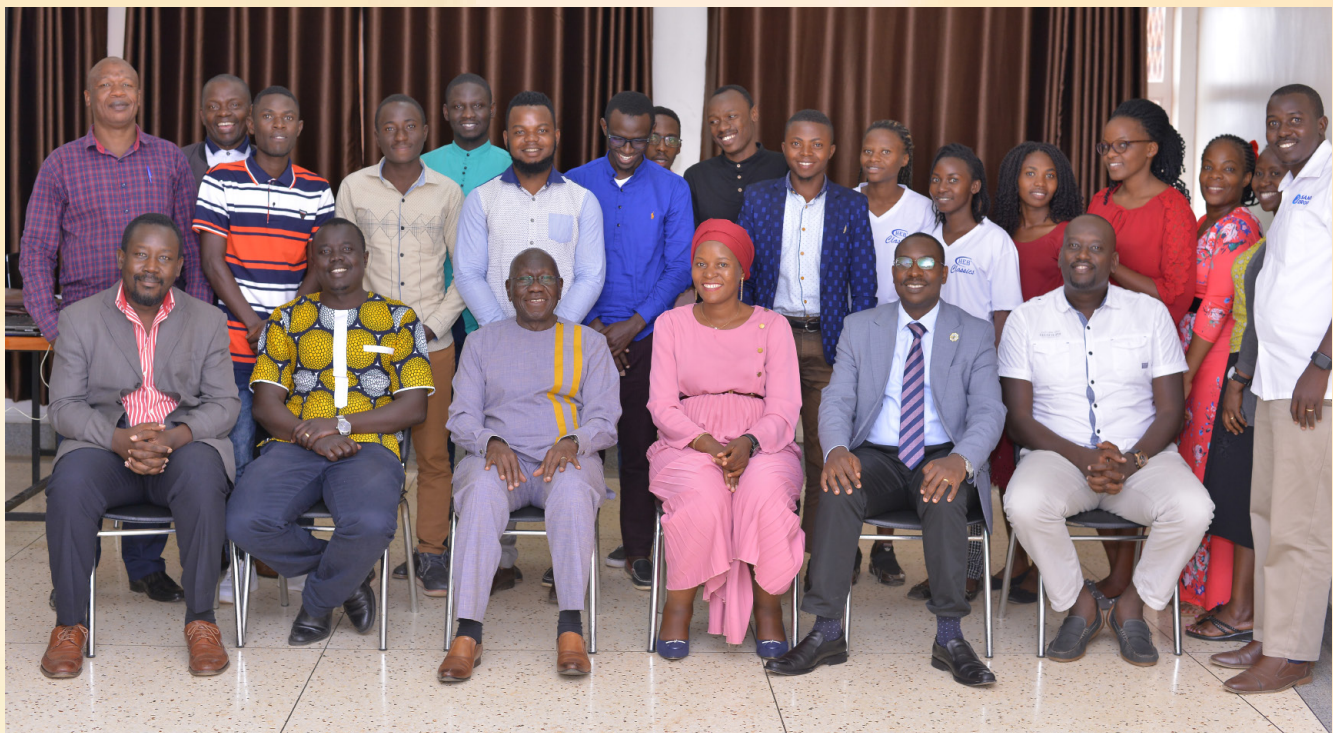




## Centre for Innovation and Technology Transfer holds the 3rd Scientific Writing Workshop



MUST Equips and Supports Innovators to strengthen the Innovation Ecosystem to address the Pressing Community Challenges in Uganda

In executing its mandate, the MUST Centre for Innovation and Technology Transfer (CITT) has hosted the 3rd Scientific Writing Workshop from 30th May 2022 to 3rd June 2022 in order to generate solutions to community pressing challenges in areas of health, business, ICT, Engineering, Agriculture and Pharmacology. The Scientific Writing Workshops are a series of activities CITT conducts in fulfilling its mandate of strengthening, nurturing and coordinating the innovation landscape at MUST, strengthen the capacity of Innovators and innovation hubs at Mbarara University of Science and Technology. During the workshop, innovators have been taken through lessons on how to develop competitive concepts, articulate the innovation problems and write fundable proposals with clear problem statements, budgets and business models based on strong commercial viabilities.





The Vice Chancellor Prof. Celestino Obua

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Celestino Obua, thanked and recognized the organizers for always encouraging innovators who are always intervening to address community challenges in real time. He thanked the competing teams for the different ideas and urged them to call upon other persons to compete and win. “to me you are all winners, every idea thought of and presented is a solution somewhere at a particular time. Not winning this today should not discourage you”. The Vice Chancellor further said that a University that carries out research and innovation stays relevant and sustainable in a globally unpredictable environment.

He added that innovations nurture new ideas, enhance creativity, encourage collaboration, and promote inclusion and diversity in any community. He ended with an encouraging quotation: “High-performance teams are not the goal. The goal is something that grows influence over time and becomes unstoppable. The goal is a movement!”. By Mark Miller



Dr. Medrad Twinamasiko giving remarks

The innovative training has been led by Dr Medard Twinamasiko, Director CITT in conjunction with the CAMTech team led by Dr. Data Santorino, Ms. Nuriat Nambogo, Mr. Martin Mukama and Mr. Amos Nyombi at the Incubation Room, FAST building in Kihumuro Campus. The workshop was opened up on Monday, 30th May, 2022 by Prof. Nixon Kamukama the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academic Affairs and the Chairperson CITT Board. this workshop brought together a pool of eight innovation teams made up of eighteen participants altogether.

