



Chancellor College BULLETIN

EDITORIAL: TOWARDS A SECURE CAMPUS

It is just a few days before Chancellor College becomes bustling with life again, when we welcome the first years of the 2016/2017 year on campus. In readiness for this, Heads and Deans must be ready preparing briefs, in order to help the students be informed about their module choices and route maps. Course lecturers are busy preparing teaching and learning material, so that the academic year is a success.

One fresh development about this academic year is how it has been structured to start and end within the year 2017. It will be the responsibility of all of us, as we dispense our duties, to ensure that we stick to

the allocated time.

For all of us perform optimally in our duties, we need an environment in which we feel comfortable, in which we feel that our property and indeed our very lives are not under threat. Similarly, we desire an environment in which college property is kept safe.

It is therefore quite gratifying when we observe management taking strides to ensure that the security of college property is ensured. The latest move in this direction has been the installation of security doors in all the major classrooms of the college. Previously, we have seen several departments taking the initiative to install security doors in

for their computer laboratories and other important offices. However, these security doors were of a rather lackluster nature.

The security doors that have recently been installed are of high quality. They are aluminum retractable trellis style security gates.

With these doors in place, perhaps we shall see an end to days when college furniture, light fixtures, and sockets grew legs and migrated off-campus. And with these in place, surely our classrooms shall be easily upgraded, to feature fixed projectors, amongst other improvements. We can also hope to see a reduction in, if not an end to, the vandalizing of college property.



Installation of security doors

Editorial Team:

Dr. Ken Lipenga Jr (Chief Editor), Prof Samson Sajidu (Vice Principal).

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ADMINISTRATION

Heads and Deans drilled in administrative skills

It is quickly becoming a tradition that when new Heads and Deans are elected into office, Chancellor College arranges a workshop, where the leaders can be trained in their new

duties. This is important, since most of the people in these positions are used to academic work. It is therefore necessary that they be initiated into the rigors of academic duty, to appreciate the

processes that make the college function, as it were.

This time around, the workshop was held at Nkopola Lodge, in Mangochi, from 6th to 9th February, 2017. Deans and Deputy Deans of all faculties were present at the workshop, together with their Heads and Deputy Heads of Department. They were also joined by leadership staff from the library, the Administration, the Finance Department, the Procurement Office and the Clinic.

During the workshop, the participants were given presentations by individuals from various disciplines, from the college and from other sectors of the country. From Chancellor College, presenters included the Vice Principal, Prof. Samson Sajidu, Acting Quality Assurance Manager, Professor Kayambazinthu, the

Procurement Officer, Mr Pahuwa, the Dean of Students, Dr. Jonas Mwatseteza, and Professor Blessings Chinsinga, among others.

The college management also invited other speakers to make presentations. These included Dr. T. Nampota, who spoke on university governance structures. Dr. Samson McJessie Mbewe, Director of Higher Education in the Ministry of Education, also gave a talk.

The Heads and Deans were also given short talks from legal perspectives. These included a presentation by Mrs Tisungane Kaime Mauluka, who spoke on administrative law. Similarly, Ms. Chimwenwe Kamowa, the Chairperson of the Industrial relations Court, also briefed the patrons on their rights and responsibilities as employees.



Deputy Dean of Social Science, Mrs. Limbika Maliwichi-Senganimalunje, making a contribution at the workshop

World Bank SDP team visits campus for pre mid-term review

Chancellor College is growing. And one of the key indicators of this growth is the infrastructure. A key part of this is the construction work managed under the

Skills Development Project (SDP), with funding from the World Bank.

At the moment, work has begun around the two construction sites. This

includes the building of lecture theatres and science laboratories, under the supervision of Joadah Consult, the architects.

When the World Bank Skills Development Project Mission visited Chancellor College for the

pre mid-term review on 23rd February, 2017, they could not help but admit that the strides that the college is taking in the project are unprecedented.

