

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

**PRINCIPAL'S 3RD QUARTELY REPORT**

**SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER, 2014**

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## **Foreword**

This is the Principal's 3rd Quarterly report that highlights the major activities and achievements in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) between September and December 2014.

The college successfully conducted the major academic activities including teaching, preparations for examination and 65th graduation scheduled for January 2015.

A number of new staff joined the college while many ascended in their academic ranks. The report also outlines some of the efforts by staff and students to reach out to the communities and strengthening collaboration both at national and international scene.

At the end, the report highlights some of unaccomplished tasks in form of plans to improve on the training, research, resource mobilization and collaborative efforts as well as knowledge transfer to society.

## Abbreviations

<b>AGRA</b>	Alliance for the Green Revolution in Africa
<b>BARI</b>	Bachelor of Science Agricultural and Rural Innovation
<b>ACSS</b>	African Crop Science Society
<b>CABI</b>	Centre for Agricultural Bio-Sciences International
<b>CAES</b>	College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
<b>CHS</b>	College of Health Sciences
<b>CEES</b>	College of Education and External Studies
<b>NARO</b>	National Agricultural Research Organisation
<b>NAADS</b>	National Agricultural Advisory Services
<b>ICRISAT</b>	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
<b>NEMA</b>	National Environmental Management Authority
<b>SAS</b>	School of Agricultural Sciences
<b>SFTNB</b>	School of Food Technology, Nutrition and Bio engineering
<b>SFECS</b>	School of Forestry, Environmental and Geographical Sciences

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## Introduction

Makerere University College of Agricultural and Environmental sciences (CAES) is one of the nine colleges of Makerere University. It was formed by the integration of the Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Forestry and Nature Conservation, Makerere University Institute of Environment and Natural Resources (MUIENR) and the Department of Geography.

Currently, CAES comprises three schools, i.e. School of Agricultural Sciences, School of Food Technology, Nutrition and Bioengineering and the School of Forestry, Environmental and Geographical Sciences.

Each of the Schools is made up of departments which administer and deliver academic programmes at undergraduate and graduate level as tabulated below:

The college has two institutes that handle research. These are Makerere University Research Institute Kabanyolo (MUARIK) and Makerere University Biology Field Station (MUBFS). The college has 14 centers serving as a base for knowledge transfer partnerships.

**Vision:** “To be a leading institution of academic excellence and innovations in Africa”.

**Mission:** “To advance training, knowledge generation and service delivery in order to enhance agricultural development, sustainable natural resource utilization and environmental management.”

## 1.0: TEACHING AND LEARNING

### 1.1: Examinations for Semester 1 sets off well

The examinations proceeded well as scheduled with no major cases reported. The college received shs.38.780, 103 for examinations, of these shs. 6,829, 000 was allocated to SFTNB, shs. 14,580, 250 was allocated to SFECS and 11,717,000 to SAS; while shs. 5.63,853 was allocated to the Principal's and Registrar's office. However, Deans reported that schools needed more money for cleaning materials.

### 1.2. Preparations for 65<sup>th</sup> Graduation for Jan 2015

The preparation for the next graduation went on well. The college was able to meet the deadline and submitted the list of the graduands. Statistics of the graduating students for January 2015 is tabulated below:

#### SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES (SAS)

<b>UNDERGRADUATES</b>		<b>Number</b>
	Bachelor of Agribusiness Management	67
	Bachelor of Agricultural and Rural Innovation	56
	Bachelor of Science in Agriculture	57
	Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Land Use and Management	20
	Bachelor of Science in Horticulture	06
<b>Total</b>		<b>206</b>
<b>GRADUATE</b>		
	Master of Science Agricultural and Applied Economics	09
	Master of Agribusiness Management	03
	Master of Science in Agricultural Economics	03
	Master of Science in Animal Science	01
	Master of Science in Crop Science	12
	Master of Science in Soil Science	05
	Master of Science in Plant Breeding and Seed Systems	05
<b>Total</b>		<b>38</b>
<b>PhDs</b>		

	PhD in Plant Breeding and Seed Systems	04
	PhD. In Agricultural Extension Education	01
	PhD in Agricultural Economics	01
<b>Total</b>		<b>06</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>250</b>

