

MAKERERE

P.O. Box 7062
Kampala Uganda
Website: www.mak.ac.ug



UNIVERSITY

Tel: +256-414 531 202
Email: inquiries@mak.ac.ug

VICE CHANCELLOR'S PRESS CONFERENCE

VC's Boardroom, Main Building
Tuesday, 15 September 2026 | 9:00 a.m.

PRESS STATEMENT

Makerere University Vice Chancellor's Updates

Good morning, members of the media, distinguished guests, and colleagues. Thank you for joining us for updates on key developments at Makerere University.

These briefings are intended to keep the public informed, address issues in circulation, and take questions through the media.

1. Timely completion of postgraduate studies

Makerere intensifies drive for on-time Master's and PhD completions

Makerere University wishes to correct the misconception that postgraduate programmes cannot be completed on time. The University has not yet reached a 100 per cent on-time completion rate, but postgraduate graduations have risen steadily over the past four years:

Year	Ceremony	Postgraduate graduands
2023	73rd Graduation	1,588
2024	74th Graduation	1,874
2025	75th Graduation	2,199
2026	76th Graduation	2,922

As Makerere pursues its goal of becoming a research-led university, it is converting concern about graduate completion into institutional action.

The University is introducing a **digital tracking framework** that turns Master's and PhD progress and completion milestones into a university-wide monitoring and accountability system. The main shift is continuous progress tracking, rather than reliance on graduation statistics after the fact.

Accountability runs at four levels: **Student → Supervisor/Graduate Coordinator → College/School → Directorate of Graduate Training / University Management**

The motto is **TRACK – SUPPORT – ACCOUNT – COMPLETE:**

- **TRACK** every student's progression
- **SUPPORT** students when barriers emerge

- **ACCOUNT** for institutional and individual responsibilities
- **COMPLETE** more students, on time and to the required academic standard

2. Webometrics rankings

Makerere rises 295 places in the July 2026 Webometrics rankings

Makerere remains the top-ranked university in Uganda and East Africa. In the July 2026 Webometrics Ranking of World Universities, the University moved from **1,071st in 2025 to 776th in 2026**. Compared with the January 2026 edition, it improved from **925th to 776th** globally and from **13th to 11th** in Africa.

The improvement reflects stronger performance in:

Impact Rank, measuring external domains linking to Makerere: from 1,593 to 1,185

Excellence Rank, measuring papers in the top 10 per cent most cited from 2019 to 2023: from 1,095 to 715. See Detailed Rankings here: <https://www.webometrics.org/makerere-university>

Makerere will continue to strengthen its online academic and research presence through journals and other platforms.

3. Academic Registrar

Makerere admits 25,832 students for 2026/2027

Admissions for Academic Year 2026/2027 are complete. The University has admitted **25,832** students: **2,169** on government sponsorship and **23,663** on private sponsorship. More details in Table.

Makerere reintroduces supplementary examinations

To support student progression while protecting academic standards, University Council has approved the return of supplementary examinations under a defined policy. Makerere will hold **one supplementary examination session each year**, at the end of Semester Two and before the next academic year begins.

The policy sets eligibility and operational rules. It gives qualifying students a limited chance to address marginal academic shortfalls without lowering the standard of University awards.

STATISTICS OF ADMITTED STUDENTS			
2026-2027			
	GOVERNMENT	MALE	FEMALE
1	NATIONAL MERIT	688	764
2	SPORTS SCHEME	12	19
3	DISABILITY	23	19
3	DISTRICT QUOTA	174	293
4	MATURE-AGE GVT	46	11
5	DIPLOMA GVT	46	32
	TOTAL	1012	1157
	PRIVATE SCHEME		
1	DIRECT ENTRY	9745	12484
2	RE-ADVERT	285	337
3	DIPLOMA ENTRY	379	268
4	MATURE AGE PRIVATE	117	48
	TOTAL	10526	13137
	GRAND TOTAL	11538	14294
			25832

4. University calendar

Makerere Marathon set for Sunday, 27 September 2026

The sixth Makerere University Marathon will start and finish at Freedom Square on Sunday, 27 September 2026. Organised through the Makerere University Endowment Fund (MAKEF), the event brings together students, staff, alumni, partners, and the public to raise funds that directly support students. Proceeds will support the Disability Support Centre. Kits cost **UGX 50,000** and may be bought online.

A detailed brief is attached.

Guild Medical Camp on from 17–18 September 2026

The annual Makerere Guild Medical Camp will run on 17 and 18 September 2026, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at Freedom Square. Organised by Guild leadership under the Office of the Dean of Students, the two-day camp will offer free essential and specialised health services to students, staff, and the neighbouring community.

5. Research and Innovation

FLOWERS Project: Turning restaurant waste into feed and fertiliser

Makerere University prides itself on being a thought leader in knowledge generation for societal transformation and development. Makerere researchers and partners have launched the **FLOWERS Project** — Facilitating Local Organic Waste Exchange for Regenerative Systems. Led locally by Assoc. Prof. Charles B. Niwagaba, the two-year project (2026–2028) aims to turn restaurant food waste in Kampala into animal feed and organic fertiliser.

In Uganda, the project will map urban food-waste flows in the Greater Kampala Metropolitan Area and test an intervention to send more source-separated restaurant waste to farmers, tracking both mass and money along the chain.

The project was launched in Kampala on 10 September 2026. Photos: <https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjD4zWx>

A detailed brief is attached.

That is all for today.

We Build For The Future.

Thank you.

Media enquiries:

Public Relations Office | inquiries@mak.ac.ug

Ends.