

# CHANCELLOR COLLEGE BULLETIN



## Inside this issue



Zomba City  
Council Commends  
Chancellor College

*page 3*



Faculty of Science  
Holds Public Lecture

*page 4*



Launch of the  
Covid-19 Care Facility

*page 6*



Representatives of the Zomba Community at the Covid-19 Care facility

## Trying Times

There are two key things to talk about in this *Bulletin*. Let's start with what may be the lesser of these items – the return of the *Bulletin* after a few months' hiatus. We have been engaged in some administrative reorganizing of operations regarding the production of the *Bulletin*, and are pleased to announce its return, with our continued commitment to keeping you informed about activities at Chancellor College. The return is marked by the formation of a dedicated editorial team, who shall ensure that you are kept informed, and that your stories are publicised.

The second issue, as you will have guessed, is Covid-19 – how it has affected operations at Chancellor College and the admirable ways in which we are responding to it. To fail to comment on Covid-19 would be to exhibit a shocking level of ignorance to the one topical issue that has affected so many operations around the world. However, our stance, and indeed the position of the nation, is not to sit and mope about why this misfortune has befallen the world. Chancellor College has displayed amazing resilience in these trying times.

Many people mistakenly think that the operations of an institution of higher learning such as the University are limited to the teaching of its students. Much as teaching has ceased to take place, there is still a bustling of activity on campus. An indication of this is to be seen in the fact that a stroll

through the corridors shows that many lecturers are working in their offices. The same applies to the administrative sections of the institution, where work is continuing, although with a reduced workforce. Research has not ceased to take place. Staff have tended to focus on aspects of research, such as writing of reports, that can be done from their offices and homes.

As you will read inside this *Bulletin*, Chancellor College has been in the forefront of assisting the nation in these times of Covid-19. Early in March, 2020, the college hosted a talk at the Great Hall, where some staff in the sciences and the medical field engaged with the Zomba community, informing them about some of the details regarding the coronavirus and its means of spreading. This was before government announced the closure of all education institutions. Since the closure of the college, it has taken various steps in providing service to

its staff as well as the nation, including the production of hand sanitizers, soap and water dispensers, and face masks. Chancellor College has also converted one of its off-campus buildings into a quarantine center. Like the rest of the world, Chancellor College has embraced platforms such as Zoom as a means of holding meetings. The library also refuses to be left behind, and has ensured all its members of the continued availability of its online materials.

This is the Chancellor College that we know.

### EDITORIAL TEAM:

Associate Prof. Ken Lipenga Jr  
(Chief Editor),  
Prof. Samson Sajidu  
(Vice Principal),  
Mr. Alfred Banda,  
Mr. Gervasio Manyungwa,  
Mr. James Ngwenya

## Zomba City Council Commends Chancellor College

The Zomba City Council has commended Chancellor College for innovations and interventions meant to support existing government structures in dealing with Covid-19. The Director of Health for the Council, Gomezgani Nyasulu, said this during a tour organised by the College to brief stakeholders on the initiatives the college was taking to complement government efforts in addressing the Covid-19 pandemic.

“Ordinarily the academia should lead the way in finding solutions to problems that communities face on a daily basis and Chancellor College is a good example in their response to the crisis facing the nation today,” Nyasulu said.

During the tour, stakeholders appreciated several innovations that the College has developed specifically to contain the spread of Covid-19. For example, through the Department of Biology and

Physics the College has produced hand sanitizers, ventilators, automated CPAP machines and disinfectants. Significantly, the college has also rehabilitated a 34-roomed building which will be used as a Covid-19 Care Facility.

One of the members of the College’s Covid-19 taskforce, Dr. Placid Mpeketula, revealed that the coming in of a full Covid-19 testing lab at the College would highly assist Zomba and the surrounding areas, considering that the city does not have a Covid-19 testing lab.



*A sample of the face masks from Human Ecology*

## Appointment of Covid-19 Taskforce



*Dr Mpeketula apprises the Principal on Covid-19 preventive measures*

In an effort to provide an appropriate response to Covid-19, Chancellor College management appointed a Covid-19 Advisory Technical Team with the mandate to advise the management on the appropriate responses in containing the coronavirus.

The team comprises Associate Professor Dylo Pemba, Professor Alister Munthali, Dr. Placid Mpeketula and Mr. Lucius Kalonga.

