



MMUST NEWS

A Weekly Digital Publication of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology

Post

Vol.2 Issue 2: 20th January -26th January 2019

MMUST Community Bows in Unity of Prayer



Inside: Feature Story on University Departments

UPCOMING EVENTS



- Career Week
- National Youth Summit- February 2019



Editorial



Dear MMUST Community,
Thank you for keeping with us.
Thank you for contacting and sending us information on events in your sections. In this edition, we bring you the first ever MMUST Community Prayer Day with the clarion call that a family that prays together stays together. We also bring you news from Departments as part of the ongoing series on Focus on University Departments. We invite more Departments to do the same.

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MMUST Holds Community Prayer Day

M Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) community gathered for prayers at the University's Graduation Square on 22nd January, 2019. The prayer day was held in light of recent demise of both staff and students and also to bring MMUST fraternity together.

MMUST Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joseph Bosire joined hands with the University's chaplaincy to organize the prayer day which was attended by the University Council, the University Management Board (UMB), Deans and Directors, Student leaders, teaching and non-teaching staff, representatives from other campuses and invited clergy. The Guest Speaker was Bishop Emeritus Dr. Bonifas Adoyo of CITAM (Christ is the Answer Ministries) church.

The Chairman of Council, Dr. Jeremy Bundi, said he was grateful that staff and students had been resilient in keeping hope in spite of the difficult times of losing key staff members and a number of students. He further said that the gathering of staff and students for the prayer day marked a new page for the University.

The Acting Vice Chancellor, in his speech, called for unity and thanked both staff and students for their support from the time he joined MMUST on 1st December, 2018. He said that the appeal made on behalf of the dismissed staff and suspended students would be handled in accordance with the rules. Prof. Bosire urged key administrators to embrace peace and dialogue in order to steer the University towards intellectual excellence. He expressed his sincere condolences to family and friends of the bereaved.

Also speaking during the event was the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Planning, Research and Innovation), Prof. Egara Kabaji who spoke against the use of social media to heckle one another and tarnish varsity's reputation. He said that every institution goes through upheavals and that was why the University was calling upon the Lord for cohesion and prosperity. He commended the efforts of the Acting Vice Chancellor and Chaplaincy in organizing the prayer day and bringing MMUST fraternity together.

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The Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Administration and Finance), Dr. Patrick Ojera called for renewal of commitments and stewardship of staff. Dr. Bernadette Sabuni, the Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs) said that there was need to come together and make MMUST an international institution by providing a good working and learning environment for staff and students.

Prof. Shiundu, one of the oldest Professors in Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), gave an account of how the Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Joseph Bosire was a hardworking student under his mentorship. He added that Prof. Bosire will take the University to greater heights with his powerful tool of consultation and discussion. Assertively, he also remarked that a University is not a place for tribalism, parochialism or sycophancy, rather it is a place for intellectual interaction.

MMUSO President, Clifton Kisera and union representatives appealed to the Acting Vice Chancellor to pardon suspended students and dismissed staff. The Secretary General of the University Academic Staff Union (UASU) said that the Union has resolved to work with the Acting Vice Chancellor to ensure that staff and students get the best experience from the University. He seconded MMUSO President Clifton Kisera's remarks that the Acting Vice Chancellor, together with the University Council, should take into consideration calling back suspended students who might be languishing back at home. He also appealed for dismissed staff to be recalled and fair promotion of staff to avoid stagnation in some grades for years. He added that doing away with grades below Grade 6 would be a good incentive for members of staff.

The message that carried the day was cohesion even as chaplains and invited clergy prayed for national security. There was entertainment by Kayamba Africa after the prayers bringing people together in song and dance.

Feature Story: University Departments

Focus on University Departments is a series of articles mainly dedicated to giving Departments at the University a platform and a voice to tell of their story and what they are doing to impact the society. We invite Departments to send to us their articles, accompanied with photos, in order to be featured in subsequent issues. Alternatively, the Editorial Team is available to visit your Departments for a comprehensive and guided take on your operations. Feel free to contact us via pr@mmust.ac.ke.

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PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT

By Sandra Dorcas Awuor

A one-week long workshop on catalysis chemistry and its application in industry was held by the Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry, MMUST from 17th to 24th January, 2019. The Workshop focused on capacity building for MMUST researchers in the important area of catalysis chemistry. Catalysis is a frontier topic in modern chemistry and Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) was not left behind. The project was initiated by the chairman of Pure and Applied Chemistry, Dr. Francis Orata Omoto and an expert, Prof. Dr. Reiner Malessa, of Technische Hochschule Brandenburg Germany under the project ProUniEdu-WeK that is sponsored by DAAD.

