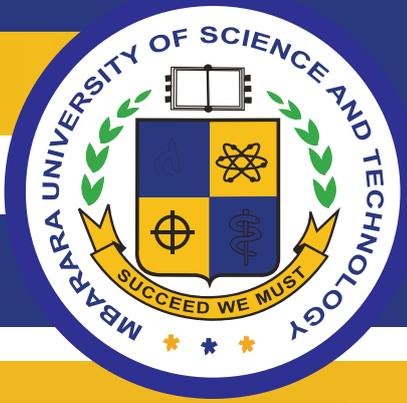


# 29th MUST Graduation Ceremony

Graduates Urged to uphold MUST's Legacy



**SPECIAL EDITION IV**



## 29th MUST Congregation Celebrates Graduation of 1327 Students, Honors Posthumous Awardee



May 27, 2023, was a joyous day at Mbarara University of Science and Technology as the university saw the graduation of 1323 students (841 males and 486 females). At the ceremony, one student graduated posthumously. It was inspiring to see the graduates and their families gathered to celebrate the prestigious moment that marked the culmination of their studies.



Rev. Emmanuel Ntazinda, The Bishop of Kibungo Diocese Rwanda

The opening prayer was led by Rt. Rev. Emmanuel Ntazinda, the Bishop of Kibungo Diocese Rwanda and Hon. Dr. John Chrysestom Muyingo, the State Minister for Higher Education in the Ugandan Cabinet, graced the ceremony as guest of honor and thanked the university staff and students for their hard work under challenging conditions as mentioned by the Vice Chancellor and Chairman Council in their remarks. He also assured graduates that their degrees were authentically awarded and that they were valid. “Don’t be scared of the ongoing media talks about fake degrees, it is soon going to be sorted and we shall let you know through the right channels.”



*Dr. John Chrysestom Muyingo the state minister for Higher Education in the Ugandan Cabinet*

The chancellor, Professor Mark Lwanga Olweny, congratulated the graduates and wished them all the best. He also urged them to strive to be like the alumni who have made it in their chosen fields, particularly those who have achieved success in leadership roles. He reminded everyone that even though they had earned their degrees, the best was yet to come.

The Chairman Council Dr. Warren Naamara presented to the chief guest top researchers of the university and Dr. Bajunirwe Francis was recognized as the MUST's all time Top Researcher. This was as a result of the academic audit. "I wish to let you know that in order to understand the productivity of our academic staff, the Council directed all academic staff to un-

dertake a self-academic audit". The Academic Audit showed telling findings, especially indicating that while research/innovation activities at MUST appear to be on the upward, more needs to be done considering that Govt had provided funds to staff for research and innovations.



*The Chairman Council, Dr. Warren Naamara*

The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Celestino Obua expressed gratitude to the parents and guardians for their commitment and to the MUST staff for their dedicated service. He also congratulated the students and praised them for the hard work they had put in to reach such a day. The Vice-Chancellor also clarified the ongoing media concern of expired programs at MUST.



*Vice Chancellor, Prof. Celestino Obua*

Dr. Miir Emmanuel the valedictorian thanked the University administration, lecturers, and fellow students for making it to the 29th graduation ceremony "We applaud our alma mater, for providing avenues for collaborative innovation among students from different disciplines such as the Hepi-Tuitah Research Training and CAMTech Hackathons among others."



*Dr. Miiro Emmanuel, the valedictorian*

**Dr. Miiro Emmanuel** the valedictorian thanked the University administration, lecturer and fellow students for making it to the 29th graduation ceremony “We applaud our alma mater, for providing avenues for collaborative innovation among students from different disciplines such as the Hepi-Tuitah Research Training and CAMTech Hackathons among others.”

