

Chancellor College Bulletin



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Editorial Team:

Dr. Ken Lipenga Jr (Chief Editor), Assoc. Prof Samson Sajidu (Vice Principal), Miss Anne Mpinganjira (Secretary).

EDITORIAL: PROFESSORIAL PRIDE



Professor Wapulumuka Mulwafu and Professor Edrinnie Kayambazinthu about to present their lectures

This issue is dedicated to the academic professor. To be specific, it is dedicated to our professors at Chancellor College. Any university worth the title takes pride in displaying the cream of its academic faculty, which is the category of professors.

This pride is motivated mainly by the twin inaugural lectures held over the past weekend by Professors Wapulumuka Mulwafu and Edrinnie Kayambazinthu.

Although the function was marked as a celebration by the entire University of Malawi, we wish to claim the lion's share of that pride (no pun intended). To us, the inaugural lectures are not only an ancient university tradition, but, perhaps more importantly, a

glimpse at the academic prowess of the person bearing that title. It therefore stands as a testament to the quality of lecturing at Chancellor College, that we are able to produce individuals who leave nobody in doubt as to the caliber of their excellence.

It was one thought that professorial titles are merely dished out like political handouts. The inaugural lecture serves to shred that assumption, as we have witnessed.

While on the subject of professors, we cannot fail to extend congratulations to the Principal, Professor Richard Tambulasi, for joining this cadre of the elite.

The professor is more than just an astute academic. He or she is also a leader. It is

therefore no surprise that the positions of leadership at Chancellor College and the University of Malawi are held by professors. They stand as leaders and models for the rest of us academics, exemplars of academic freedom, and living legends of the college. Our professors are not creatures of a different species. They are not hermits, enshrined in little epistemological cocoons, ignorant to the goings-on of the rest of the world. They can humble themselves, bring themselves down to our level, in order to lift us up, to give us a taste of what it is like to live in their world. In so doing, they show us that there is indeed a potential professor in all of us, waiting for a chance.

ADMINISTRATION

ACCORDIA delegation visits Chancellor College

On 21 July 2015 Accordia Global Health Foundation delegation visited Chancellor College in order to update management on the progress of the establishment of The Institute for Child Wellness in Africa (TICWA). This was a follow up to the meeting held in September 2014 at the college, which was attended by Heads and Deans. During this meeting, Dr W. Schelech and Mrs. Towela Maleta explained plans for the establishment of TICWA.

During the recent meeting, Dr Alex Coutinho was introduced as the Interim Director of TICWA. Furthermore, the objectives of TICWA were

outlined to be geared towards the wellness of the child. For instance, TICWA will focus on

reducing deaths and diseases among children, and increasing school completion. The institute will also work towards curtailing child marriages within African societies, and improving social support for children. As

part of advancing the wellness of the child TICWA shall also work towards improving child nutrition and reducing child labor wherever it exists.

Chancellor College's readiness in supporting TICWA's objectives through research was highlighted during the meeting. The college outlined its strengths in diversity of expertise and courses on offer such as sociology, psychology, education, demography, gender studies, early child development, social work, child rights in law and many more that would be useful in enhancement of TICWA's objectives. After the meeting, the delegation proceeded to the University Office for a discussion on developing a Memorandum of Understanding.



Discussion with ACCORDIA delegation underway in the Ex- Robing room

ADMINISTRATION

UNIMA signs MoU with Reserve Bank

The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Malawi and the Reserve Bank of Malawi was held on 17 July 2015 at Chancellor College in the Great Hall. The implementing department on the part of the University in the Department of Economics.

The MOU covers a number of activities indicating partnership between RBM and the Department of Economics (DoE), including visiting Lectureship by RBM officials, provision of refresher courses to RBM Officials by Department of Economics staff, joint research work between RBM And DoE Staff, and assisting in financing of

Malawi Journal of Economics (MAJE). Specifically highlighted was the issue of student attachments, which hold the potential to bridge the gap between theory and practice in economics.

The Secretary to Treasury, Associate Professor Ronald Mangani was the Guest of Honor during the signing. The Reserve Bank was represented by its Board members Mrs. Rose Mkandawire and Dr. Richard Mussa and the Deputy Governor Dr Naomi Ngwira whereas the University was represented by the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Prof. Al Mtenje and the Principal of Chancellor College Prof. Richard Tambulasi.

In his remarks, Associate Professor Ronald Mangani conveyed Government's delight with the collaboration. He expressed his optimism that other sectors of the economy as well as society will emulate the example set by the two institutions. He also encouraged members of staff from the Department of Economics to work hard so that their

impact is visible to the society at large.