The workshop benefited staff and postgraduate students from the School of Natural Sciences (SONAS) and included a series of lectures and industrial tour in Industry (Orbit Chemicals in Nairobi), for its practical aspects.

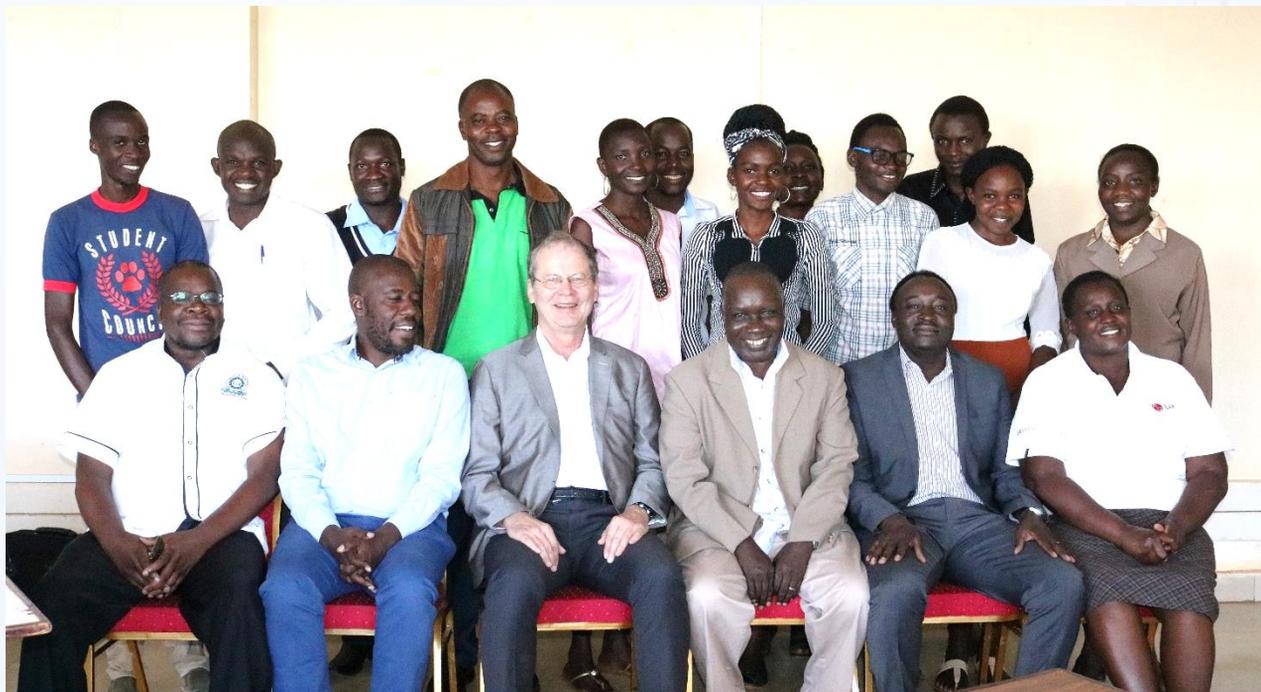
The Executive Dean of SONAS, Professor William Shivoga, who

participated actively in the workshop, emphasized on the importance of having such workshops and conferences. He said that they can largely benefit staff in SONAS as well as create avenues for collaborations with other research and academic institutions all over the globe. Prof. Shivoga also urged the students to use the knowledge they had gained to add value to the University. The Department of Pure and Applied Chemistry received “a state of the art” car exhaust catalysis that was adopted by car manufacturers (Volkswagen) in Germany which they will use for further research in catalysis. Literature materials such as books to aid researchers interested in catalysis will also be available. Certificates of participation were issued to a total of 19 trainees and 3 facilitators at the end of the workshop. The program also included a day for hiking in the Kakamega tropical rain forest, which helped the participants re-energize for the subsequent series of presentations and lectures.