During the visit, the team was taken around campus to appreciate the construction and refurbishment work that is being done. They were also apprised of various challenges—and solutions proposed—that the implementation team is facing.

The construction work is simply a fraction of the many activities being done under the project. Ultimately, the project aims to increase opportunities for science teacher education, through the introduction of specialized programmes and the training of staff.



The World Bank Mission tours the campus

ADMINISTRATION

Promoting good health through aerobics

Among Chancellor College staff are people who are selfless enough to offer various services to the campus, free of charge. One of these is Tiffany Banda, a lecturer in the Faculty of Education, who has been offering aerobics sessions since 2015. The sessions are normally held at the Sports Complex on Thursdays, from 4.30pm. This is designated as a sports day on campus.

To her, this is a way in which lecturers can take care of their bodies. She emphasizes that, as human beings, we must care not only for our mental wellness, but also for the emotional, spiritual, social and physical dimensions. Engaging in aerobics goes a long way towards fulfilling most of these.

During the recent Leadership Training Workshop in Mangochi, participants, who included both academics and administrators, took part in the aerobics

sessions. This was a welcome way of ending the day, during which the members would mostly sit and listen to presentations, with minimal opportunities to stretch their limbs.

Each aerobics session takes about 40 minutes, during which participants

are taken through different dance moves, varying in intensity, to the accompaniment of fast-paced pop music. At the end of the session, the result would be sweat-drenched, aching limbs, with patrons grateful for the exercise, and still hungry for more.



Chanco staff engaged in aerobics

Dean of Postgraduate studies and Research Dean appointed

For a long time, the office of the Dean of Postgraduate Studies and Research was mandated with handling matters

pertaining to postgraduate studies as well as staff research at Chancellor College.



Dean of Postgraduate Studies and Dean of Research

However, it was observed that the office could not efficiently handle these two matters. Consequently, the office was split into two: the office of the Dean of Postgraduate Studies and that of the Dean of Research. The two offices have recently been filled. The Dean of Postgraduate Studies is Prof. Wapulumuka Mulwafu, whereas the Dean of Research is Dr. Mangani Katundu.

During the recent Leadership Workshop, held at Nkopola Lodge in Mangochi, the two made presentations on their plans for the new positions.

In his presentation, the Dean of Postgraduate Studies pointed out that one of the main goals of the office is to transform it into a Graduate School. The school shall be fully functional and self-

sustaining. In an effort to improve efficiency, the school shall work towards training staff in the supervision of graduate students, create a database of all graduate students—past and present, and develop a clear calendar of activities, among other strategies.

Similarly, the Dean of Research highlighted the intention of his office to promote interdisciplinary research across the faculties and externally with other stakeholders. The office of the Dean of Research will also facilitate research dissemination through conferences and seminars. The Chancellor College Research Ethics Committee (CHAREC) also stands to be fully operationalized, under the new office.

We wish the new office bearers all the best.

SCIENCE

Computer Science trains ESCOM staff

The Computer Science department at Chancellor College has since the past year been involved in IT Skills Training for staff at the Electricity Supply Commission of Malawi (ESCOM).

According to the Project Manager, Dr Chipso Kanjo, the department responded to an advertisement run by ESCOM in 2015, requesting the provision of computer literacy skills

for its staff. The Computer Science department submitted a proposal, and was duly selected to run the project.

The project involved ESCOM staff from all over the country, with the goal of making all of them ICT competent.

According to Kanjo, the department had to strategically allocate its human resource in order to cater to the ESCOM staff, who were over 2000 in number. "We divided ourselves into four teams, mainly comprised of staff in the Computer Science department and ICT section", she points out.

The training sessions were mostly carried out in Chichewa, and involved practical exercises in the fundamentals of ICT, including familiarization with computer hardware. For some classes, the lessons included practical sessions with common computer software packages (for tasks such as internet browsing, word processing, presentation design, and working with spreadsheets).

Participants who attended all the training sessions were presented with certificates.



