SCHOOL OF LAW, ECONOMICS & GOVERNMENT





NEWSLETTER

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WELCOME MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DEAN

Welcome to the latest edition of the School of Law, Economics, and Government (SLEG) newsletter! I am thrilled to share with you the incredible achievements and events that have taken place across our departments.

This newsletter captures the vibrancy and dynamism of our school, highlighting notable activities such as hosting the public lecture on the Malawi Country Economic Memorandum, the remarkable performance of our students in the Joint Facility Electives, and the inaugural Annual Academic Staff Excellence Awards ceremony. We also celebrate the achievements of our students and staff in various national and international forums, including the African Population Conference and the Vice Chancellors and Executive Deans List Awards.

Our commitment to excellence is evident in the diverse range of activities detailed here, from the enriching Exit Workshop for final-year Economics students to the impactful Disability Rights Clinic training on albinism. We are proud of the innovative research dissemination efforts and the successful training programs empowering economists and legal professionals alike.

Special thanks to the editorial team for their diligent work in compiling this comprehensive newsletter. Your efforts ensure that our community remains informed and inspired by the remarkable contributions and achievements of our school.



Editorial Team



Gowokani Chijere Chirwa, PhD



Emmillian Mlagha



Samantha Mosiwa



Benson Munyenyembe, PhD



Farai Chigaru, PhD



Atupele Masanjala

Heads of Departments



Assoc. Prof Gowokani Chijere Chirwa Economics



Dr. Tiyesere Chikapa Management and Leadership





Dr. Ngcimezile Mbano- Mweso Public Law and Clinical Legal Studies



Professor Michael Chasukwa Politics and Government

UNIMA LEADERSHIP



Professor Samson Sajidu Vice Chancellor



Dr. Sunduzwayo Madise Deputy Vice Chancellor



Mr. Martin Matululu Registrar

FROM EXECUTIVE DEAN'S OFFICE

Executive Dean Presents a Paper Focusing on Aleke Banda

Prof Kayuni presented a paper at Political Science Conference entitled "Tracking Aleke Banda's Political Journey (From One Party to Multiparty Era): An Embodiment of Malawi's Political Culture and Dynamics?" This was the 3rd Biennial PSA Conference under the theme '30 Years of Multiparty Democracy: Reflections on Malawi's Governance, Politics, and Development', held at Sunbird Nkopola Lodge on 3rd May 2024. The paper traces Aleke Banda's political journey from the colonial era through Malawi's transition to multiparty democracy and illustrates the intricacies of the nation's political land-scape. Drawing from interviews, newspaper articles, and reports, this paper analyzes his significant role in shaping Malawi's political trajectory. The paper concludes that Aleke's journey reveals the interplay of loyalty, ambition, and pragmatism, offering insights into Malawi's evolving political dynamics and democratic aspirations.

SLEG Staff Members Engage in Review Workshop for Leadership and Management Programs in the Ministry of Health



In alignment with the university's community engagement mandate, Dr. Tiyesere Chikapa-Jamali and Dr. Bertha Bangara-Chikadza participated in a workshop that was held on the 13th and 14th June 2024. The workshop aimed at reviewing the District Health Management Teams Leadership and Management as well as Health Facility Management Team programs. These programs aim to enhance the leadership and management skills of District Health Management and Health Facility Management teams, respectively.

From the workshop, it became evident that for the

program's sustainability, there is a need for different Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) represented at the workshop to collaborate in delivering these programs. This collaborative effort will benefit Malawian society at large, rather than relying solely on the Mpemba Campus of the Malawi School of Government. Here's to more fruitful collaborations!

SHSS Research Seminar Paper on National Identity

During the School of Humanities & Social Science Research Seminar held on 26th April 2024, UNIMA Law Boardroom, Prof Kayuni presented a paper co-authored with Dr Emmanuel Ngwira, Samantha Mosiwa and Rooselvelt Msukwa. The paper with is entitled "Exploring National Identity in Relation to Malawi's Development Agenda" explores the interdependence between Malawi's national identity and its development agenda. It argues that a strong national identity fosters belonging and cohesion among citizens, crucial for effective development and political stability. This unity enhances democratic participation and collective efforts toward shared goals, improving the country's international image and attracting investment. The paper further points out that disillusionment with Malawian national identity has grown. Interventions like the 'Malawi Vision 2063', 'National Civic Education Policy', and the establishment of the Malawi Peace and Unity Commission aim to foster patriotism and unity. However, these initiatives emphasize peace over addressing the core issues of national identity and its direct link to development, which remains largely assumed.

"Exploring National Identity in Relational to Malawi's Development Agenda"

Visiting Professors at University of Addis Ababa: Professor Happy Kayuni and Professor Michael Chasukwa

Professor Happy Kayuni and Professor Michael Chasukwa lectured at the University of Addis Ababa as Visiting Professors from 22nd April to 9th May 2024. They taught on a PhD programme in Sustainable Development. The both taught a module on Policy, Governance and Sustainable Development. Professor Happy Kayuni and Professor Michael Chasukwa hold positions of Adjunct Professorships at the University of Addis Ababa under NORHED Project that is jointly implemented with the University of Addis Ababa and University of Oslo.



Research collaboration between SLEG and International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)





UNIMA-SLEG

IFPRI

The School of Law, Economics and Government has just finalized an agreement with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) to embark on a research project that also supports PG students. Specifically, Titukulane Project (funded by International Food Policy Research Institute "IFPRI"), in its pursuit of enhancing national resilience and improving livelihoods, seeks to collaborate with national academic institutions, notably the University of Malawi (UNIMA) through School of Law, Economics, and Government (SLEG). This collaboration aspires to strengthen local capacity through the transmission of research and analytical skills, thereby supporting national systems in the realization of the National Resilience Strategy. The total funding for this project is approximately USD39.000.00.

The scope of the work is focused on conducting research in line with the Titukulane project objectives while supporting SLEG PG student's research activities. The research is meant to facilitate platforms where students can present their preliminary research findings during learning events organized by SLEG, in collaboration with IFPRI. These events will encompass both smaller findings dissemination workshops and national-level learning events. During these national events, Titukulane will also share operational learnings from the program implementation. From SLEG/UNIMA, the team comprises of Associate Professor Gowokani Chirwa, Dr Jesman Chintsanya, Dr Tiyesere Chikapa and Prof Happy Kayuni (Project Leader).

"Aspires to strengthen local capacity through the transmission of research and analytical skills"

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics hosts the public lecture on the Malawi Country Economic Memorandum

On February 28, 2024, the University of Malawi, through the Department of Economics, had the honor of welcoming Jakob Engel, a senior economist at the World Bank, and his colleague Ephrem Chilima







Guests, Members of Staff and Students after Public Lecture



They provided an overview of the Malawi Country Economic Memorandum, highlighting the pressing need for a new development model to change the country's current economic path.

Following the presentation, Dr. Tiyesere Chikapa, the head of Management and Leadership Studies,

led a stimulating plenary discussion.

The panelists included seasoned economist Associate Professor Winford Masanjala, Associate Professor Michael Chasukwa (Head of Politics and Government), and Dr. Kisu Simwaka (Director of Economic Policy and Research at the Reserve Bank of Malawi). Their insights left the students and everyone present with plenty of thought-provoking questions! The major conclusion was that Malawi is off track from its growth trajectory; however, it has the potential to get back on track given the various success stories.



from left to right: Dr. Kisu Simwaka, Professor Michael Chasukwa and Assoc. Prof. Winford Masanjala

DOE Students wins at JFE

The University of Malawi master's class has once again excelled in the 2023 Joint Facility Electives (JFE). During its meeting on February 29th, 2024, the African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Board announced that the Master of Arts Economics students from UNIMA, Department of Economics, secured the top position in the 2023 JFE Exams. This remarkable achievement marks the third consecutive year of their outstanding performance.

The JFE is a training program offered by AERC for elective courses in economics. The 2023 cohort consisted of students from various universities, including the University of Malawi, University of Lesotho, Makerere University, University of Zimbabwe, KNUST, University of Cape Coast, University of Zambia, University of Namibia, and University of Botswana. Among all the participating universities, the University of Malawi emerged as the top performer in the category of University Performance in Examination.

Celebrating Excellence: School of Law, Economics, and Governance (SLEG) Academic Awards Ceremony.

In a remarkable first, the Department of Economics proudly hosted the inaugural Annual Academic Staff Excellence Awards ceremony, organised within the School of Law, Economics, and Governance (SLEG) on 7th March 2024. This esteemed event aimed to honor faculty members for their exceptional contributions to SLEG. The award ceremony was graced by Dr. Mufunanji Magalasi, Executive Dean of the School of Arts, Communication, and Design, as the distinguished guest. This year's ceremony featured two prestigious awards:

- 1. Journal Publication Award:
 - Associate Professor Gowokani Chirwa, Head of the Department, secured the top spot in this category.
 - Mr. Laston Manja, unfortunately unable to attend, closely followed in the rankings.
- 2. Early Career Researcher Award:
 - Mr. Laston Manja was celebrated for his remarkable achievement in winning this award.
 - Associate Professor Gowokani Chirwa also demonstrated excellence in this category as he came second.



Assoc. Prof Gowokani Chijere Chirwa recieving his Award



Once again, the Department of Economics showcased exceptional performance, claiming every award

Empowering Economists

The Department of Economics conducted a week-long training from April 15th to April 19th at Cross-roads Hotel in Lilongwe. The department was represented by Associate Professor Gowokani Chijere Chirwa, Associate Professor Spy Munthali and Dr. Regison Chaweza.