Eight teams comprised of MUST staff and students are competing for the 2021/2022 CITT seed grant which will be awarded to 3 innovation teams after undergoing a Project Qualification Requirement (PQR) in June. Previously, 6 innovation teams have benefited from the seed grant through a competitive process and have yielded great prototypes, spinoffs companies and commercialisable ideas.



Dr. Data Santorino scoring the innovators

Eighteen (18) participants were taken through sessions on innovative scientific writing skills, problem statement based on the CITT and CAMTech template, citation and referencing, competitive landscape analysis, budgeting, Business Model Canvas and Commercial viability among other sessions.

Participating teams at the Third Scientific Writing Workshop included;

TEAM	INNOVATION	PARTICIPANTS
Natural Herbal lip bam	A Lip Balm made from 100% natural products	Hellen Birungi Brendah Ainemukama
Crop Residues to feeds conversion	Converting Crop Residue into Valuable Products	Kintu Mugagga Duncan Sesaazi
Peinzy App	Financial Empowerment Platform	Rennie Bakashaba, Apollo Arikod
Soilla	Soil Classification Model for Farmers.	Jimmy Ssegujja, Wesley Kambale
Plastic Fuel	Conversion of Plastic Waste to fuel	Farad Sagala Derrick Muloogi
Automatic Gate System	Automatic Gate Opening for homes	Crispus Mubangizi Ronald Nuwahereza
AgroMarket App	A mobile app that helps find market for Farmers' produce for innovative organic farming techniques	Rashid Muhoozi Albert Begumanya Mulinzi
Combined Organic Pesticides	Organic Pesticides	James Nemeyimana Mellon Ainembabazi







The team at FAST led by Dr. Johnes Obungoloch

On June 15 2022, A delegation from the University of Soroti visited MUST, Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology with the intention of benchmarking in all spheres. The team from Soroti University was led by Prof. Percival Egau, Dean School of Engineering and Technology, Soroti University, Eng. Lynn Tar Gutu HOD Electronics and Computer Engineering and other staff.

The Dean of Faculty Applied Sciences and Technology, Dr. Johnes Obungoloch and his team welcomed the team and pledged full support to the visiting team.



Prof. Percival Egau, Dean School of Engineering and Technology at Soroti University.

In his remarks, Prof Egau appreciated the team at MUST for the warm welcome and the zeal to support Soroti University particularly the School of Engineering and Technology. Prof. Egau said he was one of the academicians in the establishment of engineering departments in East Africa and Africa at large. He was part of the team that spearheaded the formulation and establishment of Engineering schools in Kenya, Eswatini, and Uganda specifically Soroti University where he is currently serving as the Dean School of Engineering and Technology



# Seed Global Health a strong pillar for Emergency Health Service Delivery at MUST/ MRRH

Three years ago, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) partnered with Seed Global Health to provide emergency health care services to the people of Southwestern Uganda and Uganda as a whole.

The collaboration started in October 2019 with the aim of equipping health professionals with skills of extending emergency health care services to neighboring communities of the partnering institutions. This was between Seed Global Health, MUST, and Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital

On June 14, 2022, Seed Global Health, MUST and MRRH held a two-day annual partnership meeting to appreciate the work that has been done through reviewing year 3 implementation wins and lessons learned, review the existing partnership objectives and measurement, and make necessary adjustments based on progress, develop key partnership priorities for year and Identify educator needs for 2023-2024.

According to Mr. Allan Nsubuga the M&E programs Manager Seed Global, the partnership is for a period of 5 years. He added that the collaboration has yielded successful stories, in line with providing emergency health care services and equipping health care professionals.

“ For the last three years, we have registered success in mentoring and training emergency health care professionals. Some of them are now tutors in the emergency medicine department at MUST and serve in the emergency department at Mbarara Regional Referral hospital”.

Mr. Nsubuga added that, the partnership has resulted in the installation of ultrasound machine to enhance medical training and provide clinical services at Mbarara hospital.



Group sessions

The meeting later broke away into sessions which required the sharing of ideas aimed at improving emergency health care service delivery and developing an annual work plan for the year 2022-2023. The groups had experts from the Seed Global Health Head Quarters in Boston-Massachusetts, United States of America (USA). The MUST community is grateful to the continuous support from Seed global Health in rations to promoting good health services for Ugandans. These have supported both students and staff in Training research, mentorship, and funding of health innovations.







Dr. Justine Atheno Odakaha  
Seed educator



Dr. Kenneth Bagonza  
seed educator and ASST. lecturer



Dr. Prisca Mary Kizito  
HOD Emergency Medicine

***UNESCO-CFIT funding to Enhance the Quality of Technical Education Programmes***





Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and sports (MoES) is implementing a 3- year project funded by the United Nations Education and Scientific Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and China Funds in Trust (CFIT) phase III project.

