuka
(Health Policy Planning & Management)



Assoc. Prof. Esther Buregyeya
(Disease control and Environmental Health)



Assoc. Prof. David Meya
(Department of Internal Medicine)



Dr. Mukonzo Jackson
(Pharmacology)



Dr. Freddie Bwanga
(Immunology & Molecular Biology)



Ass. Prof. Benon Asiimwe,
(Microbiology)



Prof. Erisa Mwaka Sebakaki
(Anatomy)



Dr. Hawa Nalwoga
(Pathology)



Dr. Robert Kalyesubula
(Physiology)



Dr. Dralega Anguyo
(Optometry)



Dr. Joan Mutyoba
(Epidemiology & Biostatistics)



Assoc. Prof. Victor Musiime
(Paediatrics)



Assoc. Prof. Tom Ngabirano
(Nursing)



Dr. Onyango Jude Tadeo
(Family Medicine)



Dr. Dickens Howard Akena
(Psychiatry)



Dr. Geoffrey Erem
(Radiology)



Dr. Herbert Muyinda
(CHDC)



Dr. Alison Kinengyere
(Head of Albert Cook Library)



Prof. Joan Kalyango
(CEU Unit)



Ms. Ahabwe Precious
(SLT)



Dr. Tonny Stone Luggya
(Anaesthesia)



Dr. Musa Sekikubo
(OBS and Gyn)



Dr. Stephen Mpungu Kiwuwa
(Biochemistry)



Dr. Otiti Juliet Sengeri
(Ophthalmology)



Dr. Christine Nalwadda
Community Health & Behavioural Sciences



Mr. Lukiza Paul,
Medical Illustration



Dr. B.D Otto
Pharmacy



Dr. Ndoleriire Christopher
Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT)



Dr. Godfrey Bbosa
Head Department of Pharmacology



COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION



1.1 OVERVIEW

MakCHS has an estimated total of 3150 students including both graduate and undergraduate as shown in the table 1 below. Most of the students are undergraduates totaling 1824, however, numbers of graduate students have been steadily increasing at the college standing at 1271 for Masters and 52 for PhD. This aligns with Makerere University' strategy to become a research-led institution centred on research and graduate training. We also have 3 students at diploma level.

Table 1: Student Numbers at the College as at 30th November 2024

Study Programme	Year of Study/Number of Students					
UNDERGRADUATE						
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Programme Totals
Bachelor of Medicine & Bachelor of Surgery	111	116	217	196	176	816
Bachelor of Science in Medical Radiography	18	21	18	16	–	73
Bachelor of Science in Speech & Language Therapy	11	9	8	10	–	38
Bachelor of Science in Palliative Care	6	12	6	–	–	24
Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences	1	3	40	–	–	44
Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering	25	27	23	32	–	107
Bachelor of Cytotechnology	16	27	19	–	–	62
Bachelor of Environmental Health Sciences	33	29	54	–	–	116
Bachelor of Science in Nursing	24	21	23	15	–	83
Bachelor of Dental Surgery	34	29	26	23	28	140
Bachelor of Optometry	27	14	11	11	–	63
Bachelor of Dental Technology	17	10	13	–	–	40
Bachelor of Pharmacy	41	47	65	65	–	218
SUB-TOTAL	364	365	523	368	224	1824
MASTERS						
M.MED Internal Medicine	25	16	17	–	–	58
M.MED Obs &Gyn	28	17	24	–	–	69
M.MED Ophthalmology	2	4	5	–	–	11
M.MED Orthopaedics	12	12	10	4	–	38

Study Programme	Year of Study/Number of Students					
M.MED Paediatrics & Child Health	33	23	20	-	-	76
M.MED Psychiatry	10	7	1	-	-	18
M.MED Radiography	0	4	9	-	-	13
M.MED Ent	6	7	2	-	-	15
M.MED Anaesthesia	12	7	7	-	-	26
M.MED Family Medicine	9	3	3	-	-	15
M.MED Surgery	17	15	18	-	-	50
M.MED Neuro Surgery	2	0	2	2	-	6
MSc. Clinical Epidemiology & Biostatistics	33	25	-	-	-	58
MSc. Health Professions Education	10	3	-	-	-	13
M.MED Emergency Medicine	11	1	4	-	-	16
MSc. Immunology & Clinical Microbiology	30	17	-	-	-	47
MSc. Pathology	5	5	1	-	-	11
M.Med Microbiology	7	7	1	-	-	15
MSc. Pharmacology	10	7	-	-	-	17
MSc. Physiology	6	2	-	-	-	8
MSc. Health Bioethics	8	7	-	-	-	15
MSc. Bioinformatics	18	9	-	-	-	27
MSc. Human Anatomy	5	3	-	-	-	8
MSc. Public Health (Full-time)	33	53	-	-	-	86
MSc. Public Health (Distance)	107	64	60	-	-	231
MSc. Biostatistics	18	13	-	-	-	31
MSc. of Environment & Occupational Health	12	10	-	-	-	22
MSc. Disaster Management	6	12	-	-	-	18
MSc. Public Health Nutrition	20	15	-	-	-	35
MSc. Health Informatics	22	20	-	-	-	42
MSc. Health Science Research	31	16	-	-	-	47
MSc. Monitoring & Evaluation	20	13	-	-	-	33
MSc. Dentistry	0	5	2	-	-	7
MSc. Pharmacology & Therapeutics	10	7	-	-	-	17
MSc. Nursing	9	5	-	-	-	14

Study Programme	Year of Study/Number of Students					
MSc. Pharmaceuticals & Health Supplies Management	17	14	-	-	-	31
MSc. Pharmacognosy	5	2	-	-	-	7
MSc. Palliative Care	14	6	-	-	-	20
SUB-TOTAL	623	456	186	6	-	1271
PhD						
PhD (Medicine)	2	0	5	5	-	12
PhD (Biomedical Sciences)	2	2	1	2	-	7
PhD (Bioinformatics)	3	4	0	1	-	8
PhD (School of Public Health)	6	5	0	2	-	13
PhD (School of Health Sciences)	0	4	-	-	-	4
PhD in Health Sciences	5	1	0	1	-	7
PhD Dentistry	0	1	-	-	-	1
SUB-TOTAL	18	17	6	11	-	52
DIPLOMA						
Diploma in Palliative Care	3	-	-	-	-	3
COLLEGE TOTAL						
Undergraduate (Bachelors)	1824					
Masters	1271					
PhD	52					
Diploma	3					
TOTAL	3150					

Both Semester I and Semester II timetables for teaching and examinations were released on time and were very helpful in the smooth management of both teaching and examinations at the College.

Chapter 2

INTERNATIONALIZATION AT COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES



CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE, SHAPING THE FUTURE



Internationalization of higher education is no longer regarded as a goal in itself, but as a means to improve the quality of education and image of the institution. In the last decade of the last century, the increasing globalization and regionalization of economies and societies created a context that enabled a more strategic approach to internationalization in higher education

The college of health sciences charged with training of health professionals has been intentional about internationalization; it has encouraged both physical and virtual mobility between Makerere and institutions of higher learning abroad, collaborative research, external examiners, specialized training and others. MakCHS has a coordinating office that supports mainly academic mobility. This year the international coordination office has worked closely with the internationalization committee that is comprised representatives from all 5 schools to boost the international image of MakCHS.

2.1 Partnerships with other institutions abroad.

With the increased demand for Global health education, several institutions especially in high income countries termed as a **Global north** have renewed their commitment to establish partnerships with Makerere University college of health sciences (MakCHS). The international office has worked closely with the legal office at Makerere University, college administration and Departmental coordinators to ensure that several memoranda of understanding are reviewed and drafted in accordance to Makerere guidelines. During the period January to December 2024, several memoranda of understanding were signed. Some of the memoranda that focused on training of students and bilateral exchange and others focused on capacity enhancement in health professionals' education in the region. Details are indicated below.

No.	Institutions	Area of collaboration
1	Mayo Clinic	Student/staff exchange
2	Brescia University, Italy	Staff /student exchange and collaborative research
3	Medi- Graz University, Austria	Student/staff exchange
4	University of California San Francisco	Graduate Student placements at Makerere
5	Horizon Ophthalmic and Nursing University	Knowledge exchange and mobility of staff
6	Mayo Clinic	Scholar's placements at MakCHS in E.N.T
7	Universita Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore, Italy	Exchange of academic and didactic materials, Joint research activities and technical support
8	Somalia International University	Students' placements at MakCHS

It is worth noting that collaboration with Horizon Ophthalmic and Nursing University is unique, MakCHS will provide support towards capacity enhancement of Optometry Department through training of Faculty and offering training opportunities for students at Makerere University.

These boosted the already existing partnerships with institutions of higher learning.

2.2 Academic mobility of staff and students.

Mobility remained the most dominant component of internationalization strategy at MakCHS. This comprised of shorter inward students' mobility programs with partner institutions abroad and free movers, short-term faculty mobility, primarily for research and outgoing programmes for students and staff mainly for teaching and learning and research.

Degree mobility continued to grow at all levels. This fostered international understanding among students and inculcating a global outlook for the college and Makerere University as a whole.

2.3 Outward mobility of staff

This is when both teaching and non-teaching staff move to another institution to teach or study for a limited time. Several staff were able to visit other institution through framework of exchange programme

between MakCHS and other institutions of higher learning for administrative planning visits, for involvement in teaching, learning and research programme and others through conferences seminar and meetings. These opportunities for travel abroad provided adequate exposure for the staff which will lead to improved teaching and learning practices, increased innovation, and better professional skills. It also provided benchmarking opportunities and will enhance international profile of MakCHS.

During the period January to December 2024, several Faculty visited University of Bergen, Norway, NUVANCE health and attend the conferences like annual Consortium of Universities in Global Health (CUGH) as detailed below.

2.3.1 Shortterm visit to University of Bergen, Norway

During the first week of June a team of Faculty were led by the Vice chancellor of Makerere University to visit University of Bergen, Norway. During this visit, they discussed with colleagues about different ways of broadening the collaboration between Makerere and Bergen University.

This in addition to the already existing partnership in student placements for Bergen students at MakCHS, collaborative research and others.



Prof. S. Kiguli, Dr. R. Mubuke with Vice Chancellor during their visit at University of Bergen.

2.3.2: Administrative visit to Agder University, Norway.

