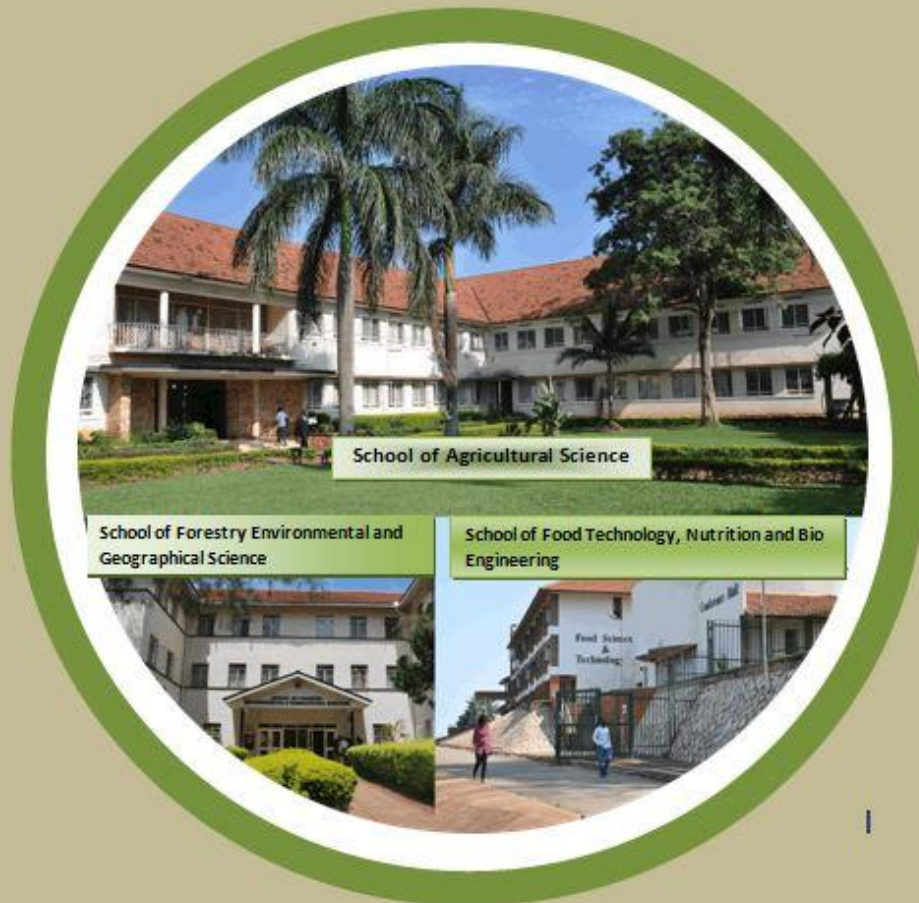




MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

**COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
(CAES)**



PRINCIPAL'S 8TH QUARTELY REPORT

JANUARY- MARCH, 2016

Foreword



The Principal's 8th Quarterly report highlights the major activities and achievements in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) between January-March 2016. The report highlights some efforts geared towards improving on the training, research, resource mobilization and knowledge transfer to society.

The sections include Teaching and learning, research innovations, infrastructure development, outreach and knowledge transfer to society.

The college successfully conducted the major academic activities including 66th graduation held in January 2016. A number of staff were promoted to higher academic ranks while many have submitted their applications for promotion/ confirmation and contract renewals.

The report also brings you success stories including the selection of Makerere University by the World Bank to host the East African Centre of Excellence for Crop Improvement and the new technology of recycling plastics into diesel by the Department of Agricultural and bio systems engineering.

The college also acquired a telematics receiving studio to support Food Science and Human Nutrition training at the University. This was under the partnership of Makerere University, Stellenbosch University of South Africa and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture (JKUA) Kenya.

The German RELOAD Project Coordinator Michael Hesse officially handed over a solar drier research facility to the College. Donated by University of Kassel, Germany the solar drier was delivered and installed at the Makerere University Agricultural Research Institute (MUARIK) in December 2015.

Makerere University staff in the fields of Agriculture, Forestry, Veterinary, Environment, Natural Sciences and Food Science underwent a Training of Trainers course in didactics and student mentorship aimed at producing graduates who are able to meet societal needs and the labour market demands under the PREPARE-BSC project funded by EU thru- EDULINK II Program.

My sincere appreciation goes to University top management, government, donors, development partners, all members of staff, college leadership, students and parents for the trust and support towards these quarterly achievements.

PROF. BERNARD BASHAASHA

PRINCIPAL

Abbreviations

ACE African Centre of Excellence

CAES College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences

DABE Department of Agricultural and Bio systems engineering

DEM Department of Environmental Management

EU European Union

GGCS Geography, Geo-informatics and Climatic Sciences

MAK Makerere University

MUARIK Makerere University Research Institute Kabanyolo

SAS School of Agricultural Sciences

SFEGS School of Forestry, Environmental and Geographical Sciences

SFTNB School of Food Technology, Nutrition and Bio engineering

USAID United States Agency for International Development

JKUA Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture - Kenya.

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1.0: TEACHING AND LEARNING

1.1: About 700 graduate from CAES at 66th Graduation ceremony



The Makerere University 66th Graduation ceremony kicked off on 19th January 2016 at the University's Freedom Square. The function was presided over by the newly appointed Chancellor, Prof. Ezra Suruma. The graduation ceremony was scheduled for four days.

This year 2016, a total of 14,318 graduands were awarded degrees and diplomas at the four-day graduation ceremony. Of these about 700 students from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences were awarded diplomas and degrees in various disciplines. The University recorded 286 first class degrees. Of these 23 are from CAES alone.

The Principal CAES, Prof. Bernard Bashaasha presented 12 Graduands for the award of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy in different disciplines. Among these were four members of staff, Byakagaba Patrick and Muhwezi Deus Kamunyu from the Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism. Others were Alice Turinawe from the Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics and Nuwamanya Ephraim from the Department of Agricultural Production.

Prof. Bashaasha also presented 125 graduands for the award of the Degree of Masters in different disciplines. Lydia Kakoza, a staff working as a Laboratory technician in the Soils, Plants and Water Laboratory, School of Agricultural Sciences was also awarded a Masters Degree. The College Librarian Mr. Onan Mulumba also attained a Masters Degree.

Deans from the three CAES schools presented a total of 560 candidates for the award of Degree of Bachelors in varying disciplines.

1.2: Academic timelines semester 2

Semester 2 opened on 30th January, 2016 after the elections break on 17th - 21st February 2016. The college academic board meeting was held on 26th February, 2016 to discuss semester 1 examination results.