The project titled **Higher Technical Education in Africa for Technical and innovative Workforce** is expected to last for 48 months covering 12 months of formulation and 36 months of implementation i.e. from October 2020 to October 2024. The project formulation phase and inception phase is from October 2020 to October 2021 while the implementation stage starts from November 2021 to October 2024



Group Discussion



Dr. Medard Twinamasiko

On June 14, 2022 the University held the inception meeting, at the University inn . The projects coordinator **Dr. Medard Twinamatsiko** a lecturer from the Faculty of interdisciplinary studies said that the project is anticipated to enhance the relevance of MUST to offer labor market driven courses and programs that will address the unemployment and employability challenges in the region.



Prof. Nixon Kamukama



Members in attendance

The project head **Prof. Nixon Kamukama, and Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs** thanked all those present despite the busy schedule. The meeting included Faculty Deans, Faculty Administrators “ Heads of Department and Students. He said the project aims at enhancing the capacity of MUST to expand access to enhance the quality of technical education programs that equip youth with competences and skills relevant to the labor market and to their individual needs for lifelong learning, which ultimately contributes to sustainable socio-economic development in the participating countries with the upgrading of human capital and skills “Through labor market analysis, curriculum review and conduct of short courses, the role of MUST as a premier institution will be strengthened and made relevant. Specifically, the practical training of graduates in agricultural and bio-pharma technology innovations will provide solutions to the employment gaps where most graduates have been joining the market with limited practical and entrepreneurship skills,” said Nixon.





Prof. Celestino Obua



Vice Chancellor during the Meeting

The Vice Chancellor Professor Celestino Obua thanked the team members for their tireless efforts and the desire to solve community problems using science and technology-based skills.

He thanked the team leader and his crew for winning such a prestigious award. “In Uganda, the grant was awarded to MUST and Makerere University”. He added that MUST now counts herself among the top Universities in African and worldwide. He further urged the deans to encourage the faculty to write more papers and win grants, have innovative projects and carry out research.

The project anticipates an enhanced capacity of MUST in skills development and quality curriculum implementation and enhanced graduate employability and entrepreneurship abilities.

This is anticipated to be achieved through various pathways that include purposeful curriculum review and implementation where key practical and interpersonal skills will be incorporated into the proposed and current curricula. These are indicated in the projected outcomes below;

- Effective utilization of information from labor market analysis, curriculum review, graduate tracer studies by MUST to improve the delivery of technical education.
- Quality and relevance of the curriculum, and programs improved at MUST, which meets labor market demands, enhances inclusiveness and promotes gender equality.
- Improved assessment methods adopted to promote competence based training.
- Cooperation between MUST and private sector stakeholders strengthened to inform labor market analysis, curriculum review, program development, assessment reform and delivery of technical higher education.

## MUST 6th Annual PHD Symposium



Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) through the Directorate of Research and Graduate Training (DRGT) organized its 6th annual PhD symposium held at kihumuro.

The symposium aimed at supporting and enriching PhD students to successfully complete their studies. A total of 30 PhD students presented their research before panelists (senior researchers) and their supervisors to showcase how far they had reached with their findings in preparations for their upcoming PhD defense.





The symposium was graced by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs **Prof. Nixon Kamukama** who thanked the DRGT team together with **Dr. ir. Fred Kaggwa** (the chairperson organizing committee) for the continuity of the PHD symposium. "This gives confidence to the PhD candidates hearing from different experts," said Nixon. He added that this was an innovation in the research arena that has contributed to the growth of research at MUST.

"I would like to thank the DRGT board for this important event, this journey started in 2016 and up to now we are still moving. I would like to encourage PhD students not to be afraid of criticisms from the panelists (senior researchers) and their respective supervisors because these are aimed at a better shaping to ensure that quality research is produced at the end of the day. I'm advising students to desist from the habit of hiring mercenaries to do research on their behalf. It's you who will supervise the PhD students in years to come and they'll not be equipped well if you don't have the capacity to guide them," He communicated.



**Associate Professor Grace Kagoro** a member of the DRGT Board who represented the Director DRGT **Prof. Vincent Batwala** revealed that MUST has finalized the requirements of accessing the anti-plagiarism software to improve the quality of research produced by MUST students.

"Over the years, MUST has been recording an increasing number of PhD Graduates up to 29 that graduated last year. As DRGT, we are here to offer full support to ensure that all students enrolling to MUST for postgraduate studies achieve their academic goals. The anti-plagiarism software is going to be rolled out to the staff and to students with official MUST email addresses. This will be used to detect plagiarism in the topics selected and work produced by staff and students at MUST," Prof Kagoro explained.

MUST has been credited by both the government and the public as the leading institution in producing quality researchers needed in solving complex problems within the communities.

### Some of the PhD Candidates



Ms. Judith Arinatwa



Mr. Wilson Tumuhimbise



Mr. VncentRutagangibwa

# Walk of Success: The symposium Expedition by Dr. ir. Fred Kaggwa



June 7, 2022, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) through the Directorate of Research and Graduate Training (DRGT) celebrated its 6th year of the PhD symposium. The communication crew decided to have an exclusive interview with Dr. ir. Fred Kaggwa one of the persons who championed the MUST PhD Symposium.

