



Seed Global Health Advisory Board Visits Emergency Medicine departments at MUST and Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital



On 6th December 2022, the Health Advisory Board of Seed Global visited the emergency departments at Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) and Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital (MRRH). The health advisory board consisted of the Board Chairperson Dr. Oketcho Vincent, the Assistant Commissioner of Reproductive Health Dr. Mugahi Richard, and the Registrar of the Uganda Nurses and Midwives Council Ms. Christine Nimwesiga. They were welcomed by MRRH Director Dr. Celestine Barigye and the Dean Faculty of Medicine Dr. Joseph Ngonzi.



The country director of Seed Ms. Authaire Irene disclosed that the purpose of the visit was to interact with the partners and be able to know each other, prepare to celebrate the 10 years of Seed Global and how to make the next 10 years better



Seed Global has made significant progress toward improving health outcomes. They partner to train nurses, midwives, and physicians, building complete health teams that can provide high-quality care and save lives. This is done by strengthening clinical care delivery, improving health workforce education, and supporting policies that enable health professionals to succeed. The team visited facilities where emergency medicine is practiced and these included maternity ward, Simulation centre, COVID-19 Isolation Unit, and Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

MUST Lecturers Teamed Up to Increase Youth Employability Through Skilling, Innovations, Experiential Learning and Technology Trans-



A team of Lecturers from Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) team to start up a project (MUST IUC-UCoBS Partnership Sub Project Five) that aims at increasing youth employability through skilling, innovations, experiential learning, and technology transfer.

On 7th December 2022, a consultative meeting on the project was held with the Deans of the six Faculties at MUST. During the meeting, the Project Leader Dr. Manasseh Tumuhimbise explained to the deans the overall objective is to strengthen the capacity of youth entrepreneurs. He revealed that Youths are the primary final end-users. The target youth groups comprise of male and female graduates, out-of-school youths, less-skilled persons, employees in the formal sector, self-employed workers, artisans, and small-scale farmers. Other end-users include; MUST and the prospective employers who will benefit from infrastructural setup and uptake of the skilled youths, respectively.



“We will reach them through the university or through organizations specialized in youth and youth unemployment. Project five will strengthen the capacity of the university through the development of training on entrepreneurship and through the strengthening the Centre of Innovations and Technology Transfer. A see, think, do, and care model will be employed to link training, research, innovations and production. Innovative teaching and experiential learning in short vocational entrepreneurship courses will include hands-on skills, coaching, mentorship, feedback, follow-up and twinning with industry/artisans to benefit the youth for gainful employment,” He explained.

He added that Industrial training will be undertaken through partnerships with selected innovation centres, agencies and industry. Annual hack-a-thons that engage all categories of youth will be run and prototypes developed for commercialisation to respond to pressing demographic challenges.



The chairperson of the Dean’s Committee Professor Julius Lejju thanked Dr.Tumuhimbise and his team for coming up with such an innovative project and also engaging them (Deans) about the project is intending to offer. On behalf of other deans, Prof Lejju pledged full support towards the proper implementation of UCOBoS sub-project 5.



The entire project team consist of Dr. Imelda Kemeza, PhD- Department of Educational Foundations & Psychology; Mr. Asaph Katarangi, MBA-Department of Human Resource; Dr. Medard Twinamatsiko, PhD- Centre for Innovations and Technology Transfer: Mr. Alex Twinomuhwezi, MBA-Department of Marketing & Procurement, Faculty of Business and Management Sciences; Mr. Mwavu Rogers, Department of Information Technology and Dr.ir. Fred Kaggwa, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Computing and Informatics

The specific objectives of this project are:

- To develop a multidisciplinary ecosystem of various internal and external stakeholders in support of youth innovation and entrepreneurship
- To develop training for youth that strengthens their entrepreneurial and innovation skills;
- To support youth entrepreneurs through experiential learning and technology transfer and,
- To strengthen business incubation.

About MUST IUC-UCoBS

The MUST University as a Facilitator for Community Based Sustainable Solutions to Demographic Challenges in South Western Uganda (UCoBS) is an Institutional University Cooperation (IUC) funded by the Flemish Inter-University Council (VLIR-UOS), Belgium.