Semester 1 results were displayed on 29th February, 2016. Registration of students has been ongoing.

The first round of tests and assignments was administered between 14th and 19th March 2016 by most instructors. The set date for the release of test result is 2nd April, 2016.

1.3: Makerere University ranked biggest user of AGORA Journals

Makerere University has been ranked the biggest user of Access to Global Online Research in Agriculture (AGORA) journals for the year 2015. Whereas Uganda has free access to Research4Life resources, the high AGORA usage implies that we appreciate the quality of content available in AGORA.

The URL for AGORA has officially been changed from www.aginternetwork.org to www.fao.org/agora. Agriculturalists and scholars in other disciplines can visit the database because there is a lot of new content which has been added and the database covers a wide range of subjects, from Sciences to Humanities.

1.4: CAES Library enriched

CAES library received 16 titles of books from Prof. Joseph Obua and 4 titles of books from the Dean, SFEGS, Prof. Mnason Tweheyo. The College Library fraternity extends appreciation to the two professors for enriching the library collection. The books can be accessed through the Forestry Library.

Details of the books

New books from Dean's office

	AUTHOR/EDITOR	TITLE & EDITION	YEAR OF PUBn	NO. OF COPIES
1	Nature Uganda	The Uganda bird check list	2012	92
2	Uganda Wildlife Authority	Kidepo Valley National Park. Information Guide	2014	39
3	Uganda Wildlife Authority	Lake Mburo National Park. Information Guide	2014	54
4	Uganda Wildlife Authority	Murchison Falls National Park. Information Guide	2014	45

Books donated by Prof. Joseph Obua

	<u>AUTHOR/ EDITOR</u>	<u>TITTLE & EDITION</u>	<u>YEAR OF PUBn</u>	<u>NO. OF COPIES</u>
1	The Royal Society	Resilience to extreme weather	2014	2

2	The World Academy of Sciences	The next 30 years Vol. 27 - NO.1	2015	1
3	European Academies Science Advisory Council	The current status of bio fuels in the European Union, their environmental impacts and future prospects	2012	1
4	The Biological And Toxin Weapons Convention	Implications of advances in science and technology	2015	1
5	Women For Science: Inclusion and Participation In Academies Of Science	A survey of the members of IAP :The global network of science academies	2015	2
6	NetWork Of African Science Academies	Changing disease patterns in Africa	2015	1
7	NetWork Of African Science Academies	Harnessing modern Agricultural biotechnology for Africa's economic development	2015	1
8	Vlado Matevski, Salvatore Bushati (eds)	Book of abstracts	2013	1
9	Academy of Science of South Africa	Proceedings of environmental and health symposium	2015	1
10	Assoc.Prof.Fatos Hoxhaj, Msc.Elona Abazi, Msc.Klodian Zaimi, Dr.Entela Vako	Development of Hydrological and hydraulic study of regulation of skadar lake and bojana river water regime	2015	1
11	International conference. BioTechnological Developments	Book of abstracts	2011	1
12	Smart Villages	New thinking for off- grid communities worldwide	2015	5

13	View Points	Africa's future ... can biosciences contribute?	2014	2
14	Analyses	Africa's future can biosciences contribute?	2015	2
15	Insights	Africa's future ... can biosciences contribute?	2013	3

2.0: HUMAN RESOURCES AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

2.1: Principal CAES acts as DVC (AA) for two weeks

The Principal CAES, Prof. Bernard Bashaasha acted as Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs (DVC (AA) Makerere University for two weeks. The DVC (AA) Dr. Ernest Okello Ogwang was on leave from Monday Feb 22 until Friday March 11, 2016.

The office of the DVC (AA) is responsible for overseeing programmes and policies that promote academic excellence in the University; ensuring quality of academic programmes; overseeing the proper planning and coordination of undergraduate and postgraduate academic programmes; coordination of curriculum development; and ensuring optimal utilization of teaching, research and library facilities.

The DVC Academic Affairs also monitors the Colleges/Faculties/Institutes/Schools, the School of Graduate Studies, the University Library, and the Department of the Academic Registrar.

2.2: Staff Promotions

At its 530th meeting held on 8th February, 2016, the Appointments Board appointed Dr. Phinehas Tukamuhabwa on a five year contract as the Director Makerere University Agricultural Research Institute (MUARIK). Dr. Tukamuhabwa is from the Department of Agricultural Production.

Dr. Theodore Shuwu Hyuha's contract as Assoc. Professor was also renewed effective 5th February 2016 to 5th May 2017. She is from the Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics.

2.3: Staff forwarded to the Appointments Board for appointment/promotion/confirmation

The following names and minutes were forwarded from the CAES to the Secretary Appointments Board regarding appointment, promotion, contract appointment and confirmation into University Service;

1. Mr. Dickson Biryomumaisho was recommended for appointment as Assistant Lecturer in Community Forestry and Extension in the Department of Forestry, Tourism and Biodiversity.
2. Dr. Gaston Ampek Tumuhimbise was recommended for promotion to the rank of Lecturer Department of Food Technology and Nutrition.
3. Dr. Isa Kabenge for promotion to the rank of Senior Lecturer Department of Agricultural and Bio-Systems Engineering.
4. Dr. Kivumbi Hussein Balimunsi was recommended for promotion to the rank of Senior Lecturer Department of Agricultural and Bio-Systems Engineering.

5. Dr. Nicholas Kiggundu was recommended for promotion to the rank of Senior Lecturer Department of Agricultural and Bio-Systems Engineering.
6. Dr. Mildred Ochwo-Ssemakula for promotion to the rank of Senior Lecturer Department of Agricultural Production.
7. Dr. Deus K. Muhwezi was recommended for promotion to the rank of Lecturer Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism.
8. Dr. Yazidhi Bamutaze was recommended for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor Department of Geography, Geo-informatics and Climatic Sciences.
9. Mr. Anthony Mwijje was recommended to be appointed as An Assistant Lecturer Department of Agricultural Production.
10. Dr. Rosemary Isoto was recommended for promotion to the rank of Lecturer Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics.
11. Dr. Brenda Boonabaana was recommended for appointment to the post of Lecturer Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism.
12. Dr. Alice Turinawe was recommended for promotion to the rank of Lecturer Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics
13. Mr. Saul Daniel Ddumba was recommended for confirmation in the University service Department of Geography, Geo-informatics and Climatic Sciences.
14. Dr. Paul Isolo Mukwaya was recommended for confirmation in the University service Department of Geography, Geo-informatics and Climatic Sciences.
15. Ms. Agatha Syofuna was recommended for confirmation in the university service Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism.
16. Dr. Enock Ssekuubwa was recommended for confirmation in the University service Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism.
17. Dr. Peter Wasswa was recommended for confirmation in the University service Department of Agricultural Production.
18. Dr. Rosemary Isoto was recommended for confirmation in the University service Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics.
19. Prof. E. N Sabiiti was recommended for renewal of Post-retirement Contract for four years Department of Agricultural Production.
20. Dr. Sylvester Katuromunda was recommended for renewal of Contract Department of Agricultural Production.
21. Dr. Michael Descamps was recommended for appointment as Visiting Scholar in Software Engineering Department of Agricultural and Bio-systems Engineering.