## **Qn. How did this start and what was the motive**

In 2016, DRGT started organizing annual PhD Symposium which was aimed at preparing PhD students and equipping them with the required research skills.

Our core objective was/is focusing on students presenting, sharing, and discussing their full PhD research projects in a more relaxed and friendly environment for improvement before the final defense.

This was an initiative by Prof. Nixon Kamukama the Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs who approached and asked me if I would be interested in championing the organization of a PhD symposium for the entire University. Having attended, presented, and benefited from a similar event elsewhere as a PhD student, I accepted and looked forward to taking on the task”.

## **Have you registered any successes?**

Definitely! Throughout the years, the number of students enrolling and graduating with PhDs as increased from 8 to 29 graduates.

Year	Number of PhD graduates
2016	8
2017	9
2018	10
2019	11
2021	24
2022	29

Feedback from the students shows it gives them the confidence to face the defense panel, notwithstanding that the panelists too have appreciated the way candidates present, which saves a lot of time for all the examiners and panelists.

I am pleased that I took up the responsibility because the evaluation of the event continues to show how important it is for the candidates who continued to demand that it becomes an annual University event”.

## **How often does this take place?**

Annually. Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) holds an Annual Research Dissemination Conference (ARDC), prior to this a PhD Symposium takes place. Like I earlier mentioned this has taken place for the last six years.

## **What has been your greatest stronghold?**

The University management. Especially the Vice Chancellor’s office and the University accounting Officer Mr. Melchoir Byaruhanga who made it possible to access funds to support the symposium annually.

Still through the University administration, MUST recently acquired an official license for Turnitin Anti-Plagiarism software and the ICT team is in the process of implementing the use of this tool to improve the quality of research.



### **What was your motivation to take on this mantle? Do you have the time?**

Honestly, organizing the PhD symposium has always been a very time consuming but rewarding experience. On reflection, I wanted to support, encourage and motivate the PhD candidates. This was out of experience while I was a PhD student from 2013-2016 where, i had a chance to present my work at several PhD symposia. I appreciated the feedback from different panelists (senior researchers), my fellow PhD students then and the industry practitioners that were always present. The entire idea was thrilling. Thus, my motivation to share the “carrot”.

### **Your final word to the audience.**

It is my prayer and appeal to call upon all PhD prospective candidates to always submit their full PhD work abstracts for such an event. Supervisors with candidates presenting should endeavor to attend to build a network, share and receive feedback from a wider multidisciplinary audience. A PhD candidate who does not publicly share his or her work with others, will always be a step behind.

## **MUST continues to strengthen service Delivery at Health facilities in SW Uganda**



The First Mile project that is implemented by Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Community Health Department in collaboration with Massachusetts General hospital in Boston Massachusetts in USA has registered successful stories in health care service provision to the communities in Mbarara and southwestern Uganda.

In 2018, Mbarara University of Science and Technology through the Faculty of Medicine Community Health Department established a project known as First Mile Community Health Program aimed at creating a strong bond between the community and the health service providers. The First Mile sends specially trained doctors, nurses, and village health workers into communities and schools. They work on the prevention and treatment of a variety of common diseases there.





Group discussion of health facility leaders.

On June 16 2022, the program held its re-orientation and planning meeting with health facility leaders to launch the second implementation phase. According to the program coordinator, Dr. Peter Kawungezi the purpose of this project was to take health services to the people within their communities so that they don't difficulties in attaining the required service.

*"First mile was derived from the Last mile project in Liberia which was looking at how individuals can reach health facilities to get their desired health services. First mile was designed to extend health services to the communities and we have registered achievements. Both the community and the health service providers have benefited from this program accessing modern health services and up-to-date skills respectively,"* He expounded.

The project has had its first phase completed successfully with achievements in mentoring and equipping health professionals with new technologies used in caesarian section, training community health providers in the use of ultrasound machine, establishment of specialized ophthalmology clinics in Lugazi Mbarara city. Further, the program has established community health research grants to build capacity of health providers in data analysis for preparations of research dissemination workshops.



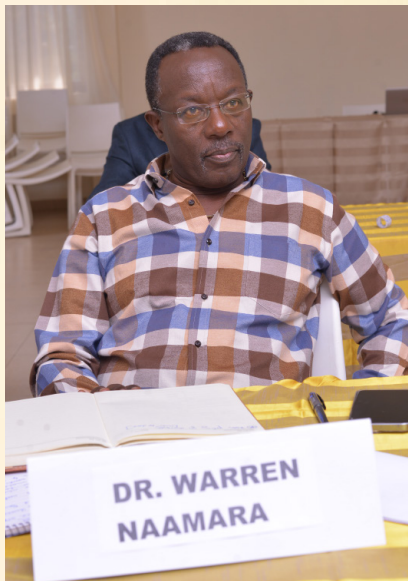
The Faculty of Medicine Heads of Departments after the re-orientation and planning meeting.