The programme focuses on the Most At Risk Populations (MARPs) and is implemented in partnership with Vrije Universiteit Brussels (VUB) and other Flemish Institutions.

The programme is institutional in nature and encompasses six major projects:

1. Conservation practices and natural resource management and governance;
2. Mechanisms for climate change/variability adaptation for sustainable food production;
3. Access and utilization of affordable energy technologies;
4. Sexual and reproductive health and rights of women, children and adolescents;
5. Youth employability through skilling, innovations, experiential learning and technology transfer and
6. Institutional and community ICT capacity to access and utilization of information.

MUST hosts Innovate UK guests for an energy catalyst brokerage visit



The Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology (FAST) at MUST hosted Innovate UK (IUK) in partnership with Innovate UK Edge (IUK Edge) and the Knowledge Transfer Network (KTN) together with twelve businesses on an international brokerage visit to Uganda on Tuesday 6th December 2022.

Addressing the visitors, Prof. Celestino Obua the Vice Chancellor MUST highlighted the importance of partnerships for advancement in training, research and innovations.

The visiting coordinator, Dr. Denis Bbosa the Deputy Dean of FAST presented the different areas of renewable energy areas that have been explored and how these can be supported. “The campus is magnificent and everyone was very impressed with your projects”, Alistair Murray from Vienga Company noted as he appreciated the work that is being done.

The focus areas on energy access discussed included; smart green grids including mini and main grid related technologies, energy storage including batteries and mechanical storage, low carbon hydrogen, modern cooking, low energy inclusive appliances, sustainable cooling with the objective of leaving no one behind.

The visit focused on developing collaborations set a platform to ably apply for funding to deliver projects in Uganda under the Energy catalyst call.

Over 50 Women Hail MUST obstetricians and gynecologists for successful surgeries to correct gynecological disorder.



Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) together with Mbarara Regional Referral hospital successfully conducted the regional fistula camp from 12th -16th December 2022.

The Camp was funded by Else Kroner Fresenius Foundation led by Professor Verena Geissbuher and Dr. Musa from MUST.

According to Dr, Musa Kayondo (PhD), a total of 50 women with complications related to Fistula had successful surgeries and medication. After the surgeries, the patients were taken to wards and they will receive follow-up treatment for a period of two weeks, he added.

Musa thanked Else Kroner Fresenius Foundation for the full board support for the women with different gynecological disorder.



The comprised of Senior Health Officers from MUST Obstetrics and Gynecology department and anesthesia students from Busitema University who are currently undertaking their clinical trials at Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital. These were grateful for the opportunity given to them to work on varying cases of fistula thus giving them a vast experience within a short period of time.



About Else Kroner Fresenius Foundation

The Foundation aims to promote medical science, giving priority to the areas of research and the treatment of diseases, including the development of equipment and preparations, such as artificial kidneys. The foundation may support only those research projects whose results are accessible to the general public. The foundation also aims to promote the training of medical professionals, primarily in the field of dialysis, and the promotion of education of especially talented students

Dr. Wasswa Recognized for being a great frontline in saving women



Dr. Muganwa George (Ssalongo) Wasswa a senior Gynecologist in the of obstetrics and Gynecology department of Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) won an award in the recently concluded 17th Annual scientific conference.

The conference was organized by the Association of Obstetricians and Gynecologist of Uganda (AOGU) under the theme of securing the reproductive health future of women in Uganda

AOGU is a registered non-profit, professional organization with a mandate to promote professionalism, undertake research, represent its members at local, regional, and international level, and champion Sexual Reproductive Health & Rights of the people in the region.

Congratulations Dr. Wasswa for wining such a prestigious award and making a difference not only in women's lives but also medical students.



MUST Uplifts Livelihoods of Batwa People Through Evidence Research and Action



A team of researchers from Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) has teamed up to improve the livelihoods of the Batwa people that are considered to be among the marginalized groups of people. This is done through projects termed Voices of Indigenous People's Project and Batwa Livelihoods Challenge (BLIC). The multidisciplinary team of researchers from MUST is comprised of Dr. Violah Nyakato, Dr. Bariyo Rogers, Dr. Wendo Mlahagwa, and Dr. Gad Ruzaaza.