2.4: Part-time lecturers forwarded to the Human Resources for appointment for Semester 1 (2015/2016)

Below is a list of part-time academic staff in the CAES for Semester One, 2015/2016 whose minutes were forwarded to the Director Human Resources for processing their appointment letters.

No	Name of Applicant	Post	Department
1	Ms. Catherine Mulinde Kafeero	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
2	Mr. Kasaija Peter	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
3	Dr. Eliezer Kateyo	Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
4	Ms. Caroline Aboda	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
5	MrT. wongyeirwe Ronald	Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
6	Mr. Robert Asaba	Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
7	Dr. Bernard Barasa	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
8	Mr. Wampande Jowalie Ahmed	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
9	Dr. Shaban Okurut	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Environmental Management
10	Mr. Aporu John Paul	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
11	Katongole Celestinoe	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
12	Mr. Bernard Twinomugisha	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
13	Mr. Kawungezi Sarah	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
14	Mr. Mutungi Boaz	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
15	Mr. Niwagaba M Andrew	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
16	Mr. Omony Andrew Komakech	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
17	Mr. Rwabu Davies	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
18	Mr. Semakula Samora	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
19	Mr. Waako Fred	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
20	Ms. Tumwine Agatha	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Forestry, Biodiversity and Tourism
21	Mr. Robert Cyrus	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Agricultural

	Okello		Production
22	Dr. Nyadoi Priscilla	Lecturer	Department of Agricultural Production
23	Mr. Francis Ogwang	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Agricultural Production
24	Dr. Nuwamanya Ephraim	Lecturer	Department of Agricultural Production
25	Ms. Jean Ninsiima	Assistant Lecturer	Department of Agricultural Production
26	Dr. J.S Tenywa	Lecturer	Recommended for appointment as part-time Lecturer.

2.5: Resignation from University service

Mr. Collins Ssewanyana, Assist. Lecturer, Department of Agricultural and bio systems engineering tendered in his resignation from the university service on 30th October 2013. The Appointments Board at its 531st meeting held on 14th March, 2016 accepted his resignation effective February 2013.

Mr. Jimmy Wesiga, Farm Manager MUARIK submitted his request to resign on 6th November, 2015. The University Appointments Board at its 530th meeting held on 8th – 12th February 2016 accepted his resignation from the university service effective 26th February 2016. The college looks forward to the Human Resource Directorate to fill in the gap.

2.6: Staff transferred

Mr. Nandala Yekosani, the Chief Custodian was transferred. The college looks forward to the Human Resource for replacement.

2.7: Awards

2.6.1: Prof. Noble Banadda shines in the NEF Fellows Spotlight Sessions in Senegal



An unprecedented coalition of African and world leaders on 8th-10th March 2016 convened at the first-ever Next Einstein Forum Global Gathering at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Center in Dakar, Senegal.

It was the first global science forum taking place on African soil, bringing together 800 scientists, mathematicians and technologists from 80 countries. The forum also attracted scientific and industry influencers,

policymakers, business leaders, civil society and advocates committed to building a strong STEM ecosystem across the continent.

Dignitaries included H.E. Macky Sall, President of Senegal (host), H.E. Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda and a high-level roster of science, technology and education ministers from Ethiopia, Morocco, Cameroon and Nigeria - all participants in the NEF Presidential Panel, as well as the head of the US National Science Foundation, the editor-in-chief of the journal *Nature* and working scientists like Nobel Prize winner Aaron Ciechanover. The UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon shared written remarks.

Uganda and Makerere University in particular was represented. Our own, Prof. Noble Banadda was announced among the 2015/2016 NEF Fellows Class among twelve of Africa's top scientists and technologists under 42 years old, working in Africa and around the world.

Prof. Banadda won the Next Einstein Fellowship (NEF) Award 2015. The NEF Scientific Program Committee was particularly impressed with his scientific achievements and potential for leadership. He published on the mapping of the bio resource potential of Uganda and the role of energy recovery in meeting energy demands and creating jobs, especially for the youth.

As a NEF fellow, Prof. Banadda will promote science among young people and scientific community. In addition, support will be provided to the professor to take advantage of the opportunity to mentor and inspire other young, exceptional scientific talent from Africa and to help him interact with, receive mentoring from, and partner with leading scientists, policy-makers, industry representatives and civil-society leaders, as well as other exceptional young African scientists. Other forms of support will be provided to contribute to the establishment of a positive global view of science in Africa.

3.0: RESEARCH INNOVATIONS

3.1: DABE Recycles Diesel from plastics



The Department of Agricultural and Bio systems engineering (DABE) in partnership with Kentucky University USA came up with a new technology of making diesel from heavy plastics .The demonstration was carried out at the Department’s engineering workshop in Kabanyolo on 16th March 2016.

The diesel can be used in motor vehicle engines, generators, lighting in the house and lighting charcoal stoves

among others. The best plastics for diesel are heavy plastics such as old jerry cans, plates, basins, chairs, cooking oil jerry cans of 3-5litre, black, white and green polythene bags and tops for mineral water bottles. The bottles of mineral water are not recommended for use because they are composed of oxygen molecules and may blast.

The process involves chopping plastics into small pieces and putting them into a cylinder. The second step involves lighting a fire beneath the Rocket stove (big Reactor). Then fix the pipe on the cylinder containing the chopped plastic pieces and place it inside the big reactor. Heat the big reactor at temperatures of between 400 and 450 degrees. The plastic melts and evaporates. The vapor goes through a fixed pipe and condenses into a liquid. It is collected in bucket containing water. And since diesel is lighter than water it floats on water. The diesel is then separated from water by filtration.

What remains after the chemical conversion (extraction of diesel) can also be used as manure in gardens to enhance soil fertility.