Feature Story: University Departments

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PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT



Training workshop for catalysis chemistry and its application in industry and pollution treatment.-ProUniEdu-WeK MMUST-Brandenburg universities collaboration



Feature Story: University Departments

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PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

Research in CTheP Group



Dr George Manyali

CTheP (Computational & Theoretical Physics) Group led by Dr. George S Manyali is conducting theoretical research to identify and understand the fundamental physical properties of materials. The theoretical investigations are focused on Electronic, Elastic, Optical, Vibrational and Transport properties of materials using the state-of-the-art Density Functional Theory approaches. Group members have a solid expertise on both open-source and commercial softwares based on Density Functional Theory. The high performance computing resources are provided by the Centre for High Performance Computing (CHPC), Cape Town South Africa, where Dr. Manyali is a principal investigator of Thermoelectric Materials Project. CTheP has extensive network of collaborators in and outside Kenya. The current collaboration in Spain creates an opportunity for our students to get PhD at the University of Cantabria in Cotutelle with Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology. The term "Cotutelle" is an agreement on joint supervision on the doctoral degree level. The current grant stands at Euro 10,000 split into two years of five-month stay at university of Cantabria. On the other hand, collaboration with research group at University of Witwatersrand is such that students in CTheP group travel to South Africa for experimental realization of theoretical predictions. Two students shall benefit from a grant of Rand 1,000 supported by Africa Laser Centre.

Conference on the Future of Education

13th-14th June, 2019

Bankok, THAILAND

The Directorate of International Relations and Academic Linkages (DIAL) has sent out a Conference invite for the 13th-14th June 2019 in Bangkok, Thailand. The 2nd International Conference on the Future of Education 2019 carries the theme 'Empowering Learners in A Digital World'. Abstracts can be submitted through abstract@futureofedu.co. As the academic partner, members of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology will be getting special discount rates and partial scholarship opportunities. Other benefits include opportunity to publish in SCOPUS indexed journal, opportunity to serve as a scientific Committee member for the Conference, opportunity to serve as A Session Chair or Evaluation Panel Member at the Conference.

Other hosting partners include University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, Universiti Teknologi, Malaysia, De la Salle Araneta University, Phillipines with MMUST and Universidad de Las Fuerzas Armadas-ESPE, Ecuador as academic partners. For more information, contact the Director, Directorate of International Relations and Academic Linkages, Dr. Catherine Aura on cmusalagani@mmust.ac.ke



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Submit Your Abstract
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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

MR. TIM BEROMEIER
 DIRECTOR OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS
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 Title: "Artificial Intelligence for Education: Using technology to produce work ready Graduates"

DR. SITI HAMISAH TAPSIR
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SUPPORTING JOURNALS

EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF ENGINEERING
 Scopus
 Volume 14(6) 2018, Editor in Chief: Prof. Janet Looney
 Topics: High Quality Essay
 Indexed in: SCOPUS, EBSCO, ProQuest and many more.

JOURNAL OF EDUCATION FOR BUSINESS
 Scopus
 Editor in Chief: Janet Looney
 Indexed in: SCOPUS, EBSCO, ProQuest and many more.

As the Academic Partner, the members of "Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), Kenya" will be getting

Special discount rates and Partial scholarship opportunities.

Other Benefits:

- Opportunity to publish in SCOPUS indexed journals
- Opportunity to serve as a Scientific Committee Member for the conference
- Opportunity to serve as a Session Chair or Evaluation Panel Member at the conference

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MMUST RFC goes down to USIU Martials