The team has since advised management on a number of material issues including the identification and rehabilitation of the Covid-19 Care Facility at the Extension Wing.

The Care Facility has been primarily established to provide Covid-19 related care should the College register any cases among staff members.

# Faculty of Science Holds Public Lecture



*Part of the audience during the lecture*

Chancellor College has taken a number of commendable steps in informing the public, ever since the Covid-19 disease began spreading across the world. As early as 10th March, 2020, the Faculty of Science hosted a public lecture (seminar) on COVID-19 which was open to the community. This was to appraise the community on the nature of the coronavirus and the associated preventive measures.

The first part of the evening was taken up by presentations from Epidemiology and Public Health expert from the College of Medicine, Prof. Adamson Muula and Microbiologist in the Department of Biology Sciences, Dr. Placid Mpeketula. Prof. Muula's presentation was entitled "Global and Public Health aspects of COVID-19: Should we be more concerned?", whereas Dr. Mpeketula made a presentation on "COVID-19: Structure, mechanism of infection and target for therapeutic interventions". Thereafter, the two joined a panel that addressed

questions from the audience, which had packed the entire Great Hall. Additional members of the panel included Associate Professor Dylo Pemba, Dr. Peter Kip and Mr Lucius Kalonga of Chancellor College Clinic. They took turns in responding to questions from the audience in the Great Hall.

Among areas of concerns, the public wanted to know how prepared the country was to contain the virus once it is detected, and how Malawi was handling people entering the country by air and roads and through unchartered routes.

The panelists assured the audience about Malawi's collaboration with World Health Organisation (WHO) and other partners to contain the virus and equip major health facilities to do the tests on clients.

In an interview, Professor Muula, however, called on the general public to adhere to recommendations from health care providers which emphasizes adherence to preventive

measures such as hand washing (with soap) and avoiding handshakes to avoid transmitting the virus.

"Let's take precautionary measures to stop the spread of the Corona virus in the advent that it is detected in country," he said adding that the public should think twice whether it is ideal to continue with hand shaking at this time when the tendency is globally avoided.

The moderator of the public lecture and Dean of the Faculty of Science Associate Professor, Chomora Mikeka said the college's Faculty of Science and College of Medicine and Community Health Surveillance Unit in Lilongwe are set to test samples to detect the virus.

Professor Mikeka added that the faculty has capable technicians and laboratory equipment enough to be a reliable testing facility.

The Coronavirus was first detected in China's Wuhan City where it claimed many lives before spreading globally as far as Africa. The detected cases in Malawi have just recently clocked 100.

## Closure of Chancellor College



Following the Presidential directive to close education institutions in Malawi, Chancellor College suspended teaching and learning from 23rd March 2020. All students subsequently left for their homes.

Additionally, the majority of staff members have been working from homes as a measure in containing the spread, except for those rendering essential services.

Essential services include the taskforce on Covid-19, Chanco Health Clinic, Transport, Security, ICT and Maintenance.

# College opens Covid-19 Care Facility



*One of the rooms at the care facility*

With the closure of the College, the Covid-19 Advisory Technical Team advised management to allocate a facility that would be used to accommodate staff that may require to be quarantined or receive medical attention related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

In response, management identified a 34-roomed facility at the Extension Wing, behind Zomba CCAP primary school, which

has undergone intensive renovations. Although the renovations have been completed, the facility is yet to be used, as Zomba has not registered many cases of the disease.

The Extension Wing has for a long time been used as an alternative hostel for students. The College has repaired showers, toilets, and electricity wiring. The facility has also been painted and tiled, making it appropriately habitable for anyone who may be quarantined.

## Review and Development of Reformed UNIMA Policies and other Instruments

Part of the delinking process requires review and development of the new UNIMA related policies. The College set up several committees to steer the processes. These processes require identification of the need, gathering of related information, drafting the policy, consulting appropriate stakeholders, production of final draft and approval. In some cases, the policies may require associated

procedures and regulations to be developed. Some of the policies and instruments are at an advanced stage, having passed through consultation processes. They include policies related to statutes, organogram and job descriptions, conditions of service, academic workload, audit, research, publications, consultancy, financial management, gender, intellectual property, internationalization,

marketing and communication strategy, oDeL, academic integrity, procurement and asset disposal.

Some policies which are available in the current UNIMA but are yet to be reviewed include; student admissions, student rules and regulations, ICT, assessment and examinations rules, postgraduate, training and career development, performance management, code of conduct and ethics, affiliation, retirement, staff benefits, sports and recreation, funeral handling, medical aid, housing, whistle blowing.