## Summary of Number of graduands during the 29th graduation ceremony

	Male	Female	Total
<b>FACULTY OF MEDICINE</b>			
Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBR)	70	18	<b>88</b>
Bachelor of Pharmacy (PHA)	30	17	<b>46</b>
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BNS)	16	14	<b>27</b>
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BNC) - Completion	16	29	<b>45</b>
Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (MLS)	34	17	<b>51</b>
Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (MLC & MMLC) - Completion	51	17	<b>68</b>
Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (PHS)	24	10	<b>34</b>
Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy (BSP)	15	13	<b>28</b>
Advanced Diploma in Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH)	3	2	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>392</b>
<b>FACULTY OF SCIENCE</b>			
Bachelor of Science with Education (BS)	121	23	<b>144</b>
Diploma in Science Laboratory Technology (DLT)	14	11	<b>25</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>169</b>
<b>FACULTY OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS</b>			
Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)	20	2	<b>22</b>
Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT)	42	16	<b>58</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES</b>			
Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance (BAF)	52	45	<b>97</b>
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)	35	38	<b>73</b>
Bachelor of Science in Procurement and Supply Chain Management (BPSM)	44	68	<b>112</b>
Bachelor of of Science in Economics (ECO)	10	5	<b>15</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>156</b>	<b>297</b>

<b>FACULTY OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES</b>			
Bachelor of Science in Planning and Community Development (BPCD)	14	14	<b>28</b>
Bachelor of Science in Gender and Applied Women Health (BGWH)	2	14	<b>16</b>
Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Livelihood and Farm Production (BSAL)	13	8	<b>21</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND RESEARCH</b>			
Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering (BCE)	10	3	<b>13</b>
Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering (BME)	28	16	<b>44</b>
Bachelor of Petroleum Engineering and Environmental Management Engineering (PEM)	24	7	<b>31</b>
Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE)	36	10	<b>46</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>134</b>
<b>Total Undergraduates</b>	<b>720</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>1137</b>
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)	17	9	<b>26</b>
<b>Masters</b>			
Master of Medicine (Mmed)	37	12	<b>49</b>
Master of Science (MMSC)	7	4	<b>11</b>
Master of Public Health (MPH)	1	5	<b>6</b>
Master of Medical Laboratory Science (MMLS)	5	2	<b>7</b>
Master of Nursing Science (MNS)	0	2	<b>2</b>
Master of Pharmacy in Clinical Pharmacy(MPCP)	1	1	<b>2</b>
Master of Education (Med)	8	6	<b>14</b>
Master of Science (Msc)	19	7	<b>26</b>
Master of Arts (MAS)	2	1	<b>3</b>
Master of Science in Information Systems (MSIS)	7	4	<b>11</b>
Master of Science in Health Information Technology (MHIT)	2	0	<b>2</b>
Postgraduate Diploma in Information Systems (PGD-IS)	2	1	<b>3</b>
Master of Business Administration (MBA)	10	14	<b>24</b>
<b>Total Postgraduates</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>186</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>841</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>1327</b>



Guild President: Billclinton Nasasiira



Mace bearer Arinda Daisy from FAST



Ms. Jane Kibirigye former Deputy Registrar MUST

## MUST Researchers Receive Recognition for Research Publications and innovation for the academic year 2022/2023



*Dr. Joseph Ngonzi also Dean Faculty of Medicine*

The 29th graduation ceremony of MUST presented an opportunity to celebrate the academic excellence and outstanding achievements of some of the faculty with the highest number of research publications. During the ceremony, the Chairman of the University Council, Dr. Warren Naamara took time to recognize and award the outstanding faculty for producing the highest number of research publications as per the academic audit report 2022/2023.

Dr. Warren said as the 7th council of MUST, one of their flagship activity is/was the Academic audit

“Mr. Chancellor Sir, Chief Guest Hon Minister, and all Distinguished Guests, I wish to let you know that to understand the productivity of our academic staff, the Council directed all academic staff to undertake a self-academic audit.

Warren added that the Academic Audit showed telling findings, especially indicating that while research/innovation activities at MUST appear to be on the upward, more is needed to be done considering that government had provided funds for staff for research and innovations.



Dr. Godfrey Zari Rukundo



Prof. Robert Bitariho

Dr. Godfrey Zari Rukundo was awarded for producing 112 publications, followed by Dr. Ngonzi Joseph with 96 publications. Likewise, Dr. Edgar Mulogo and Dr. Joel Bazira were also recognized with 88 and 83 publications respectively, while Prof Robert Bitariho and Assoc. Prof. Grace Kagoro had 65 and 54 publications respectively.

Furthermore, Dr. Bajunirwe Francis was recognized as the most outstanding researcher of all time at MUST and was awarded for producing 124 publications. Dr. Francis is currently at Harvard, supervising and making sure that the academic publications meet the required stringent standards.