By Sydney Okoth

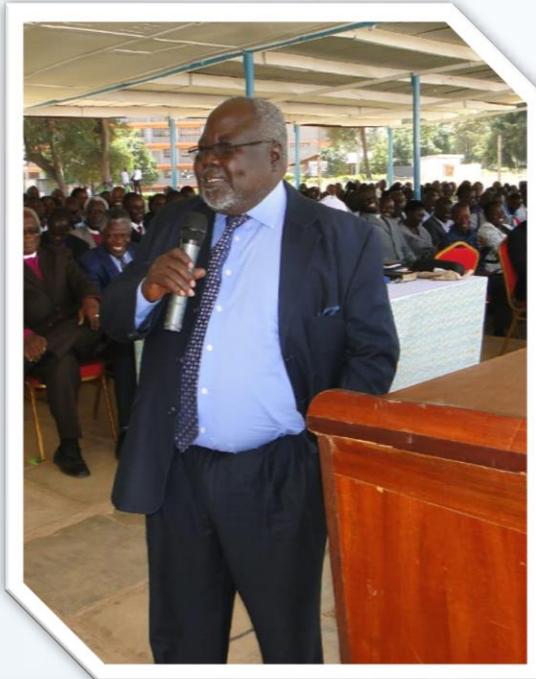
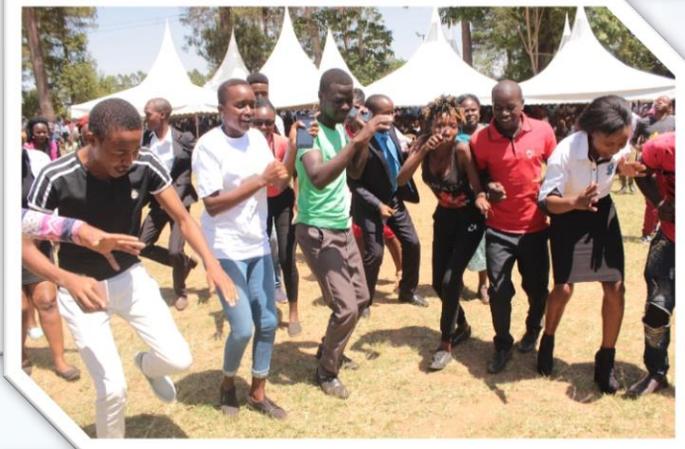
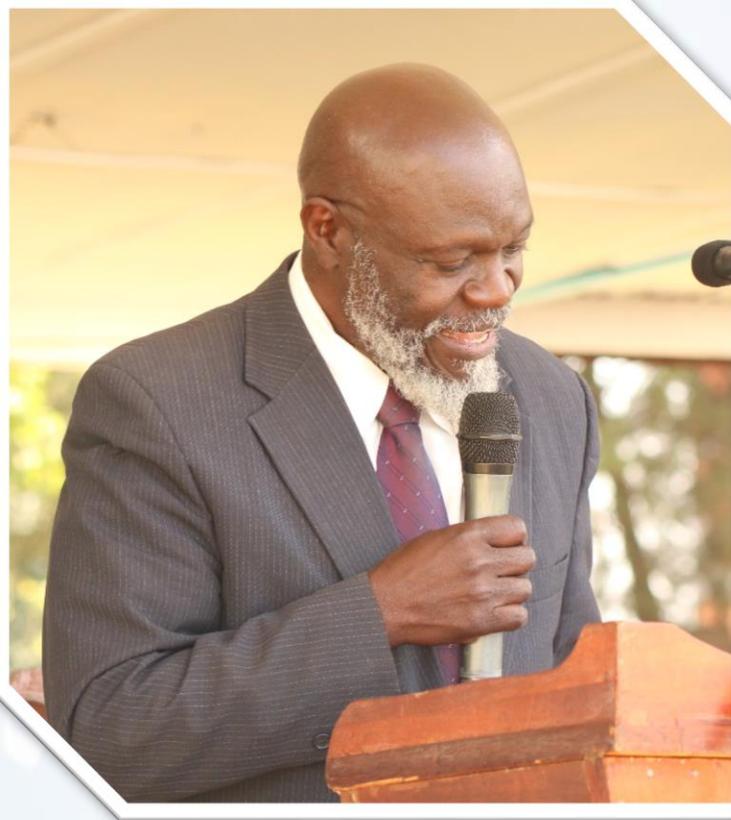
Masinde Muliro University Rugby Club suffered their first Championship league defeat of the year after losing to USIU-Africa 27-8 in the most thrilling Championship Rugby match of the weekend.

MMUST's centre back John Bahati opened the scoreboard with a penalty conversion after the referee called an offside defence by the host. The scores would then be 3-0 in favour of the visitors but just 10 minutes later USIU punished the MMUST defence as William made a touch down but the conversation went wide making it 5-3 at the end of the first half in favour of the home team.

The Martials came back more aggressive in the second half and just 12 minutes into the second half the hosts made it to the try box and the conversion was right making it 12-3. Isiah Mulongo of MMUST who came off from the bench made a set piece run and offloaded the ball to the blind winger Cluas Shirievo who got it right making it 12-8. MMUST made several breaks while attacking but their efforts were in vain as the Martials had their defence in the watch.

With a shaken MMUST defence, USIU punished the visitors with a drop goal set by scrumhalf Kuka and other two tries and a conversation made it 27-8 at the end of the second half. MMUST seek redemption as they face Catholic Monks next weekend.

Prayer Day Gallery





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