The Department of Economics conducted a week-long training from April 15th to April 19th at Cross-roads Hotel in Lilongwe. The department was represented by Associate Professor Gowokani Chijere Chirwa, Associate Professor Spy Munthali and Dr. Regison Chaweza. During this training, they worked with economists from various ministries, including Agriculture, Health, Transport, and Water, as well as the Department of Economic Planning and Development (EP&D). The training was sponsored by JICA as part of their support for the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) in Malawi. The focus of the training was on Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) and Cost-Effective Analysis (CEA).

This comprehensive program covered both theoretical concepts and practical applications. Its primary objective was to enhance the officers' skills in evaluating the viability of public projects across a range of alternatives, using real-life and current data. Notably, Jennifer Mwenebanda, an alumna from the Department of Economics who completed her studies in 2022, actively participated in the training. She now works for the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development.

DOE Student's Chat with the HoD

On May 29, 2024, the Department of Economics (DOE) organized a student chat with the Head of Department (HoD) at the Wadonda Lecture Theatre. The HoD, Associate Professor Gowokani Chijere Chirwa, addressed recent initiatives aimed at enhancing academic excellence and bridging the gap between academia and industry.

Key Developments Include:

- 1. Internship Programs: The DOE will launch undergraduate internships in partnership with government line ministries. These internships aim to provide students with practical skills, knowledge, and real-world experience.
- 2. Financial Sector Internships: Collaboration with financial institutions will allow five final-year students to intern in the financial sector, gaining insights into financial operations and practices.
- 3. Faculty Expansion: The DOE, through the Uni-

- versity of Malawi (UNIMA), has recruited four additional lecturers. Further efforts will be made to seek additional tutors, thereby improving teaching quality and academic support.
- 4. Technology Enhancement: The department will procure computers to facilitate hands-on, practical learning in economic analysis. This technological upgrade aims to empower students with essential analytical tools.
- 5. Scholarship and Exchange Programs: Some

universities in the US are establishing scholarships for masters and undergraduate programs. Similar opportunities are also emerging in the UK.

6. HOD's Awards: Outstanding students in economics courses will be eligible for the HOD's Awards, which include a prize of MK100 000. Additionally, a specific gender award will recognize an outstanding female student.



These developments exhibits the department's commitment to nurturing academic growth and fostering a supportive learning environment.

The Inaugural 4th Year Students' Exit Workshop

Recognizing the critical importance of preparing our final-year undergraduate students for the industry and the real world, the Department of Economics (DOE) organized its first Exit Workshop exclusively for the 2024 Economics class. This unique event was designed to equip students with essential skills and knowledge to distinguish themselves in their future careers. The workshop took place at the prestigious Wadonda Lecture Theatre on May 30th, 2024.

The workshop featured a lineup of esteemed speakers with extensive experience and expertise in their respective fields. They covered many topics, providing our students with practical advice on job searching and entrepreneurship.

"designed to equip students with essential skills and knowledge to distinguish themselves in their future careers"





The speakers were:



1. Mr. Edward Leman: A lecturer in the Economics Department and former Specialist Planner at the National Economic Empowerment Fund Limited (NEEF). He addressed work ethics and professionalism, emphasizing how students should present themselves in the workplace and interact with colleagues and superiors.



2. Associate Professor Edister Jamu from the Psychology Department discussed mental health during job searching. He prepared students psychologically to cope with expectations, manage stress, and develop resilience and patience.



"Lessons on mental health during transition from University to Professional World"



3.Mr. Bright Limani, an HR professional from The Catholic University of Malawi Explored career development and practically demonstrated how to craft effective CVs and excel in interviews. He focused on the skills and knowledge sought by employers and effective job-hunting techniques.



4. Mr. Dan Gareta, an economist from the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning advised on preparing for interviews and maintaining professionalism. He encouraged the

students of the need for flexibility in career choices, sharing his journey from a secondary teacher to an economist. He emphasized the importance of seizing opportunities as they arise.



5. Assoc. Prof. Winford Masanjala, a retired academic in the Economics Department and former Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, and Ministry Energy discussed career aspirations, skills development, and industry readiness. He highlighted the importance of capitalizing on opportunities and utilizing chances to achieve desired goals.



6. Ms. Nthanda Manduwi, founder of the Ntha Foundation and a former UNIMA student emphasized the importance of networking, personal branding, and entrepreneurship. She inspired the students to add value to themselves and become their best versions, highlighting the significance of social networking and individual worth. She also

took time after the workshop to interact with the students, answering their questions about the industry world.





The Department of Economics expresses appreciation to the guest speakers for generously sharing their knowledge with graduating students. Special thanks to Associate Prof. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa, the head of the department, for his dedicated work in arranging this inaugural

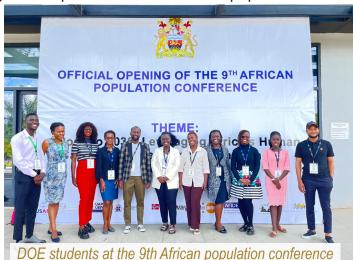
Master's Economics Research Week Boot Camp!

The Economics Department organised a 5-day Research Boot Camp for second-year master's students in economics. The boot camp took place from December 18th to December 23rd, 2023. Its primary purpose was to enrich and equip these students for their research work. The diverse

range of topics covered during the boot camp included the thesis writing process, crafting a publishable manuscript, and an introduction to R and Stata using the Malawi Integrated Household Survey (IHS) datasets.

DOE Students Shine at the 9th African Population Conference

The Department of Economics (DOE) actively participated in the 9th African Population Conference (APC), held at the BICC in Lilongwe from May 20th to 24th, 2024. This year's theme, "Road to 2030: Leveraging Africa's Human Capital to Achieve Transformation in a World of Uncertainty," brought together experts to address critical population issues.



The APC, organized every four years by the Union for African Population Studies (UAPS), serves as the primary scientific gathering dedicated to population matters in Africa. Since its inception in 1984, UAPS has consistently championed evidence-based research, supported research capabilities, and facilitated the utilization of population-related scientific evidence to shape policies and programs across the continent.

Our undergraduate students Ngwakutemwa Sibale, Amanda Chatata, Innocent Luka, Nomsah Zgambo, Chimwemwe Misomali, and Enerstina Chiona—were selected to present their research papers at the conference



Additionally, our master's students—Tughulupi Ndovi, Bridget Naphiyo, Richard Moyo, Murrendelhe Nkhoma, Edgar Leo Mwape, and Pemphero Mphamba—enriched the event by sharing their research findings.

Notably, Richard Moyo and Bridget Naphiyo received awards for the best poster presentations. The department takes immense pride in our students' contributions to this prestigious event, as they engaged with a broad network of scholars and professionals in population studies



New Faces at the Department of Economics (DOE)

The Department of Economics warmly welcomes Dr. Bertha Bangara Chikadza, Dr. Martin Mwale, Mr. Edward Leman, and Mr. Joseph Makondesa to the team.



Mr. Joseph Makondesa holds a Master of Arts Degree in Economics at the University of Malawi and a Bachelor of Social Science in Economics and Demography from the same institution. Mr. Makondesa's research focus is on the intersection of health economics, health systems policy analysis, health financing, child labor, and applied econometrics, aiming to inform effective policymaking and improve health and economic outcomes for diverse populations.

The department warmly welcomes these accomplished individuals and looks forward to their valuable contributions



Dr. Martin Mwale obtained a PhD in Economics from Stellenbosch University. He graduated with a first degree in Economics from the University of Malawi. He later obtained a master's degree in Cooperation and Development from the University of Pavia in Italy (graduated in 2016). He then pursued an honors degree in Economics at Stellenbosch University (graduated in 2018) and proceeded to complete a master's in economics (Cum laude) at the same university in 2019.



Dr. Bertha Bangara Chikadza holds a PhD in Economics from the University of Cape Town in

South Africa. She also obtained a Master of International and Development Economics degree from the Australian National University and a Bachelor of Social Science degree with a major in Economics from the University of Malawi.

"one way of fulfilling DOE goal to Improve teaching and academic Support"



Mr. Edward Leman has a Master of Arts in Economics degree (majoring in econometrics and public sector economics) from the University of Malawi. He also earned a Bachelor of Social Science degree (majoring in economics and minoring in demography) from the same university. His research focus is on Public Sector Economics, Development Economics, Microfinance, Policy Analysis, and Impact Evaluation.

Congratulations to Dr. Jacob Mazalale on his appointment as Principle Secretary at the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs. The Department wishes you well in your new endeavors at the ministry!



Dr.Jacob Mazalale

DOE Excels at the 2024 Vice Chancellors and Deans List Awards!

On April 4th, 2024, the University of Malawi recognised top-performing students from the 2023/2024 academic year who met the academic requirements for both the Vice Chancellor's Award and the Dean's List. The Vice-Chancellor awards were given to candidates who achieved a GPA of 3.9 and above, while the Dean's List comprised students with a GPA of 3.75 or higher.

The Department of Economics (DOE) stood out by producing the highest number of candidates on the Dean's List in the 4th year. Notably, two candidates—Miss Nomsa Zgambo and Mr. Charton Banda—received the Vice Chancellor's Award. Additionally, DOE was the only department with a female recipient of the Vice Chancellor's award.