Nursing Department MakCHS with funding from Erasmus Mundus Plus started a collaboration with Department of Nursing, University of Agder located in Kristianstad, Norway. In order to start the student/teacher exchange programme, two staff from MakCHS travelled to Norway to discuss modalities of the student/teacher exchange. The two, Ms. Lydia Kabiri a lecturer in Nursing Department and Susan Byekwaso, International Coordinator were able to have tours of the main campus Kristianstad and branch campus at Grimstad, nursing homes for the elderly and a teaching hospital.

Agder University is located in Kristiansand, Norway. A small, well organized and clean city in southern Norway. Its old town, Posebyen, features traditional wooden houses. In the center, neo-Gothic Kristiansand Cathedral is near the Sørlandets Museum, which displays Norwegian art from 1800 to today.

Agder University has 5 Faculties with and teacher education Unit and school of Business and Law; Faculty of Arts, Faculty of social sciences, Faculty of Humanities and Education, Faculty of Engineering and Sciences and Faculty of Health and Sport Sciences. The Department of Health and Nursing Science is one of the 4 Departments in the Faculty. it offers education at all levels.



Ms. Lydia Kabiri and Ms. Susan Nassaka, Prof. Elen from Agder University

During the discussion, the faculty, and staff from both institutions agreed start with teacher and staff exchange but also plan to include students' bidirectional exchanges and research and specialized training of Nurses at a later stage.

2.3.3: Consortium of Universities in Global Health

From March 8th – March 10th, 2024, the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) held its annual in-person global health conference. The host institutions were the National Cancer Institute, the University of California San Francisco, Institute for Global Health Sciences, the University of Washington Department of Global Health, and the University of Southern California Institute on Inequalities in Global Health.

With the theme 'Global Health Without Borders: Acting for Impact, the conference agenda was filled with over 200 speakers and more than 50 panels across various topics, disciplines, and countries that will address many of the contemporary health challenges that are faced today. The conference convened individuals across sectors, organizations, and disciplines to share knowledge, build skills, or develop action plans to address specific global health challenges we face today.

As members of consortium of University of Global health (CUGH), several staff and graduate students at Makerere University college of Health Sciences attended the twentieth annual conferences that took place in March 2024 in Los Angeles, California. This was to get updated findings on research on global health issues from research conducted by the colleagues across borders and to present their findings. Over 10 presented abstracts were from MakCHS.



Dr. Musoke, presenting during CUGH conference in Los Angeles

It is interesting to note that MakCHS in conjunction with, organize a session on Microbial resistance. The conference provided an opportunity for staff for network with colleagues with interest in global health all over the world.



Dr. Henry Kajumbula, Prof. Nelson Sewankambo during a panel discussion at CUGH

2.3.4 Global health conference at NUVANCE Health.

The conference was organized by NUVANCE Health one of the partners with MakCHS. The conference was attended by coordinators of different units within the NUVANCE Health consortium, students supported the programme and representation from different higher institutions of higher education around the world like India, Philippine, Zimbabwe and others.



Prof. Sam Luboga (left), Dr. Bulat, Sister Josephine and other participants from different parts of the world at Danbury during Global Health conference.

Representatives of MakCHS at NUVANCE Health were Prof. Nelson Sewankambo, Associate Prof. Noeline Nakasujja, Dr. Sabrina Bakera, Ms. Nassaka Susan Byekwaso and Dr. Ranga Daniel a Ruggles scholar. The outgoing head of Psychiatry and Director Ruggles scholarship programme, Prof. Noeline Nakasujja was one of the presenters during the conference. During his presentation titled *Unlocking the path to Mastering Psychiatry. Fruits of the Ruggles Scholarship*, she highlighted the success story of capacity enhancement in Department of Psychiatry with funding from Prof. Rudy Ruggles and other psychiatrist at NUVANCE Health.

With the scholarship, she noted a total of twelve graduate students have been supported with tuition fees and research

fees during the 3-year training that leads to the award of Master of Science in Psychiatry, four of these scholars have been awarded degrees and are already working as a psychiatrist in different health centers in Uganda. She expressed gratitude towards Prof. Rudy Ruggles, Director NUVANCE health and Prof. Charles Herrick for the consistent support towards the programme.

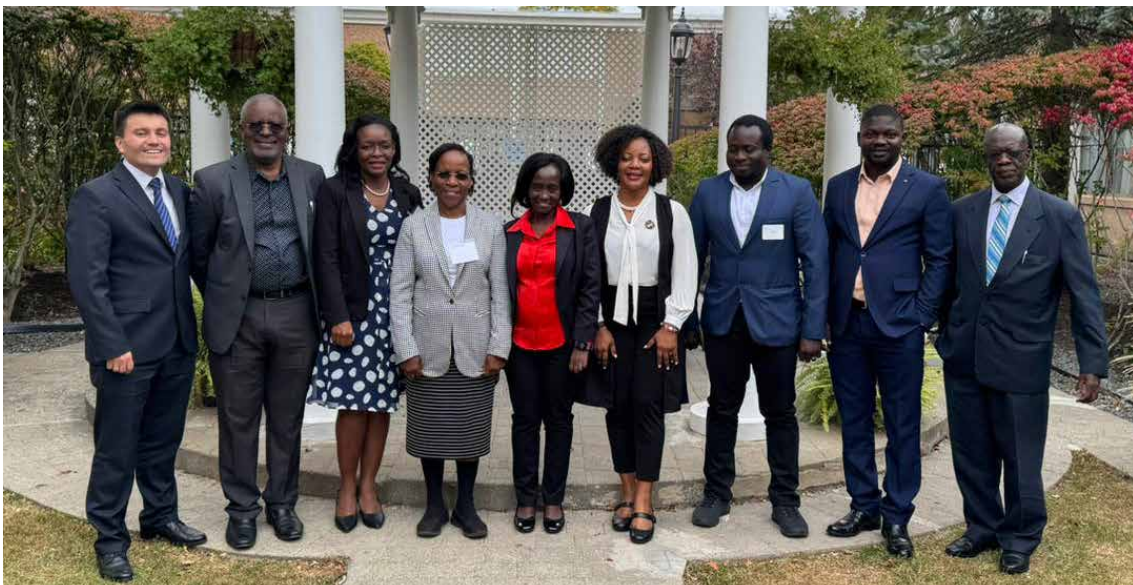
More to that, after the conference in Danbury, the Global Health team and Dr. Noeline Nakasujja attended the UN Science Summit in New York.



Assoc. Prof. Noeline Nakasujja (right) with psychiatrists from Danbury and Ranga Daniel, a Ruggles scholar at MakCHS

Other presenters during the Global health conference in Danbury, included Prof. Samuel Luboga who highlighted the importance of homestay as a model of accommodation for Global health scholars. He noted that host families were identified by both sending institutions in the NUVANCE health consortium and MakCHS. The host family like Prof. Sam Luboga and Mrs.

Luboga provide accommodations, meals, psychosocial support, counseling, and an informal curriculum of local language, culture, and politics to the students selected to undertake Global Health elective programme. This well-structured model enhances the experience of all involved by focusing on cultural immersion, social support, and mutual partnership.



Group photo of participants during the Annual Global Health conference in Danbury.

During the conference the Global health programme was transformed into Prof. Sadigh Majid Global health academy to which, Prof. Nelson Sewankambo was elected as a board member on the governing body representing institutions of higher education in the Global south.

It is worth noting that during this conference, Dr. Sabrina Bakeera Department of Peadiatrics was award the inaugural Majid

Sadigh award for her commitment to adolescent health in Uganda.

"This Scholarship aims to support the work of a female faculty member, affiliated to an academic center with active collaboration to Majid Sadigh and Global Health Academy of Nuvance Health.



Dr. Sabrina Bakeera receiving the inaugural Majid Sadigh award from Prof. Majid Sadigh



Prof. Sadigh Majid exchanging ideas with Prof. N. Sewankambo and Prof. Bhulat

2.4 Student mobility: rotations abroad

Several students were able to undertake clinical rotations within the framework of international partnerships with institutions of higher learning abroad.

Name	Discipline	Institution, Country
Ivan Mbuga	Surgery and Internal Medicine Depart (Infectious Diseases)	Magna, Grazie, Italy
Eric Seruganda	Surgery and Internal Medicine Depart (Infectious Diseases)	Magna Gracie, Italy
Aiden Kasule	Peadiatrics, Internal Medicine and Surgery	Karolinska, Sweden
Norah Nabagala	Peadiatrics, Internal Medicine and Surgery	Karolinska, Sweden
Namuddu Hilder	General, visceral and transplant Surgery	Medi.Graz, Austria
Nicholas Seruyange	General, visceral and transplant Surgery	Medi.Graz, Austria
Passy Nabhongo	Pulmonology Disease	Minnesota, U.S. A
Melanie Namubiru	Internal Medicine	Minnesota, U.S. A
Deborah Chemutai	Psychiatry Department	Des Moines, U.S. A
Natseli Godfrey	Peadiatrics Emergency.	Northwestern, U.S. A

Gordon Serubugo	Paediatric Rheumatology	Northwestern, U.S. A
Dr. Oscar Ogwang	Surgery Rotation	Alberta University
Dr. Arnold Kibuuka	Paediatrics Rotation	Alberta University
Dr. Jimmy Otyera	Emergency Medicine	Vermont University
Dr. Rachel Kwagala	Emergency Medicine	Vermont University
Dr. Juliet Mirembe	Paediatrics	Minnesota University
Adiru daisy	Oncology	Cambridge University
Philine taaka	Oncology	Cambridge University
Khakasa Leona	Internal Medicine	Yale University
Kalungi Vicent	Internal Medicine	Yale University
Asio Blessing	Internal Medicine	Yale University
Juliet Natukunda	Nursing	Agder University
Auma Christine	Nursing	Agder University

Figure 9: List of students that undertook rotations abroad

As indicated above the college was able to send 22 students for rotations abroad. Most of these (n=8) were funded through Erasmus mundus. These were to institutions in Europe that is Karolinska Institutet, Medi-Graz University, Austria and Magna University, Italy.

The Erasmus+ students' mobility program is the European Union's (EU) program to support education, training, youth and sport in Europe and overseas. It was established by the EU in 1987 with the aim of promoting closer cooperation between universities and higher education institutions across Europe. It was named after Erasmus of Rotterdam and its acronym for "The European Community Action Scheme for the Mobility of University Students" and over 15 million people have taken part in the program.