The Makerere University team is made of Prof. Noble Banadda as the PI and co-PIs, namely, Dr. Nicholas Kiggundu and Dr. Ahamada Zziwa. These are working with three undergraduate and four graduate students at a masters level. The partners from Kentucky University USA are Jeffrey Seay, an Assoc. Prof. of Chemical Engineering with two of his students John Heggins and Chadni Joshi also undertaking chemical engineering course.

The innovation is the first of its kind in the country and a step towards utilizing waste polythene bags/ plastics and addressing the problem of the hazards caused by poor disposal of polythene bags in the country. The polythene takes between 150 – 200 years in the soil to decompose and has been a menace to this country in terms of policy and soil health. This technology will change the price of waste plastics and be turned into fuel for cooking, lighting thereby reducing use of firewood and stress on environment.

4.0: RESEARCH & INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

4.1: An E-learning Centre (Telematics receiving studio) for Food Scientist opened



The School of Food Technology, Nutrition and Bio engineering launched an E-learning centre to support Food Science and Human Nutrition training at the University. The centre was launched under the partnership of Makerere University, Stellenbosch University of South Africa and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture (JKUA) Kenya. The launch was officiated by the Deputy Director, Makerere University Directorate of Graduate

Research and Training, Prof. George Owinyi on 10th February 2016.

The centre will enable students to receive transmissions from telematic transmission studios in Stellenbosch University. The facility was procured under the European Union (EU) funded project titled, “ Partnerships to strengthen University Food and Nutrition Sciences training and Research in Eastern and Southern Africa (PASUFONS).

The project is aimed at facilitating joint teaching between partner institutions. One of the components is to share information, human resources and infrastructure that is existing among partner universities. Stellenbosch University has been using this technology for the past 20 years and it will be feeding Uganda which is embracing this technology for the first time.

The project will benefit Masters and PhD students but the number of programs and students will not be limited. Lectures can also be pre-recorded on CDs and sent to Stellenbosch to broadcast for other universities which don't have the broadcasting studios. Instead of students going to Stellenbosch, they will study from Makerere University. The benefits go beyond graduate students to academic and technical staff, university food and nutrition science departments among others.

In this technology, there is a transmitter set and a receiver set. The two universities, Makerere and Jomo Kenyatta Universities have got receiver sets for the time being. The receiver set receives signals directly from the Stellenbosch University and it can be viewed from Makerere and Jomo Kenyatta Universities. Tele means it has to do with transferring signals so the telecommunications is done, pictures are received, so one can watch and ask questions send via sms.

At Stellenbosch, there is a transmission set which uses satellite signals just like Digital TV set technology to bring the signals here. Eventually Makerere University will be able to teach from here and send the signals to other universities but at the moment, signals are coming from Stellenbosch University.

4.2: CAES selected to host the East African Centre of Excellence for Crop Improvement

The World Bank is supporting development of Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education Centers of Excellence to promote regional specialization among participating universities within areas that address particular common development challenges, and strengthen the capacities of these universities to deliver high quality training and applied research.

The main objective of the project is to meet the demand for skills required for Africa's development in areas such as agriculture, energy, extractive industries, etc., while strengthening the innovation capacity of the best African higher education institutions in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), and other relevant disciplines.

A Call for Proposals was made on 31st July 2015 and attracted participation from ten countries in the Eastern and Southern Africa Higher Education African Centers of Excellence (ACE II) Project namely Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

By the deadline for submission of proposals of 2nd October 2015, a total of 108 proposals was received from nine ACE II participating countries: Ethiopia (20), Kenya (20), Malawi (4), Mozambique (5), Rwanda (6), Tanzania (18), Uganda (19), Zambia (3), and Zimbabwe (13).

Of the 3 Makerere University Proposals, one titled “*Establishment of an East African Center for Crop Improvement at Makerere University (MaCCI) Uganda*” was finally approved and announced by World Bank Board. The projects will fetch a grant worth \$6,000,000 US Dollars.

The overarching goal of the MaCCI is to expand, strengthen, and transform the PhD PBB program following the pattern of the highly successful MSc PBSS. Thus, the Center will provide Eastern and Southern African (ESA) nations with industry ready plant breeders who can use cutting edge science to develop and deliver new food crop varieties. These breeders are urgently needed throughout this region in order to improve food security, nutrition, rural incomes, poverty reduction, and economic development.

Specifically, MaCCI will:

- (1) Strengthen the training and research capacity in plant breeding and biotechnology within the region, and enhance regional and international collaboration.
- (2) Improve the content and delivery of the curriculum, in order to provide a strong theoretical and scientific foundation with an applied focus on product delivery. The curriculum will serve both the ESA private and public sectors
- (3) Increase the capacity and sustainability of Makerere University's regional program in plant breeding in order to bring expertise together in one place. This will transform the program into the premier post graduate training center of excellence for crop improvement in Africa.

- (4) Train 30 new PhD level plant breeders from the ESA region. Some students will be selected for full funding, and others will enroll with part or all of their own funding.

Basic training and teaching infrastructure exist at the project location at the Makerere University's Research Institute at Kabanyolo. However, these need to be expanded and/renovated to better support teaching excellence.

1. Facilities have been identified for renovation and rehabilitation, namely, Creation of Seed quality/plant Lab, students and visiting staff accommodation, Screen houses, improvements and equipment at existing Molecular Biology & Microbial labs.
2. An enhanced Bioinformatics Training Facility will be added at the existing molecular biology laboratory in addition to general improvements to building.
3. With advice from consultants, other facilities related to seed handling and storage will be improved to contribute to the teaching and research programs. These include a greenhouse, seed store, molecular lab, and field equipment (e.g., irrigation systems).
4. To contribute to the distance learning component of course delivery, MaCCI will develop video conferencing capabilities in consultation with Cornell University and others.
5. The expected increased number of students will require expanded accommodation and lecture space. There are about 6-8 old buildings whose structures appear sound but that would need to be overhauled including but not limited to power & plumbing installation, painting and other improvement as found appropriate.
6. Similarly, a small guesthouse that cater for visiting professors participating in the program will need to be renovated to take care of about 4-5 visitors at any one time at the project campus.

The Center's general management will be administered through the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at Makerere University. The Principal of the College, designated as the Center Director (CD), will provide overall oversight to MaCCI activities. Day-to-day operations will be managed by the Deputy Center Director (DCD), who is the Project Manager (PI,)Dr. Richard Edema.

4.3: CAES receives a solar drier for research to address reduction of Post Harvest Losses and enhancing value addition.



The German RELOAD Project officially handed over a solar drier research facility to Makerere University. Donated by University of Kassel, Germany to the CAES, the solar drier was delivered and installed at the Makerere University Agricultural Research Institute (MUARIK) in December, 2015.