Prof. Nixon Kamukama



Assoc. Prof. Joel Bazira

At the same ceremony, Dr. Warren Namara further recognized Prof. Kamukama Nixon and Dr. Medard Twinamasiko for leading a team of innovators behind the development of the iSOFT organic fertilizer that is formed using animal manure. As the out standing project in the year 2022/23.

## MUST PhD Graduates ratified to Address Community Challenges



During the 29th graduation ceremony of Mbarara University of Science and Technology, 26 candidates were conferred the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy of Mbarara University of Science and Technology

## The Faculty of Medicine



Tadele Mekuriya Yadesa

**Topic:** Incidence, risk factors and risk prediction of adverse drug reactions among older inpatients at Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital, Southwest Uganda

**Details:** The current prevalence of HA-ADR is higher than what has been previously documented. The majority of the ADRs were preventable. Disease-related factors followed by medication-related factors were shown to be the most important predictors of HA-ADRs. Thus, we recommend larger and multi-centered cohorts of older adults to be undertaken.

**Supervisors:**

1. Associate Professor Paul Alele from Department of Pharmacology at Mbarara University of

Science and Technology

2. Associate Professor Robert Tamkong from Department of Pharmacy at Mbarara University of Science and Technology

3. Freddy Erick Kitutu, School of Pharmacy, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University applying PADROI model.

He was Funded by: PHARMBIO-TRAC



## Nakaziba Rebecca



**Topic:** Antimicrobial and Anti-hyperglycaemic activity of *Corchorus olitorius* L

**Details:** *Corchorus olitorius* is traditionally used to treat joint and bone-related ailments. It is bioactive against bacteria and a moderate anti-hyperglycaemic agent with no toxic effects. Further pharmacological investigations and possible pharmaceutical development should be considered.

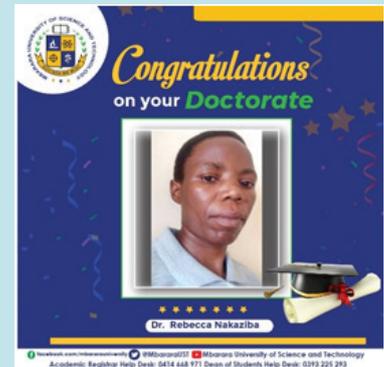
**Supervisors:**

1. Associate Professor Paul Alele from the Department of Phar-

macology at Mbarara University of Science and Technology

2. Professor Jasper W Ogwal-Okeng from Lira University

**Funding:** Lira University



**Topic:** Stigma, Depression, and Substance Use among African Urban Refugees Living in Mbarara City, South-western Uganda

**Details:** Urban refugees in Uganda experience high prevalence of stigma, depression, alcohol and other substance use. Depression and substance use among urban refugees are moderated by other confounding variables especially age, education level, and economic status paired with stigma. Society perceived refugees with a lot of contempt and suspicions, although the community appreciated the acceleration of the substance consumer market especially of food stuffs and housing services brought about by the presence of refugees in Mbarara city.

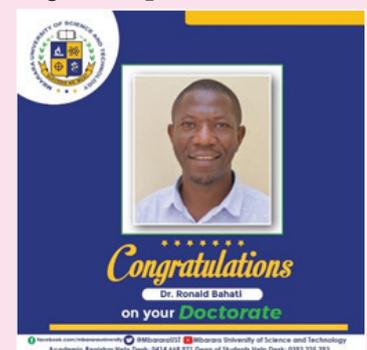
**Supervisors:**

1. Cathy Denise Sigmund from the School of Psychology and Social Sciences at Geneva College

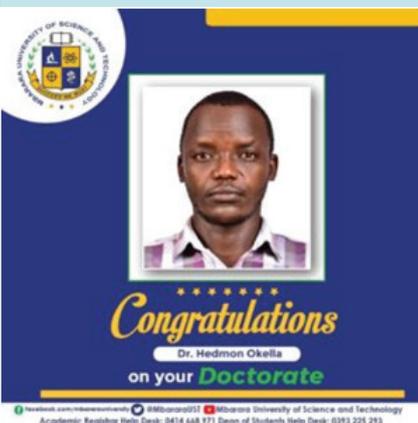
2. Godfrey Rukundo from the Department of Psychiatry at Mbarara University of Science and Technology