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS CONGRATULATES THE FOLLOWING FOR MAKING IT ON DEANS LIST

NO.	NAME	SEX	YEAR OF STUDY	GPA
1.	Nomsa Zgambo	F	4	3.90
2.	Charton Banda	M	3	3.90
3	Tracy Mwalilino	F	4	3.85
4.	Eric Dinga	M	2	3.85
5.	Tadala Taulo	F	3	3.85
б.	Christopher Shaba	M	2	3.80
7.	Zainab Sululu	F	4	3.80
8.	Mapopa Khonje	M	3	3.80
9.	Chimwemwe Misomali	F	4	3.80
10.	Amanda Chatata	F	4	3.80
11.	Innocent Luka	M	4	3.80
12.	Lawrence Kadango	M	4	3.80
13.	Ernestina Chiona	F	4	3.75
14.	Monalisa Zondola	F	4	3.75
15.	Mike Kamanga	M	3	3.75
16.	Steven Mitochi	M	3	3.75
17.	Reuben Kapenga	M	3	3.75
18.	Chimwemwe Kingsley	M	4	3.75
19.	Lawrence Kanjala	M	4	3.75
20.	Monalisa Kazombo	F	4	3.75

Miss Bertha Nguluwe's first publication



The Department of Economics would like to congratulate Miss Bertha Nguluwe on her first publication: "An Examination of the Relationship between Budget Deficit and Economic Growth in Malawi." Her paper is now accessible online and can be viewed at the following link:

This publication is a significant milestone as she con-

<u>dovabs/10.31920/1750-4562/2024/v19n1a8</u>. This publication is a significant milestone as she continues to contribute in the field of Economics.

Theodora Kuntembwe Returns from U.S. Exchange Program



The Department of Economics is delighted to announce the return of Theodora Kuntembwe from the University of Arkansas, USA. Theodora, a dedicated third-year Economics major, recently participated in the prestigious Global UGRAD Exchange Program, which is generously funded by the U.S. Department of State. This highly competitive program selects outstanding undergraduate students from across the globe for a transformative semester of academic study at a U.S. university. During her time at the University of Arkansas, Theodora excelled in her coursework, achieving distinctions in all her courses. Her academic excellence has inspired and elevated our department. We are proud to welcome her back and look forward to witnessing her future accomplishments.

Ben Kalua Seminar Series





Highlights from the Ben Kalua series presented by Assoc. Prof. Patrick Kambewa and Mr. Peter Chirwa

On June 20th this year, the Department of Economics organized a hybrid Ben Kalua Seminar Series, featuring a research paper titled "We Are All Corrupt Here: The Economic Incentives of Corruption." Associate Professor Patrick Kambewa and Mr. Peter Chirwa presented their findings in the New Eco-

nomics Boardroom.





Highlights from the Ben Kalua series presented by Assoc. Prof. Patrick Kambewa and Mr. Peter Chirwa

The presentation delved into various forms and drivers of corruption, shedding light on its effects. These effects were categorized into both negative and surprisingly positive impacts. Notably, corruption was found to promote early-stage economic growth and attract foreign investments. The paper's conclusion empha-

sized that virtually everyone has engaged in corruption at some point, making everyone corrupt. While complete eradication may be difficult, reducing corruption remains a critical goal.

Despite its significance, corruption is often overlooked by scholars in Malawi. The seminar aimed to stimulate intellectual

research on this crucial topic. Among those present at the seminar were Dr. Peter Namphande, Executive Dean of the School of Education; Dr. Emmanuel Ngwira, Executive Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences; and lecturers from the Department of Economics.

A Second-Year Student Excels in the 11th ARSO Continental Essay Competition!

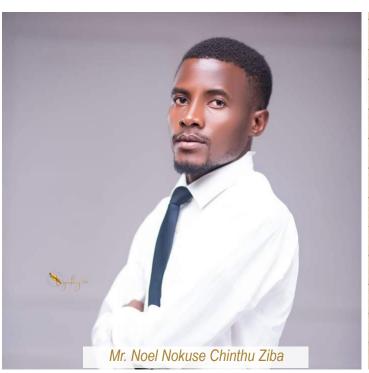


The Department of Economics is delighted to extend our warmest congratulations to Yamikani Bottoman for her outstanding achievement in the 11th ARSO Continental Essay Competition. This competition is organized through the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS) in collaboration with the African Organization for Standardization (ARSO) and AMC Group Africa. Yamikani, a second-year student pursuing a Bachelor of Arts in Development Economics, secured third place at the national level with her insightful essay on the theme: "Empowering Consumers through Standardization to Achieve their Rights to Safe, Quality Goods, and Services."

In her essay, Yamikani emphasizes the critical importance of standardization in ensuring consumer protection, enhancing product safety, and promoting fair market competition. Her dedication and thoughtful

analysis have left a lasting impression. The Department eagerly anticipates Yamikani's future contributions to the field and celebrates her success in this prestigious competition.

Trailblazing the DOE's Social Media Presence





In recent months, the Department of Economics (DOE) has gained increasing recognition, thanks to the visionary efforts of its first undergraduate media

interns, Ngwakutemwa Sibale and Noel Nokuse Chinthu Ziba. These innovative minds have not only showcased their creative brilliance but have also dedicated themselves tirelessly to advancing the DOE's mission of making it a recognized name worldwide.

Through bold media campaigns

and compelling narrative craftsmanship, they have raised awareness by designing the 2023/2024 School of Law, Economics, and Government newsletters. Additionally, they facilitated the publication of the first DOE book of abstracts and expanded the DOE's online presence, attracting a diverse audience. Their efforts have set new standards for future engagement within the department.

As we celebrate these achievements, facilitated by their passion and commitment, we also look forward to the continued growth and success of the DOE's media presence. We wish them all the best as they venture into the corporate world.

Winners of the Economic Memorandum Blog Writing Competition!

The Department of Economics proudly congratulates Mr. Rodney Makuta, Ms. Tatenda Chiuye, and Mr. Samuel Iwanalani for their outstanding achievement in winning the blog writing competition focused on the country's economic memorandum, "Narrow Path to Prosperity," by the World Bank Group.

In collaboration with the Department of Economics, the World Bank organized a public lecture on February 24th, 2024, at the Wadonda Lecture Theatre. This event aimed to address real economic issues in Malawi, specifically focusing on

enhancing economic growth and development. During the lecture, participants were invited to engage in a blog writing competition titled, "What policies should the government pursue for economic stabilization and long-term growth, and why?"

These three students, Rodney, Samuel, and Tatenda, have demonstrated exceptional insight and analysis in their submissions. Their unique perspectives and thoughtful contributions have earned them well-deserved recognition. As part of the initiative 'Building the Future Writers Generation in Malawi,' the World Bank has planned men-



torship sessions for them, acknowledging their potential to make a significant impact on public dialogue and policy change."

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The Economics Class of 2024 Bids Farewell

on june 13,2024 the Economics Class of 2024 organized a heartfelt coffee and cake farewell, inviting all lecturers who had guided them from their first year to their present. The atmosphere was filled with



emotions as students said goodbye, sharing their cherished memories and expressing gratitude for the lessons learned. Among the attendees was Assoc. Professor Ronald Mangani, now the CEO of Press Corporation, whose joy at seeing his former students was evident.

a sincere thank you to all our lecturers; Assoc. Prof Gowokani Chijere Chirwa, Assoc. Prof Spy Munth-





ali, Assoc. Prof Patrick Kambewa, Dr. Farai Chigaru, Dr. Martin Mwale, Mr. Edward Lemani, Mr. Innocent Makuta, Ms Emmilliana Mlagha, Mr. David Zingwe, Mr. Joseph Makondesa, Mr. Robert Neba,



Ms. Bertha Nguluwe, Ms Letitia Pemba, Mr. Lucius Cassim

SLEG 2024 Executive Dean's Trophy Award Ceremony



On the evening of April 14th, 2024, the School of Law, Economics, and Government (LEG) held its Executive Dean's Trophy awards ceremony in the Great Hall. Professor Happy Kayuni, the Dean of LEG, presided over the event, which celebrated outstanding achievements within the school. Notable guests included Dr. Tiyesere Chikapa (Head of Management and Leadership) and Professor Michael Chasukwa (Head of Politics and Government). Mr. Isaiah Mbolembole, the chair of the 2024 Executive Dean's Trophy, praised the unity demonstrated by departments and societies throughout the trophy period.





The UNIMA Economics Society excelled in both relay and 100m races for male and female categories, as well as in Chess. Meanwhile, the Students Law Society dominated Football, Volleyball, and Basketball. The PAS Society claimed top positions in Netball and Checkers, and the Law Enforcement Society secured victory in Bawo.



The Economics Society Visits Mulanje

Embarking on a journey of inspiration and empowerment, the UNIMA Economics Society visited Mulanje District on April 19, 2024. Under the guidance of Mr. Tiyamike Phiri, the society's president, the trip was more than a mere venture; it was a transformative experience aimed at bringing about change in the hearts and minds of the youth in Mulanje.







Economics students posing with the youths from Mulanje mission youth centre

Setting out to spark ambition and motivation, the trip aimed to inspire the youth of Mulanje District to excel in the field of economics. By highlighting the exciting opportunities available at the University of Malawi, the journey intended to encourage young individuals to strive for academic success and discover the limitless possibilities within the realm of economic studies.