ESCOM staff attending a training session

SANWATCE Officials visit Chanco

Officials from the Secretariat of the AU/NEPAD Southern African Network of Water Centres of Excellence

(NEPAD-SANWATCE) visited the Natural Resource and Environment Centre (NAREC) from 14-17

February 2017. NAREC is one of the 9 nodes of NEPAD-SANWATCE

During the visit, the SANWATCE Programme Manager, Mr Nico Elema was accompanied by the SANWATCE Project

Manager, Ms Joanna Fatch.

The visit was aimed at drafting of a catalogue of water-related high-end infrastructure, human capacity, courses and thematic areas at NAREC, discussing progress on the NEPAD-SANWATCE WARFSA Aligned Research Grant which NAREC is implementing, discussing possibility of Intra Africa Mobility proposal and Strengthening the partnership between the Secretariat and the NAREC.

The officials paid an audience to the Principal of Chancellor College before holding a series of meetings with the Dean of Science, NAREC Director, Heads of Science and NAREC Researchers.



The Principal welcomes Mr Nico Elema to Chancellor College

ADMINISTRATION

Chanco celebrates World Radio Day

By Elizabeth Mwapasa

As Malawi joins the rest of the world in commemorating World Radio Day on 13th February, the University of Malawi's Chancellor College says it will continue serving the country through its radio station.



The Vice Principal being interviewed

This was said at the college's Great Hall during a quiz competition organized by the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) between Mulunguzi Secondary School and Zomba Catholic Secondary School.

Vice Principal for Chancellor College Professor Samson Sajidu said the college has a role to play in training broadcasters and in teaching people through its radio station about research that the college conducts.

Hastings Mtonga, one of the teachers from Mulunguzi Secondary school, hailed MACRA for organizing the competition, adding that it is important for secondary school students to learn more

about different extra-curricular activities so that they can have a wide choice of careers to choose from once they start pursuing tertiary education.

World Radio Day is commemorated on 13th February every year. The day was first celebrated in 2012 following the declaration by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) general conference. The primary objective of celebrating the day is to draw attention to the unique role radio occupies in people's lives.

The theme for the 2017 World Radio Day is "Radio is You!", a call for greater participation of audiences and communities in the policy and planning of radio broadcasting.

Law Students fight vagrancy laws

By Kondwani Dennis Kumitengo

On Tuesday, 10th January, 2017, members of the Paralegal Resource Centre (PARECE) partnered with the Centre for Human Rights Education, Advice and Assistance (CHREAA) and joined other organizations in a fight against some of the vagrancy laws in Malawi.



Law students at the High Court

An application had been presented to the Principal Registry of the High Court to make a determination on the constitutionality of section 184(c) of the Penal Code which creates the offence of being a rogue and vagabond.

The applicant was Mayeso Gwanda, a street vendor who sells plastic bags. He was arrested one morning, walking to the city center of Blantyre where he plies his trade. His trial was stayed pending this determination.

PARECE is a students' organization that was founded at the Law Faculty of Chancellor College with the purpose of providing free legal services to disadvantaged

people, hence its interest in this matter, although it did not join the case as amicus curia.

The three judges tasked with hearing the matter were Justice Dr Mtambo, Justice Kalemba and Justice Zione Ntaba. After hearing the legal counsel from both sides, the court gave its ruling in favour of the applicants and this had the subsequent effect of declaring unconstitutional the said section 184(c) of the Penal Code which creates the offence of being a rogue and vagabond. This brought joy and celebrations among the organizations that were supporting the application, including the Paralegal Resource Centre (PARECE).

Announcements

It is within this period that Dr. Richard Mussa, our colleague in the Department of

Economics, passed away. This is something most of us are still failing to accept. May he rest in peace.

We at the *Bulletin* wish

to express our condolences to Professor Edrinne Kayambazinthu, on the passing of her brother. May his soul rest in peace.

We also offer words of condolence to Dr Nertha Semphere, on the loss of her mother. May the Good Lord offer you comfort.