In addition to Erasmus Mundus funding, Seed Global Uganda funded the graduate students to undertake a rotation at the University of Vermont, U.S.A and Northwestern University provided partial funding for rotations in Chicago.

2.4.1 Rotations at Magna University.

Two students undertook rotations at Magna University located in Italy during the period February to April 2024. The students were involved in several academic activities like, daily ward rounds, surgeries, diagnostic workouts and clinical teachings through which they participated Patient discussions and in decisions making on course of patient treatment. Other academic activities included; clinical teachings, which were tailored specifically to broaden students' understanding of different subjects on ward and in operation. Besides that, students were involved in clinical clerkships (history taking and performing physical examinations and relating finds to have a proper diagnosis). The student's also attended seminars were granted opportunities to present and also learn from other people's presentation on different subjects like antimicrobial resistance

2.4.2 Rotations at Northwestern University

Northwestern University is one of the international partners that have continue to host students from Makerere University College of Health Sciences (MakCHS). In order to enhance bi-directionality, Northwestern provides financial support towards students' rotation at Northwestern. This is used to purchase air tickets and accommodation fees. Gordon had this to say



Natseli Godfrey in Chicago city



Residents at Northwestern Natseli Godfrey at Feinberg School of Medicine

2.4.3 Rotation in Karolinska Institutet

Two students Norah Nabagala and Aiden Kasule were granted opportunity were able to undertake a rotation at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden starting 15th Janaury to 7th April 2024. This was within the framework of students exchange programme between Karolinska Institutet and Makerere University

with funding from Erasmus plus. The students undertake rotations in three Departments of Internal medicine, Peadiatrics Department and Obstetrics and Gynecology. During the rotations they participated in clinical activities under guidance and supervision of Faculty at Karolinska Institutet. They

engaged in daily ward rounds and contributed to patient discussions, attended seminars, conferences and conducted clinical clerkships. These experiences augmented their clinical skills including history taking and physical examination techniques despite the language barrier challenges.



Aiden Kasule (middle) with students at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden.



Norah Nabagala in Karolinska

2.4.4 Rotation at Medi-Graz, Austria

Though the exchange programme between Medi-Graz University in Austria, two students were able to undertake rotations in the teaching hospital. The collaboration between Makerere College of Health Sciences and the Medical university of Graz started in mid-2022 with funding from Erasmus+ European Union program to provide opportunities for students exchange encouraging acquisition of knowledge and technologically advanced skills in a culturally diverse environment.



Seruyange at MEDI-Graz , Austria.



Hilder on the left with Eva, International Coordinator and Nicholas at Medi Graz University

2.4.5 Testimonies from University of Minnesota



Melanie with Dr. James Mollers in Cardiovascular Unit

Makerere University and the University of Minnesota have a long-standing collaboration that includes research, teaching, and student exchange. The collaboration started in internal medicine Departments and has spread to include other Departments like Paediatrics, Pharmacy and Surgery. This has enabled bi-directional exchange of students and Faculty. Through this, four students at undergraduate and graduate level were able to visit Minnesota University during the year 2024. The medical students Melanie Namubiru and Passy Nabbongo undertook rotations in the University of Minnesota Medical Center, East Bank, a major teaching hospital affiliated with the University of Minnesota Medical School.



Passy Nabbongo during his rotation at Minnesota University

In addition to medical students' rotations, Minnesota University School of Medicine was able to host two graduate students from Department of Peadiatrics for a clinical

rotation. The two students rotated alongside residents in Minnesota that had undertaken a rotation at Makerere University.



Dr. Juliet Mirembe and others during their rotation in Minnesota

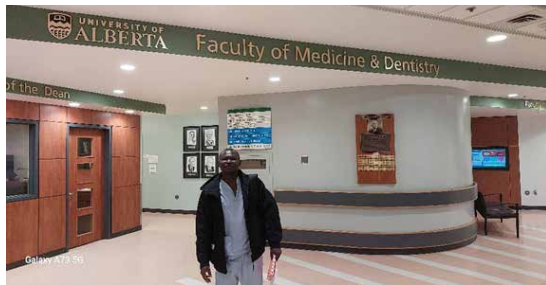
This promoted life changing experience of sharing knowledge, skills and cultural across the globe.



Dr. Baluku undertaking a fellowship in Minnesota University.

2.4.6 Rotation in Canada, University of Alberta

Dr. Ogwang Oscar, a graduate student pursuing studies in Surgery undertook a rotation with funding from the rotary club of Edmonton Mayfield.



Dr. Oscar Ogwang during his rotation in Alberta University, Canada

His rotation in Paediatrics surgery Department where he was involved in care and treatment of patients satisfied his desire in pediatric surgery and enhance his skills in minimally invasive surgical techniques such as interventional endoscopy, colonoscopy and laparoscopic surgery that he lacked because there is

limited access to minimally invasive surgery in Uganda, yet these surgical services have shown substantially better post operative among patients who need these services. In addition to that, he had advance trauma life support training and post operative management of patients.



Residents and Oscar, second right in a discussion during his rotation

Other rotations were undertaken at University of Vermont. Dr. Jimmy Otyera and Dr. Rachel Kwagala both postgraduate students in the Department of Emergency Medicine.



Dr. Kwagala Esther and Dr. Timmy Otyera with residents in University of Vermont.

2.5 Incoming mobility of students

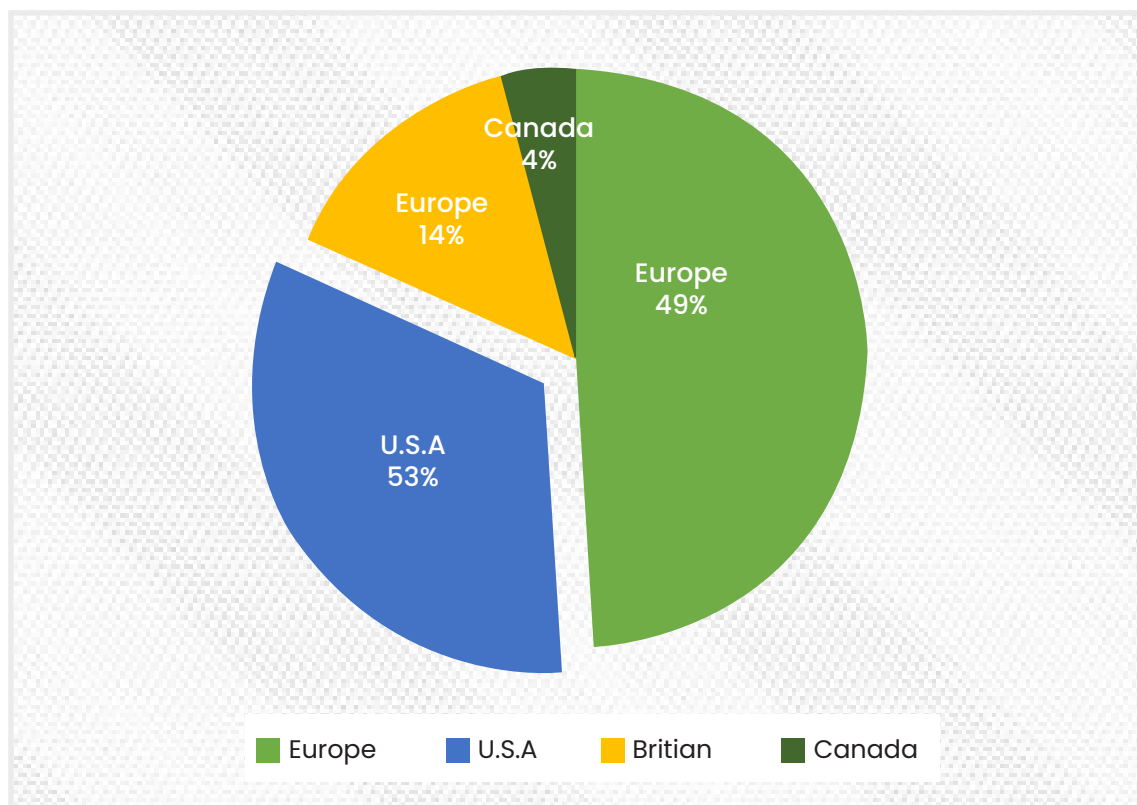
2.5.1 Occasional students

The college hosted several students mainly from institutions of higher learning all over the world. Most of these were from institutions in the global North and a few from institutions in the regional. Somalia International students was the only African country that sent medical students to have a shortterm study programme at MakCHS. These scholars engaged mainly in clinical rotations and research. During the period January to December, the college of health sciences hosted three hundred and twenty-five scholars These scholars were mainly students at both undergraduate and graduate level.

Graduate students undertake clinical rotations in the main teaching hospitals and affiliated site of Kawempe Hospital.

2.5.2 Origin of scholars

As indicated in the below, most international students came from Europe. Institutions of higher learning that sent the highest number of students were from the highest number of students were from Sweden (Karolinska Institutet, (N=35) Uppsala University (N=28), Brescia University, Italy and others. Interesting to note is that these institutions are long standing partners with college of health sciences. University of Bergen, sent thirty-five students Norway. Other sending Universities from Maastricht University, were University of Antwerp and Zurich University.



Pie chart with details of origin of international scholars

Other scholars originated from United states of America with the biggest number of scholars originating from Minnesota University followed by John Peter Smith. Other's students were from Cambridge University and in Britain, University of Dublin, Ireland, Ireland and many others.



Students from Des University and Uppsala University at College of Health Sciences.

2.6 Study programmes



Wendi from Ross University in Pediatrics

Most clinical rotations were undertaken in Pediatrics Department. Most scholars started their rotations in malnutrition Unit to acclimatise with the teaching hospital learning environment and later undertook rotations in other Units like acute care unit and standfield. This was followed by emergency medicine unit, infectious diseases unit, Internal Medicine Department. Other students undertook rotations in Anaesthesia, Surgery, and Orthopaedics. Whereas most students engaged in clinical rotations in fulfillment

of their Global health electives. In addition to normal clinical rotations, some students undertook special training in short Global health course like Global Medicine and Global Surgery for Uppsala University and Karolinska Institutet respectively. These programmes enabled students to follow a unique schedule where they had didactic sessions and bedside teachings. Other than that, residents from some institutions undertook rotations in special disciplines like Obstetrics & Gynaecology, Surgery and E.N.T where they were involved in care and treatment of patients and teaching of both undergraduate and graduate students at MakCHS. This boosted exchange of knowledge and skills between visiting students and students at MakCHS, and led to establishment of new partnerships with institutions like MAYO clinic medical Center. In addition to clinical rotations in the main teaching hospital and its affiliated site of Kawempe Hospital and Community Based Education and Services Research (COBERS) rotations at Kayunga Hospital. The students were able to live in Kayunga community. They were involved in both facility based and community-based activities. Household visits were conducted with guidance of the COBERS site tutor. Students noted that Kayunga was best in Obstetrics and Gynecology rotation because the environment is calm and had few students which made it easy to ask questions.