During this impactful journey, UNIMA Economics students interacted meaningfully with their peers from Mulanje Mission Community Day Secondary School and the Mulanje Mission Youth Centre. Through various activities such as lively netball matches, uplifting speeches, and spirited traditional dances, connections were established, and a sense of camaraderie flourished. These interactions not only provided opportunities for socialisation but also acted as catalysts for personal development and mutual inspiration.

The 2024 UNIMA Economics Symposium!

On Friday, May 10th, the Department of Economics hosted its annual Symposium for its final-year students at the Amaryllis Hotel in Blantyre. This year's theme, "Financial Inclusion and Entrepreneurship: Bridging the Gap," brought together esteemed members of society to shed light on vital economic topics.

We were honored to have James Manuel Kenani.

the chief policy maker at MRA and the general secretary of ECAMA, as our Guest of Honour. His keynote speech tackled the challenges facing entrepreneurship and offered insightful policy solutions. Additionally, Mr. Daniel Khamula, head of personal business banking at FDH, shared the innovative approaches to financial inclusion that FDH has taken.



The Symposium also welcomed Mr. Limbani Chakhoma, HR manager of the National Bank of Malawi, who provided invaluable advice on professional conduct and employer expectations. Moreover, the CEO of NICO Group Malawi inspired students with the diverse potential of their economics degree and showcased groundbreaking projects that NICO has been conducting to advance financial inclusion.



The students also organized a panel discussion where they raised and deliberated on questions related to the theme! They departed from the symposium feeling prepared and enthusiastic about stepping into the professional world to apply their knowledge and explore the opportunities awaiting them as economists!

Heartfelt gratitude to our Guest Speakers for illuminating the room with their expertise! Special thanks to Assoc. Professor Gowokani Chijere Chirwa and the organising committee for their tireless efforts in making this Symposium a success. Lastly, we extend our appreciation to all our sponsors for their invaluable support in bringing this event to life.

The UNIMA Economics Society recently organized a comprehensive training in monitoring and evaluation (M&E) at the Wadonda Lecture Theatre on May 4th, followed by another session at Mwambo Lecture Theatre on May 5th, 2024.



The primary objective of the training was to equip participants with essential M&E skills, emphasizing the development of logical frameworks. Through a blend of theoretical knowledge and practical exercises, attendees learned how to create logical frameworks for governmental policies. Additionally, they explored real-time monitoring techniques and effective risk mitigation strategies





Key topics covered during the sessions included economics, impact evaluations, and an analysis of the factors influencing project success rates. The training was expertly led by Associate Professor Gowokani Chijere Chirwa and Ms. Bertha Ngulube, both respected facilitators from the Department of Economics. Their expertise ensured that participants gained valuable insights and practical knowledge in M&E methodologies. Overall, this event provided a collaborative platform for enhancing proficiency in M&E practices, ultimately contributing to improved policy implementation and project management effectiveness.

DOE Mourns her Alumnus, the State Vice President DR. SAULOS KLAUS CHILIMA



It is with profound sadness that we, the Department of Economics under the School of Law, Economics, and Government, extend our heartfelt condolences on the passing of the Vice President of Malawi Rt. Hon. Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima.

Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima was an esteemed alumnus of the Department of Economics. He was a highly accomplished and versatile student throughout his university years. His innovative ideas, which he contributed as Vice President, greatly contributed to the development and success of the Economics Department.

Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima completed his Bachelor of Social Science (Economics) at the Department of Economics in 1994 and his Master of Arts (Economics) in 1998.

He was a beacon of excellence and an embodiment of the values we hold dear. His remarkable achievements and dedicated service to the nation have left an indelible mark on our hearts and minds.

Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima will always be remembered with great respect. May His Soul Rest In Eternal Peace

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LAW AND CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF PRIVATE LAW

TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS

Disability Rights Clinic Conduct Training On Albinism





Members of UNIMA Disability Clinic together with other Attendees on Training such as representatives from FEDOMA and MHRC

The Disability Rights Clinic conducted a staff student seminar on the 23rd May 2024. The seminar was conducted in preparation for the upcoming International Albinism Awareness Day (IAAD) which is on the 13th of June 2024. This is the 10th annual IAAD and the Disability Rights clinic wanted to use the seminar as a chance to reflect on Malawi's progress in ensuring the physical, social and economic protection of persons with Albinism.

Amongst the attendees were law students, students from other departments, members of the Federation of Disability Organisations in Malawi (FEDOMA) and representatives from the Malawi Human Rights Commission. Presentations were given during the seminar by 3 students from different departments with each presentation falling under the theme 'Malawi's Progress in a decade towards the protection of persons with Albinism since the establishment of the IAAD.' Further, Malawi Human Right Commissioner, Mr Bonface Massah, was also a guest speaker and presented on the theme. Through the Seminar, the participants were able to note that, despite there still being challenges faced, there has

been a remarkable progress in Malawi in protecting and enhancing the rights of persons with Albinism. On reflecting on the seminar, the Disability Rights Clinic President, Alih Jean stated, "Every time we come together to commemorate the IAAD, should be a reminder of how we are all trying to make the acceptance and inclusion of persons with disabilities including persons with Albinism into the society become a possibility. We are indeed breaking through in progress, through the collective efforts that are there."

Research Dissemination on E-commerce Regulations and Transactions Amongst Small Scale Traders in Zomba

On 4th April, 2024, the Private Law Department held a research dissemination in the Law Boardroom in regards to its research titled 'E-commerce Regulations and Transactions Amongst Small Scale Traders in Zomba: Opportunities and Challenges.' The research sought to look at the current legal framework governing e-commerce in Malawi and interrogate its suitability for small-scale farmers. It also sought to establish what challenges the small scale traders were facing on the ground. Thus, the research went further than mere doctrinal research and doing a mere review of the regulations. It also involved interviewing a number of stakeholders in Zomba including small-scale e-commerce traders, the police and the courts.

The dissemination brought together faculty, stu-

dents, representatives from Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA), legal practitioners and civil society. During the dissemination, the researchers shared that while the regulations technically apply to all the players in the e-commerce sphere, they were drafted in such a manner to only truly cater to large suppliers and consumers. Thus, there is a gap in terms of the regulations' consideration of small scale suppliers. Further, the researchers also revealed that many of the small scale traders were either not aware of the government regulations or made little use of them, relying largely on the customary contract law to guide their transactions. Reviewers were pleased with the feedback garnered through the dissemination and plan to incorporate it as they develop their paper further.

Law Librarian Attends Workshop on Koha Integrated Library Management System

From 22nd to 24th April, the Machika Resource Centre (law library) librarian, Mr. Mdeza attended a workshop at Mzuzu University on the Koha (23.05) Integrated Library Management System (Koha ILMS). The workshop was intended to equip participants with skills and knowledge on how to manage Koha ILMS. The Koha ILMS is an open-source a software platform designed to manage library collections and operations. It is used for automating library tasks such as cataloguing, circulation, acquisitions and serial management. Implementing the system in the Machika Resource Centre will streamline operations further and increase their efficiency. Mr. Mdeza says that the workshop has enabled him to now carry out activities such as Koha installation, customization, administration and troubleshooting. He expressed his excitement at being able to customize the Koha system to better fit the Machika Resource Centre's operations.

UNIMA and University of Maryland's Lunch and Learn

On 10th May 2023, Public Law and Clinical Legal Education hosted a roundtable lunch workshop on environmental governance. Students and staff in the University of Malawi (UNIMA) Women's, Children's, and Nature's Rights in Environmental Governance (WCNREG) project, interacted with students and staff visiting from University of Maryland Francis Carey Law School in Baltimore (UMB), a bi-directional exchange visit as part of the Environmental Justice, Human Rights and Public Health course that is jointly offered by UMB and UNIMA.

The WCNREG is a Regional Online Master's program jointly taught by the University of Oslo, the University of Nairobi, the University of Zimbabwe, and UNIMA. The University of Nairobi is the program's host and the degree-awarding institution. WCNREG master's program has 41 students



from three countries; Malawi, Kenya, and Zimbabwe, with 13 Malawian students. The Regional Master's is part of a Research Project funded by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)'s NORHED II program.

After sharing experiences and projects in fighting for environmental sustainability, the discussion was directed at the increasing severity of the climate crisis and the need for revaluation of the measures taken for the past years. There was thus debate around the recognition

man rights, and the reorientation of environmental governance. The debate centered around: Who is to give nature its rights? How does empirically grounded understanding translate into action? What difference does the rights of nature make in practice?

Human rights, rationalism, secularism, and capitalism were identified as contributing to interfering with nature's rights. Approaches integrating indigenous people as stewards of nature, like the case of the Whanganui River which was



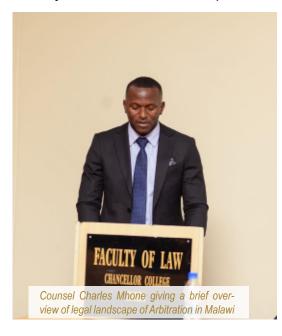
granted rights and the local Māori tribe of Whanganui in the North Island were highlighted.

