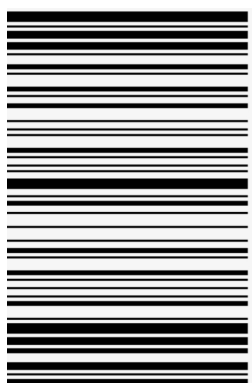


# Faculty of Social Science Newsletter



## INSIDE

- Faculty News
- PAS Department News
- Department of Economics News
- History Department News
- Psychology Department News
- Department of Sociology News
- Publications





# FOREWORD FROM THE DEAN'S DESK



I feel extremely proud to introduce our long awaited first Faculty of Social Science (FSS) Newsletter. The processes for publication of this newsletter started long time ago but was halted due to the impending reorganization of the faculty- as part of the new University of Malawi (UNIMA) reforms.

For me, it is a source of pride to serve as FSS's Dean in this mighty UNIMA, a role I assumed on 1st January 2021. This is the case because FSS is one of the biggest and vibrant faculties in UNIMA. It is home to a good number of remarkable students, with 7 separate departments, 13 undergraduate and 10 postgraduate programmes, and two reputable research centers. Our academic teaching and research staff are some of the best in the region with an excellent track record in research, publication, teaching and community outreach (please check the publications section of this newsletter). As

highlighted in this newsletter, we have consistently demonstrated that we maintain close ties with our communities, both local and global. It is not surprising therefore that, our academic programmes are some of the most sought after; they are informed by research of our renowned and highly qualified academic staff members. Our ultimate goal is to be a leader in social science education and research for sustainable development in Malawi and beyond. As already mentioned, part of UNIMA reform entails that our faculty will shortly be transformed into two schools: School of Humanities and Social Science and School of Law Economics and Governance. Although FSS departments will be reorganized into these two new schools, the excellent academic culture that we have developed over the years will continue to thrive in the said two schools.

I want to thank the UNIMA leadership led by Prof Samson Sajidu as well as FSS heads of departments who have made it possible for FSS to ably pursue its goals; and in a special way, let me thank the Editorial Team led by Dr. Gowokani Chirwa who ensured that this newsletter should see the light of the day. Please know that the Dean's office is always open and available to you should you need advice, or information about how to make the most of the opportunities available. God bless you and know that the sky is the limit!

**Professor Happy Kayuni,**  
Dean of Social Science

## FROM THE CHIEF EDITOR'S DESK



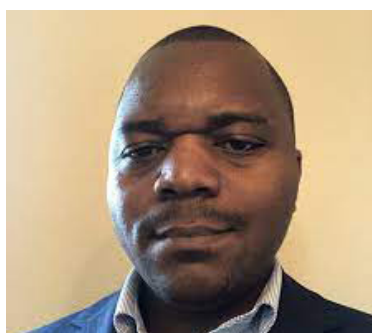
This newsletter is an opportunity for us to share with you, our readers, recent developments in the Faculty of Social Science. I hope that you will find the newsletter interesting. Sincere thanks to the contributors to this newsletter. Enjoy the read.

**Dr. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa,**  
Chief Editor

## EDITORIAL TEAM



**Dr. Edister Jamu**



**Dr. Gift Kayira**



**Ms. Mayamiko Chibowa**



**Dr. Jesman Chintsanya**



**Mrs. Samantha Mosiwa**



# FACULTY NEWS

## Professor Kayuni Attends the Association of African Universities (AAU) Workshop in Ghana



The Dean of Social Science, Professor Happy Kayuni, attended a workshop in Accra, Ghana from 9th to 12th May 2022 entitled "Inculcating Job Creation & Entrepreneurial Skills". The workshop was organized for senior university managers by the Association of African Universities (AAU).

Some of the topics covered include: (1) enhancing employability skills in university graduates; (2) employability skills- what current employers are looking for in contemporary graduate; (3) employability and skills gap between industry and higher

education; (4) how to set up an Entrepreneurship Incubation Centre for an academic institution for the benefit of students and faculty; and, (5) mainstreaming innovation and entrepreneurship capacity in Africa.