The global dynamics in Higher Education will perhaps necessitate the need to develop new policies, considering that the process remains a continuous exercise.



*Dignitaries from Zomba City appreciate the Covid-19 Care Facility*

## Launch of the Covid-19 Care Facility

Principal of Chancellor College Professor Richard Tambulasi says the setting aside of the rehabilitated Extension Wing as a Covid-19 Care Facility highlights the College's value to the community and the pride that it places in its staff members.

The Principal said this during the official launch of the Covid-19 Care Facility on Wednesday, 13th May, 2020, a function that was attended by Deans of Faculties, the Zomba Chief Executive Officer, District Health Officer, and the police, among other dignitaries.

He highlighted that the College has highly trained and skilled staff members, who include professors, doctors, and senior academic members. This necessitated the need to specifically prepare to take care of its staff members should the Covid-19 pandemic hit the College.

Said Professor Tambulasi, "While no funds have been inputted into this project from the national Covid-19

funds, the College has used its own resources since it places high value in the staff members who are highly trained and need to be protected, hence the need to create this facility".

However, Professor Tambulasi said the College has developed a resource mobilization proposal in order to recoup some of the funds that the College has spent.

The Principal also said due to the existing partnership, Zomba District Health Office will provide health personnel to assist in managing the Care Facility.

Speaking at the same function, the Zomba Chief Executive Officer, Charles Thombozi congratulated the College for putting a Covid-19 Care Facility describing the initiative as an evidence-based solution. Thombozi said Zomba is a university city, acknowledging the key part of Chancellor College in the city's history. He added that the City Council has taken the Care Facility as

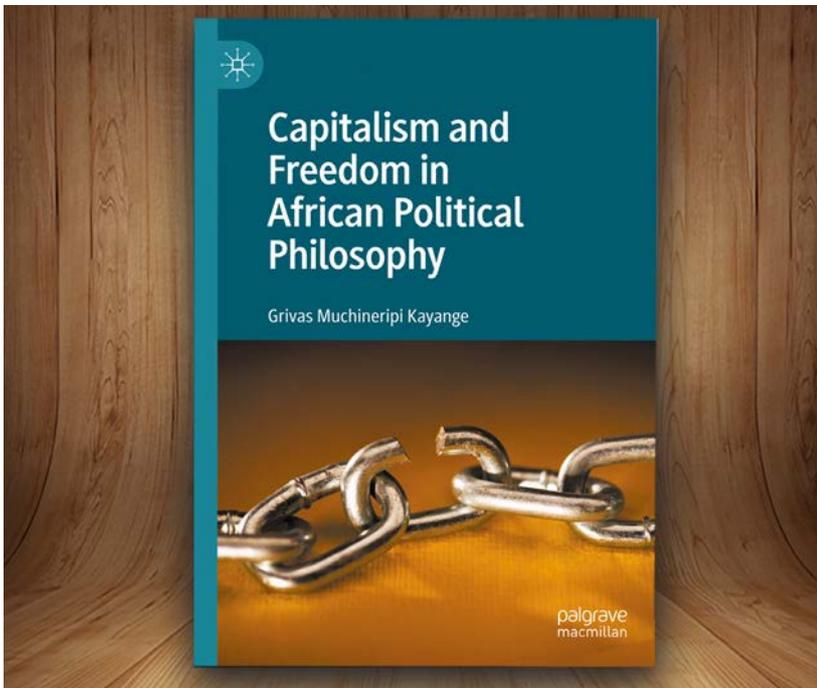
its own baby expressing his appreciation for the value Chancellor College has put on the life of the members of the city.

In his remarks, the Zomba District Health Officer, Dr. Alexander Chijuwa thanked Chancellor College for the prompt response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Dr. Chijuwa said the Care Facility, after the coronavirus has been contained, should be converted into another equally important facility. The DHO, however, expressed his concern with some members of the community who are elusive in going for self-quarantine.

"They are only available at a time the health personnel want to check on them because they memorised check-times, otherwise, you get information that they are in town for unknown reasons", the DHO bemoaned.

The Covid-19 Care Facility is now ready to accept and accommodate any Covid-19 related cases after undergoing intensive renovations and being certified by Medical Council of Malawi (MCM).