Whereas major goals of COBERS are to sensitize and acclimatize students to working in underserved communities and to enable them acquire the appropriate attitudes towards working in these areas, international students used this as an opportunity to give back to the community.

The students had household visits in the communities where they interacted with community members and appreciated the incoming generating activities, neighborhood values and beliefs, education access and how those influence their access to health care and health

seeking behaviors. As they moved through the community, they provided families with food supplies, scholastic materials and other materials to support adolescent health.



Students from University of Dublin in a meeting with members of the community in Bukuju, Kayunga.

2.7 Global Surgery course unit.

The college conducted unique programmes like Global Surgery Course with Karolinska institutet a long-standing partner with Makerere university. Since 2016, Karolinska Institute has been offering medical students the opportunity to study a field course in Global Surgery. It is run by the Department of Molecular Medicine and Surgery at Karolinska Institute and Karolinska University Hospital, in collaboration with Makerere University College of Health Sciences. The purpose of the course is for the students to deepen their understanding and knowledge of surgical diseases and their treatments from a global perspective.



Students from Karolinska Institutet with their MakCHS host

The course is primarily clinically oriented and focuses on the diseases and treatment methods that in Sweden encompass general surgery as well as gynecology and obstetrics. The first part of the course is conducted in Sweden. This covers surgery from several perspectives that global surgery as its own research field, ethics, epidemiology of important diseases and conditions, surgical health indicators, opportunities and challenges with surgical care when resources are limited, disasters, potential for research and development, and workshops that focus on surgical techniques.



Faith, house keeper at edge house with students from Karolinska Institutet

The second part of the course was conducted by Makerere University College of Health Sciences (MakCHS). During the course, the student conducted their own

fieldwork, following a patient's journey through surgical care at a hospital in Uganda. This was done in Orthopedics Department, Emergency Surgery Unit in Mulago Hospital and Uganda heart institute. At the end of the programme students were expected to explain variations in the surgical and obstetric disease panorama within low- and middle-income countries, as well as compare and analyze various factors influencing access to surgery, variations in the availability and quality of surgical care. The students appreciated the wealth of experience that surgeons in Uganda had, working alongside these surgeons was fulfilling and life changing experience.

2.8 Visit from Karolinska Institutet



Makchs leadership with visiting delegation from Karolinska Institutet

Karolinska Institutet in Sweden and Makerere University College of Health Sciences have a long-standing partnership that includes research, education, and student/teacher exchange programme in Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Midwifery. MakCHS hosted a team of Faculty and administrators from Karolinska Institutet led by Prof. Annika Östman Wernerson. During

their visit, they attended meetings with the leadership team comprising of Principal, Deans for the school of Dentistry, School of Medicine, School of Health Sciences and School of Public health. During the session, the Deans presented reports highlighting successful outcomes of the ongoing

collaboration with Karolinska Institutet and expressed their desire to broaden the collaboration.

The visiting team were joined by Karolinska Institutet Alumni at Makerere for a cocktail where testimonies were heard from people from different specialties impacted by the collaboration.



Karolinska Alumni cut cake with MakCHS leadership

Dean School of Medicine welcomed all members at the reception and noted that it has been wonderful day reflecting on 25 years of working together. "This is a great way to celebrate 100 years of medical school because partnerships are key to medical training"

Prof. Idro expressed gratitude to the work done through the partnership especially in preparing leaders. he informed members that the outgoing Head of Psychiatry Department, Head of Immunology, Head of Biochemistry Department and Immunology Unit have all training in Karolinska Institutet,.

During the reception of the Alumni event, Prof. Nelson Sewankambo was recognized as a grandparent of health professionals' education and granted a silver award by Karolinska Institutet. He expressed gratitude for all administrative staff and Faculty that have enabled the successful implementation of all programmes between the two institutions. He informed members of his how his presentations at the World health summit during a panel discussion, he used Karolinska Institutet and Makerere University as a model equitable partnership where respect and listening to each other's has been very instrumental

in the success of the collaboration. He suggested building research capacity on condition that PhD students that register at Karolinska should also register at Makerere University. In conclusion he said that it is a pleasure being referred to as grandparent, it is a good feeling to see success of the partnership. Both institutions should continue to speak and listen to each, he said.

2.9 Capacity enhancement

The international coordination office with support from partner institutions continued to support training of graduate students in Department of Psychiatry. Over fifty-one million was paid as tuition fees for 9 students in the Department of Psychiatry and Emergency Medicine.



Dr. Mayanja, Dr. Magoba Melanie and Dr. Kaddu Martin from Psychiatry Department

This was possible through funding from NUVANCE Health a consortium of institutions in Connecticut. The students received funds for their tuition and some funds for research. It was worth noting that the third cohort of Ruggles scholars completed the studies and are waiting for their graduation in January.

Chapter 3

HIGHLIGHTS OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



3.1. MakCHS: Celebrating 100 years

The College of Health Sciences, Makerere University (MakCHS) formerly the Faculty of Medicine, is celebrating 100 years of health professions' training since its establishment in 1924! The theme is **'Celebrating a Century of Excellence, Shaping the Future'**. The School of Public Health is also celebrating 70 years of existence.

Formal medical education started in 1924 with the establishment of the Medical School on Mulago Hill where the Mulago National Referral Hospital is located, across from the main Makerere University campus that had opened in 1922. The Medical School at Makerere has been the model for expanding health professions' training in the region, particularly after the collapse of the original East African community in the 1970's.

As a hub for research and innovation, the former Faculty of Medicine, now College of Health Sciences, will commemorate its centennial by holding lecture series by renowned alumni, an exhibition, media panel discussions, an alumni gala dinner, and other events over the coming months.

The celebratory events kicked-off with an introductory public lecture series on 15th October 2024 in the Davies' Lecture Theatre, MakCHS on Mulago Hill from 2.00 – 5.00 pm followed by a cocktail in the Dean's Gardens. More activities are planned to continue through 2025.

3.2 The 18th Joint Annual Scientific Health Conference (JASHC)

The 18th edition of JASHC took place on 16th to 18th October, 2024, at the Hotel Africana in Kampala, Uganda. Organized by the School of Biomedical Sciences at Makerere University College of Health Sciences (MakCHS), the conference theme was *"Global Health Security: Partnerships for Epidemic Response and Control in Sub-Saharan Africa."* The event brought together healthcare professionals, researchers, policymakers, and students to discuss advancements, challenges, and opportunities in global health.



Participants at the 18th Joint Annual Scientific Health Conference (JASHC)

A total of 133 abstracts were accepted for presentation, with 86 oral presentations and 47 poster presentations. The topics covered in the oral presentations included innovative research in public health, disease prevention, and healthcare innovations. Notable presentations included studies on predicting mosquito age and species using mid-infrared spectroscopy and artificial intelligence (AI), assessing cholera outbreak preparedness in Uganda, and uptake of the Human Papillomavirus vaccine among school girls. Other significant presentations featured a discussion on co-infection patterns of malaria and acute febrile respiratory illness, and the impact of imported SARS-CoV-2 variants on the spread of infections. The poster presentations highlighted community health initiatives and provided valuable research insights. The Integrated Biorepository of H3Africa (IBRH3A) played a pivotal role in securing substantial funding and disseminating essential biobanking knowledge. Its efforts were instrumental in emphasizing the critical importance of biobanking for global health security, establishing state-of-the-art facilities, and fostering collaborations across the Globe.

The 18th JASHC introduced several improvements, including, for the first time, an online portal for abstract submission and registration, enhancing accessibility for participants. The conference also expanded its digital presence through social media and live broadcasts on YouTube, allowing a wider audience to engage with the event. Visual advertisements and promotional materials were developed to increase awareness and participation.

Overall, the 18th JASHC served as a vital platform for dissemination, knowledge sharing and collaboration, emphasizing the importance of partnerships in addressing public health challenges and strengthening epidemic response capabilities in Africa. The conference not only recognized outstanding contributions through

awards but also fostered an environment conducive to innovative thinking and collaborative efforts, paving the way for future advancements in global health security. As participants left the conference, they carried with them renewed insights and commitments to tackle the pressing health issues facing their communities and the broader region. JASHC 2025 will be hosted by the School of Public Health.

3.3 Embracing the AI+BT event



Group photo of participants at the Embracing AI+BT Workshop

The College of Health Sciences was fortunate to host Dr. Yin Ye, President of the BGI group in China. BGI is a leading institution in genomics research and a manufacturer of whole genome sequencers (alongside illumina Inc. in California). He is also a prominent figure in bioengineering research and genomics research and has been instrumental in advancing genomics in health and biotechnology. Dr. Ye discussed the transformative impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on biotechnology, emphasizing how AI can enhance data analysis, improve diagnostic accuracy, and streamline research processes. He presented several case studies showcasing successful applications of AI in genomics, including projects that have led to breakthroughs in disease prevention and treatment. He emphasized the importance of collaboration among academic institutions, industry leaders, and healthcare providers was highlighted as essential for driving innovation and translating research into practical applications. The event concluded with an interactive Q&A session, where attendees engaged with

Dr. Ye, and asked questions about the ethical implications of AI in healthcare and the future of genomic research and student exchange programs available at BGI. Faculty and staff at CHS expressed enthusiasm for the insights shared during the event. Many noted the relevance of AI in enhancing their work in biotechnology and expressed interest in future collaborations and discussions on this topic.