The ceremony was spiced with traditional dances from the Kwacha Cultural Troupe which saw some members of staff displaying their traditional dancing antics. Students from the Economics Department also had a performance in form of a debate on the MoU and the implications of this occasion for them as students.



The Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of Malawi, Dr Naomi Ngwira speaking during the MOU signing ceremony

ADMINISTRATION

Chancellor College hosts NIPSS Members

Chancellor College was pleased to host a team of NIPSS (National Institute for Policy and Strategic Studies) members on 24 July 2015 led by Professor Habu Galadima on a study tour with the theme 'Repositioning Nigeria's Educational System for Global Competitiveness'.

Specifically, the team wanted to understand the educational system in Malawi in relation to other countries. They were interested in learning of the linkages between the educational system, industry and government in relation to research and development, innovation, entrepreneurship, technology and feedback

mechanisms. During the visit, the team was also appraised on a number of areas, including the regulatory framework for quality assurance, financing issues, challenges and mechanisms, and the role of stakeholders in the educational system.

The visitors had the opportunity to tour a number of departments at Chancellor College, including Fine and Performing Arts, Mathematical Sciences, Chemistry, Biological Sciences, ICT and the Library. In their remarks, the team members expressed appreciation to Chancellor College for hosting them and sharing



Department of Fine Arts, showcasing a short theatrical performance by students as part of the programme of the NIPSS visit

ideas on high education systems. On its part, the college management expressed hope that the visit would be the

commencement of cooperation in the spirit of the subsisting cordial relations between Malawi and Nigeria.

ADMINISTRATION

AAU Management Development Workshop

The University of Malawi hosted this year's Association of African Universities Management Development Workshop (AAU MADEV) in the Little Theatre from 24 to 27 August 2015. The workshop is a component of the leadership and management series

designed and run by AAU for institutions of higher learning with the financial support from African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF). The broad objective of these series is to enhance the capacity of the leadership of institutions of higher learning to effectively and

sustainably manage academic institutions.

Both the Vice Chancellor of the University of Malawi (Professor John Saka) and the AAU Secretary General (Professor Etienne Ehile) stated that we are all a witness to the shrinking resource base for institutions of higher learning. The fast shrinking public pulse against the backdrop of increasing and often competing demands for the same has meant that institutions of higher learning are being boxed to the margins of the funding locus. These institutions run the risk of being reduced to mere bureaucratic structures seeking attention and sympathy from well-wishers on the basis of past glory as justification for their continued existence.

The AAU General Secretary specifically called upon all university

staff to frequently visit the AAU website, where calls for study scholarships and research grants are usually featured.

The workshop was broadly aimed at facilitating the sharing of knowledge and experience regarding strategic management of institutions of higher learning. It created an enabling environment for identification and diagnosis of operational and strategic dilemmas facing our institutions and searching for financially and politically sustainable alternative solutions.

Participants attended sessions on strategic thinking, new higher education delivery modes, funding higher education trends and innovations, university community engagement for development, and social media for university community engagement.



Participants at the AAU Management Workshop

ADMINISTRATION

Chinese Consul visits Chanco

As a way of showing the Chinese government's continued commitment to developing partnerships with Malawi, and with the University of Malawi in particular, the Chinese Consul to Malawi, Mr Lai, visited

Chancellor College on 30th July, 2015.

During his visit, the consul met with students in the Chinese corner of the library. The consul, who was accompanied by the *chargé d'affaires* of the Chinese Consulate, Mr



Students in conversation with the Chinese consul

Tian, engaged in informal discussions with the students for about two hours.

These discussions touched on a number of subjects, dealing with the relationship between Malawi and China. The students were particularly interested in getting details on the Chinese government scholarship, where students from Malawi are given the opportunity to visit China for further studies. This scholarship covers tuition, and also includes an allowance for undergraduate and Masters degrees. Hundreds of universities in China are open for this opportunity.

Afterwards, the delegation visited various sections of the library and Chancellor College campus.

SCIENCE

WaterNet Students Welcomed on campus

The Department of Geography and Earth Science hosted a welcoming function in July for five students in the Integrated Water Resources Management Degree Programme.

The WaterNet programme draws students from all over the SADC Region. Depending on their choice of specialisation, students have the option of completing their studies at either University of Dar-es-Salaam, University of Zimbabwe, University of Botswana, University of Kwazulu-Natal, Polytechnic of Namibia, University of the Western Cape, or University of Malawi.