# Kayange Publishes another Book



Kayange's latest publication

One of the most prolific book authors to emerge from Chancellor College in the past few years is Dr. Grivas Muchineripi Kayange, a member of the Philosophy Department and the current Dean of Humanities. He is the author of *Meaning and Truth in African Philosophy: Doing Philosophy with Language* (2018) and also co-edited *Addiction in South and East Africa: Interdisciplinary Approaches* (2019) with Dr. Yamikani Ndasauka of the same department. His latest offering is *Capitalism and Freedom in African Philosophy*.

Speaking on his incredible publishing rate, Kayange states time is always there for one to write a book though it is not easy. He points out that some of the ideas from his books emerge from the reading he does as he prepares for his lectures.

His latest book, *Capitalism and Freedom in African Philosophy*, is an evidence-based argument that African political systems were also capitalistic, against the widely held view that they were all communalist in nature. The book examines the

history of the people of southern Africa, right from the traditional systems and finds that apart from communalism, there were some people who accumulated and owned more property than the rest. This element of capitalism cannot be just ignored in the political history of Africa.

Further, he examines the colonial period, the one-party eras and the present multiparty systems regarding how they relate to individual freedom and wealth accumulation. In so doing, he discusses the problems that have arisen from the conflicts of capitalism and communalism. Lastly, the author suggests three political models which may be adopted by the African states to avoid the conflicts which have been seen in the three eras mentioned.

The book has been published by Palgrave and can be accessed online via sites such as Amazon. We are also sure that it will be available in the Chancellor College library soon.

## Celebrating staff promotions

Getting promoted in the academy is no small thing. The system of promoting academics is one where length of service alone is not enough to ensure that one ascends the promotion ladder. Instead, an individual must illustrate his or her deserving of that promotion by highlighting among other things, academic prowess, in the form of publications. It is no small feat, considering that time and resources with which to carry out research may not always be available. That is why this year, we once again celebrate those who have been promoted in the University.

At Chancellor College, this academic year, one individual, Dr. Cosmo Ngongondo, was promoted to the rank of full professor. New Associate Professors include Dr. Victoria Ndolo, Dr. Winfred Mkochi, Dr. Nick Tembo, Dr. Ken Lipenga, Dr. Yamikani Ndasauka, Dr. Grivas Kayange, and Dr. Michael Chasukwa. Academics promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer include Dr. Amos Chauma, Dr. Milward Maliyoni, Dr. Chikumbutso Manthalu, Dr. Marlene Chikuni, Dr. Edister Jamu, Dr. Victor Chikaipa, Dr. Nertha Semphere, Dr. Dalitso Kafumbata, Dr. Mercy Tiyesere Chikapa, Dr. Sunduzwayo Madise, Dr. Antonie Chigeda, Dr. Symon Chiziwa and Mrs. Limbika Senganimalunje.

The promoted staff also include librarians Mrs Lidia Chiwa Chiotha and Mrs Naomi Dalitso Kachoka, promoted to Grade 3 and Grade 4 respectively.

With these fresh promotions, Chancellor College continues to illustrate why it was only a matter of time for it to become a full-fledged university. The promotions help to strengthen the profile of the university and exist as public evidence of research-driven individuals, with various kinds of research being carried out across all the faculties at the college. A new call for promotion applications has since been issued for the 2019/2020 academic year.

## Keeping the college land green



*Some of the staff members who participated in the tree planting*

Members of staff and students from Chancellor College of University of Malawi (UNIMA) on Saturday, February 23, engaged in a tree planting exercise at the Chirunga Forest.

The principal of Chancellor Professor Richard Tumbulasi led the tree planting exercise together with other members of staff.

The tree planting exercise is an annual event organised by the College to improve the environment, but also to support the notion of a 'college in a park'.

Mr Herman Ngalande, the college forestry officer, said the college bought a total of 5000 trees from the Forestry Research Institute of Malawi, which have all since been planted. These

included *mkundi*, *mbawa*, *kesha*, pine and *jacaranda/douglas* varieties. The targetted location was the college land along the Mponda and Likangala rivers, the sewage area, and the forest reserve. He points out that the college has a lot more land remaining, on which trees may be planted in the future.

The *jacaranda/douglas* variety, in particular, has been planted on campus, due to the beauty that it creates with its flowers. Some trees have been planted on the road leading to the 'Malawi' hostels, whereas others have been planted close to the new lecture rooms near the ICT Centre.