3.4 Release of Research Results: DHA-P vs SP in Sickle cell anaemia (CHEMCHA) trial

On 20th December 2024, at the Golden Tulip Hotel, MakCHS researchers with Assoc. Professor Richard Idro as Principal Investigator released results of a research *DHA-P vs SP in Sickle cell anaemia (CHEMCHA) trial* that investigated the efficacy of weekly doses of Dihydroartemisinin–Piperaquine (DHA-P) *versus* monthly Sulfadoxine–Pyrimethamine (SP) for the chemoprevention of malaria

in children with Sickle Cell Anaemia (SCA) in Uganda and Malawi. Dissemination of research findings arising out of a clinical trial titled, *'Malaria chemoprevention in children in Uganda: Updates and results dissemination of the* The research has shown that weekly Dihydroartemisinin–Piperaquine (DHA-P) is safe and considerably more efficacious in preventing malaria than monthly Sulfadoxine–Pyrimethamine (SP, or Fansidar), the current standard of care, in children with Sickle Cell Anaemia. Children with Sickle Cell Anaemia are at a very high risk of developing severe and complicated malaria, sickle cell crises and death. In Uganda, and many other countries, monthly Sulfadoxine–Pyrimethamine (SP, or Fansidar) is used. However, over the years, there has been a growing concern of high levels of antifolate resistance of the parasites to Sulfadoxine–Pyrimethamine compromising the efficacy of this intervention.



Project team with stakeholders from the National Malaria Consortium Program (NMCP), Ministry of Health (MOH) and World Health Organisation (WHO).

3.5 Empowering Future Professionals: Accreditation of Biomedical Sciences Programs

The School of Biomedical Sciences, one of the schools in MakCHS achieved a significant milestone by completing the accreditation process for its graduate and undergraduate programs. This accreditation process focused on several key degree programs, including undergraduate programmes like the Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences, which is now offered as a comprehensive four-year program; the Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering; and the Bachelor of Cytotechnology. Notably, all of these programs are now recognized and graduates are eligible for registration with the Professional Councils of Uganda, thereby affirming their quality and relevance in the field of health sciences. The school's departments feature state-of-the-art biomedical research laboratories that hold multiple prestigious accreditations. The Microbiology and Mycobacteriology laboratories are accredited by CAP, while the Genomics and Molecular Unit, which includes the Immunology and Molecular labs, is accredited by SANAS. Additionally, the Biorepository is accredited by A2LA. All of these accreditation bodies are internationally recognized for their high standards. Other departmental laboratories include the Pathology lab, Phycology lab, Pharmacology lab, Anatomy lab, Biomedical Engineering Unit, and the new fully set Environmental lab.

In addition to the undergraduate programs, a thorough and rigorous review process was conducted for over ten graduate programs within the school. These programs have also embarked on a process for their re-accreditation by the National Council for Higher Education. This accomplishment reflects the unwavering commitment to upholding the highest educational standards and ensuring that we are effectively preparing our graduates to become competent and qualified professionals in the ever-evolving

biomedical field. Through these efforts, we aim to contribute positively to the health sector in Uganda and beyond.

3.6 CHDC Symposia

CHDC received funding from the Carnegie Corporation through the Directorate of Graduate Research and Training (DRGT) at Makerere University to disseminate her research findings to her stakeholders through a series of symposia this year, 2024. The goal is to translate these research findings into policy and to contribute to the larger goal of Makerere as a research-led university. So far, two symposia have been held and the other two will be held in the second half of the year.

a. The Families, Parenting and Child Wellbeing Symposium

For over 10 years, CHDC has been undertaking research in the field of parenting through the Families, Parenting and Child Wellbeing Programme. On Thursday 22nd February 2024, this Programme held a symposium to showcase their evidence-based parenting research under the theme, *Promoting Child Health by Addressing Parenting and Family Disparities*.

Participants and stakeholders who attended the symposium included representatives from the Ministry of Health (MoH) and the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) as well as other NGOs doing work in the field of parenting, the academia and students.

Under this programme, there are a portfolio of projects to strengthen families, improve parenting, prevent violence against children and improve child wellbeing. These are:

- i. The Parenting for Respectability (PfR) intervention funded by the Oak Foundation addresses poor parenting skills and inter-parental conflict to reduce parental violence and improve positive parenting.

- ii. The Parenting Agenda Initiative also funded by the Oak Foundation is a consortium of over 70 agencies in collaboration with the Ministry of Gender to shape the national parenting policy and promote evidence-based parenting interventions.
- iii. The Global Parenting Initiative funded by Oxford University, LEGO Foundation and Oak Foundation aims to deliver free playful parenting interventions to parents and children and seeks to increase country capacity by training early career researchers in Uganda.
- iv. The Health Sector Strengthening Project is funded by the government of Uganda and Makerere University and is a collaboration with the Ministry of Health to improve the capacity of health workers to prevent and respond to violence against children in different districts.
- v. The scaling up of the PfR project is funded by ELMA Foundation, Echidna Giving and Wellspring Philanthropies, CHDC partnered with MGLSD and the Centre for Transformative Parenting (CTP) to scale up PfR in the five districts of Amuru, Tororor, Busia, Wakiso and Nakasongola. This project will also support the dissemination of the National Standards for Parenting Programmes and developing a practitioners' certificate course in designing and implementation of evidence-based parenting programmes. CHDC is also scaling up parenting interventions to Kenya, Tanzania and Ethiopia.
- vi. Integration of parenting in the prevention of HIV among young people in northern Uganda



Panelists at the Parenting Symposium during the panel discussion who included stakeholders from government and the parenting organisations

3.7 Congo Lye (Healing the Elephant) Program Symposium

This study is titled; “Developing and testing interventions to reduce HIV and Hepatitis B risk, increase access to treatment, and promoting resilience in war-affected populations” is supported by the Canadian Institute of Health Research (CIHR) in collaboration with the University of British Columbia.

The Congo Lye Program symposium took place on Thursday 30th May 2024 under the theme Culturally-safe, technology-enhanced, and trauma-informed health interventions in war-affected populations in northern Uganda. The symposium shared HIV intervention activities among war-affected populations using the wayo-nero (aunt-uncle) model. The wayo-nero approach employs traditional institutions in identifying HIV cases and supporting the referral and follow-up of participants with HIV, HepB and mental illness.



Stakeholders who participated in the Congo Lye Symposium pose for a group picture in the Conference Hall of Food Science and Technology.

Since 2018, CHDC in collaboration with the University of British Columbia in Canada and St. Mary's Hospital, Lacor in Gulu has been carrying out research in HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis B and syphilis under the study; “Developing and testing interventions to reduce HIV and Hepatitis B risk, increase access to treatment and promote resilience in war-affected populations in northern Uganda. The study is taking place in 14 study communities in the districts of Amuru, Nwoya, Gulu, Omoro and Gulu district.

So far, the study has carried out two rounds of data collection. After each round, the study conducts sub-county disseminations for local leaders at this level. District level disseminations are also carried out for district leaders to equip them with results of the findings from the study. Currently in the third round of data collection, the study is in its fourth community out of the 14 communities.

3.8 COBERS Programme Support

CHDC is solely responsible for teaching the Community Based Education Research Services (COBERS) course. CHDC is incorporating some of the research projects of Year IV medical students in their research programs by getting them funding. In May 2024, a group of Year IV medical students participated in one of the programs at CHDC. The goal of the project is to develop a model health system strengthening (HSS) strategy to reduce malaria mortality. This is a multiphase project.

Given that these baseline surveys provide learning opportunities, the project supported these students to conduct their community project. The students' project was entitled '*A behavior change campaign to promote long-lasting insecticidal net utilization and maintenance in Namalege village, Mayuge District-Uganda.*' The students were involved in the following activities: Meeting the district leadership; conducting the census and malaria indicators survey; community engagement; health education talks and targeted bed net campaign. Results of the surveys will be presented at a symposium to be hosted during the JASH conference in October 2024



Right, Students conducting a community health sensitization meeting and left, students demonstrate how to use the mosquito net



Some of the students pose for a group picture with the CHDC team after participating in sharing their findings during a colloquium. 2nd left is the CHDC Director, Dr Herbert Muyinda, and 4th left is DR. Arthur Mpimbaza, the Principal Investigator of the project that supported the students.

3.9 Dissemination of MaCRA (Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Test Capture and Reporting Assessment) Study Findings

CHDC conducted a study in 16 public health facilities across Busoga and Lango sub-regions. The MaCRA (**Malaria Rapid Diagnostic Test Capture and Reporting Assessment**) study examined the accuracy of malaria rapid diagnostic tests (RDTs) and their reporting within Uganda's National Health Management Information System (HMIS).

CHDC conducted a dissemination meeting to share the study's findings and discuss their implications for malaria control policies in Uganda under the theme *"Towards Malaria Elimination in Uganda: Accuracy of Malaria RDTs and HMIS Data."* The event brought together key stakeholders to foster impactful discussions and strategies.

Findings reveal that while there's a high level of accuracy during Rapid Diagnostic Testing (RDTs), contextual challenges relating to staffing norms, training, onboarding and supervision of healthcare workers, and availability of supplies at health facilities affected the accuracy of reporting of malaria RDT results.



Group picture of participants who attended the MaCRA dissemination meeting

3.10 BUNIFU Project

Researchers at CHDC are conducting a project whose goal is to develop a model health system strengthening (HSS) strategy to reduce malaria mortality. This is a multiphase project. Phase I of the study comprised of a situational analysis conducted in Busoga sub region, whose findings have been published. Phase II is ongoing and is constituted of two activities; 1) design of the model HSS strategy and, 2) conducting a proof of concept trial of the model HSS.

The second phase is referred to as *'BUNIFU'* a swahili word meaning creativity. The objective of phase II of the study is to assess the feasibility, acceptability, and effectiveness of this model in improving delivery of malaria services and promoting positive health seeking behavior at the community level. The study is being conducted in Bunya East HSD, Mayuge district and is funded by the Government of Uganda, through the Research and Innovation Fund at Makerere University.

Upon obtaining IRB approval, in March and April 2024, three surveys were conducted; 1) census, 2) mini malaria indicator survey, and 3) malaria behavioral survey in Namelege village, Kigandalo sub county, Bunya east county, Mayuge district. Namelege is the site where community-based interventions are going to be piloted.

Chapter 4

ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE



4.1 New Principal at MakCHS

On 2nd December 2024, Assoc. Professor Bruce Kirenga officially took over as Principal of the College of Health Sciences, Makerere University (MakCHS) in a handover ceremony held in the College Board Room. Dr. Kirenga succeeds Professor Damalie Nakanjako, who successfully completed her four-year term.