# University Council Retreat



Mbarara University of Science and Technology held Council Members retreat at Ankole Resort and Spa in Ntungamo facilitated by the Institute of Cooperate Governance of Uganda (ICGU). According to the University Secretary and Secretary to Council Mr. Melchior Byaruhanga, the retreat was organized outside the University to get members focused, allow more in- person face time, re- energize the team before the 88th Council meeting.



The chairperson Council, Dr. Warren Naamara pointed out that the retreat was a great idea that gave members an opportunity to learn, unlearn and re-learn. He added that business must be done differently. “The test of the pudding is in the eating” said Warren. He added that Performance evaluation and strategic planning which council members had been trained on ought to reflect better work after one year. Warren also added that the bonding in the retreat must be periodic and crucial for “esprit decorops”



The Vice Chancellor Prof. Celestino Obua said the retreat was timely for council members as it gave them an opportunity to bond and this should be extended to all staff members. “I learnt a lot from the consultants” said Prof. Obua.

Mr. Chris Muyingo, Dr. Grace Ndyareeba and Mr. Joseph Matovu, the consultants at ICUG, gave insights on Governance, Responsibility and Sustainability for Management which are key aspects to driving any organization to achieve it’s set goals. They also emphasized the foundation of Corporate Governance and meeting expectations. According Dr. Grace, cooperate organizations like Mbarara University of Science and Technology should emphasize Transparency, Accountability, Integrity, Responsibility and Ethical Leadership as its pillars for Corporate Governance.



Presentations: L- Dr. Grace Ndyareeba R- Mr. Joseph Matovu during the workshop



The consultants also emphasized the roles, functions, and responsibilities of the University council. According to Mr. Matovu, Mbarara University of Science and Technology Council need to overcome Vision, People, and Management and Resource barriers in order to execute growth strategies.

For team building, the council members participated in sport activities. Please find an exclusive video on the University you-tube channel Mbarara University of Science and Technology:<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DugSXprines>  
On the 3rd and final day, the 88th University Council meeting was held



Council Members pose for a group photo ahead of the retreat.

## MUST for an Inclusive Environment



**Disability is a mindset:** June 28, 2022, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) have embarked on promoting Inclusive Education. This is through creating an accommodative environment for both students and staff



The Deputy Dean of Students Maureen Kahima Twongirwe (Mrs.) welcomed and thanked the MUST faculty to a one day workshop held at the University inn. These included: The Faculty Deans, the Academic Registrar, Heads of Department and Administrators. “Promoting inclusive Education starts with you and me, the words we use around PWDs the priority we give them, and above all the human face”. Said Maureen. She added that the workshop was to orient the MUST staff on how to handle PWDs in our community with major focus on students.

The Deputy Dean added that the workshop aimed at generating ideas on how best the university can work to help students and staff with disabilities to identify their needs and propose strategies for providing facilities that provide a conducive learning and teaching environment. “We as staff have worked closely with these students, I believe we have ideas to share on how best we can make the feel included”.

MUST launched Disability and Special Needs Policy 2016. This was supported by the Africa Development Bank under the ADB- HEST project on cross cutting issues. This was under the ministry of Education and Sports



According Stella Dusabe Byarugaba (Mrs) the coordinator of the PWDs at MUST, the university administration has been so supportive on issues of supporting PWDs both students and staff. she added that the management has embraced efforts to provide accessibility, through remodeling the infrastructure. She mentioned the putting up of ramps in both new and old buildings, modified pathways and some students have been admitted on Special Needs affirmative action programme.

She added that MUST used to admit Special Needs students with minimal needs or mild impairments and had no policy on special needs. But now the situation is different. PWDs have increased in number and above all have opened up to the extent that they have an association that unites them.

She further pointed on the challenges that are still hindering in attending to PWDs these included myths about disabilities, breaking the bias about PWDs, lack of involvement of PWDs in planning and lack of fully fledged offices equipped and staffed to address disability issues.

The facilitator of the day was Mr. Oyesigye Stuart a lecturer at Kyambogo University in the Faculty of Special Needs and rehabilitation. During his presentations, Oyesigye encouraged the MUST faculty to admit and welcome people with Disabilities. He shared and disclosed the available opportunities to them.



“Students with disabilities are normal like others and they’re willing to learn so as they can create an impact on their societies so don’t discriminate them. Some categories of students with disabilities are easy to handle so lecturers shouldn’t be worried on how to them. both teaching and non- teaching staff should continuously be trained on how to handle PWDs. Students with disabilities are always among the top performers in their respective courses if at all they’re attended to,” he said



# My Life experience as a PWD

**Mr. Didas Byarugaba** is advocacy officer Oyesigye Special Child Foundation in Nyakakoni Ruti Mbarara. These work with a vision of leaving no child Behind, with a belief of making a child with Disability realize their potential. Didas said every community he went to people would look at him with pity, some would break down in tears. This did not stop him from perusing his dreams. With a financially challenged mother, Didas decided to look for tuition by moving door-to-door.



He got a sponsor who was willing to cater for his needs till to higher education level. Madam Carol Nansubuga from Nile and Woods company in Kasese took on the mantle diligently.