During their stay, the students have had the opportunity to visit Zomba Mountain and Lake Malawi. One of the students, Alfred Misi, from Zimbabwe, expressed appreciation for the comfortable accommodation that they had received. The South African in the group, Zine Matshakeni, said she had enjoyed her stay in Malawi so far. "I will definitely be returning here in future, so I can see more of the country," she said.

The students will soon be returning to their main institutions, before embarking on field research.



The students on a field trip with the Coordinator, Assoc. Prof. Cosmo Ngongondo (far right)

EDUCATION

Africa-Asia University Dialogue for Educational Development

The Director of Centre for Educational Research and Training (CERT), Assoc. Professor Dixie Maluwa Banda attended the First General Assembly, Phase IV, of Africa-Asia University Dialogue (AAD) for

Educational Development Network at Hiroshima University, Higashi Hiroshima, Japan from Wednesday 22nd July, 2015 to Saturday 25th July, 2015. The Network comprises of twelve and eighteen higher education

institutions from Africa and Asia respectively. During the General Assembly, CERT's membership to the network was renewed for another three years.

The purpose of the "A-A Dialogue" is to promote a self-reliant approach to educational development by organizing opportunities for research, faculty, and student exchanges, and other activities through dialogue and collaboration among African and Asian universities, research centers, and other relevant institutions. In pursuing this purpose, collaboration with decision-making and implementation bodies of educational policies is encouraged where appropriate and feasible.



Assoc. Prof. Dixie Maluwa Banda at the Africa-Asia University Dialogue General Assembly

STUDENT AFFAIRS

CHAMSA holds high education conference

Chancellor Muslim Students Association (CHAMSA) in collaboration with the National Muslim Students Association (NAMSA) conducted a one day conference on 'Overcoming the contemporary challenges facing the Muslim community: the role of Muslim Professionals'. Participants included students and alumni from all colleges and universities within the country.

In his welcoming

remarks, the Vice Principal, Associate Professor Samson Sajidu, commended the entire Muslim students community at the college for their discipline and being focused on their studies.

Various presentations were made touching on several aspects of development such as education, the Islamic religion, leadership issues, economics and many more. Presenters included the former President of the Republic

of Malawi, Associate Professor Cassim Chilumpha, the Secretary to Treasury Associate Professor Ronald

Mangani, CHAMSA patron Sh. Dr Imran Shareef, and Dr Mkakosya of the College of Medicine.



Participants during the CHAMSA-NAMSA conference

Open Air Theatre gets a facelift



The Open Air Theatre

Many students and staff pass by the Open Air Theatre without even recognizing its existence. This is thanks to the deterioration of this historic site, to the extent that for a long time it was overgrown with bush and shrubs and was hardly ever used by the Chancellor College community.

This is bound to change, as one student organization, Chanco: Project Rejuvenation has taken upon itself the responsibility of revamping the site. This is a group that has successfully refurbished

several structures in Zomba, including Room B at Chancellor College and a block at Mponda Primary School.

The current president of Chanco: Project Rejuvenation, Paul Ntulumbwa, points out that for the current project, the organization has been able to secure MK1,4 million from NICO Life.

Unfortunately, these funds are not enough to complete the renovations. The group is therefore calling for support (in the form of cement bags) from well-wishers in order to finish the work.

Chanco students attend Ark for Peace Conference

Two Chancellor College students travelled in June 2015 to New York, where they represented Malawi as participants in the Architects of World Peace Conference.

The students, Wongile Mbano (3rd Year) and Walinase Kayamba (2nd Year) were part of a five-person delegation from the country. The participants attended a variety of discussions, and also made their own presentations, applying the various ideas they had learnt, to their own

contexts.

The conference culminated in a cultural night, where the participants prepared dishes representative of their home countries. The Malawian participants did not disappoint, as they prepared *nsima* with pumpkin leaves, as well as *futali*.

The conference gave the students an opportunity to relate to the customs and experiences of other countries around the world.



Malawian participants at the ARK Conference

HUMANITIES

TRS Hosts ATISCA/EDAN Conference

The Department of Theology and Religious Studies hosted year's Annual Conference of Theological Institutions in Southern and Central Africa (ATISCA)/ Ecumenical Disability Advocates Network conference, which was opened on 24th July, 2015 in the Great Hall, at Chancellor College.

The theme of the

conference was 'Facing issues of Disability with Faith and Reason'. Participants at the conference included academics from various parts of the continent.

Speaking at the opening ceremony of the conference, the Deputy Minister of Education, Honorable Vincent Ghambi hailed the organizers of the conference for advancing ways of integrating matters to do with disability into curricula of higher learning institutions.