## Professor Kayuni Presents at IPMM Workshop in Mzuzu

At the invitation of the Institute of People Management Malawi (IPMM), Professor Happy Kayuni presented a paper on 8th April 2022 at the IPMM workshop held at Sunbird Mzuzu Hotel. The paper entitled "Mindset Change: Building Ethical & Moral Behavior in Organizations", argued that understanding organizational value system is critical in generating mindset change. Managers, there-

fore, need to understand the different value systems operating in an organization and then create a proper platform which should harness those values that will facilitate change. The workshop, which attracted senior managers from various private and public organizations in Malawi, was part of IPMM's Continuous Professional Development and Professional Networking Workshop.



## CSR holds a research dissemination workshop



The University of Malawi's Centre for Social Research (CSR) and the African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) conducted a study in Blantyre District in southern Malawi to understand how early and unintended pregnancy culminates into social exclusion of adolescent mothers. The results of the study were disseminated at a workshop organised by CSR at Capital Hotel in Lilongwe on 23rd March 2022. The workshop targeted members of the Parliamentary Committee on Social and Community Affairs. Deputy Minister of Gender, Community Development and Social Welfare, Hon. Agnes Nkusa Nkhoma, MP, was guest of honour at the event.

## CSR releases part of the Malawi 2022 Afrobarometer survey results

On 14th April 2022, the Centre for Social Research (CSR) released part of the 2022 Malawi Afrobarometer survey results at Sun Bird Lilongwe Hotel. The presentations were entitled "Most Malawians believe in the existence of witchcraft and support criminalizing it" and "Malawians dissatisfied with government efforts on corruption, want to see swift action against corrupt officials". Regarding perceptions of Malawians on witchcraft, three in four Malawians (74%) believe "a lot" in the existence of witchcraft. Only 14% say it does not exist. Educated Malawians (82%) are more likely to believe in the existence of witchcraft than those with no formal education (71%). More than six in 10 Malawians (63%) say that elderly people are most often associated with witchcraft in their communities.





## UNIMA Staff Visit National Defense College (NDC)-Kenya



Six members of UNIMA staff, led by the Dean of Social Science, Professor Happy Kayuni, visited the National Defense College (NDC)-Kenya alongside the Malawi Defence Force Commander, General Nundwe, and his entourage. The period for the visit was from 1st to 4th June 2022. This followed a visit by the Malawi Defense Force (MDF) Commander and some senior members of MDF Staff on No-

vember 2021 to UNIMA to explore the possibility of commencing a university post-graduate program for senior members of MDF staff. UNIMA management set up a team to lead the operationalisation of the idea. In order to give the UNIMA team a point of reference to start their work, a trip to Kenya was organized by MDF. The purpose of this

trip was to give the UNIMA team an opportunity to learn and see how institutions running similar programs operate. Besides Professor Kayuni, the UNIMA team also included Dr. Tiyesere Chikapa, (PAS Department), Dr. Enoch Chilemba (Law), Dr. Boniface Dulani (PAS), Dr. Ngcimezile Mweso (Law) and Mrs Towera Mwachungu (Administration).

## New undergraduate programme for the Department of Population Studies

At its seating of 4th July 2022, UNIMA senate approved the Bachelor of Social Science-Population Studies to be hosted by the Department of Population Studies. The programme, the first of its kind in the country, aims at providing comprehensive training on the principles, methods and research skills necessary to understand, interpret and solve critical global challenges. Spe-

cifically, the programme seeks to increase the number of well qualified and competent professionals in Population studies in order to address the current and future needs of government, parastatals, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. The programme will nurture the capacity of young men and women interested in becoming professionals in various

areas of demography, population studies, research and M & E specialisations. Population is an emerging area of study that has significant impact on national development. It is therefore imperative that Malawi should develop capacity in this area to support the growing social and development needs of the country.



## Dulani Visits UCR as a Fulbright Scholar

Associate Professor Dulani was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of California Riverside from August to December 2021, and he shares his experience.

“From August 30 through December 31, 2021, I spent a very productive four months as a Fulbright Visiting Scholar in Residence at the beautiful campus of the University of California Riverside (UCR). Hosted by my long-time friend and colleague, Prof. Kim Dionne in the Political Science Department, I had the opportunity to interact with new academic colleagues and make progress on several writing projects.

“The key highlight of my fellowship was teaching a course on African Politics to an undergraduate class of 82 students. This involved developing an entirely new syllabus and delivering material to a class of students, most of whom have never been to any part of Africa. The class was delivered mostly in person, although students who could not make it to class had the option of following the class virtually. I very much enjoyed this interaction, which also required going through a crash course in learning the use of new classroom technology.