Private Law Department Hosts Workshop on Arbitration

On 16th May, 2024 the Private Law Department together with arbitration practitioners Counsel Charles Mhone MCIArb and Counsel Sullivan Kagundu M.CIArb (UK) hosted a workshop under the theme 'The Role of Alternative Dispute Resolution in Current Legal Practice: How It Stacks Up Against Litigation.' The conference, held both physically in the Law Boardroom and online, brought together members of the judiciary, arbitration practitioners, legal practitioners and law students.



The purpose of the workshop was to highlight the importance of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), particularly arbitration, and to emphasise the need for legal practitioners to acquire relevant skills in this



field. The Keynote Speaker was Honourable Justice Jean Rosemary Kayira and other speakers included the Malawi Law Society President, Patrick Mpaka and the Executive Dean of LEG, Professor Happy Kayuni. Presentations were also given by 4th year law student, Catheline Chimoyo and Legal Manager of National Bank Remmie Ng'omba. The workshop also included a panel discussion which addressed issues such as the legislative changes in Malawi's legal framework in regards to arbitration, the economic impact of using ADR and the role of the soon to be established Malawi International Arbitration Centre.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

UNIMA Law Students Make It to Top 8 in The Global Ian Fletcher Insolvency Moot Court Competition

In February, 2024 the University of Malawi competed in the Ian Fletcher International Insolvency Moot Court Competition. UNIMA's team consisted of three 4th year law students, namely, Charles Dokera, Rashiedah Winesi and Martin Chirwa. The team made it to the quarter-finals of the competition and, accordingly, made it to the top 8 in the competition! Further, one of the team members, Martin Chirwa, was awarded Best Oralist in the Preliminary Round of the Competition!





from left to right: Charles Dokera Rashieda Winesi and Martin Chirwa

Presentation of Certificates to UNIMA's Ian Fletcher Insolvency Moot Court Competition

The competition brought together law students, insolvency experts and insolvency practitioners from all across the world in an effort to educate students on the highly technical area of law known as International Insolvency Law. The Competition was split into two portions - a written portion and a virtual oral portion. Only the top 16 teams from the written portion were invited to participate in the initial

virtual oral round and of them, only the top 8 were chosen to take part in the quarter-finals. UNIMA's feat of placing in the top 8 is only made more impressive by the fact that, not only is this UNIMA's first time taking part in the competition, but international insolvency law is not taught at undergraduate level at UNIMA. While the students shown excellent research and advocacy skills by making

it this far, the team remains exceedingly grateful for the assistance provided by legal experts both in and outside of UNIMA. Notably, the team received both technical and financial assistance from the law firm Kalekeni Kaphale Lawyers through Senior Counsel Kalekeni Kaphale and from the firm Mbendera and Nkhono Associates and it's managing partner, Counsel Alfred Majamanda.

University of Maryland Students Visit UNIMA as Part of Environmental Justice Clinic Exchange Visit

UNIMA & University of Maryland - Francis Carey offer a joint course titled 'Environmental Justice, Human Rights and Public Health.' The course is taught synchronously by UNIMA and UMD-Carey Law staff usually targeting Environmental Justice Clinic and Health Law Clinic from the two schools. It focuses on the intersection between the current climate crisis and how they affect human rights



and public health from an international and comparative law perspective. The aim is to train lawyers who can use their skills to seek justice for members of vulnerable communities

At completion of the course, students do a bi-directional exchange visit to appreciate the contextual outcomes of their learning. Last year 12 UNIMA students and 2 faculty members visited UMD-Cam-



pus. To reciprocate, this year 8 students and 2 faculty members from UMD-Carey Law visited UN-IMA. They stayed in Malawi for 9 days and during that time they hiked up Zomba mountain, visited and had an interface with the Supreme Court bench, visited Malawi Environmental Protection Agency and USAID.

Child Rights Clinic Carries Out Street Clinic at Lunzu Secondary School







Members of Unima Child Rights Clinic break into small groups to teach Lunzu Secondary School pupils about Child Rights

On Friday, 3rd May, 2024, the UNIMA Child Rights Clinic carried out a 'street clinic' at Lunzu Secondary School. The street clinic was aimed at educating the pupils at the secondary school of different child rights including but not limited to their right to education, right to be treated fairly and right to play. While it is important for the society at large to be conversant with child rights, the biggest stakeholders of the rights, the children, are often left out of initiatives and are rarely focused on when it comes to awareness. Members of the Child Rights Clinic split up into groups and taught the pupils, quizzed them on the different things that they had learnt and also addressed different questions and issues that the pupils had. However, the day also consisted of some light moments the pupils and the Child Rights Clinic members taking some time to play different games together

Savjani Moot Court Competition Provides Excellent Training Opportunity To Law Students

The Savjani Moot Court Competition has been held by the Public Law and Clinical Legal Studies Department for years. The competition is sponsored by Senior Counsel Khrishna Savjani, OBE and has played a critical role in developing critical, confident and independent thinking law students who are able to respond to diverse legal issues presented before them. This year's moot competition was no different, with the level of competition being as high as it has ever been, a testament that students continue to improve the necessary skill needed for legal practice.

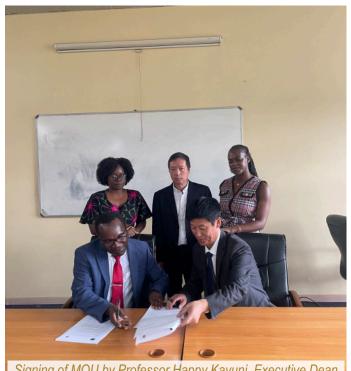
Before the competition commenced, a moot training session was organised aimed at ensuring that students were able to have a basic understanding particularly regarding the writing of memorials, court decorum and matters of etiquette. The com-

petition itself was divided in three session; the preliminary round, the Semi-final round and the final round. The preliminary was presided by Associate Professor Bande, Counsel Nebert Chirwa and Counsel Yusuf. The semi-final round was presided by a combination of judicial officers and members of staff from within the University including His Honour Austin Banda, Counsel Debwe and Counsel Manda whereas the final round was presided by Judicial officer including Justice Kayira, Justice Kacheche and His Honour Munthali. Among other things, students were assessed for their oral submissions as well as the written submissions. This was aimed at ensuring that the students were improving in both their legal research, legal writing and advocacy skills. he judges expressed their excitement and amazement at the level of legal

advocacy, research and critical thinking that the students had demonstrated, with Justice Kacheche indicating there was a thin line between the winners (Wonderful Mikwamba and Gabriel Ndlovu) and the runners up (Temwa Banda and Taweni Maoni). The judges jointly applauded the efforts by both Senior Counsel Savjani and the University, indicating that the competition has played a crucial role in shaping the legal profession with both Justice Kacheche and Justice Kayira indicating that they were alumni's of the prestigious competition.

DONATIONS

Establishment of Scholarship for Law Students Studying International Arbitration



Signing of MOU by Professor Happy Kayuni, Executive Dean of LEG and Zhang Zhjie, Director of Africa International Arbitration Centre



On Friday, 20th April 2024 the School of Law, Economics and Government (LEG) entered into a memorandum of understanding (MOU)with the Africa International Arbitration Centre. The signing of the MOU was attended the Director of Africa International Arbitration Centre here in Malawi, Mr. Zhang Zhijie, the Dean of LEG, Professor Happy Kayuni, the Head of the Public Law and Clinical Legal Studies Department, Dr Ngime Mweso and Ms. Atupele Masanjala

who was representing the Head of the Private Law Department, Dr. Bernadette Malunga. The purpose of the MOU is to establish a scholarship to benefit law students under LEG who study international arbitration. scholarship shall be both merit and need based targeting high achieving students who are facing financial difficulties. For the first year of the scholarship, Africa International Arbitration Centre has provided an initial grant of MK10million!

While the scholarship is the first step of the partnership between the parties, there are also plans to put in place further activities such as student exchange programmes, short courses and internships for students. LEG is grateful to Africa International Arbitration Centre for its generosity and is excited to work with them on other endeavours. in what will prove to be a fruitful partnership for both parties.

Donation of Over 190 Books to Law Library By Civil Society Education Coalition



On 11th June, 2024 a handover ceremony was held in the Law Boardroom in which the Civil Society Education Coalition (CSES) donated over 190 books to the Law Library. The CSES has partnered with a British Charity called Book Aid and together, the partners donate books across various fields of study and educational levels. Their intention is to provide appropriate books to schools and to support an environment in which reading for pleasure, study and lifelong learning can flourish. Pursuant to this, they have donated over 190 books to the law library which span across different fields of law including but not limited to land law, company law and business law.

At the handover ceremony attended by the CSES Executive Director, Benedicto Kondowe, the LEG Executive Dean, Professor Happy Kayuni, the Head of Private Law, Dr. Bernadette Malunga and other members of faculty and law students, the CSES Board Chairperson Limbani Nsapato made a few but poignant remarks. He highlighted the need to not only love and care for the donated books but he also encouraged the students to cultivate a love reading as that is



what would greatly enhance their knowledge. Further, he stated that he hoped to see continued collaboration between UNIMA and CSES and they share the common goal of enhancing the quality of education in Malawi. In showing total commitment to this collaboration, the two parties, UNIMA and CSES also signed a memorandum of understanding in which the codified their intention to continue their partnership

NEW HIRES





gree from the University of Malawi in 2021 and re- ours) degree from the University of Malawi obcently completed an LLM in Human Rights at the tained in October 2023. In April 2024 he joined University of Cape Town. She joined the Private the Private Law Department as an Associate Law Department in April 2024 as an Associate Lecturer and his research interests primarily in-Lecturer and her research interests include gen- clude energy transition and climate change; soder, human rights, and the intersection of law and cial protection and health rights.

technology

Nebert Chirwa

Ulemu obtained a Bachelor of Laws (Honours) De- Nebert is a holder of a Bachelor of Laws (Hon-

Andrea graduated from the University of Malawi in 2019 with a Bachelor of Law (Honours) Degree. He joined the Public Law and Clinical Legal Studies Department in Feb 2024. His research interests include constitutional and administrative law and public international law.