3. Herbert Elvis Ainamani from the Department of Psychiatry at Kabale University

**Funding:** Self-sponsored



Ronald Bahati



Kansiime Rachel

**Topic:** Screening and Characterization of antimicrobial peptides from fish mucus in three major lakes of Uganda

**Details:** Antimicrobial peptides (AMPs) constitute a broad range of bioactive compounds in diverse organisms, including fish. Currently, several peptide antibiotics have been approved for clinical use. Still, skin mucosal AMPs of African catfish and African lungfish are largely unexplored de-

spite their potential in contributing novel drug candidates. Accordingly, the African Catfish Antimicrobial peptides (ACAPs) were investigated. Collectively, the 7 African catfish antimicrobial peptides were identified as potential novel drug candidates. Future research is recommended to validate their activity in vivo on a wider range of bacteria.

**Supervisors:**

1. Associate Professor Ogwang Patrick Engeu from the Department of Pharmacy at Mbarara University of Science and Technology

2. Kato Charles Drago from the College of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Resources and Bio-security (COVAB)

**Funded by:** PHARMBIOTRAC

## Kansiime Rachel



**Topic:** Intra-psychic factors, coping skills, psychological well-being, and caregiving satisfaction among caregivers of patients with cancer at the Uganda Cancer Institute and Mbarara Regional Referral Hospital

**Details:** The results of this study showed that personality, hardiness, and coping significantly had an association with the psychological well-being of cancer caregivers and significantly had an association with caregiving satisfaction for the functional cancer caregiver. It is therefore recommended that coping and hardiness training programs coupled with psychological support sessions be provided for cancer caregivers. This will offer increased enrichment and support and reduce the psychological distress among cancer caregivers hence enhancing their mental health.

**Supervisors:**

1. Godfrey Rukundo from the Department of Psychiatry at Mbarara University of Science and Technology

2. Simon Kizito from the School of Psychology, Makerere University

3. Milton Mutto from the Pincer Group International (PGI)  
Funded by: The East African Centre of Excellence in Oncology at the Uganda Cancer Institute with funding from the African Development Bank (ADB)



## Hamson Kanyesigye



**Topic:** Assessment of the Challenges of Intrapartum Referrals and use of Mobile Phone Technology to Improve Maternal-Fetal Outcomes in South Western Uganda

**Details:** Most of the intrapartum referrals had poor social-economic status, used taxis, and lacked professional escort. Health workers suffered harassment, lack of communication, and a shortage of supplies. The phone call intervention was acceptable by HCWs, it reduced delay to patient admission at MRRH and was protective against adverse maternal-fetal outcomes. We recommend incorporating the phone call communication intervention in the routine practice of managing emergency maternal

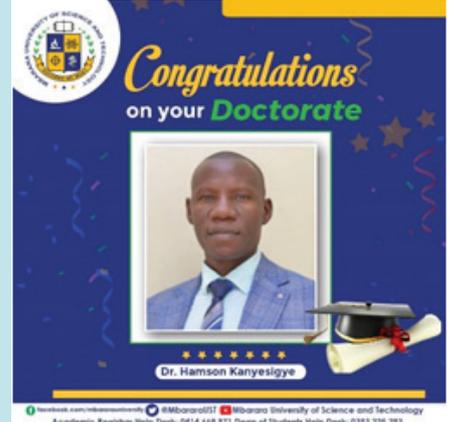
referrals.

**Supervisors:**

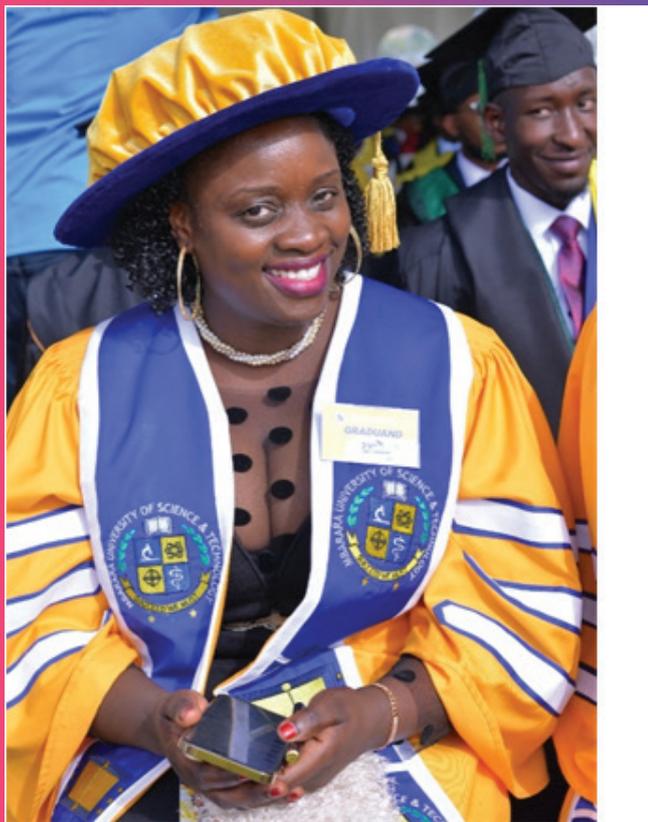
1. Joseph Ngonzi from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Mbarara University of Science and Technology