“At the end of the quarter, it was such a pleasure to hear students say this was one of their favorite classes on campus and how they felt privileged to be taught African Politics by an African-based professor.

“Besides teaching, I also took part in a number of engagements, including participating in UCR departmental seminars and giving presentations to other universities in California and the wider USA. On December 3, 2021, I gave a presentation at the UCR webinar on a paper entitled ‘The Death and Survival of Political Parties: a comparative study of the different fates of the Malawi Congress Party in Malawi and the United National Independence Party in Zambia’. The webinar was well attended, with participants joining in via Zoom from Malawi, South Africa, United States and Zambia.

“Outside of UCR, I also gave a presentation to students at Pepperdine University (California) and at College of William and Mary, one of the oldest Universities in Virginia.

“I worked with my host at UCR, Prof. Kim Dionne on a paper on drivers of Covid vaccine hesitancy in Malawi. We also worked on and submitted a book proposal to Ohio University Press on Presidential succession in Africa. This is awaiting feedback.

“Outside the classroom environment, I took in the sites of California, visiting various places of interest, including taking in a tour of the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Los Angeles, visiting the Joshua Tree National Park, the California Citrus State Historic Park among many sites.”



## EDUCATIONAL VISITS

### PAS SOCIETY VISITS THE MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

On the 10th of December 2021, PAS Society went on an educational visit to the ministry of Local Government. Some of the objectives of the visit included to learn and understand the practical operations of the ministry aside what is covered in class on local government and the ministry at large, to understand more on the recruitment process of government interns and expectations of the ministry from interns and to understand the future of the local government from the ministry's perspective.





## PAS Finales visit Mangochi

Final year students of the Political and Administrative Studies (PAS) department had an educational trip to Mangochi from 25th to 26th February, 2022. The purpose of the trip was to appreciate how the Mangochi

District council operates and how it works with various civil society organisations operating in its jurisdiction. On 26th February, the students hosted a career and motivational talk at Annie's Lodge in Cape Maclear. The

function included confessional interactions between the students and members of staff of the PAS department and a farewell dinner.

## PROMOTIONS

### Mr Kondwani Chikadza promoted to Senior Lecturer

Mr Chikadza, who holds a bachelor's degree in Public Administration from the University of Malawi and a Master of Science degree in Governance and Development from the University of Antwerp in Belgium, was promoted to the post of Senior Lecturer in the PAS department in 2022. Congratulations!



# AWARDS



## Mrs Kambala comes out on top

Mrs Yapikachi Kambala, a staff associate in the Political and Administrative Studies (PAS) Department was awarded Best course work award by the Faculty of Social Science. Mrs Kambala is studying for a master's degree in Public Administration and Management. In

2021, the Faculty of Social science introduced post graduate awards in categories such as best course work, best thesis and best publication. Mrs Kambala walked away with the best course work award which required an average grade of 70%. Congratulations!

Mrs Yapikachi Kambala

## Mrs Mosiwa wins a research grant

Mrs Samantha Mosiwa, a lecturer in the Political and Administrative Studies (PAS) Department was awarded the small scheme research grant from the office of the Dean of Research (UNIVERSITY OF MALAWI) funded by

University of Malawi Research Ethics Committee (UNIMAREC) to conduct research on "COVID-19 Pandemic, Policies, Processes in Malawi". Other members from the faculty who received similar awards are Dr.

Gowokani Chirwa and Gift Wasambo Kayira of Economics and History Departments, respectively. Congratulations!

## Mrs Mosiwa graduates with a masters degree

Mrs Samantha Mosiwa, has recently graduated with a masters degree in Political Science from the University of Malawi. Her thesis is titled "The implications of gender on performance of members of parliament in Malawi" Congratulations!



Mrs Samantha Mosiwa



Dr Benson Munyenembe

## Dr. Benson Munyenembe attains his PhD in Business Administration

Dr. Benson Munyenembe of the PAS Department recently graduated with a PhD in Business Administration from the National Dong Hwa University in China. Dr. Munyenembe is a lecturer in human resource management. He also holds a bachelor's degree in Public Administration from the University of Malawi and a

master's degree in Business Administration from National Dong Hwa University in China. His thesis is titled "Intra-Business Association Networks, Knowledge Integration, and Product Innovation of Small Businesses: The Moderating Role of Gender". Congratulations!