Didas joined Kyambogo University for a certificate in Community Based Rehabilitation program. On successful completion, Didas joined the Diploma programme. Here, he received a convocation scholarship. Unfortunately, half-way the programme, the sponsors pulled out leaving him no choice. But to go back home.

“Every dark cloud has a silver lining”. A friend told him to share his story with the Vice Chancellor. On listening to his story, Prof. Eli Katunguka waved off Didas’s tuition. The Vice Chancellor told him that he believed if I graduate, I will benefit my community. Today Mr. Byarugaba holds a bachelor’s degree in Community based Rehabilitation.

” Ladies and Gentlemen, we are people like you, just because we are different and do things differently. All we need is love and understanding not pity or sympathy, never let the community’s perception of you define you, chase your goals and dreams,” said Didas.

The MUST community contributed towards the foundation and the procurement of Didas’s Laptop to support him execute his duties in and on time.



# MUST spearheads a Grant to Train Health Professionals Non Communicable Diseases



Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Lira University and Bishop Stuart University (BSU) in collaboration with California University of Science and Medicine (CUSM), Claremont Graduate University (CGU) and Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) won a grant to strengthen the capacity of health professions training institutions in Implementation Science with a focus on Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

On June 29, 2022, MUST and her partnering institutions launched a Multiple Principal Investigator Project (MPI) in Building capacity for Implementation Science in Non Communicable Diseases (BImS-NCDs) to mentor health professionals in handling non-communicable diseases. The building capacity for Implementation Science research in Non-Communicable Diseases (BImS-NCDs) training hub at MUST will provide leadership, best practices, research support, mentoring and training in epidemiological, prevention, and implementation science approaches in NCDs across the lifespan to the partner institutions in rural Uganda.



According to the Vice Chancellor one of the Principal Investigator, mentioned that the project the main objectives of the grant are: creating a training hub at MUST to support research and research training in implementation science, creating a community of practice among the trainees and mentors, train clinicians and health professionals in basic epidemiological, prevention, and implementation science skills to conduct research in NCDs across the lifespan in rural Uganda and lastly to provide mentor training for BImS-NCDs mentors.

While giving the project's overview during the launch, Dr. Edith Wakida the other Principal Investigator of the project revealed that the grant contains scholarship opportunities for those interested in studying PhDs with their research focusing on NCDs particularly on epilepsy, dementia, mental health, alcohol use disorders and BImS.





“A total of six health professionals from MUST, Lira University and BSU will benefit from the grant by becoming PhD fellows. Each successful beneficiary will be awarded with a scholarship worth \$ 20,000 to enable him/her to complete his PhD and research within the period of three years. Each beneficiary will be allocated to two mentors one from the Ugandan Partnering Universities and another from the partnering institutions in the United States,” Dr. Wakida stated.



Dr. Jessica Haberer

Dr. Jessica Haberer one of mentors from Massachusetts General hospital and Harvard University Dr. Jessica Haberer trained and oriented the program mentors, training advisory committees on the relevance of Implementation Science in addressing NCDs.

According to reports by WHO, Non-communicable diseases are an emerging global pandemic, with developing countries experiencing disproportionately higher rates. Uganda, with a large rural population, necessitates the development and implementation of evidence-based interventions to address real-world issues and provide long-term solutions.

It will be remembered that during the 28th graduation ceremony of MUST, the Chancellor Prof. Charles Mark Lwanga Olweny, congratulated Dr. Edith Wakida about winning a prestigious Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Centre for African Studies, Harvard University. He mentioned that her PhD and post doctorate is about implementation science a field that calls for promoting and improving the quality and effectiveness of Health services in our community.

Prof. Olweny encouraged more staff to try the field of Implementation science as a way of widening their fields of Research.





## **MUST- Epicentre Mbarara Research TB Research Dissemination workshop**





Epicentre Mbarara Research centre a research hub situated within Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) organized a 2-day TB Dissemination workshop to address TB diagnostics and therapeutics gaps in low-income countries.

This was held at hotel triangle Mbarara from June 30 July 1, 2022. Delegates present were from the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization (WHO), Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation (EGPAF), Makerere University College of Health Sciences, Institute of Research for Development (IRD) Epicentre headquarters in France and researchers from different countries.



The Vice Chancellor Prof. Celestino Obua emphasized the need for research to better understand TB. He recommended that instead of concentrating on finding a cure, research should focus more on disease transmission and prevention. Prof Obua also highlighted the need to involve social scientists in the process of addressing challenges of TB prevention.

The Director of Epicentre Mbarara Research Centre Assoc. Prof. Juliet Mwanga Amumpaire briefed the audience about the achievements of epicentre throughout the years it has been in Uganda.