Some of the planting, especially around the sewage area, was done to replace trees that had died or were destroyed by people who farm the land. This time, the forestry office has created planting stations bordered with bamboo to protect the seedlings. So far, according to Ngalande, the crop that was planted is thriving very well.

Apart from planting trees, the college forestry office dispatches its staff to monitor the safety of the trees. They have recently been engaged in constructing firebreaks, so that in the event of fire, the entire crop is not lost.

## Campus Covid-19 Innovations

Chancellor College is a hub of innovations. In addition to the rehabilitation of a Covid-19 Care Facility, the College, through the Department of Biology has produced hand sanitisers for use after washing hands or for those times when soap and water are not available.

Additionally, the Physics Department has come up with an innovation named *Mpondagiya*, a pedal-operated hand washing device which allows the user to access soap and water when washing hands without touching the parts of the machine. A sample of this machine has been placed at

the Porter's Lodge, where everyone is free to use it.

The Home Economics Department has tailored reusable cloth masks to provide an alternative to the masks currently on the market, whose prices have skyrocketed following the surge in demand.

The ICT department has come up with an application to assist in Covid-19 related data collection and management. Chanco Radio and TV have complemented many other efforts in the dissemination of Covid-19 messages and in the process educating the masses in Covid-19 preventive measures.



*The Mpondagiya on display*

## We Need More Collaborators Like Chanco – Minister

The efforts that Chancellor College is making in the fight against Covid-19 have not gone unnoticed in the highest rungs of the government. Minister of Justice

and Constitutional Affairs Honourable Bright Msaka, MP has applauded Chancellor College for complementing government efforts in the fight against Covid-19.



*Hon. Bright Msaka, Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs*

The minister made the remarks when some of the members of a special cabinet committee on Covid-19 visited Chancellor College's Covid-19 Care Facility on Tuesday, 28th April, 2020 to appreciate the state of preparedness of Zomba District Council in the wake of Covid-19, a pandemic that has affected the entire globe.

Chancellor College, using its own resources, renovated the Extension Wing behind Zomba Primary School, converting it into a Covid-19 Care Facility.

The minister showered praises on Chancellor College for setting aside a Covid-19 Care Facility, saying it is an indication that the College has risen to the occasion coupled with the opening its laboratories and clinics to produce face masks, hand sanitisers and even setting up equipment for coronavirus testing.

“Government needs more collaborators like Chancellor College. The gesture from the College has assisted Zomba District to run a well coordinated operation, which shows that Zomba is on top of its game as regards the management of the pandemic,” the minister remarked during the visit.

## Dean of Law sworn in as Human Rights commissioner

Dr Sunduzwayo Madise, who is also the current Dean of the Faculty of Law, was appointed a commissioner at the Malawi Human Rights Commission in 2019, and was sworn

in together with other commissioners in February 2020.

Commenting on his appointment, Madise said it was the result of a

nomination from the Malawi Congress of Trade Unions. As a law lecturer, he brings to the MHRC a wealth of knowledge about various aspects of human rights.



*Dr. Sunduzwayo Madise, Dean of Law*

The MHRC does a lot of work concerning human rights in Malawi, and advises government on the same. This work involves work regarding disability rights, and women and children's rights, among others. Currently, some of the work that the MHRC does concerns the forthcoming presidential elections, as well as human rights issues emerging around the Covid-19 pandemic.

Much as the work is a lot, Madise does not regret having been appointed and expresses satisfaction at being able to render service to the nation.

# Zoom Steps in to Aid Hosting of Meetings



*Ms. Bridget Nyirongo, Acting ICT Director*

Chancellor College has embraced Zoom as an alternative to aid the hosting of meetings at a time when physical meetings have been shelved in the wake of Covid-19 pandemic.

ZOOM is a video conferencing application with real time messaging and content sharing. It allows one to virtually interact with co-workers and employers when physical meetings are not possible.

According to Acting Director of ICT, Ms. Bridget Nyirongo, Zoom allows one to open a free account or pay some subscription fee if they want to use it for more than 40 minutes.

“The Chancellor College community was given some quick start guides on how they can use Zoom. Security issues were also outlined to the community,” Ms. Nyirongo said.

Staff members have however had individual experiences in hosting or being invited to meetings using Zoom as a platform.