## Dr. Benson Munyenembe and Mr Kondwani Chikadza awarded research grants from UNIMAReF

Congratulations to Dr. Benson Munyenembe and Mr Kondwani Chikadza who were awarded research grants from UNIMAReF. Dr. Munyenembe will be working on a

project titled "Determinants of voter apathy in Malawi's democratic elections". This will be done in collaboration with Dr. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa from the Economics Department

and Mrs Samantha Mosiwa from PAS Department. Mr Chikadza will be working on a project titled "Institutional pluralism and the implementation of social cash transfer in Malawi".



## PAS graduates its first PhD in Public Administration and Management

The PAS Department graduated its first PhD in Public Administration during the 13th of April 2022 UNIMA congregation. The graduate, Dr. Luckie Sikwese, is a seasoned public servant currently working as secre-

tary for foreign affairs in the Government of Malawi. He holds a master's degree in development policy and project planning from the University of Bradford and bachelor's degree in Social Science from the University

of Malawi. His PhD thesis is on Public Sector Reforms and Enhanced Service Delivery: a Critical Analysis of the Malawi Public Service Charter. Congratulations!



Dr. Tiyesere Mercy Chikapa



## Dr. Chikapa makes a presentation to military students from Armed Forces Command and Staff College of Nigeria

Dr. Tiyesere Mercy Chikapa a senior lecturer in Human Resource Management from the PAS Department made a presentation on "How Brain Drain is Threatening Africa's Collective Security and Development" to student soldiers from Nigeria who were being hosted by the University of

Malawi in May 2022. The student soldiers were conducting on spot research on efforts and strategies being employed by Malawi towards issues emanating from brain drain. Even though her presentation tackled both the positives and negatives of brain drain, emphasis was on the negative ef-

fects and measures that can be put in place to ensure that there is a controlled and regulated flow of skilled people to other continents so that Africa also benefits economically from the trained professionals that migrate to well to do continents.

## PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

### Professor Chinsinga appointed Minister of Local Government



Professor Chinsinga

PAS Department would like to congratulate Professor Blessings Chinsinga, one of the longest serving members of the department for being appointed as Minister of Local Government in December 2021.

Professor Blessings Chinsinga holds a BA degree in Public Administration from the University of Malawi, Master of Philosophy (MPhil) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) degrees in Development Studies obtained from the Universities of Cambridge, UK and Mainz, Germany respectively.

Professor Blessings Chinsinga joined the Department of Political and Administrative Studies (PAS) as a Staff Associate in March 1996. During his time in the PAS department, he rose to the rank of Professor of Political Science specializing in Public Policy Analysis, Institutions and Development, Development Administration, Theories of Development, Political Economy of Development and African Politics both at undergraduate and postgraduate levels. Congratulations to him!



## PROMOTIONS

### Professor Levison Chiwaula promoted to full Economics Professorship

Professor Levison Chiwaula has been promoted to full professor of Economics. Prof Chiwaula holds bachelor's Degree from the University of Malawi-Bunda College; Masters in Economics from the University of Malawi; and a PhD in Economics from Hannover, Germany.

## AWARDS



### Dr. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa awarded a 2022-2023 STAARS fellowship

Dr. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa has been awarded the 2022-2023 STAARS fellowship by Cornell University from the United States of America. His research will focus on the effect of the agri-

tural input subsidy on multi-dimensional child poverty in Malawi.

Dr Gowokani Chijere Chirwa

### Tughulupi Ndovi awarded student grant

Tughulupi Ndovi has been awarded the African Eastern Research Consortium (AERC), Student grant. The value of the grant is \$3,000. She will be working on "Inequality of Opportunity in

Family Planning Methods in Malawi". Her project runs until April, 2024. During her research phase, she will be mentored by Dr. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa.



Tughulupi Ndovi

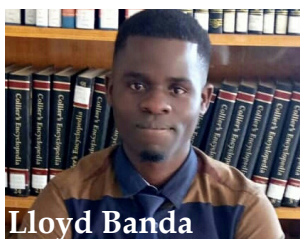
## Three Economics Students Win the 2021-22 NCST Grants



Greenson Nyirenda



Sebastian Nkosi



Lloyd Banda

Three Economics students from the University of Malawi have won the 2021-22 National Student Research Award competition for their excellent research proposals. The Student's Research Awards is an annual program sponsored by the National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST) of Malawi that recognizes and honors undergraduate and postgraduate students for extensive research. Winning a Research Award rep-

resents a high level of academic achievement knowledge to solve problems and explore issues no one has ever addressed before. The winners are Greenson Nyirenda, studying Master of Economics; Sebastian Nkosi, studying Master of Economics and Lloyd Banda, studying Master of Development Studies. All winners are conducting their research under the mentorship of Dr. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa of the Economics Department.