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP STUDIES

First Cohort of the BA (Human Resource Management) Generic Program to Glance UNIMA

The Department of Management and Leadership Studies introduced a new Bachelor of Arts (Human Resource Management) Generic program that will run for 4 years. For the first-ever intake, a total of 40 students have been selected by NCHE to pursue the degree program in the 2024/2025 academic year. The Department of Management and Leadership proudly congratulates all the candidates who have been selected as part of the first intake under the BA (Human Resource Management).

Professor Lewis Dzimbiri presented a paper at Zomba Theological University Research Seminar



Professor Lewis Dzimbiri

On 6 March 2024, Professor Lewis Dzimbiri presented a paper at Zomba Theological University Research Seminar. The paper titled "Fighting Against Corruption in Malawi: Has the Church Failed?" questions the relationship between the increasing number of church members and the alarming levels of corruption in Malawi, and raises the question: Has the church failed in transforming people to become good citizens? Dzimbiri notes that the majority of Malawians (87%) are Christians (NSO, 2022) and these are the people occupying positions in the Ministries, Departments, Agencies and Private sector and Non-Governmental Organizations. The Church has the role of transforming the character of church members to follow God's commandments and the teaching of Jesus Christ and the fruits of the Holy Spirit (Gal.5:16-25). However, trends in Corruption have in recent years been rising by the passing day since multiparty politics were adopted in Malawi in 1994

Dr Tiyesere Chikapa and Prof Kayuni Presents a Paper on Political Messaging

Prof Kayuni and Dr Tiyesere Chikapa co-presented a paper at the 3rd Biennial PSA Conference at Sunbird Nkopola Lodge on 3rd May 2024. The paper which is entitled "Negotiating Political Transition: Analyzing Political Messages by The MCP In the Transitional Period (1992-1994) and their Probable Contemporary Impact", examines the political messages of the Malawi Congress Party (MCP) during Malawi's transi-

tion from a one-party state to a multiparty democracy (1992-1994). It is based on a study that analyzes MCP's newspaper articles to understand their rhetoric against multipartyism during the transition period. The

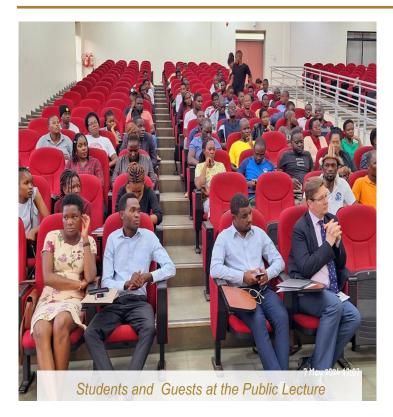


paper further explores the enduring impact of these communication strategies on Malawi's contemporary politics, providing insights into governance, democracy, and national identity

Mr. Lot Dzonzi, Former Inspector General of Malawi Police delivered a Public Lecture to UNIMA Law Enforcement, Management, and Leadership Students



On 7th May 2024, the Department of Management and leadership studies and the UNIMA Law Enforcement Society organized a public lecture in Mwambo Lecture Theatre I. The guest presenter was Mr. Lot Dzonzi, the former Inspector General of Malawi Police who presented on the topic "Going Back to The Future: The Challenges of Law Enforcement in a Democratic Society". The public lecture was a thought-provoking and insightful event that delved into the complexities and evolving nature of law enforcement, particularly the Malawi Police Service in a democratic society emphasizing the importance of adapting to changing times while upholding the principles of justice and accountability. Mr. Dzonzi, in his presentation, took the auditorium back to the future delving into comparisons of policing during colonial, one party, and the current multiparty eras.



He also tackled ethical issues in law enforcement especially, Police institutions. The role of the military in peace times and issues of prisons or correctional service were also partially tackled. The former Inspector General highlighted the challenges faced by the Malawi Police Service in maintaining public trust, ensuring transparency and addressing emerging traits in a democratic setting. The lecture served as a call to action for the future leaders of law enforcement to navigate these challenges with integrity, professionalism, and commitment to upholding the rule of law. It provided valuable insights and perspectives on the crucial role of law enforcement in safeguarding democratic values and promoting public safety in an ever-changing world.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Law Enforcement, Management, and Leadership Students Hold a Farewell Party

The evening of 18 May 16 2024 is a night to remember for UNIMA students pursuing the Bachelor of Social Science in Law Enforcement, Management, and



Law Enforcement Final Year Students at the Farewell Dinner

Leadership as they had their first-ever finale dinner function bidding farewell to the first co-hort of the program. The 2024 farewell function took the form of a dinner which was a memorable and prestigious event held at the Signature Leisure site in Zomba. The dinner among others was graced by esteemed guests, including the commissioner of Malawi Police responsible for research and planning, Mr. Chipao who served



Law Enforcement Final Year Students at the Farewell Dinner

as the guest of honor, The Executive Dean of the School of Law, Economic and Government, Management and leadership Head of Department, Dr. Chikapa and other department members, UNIMA Law Enforcement Society's Patron, Mr. Chikosa Banda and some other lecturers. Highlights of the evening included lively performances, an amusing awards ceremony, expressions of gratitude and sincere speeches that reflected on the journey of the students throughout their time in the Law Enforcement Management and Leadership program.

BA (Human Resource Management) Students Hold a Farewell Party.

On 24 May 2024, the outgoing Bachelor of Arts (Human Resource Management) mature entry class organized its farewell party. The party had guests such as Dr. Tiyesere Mercy Chikapa (the Head of Management and Leadership Department), Ms. Lucy Chihana (Program Coordinator), and in presence were also other notable lecturers from the department such as Dr. Benson Munyenyembe, Mr. Patrick Debwe, Mr. Richard Mlambe and Mr. Mclean Kankhomba. During the party, several speeches filled with words of advice to the outgoing class were delivered.





Human Resource Management Class at a Farewell Party

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

Department of Poltics and Government Holds Profesional Development Training Sessions



sama Members of Staff from Politics and Government in a Professional training session

The Department of Politics and Government held training sessions on (1) Educational Assessments in and the Academic and (2) 'Lecturer-Student interface in the context of University of Malawi' on 9 April 2024 at Nalipiri Eco Lodge in Mulanje.



Training Session at Nalipiri Eco Lodge in Mulanje

The session on 'Educational Assessment' was be facilitated by Dr Gerson Mutala Phiri from the School of Education whilst the session on 'Lecturer-Student interface in the context of University of Malawi'

was facilitated by Dr Jonas Mwatseteza who is the Director of Students Welfare at the University of Malawi. These sessions were part of the Department's continuous professional development initiatives aimed at enhancing delivery of quality education within the department and University.

Department of Politics and Government Hosts MEC



On the 11th of May 2024, the University of Malawi, through the department of Politics and government hosted the Malawi Electoral Commission public lecture under the theme 'Unlocking the power within the youth for future leadership'. The Lecture was delivered by the chairperson of MEC Dr Chifundo Kachale. The newly elected Political and Administrative Society (PAS) council assisted with the successful organization of the event.

The event primary targeted the student population and academic staff of University of Malawi. Other stake-holders were invited as a way of extensively reaching out to the wider audience in order to make the event more relevant. These included representatives of various ministries, departments and agencies, civil society organizations, leaders of youth clubs, religious leaders and the media.

As Malawi draws towards the 2025 general elections, MEC has an obligation to ensure that all concerned citizens are aware of the elections and how they can meaningfully participate in different electoral processes

leading to the success of the elections. One of the ways of achieving this is through public lectures. The public lecture was aimed at provoking critical thinking in the minds of the students and other youths

at large about how they can be positively engaged in electoral processes considering that most youths are vulnerable to political swaying which is detrimental to their fulfillment of leadership roles which may bring about transformative change. The activity was therefore focused on provoking critical thinking among the targeted audience by laying out the historical foundations of democracy in Malawi and factors that have led to the current political situation in the country. Furthermore, the lecture also focused on the role of



youth in politics and elections in particular, and how they can project the future of Malawi as instruments

of positive change.

After the presentation, special time was allocated to a plenary session in which the audience where given a chance to ask questions to the speaker either directly or through social media platforms. This allowed the chairperson to engage with the audience on a deeper level. The questions posed by the audience reflected a keen interest in pivotal aspects of governance and leadership. The concern that reoccurred the most revolved around the attainability and procedural intricacies of achieving a 50+1 threshold. Additional questions concerning gender representation in key political positions and the chairman's approach to managing internal affairs were mostly asked by the students.

The Department of Politics and Government Drills its Postgraduate Students on Academic Writing



Every year, the department of Politics and Government holds an academic writing workshop for its postgraduate students.

The department houses five postgraduate programs namely Master of Arts in Public Administration and Management, Master of Arts in Political Science, Master of Arts in Development Studies, PhD in Public Administration and Management and PhD in Development Studies.