Left to Right: Mr. Evarist Bainomugisha, Mr. Deus Tayari Mujuni, Mr. Simon Kizito, Prof. Damalie Nakanjako, Prof. Bruce Kirenga, Dr. David Patrick Kateete (Rear), Prof. Henry Alinaitwe, Dr. Richard Idro (Rear), Mr. Patrick Akonyet and Prof. Annettee Nakimuli at the handover ceremony

The ceremony was attended by members of the MakCHS Administrative Board and key university leaders, including Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor (Finance and Administration) Professor Henry Alinaitwe, Chief of Human Resources, Mr. Deus Tayari Mujuni, & Deputy University Secretary Mr. Simon Kizito, among others.

In her remarks, Professor Nakanjako reflected on her time in office with gratitude and pride since she assumed office in

December 2020. She expressed her full support for MakCHS in contributing towards training and research in Makerere University.

Professor Nakanjako thanked the university top management for the support rendered to during her term of office as Principal. I thank family, friends and colleagues who supported and allowed me share my time with the college, especially beyond official hours.



Prof. Damalie Nakanjako (2nd Left) shows of her plaque as Ag. DVCFA-Prof. Henry Alinaitwe (2nd Right), Deputy US-Mr. Simon Kizito (Left), Dr. David Patrick Kateete (Right) and Dr. Richard Idro (2nd Right) witness.

Dr. Kirenga, a pulmonologist, researcher, and founding director of the Makerere University Lung Institute, expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the Makerere leadership and the search committee for entrusting him with the responsibility of steering the college. He noted; "It's a true honour to have been entrusted with this role. The search process was rigorous, but I learned so much from the ideas shared by my colleagues—it was a truly honourable competition."

With a vision for collaboration and growth, Dr. Kirenga outlined his priorities, including improving staffing, improving relationships with teaching hospitals, and addressing infrastructure needs. He emphasized a leadership style rooted in inclusivity and teamwork, saying, "Let's create a common vision through consultation and work together. I'll visit every unit in the college

to hear directly from staff about their challenges, needs, and ideas for moving forward."

Dr. Kirenga also shared plans to establish a forum of past leaders to harness their collective wisdom and ensure continuity in leadership.

4.2 New Leadership at the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health

In July 2024, Assoc. Prof. Victor Musiime took over leadership of the department from Assoc. Prof. Ezekiel Mupere who successfully concluded 8 years as the head of department. The handover ceremony was witnessed by the Deputy Dean of the School of Medicine, Assoc. Prof. Mark Kaddu Mukasa and Human Resources Manager of the College of Health Sciences, Ms. Josephine Nalweyiso.



The new HoD, Assoc. Professor Victor Musime (with neck tie) cut cake with members of the department

4.3 New leadership in Department of Immunology and Molecular Biology

Professor David Patrick Kateete officially handed over office to Dr. Bwanga.

The outgoing HoD highlighted that despite the department's successes, it has also faced challenges, particularly with staffing shortages for technicians, administrators, secretaries, and messengers. He acknowledged the support from the Makerere Biomedical Research Center (MakBRC), which has addressed some of these issues and significantly contributed to the welfare of support staff, who also assist in teaching and training. He expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve as Head of the Department and thanked everyone for the supported during his tenure.

4.4 New Leadership at Department of Radiology and Radiography

Dr. Geoffrey Erem took over office from Dr. Nassanga. The handover was witnessed by the Dean School of Medicine Prof. Annette Nakimuli, the College Human Resource Ms. Josephine Nalweyiso, the Executive Director of Mulago National referral Hospital Dr. Rosemary Byanyima and departmental staff members.



Dr. Geoffrey Erem (in black coat) cuts cake at handover ceremony

4.5 Awards and Honours

Dr. Ronald Nsubuga Research Excellence Award

Dr. Ronald Nsubuga, an assistant lecturer, who is one of the coordinators of the MBChB III courses in the department, received a certificate of excellence from the University in recognition of his contribution to academia in health.



Dr. Ronald Nsubuga with his award

Dr. Damalie Nalwanga Research Excellence Award

Dr. Damalie Nalwanga, an assistant lecturer, who is also a coordinator of the MBChB III courses, received a certificate of research excellence in the early career category from the university.



Dr Damalie Nalwanga with her award

Prof. James Tumwine (Emeritus Professor) a certificate of distinguished service to academia in health while Mr David Kenneth Balamusani, a lab technician who retired in 2024, received an award of recognition for exceptional performance.

Dr. Eva Nabawanuka International Award

Road2IR Annual Excellence Award awarded to Dr. Eva Nabawanuka one of the pioneer IR trainees for her dedication, hardwork and commitment to starting the Interventional Radiology Training Program in Uganda

Dr. Ayebare Elizabeth HIHA2024 Award

Dr. Ayebare Elizabeth, a faculty in the Department of Nursing, was awarded the HIHA2024 Award of Excellence in Maternal and Child Health. The prestigious recognition highlights her outstanding contributions to maternal and child health, demonstrating

her commitment to improving healthcare outcomes for mothers and children. The award underscores her significant impact in the field and her dedication to advancing health and nursing practices.



Dr. Ayebare Elizabeth (right) receives her award

Human resource changes at MakCHS during 2024 are presented in the table below:

A APPOINTMENTS				
	DEPARTMENT	NAME OF MEMBER OF STAFF	POSITION	COMMENTS
1	MakCHS	Assoc. Professor Bruce Kirenga	Principal	4 Year Contract
2	MakCHS	Professor Richard Idro	Deputy Principal	4 Year Contract
3	School of Biomedical Sciences	Dr. David Kateete	Dean	4 Year Contract
4	School of Health Sciences	Dr. Richard Muhindo	Dean	4 Year Contract
5	Pharmacy	Baliukuna Sula	Assistant Lecturer	4 Year Contract
6	Epidemiology & Biostatistics	Wanyana Irene	Assistant Lecturer	4 Year Contract
7	Tumwebaze Innocent	Internal Medicine	Principal Technician	4 Year Contract
B CONFIRMATION				
	DEPARTMENT	NAME OF MEMBER OF STAFF	POSITION	COMMENTS
1	Surgery	Dr. Paul Okeny Kalanda	Lecturer	confirmed
C RESIGNATIONS				
	DEPARTMENT	NAME OF MEMBER OF STAFF	POSITION	COMMENTS
1	Nursing	Dr. Gorrette Nalwadda	Lecturer	Resignation accepted
D SHORT-TERM CONTRACTS				
	DEPARTMENT	NAME OF MEMBER OF STAFF	POSITION	COMMENTS
1	Pathology	Andrew Levix Okwi	Associate Professor	Contract up to 30th June, 2024
2	Allied Health Sciences	Joel Anguyo Dralega	Lecturer	Contract up to 30th June, 2024
3	CHS	Atuhaire Dianah	Assistant Administrative Officer	Contract up to 30th June, 2024

4.6 Facilities repairs & maintenance

The College undertook repairs and maintenance to facilities as highlighted below.

1. External Painting of the Clinical Research Building
2. Installation of Signage Light Boxes
3. Davis Lecture Theatre - Vanishing benches, chairs, door and repairs of broken chairs
4. Electrical works – Installation of Gang plug sockets to increase student power access points during lectures; Improvement of lighting
5. Chain Link Fence replacement behind SBS – Microbiology
6. Revamp of the students' canteen
7. Partitioning & furnishing of 1st floor and installing of a lift at the Research Support Centre

4.7 Donation to ENT Department, School of Medicine

The ENT Department through its collaboration with Prof. Tom Roland from the ENT Department of New York University (NYU) has reviewed 3 surgical microscopes. This equipment will better our teaching and greatly improve the care of patients with otologic disease.

4.8 Below is full description of the equipment/Value.

Scope 1

OPMI I FC
Straight binocular tube
10 X Eyepieces
250 mm objective lens
Halogen light
Fiber optic cable
S21 Floorstand
Value \$21,000

Scope 2

OPMI IDFC
Straight binocular Tube
12.5 X eyepieces
250 objective lens
Halogen light
Fiber optic cable
S21 Floorstand
Value \$21,000

Scope 3

Leica OHS floor-stand
Inclinable binocular tube X2
10X Eyepieces
Variable objective lens
Electro magnetic clutches
Xenon light source
Stereo observation tube
Back up halogen light
fiber optic cable
Value \$60,000

Chapter

5

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION UPDATES



5.1 Makerere University at the 2024 O.R. Tambo Africa Research Chairs Annual Gathering in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso



Uganda's Chair elect, Associate Prof. David Meya of Makerere University's College of Health Sciences (extreme left) and other O.R. Tambo Africa Research Chairs

The Research Chairs concept is similar to Centers of Excellence (for instance in supporting world-class research in a priority area), but also has many distinguishing features. Most notably, it recognizes individual excellence, leadership and talent. The O.R. Tambo Africa Research Chairs Initiative (ORTARChI) builds on the work of Oliver Tambo, a prominent South African and pan-Africanist with a science education background, who believed in creating change through education and in cooperation and solidarity among African nations. The Initiative focuses on celebrating his legacy in building knowledge-based economies for the advancement of Africa.

ORTARChI builds on and leverages existing continental frameworks and interventions geared towards institutional capacity strengthening; recruitment and retention of excellent researchers; and incentives to support research that contributes to socio-economic and transformative development.

Ten (10) O.R. Tambo Africa Research Chairs across seven (7) countries in Africa, namely; Botswana, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia have been selected for funding through a rigorous and competitive two-stage review process. These research chairs are focused on research priorities identified by each host institution in conjunction with, especially the Science Councils, and in alignment with AU Agenda 2063 and STISA 2024.

Prof. Noble Banadda from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences had been inaugurated as one of the first 10 (ten) Oliver Tambo (ORTARChI) Chairs. Unfortunately, Prof. Banadda (R.I.P) passed away in July 2021, which created a vacuum.

To ensure that Uganda and Makerere University continue to tap into the ORTARChI, we are glad to announce the appointment of Associate Professor David Meya from the College of Health Sciences at Makerere University for the purpose.

The appointment will attract USD 170,000 annually for 5 years for graduate research with a target of training 5-6 PhDs, 10-15 Post-doctoral fellows and 10-12 Masters of Medicine and Master of Science Students at Makerere University and Mbarara University of Science and Technology.

Makerere University has had the pleasure of attending 2024 O.R. Tambo Africa Research Chairs Annual Gathering in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

The annual gathering is co-hosted by the Joseph Ki-Zerbo University, National Research and Innovation Fund for Development (FONRID) and the National Research Foundation (NRF) of South Africa.