Dr. Levis Eneya, a regular user of Zoom, describes the platform as friendly and convenient. Said Dr. Eneya: “Stability does not come in on hhd card of the software but your network.” He says while the

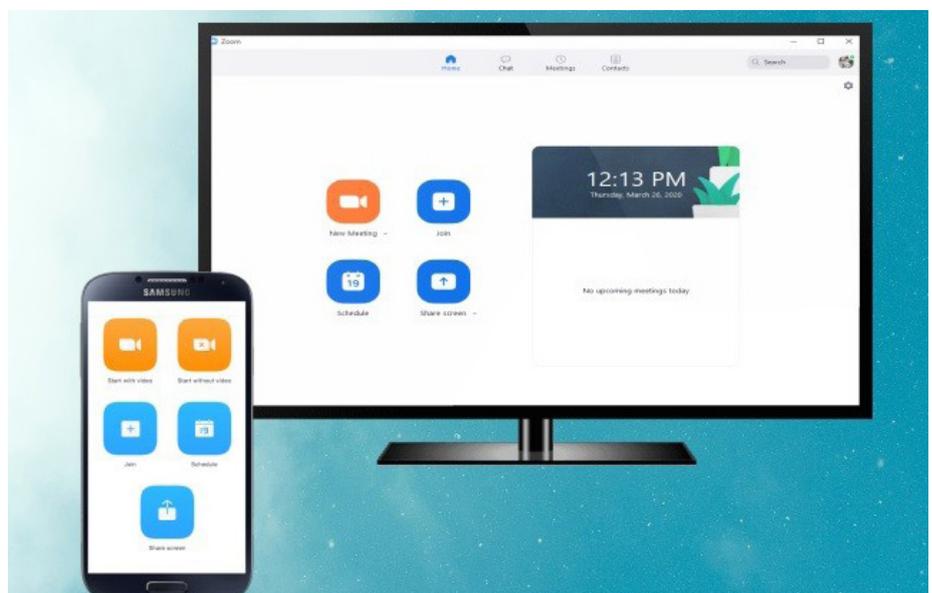
platform may have its shortfalls, he appreciated the better side of Zoom. “Note that the meetings I am talking about were initiated/hosted by external collaborators who have Zoom paid up licenses that let them hold Zoom group meetings including having break-away rooms, the Zoom channel and all attendant security features. If I host the meeting from this end where the university does not have a license, Zoom gives me only 40 minutes for group meetings”, he said.

He emphasises that Zoom is a commercial software and that the College has to buy the appropriate license as an institution to reap full benefits from it.

Professor Edrinnie Kayambazinthu, the Acting Quality Assurance Director, has positive words for Zoom. She heaps praises for the user-friendly interface that the app provides during meetings.

She says in 2020 alone she has attended three courses and two meetings of about 3-hour durations on Zoom. However, Prof Kayambazinthu shares her experiences on the consumption of data on her computer. She says in the wake of Covid-19, when everyone is working from home, her computer, a Windows 10, gave her a bad experience when the data was heavily used by the system itself for updates. She also advises that it would be appropriate for users of Zoom or any other similar platform to firstly disable the Windows updates to stop them from running continuously in the background as a way of controlling data consumption.

“The new data bundle of 8GB bought two weeks ago is now at 6GB. I have had two meetings last week, one lasting almost 4 hours. In a nutshell, I have found Zoom very user friendly and helpful for teaching and learning purposes though I have not set up a meeting or teaching session myself”, she summed up.



*A capture of the Zoom application interface*

# ABC donates to Chancellor College Covid-19 care facility



*Some of the donated materials on display*

The Asian Business Community (ABC) Covid-19 Taskforce on Saturday, 30th May, 2020 donated medical equipment to the Chancellor College Covid-19 Care Facility.

The donated items include 40 beds and mattresses, 100 N95 masks, 45 PPE suits, 100 goggles and face shields, 5 infrared thermometers, 5 CPAD machines, 3 pulse oximeters, 4 oxygen concentrators, 2 BP machines, 4 drug dispensing trolleys and 50 box gloves. The donated items also included body bags.

During the handover ceremony at Victoria Gardens in Blantyre, ABC's Covid-19 Taskforce Chairperson Faizal Aboo said his organization has taken both proactive and reactive

approaches to saving lives during this Covid-19 pandemic.

Aboo said ABC has donated the best quality items which should have a positive impact in the saving of lives of Malawians. He added that the donation is part of the charity consistent with doctrines of Islam.