## Economics Students attend the AERC workshop

Two students attended the AERC two weeks Research Methodology Technical Workshop in January-February, 2022. Pemphero Mitawa and Tughulupi Ndovi, were part of the interesting technical workshop on proposal development, whose target was women. The skills obtained from the workshop will be used in their studies.

## DOE gets involved in developing the Malawi multidimensional poverty report 2022

Members of the Department of Economics - [Dr. Jacob Mazalale](#), Dr. Gowokani Chijere Chirwa and an MA-Student - Mr Chrispin Mtocha were involved in the Malawi Multi-dimensional poverty report for 2022.

This was a five-day workshop which took place in May 2022 at Amaryllis Hotel in Blantyre. There were a number of stakeholders such as the UNDP Malawi, National Statistics Office, the University of Malawi Centre for

Social Research, National Planning Commission, Unima Department of Economics, and The Ministry of Economic Planning and Development.

## The DOE organize a refresher course for Reserve Bank of Malawi

The DOE did a refresher course in econometrics for the Reserve Bank of Malawi. This is a second in the series of the courses done by the DOE at the RBM. The refresher courses is part of the activities of the MOU between the DOE and RBM. In his comment, the director of research from the RBM was very pleased with the outcome of the workshop and asked for more workshops.

## DOE holds a symposium for finales



The Department of Economics, together with UNIMA Economics Society held a symposium for the final year students on 18 March, 2022. The event which took place at Amaryllis Hotel in Blantyre, was held under the theme 'Building a

Resilient and Sustainable Economy'. This presented an opportunity for the final year students to present on economic issues, hence marketing themselves to potential employers who were invited to the event. They included NICO

Insurance Company, FDH Bank, GIZ Malawi and many others. Associate Professor Winford Masanja, was the guest of honour at the event.



# HISTORY DEPARTMENT NEWS

## EDUCATION VISITS



Dr. George Jawali and his students

### History Third Year Students visit Mulanje

In March, Dr. Jawali took third year students to Mulanje to appreciate plantation economies under an African Labour History Course.

## NEW STAFF MEMBERS

### The Department welcomes Dr. Anusa Daimon and Chifundo Kachale

The History Department welcomes Dr. Anusa Daimon and Chifundo Kachale as additional members of academic staff. Both have extensive experience teaching in institutions of higher learning. Before joining the history department, Dr. Daimon worked with the University of Zimbabwe and the University of Free State, South Africa. Mrs. Kachale also brings experience from Livingstonia and Nkhoma Universities.



Dr. Anusa Daimon



Mrs. Chifundo Kachale



Mrs. Dinah Katonda

### Ms. Dinah Katonda appointed into the FAWEMA Board

Ms. Dinah Katonda recently joined the Board of FAWEMA. Katonda's passion for girls' welfare in the country won her this appointment after a rigorous interview. In this role, she serves as a FAWEMA advocacy and communication expert. She provides strategic guidance on operational implementation of FAWEMA activities countrywide, receives and reviews reports from National Executive

Committee and project office, and provides guidance on income generating activities for FAWEMA. On a different note, in conjunction with Zomba District Youth Office and CAMFED, Katonda has also been conducting modeling sessions for girls in Zomba urban and rural secondary schools, inspiring them to remain in school and achieve their life-long goals.

### History Department bids farewell to Prof. Mulwafu

In this year, the Faculty bid farewell to Prof. Wapulumuka Oliver Mulwafu, who joined Mzuzu University as Deputy Vice Chancellor. He worked for UNIMA for 29 years and 11 months.



# PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT NEWS

## Psychology Department Introduces New programmes

The Department of Psychology developed short courses and modules (for blended delivery) in partnership with SHEAMA (Strengthening Higher Education Access in Malawi Activity). The courses are Business and Marketing Psychology; Career Development for School Leavers;

and Basic Counselling Skills: Building an Effective Counselling Relationship and Counselling in Specific Contexts. These modules went through validation/moderation, an activity that took place at Amaryllis Hotel in Blantyre in 2022. This was in readiness for rolling out of these courses. Speaking

at the event, both SHEAMA and the Department of Psychology hailed the partnership's focus on increasing access to higher education using innovative ways for populations that would have otherwise failed to access this kind of education.