The yearly workshop, among other things, aims at providing insights and equipping students with skills in academic writing. The 2024 academic writing

workshop took place at T and D in Zomba on the 15th of February 2024 and students from all the five streams were in attendance.

Before proceeding into the topics of the workshop, the Executive Dean for the School of Law, Economics and Government (SLEG) Professor Happy Kayuni welcomed the students to the workshop and shared his experience in the academic writing journey.

The Head of Politics and Government Department, Professor Micheal Chasukwa, gave a speech and emphasized on how

UNIMA and the department prioritizes quality academic writing because it is one of the fundamental means of communicating academic research findings to various stakeholders.

The post graduate students were taken through various topics including Academic Writing by Professor Blessings Chinsinga, Supervision Process – the Dos and Don't's by Professor Micheal Chasukwa, Assoc. Prof. Edister Jamu and Professor Grivas Kayange and Referencing by Mr Blessings Katuma a Senior Librarian from the UNIMA library.

"Providing insights and equipping students with skills in academic writing"

Department of Politics and Government Meets With Its Government Partners to Plan for 2024 Students Attachments

On the 28th of March 2024, the Politics and Government Department together with its sister Department- the Department of Management and Leadership Studies, held a meeting at Hippo View Lodge in Liwonde with individuals from the Office of the President and Cabinet, Department of Human Resource management and Development, Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development and the Department of Statutory Corporations who are partners in the implementation of its students attachment program. The meeting was to plan for the 2024 students' attachments and review the previous round of attachments. From the reviews highlighted in the meeting, the attachment program is getting better and more established over the years and students are benefiting from the practical experience it is offering. To prepare the 2024 cohort for the attachments that would take place during the second semester break, it was planned that an orientation would be done on the 15th of June 2024 before the students depart for their break.

Department of Politics and Government Co-Hosts the Political Science Association 3rd Biennial Conference

On the 3rd and 4th of May 2024, the Political Science Association held its 3rd Biennial PSA Conference at Nkopola in Mangochi. The theme of the conference was "30th Anniversary of Multiparty Democracy: Reflections on Malawi's Governance, Politics, and Development." The Department, which is an institutional member of Malawi Political Science Association, was privileged to co-host the conference.

At the conference, members of staff in the department presented papers and served in various committees as co-costs.

INTERNATIONALISATION

- 1) Professor Happy Kayuni and Professor Michael Chasukwa lectured at the University of Addis Ababa as Visiting Professors from 22 April to 9 May 2024. They taught on a PhD programme in Sustainable Development. Both taught a module on Policy, Governance and Sustainable Development. Professor Happy Kayuni and Professor Michael Chasukwa hold positions of Adjunct Professorships at the University of Addis Ababa under NORHED Project that is jointly implemented with the University of Addis Ababa and University of Oslo.
- 2) The Department hosted Professor Prakash Adhakari and Mr Brady from Central Michigan University in the United States of America between 7 May and 30 May 2024. The two held were guest lecturers for the course on Political Economy of Development offered under Master of Arts in Development Studies. They also conducted research on forced migration and Global Security in Malawi.
- 3) Professor Michael Chasukwa was the moderator for a presentation organised by the Journal of Religion and Culture of the University of Malawi. The presenter was Professor Toyin Falola who is based at the University of Texas at Austin. He presented on the topic, Iwa. The presentation was held on 24 May 2024.
- 4) Dr. Boniface Dulani presented at a seminar held by the Department of Political Science at Michigan State University on the 9th of April 2024. His presentation focused on the intersection between political partisanship and willingness to accept Covid-19 vaccine.
- 5) The Department hosted Dr. Michael Jana between March and June 2024 as member of staff on sabbatical. Dr. Michael Jana lectures at the University of Witwatersrand in the Department of Politics. He participated in the academic life of the department where he taught as a guest lecturer in some courses offered under Master of Arts in Development Studies.

STUDENTS ACTIVITIES

PAS Society Career Talk

On Thursday, 4 April 2024, the Political and Administrative Studies (PAS) society organised a career talk under the theme "Tales of triumph in the political and administrative arena". The event was held in Chikowi 2 Lecture Theatre and the main speaker was Mr Andrew Mpesi, chief elections officer of the Malawi Electoral Commission (MEC).

The main speaker's interest was to talk about school and life after school, particularly focusing on various career options available to students after graduation. He executed this by being practical as to what he has been able to do with his PAS degree. He emphasized on hard work being the main principle



to his success and his professional life. Mr Andrew Mpesi has an array of skills attained from different workplaces and engagements. He graduated from the University of Malawi with a public administration degree. Immediately after graduating, he got hired by the centre for social research to be a research assistant. Since then, he has worked with various institutions, including the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Action Aid, Democracy works foundation, National Commission for Science and Technology and German Agency for International Development (GIZ). This demonstrated how the degrees can position one in different organisations. He highlighted that degrees from the department can also land you jobs in other sectors such as the academia and public service.

Mr Mpesi also spoke on the importance of networking. The speaker highlighted that networking improves opportunities for advancing in one's career, be it in business or formal employment. He further illustrated how interaction with people from other professions exposes one to more knowledge. Lastly on this aspect he urged the students to make

sure they are constantly increasing their value as networking requires one to bring value on the table. Some of the value adding skills he highlighted included project management, policy analysis and research and publication.

In a nutshell, the career talk gave students a picture of what the industry holds for them. It also gave them a glimpse of jobs that they might land after graduating. Most importantly, it helped students to look at political science and public administration from another lens. The speaker's broad experience served as a motivation and an eye opener to how flexible these two programmes are in the industry.



Prof Happy Kayuni, Prof Michael Chasukwa, Ms. Kapanga ,Mr Andrew Mpesi and Students after Career Talk

Final Year Symposium

On the 22nd of March 2024, Department of Politics and Government fourth-year students embarked on a three-day symposium in Mangochi. The event, themed "Entrepreneurship and Navigating the Post-University World," aimed to equip students with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in their future endeavors



Delegates from Mangochi District Council with Students at the Symposium

The students departed from the university at 6 am and headed straight to Mangochi District Council, where they held their first session with delegates from the council. The staff members from the council presented on how the council carries out its functions. After the presentations by the council delegates, the floor was open for discussion between them and the students. The discussion was insightful, covering various local and political issues affecting service delivery and the development of the district council and the nation at large. Tourism was highlighted as a significant factor contributing to the growth of the council, given Mangochi's status as a popular tourist destination. The discussion followed remarks from a student representative who gave a speech highlighting the importance of networking, resilience, willingness to learn from both successes and failures, as well as a cultivation of

the spirit of continuous learning. Lastly, the department's lecturer, Mrs. Samantha Mosiwa, who accompanied the students, offered her remarks, thanking the council for hosting the students and offering the practical aspect of the theoretical part students learn at school.

After the session, the students made their way to Nkhudzi-Bay, where they would spend the next three days. Friday afternoon was filled with leisure activities, including music, cards, and a dip in the pool. The evening was graced by the presence of Professor Michael Chasukwa, the head of the Department of Politics and Government, and Dr. Bornface Dulani. Their presence boosted morale and led to an evaluation of the department's performance in various areas. The next day, Saturday, was filled with a variety of activities. Many students enjoyed playing netball in the lake, while others took a break to relax on the balcony. Later that day, Miss Maureen Kapanga, a lecturer at the department, joined along with Dr. Lombe, who delivered a session on the theme of the symposium. Dr. Lombe provided valuable insights on life outside university, including how to position oneself, interview



Mr. Twayo Jere(student) recieving an award

preparation, entrepreneurship, flexibility, and more. The session was followed by the presentation of certificates for various categories, including "Yaza of Our Time" (intelligent person), the "Most Hardworking Student," and "Swazi of Our Time among others." After lunch, the

rest of the day was filled with fun and relaxation. The students returned to Zomba on Sunday afternoon to continue their academic pursuits.

Overall, the symposium was an activity worth having. The students gained valuable insights and experiences that would help

them navigate the post-university world. The event was a testament to the importance of entrepreneurship and the need for students to be prepared for the opportunities awaiting them, the challenges they would face after college.

Department of Politics and Government provides a networking platform for its students



Five students from the Politics and Government Department were invited by the department to the Political Science Association conference which was held on the 3rd to the 4th of May 2024 in Mangochi- Nkopola. The students served in various committees (including Protocol Committee and Food and Beverage Committee). Their participation was part of mentorship regarding organizing an academic conference. Malawi Political Science Association appreciated the service that was rendered by the students. The students (Mayamiko Malaika, Samuel Lwalani, Jane Kanyangale, Chrissy Ulemu and Memory Munthali) also expressed gratitude to the department for the exposure.

PAS Society Visits Parliament

The Political and Administrative Studies (PAS) Society of the University of Malawi (UNIMA) embarked on an informative visit to the Parliament of Malawi on the 20th of March 2024. The objective of this excursion was to familiarize themselves with the intricacies of parliamentary proceedings and processes.



The delegation, comprising over 80 students spanning across first to fourth year and a member of staff from the department Ms Maureen Kapanga, was accorded a comprehensive briefing on the fundamental functions and processes of the parliament. They were also informed about the various parliamentary committees and their responsibilities. Furthermore, the students were privileged to observe parliamentary proceedings.

In addition to observing parliamentary proceedings, the students engaged in informal discussions with various Ministers and



Members of Parliament, gaining valuable insights into the inner workings of the legislative branch of government. They inquired about the challenges and opportunities faced by parliamentarians, the process of bill drafting and enactment, and the role of political parties in shaping policy.