The theme for this year's gathering is: ***"African Sovereignty: A Catalyst for Research Collaborations and Social Impact in the Continent"***. At the annual gathering, Uganda was represented by Associate Prof. David Meya (Uganda Chair Elect, ORTARCHI), Prof. Henry Alinaitwe (Deputy Vice Chancellor Finance and Administration, Mak), Associate Prof. Robert Wamala (Director, Research and Graduate Training) and Dr. Martin Ongol (Ag. Executive Secretary, UNCST). Prof. David Meya – ORTARCHI Chair Elect – is from Makerere University's School of Medicine at the College of Health Sciences.



Dr. Dorothy Ngila (Director, NRF), Ms. Natasha Allie (CEO Oliver and Adelaide Tambo Foundation), Prof. David Meya (Uganda Chair Elect, ORTARCHI), Prof. Henry Alinaitwe (DVC F&A, Mak), Assoc Prof. Robert Wamala (Director, DRGT) and Dr. Martin Ongol (Ag. Executive Secretary, UNCST)

5.2 Update from school of health sciences

Nursing Department

- i. A draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the School of Nursing at the University of Michigan has been submitted to the Legal Directorate for review. The Legal Directorate will provide input and advice to ensure compliance with institutional and legal requirements before further actions are taken to formalize the collaboration.
- ii. A draft Inter-Institutional Agreement for the Mobility of Higher Education Students and Staff with Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL) under the Erasmus+ Programme has been shared with the Legal Directorate for review.

iii. Staff and student exchange visits

- Hosted the Western University team of students and 4 members of faculty including the Dean
- Two undergraduate nursing students participated in a three-month exchange program at the University of Agder in Norway
- We hosted two faculty from the University of Agder in Norway

Allied health Department

- i. HONU University, Kinshasa, DRC: Two faculty members (Dralega and Nsubuga) visited HONU University (28th March to 2nd April 2024)



- ii. University of New South Wales School of Optometry & Vision Science (UNSW SOVS) Sydney, Australia: UNSW SOVS initiated and has continued an annual International Virtual Grand Rounds where finalists from the two institutions present 2 cases each via Zoom

5.3 Research Conferences

The department of Allied Health in collaboration with the Uganda association of Optometrists (OAU) hosted the 2024 African council of optometry (AFCO) and World Council of Optometry (WCO) scientific conference. The conference was held on 13th September, 2024 at hotel African, Kampala. The theme of the conference was looking back, moving forward: Revolutionizing Optometry Care in Africa. The conference attracted participants from Kenya, Tanzania, Democratic republic of Congo, Djibouti, Ghana, south Africa among others



Delegates at the Uganda Association of Optometrists Conference September 2024



5.4 Service to the University and the Community

Allied health

- i. Faculty from the department provide CPD sessions for the Optometrists Association of Uganda (OAU) during the monthly CPD sessions and during annual scientific conferences. This year OAU celebrated their 20th Anniversary during which they hosted the African Council of Optometry.
- ii. Allied Health Professionals' Council (AHPC): Faculty participated in conducting the pre-registration exams of foreign-trained optometrists applying for licensure in Uganda.
- iii. Ministry of health: faculty members sit on several technical working groups advising MOH, SPECIFICALLY THE Assistive Technology TWG, the vision rehabilitation TWG and the Rehabilitation TWG.

Pharmacy

During the world antimicrobial awareness week, the Department with funding from Fleming fund grant supported and secured TV slots on NBS for Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries and Ministry of water and Environment officials to educate the community on consequences of irrational use of antimicrobials under One health.

Nursing

- i. Dr. Patience Muwanguzi, served as a member of the organizing committee for the Joint Annual Scientific Health Conference 2024
- ii. Assoc. Prof. Tom Ngabirano is serving on the governing council of the Uganda Nurses and Midwives Council
- iii. Dr. Richard Muhindo is serving on the governing board of the Hoima school of Nursing and Midwifery

5.5 Research grants

1. The department of pharmacy is collaborating with Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI) on a grant country grant 1 phase 2, antimicrobial stewardship funded at a tune of Ugx. 1,212,499,050 (April 2024 – May 2026). The grant is funded under the Fleming fund. The PI is Dr. Winnie Nambatya.

5.6 Staff Development

Ms. Mariam Namutebi, an Assistant Lecturer in the Department of Nursing successfully defended her PhD on 5th December 2024 in the school. Her thesis was titled *"Postpartum care in Uganda: Facility readiness, midwives perspectives, individualized care planning and patient outcomes"*.



From Left to Right: Dr. S. Kasasa (Supervisor), Ms. G. Nalwadda (Supervisor), Assoc.Prof. D. Kaye (Supervisor), Dr. M. Kagawa (Examiner) and Dr. Muhindo (Dean)

5.7 Updates from Paediatrics & Child Health

Each semester the department of paediatrics received an average 160 undergraduate students on the MBChB programme (80 in third year and 80 in 5th year) for courses in Paediatrics and Child Health at junior and senior clerkship respectively. In addition, we trained a total

of 78 master of medicine (MMed) students in Paediatrics and Child Health, 26 in 1st year, 24 in second year and 28 in 3rd year.

An additional 21 students were trained in the Master of Science in Health Professions Education (MSChPE). 18 candidates graduated with MMed (Paediatrics and Child Health) while 6 graduated with MSChPE.



First year MMed (Paed) students are welcomed to the department by faculty members

A total of 16 candidates were registered for PhD programmes at Makerere in the Department of Paediatrics and Child Health. Five of these successfully defended their theses and graduated in January 2025. These include Dr. Lorraine Oriokot, who is a lecturer in the department. Others were: Dr Rolland Mutumba, Dr Agnes Arach, Dr Jane Frances Namatovu and Dr Joseph Mbabazi.

5.8 Fellowship programmes

In 2024, two fellowship programs received accreditation with the Uganda Medical and Dental Practitioners Council (UMDPC), namely:

- i. The Paediatric Haematology and Oncology (PHO) Fellowship programme.
- ii. The Perinatal and Neonatal Medicine (PNM) Fellowship programme.

These are being run in collaboration with Ministry of Health, Uganda Paediatric Association, Mulago National Referral Hospital, Mulago Specialized Women and Neonatal Hospital, Kawempe National Referral Hospital, St. Francis Hospital Nsambya, GLOBAL HOPE and Seed Global Health.

Four fellows were enrolled on the PHO fellowship programme, while 5 fellows were enrolled on the PNM fellowship programme.



The Principal College of Health Sciences, Assoc Prof Bruce Kirenga, and the Dean School of Medicine, Assoc Prof Annette Nakimuli, are joined by other stakeholders to welcome the Fellows for the Perinatal and Neonatal Medicine Fellowship program and kick start the training.



Fellows of the Paediatric Haematology and Oncology Fellowship programme are welcomed by members of the department. The Deputy Principal, Assoc Prof Richard Idro presided over the function.

5.9 Update from department of Radiology and Radiography

5.9.1 Clinical Services

The clinical services and subsequently clinical training are running smoothly with the availability of most equipment; notably ultrasound, digital x-ray, mammography, CT scan and MRI services. It is worthwhile to note that our Department has been able to develop new specializations like Interventional Radiology, whose curriculum has recently been accredited. The goal is to train IR fellows locally and since August 2023, we have had over ten IR training visits come in from Europe and USA

5.9.2 Collaborations

The MOU between the University of Utah and Makerere University was finalized.

The MOU between University of Vermont and Makerere University is being drafted.

5.9.3 Teaching activities

There have been several teaching activities and several avenues for learning for our SHOs and undergraduates.

1. University of Vermont Case Conferences

- This year, we continued to have the monthly radiology case conference sessions through zoom between Ugandan residents and residents at the University of Vermont.
- These sessions were facilitated by faculty members on either side. They involved sharing interesting clinical cases from either side presented in the form of a quiz and residents would attempt to answer.
- At the end of each session correct answers would be provided and the learning point would be highlighted out.

- A few of the highlighted cases included;
 - Ecchordosis Physaliphora
 - Idiopathic macroorchidism with testicular lobulations
 - Herlyn-Werner-Wunderlich syndrome
 - Prune belly syndrome

2. University of Vermont International Visiting Resident Program

Through a collaborative partnership between the University of Vermont (UVM) and the Radiology Department at Makerere University, two radiology residents from Makerere were competitively selected to participate in the International Visiting Resident Program at the University of Vermont Medical Center (UVMCM).

This program offers international residents the opportunity to gain hands-on experience, enhance their clinical skills, and exchange knowledge with their UVM counterparts.

Dr. Fiona Eyotaru, a third-year radiology resident, travelled to UVM in June 2024 for a one-month clinical radiology rotation. During her time at UVM, she engaged in advanced imaging practices, participated in multidisciplinary case discussions, and interacted closely with UVM residents and faculty.

Since her return, she has shared her transformative experience, enriching the learning environment within the department by contributing to teaching and mentoring her peers.

Dr. Dan Ssekiwunga, a second-year radiology resident is set to travel to UVM in June 2025 for a similar one-month elective, further strengthening the collaboration and fostering professional growth.

Below is a pictorial shared by Dr. Fiona Eyotaru on some of the experiences she had at UVM.

3. Ankole Sub-region Camp from 22nd – 28th/September/2024.

- A total of 23 imaging professionals comprising of Radiologists, Radiographers and students of Radiology and Radiography.
- This was organized by the Association of Surgeons in Uganda (ASOU) in partnership with the Association of Radiologists (ARU) in Uganda.
- A total Over 7300 patients were screened with over 3100 surgeries performed.
- The team provided radiological services that included ultrasonography, interpretation of x ray images, fluoroscopy images and CT scan images. This was performed at 17 health facilities across Ankole Sub-region.
- A total of 2054 ultrasound scans. The most common ultrasound examinations were superficial scans comprising 75% of the total scans (superficial masses, hernias, neck scans)

4. University of Utah Visiting Professors – November 2024

Prof. Dell Dunn came in June 2024 and he was the external examiner of seven final year SHOs defended their dissertations on the 14th June.

Faculty in the Dean's conference room during the dissertation defence.

Prof. Dell Dunn with faculty and residents after successfully defending their dissertations.

We also received the fourth visit of the University of Utah professors, again, led by Professor Dell Dunn, a body radiologist. He was joined by a distinguished team, including:

- **Professor Patrick Kobes**, an MSK radiologist, who returned for the third time.
- **Professor Brad Wright**, a neuroradiologist, visiting for the second time.
- **Dr. Nicole**, an interventional radiology fellow.
- **Adrian**, a fourth-year radiology resident specializing in 3D printing of phantoms.
- **Josh Bartola**, an MRI technologist.