## Community engagement/outreach activities

**Limbika Maliwichi on Mibawa TV:** Limbika Maliwichi was on Mibawa TV's as guest on its 8:00pm programme, 'The Scrutiny' discussing 'Our mental health and COVID-19: High correlation' on 21st August 2021.

**Dr. Jamu talks about mental health: Dr Edister Jamu had a talk on mental health** at a Mental Health Awareness Campaign which was jointly organized by students from the University of Malawi (UNIMA) and Kamuzu University of Health Sciences (KUHES). This event was held at The University of Malawi in Zomba on 12th March 2022. Speaking in Mwambo 1 Lecture Theatre, Dr Jamu focused on why mental health matters to students, making it clear that there is no health without mental health.

## Members on Projects

- Mrs Tilinao Lamba (Country Lead), Dr. Edister Jamu, Ms. Limbika Maliwichi, and Demoubly Kokota (and others) partnered HRH 2030 (Human Resources for Health 2030) and Chemonics International in a mental health research project targeting health workers in Malawi. This project was investigating the effectiveness of digital mental health resources in improving the mental health and resilience of health workers. The project received funding from USAID and is at the final report writing stage.
- Demoubly Kokota (and Lawrie Stephen, Stewart Robert) involved in Psychosis Recovery Orientation in Malawi by Improving Services and Engagement (PROMISE), a project running from 2022 to 2026. The project is hosted by Kamuzu College of Health Science (KUHES) and aims to

develop psychosis detection and management systems to increase psychosis awareness, reduce DUP and improve outcomes in Malawi. The project intends to use the MRC framework for developing and evaluating complex interventions, augmented by Theory of Change and Participatory Action Research approaches. Deliverables include a validated psychosis screening tool, to facilitate detection by Health Surveillance Assistants (HSAs) at village level, and a simple management blueprint encompassing education and community supports, with an integrated care pathway including primary health centre clinics and District Mental Health Teams. This project is funded by Wellcome Trust.

## DEPARTMENTAL SEMINARS

### What's Next in Psychology?

On 25th February 2022 the department hosted Prof. Mac MacLachlan (Maynooth University in Ireland), Prof Eilish McAuliffe (University College Dublin) and Dr Ikenna Ebuenyi (Maynooth University and University College Dublin) who presented on "What's next in Psychology?" The presentation made a case that the future of psychology lies in interdisciplinarity. The presenters dwelt on

three interdisciplinary areas which may have significant promise for future developments in psychology, namely, macropsychology, psychological safety and digital mental health. The audience (both physical and online) comprised over 40 students and academics.

## STAFF ON LEAVE

- 1) Mrs Wezi Chisiza, Mrs Tilinao Lamba and Ms. Limbika Maliwichi are all on leave, studying towards their PhDs. We continue to wish them the very best.



# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY NEWS



Norways visitors with host staff from Sociology Department

## Sociology Department strengthens relationship with Norwegian University

The Department of Sociology has strengthened its relations with international universities under the Norwegian Partnership Program for Global Academic Cooperation (NORPART). The Department

hosted an inception meeting of the Partnership from 20th to 22nd April, 2022 at the University of Malawi. The partnership aims at strengthening staff and student mobility. It is expected

that five Malawian students will benefit from a joint taught Masters course in Norway under the partnership.

## First cohort of USAID funded social work project completes first year of Bachelor of Social Work Program

The first cohort of 25 students (15 males and 10 females) has finalized their first year of Bachelor of Social Sciences in Social Work program which ran from October, 2021 to April, 2022 through a block and release program under Leveraging Local Capacity to Strengthen Health Service Deliver Project funded by United States Agency for In-

ternational Development. UNIMA is the main awardee of the project spearheading the implementation of activities particularly training of 50-degree level social workers. Magomero College is the sub-awardee focusing on training of 100 certificate level and 50 diploma level social workers. Ministry of Gender, Community Development

and Social Welfare is a sub awardee and key partner which implements social work programs in Malawi social work programs in Malawi.

The second cohort of students is expected to start their academic year in August, 2022. The project runs from 22nd March, 2021 to 21st March, 2026.