“Charity does not decrease the wealth of a person and saving the life of one person is like saving the life of the whole world”, he said

Receiving the donation, Vice Principal of Chancellor College Professor Samson Sajidu said it was exciting that the Asian Business Community has come in at the right time when the College was doing the work all alone with its own resources.

Said Professor Sajidu: “We are very much appreciative because right now, with this boost, we are even more prepared to admit any Covid-19 related cases, should such a situation arise, but it is my prayer that we do not have such cases”.

He said the donation has provided a positive beginning point to operationalize the Covid-19 Care Facility, saying it was good at this time for other donors to emulate the gesture from ABC and make their contribution towards the operations of the Covid-19 Care Facility.

“Initially we were doing that for our members of staff but we realized later that we can also serve our community in Zomba. That is when we started discussions with Zomba City authorities to work together to serve the Zomba community”, he said

He explained that the College did not have a special budget for this pandemic, hence the need for collaboration with other stakeholders including the Zomba City authorities.

The ABC Covid-19 Taskforce was created on 26th March, 2020 in response to the global pandemic and has 40 volunteers who are basically well-wishers.



*Participants pose for a picture at the handover ceremony*

# Law roofing repairs completed



*The roof before repairs*

On 1st December, 2019 from around 4:15 pm, fire broke out at the Faculty of Law building at Chancellor College. The fire affected the eastern part of the building. In particular, the roof of the library and classrooms of the Faculty of Law were extensively damaged by the fire. Some pieces of furniture and books were also damaged. Coordinated efforts by students, staff and fire brigade personnel helped in dousing of the fire.

The Dean of the Faculty of Law, Dr Sunduzwayo Madise, expresses gratitude to various sections of the college for offering assistance. “The Faculty of Science allowed us to use their brand new Chimphamba building as classrooms and library, and the Department of Economics allocated one of their library floors to us.”

Rehabilitation of the damaged structures has been completed and the building will be ready for use when the College resumes its normal operations. Given that the fire was caused by an electrical malfunction, the Dean observes that the accident has reinforced the need to always ensure that the electrical wiring and safety mechanisms of college buildings are always up to date



*A view of the repaired roof*

# World Bank Donates Vehicles to Ministry of Education

On 22 February, 2020, Chancellor College received a vehicle to support the achievement of the Equity with Quality and Learning at Secondary School (EQUALS), a project funded by the World Bank through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

19 vehicles in total, worth K928 million, were distributed to six education divisions in Malawi and to each of the institutions that train secondary school teachers, including Chancellor College, the Polytechnic, Nalikule College of Education, Domasi College of Education and Mzuzu University. At Chancellor College, the Principal Investigator of the EQUALS project is Prof. Dorothy Nampota

Minister of Education, Science and Technology Dr William Susuwele-Banda said during the handover of the vehicles to the beneficiary institutions that the vehicles would facilitate inspection of schools in order to ensure adherence to education standards and monitor implementation of the curriculum.

He said the vehicles would go a long way in alleviating mobility challenges that would otherwise compromise the effective implementation of the EQUALS Project.

“The divisions will be able to monitor the implementation of the project in the 13 education districts while for the tertiary institutions it will help in monitoring the teachers in the classroom in order to ensure that classroom practices inform the curriculum in the teacher training institutions,” Banda said.

He called upon the beneficiary institutions and departments to use the vehicles for the intended purpose in order to achieve the results of improving learning outcomes in CDSSs.



Within the EQUALS Project there is an element of improving CDSSs and as such 100 CDSSs will be improved by constructing laboratories and libraries.

Susuwele-Banda said this would be done so that the kind of science subjects that are being offered at the CDSS should be the same as those in conventional secondary schools.

“So we will focus on science and mathematics so that learners who go to CDSS are not challenged in terms of the quality of the science and mathematics that they learn,” he said.

Chancellor College Assistant Registrar, Alfred Banda who represented the Principal said the vehicle would go a long way towards scaling up education standards in the country.

“The coming in of the vehicle is going to assist us in our movements around and will add value to what we are already doing in terms of the efforts we are making to improve access to higher education,” he said.

The EQUALS Project will be implemented over a period of 12 years with support to the secondary school subsector not only in scope but also in amount of resources worth US\$900 million (approximately K68 billion) for the first phase, which will last six years.