“In order to support Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) in carrying out its medical humanitarian efforts in vulnerable populations around the world, Epicentre, an international research organization with its headquarters in Paris, France, has been conducting high-quality studies for over 30 years. As a way of assisting MSF’s regional sleeping sickness programme, researchers from Epicentre traveled to Uganda in 1995. The Mbarara research center was founded in 1999. Since then, Epicentre has collaborated with several partners on numerous studies, but one of the most important is MUST where the Epicentre research facility is based,” said Prof. Mwanga



Dr Henry Luzze; Ag Assistant Commissioner – National TB & Leprosy Program (NTLP), in for Dr. Stavia Turyahabwe Commissioner NTLP



He gave an overview of the Landscape of Tuberculosis disease in Uganda: Gaps for research. Dr. Henry shared the following:

**The NTLP Goal:** To reduce TB incidence by 20% from 200 to 160/100,000 population and the proportion of Leprosy notifications in children from 8% to less than 3% by 2024/2025.

**Thematic gaps:** 20% of TB patients diagnosed and not started on treatment. Only 87% Notified TB patients are successfully treated. Treatment success rate for Drug resistant TB is only 64

During the first day of the conference, 13 researchers from the above mentioned institutions presented their research papers on TB diagnostic, model of care to increase pediatric TB detection and reduction in the disease burden. these were moderated by Dr. Francis Bajunirwe (MUST), Dr. Elias Kumbakumba (MUST), Dr. Eric Wobudeya (Mulago National Referral Hospital) and Dr. Achilles Katamba (Makerere School of Health sciences),

The second day of the conference continued with presentation of research findings from two researchers on TB chemotherapeutics under the moderation of Dr. Evelyn Tibananuka (WHO representative) and Prof Yap Boum (Epicentre Africa).

There was also a panel discussion intended to share ideas on perspectives and challenges in TB. The panel comprised of Dr. Carolina Jimenez (MSF), Dr. Henry Luzze (Asst. Commissioner Ministry of Health), Dr. Elias Kumbakumba, Dr. Achilles Katamba and Dr. Maryline Bonnet.



Dr. Emmanuel Baron General Director Epicentre

The panelists and all the partners were appreciated by the Epicentre General Director Dr. Emmanuel Baron who applauded their good work in the fight against TB worldwide.

While giving the closing remarks, Dr. Patrick Tusiime the Commissioner in charge of NCDs in the Ministry of Health who represented Dr. Henry Mwebesa credited Epicentre and its partners for the services they're extending to the communities particularly in the prevention of TB which is still a health problem in Uganda.



R-L Dr. Henry Luzze (Asst. Commissioner Ministry of Health), Dr. Carolina Jimenez; Deputy Medical Director Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF), France Dr. Maryline Bonnet; Research Director; Institute of Research for Development (IRD), France. Prof Yap Boum Regional representative for Epicentre in Africa. Dr. Elias Kumbakumba,( Senior Pediatrician and Researcher MUST Dr. Achilles Katamba-senior Lecturer in the Department of Medicine, College of Health Sciences at Makerere University, Kampala.



TB-Speed team



# Did you know?

## MUST to save on Procurement of Seminar Room Tables and Chairs



Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) in the Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology (FAST) in undertook a project to design and fabricate furniture. The team of engineers fabricated 20 tables and 25 chairs using machines and tools in the multi-purpose lab.

According to **Eng. Felix Atuhaire** (Faculty Labs Coordinator), such project will save a university a big cost in procurement of furniture, train engineering students in transferable and employable skills, repair and maintenance of existing equipment, and act as source of income to procure more equipment for faculty and university at large.

He added that the project trained 5 undergraduate students on the following: designing, fabricating, painting, cutting to specific measurements.

## Alumni in the News



April 6, 2019, Dr. Emmanuel Okello received a prestigious United States (US) award for his role in treatment of heart diseases.

Dr Emmy Okello, an interventional cardiologist at the Uganda Heart Institute (UHI), was recognized by the American College of Cardiology for advancing the field of Rheumatic heart disease and interventional cardiology in Uganda. Currently Dr. Emmy is an Hon. Associate Professor in the Department of Medicine at Makerere University

This year June 2022, Dr. Okello was appointed an honorary Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town in South Africa. Emmy will serve for the next 5 years in the department of medicine. He will work closely with Professor Liesl Zuhlke - Deputy Dean Research, Professor Ntusi Ntobeko- Chairman of the Department of Medicine and Professor Mpiko Ntsekhe- Chief of the Division.





### Who is Dr. Okello Emmy?

Dr. Emmy Okello is a MUST alumnus 97/MBR/032. He is chief of cardiology at the Uganda Heart Institute and honorary associate professor at Makerere University, earned his Ph.D. from Makerere University. He received advanced training at Case Western Reserve University through a fellowship of the Medical Education Partnership Initiative (MEPI) - managed by Fogarty and funded by PEPFAR, the NIH Common Fund and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. In recognition of his rheumatic heart disease research, Okello was named a Fellow of the American College of Cardiology.

## MUST shines at Mandela Washington Fellowship 2022 and Alumni Enrichment Institute (AEI) Program.



Ms. Joanna Ankunda



Mr. Ronard Tushabe.

During the Fellowship, the Fellows participate in six-week Leadership Institutes, studying Business, Civic Engagement, or Public Management hosted by U.S. colleges or universities. Throughout the Institutes, Fellows enrich local U.S. communities while sharing best practices. This year, Mbarara University is blessed to have two of her alumni selected for the fellowships and these were Ms. Joanna Ankunda and Mr. Ronard Tushabe.