## Sociology Department engages UNICEF in Co-creation Workshop for Child Youth Friendly Communities Initiative

The University of Malawi through the Sociology Department and Centre for Social Research participated in a four-day co-creation workshop in Mangochi from 29th March to 1st April, 2022. The workshop was organized by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) under the Child Youth and Friendly Communities implemented in Chikwawa and Nsanje. The CYFCI is an initiative aimed at reforming Malawi's local governance system in order to accelerate progress for children and communities.

During the workshop, UNIMA staff presented their role in the CYFCI which includes capacity building, monitoring and evaluation, student and staff research among others. The workshop was graced by Deputy Minister for Local Government, Honourable Halima Daudi and attracted participants from Development Communications Trust (DCT), Mibawa Studios Law Commission, the Anti-Corruption Bureau among others.



Dr. Kapulula responding to questions after UNIMA presentation

## Enhancing quality of social work practice through Training for Practice Educators under the Social Work Program

In a bid to improve quality of social work program delivery, the Sociology Department trained twenty-two participants (14 males and 8 females) in November, 2021. The participants were drawn from different agencies across the country which hosts so-

cial work students during placements such as Samaritan Trust, Zomba Mental Hospital. Youth Net and Counseling (YONECO), Prison Fellowship, Malawi Council for the Handicapped (MACOHA) and District Social Welfare Office among others. The train-

ing was conducted at Liwonde Community Development Training Centre and was graced by Antonio Kasote, USAID Agreements Officer and the Dean of Social Science at UNIMA, Professor Happy Kayuni.



Anstance Fometu, Chairperson of Children and Families International Foundation

## 1000 books donated to Sociology Department from United Kingdom

The Sociology Department received about 1000 books covering different disciplines such as social work, sociology, social research, social psychology and criminology, from United Kingdom through Children and Families International Foundation under the Supporting Social Work in Malawi initiative (SSWIM).

In her remarks, Anstance Fometu, chairperson of the Foundation, indicated that the foundation would like to afford students and staff opportunities for reading and engaging with issues from a global perspective which could then be contextualized to Malawi.

The Department intends to open a library which will house all the book donations by August, 2022.

## CONDOLENCES

On a sad note, we lost retired Professor Ben Kaluwa, formerly of the Economics Department, on 3 July. Prof Kaluwa was one of the most decorated professors of the University of Malawi. His life and teachings have contributed immensely to the development of the University and Malawi, in particular. He will be greatly missed. May his soul rest in eternal peace.





# PUBLICATIONS

## 2022 - JULY

- (1) Bryson Nkhoma, Gift Wasambo Kayira, and Paul Chiudza Banda (2022). Pandemics, Politics and Governance: Contestation Over State Management of Covid-19 in Malawi, in Kenneth R. Ross, Asiyati L. Chiweza, & Wapulumuka O. Mulwafu (eds.), *Beyond Impunity: New Directions for Governance in Malawi*. Cape Town: University of Cape Town Press, 324-326
- (2) Gift Wasambo Kayira and Paul Chiudza Banda, (2022). Ethnicity, Regionalism, and Nation Building Challenges in post-1994 Malawi: Whither a Federal State System," in Kenneth R. Ross, Asiyati L. Chiweza, & Wapulumuka O. Mulwafu (eds.), *Beyond Impunity: New Directions for Governance in Malawi*. Cape Town: University of Cape Town Press, 282-305.
- (3) Gift Wasambo Kayira (2022). [Constructions of State Opposition in Colonial and Postcolonial Malawi](#). *Journal of Southern African Studies*, 1-2.
- (4) Kamninga, T. M., Masanjala, W. H., Bangara, B. C., & Mwale, M. L. (2022). The Role of Social Networks on Youth Migration, Settlement and Entrepreneurship in Malawi. [Migration Letters](#), 19(1), 29–40.
- (5) Chirwa G.C. and Chiwaula, L.S.(2022). Socioeconomic inequalities in household resilience capacity in the context of COVID-19 in the fisheries sector in Malawi. [Agrekon – Agricultural Economics Research, Policy and Practice in Southern Africa](#)
- (6) Chiwaula, L. S., Chirwa, G. C., Simbeye, J., & Katundu, M. (2022). Household resilience among fish value chain actors during the COVID-19 pandemic in Malawi. [World Development Perspectives](#)
- (7) Mnyanga, M., Chirwa, G. C., & Munthali, S. (2022). Impact of Safety Nets on Household Coping Mechanisms for COVID-19 Pandemic in Malawi. [Frontiers in public health](#), 9, 806738.
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