The research facility was officially handed over to Makerere University by the German RELOAD Project

Coordinator Michael Hesse and received by the Principal CAES Prof. Bernard Bashaasha on 9th March 2016 at MUARIK.

RELOAD is a five year Project (2013-2018) funded by GlobE at an estimated budget of 500,000 Euros. In full RELOAD stands for Reduction of Post Harvest Losses and Value addition in East African Food Value Chains.

Post Harvest Losses (PHL) destroy between 20-60% of East Africa's food production thus heavily contributing to the devastating nutritional situation, wastage of resources and rural poverty. PHL occur during harvest, drying, storage, transportation, processing, retail and consumer level. For milk, meat and a number of vegetables and fruits, roots and tubers, insufficient cooling and unhygienic handling are the main causes.

RELOAD's aim is to establish a development oriented inter and trans-disciplinary African-German Research Network in Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia to address reduction of Post Harvest Losses and enhancing value addition. The selected East African countries are each characterized by specific dominating commodity: Kenya (meat and milk), Uganda (fruits and vegetables with focus on plantain, and Ethiopia (cereals and tubers).

The facility will be useful to students and Makerere as an institution and, will serve as an important learning centre for post harvest handling to the surrounding community and other people beyond the university. RELOAD also procured a portable solar drier for field research for the Germany student doing research on pineapples in Ntungamo district in Uganda. A set of equipment was also procured for students doing research at MUARIK to establish the best way of drying commodities. The equipment which includes the airflow meter, data logger, humidity and temperature loggers among others will be used to measure climate, wind, humidity and temperature in the facility.

Nine (09) students are being funded by RELOAD at Makerere University. Of these, three (03) MSc. students and one (01) PhD student are from the Department of Agricultural and Bio systems engineering. One (01) MSc. student is from the Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics while two (02) students are doing MSc. in Renewable energy. The Department of Chemistry has one (01) PhD and one (01) MSc.

Student. The consortium comprises three (03) German and six (06) African universities, research institutions and private sector representatives (SMEs).

5.0: OUTREACH ACTIVITIES AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER TO SOCIETY

5.1: Mak Dons undergo Training of Trainers courses in didactics and students mentorship Under PREPARE BSC. Project funded by EU thru- EDULINK II Program



There is insufficient advance in agricultural sector and particularly, Agriculture in Sub Saharan Africa, has performed worse in the world. Among various causes of poor performance is the kind of education offered at Agricultural universities. Studies have shown that Universities fail to respond to community needs therefore,

graduates inadequately contribute to solving problems faced by the sector.

It is within this background that Junior, mid-career and senior academic staff at Makerere University in the fields of Agriculture, Forestry, Veterinary, Environment, Natural Sciences and Food Science on 1st February, 2016 converged for a three (3) days workshop to be equipped with relevant subject didactic skills for producing graduates who are able to meet societal needs and the labor market demands in the field of agriculture and related sciences. The other TOT course took place from the 21st -23rd of March 2016 at Grand Global Hotel.

The training workshops exposed participants to hands-on training in good teaching methods, student motivation, assessment and curriculum review processes and mentorship. The workshop was organized by Makerere University in collaboration with the University of Nairobi, Sokoine University of Agriculture and University of Copenhagen under the project titled “Enhancing the quality of graduates of Agriculture to meet tomorrow’s food security challenges (PREPARE-BSC project).

The PREPARE- BSC project is a regionally coordinated but internationally inspired project aimed at improving agricultural sector by improving the quality of training of undergraduates funded by EU through ACP-EDULINK II program at an estimated cost of 135,000 Euros. The overall objective is to enable the partner universities to develop competent relevant high level human resources within agriculture, veterinary science and related fields to address food security as part of socio-economic development needs of the societies in Eastern Africa.

6.0: RESOURCE MOBILISATION AND COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

6.1: CAES Management meets the Director PDD over the African Development Bank (AfDB) project support to the CAES

On 24th March, 2016 CAES Management met the Director Planning and Development Department Makerere University, Ms Florence Nakayiwa in the Conference Room, School of Agricultural Sciences. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the status of the African Development Bank (AfDB) project support to CAES.

The AfDB project started 4 years back and CAES was one of the flagship project where funds had been earmarked for four projects:

- Construction of the Maiden Building at MUARIK
- Rehabilitation of Laboratories in the college
- Establishment of the Dairy Value Chain at MUARIK
- Procurement and delivery of laboratory equipment

Way back in 2013 several meetings were held with project coordinators. The team inspected MUARIK and the building site and another revaluation of the MUARIK Dairy Value Chain was also conducted. Companies were paid for the designs of the building and business plan for the Dairy Value Chain.

There was some level of discomfort among CAES staff over the delayed commencement of the works and lack of communication /updates on what was happening. During the College Administrative Board Meeting, the Principal was requested to discuss with PDD, AfDB and the project coordinators in the Ministry of Education, Sports Science and Technology on what was happening.

During the meeting with the Director, PDD members specifically pointed out the following as major concerns:

- i) Why CAES was pushed aside yet the project begun from CAES;
- ii) How CHUSS and CoBAMS buildings which were not part of the project were now being fronted as priority;
- iii) Nothing on ground was being done on the MUARIK Maiden building;
- iv) The need for clarification on the rumor that after distribution of the project funds, a balance USD 1.5 million was left for CAES;
- v) Two laboratories (the Bio technology and East laboratory) had been vacated but no works had started up-to-date;
- vi) The college presented a business plan for the MUARIK Dairy Value Chain but no money had been disbursed for the approved equipment.

The Directors communication on the project delays and progress

The Director PDD, Ms. Florence Nakayiwa acknowledged that AfDB is a five (5) year project of which in the three (3) years, no work had been done. The project was approved in 2013 when the project documents were signed but fully settled in the late

months of 2015. She attributed the delay to the team in the Ministry of Education, Sports Science and Technology whom she said wanted to establish a coordinating unit. A full team composed of ICT, Education, procurement etc was now in place she reported.

Ms. Nakayiwa reported that USD 29.2 million had been allocated to Makerere University but the university had lost USD 1.7 million in exchange rate depreciation.

As to how CHUSS and CoBAMS came on board, the Director explained that the University Steering committee looked at the University Strategic plan and identified the concept of centralized teaching and laboratory facilities. One of them was a centralized lecture theatre facility next to CHUSS and the one next to CoBAMS.