The project is funded by USAID under the Economic Growth Office with an aim of employing the integration of mutual aid groups and informal saving schemes to alleviate Gender-Based Violence (GBV) among the Batwa in Kanungu district.

December 15, 2022, a delegation from the USAID Economic Growth Office visited the team at MUST to get insights on what has been reached in uplifting the livelihoods of the Batwa with USAID support. The engagement also involved Mr. Abel Bizimana (LC5 Chairperson for Kisoro district) and representatives from other project implementing partners.

The Dean of the Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies (FIS) Dr. Bariyo welcomed the team from USAID and other members and briefed them about FIS and the impact it has created within communities of southwestern Uganda.



Dr. Viola Nyakato, (PI)



Ms. Esther Mlahagwa

Dr. Viola Nyakato presented about the research projects they are undertaking with the support from USAID that include Voices of Indigenous People's Research Initiative which is implemented by the Uganda Mission Regional Coordination Initiative (RCI) and involves engaging local governments, local universities, researchers, and the private sectors. She mentioned that this project involves two study sites one in Moroto at Gulu University constituent college dealing with the Ik, Tepeth, and Karamojong. Another is at MUST working on Batwa in Kigezi region in Southwestern Uganda.

"GBV among the Batwa has been attributed to social and economic issues. These factors are interested and it is necessary to treat them with equal importance in order to alleviate GBV among the Batwa. This integrates mutual aid groups and informal saving schemes to address both the social and economic factors propagating GBV among the Batwa. Through mutual aid groups, members (Batwa) will be able to get interest-free loans," Dr. Viola Nyakato explained.

Ms. Esther one of the founders of the project idea explained that the project is being conducted in phases so as to fully engage with the Batwa community. The phases are summarized with an acronym SASA which is translated as Start, Awareness, Support, and Action



"We identified community leaders and local government leaders to understand their perception of gender and social dynamics and GBV within the Batwa community. This was followed by open community dialogues with the members of the groups that were formed and then regular follow-ups on group progress from the ABEG team. We then let the groups run their own meetings and discuss their issues independently. Lastly, the results from the initial phases were presented and the project team got acquainted with the local and district officials and agreed to work together," She described.

Mr. Abel Bizimana applauded the project implementers for the work done towards tackling one of the developmental challenges of Kisoro district and the entire Kigezi region on how to deal with Batwa people who were displaced from their original

homeland (forests).

"As Kisoro people, we are very grateful to USAID and the academicians from MUST for this partnership, through this we mobilize resources outside the government to raise the living standards of the Batwa people. Other than mobilizing resources, we are also becoming a big force that compels the government to also do some things it didn't do given the nature of unity among us as leaders. We shall also be a platform that welcomes you to be part of the development agenda,"

On behalf of the USAID Economic Growth Office, Ms. Jackie Batanda thanked the team for the great work done in carrying out research aimed at reducing GBV among the Batwa and raising their livelihoods using the small funds given to them. She revealed that the purpose of the visit was to enable other colleagues from USAID to listen and learn more about the project and for them to get insights about the Batwa people

Surgeons hold the MUST flag high Kudos to David and Felix.



A year down the road two of MUST's surgeons qualify at the College of surgeons of East Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA)



On December 7, 2022, COSECSA held its 22nd graduation ceremony and scientific conference at Safari court Hotel in Windhoek, Namibia, where Mr. David Mutiibwa (General surgery) and Mr. Felix Oyania (Paediatric surgery) graduated. At the event, Mr. David Mutiibwa was the only Ugandan who graduated as a fellow by election in the last three years (2020/2021/2022). This made him stand out from all the graduates and given a special recognition.

Mr. Felix Oyania graduated as a fellow in Paediatric surgery (by doing Examination)

The two are MUST alumni as well as staff in the Faculty of Medicine. We congratulate the two stars and thank them for holding the MUST flag high. Bravo

Dr Felix replaced Dr Situma (the late) and he is currently running the Paediatric surgery unit at MRRH.