**SCHOOL OF FORESTRY ENVIROMENTAL AND GEOGRAPHICAL SCIENCES (SFECS)**

<b>UNDERGRADUATES</b>		<b>Number</b>
	Bachelor of Science in Conservation Forestry and Products Technology	38
	Bachelor of Science in Social and Entrepreneurial Forestry	32
	Bachelor of Science in Forestry	02
	Bachelor of Environmental Science	66
	Bachelor of Science in Meteorology	01
<b>Total</b>		<b>139</b>
<b>GRADUATE</b>		
	Master of Science in Forestry	02
	Master of Science in Agro Forestry	01
	Master of Science Environment	13
<b>Total</b>		<b>16</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>159</b>

**SCHOOL OF FOOD TECHNOLOGY NUTRITION AND BIO- ENGINEERING (SFTNB)**

<b>UNDERGRADUATES</b>		<b>Number</b>
	Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Engineering	19
	Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Technology	22
	Bachelor of Science Human Nutrition	18
<b>Total</b>		<b>59</b>



<b>GRADUATE</b>		
	Master of Food Science and Technology	04
	Master of Science in Applied Human Nutrition	08
	Master of Science Agricultural Engineering	01
<b>Total</b>		<b>13</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>72</b>
<b>Source: CAES Registrars office</b>		

### **1.3. New Masters course in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) cleared**

The Department of Geography was cleared to start a Masters course in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) to help in strengthening links with government organizations such as Department of Geological Surveys and mines; Office of the Prime Minister (OPM), National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), Meteorology Department, Population Secretariat (POPSEC), Ministry of Healthy (MOH) and Ministry of Disaster and Preparedness.

## **2.0. INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPT/EQUIPMENT ACQUIRED**

### **2.1. Modern Biotechnology Equipment received**

MUARIK received a number of brand new equipment worth EUR 17,000 or USD 24,000 from AGRA to support the Regional MSc. program in Plant Breeding and Seed Systems on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2014. The equipment will boost the capability of our Biotechnology laboratory. The equipment includes an automated tissue processor that will allow us 'grind' up 384 plant samples in a very short time. This equipment will now increase our lab capacity to process DNA for several subsequent processing including sequencing. The other pieces of equipment received are the PCR, ELISA Unit, and water purification unit. In February 2015, the college will also 'skill' the students in the use of the "Breeding Management systems'.

### **2.1. MAAIF promises a tractor for ploughing**

The college in collaboration with Director MUARIK has also been engaging the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) which has promised a tractor for ploughing at MUARIK

## **3.0 HUMAN RESOURCE/ CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

### **3.1 New staff**

Mr. Wasige Jimmy was appointed the MUARIK Farm Manager effective 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2014. He already reported for duty and was introduced to the MUARIK staff at a meeting that was held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 at MUARIK.

The college also received the New Human Resource Manager / Administrative Assistant Mr. Richard Mugisha following the transfer of Ms. Kevin Nabiryo to the College of Computing and Information Sciences (CoCIS).

Two officers, Mr. Byarugaba Steven and Mr. Bwire Godfrey are serving as procurement officers for both CAES and College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHUSS) following the transfer of Mr. Deo Ibanda to the College of Health Sciences (CHS).

### **3.2. Appointments and Promotions**

The following academic staff were promoted by the University Appointments board.

1. Dr. Prossy Isubikalulu promoted to Senior Lecturer
2. Dr. Thomas Lapaka Odong Confirmed in University service and promoted to Lecturer.
3. Dr. Fred Kabi promoted to Associate Professor
4. Dr. Florence Birungi Kyazze promoted to Senior Lecturer
5. Dr. Alice Amoding Katusabe promoted to Senior Lecturer
6. Ms. Rebecca Mukebezi appointed as Assistant Lecturer

On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014, the Chancellor of The University of Nairobi Dr. Vijoo Ratansi conferred Dr. Egeru Anthony with the Doctor of Philosophy in Dryland Resource Management of The University of Nairobi. Dr. Egeru is from the Department of Environmental Management under the School of Forestry, Environmental and Geographical Sciences.

### **3.3. Advertised positions**

#### **3.3.1. Positions of the Dean SFEGS and Dean SFTNB**

Positions of Dean, School of Forestry, Environmental and Geographical Sciences (SFEGS) and the Dean School of Food Technology, Nutrition and Bio engineering (SFTNB) were advertised with a deadline of 21<sup>st</sup> November,

2014. Nominations were received and await further guidance from the office of the Academic Registrar.

### **3.3.2. Ag. Position of Director MUBFS expires**

The Current Director Makerere University Biological Field Station Kibale (MUBFS) has also been serving in Ag. Capacity and his office was working with the College Human Resources Manager to advertise the position. Interested qualified candidates have been interested to look out for the advertisement soon.