The initial anticipation according to Nakayiwa was to have four (4) buildings including a multi disciplinary laboratory complex behind CoNAS, a biotechnology lab, GIS lab and a computer lab but when designs came in, money was inadequate. They went back to the drawing board to fit in the available resources and settled for a multidisciplinary laboratory complex and centralized teaching space, the Biotechnology lab came to CAES, Computer lab shifted to CoCIS, Chemistry lab to CoNAS and the GIS lab to CEDAT.

She said the committee anticipated that all labs would fit in the money. The steering committee agreed to have one (1) laboratory per college totaling up to nine (9) labs (e.g Chemistry lab CoNAS, Bio security lab in CoVAB and the Science lab in CEES. CAES did not have a laboratory because it had the initial facility at Kabanyolo and the Dairy Value chain but now the Biotechnology lab was also in CAES.

The Director also reported that the Ministry's mode of operation was that there must be one contractor to handle all constructions in one institution. Excel construction Company signed a contract on 16th December, 2015 to handle constructions at Makerere University effective 1st February, 2016. They have 18 months contract to finalize all the structures. Excel Construction Company started the works with the centralized lecture facilities next to CHUSS and CoBAMS. The company she said decided to phase the construction for easier management of the resources.

The Diagnostic lab (CoNAS), the Biotechnology lab (CAES) and the MUARIK Dairy Value Chain were scheduled for the 2nd Phase (July – Dec 2016). However, the Steering Committee appealed for re consideration of the MUARIK Dairy Value chain in the 1st phase (Feb-June 2016). Civil works will commence as soon as possible.

The Director PDD also clarified that all civil works will be done with the contractor's consultation with the user units. She said USD 10.8 million had been earmarked for the centralized teaching facilities and 9 laboratories and these funds cannot be transferred.

She also said, all project decisions and adjustments had been duly communicated to the Principal by email and/ written hard copy. The Principal was expected to pass over to the respective user units. She pledged to send hard copies to the Principal for reference.

Director's communication on MUARIK Dairy Value Chain:

The Director PDD clarified that:

- 1) A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Ministry of Education, Sports, Science and Technology where all benefiting institutions were required to identify a business incubation centre that could generate resources;
- 2) For Makerere University, MUARIK Dairy Value Chain was fronted as a university facility. The idea was that MUARIK Dairy Value Chain will generate money for the University and incubate students;
- 3) 10 PhD scholarships, merit based Masters and undergraduate scholarship would be offered;
- 4) The money for the incubation centres will be disbursed directly to the benefiting institutions but there were delays in getting resources because the ministry had not accounted for the money;
- 5) USD 168 million had been earmarked for the operationalisation of the MUARIK Dairy Value Chain. A meeting had been held the previous day in the ministry where concerns over delays had been expressed;
- 6) Work on the incubation unit was being spearheaded by the Private Sector Foundation and as an institution, Makerere had done what was expected of it;

The MUARIK Dairy Value Chain falls in the 1st phase (Feb –June 2016) and works were expected to commence soon.

It was agreed that the Director gets in touch with the contractor to find out the start date and communicate by 15th April, 2016.

Director's communication on the Initial Building at MUARIK

The Director PDD reported that:

- i) The initial building at MUARIK was affected by concerns of phasing;
- ii) Two architectural designs were received, one for the multidisciplinary laboratory complex and the other for the teaching facility;
- iii) The initial design was done by MBW consults. They had good CVs for the Architects but over quoted when they submitted the bid so, the money was not enough. They were told to go back and review but they over delayed;
- iv) Arch Designs were brought on board and were very fast in doing the review;
- v) Because of the dollar variations, Private Sector Foundation tendered USD 10.8 million out of the USD 12.2million for the facilities;
- vi) The current available budget for the initial building at MUARIK is USD 1.27 million which is below the *Excel construction company* budget of USD 1.5 million;
- vii) The university steering committee had a meeting with the consultants and a team from the ministry to discuss what could fit in the available USD 1.27 million. Another meeting was scheduled that day to continue with the same discussion;
- viii) *Arch Design Consultants* will look at the designs that were made by *MBW* to see how it can be scaled down and come up with an agreement on how the

- building will look like. MBW had quoted USD 2.39 million (after bargaining from USD 5.8 million);
- ix) It was still uncertain on what the AfDB officials will say on the initial MUARIK building and the available USD 1.27 million. In Principle, AfDB wants to undertake a project to full completion;
 - x) Another meeting had been scheduled for 4th April,2016 to discuss the revised costing and design;
 - xi) The exact status would be known after submission to AfDB for the no objection.

Agreed :

- i) To have a completed arm of the structure using the available funds;
- ii) That the Director PDD shares the outcome of the scheduled meetings with the college after 4th April, 2016.

Director's communication on the on procurement and delivery of laboratory equipment

Ms. Florence Nakayiwa said:

- i) In the meeting that was held at CAEC Kabanyolo in 2013, the impression was that the equipment was being fast tracked;
- ii) The fast tracking time anticipated had been to have the equipment procured in two phases i.e ones that were required immediately and others later;
- iii) The ministry later agreed to buy the specified equipment in one bulk. For instance, if it is radiology equipment for all beneficiary institutions, they would be procured by discipline;
- iv) The two issues at national level are 1) where the equipment would be kept if they are purchased before the buildings are ready and 2) whether procurement should also begin since it takes long to be delivered;
- v) By end of May, 2016, the tender will be out because the no objection had been taken to the ministry.

It was agreed that, the Director will share with CAES on the progress.

6.2: CAES Management meets the new University Bursar, Mr. Augustine Tamale

On 12th February, 2016 CAES Management met the new University Bursar Mr. Augustine Tamale in the Conference Room, School of Agricultural Sciences. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the new bursar to the college and share with him some financial issues affecting the college operations and chat a way forward.

The meeting was chaired by the Principal CAES. He gave welcome remarks and introduction to CAES. This was followed by presentations from different administrative units mostly focusing on financial related issues. The University Bursar gave responses and thereafter general discussions and a vote of thanks as summarized below:

Welcome remarks and introduction to CAES

The Principal, Prof. Bernard Bashaasha welcomed the University Bursar to the college describing his visit as maiden. He introduced the CAES as one of the ten (10) colleges of Makerere University. He further said the CAES:

- 1) Is multi-disciplinary in nature offering programs ranging from agriculture, forestry, environment, geography, food and nutrition aspects;
- 2) Has three (3) schools, eight (8) departments, two research institutes and seven specialized centre scattered in terms of location;
- 3) The student population was about 2,500 (1240 in SAS, 932 in SFEGS and about 300 in SFTNB);
- 4) Offers 16 Undergraduate and 28 Graduate programs;
- 5) In the last graduation, the college had 12 PhD candidates- one of the highest output next to CoVAB;
- 6) Has over 250 research projects ranging from USD 1,000 and above;
- 7) Total staffing was at 473, of these 206 are academic staff (21 full professors (10%) supported by part time staff in areas where there is no in house capacity; eight (08) are administrative staff and 259 are support staff.