The objective of the EQUALS Project is to strengthen mathematics and sciences instruction in Community Day Secondary Schools (CDSSs) and increase access and equity at secondary school level.



# Online services still available at Chancellor College library

As many universities, colleges, secondary and primary schools move to online classes in response to COVID-19, libraries and librarians are challenged with developing or expanding efforts to effectively support online learning.

Chancellor College Library, as one would expect, stands in support of its users by offering services. However, this service is restricted to online access where users are able to access e-books and e-journals.

The Assistant Librarian for Technical Services Blessings Katuma confirmed that Chancellor College is offering e-library services. This the college's way of assisting in the continuing research work ongoing at the college.

"We are providing an expanded set of electronic resources for research and learning. At the moment, we are liaising actively with publishers, and the electronic provision of books and other materials, and the number of simultaneous users, is rapidly increasing.



*Chancellor College Library*

"These are available through RemoteX. We will continue to work with our providers (Malawi Library and Information Consortium, MALICO) to provide more access to electronic resources," Katuma said.

The Assistant Librarian said if one does not have log-in credentials they can send their details to [bkatuma@cc.ac.mw](mailto:bkatuma@cc.ac.mw)

cc.ac.mw indicating their first name, last name, and programme of study.

"Library staff members are working remotely to support student education and research. On e-resources I can assist while Mrs. Lidia Chiotha would help in the General Collection, and for the Special Collection (Malawiana), Mrs Nancy Mpekansambo is readily available to assist," Katuma concluded.

## Dean's List announced

This year's Dean's list for Semester 1 was announced on 4 March 2020. Announcing the list, the Vice Principal, Prof Samson Sajidu indicated that 73 students made it to the list compared to 58 students last year. Out of the 73 students, 19 were females and 54 were males. To qualify for the Dean's list, a student must be pursuing an undergraduate

programme in the Faculty and attain a GPA of 3.75 or higher and NO grade below B-. The highest student this year attained a GPA of 3.95. He is Mervin Palichina, pursuing a Bachelor of Science Programme in Actuarial Sciences. The certificate presentation ceremony was postponed due to the sudden closure of the College because of the current Covid-19 global pandemic.





# Creation of Schools and Departments



*The Department of Chemistry, which will become Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering*

As part of the process to delink University of Malawi, Chancellor College, like all other constituent colleges of University of Malawi (UNIMA), has created schools instead of faculties as the case has been for more than dozen years.

The new UNIMA Act, 2019, has created schools replacing faculties to reflect the new direction that the re-established University of Malawi will take.

The creation of schools has been a demanding task characterized by heated discussions. There have been consultations from faculties and departments as well as unions.

The process has seen the creation of five schools, a similar number of the obtaining faculties with an assurance that should departments so flourish, Senate would consider with all the applicable processes, the creation of as many schools as it would be possible provided such schools would attract the appropriate human resources along with the financial independence in a self-containment approach.

## **School of Arts Communication and Design**

Members have upheld the creation of the School of Creative Arts, Communication and Entrepreneurship as a school that Chancellor College should have had as early as yesterday. This School has its corresponding departments like Fashion and Design; Fine Arts; Entrepreneurship and Creative Industries; Media and Communication Studies; Academic Skills and Careers (replacing the current Language Skills); Film and Photography; Drama and Theatre Studies; and Music and Dance.

## **School of Education**

The School of Education has maintained its original name with a fusion of six departments. The School has departments such as Education Foundations; Mathematics, Science and Technology Education; Language Education; Social Sciences Education; Higher Education Management & Professional Development; and ECDE & Primary Education.

## **School of Humanities and Social Sciences**

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences has largely a combination

of Faculties of Humanities and Social Sciences with a number of departments and an institute. However the complete reconstruction of the school awaits the meeting between Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Social Sciences. The two Deans will co-chair the meeting.

## **School of Law, Economics and Government**

The institution has also seen an innovative merging of several departments to come up with the School of Law, Economics and Government.

The School has created six departments as follows; Foundational Law; Practical Legal Studies; Economics; Politics and Government; Management and Leadership Studies; and Banking, Finance and Business.

## **School of Natural and Applied Sciences**

The School of Natural and Applied Sciences has created eight departments namely Human Ecology & Agricultural Sciences; Biological Sciences; Biomedical and Health Sciences; Chemistry & Chemical Engineering; Computing; Geography Environment and Earth Sciences; Mathematical Sciences; and Physics & Electronics.