Participants at the conference launch pose for a group photograph

ADMINISTRATION

21st and 22nd UNIMA Inaugural Lectures presented at Chanco

One of the highest points of University of Malawi's activities in August 2015 was no doubt the hosting of the 21st and 22nd Inaugural lectures, presented by Professor Wapulumuka Oliver Mulwafu and Professor Edrinnie Lora-Kayambazinthu respectively.

This prestigious event was attended by the Deputy Minister of education, Honorable Vincent Ghambi. The Guest of Honor was Professor Moira Chimombo.

Making his comments before the lectures, the Vice Chancellor, Professor John D. K. Saka,

extended a special welcome to the two professors into the class of "eminent scholars". He expressed pride, emphasizing the point that the two individuals deserved to belong to "a category reserved for those who show exceptional achievement in scholarship, teaching, and leadership".

In his lecture, entitled "Is the Battle on Conservation of Natural Resources in Malawi Winnable? Perspectives from Historical Knowledge", Professor Mulwafu took the audience on a trip through Malawi's history, illustrating the trends in

Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation framework

The Director of the Centre for Education research and Training, Assoc. Prof. Dixie Maluwa Banda attended a two-day workshop with other 60 higher education experts from 28 countries from 29 to 30 July 2015 to validate the Pan-African Quality Assurance and Accreditation framework held in Accra, Ghana.

The workshop, jointly organized by the Association of African Universities (AAU), the African Union commission and the European Commission, forms part of strategic efforts to establish a continental accreditation agency for higher education in Africa. Participants at this august workshop included representatives of Ministries of Education, The African Union commission, CNAQ

Mozambique, the Association of African Universities, European Commission, Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), CAMES, PAN African University Council and European University Council among others.

The meeting featured presentations on Regional frameworks by the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) and CAMES (Conseil Africain et Malgache pour L'Enseignement Supérieur).

The implementation of the African Quality Rating Mechanism (AQRM), the operational modalities and instruments of PAQAF, as well as the mandates, roles and functions of a continental QA and Accreditation Agency were also deliberated on by participants.

environmental preservation in relation to political dispensations, before finally making his recommendation of the way forward, if Malawi is to conserve its natural resources.

Professor Kayambazinthu similarly engaged the audience

through a lecture entitled "Language Maintenance and Language Shift in Malawi: the family's Role", where she highlighted how, among other things, attitudes within the family can affect the transfer of a language from one generation to the next.



The Vice Chancellor officially congratulates Professor Wapulumuka Mulwafu

ADMINISTRATION

2nd Leadership Forum held in June

As Chancellor College strives to make a contribution to the development of its students for the benefit of the institution and the nation, the 2015 academic year second semester leadership forum was held on 27th June in the Little Theatre. Participants included SUCC executives, hostel representatives, students' and religious groups leaders. College management was represented by the Dean of Students (Associate Professor J. Mwatseteza), Senior Assistant Registrar (Mr. Elius Chizimba) and the Vice Principal (Associate Professor

Samson Sajidu). The main objective of the forum is to discuss and propose issues for adoption and implementation by the College administration.

In his opening remarks, the Vice Principal stressed on the

importance of meaningful involvement by student leaders in the governance of the college which entails having a clear understanding of policies and rules of the institution and broadly those of the higher

education system at large. This is because, one cannot provide leadership and make meaningful contribution to the governance of an institution without understanding the policies and rules which everyone involved is expected to abide by.

The meeting discussed issues on the registration of student organizations, maintenance of the chapel, waste management, the selling of items around campus, and the arranging of transport facilities for religious organizations. During the meeting, the participants also deliberated on room allocation, and heard updates on construction projects funded by the African Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank.



Some of the participants at the Leadership forum posing for a group photo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Let us take this moment to congratulate Mr Allan Chongwe and Ms Effie Bvutula on their wedding, held in August. On the same note, our congratulations also go to Ms. Tilinao Thyangathyanga of Psychology Department, on the occasion of her wedding to Mr. Kumvenji Lamba.

As part of the Chancellor College community, we wish to express our condolences to Prof. Chris Kamlongera, on the passing of his mother. We also join the Chancellor College community in offering words of condolence to Mr. S. Afutala, on the loss of his wife. Similarly, we take

this opportunity to express our words of comfort to Ms. Chrissy Chiyembekeza, on the passing of her father. In a similar vein, we convey our condolences to Mr. Gwaligwali on the loss of his brother. It is with the same spirit of condolence we seek God's comfort for Ms. Senia Kaunda, on the loss of her son.

Words alone are not enough to express our condolences to Mr. Edward Mwale on the passing of his mother and father.

We can only offer prayers that the Good Lord shall grant you comfort in these difficult times.