Brief from the Team Leader

The Team Leader, Mrs. Vianney Baguma pointed out the following challenges:

- 1) Lack of funds due to tight ceilings and budget cuts. She expressed the need for a clear format on how funds are allocated;
- 2) Delayed transfers from the centre;
- 3) Delayed accountabilities by the academic staff who get funds due to delays in transferring funds to the college;
- 4) Few finance meetings held largely because there is no business to discuss due to lack of funds;
- 5) Lack of data entrants with access to student information system to input data so as to enable accountants to access the system and generate the required reports;
- 6) Inadequate staffing in the accounts department;
- 7) Difficulties in making budget provisions for domestic arrears;
- 8) Advances to personal accounts due to unique in-semester practical and training;
- 9) Students' transportation: The College has heavy vehicles that are getting older and their repairs are too huge to be met by the college. In addition, the vehicles are not insured by the university;
- 10) Maintenance of college structures and capital developments were on halt due to lack of funds.

Brief from one of the Deans

On behalf of the Dean, School of Agricultural Sciences, and Assoc. Prof. Denis Mpairwe:

- 1) Reiterated the need for the university to give a special consideration to the uniqueness of the programs offered particularly, the in-semester practicals and field courses;

- 2) Noted that Heads of Departments were supposed to get money to facilitate the teaching and procurement of materials for in-semester practical and field courses but more than often, the money comes in very late and are sometimes asked to follow the procurement procedure;
- 3) Observed there was still lack of understanding by the centre between in-semester practical and the University wide field attachment/recess term;
- 4) Expressed concerns over transfers of funds. He reported that previously, transfers were based on programs but this arrangement ceased for the last two semesters. The basis for transfers is not clearly explained and that besides the funds being inadequate, they are now based on the old faculty system and disbursed in a block figure and, further affecting Graduate teaching;
- 5) Inquired as to when the colleges will be accorded their semi autonomous status to manage their own affairs.

Brief from the Chair, Department of Forestry, Bio diversity and Tourism (FBT)

Prof. Philip Nyeko thanked the University Bursar for taking time to visit the CAES. He described the visit as a big plus on grounds that, in his 20 years of service at Makerere University, he had never met a university bursar in or out of office. Prof. Nyeko expressed optimism that the meeting should be the beginning of more interactions. He reported that:

- 1) The amount of funds released for the teaching materials, recess term and other activities has remained the same irrespective of the changes such as increase in students' population hence the need to revisit the process;
- 2) The university does not provide funds for teaching materials for Graduate students;
- 3) Private students were not paying for recess term (particularly last year) and that the school submitted a document to the Vice Chancellor to that respect but has not received a response. He expressed the need to sort out this matter urgently;
- 4) Most of the courses offered are science based and require equipment but there is no budget line for equipment. Inquired if there was a possibility to streamline this in the university budget;
- 5) Late payment and appointment of part time staff remains a big challenge that has more than often resulted in withholding of marks and student strikes. He implored the bursar to liaise with the Human Resource Department to come up with a formal way of appointing part timers quickly and paying them on time

Brief from the Ag. Director, MUBFS

Associate Prof. David Tumusiime thanked the University Bursar for the historical visit to the college.

- 1) Gave a brief on the history, location and research opportunities at MUBFS as follows:
 - MUBFS is located in Kibale National Park - four (4) hours drive from Kampala;
 - It has two research sites at Kanyawara and Ngongo;

- The station runs on an MoU with the Uganda Wildlife Authority (UWA) because it is located inside the national park to conduct research;
 - It has a number of research opportunities including unique plants and animals, research for social scientists and is bordered by multicultural societies unique for all needs of researchers;
 - The station has both short and long term research by national and international researchers;
 - Hosts a number of field courses by universities abroad.
- 2) The station has recorded a number of achievements including:
- Trained over 50 PhD and 30 MSc;
 - Has over 30 publications in top journals in different fields hence contributing to the visibility and ranking of the university;
 - Contributes to conservation by generating information used by UWA and influenced policy and;
 - Does outreach through communities and schools.
- 3) Outlined a number of challenges faced by the MUBFS including:
- Under staffing for example, during the restructuring process in 2013, the University cut the number of trail cutters from ten (10) to four (4). These have to maintain eight (8) acres, 25 Km of access roads, 250 Km of trails at Kanyawara and another 150 Km of trail system at Ngongo. As such the station has been forced to hire people stretching on her limited resources;
 - Old infrastructure dating as far as 1980 such as structures and vehicles which are expensive in terms of maintenance;
 - Apart from staff salaries, the station does not receive any subvention from Makerere University;
 - Decline in the usage of the station by Makerere University staff and students in terms of frequency and duration due to inadequate funds for the activities.

Brief from the Ag. Director, MUARIK

Assoc. Prof. Phinehas Tukamuhabwa welcomed the University Bursar to the CAES. He:

- 1) Gave a brief about MUARIK as follows:
- It is located behind Gayaza High School about 20 Km from Kampala;
 - The institute is seated on 650 acres of land;
 - It is mandated to do research, production and training on agriculture and related aspects;
 - Has crops, plantations and animals (cows, pigs and poultry);
 - The area has growth potential.
- 2) Said, despite the potential of the institute, there were a number of challenges:
- No budget from the Makerere University main centre hampering its smooth operation. Requested that some funds be allocated under the college to cater for MUARIK;

- Inadequate staffing: During the 2013 restructuring exercise, the number of staff was reduced from 68 by more than half. Retirees and deceased have never replaced;
- Inadequate recognition of the institute coupled by poor staff pay makes the available labor force unproductive. Requested that the institute be recognized and given staff to enhance productivity;
- Most of the infrastructure is in bad shape and require renovations;
- There is insecurity in terms of trespass and land grabbing resulting from unmarked boundaries;
- The procurement system is very expensive and lengthy and thus
- cripples the operations;
- A requisition of shs. 100 million was submitted to address the institute's unique needs but there has not been any positive response.