## **4.0. OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

### **4.1. CAES pilot plant doctors run plant clinics in communities**

Experito Mayanja Kabuga, Paul Onyait and Paul Mugisha, third year students under the Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Program who graduated as “plant doctors” in July 2013 represented a team of students who have run a plant clinic for farmers in Busukuma sub-county under the guidance of the sub-county extension agent, Mr. Ronald Kavuma and Mr. Gerald Kyeyune, the Practicals Coordinator in the Department of Agricultural Production.

This program is one of three initiatives under the partnership between the CAES and the Centre for Agricultural Bio-Sciences International (CABI). Using two modules developed by CABI, 100 students were trained last year and 60 students in November 2014. Module 1 trains on plant diagnosis and how to run a plant clinic, feeding into module 2 that equips students with knowledge and skills on making recommendations on management. Other on-going initiatives are developing a certificate course for re-tooling in-service extension agents, and integrating the approach and content used in the CABI modules into the undergraduate curriculum of CAES.

Because of the interest they have shown and their good performance at the clinic, the three 2013 plant doctors have been nominated for further training in data management.

The training of plant doctors will help to meet the demand in the local governments, which face many challenges. So far plant clinics are making great strides in improving extension service delivery to farmers. A case in note is Busukuma sub-county, where funding challenges often limit the extent to which the extension department can address the farmers’ problems. Makerere University students are at the front line of extension, improving service delivery as they are equipped with practical skills for future deployment in improving the quality of Agriculture in Uganda.

### **4.2. Follow up activities on the UPDF training**

Following the successful implementation of the UPDF Agriculture Induction Course by CAES, the leadership of Operation Wealth Creation (OWC) organized a one day workshop involving all the instructors who participated in the Agriculture Induction program and other interested academic staff.

The broad objective of the one day meeting was to further brainstorm on the process of Agricultural transformation in Uganda and to propose elements of a Standard Operations Procedures (SOP) for the UPDF officers currently supporting NAADS activities at the district level.

On 4th December, 2014 about 45 members of staff turned up for the consultative workshop on the transformation of the Agricultural Sector in Uganda. Members checked in at Serene Suites Mutundwe on 3rd December 2014, hosted by General Salim Saleh, Co-ordinator Operation Wealth Creation (OWC). Members provided input and advise for the operationalization of the proposed Single Spine Extension System and what CAES/Makerere can do to support the system in different aspects.

### **4.3. The 4th Organic stakeholders' workshop held**

A one day workshop was organised by Makerere University under the Productivity and Growth in Organic Value Chains (ProGrOV, 2011-2016) project. This is a research project where MSc and PhD students together with their supervisors investigate various challenges and potentials of organic farming systems and value chains. It is a joint project implemented by Makerere University (Uganda), University of Nairobi (UoN), Kenya and Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and universities in Denmark funded by the Danish government.

## **5.0: RESOURCE MOBILISATION & COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS**

### **5.1 Participation in the Ntungamo Transformational Initiative**

On November 28th 2014, the Principal represented the Vice Chancellor in Rukooni, Mwizi, Ntungamo district at function where the First Lady Launched the Ntungamo Transformational Initiative (NTI) a program of AFRICA-COVAB under the Presidential Initiative. AFRISA is Africa Institute for Strategic Resource Services and Development. This is Makerere University's (COVAB) alternative Education Model of Training and Community Transformation. The model has potential to serve as a good platform for community engagement/mobilisation. It entails taking the University to the Community. Currently COVAB is restricting the programs to Poultry, Piggery, Apiary, Dairy, Aquaculture and other livestock related. As CAES we feel there is a gap and a possible entry point for programs such as pasture production, all crop enterprises, horticulture, enhancement of agribusiness, soil health, forestry and many others.

### **5.2. Visit to Tottori University, Japan**

The DVC (AA) Dr. Earnest Okello - Ogwang), Ms. Martha Loy Muwanguzi of International Affairs Office and Prof. Bernard Bashaasha, Principal, CAES visited Tottori University Japan on 27<sup>th</sup> October - November, 2014. There are many prospects for collaboration including Technology Centre at MUARIK, Student and staff exchanges, mushroom research etc ( report is available on the CAES webpage).

## **6.0. PLANS AT THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR**

### **6.1. Proposed programs for MUARIK**

#### **6.1.1 Research programs**

A number of programs have been proposed for MUARIK. The Proposed Research programs at MUARIK include (Soybean, Cowpea, mushroom, medicinal plants, tree resources and research program, soil health etc; The college will also require resources to fence the piggery unit at MUARIK.- Next projects will be opening MUARIK boundaries and Fencing MUARIK, grading MUARIK roads and rebuilding the MUARIK weather station.