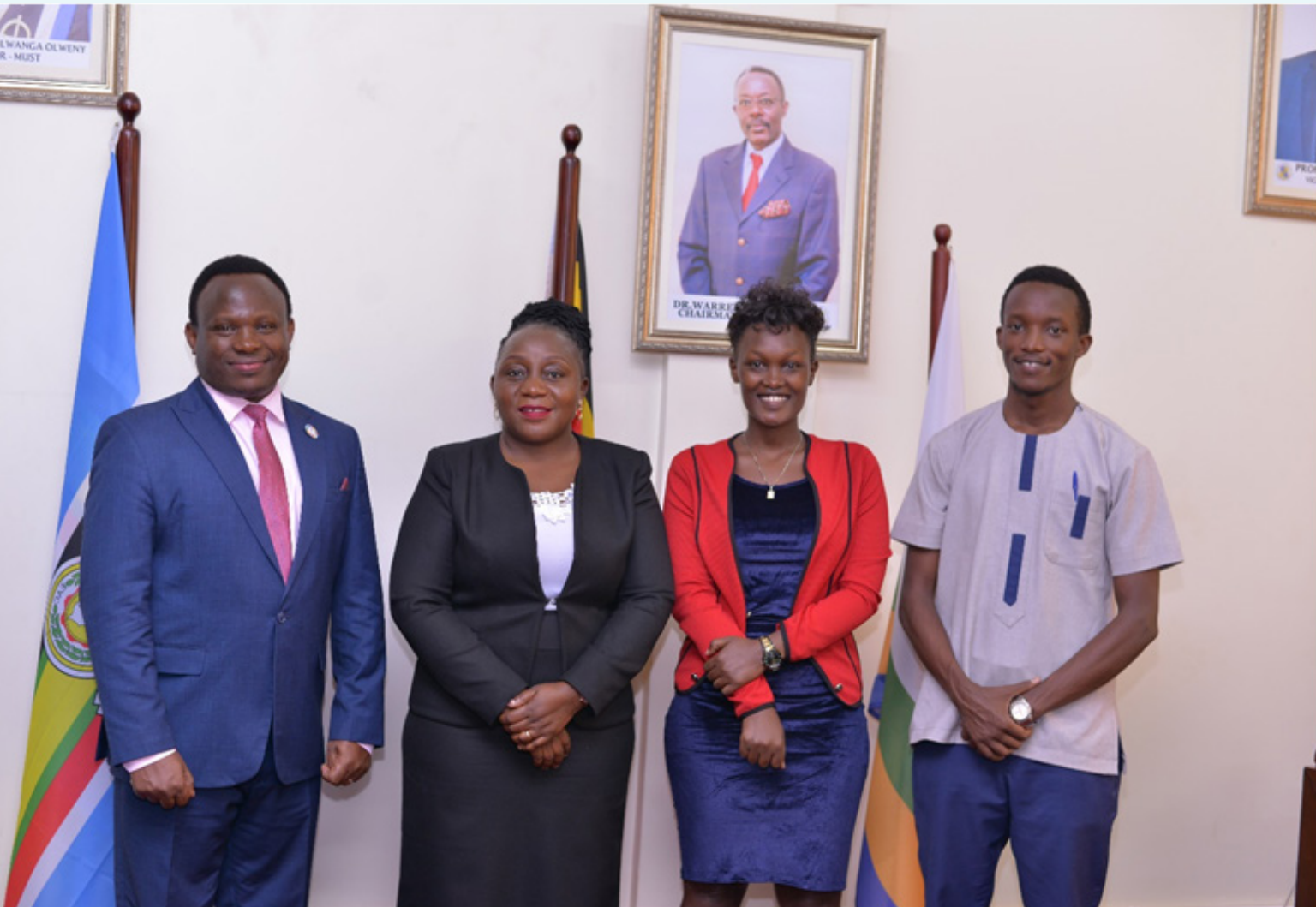


L-R Dr. Felix and Dr. David



Dr. Felix, Dr. Bitariho (senior orthopedic surgeon) Dr. Mavin (Urologist) and Dr. David general surgeon

I pledge allegiance and Secrecy: New council members sworn-in



L-R Mr. Ambrose Mulangira, her Magistrate Nanteza Zulaika, Ms. Deborah Tusiime & Bill Clinton Nasasira

December 16, 2022, the 90th University Council of Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) ushered in new council members who also took oaths of allegiance and secrecy



Her Magistrate Nanteza Zulaika



Timothy Mugumya (Esq)

The legal advisor of the university Timothy Mugumya (Esq) said that the oath of allegiance is taken for one to make several important promises of loyalty. Loyalty means showing consistent support to something or someone. He urged the new members to be loyal to the council rules and regulations.