Brief from the College Procurement Officer

Ms. Sarah Nakibuuka reported that she operates two colleges as procurement officer that is CAES and CHUSS but each college has unique problems. She identified some of the challenges as including:

- 1) Low appreciation of the procurement process hence difficult to convince staff;
- 2) CAES has some unique courses and items which do not require following the procurement process and have been given due consideration;
- 3) Late release of funds;
- 4) Un-researched budget figures;
- 5) Lack of a streamlined procurement plan and budgeting process in the university resulting to procurement queries every year;
- 6) Understaffing in the procurement office i.e one person operating two colleges with no office assistants;
- 7) Delayed payment for suppliers who sometimes have to bribe through their way to get paid;
- 8) Too much beauracracies that is, the procurement process is too long and needs to be revised

Responses from the University Bursar

Mr. Augustine Tamale thanked the college for the invitation and warm welcome. He explained that his approach involves going to the people he works with to appreciate the facilities and activities they are engaged in for purposes of planning together for the better.

He responded to the issues raised as follows:

- 1) The financial problems in the university arise from the kind of budgeting practiced. The problem was that the university begins with expenses, then goes to look at revenues. This situation becomes so complex and tough to solve. As an institution that teaches specialists in financial management, the university must work right and improve on its revenue;

- 2) The university had shs. 4bn in unpaid fees and must collect all that is available to ensure that what is due to the university comes in, in terms of students, affiliated institutions, tenants and miscellaneous;
- 3) The university must enhance its revenue generation to finance the critical aspects of teaching. Some reviews had been done by management and MUASA to see how finances can be improved. A number of proposals had been put forward including the need to review the administrative structure and the strategy was being worked upon;
- 4) Budget cuts have been an issue and appear unrealistic but most of the money collected was being spent on employees leaving very little for field activities, vehicles, equipment and academic issues;
- 5) Management was looking forward to the government promise to enhance salaries of staff to free up some money to fund other activities. Management was also expecting increased funding from government to handle other issues;
- 6) Delayed payments were due to delayed accountabilities but this would be handled. He advised all units to be proactive and hand in accountabilities before deadlines;
- 7) How funds are allocated: In September, units are supposed to be consolidating the budgets and submitting them early enough to allow stakeholders discuss how to allocate money. Where the University council cuts the budget, he pledged to update all the affected units why that decision would have been reached;
- 8) The university was working out on the implementation of new software (CEMAS) to be concluded in April, 2016 to move away from manual system to automation of registration. Restructuring had also been carried out by the Directorate of Human Resources where the issue of Data entrants will also be addressed;
- 9) On the issue of understaffing, there was need to address the payment disparities, restore the morale of workers and gauge whether the problem is morale or understaffing;
- 10) Domestic arrears are illegal. The university has pending bills to the tune of shs.8bn. Suppliers have to keep walking in the university corridors and this explains partly why prices remain high. Once the university improves on its revenue base and pay suppliers in time, there could be fair procurement. The university seems relaxed in terms of debt collection for instance at one time MUBS paid shs.750 million, 200 million and then shs. 2 million. Management is to move into a positive direction to address the issue of pending bills;
- 11) Advances on personal accounts are a concern in the auditors' reports. Only impressed holders are supposed to receive money. Management was working out to have three (3) impressed holders. A notice is to be issued by the University Secretary to that effect. Any person who sends money to a person who is not an impressed holder is deemed to have sent money to a wrong person and will be held responsible;
- 12) Full decentralization to accord colleges the semi autonomous status will first require strengthening the university revenue base. At the moment, the university is handicapped and relies on units to bring in money before it is released in piecemeal as it looks at other sources;

- 13) The college procurement officer should educate members on the PPDA law, avail staff a simple flow chart showing the entire procurement process and encourage units to submit their requisition early;
- 14) For courses that require more field courses/attachment, private students should pay for the additional training but for government students, funds should be released;
- 15) On transfer of funds based on revenue generated, the Kabasa Committee recommended that payments would be made to people who work so as to free up some money and send to units that generate it. Where an academic staff is not teaching, he/she would be expected to be doing research;
- 16) He will need to consult on the issue of recess term because he had no information;
- 17) The University management was aware of claims for research funds and part timers and are all tied to revenue but these will be handled piecemeal as funds come in;
- 18) Management was also aware of the staffing deficit and was working towards addressing it as it waits for government releases;
- 19) MUARIK could be a big commercial entity. He will need to look at the MUARIK business plan to make a better case for capitalization;
- 20) The college should consider planting trees on MUARIK boundaries to make it secure from land grabbers. This was in line with the college plan to utilize forest students during recess term;
- 21) He had received a number of complaints about delayed processing of funds in the finance office partly due to lack of money. He reported that the rate at which requisitions are being cleared was faster and pledged that once money is available he was committed to clearing payments as quickly as possible;
- 22) By and large, the problems of Makerere University were due to inadequate revenue. Management was lobbying government for increased funding and looking into ways of increasing the revenue generation, removing laziness in revenue collection, synchronizing university fees for science courses and to solve the problem of revenue leakages;
- 23) Implored all stakeholders to work together for a better working environment.

General Discussions

Members noted that:

- 1) The introduction of the incentive led to the abandoning of the responsibility allowance for Principals, Deans and Heads of units, something described as not right and should be treated differently;
- 2) The proposed construction of the maiden building at MUARIK under the African Development Bank project had stalled. The genesis of the problem was the prequalified firms that were generated from the centre without contribution from college/ departments. The total budget was 2.8 million US Dollars but current

information is that only 1.5 million USD was available. Members felt that this balance could be used to kick start some works on the structure;

- 3) The University has a big debt of pensioners and out of these about 100 of them were still occupying university houses due to non-payment of their benefits. In a year, these houses could generate a billion shillings to run other university activities. It was suggested that retirees should be given two options, either to vacate the houses or remain occupying them on condition that rent would be deducted from their benefits;
- 4) Accounts department was getting embarrassed each time when the same disbursement are received despite the increase in student numbers;
- 5) There was a possible conflict of interest where college accountants are supposed to verify payments below shs.5 million. The bursar expressed the need to build capacity and set up a unit to handle payments below shs.5 million. Emergency procurement will be discussed with PPDA on how to handle emergencies.

Vote of thanks by the Deputy Principal,

Associate Prof. Gorettie Nabanoga:

- 1) Thanked the University Bursar for sparing his valuable time to visit the CAES;
- 2) Reiterated members sentiments and appreciation to have interacted with the University bursar for the first time;
- 3) Commended the Bursar for the open door policy as a step that will move the university in the right direction;
- 4) Said the ideas shared were very good if implemented and pledged to keep praying for the bursar;
- 5) Expressed the college's commitment to seek guidance and support from the Bursar;
- 6) Described the visit as an introduction saying, the college would seek for another prolonged meeting with him.

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