#### **6.1.2. Proposal to form The Kabanyolo Co. Ltd**

The college is working with a lawyer to establish the MUARIK Company Ltd. so that the institute can have an investment fund. The plan is to start with the Feedmill. The Director is working on MUARIK plan and Vision which will be shared. The proposed plan is to look at research programs relevant to national development and livestock enterprises like poultry, piggery and animal breeding. The idea is to grow all crops, bring them to the Feed mill and then direct them to poultry and other livestock. Other plans include having a line for the conversion of agricultural waste into useful products.

Agromax is also teaming up with Israel graduates and would require land at MUARIK to carry out agricultural projects. The college management agreed with these ideas and advised that the Principal's office and Director MUARIK should consult and work with the Department of Planning.

#### **6.1.3 Operationalisation of the carpentry workshop at MUARIK**

The College has a carpentry workshop at MUARIK that is grossly under-utilised. The School of Forestry, Environmental and Geographical Sciences (SFEGS) has carpentry equipment located on campus. The office of the Principal and the SFEGS are working out modalities to operationalise the carpentry workshop at MUARIK including relocation of the current equipment at main campus to MUARIK. The college is in the process of appointing an overseer with the advice of the Dean, SFEGS.



## **6.2: Plans for Nyabyeya Forest College**

The college will also look at completing the Nyabeya student Hostel. When the DVCAA visited Nyabyeya, there were promises from the University Procurement unit to complete this dormitory by this year 2014. However, no activity has been reported.

## **6.3 Use of institutional fee collections**

In one year, the college has saved over \$100,000 Dollars from the institutional fees on projects up from \$4000 from the previous management and was looking at Kabanyolo as a critical area. Two proposals on how to use this money are:

- Buying a 30 seater shuttle that would bring students and staff from MUARIK which would cost \$101,000;
- Buying a Generator to serve SAS and SFEGS Buildings at \$93,000 and would prefer it supplied by MANTRAC a Germany Company;

College management committee sat and agreed that buying the Generator would be the best option as this will ensure that studies and experiments go on uninterrupted and also save the college from embarrassments from visitors at the time of Umeme blackouts.

## **6.4. Christmas (Chicken/Coupon)**

The college had shs. 35 Million on UGX account. Of this, each school was allocated shs. 1,000,000 for cleaning materials. As a usual practice, a Christmas bonus of shs. 80,000 was agreed upon as Christmas gift for each staff member. This was given in form of a coupon to be supplied by Quality super markets.

## **6.5. Cracks on School of Food Technology Building**

A parliamentary committee on Education and Sports on 27th November, 2014 tasked Makerere University delegation to explain the apparent cracks on the Food Technology Building and whether the Building is still fit for occupation. The Principal together with the Vice Chancellor would constitute a team of building engineers to asses and report on the cracks mentioned. The Dean SFTNB to appraise meeting on this matter.

## **6.6. Illegal occupants at MUARIK**

There were people occupying MUARIK houses illegally. The Director has been asked to generate a list and forward it to the DVC (F&A) and the Legal department for action.

## **6.7. MOUs with college partners**

College efforts to renew an MoU with UWA could have had a setback given the recent events at UWA and the subsequent stepping down of the Executive Director. Management will follow up once calm returns to UWA. There is also need for the framework of operation with key stakeholders (MAAIF, Ministry of Tourism and Antiquates, Ministry of Water and Environment).

The Principal's office was in touch with MAAIF to send a copy of an MoU between MAAIF and CoVAB for the college to customize its MoU. Management had also deliberated on the drafting of MoUs with Nyabyeya, Budongo, NFA, UWA and Bukalasa and had constituted a committee to handle. The Deputy Principal is to champion the drafting of the MoUs and also make a follow up on the committee that was assigned to draft the MoUs for the above mentioned partners.

## **6.8. Concerns of BARI External Students**

The students of BARI external were not certain of whether they belong to CAES/CEES and had signed a petition that they no longer wanted to belong to the College of Education and External Studies (CEES). Most of them had problems at the time of registration as they were tossed between CEES and CAES. College management deliberated on this issue and noted that college can defend the program since it is under one of its units – the Department of Extension and Innovations studies (DEIS). It was also noted that CAES was best placed in terms of human resources and expertise to handle this course and therefore the program can be resident in CAES. The College Registrar, Dean SAS, Head DEIS and the Principal are making arrangements to meet the Principal CEES as soon as possible to negotiate.