Ronard making a presentation



**Mr. Ronard Tushabe** is among 25 fellows from 17 African countries hosted at University of Notre Dame in Indiana State in Leadership in Business.

As part of this program, Ronard Tushabe and other fellows were equipped with skills in design thinking, social entrepreneurship, business modeling and planning, strategic leadership and personal and professional branding, as well as applying foresight and innovation. Already successful business leaders in their own right, the Mandela Washington Fellows return to their home countries to use their new skills in leading organizations, communities and countries.

Ronard Tushabe has over four years of experience in technology, innovation, and business incubation. Currently, he is founder and Executive Director at Empower Youth in Technology, where he focuses on empowering young people in Uganda to identify ideas and develop sustainable innovative businesses. Ronard joined Mbarara University of Science and Technology in 2013 and graduated in 2017 with a Bachelor of Computer Engineering. He is a 2021 Techpreneur of the Year Africa under 30 Award winner, a 2020 Young African Leaders Initiative Transformation Grant winner, and a 2018 Funds for Internet Research and Education Africa Grant winner and 2019 Young African Leaders Initiative (YALI) fellow.



Ronard Tushabe extreme right



Ronard Tushabe center



Joanna making a presentation

**Ms. Joanna Ankunda** is a 2021 Mandela Washington Fellowship Alumni and among 7 Ugandans selected for Alumni Enrichment Institute program. She successfully completed the 2021 Virtual Fellowship and will now participate in the in-person Alumni Enrichment Institutes in the United States from July 2022 until August 2022. The program will include opportunities to network with their peers, meet U.S. citizens from a variety of backgrounds, and to participate in cultural engagement and community service activities. Selected Alumni will arrive in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Joanna joined Mbarara University of Science and Technology in 2013 in the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies perusing a bachelor's degree of Gender and Women Health. she was in the pioneer class of the programme .( 2013-2016)

Joanna Atukunda is a social worker who is passionate about Leadership, Quality Education and Health. Joanna is the Founder and Leader of UPLIFT SLUM-AFRIKA, a non-profit organization that is aimed at equipping youth and young adolescents in slum dwellings with comprehensive knowledge on Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Quality Education. Joanna is a proud YALI/Regional Leadership Centre Alumni and a Mandela Washington Fellow 2021. She was recognized by New Vision in 2022 among 20/40 young people transforming communities. Joanna Atukunda is attached to Drexel University for Leadership in Public Management.





Different colors one people: Joanna second from the right in the Ankole cultural outfit (ekitambi)

## Fellowship Overview

The Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders is the flagship program of the U.S. Government. Since 2014, nearly 5,100 young leaders from every country in Sub-Saharan Africa have participated in the Fellowship. The Fellows, between the ages of 25 and 35, are accomplished leaders and have established records of promoting innovation and positive impact in their communities and countries.

*Congratulations to both our alumni for holding the MUST flag high, we wish you all the best in your career path.*

## MUST TOP Researchers Ranking June 2022

Following the imitative of ranking researchers in MUST please receive the community and individual ranking of June.

Community	Number of Publications in March	Number of Publications in April	Number of Publications in May	Number of Publications in June
Central Administration	60	66	66	66
Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology	25	30	36	36
Faculty of Business and Management Sciences	17	41	41	46
Faculty of Computing and Informatics	73	76	82	86
Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies	107	107	107	108
Faculty of Medicine	663	879	993	1073
Faculty of Science	203	204	204	213
Institute of tropical Forest and Conservation	77	88	89	92
Maternal Newborn and Child Health Institute	10	18	16	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>1235</b>	<b>1503</b>	<b>1634</b>	<b>1740</b>

**FYI:** Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Institutional Repository, is a collection of all research and publications. The information is compiled by the University Librarian and the computing services office of the University using both DOI and staff names and affiliations as identification.



Name	Number of Publications in March	Number of Publications in April	Number of Publications in May	Number of Publications in June
Dr. Francis Bajunirwe	107	111	115	117
Dr. Conrad Muzoora	31	36	102	103
Dr. David Bangsberg	38	50	82	84
Dr. Godfrey Zari Rukundo	26	29		82
Dr. Joseph Ngonzi	43	70	76	81
Assoc.Prof. Joel Bazira	63	75	78	78
Prof. Robert Bitariho,	26	56	57	61
Dr. Haberer, Jessica	27	38	59	61
Dr. Siedner, Mark J	30	38	58	61
Prof. Celestino Obua	43	52	53	59
Prof. Jerome Kabakyenga	35	49	49	56
Dr. Scholastic Ashaba	42	42	44	49
Dr. Hunt Peter			47	47
Dr. Angella Musiimenta	35	45	45	45

For this and more please go to the link: [ir.must.ac.ug](http://ir.must.ac.ug) congratulations to our reseachers

## OBITUARY

The MUST fraternity and the Department of Surgery join the family and friends of Doctors, **Situma Martin** and **Bruno Kamy** in this trying time **Pslams147:3**



### EDITOR



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