He added that the oath of secrecy, warns members not to report, or comment on, facts and events of a confidential nature unless one is permitted the responsive person

The event was presided over by her Magistrate Nanteza Zulaika the Deputy Registrar for Mbarara High Court and the University Legal Officer Counsel Timothy Mugumya.

The New Members are.

- H.E Bill Clinton Nasasira the New Guild President
- H.E Deborah Tusiime Vice Guild President
- Mr. Ambrose Mulangira (External Representative of the PWDs)





The University Council is the supreme organ of the university responsible for the overall administration and ensures that the establishment of functions and objectives are fully implemented. The members of the council are drawn from students, PWDs, Academic staff, Ministries, Area leadership and senate. Congratulations to the new members.



Lionel Messi the G.O.A.T as Argentina becomes World Football Champion



Return of the Mark: Argentina's World Cup victors

In the championship game at the Lusail Stadium, Messi scored twice, but France fought twice, once from a two-goal down, to force penalties.

Messi's PSG teammate Kylian Mbappe shined once more on the international stage, winning the match ball for being the first player since Sir Geoff Hurst in 1966 to score a hat-trick in a World Cup final.

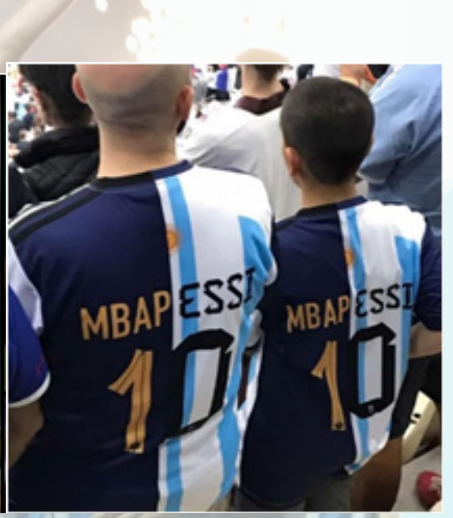


But his treble proved to be in vain for the reigning champions as Aston Villa and former Arsenal goalkeeper Emiliano Martinez was the hero during the penalty shootout.

Lionel Messi finally experienced the moment he had been waiting for his entire career, as a 4-2 Argentina victory on penalties allowed him to lift the prized World Cup trophy.

After Argentina's full-time celebrations, the moment finally arrived for Messi to lift the one major trophy he is yet to win. FIFA President Gianni Infantino presented the trophy to the Argentina captain, who was made to wear a Bisht, a black and gold Qatari robe while lifting the trophy alongside his team-mates.

Eye catching moments



Merry Christmas to you all

Deck the halls with boughs of holly
Fa la lalala, la lalala (fa la lalala, la lalala)
'Tis the season to be jolly
Fa la lalala, la lalala (fa la lalala, la lalala)
Don't wear your gay apparel
Fa la lalala, la lalala (fa la lalala, la lalala)
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol
Fa la lalala, la lalala







Congratulation to everyone who has made it this far, many have gone to be with the lord, some have lost their loved ones, some have their loved ones ill, yet others have achieved in various aspects such as promotion, publication, recognitions awards, won grants, built a house,had a child or children, received the sacrament of matrimony.... Congratulations to you all may the new year bring you more joy peace and love.From the entire communication crew



Thank you for a wonderful year and the excellent teamwork at MUST. I Look forward to 2023, brimming with new ideas and enthusiasm.

Prof Celestino Obua Vice Chancellor



EDITOR

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Compiled by Angella Nakato Muyingo PRO. Proudly sponsored by the Vice Chancellor's Office