This visit provided the students with a unique learning experience, allowing them to connect theoretical concepts with practical applications. The students expressed gratitude to the Parliament of Malawi for the opportunity and looked forward to applying their newfound knowledge in their future pursuits.

The Department of Politics and Government Holds Orientations for the 2024 Attachments Cohort

Every year, the Department of Politics and Government sends its second and third year students to different government ministries, departments and parastatals for attachments. On the 15th of June 2024.

the Department, together with it's sister department, the Department of Management and Leadership Studies, conducted an orientation for the 2024 attachments cohort. Some of the topics covered during the orientation include Public Service Rules and Procedures, Office Etiquette and Sexual Harassment in the work place. The session was also attended by representagovernment tives from the Department of Human Resource Mana-



gent and Development (DHRMD), the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC) and the Ministry of Local government, who took part in training the students.

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

In June 2024, the Department of Politics and Government welcomed two new members of staff (Mr Ernest Pondani and Mr Gift Mbwere) to the department. The department looks forward to working with the new members of staff



Mr Ernest Pondani

Ernest Pondani holds a Master of Arts in Politics (Specialization in International Relations) from Jawaharlal Nehru University, a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (Honors) from the University of Delhi, and a Diploma in United Nations and International Understanding from the Indian Institute of UN Studies. Currently, Ernest is pursuing a Master of Business Administration at Manipal Academy of Higher Education. Mr Pondani's research interests include international relations with specific focus on China/Asia-Africa diplomatic engagements, administrative justice systems in Africa and youth and democratization processes in Africa.

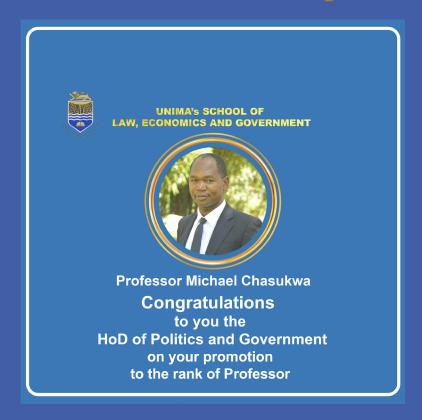


Mr Gift Mbwere

Mr Gift Mbwere holds a Master's Degree in Development Studies and a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Malawi. He is currently pursuing a PhD in Development Studies under the same University. Mr Mbwere's research interest include decentralisation processes and development, political economy, and human rights and equality.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

Associate Professor Micheal Chasukwa Gets Promoted to Full Professorship



The Department of Politics and Government would like to congratulate Professor Michael Chasukwa, our esteemed head of department, on his promotion to full Professorship. This achievement highlights Professor Chasukwa's outstanding contributions to academia and underscores his significant impact on research and education within our institution and beyond. We are proud to celebrate this milestone with Professor Chasukwa and look forward to his continued leadership and scholarly excellence.

Sports Awards

The Department of Politics and Government would like to congratulate the PAS Society Checkers and Netball teams for taking first places in the Deans trophy. The Department recognizes the importance of students sporting activities as a healthy way of relaxing students from rigorous academic activities. Congratulations PAS teams!

World Bank Blog Writing Competition

The Department of Politics and Government would like to congratulate Mr Samuel Lwalani and Ms Tatenda Chiuye for winning the World Bank blog writing competition. The two are students in the department. Mr Lwalani is in 3rd year pursuing a bachelor's degree in public administration and Ms Chiuye is in 3rd year pursuing a bachelor's degree in political science. Mr Lwalani has partic-

ipated as a panelist in several debates under the PAS society and Ms Chiuye served as a publicity secretary for the PAS society. Congratulations!	

PUBLICATIONS (Jan-June 2024)

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS

- 1. **Chasukwa, M., & Crack, A.** (2024). Participatory translation and anti-racism in NGO development work: A method of co-producing translations with community members. Development Policy Review, e12787. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1111/dpr.12787
- 2. **Kaphale, J. C., Kayuni, H. M., & Sankhulani, J.** (2024). Demystifying Strategic Planning and Performance in Public Organisations in Malawi. Malawi Journal of Social Sciences, 23(1), 81-99. https://unima.ac.mw/news/attachment/672/download#:~:text=The%20aim%20of%20introducing%20strate-gic,Khunga%20and%20Magolowondo%2C%202023).
- 3. **Kayira, M. N. F., & Kayuni, H.** (2024). Effects of Corruption on Implementation of Community Policing as a form of Co-production in Malawi's Lilongwe District. Malawi Journal of Social Sciences, 23(1), 21-39. https://unima.ac.mw/news/attachment/671/download#:~:text=in%20Lilongwe%20District%20of%20Central,and%20damage%20to%20police%20infrastructure.
- 4. **Malunga, B.** (2024). Women's Access to Justice in Electoral Cases: Case Study of Malawi's Tripartite Elections. Malawi Law Journal.
- 5. **Malunga**, **B.**, **& Chome**, **T.** (2024). Determinants of Judicial Corruption in Malawi: A case Study of Child Maintenance Claims at Nsanje Magistrate Court and Zomba Child Justice Court. Malawi Journal of Social Sciences, 23(1), 1-20. https://unima.ac.mw/news/attachment/669/download
- 6. **Mnelemba, I., & Munyenyembe, B.** (2024). The Impact of Work Friendliness and Safety on Absenteeism of Healthcare Workers in Malawi. Malawi Journal of Social Sciences, 23(1), 63-80. https://unima.ac.mw/news/attachment/670/download
- 7. **Mphamba**, **P. N.**, **Chirwa**, **G. C.**, **& Mazalale**, **J.** (2024). An evolution of inequality of opportunity in the nutritional outcomes of under-five children in Malawi. SSM-Population Health, 25, 101606. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssmph.2024.101606
- 8. **Mulagha-Maganga, A., Chiwaula, L. S., Kambewa, P., & Ngaiwi, M. E.** (2024). A Ricardian analysis of the economic impacts of climate change on agricultural production in the low-income agrarian economy: Estimates from Malawi's 2010–2019 LSMS longitudinal data. Journal of Agriculture and Food Research, 100995. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jafr.2024.100995
- 9. **Nguluwe, B., & Dunga, H. M.** (2024). An Examination of the Relationship between Budget Deficit and Economic Growth in Malawi. African Journal of Business and Economic Research, 19(1), 175-198. https://journals.co.za/doi/abs/10.31920/1750-4562/2024/v19n1a8

BOOK CHAPTERS

1. Chikatentha, D., Jamu, E. S., & Chijere-Chirwa, G. (2024). Complex and Multifaceted Sociodemographic Depression Correlates in Malawi During COVID-19. In COVID-19 and Psychological Distress in Af-

- rica (pp. 17-29). Routledge. https://www.taylorfrancis.com/chapters/oa-edit/10.4324/9781003425861-3/complex-multifaceted-sociodemographic-depression-correlates-malawi-covid-19-daniel-chikaten-tha-edister-jamu-qowokani-chijere-chirwa
- 2. **Mtocha, C. A., Chirwa, G. C., & Mazalale, J.** (2021). Multidimensional Poverty Changes in Malawi. In The Palgrave Handbook of Global Social Problems (pp. 1-31). Springer International Publishing. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-68127-2_462-1

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- 1. **Chikapa Jamali, T., and Kayuni, H.**, Negotiating Political Transition: Analyzing Political Messages by The MCP In the Transitional Period (1992-1994) and their Probable Contemporary Impact, presented at the 3rd Biennial Malawi Political Science Association Conference, 3 to 4 May 2024.
- 2. **Malunga**, **B.**, Gender-sensitive Justice Systems in Electoral Processes, presented at the Multistakeholder Conference on Violence against Women and Girls in Elections and Politics, April 2024.
- 3. **Malunga, B., and Mweso, N.**, Political Patronage and its Implication for Public Service, presented at PAS conference
- 4. **Malunga, B., Masanjala A., Chome, T., and Mchizi, R.,** Dead on Arrival Political Party Financing Regulations: Analysis of Part V of the Political Parties Act, presented at the Malawi Law Society AGM
- 5. **Dulani, B., and Ntodwa, E.**, Nostalgia or blind preference: who supports non-democracy in Malawi? Presented at the 3rd Biennial Malawi Political Science Association Conference, 3 to 4 May 2024. Messages by The MCP In the Transitional Period (1992-1994) and their Probable Contemporary Impact, presented at the 3rd Biennial Malawi Political Science Association Conference, 3 to 4 May 2024.
- 6. **Chinsinga, B., and Tenthani, K.**, Deficit of Leadership or Path-dependency Curse? Paucity of Leadership in Malawi, presented at the 3rd Biennial Malawi Political Science Association Conference, 3 to 4 May 2024.
- 7. **Chibisa, J., and Dulani, B.**, Why do Political Parties NOT advocate for electoral reforms that would favor them? A Malawi Case Study on Proportional Representation, presented at the 3rd Biennial Malawi Political Science Association Conference, 3 to 4 May 2024.
- 8. **Kayuni, H.**, Tracking Aleke Banda's Political Journey (From One Party to Multiparty Era): An Embodiment of Malawi's Political Culture and Dynamics?, presented at the 3rd Biennial Malawi Political Science Association Conference, 3 to 4 May 2024.