The team visited from November 11th to 16th, 2024. During the first three days of their visit (November 12th–14th), they conducted didactic lectures and practical reading sessions with residents at Mulago National Referral Hospital and St. Francis Hospital Nsambya.

L-R; Dr. Ameda Faith, Dr. Nassanga Rita and Dr. Nayiga Joyce with Prof Dell Dunn P., Dr. Nicole, Dr. Adrian and Dr. Ashimwe Morris with Radiology Residents.

Adrian giving a lecture to the Residents.

Adrian with Faculty and Residents; he was taking them through making of phantoms with a 3D printer.

5. Dinner with visiting Faculty from University of Utah

R-L; Dr. Erem Geoffrey Chair Radiology, with outgoing chief resident Dr. Roy Basiimwa who was being awarded a certificate of appreciation by the executive director Mulago National Referral Hospital Dr. Rosemary Byanyima and Prof Dell Dunn P. Looking on at the back is Dr. Tumusiime Max C. the ARU President and Prof Michael Kawooya.

Josh Bartola also provided training to MRI technologists on enhancing MRI protocols while Adrian led sessions for residents on creating learning phantoms using 3D printing technology.

The visit concluded with the **Association of Radiologists of Uganda (ARU) Conference** on November 15th and 16th, where the Utah professors were key speakers, sharing their expertise with attendees.

Dell-Utah, Kobes-Utah, Brad-Utah, Rita-MUK, Adrian-Utah, Nicole-Utah, Joyce-MUK and Josh-Utah at the ARU conference

6. UVM IVP Program (Paediatric radiology/Musculoskeletal ultrasound) Workshop

The Department successfully conducted a full-day workshop focused on paediatric radiology and musculoskeletal ultrasound on August 6, 2024. The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Andrea Hildebrand, a pediatric radiologist, and Mr. David Guy, a senior musculoskeletal and vascular sonographer from the University of Vermont.

The workshop featured didactic lectures, case presentations, and interactive hands-on sessions. Local radiologists actively participated in conducting the hands-on sessions.

Dr. Andrea Hildebrand presenting interesting pediatric radiology cases.

Mr. Dave Guy conducting both didactic and hands-on sessions on musculoskeletal ultrasound.

Residents with guidance from the faculty practicing how to scan following the Didactic sessions

7. Interventional Radiology Special Lectures

- Throughout the semester, we hosted 14 sets of visiting IR training faculty including interventional radiologists, technologists and nurses.
- The teams offer day to day teaching and supervision to the IR fellows and also support the local nurses and radiographers as they work.

- The interventional radiology program launched into the vascular phase of their training. Vascular cases are largely carried out at the Uganda Heart Institute cath lab.
- In August 2024, the first exam for the pioneer IR trainees was conducted. Fellows did both written and oral exams. A visiting team of 5 interventional radiologists from USA, Tanzania and South Africa as well as one IR nurse and one IR technologist conducted the oral exam. The exams ended successfully.
- A stakeholder meeting was held on 5th August hosted at four seasons Sheraton Hotel in Kampala that was attended by the officials from Uganda Ministry of Health, Mulago Hospital leadership, MaKCHS leadership, UMDPC and members of the radiology department. The guest of honor was the Permanent Secretary, MoH Dr Diana Atwiine. The purpose of the meeting was to plan a way forward for the growth of interventional radiology training and practice in the country.

8. Liver Sonography Hands-On Session

- On Thursday, November 9th, a hands-on sonography session, organized by the Uganda Gastroenterology Society and the Africa Middle East Association of Gastroenterology, took place.
- The session primarily focused on instructing students on liver segments and how to effectively identify these segments using sonography.

9. Vascular Ultrasound Workshop

- On the 5th May 2023, radiology faculty members organized a vascular ultrasound half day workshop with hands on session was held at the department of radiology and radiotherapy.

10. Below are the topics that were covered.

- Doppler physics and instrumentation: **Dr. Joyce Nayiga**
- Carotid Doppler: **Dr. Joyce Nayiga**
- Peripheral arterial Doppler lower limbs: **Dr. Faith Ameda**
- Peripheral venous Doppler lower limbs: **Dr. Rita Nassanga**
- Peripheral venous Doppler lower limbs (insufficiency protocol): **Dr. Sam Bugeza**
- Peripheral arterial Doppler: **Dr. Joyce Nayiga/ Dr. Erem Geoffrey**
- Peripheral venous Doppler: **Dr. Sam Bugeza / Dr. Rita Nassanga**

11. USOFARI/UGASON Annual Scientific Conference

- From the 8th and 9th November 2024, several faculty together with all the residents attended the USOFARI/UGASON annual scientific conference. The conference was held at Kabira Country Club, Kampala under the theme; *"RADIOLOGY IN THE AGE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. "Advancing diagnostics, remembering safety and upholding ethics?"*
- Subthemes included; Radiation Protection, Optimization of medical exposures (DRLs, etc, Justification of medical exposures (CIGs, etc), Fetal Medicine, Research in Radiology: where are we?, Pediatric radiology Research papers in Uganda, Genitourinary, Gastrointestinal, Chest radiology Research papers in Uganda, Neuro-radiology Research papers in Uganda, Health informatics and new innovation in Medical Imaging (including artificial intelligence), Quality improvement and management in Radiology, and Evidence based research and practices in Radiology in Uganda.

6

GRANTS MANAGEMENT



MAKERERE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE, SHAPING THE FUTURE



6.1 Over view of Awards in 2024

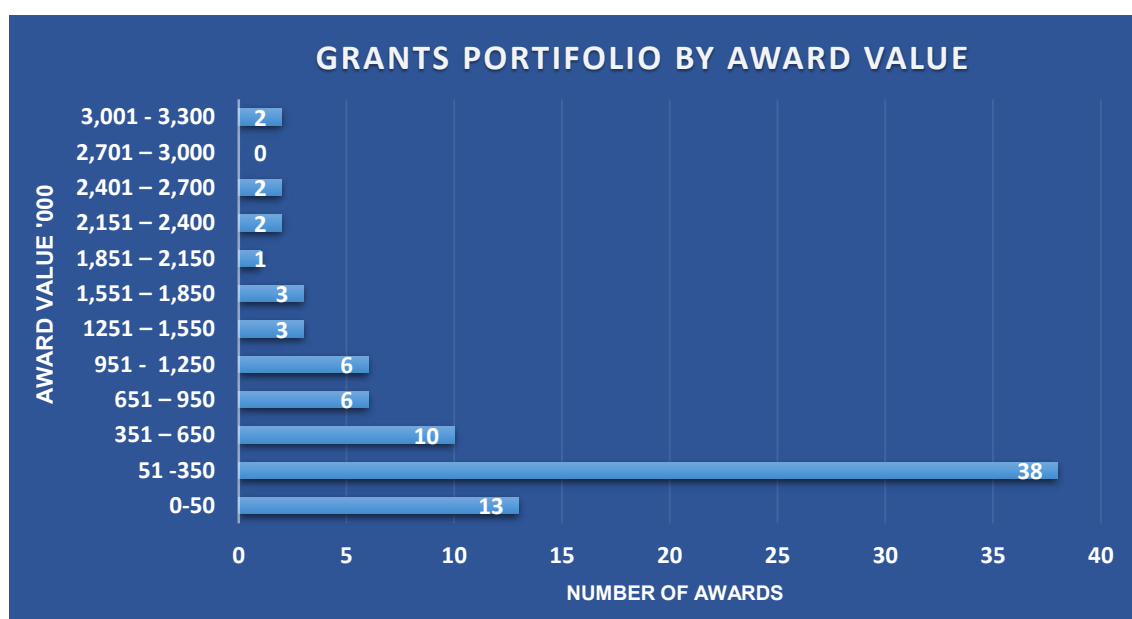
In the year 2024, there were 86 active awards recorded in the grants register. A total of 28 grant applications were submitted, and 17 new awards were achieved, as illustrated in the table below.

Description	No	Value
Awards Registered	86	\$59.7M
Applications submitted	28	N/A
New Awards	17	\$2.7M

6.2 CHS Grants by Award Value

The table below represents CHS grants composition by award value over the year ranging from Usd 50,000 to > Usd 3M

Only 19 grants exceeded a value of USD 951,000. It is recommended that researchers target funding opportunities of over \$1 million increase reputation, visibility in health research and sustainability.



Portfolio Of Grants Categorized By Remaining Performance Years

Remaining years of Performance	Number of Awards	Percentage
0	30	35%
<1	14	16%
1	15	17%
2	18	21%
3	9	10%
Total	86	100%

In 2024, 30 awards (35%) were completed, while 33 awards (38%) are projected to end in the next one to two years. The Unit is aiming for 40+ grants annually and plans to enhance unit capacities to meet the needs for research support services.

6.3 Comparison of Grants to Research Agenda (RA) Thematic Areas

Grants were analyzed in relation to MakCH's RA key focus areas to determine how well the grants align with these priorities. The results are presented in the table below

1	Infectious Diseases	29
	Neglected Tropical Diseases	0
2	Transitional Science	1
	Biomedical Research and Discovery	6
	Genetic Research	1
3	Population Health	1
	Climate Change and Health	0
	Health Systems Research	7
	Urbanization & Health	0
	Pollution	0
4	Non-Communicable Diseases	9
	Maternal Health	7
	Child and Adolescent Health	5
	Sexuality and Reproductive Health Research	1
6	Mental Health	8
7	Digital Health	3
	Artificial Intelligence	0
	Big Data Applications	1
8	Professionalism	
	Health Professional Education	5
	BIO Ethics and Medico- Legal	2
TOTAL		86

Number of grants in the top 4 priority thematic areas #1 to #4 amounted to 54 (62%). Future funding strategies should be directed to;

- Neglected Tropical Diseases,
- Climate change and Health,
- Urbanization & Health
- Pollution

Grants in least priority research areas largely relate to health professional education.

Chapter 7

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS



1. Gobba S, Kibone W, Kiguba R. Self-reported gastrointestinal adverse effects of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs in female students with dysmenorrhoea at Makerere University: prevalence, discontinuation and associated factors. a cross sectional study. *BMJ Open*. 2024 Jun 6;14(6):e079660. doi: 10.1136/bmjopen-2023-079660. PMID: 38844394; PMCID: PMC11163621.
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