2. Professor Jerome Kabakyenga from the Department of Community Health and IMNCH

Funded by: Mbarara University and Healthy Child Uganda Mi-



## Catherine Atuhaire



**Topic:** Postpartum Depression in South-western Uganda: Associated factors, lived experiences of mothers who recovered from a clinical diagnosis and validation of a screening tool

**Details:** The prevalence of PPD in the Mbarara and Rwampara districts is higher than what has previously been reported in Uganda, indicating an urgent need to identify pregnant women who are at increased risk of PPD to mitigate their risk or implement therapies to manage the condition.

Midwives who attend to these mothers need to be empowered with available methods of mitigating the prevalence and consequences of PPD. Suicidal and homicidal thoughts are important parts of the postpartum depression experience, and these may put the lives of the mothers, their spouses, and their babies at great risk.

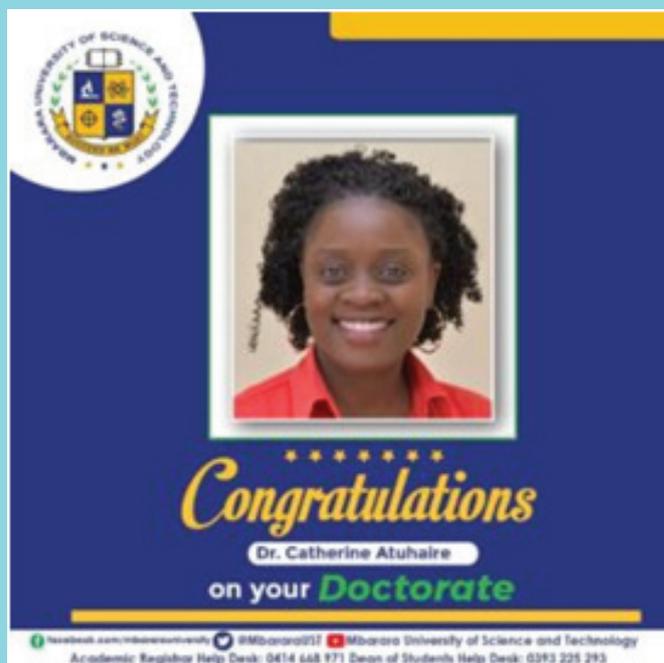
Poor relationship quality, intimate partner violence,

and lack of financial resources contribute significantly to the negative emotional experiences of mothers with PPD. The EPDS is a valid screening tool if used at a cut-off score of  $\geq 10$  in southwestern Uganda. It has a good diagnostic performance to correctly detect PPD among postpartum mothers.

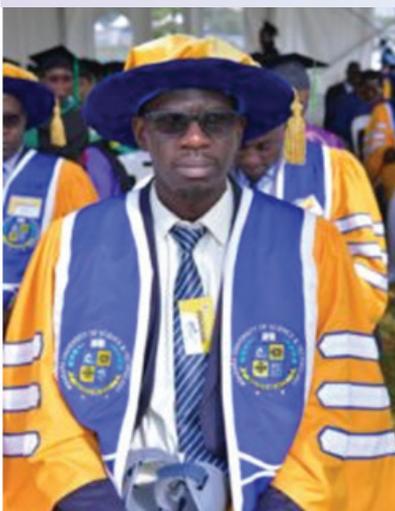
Supervisors:

1. Grace Nambozi from the Department of Nursing at Mbarara University of Science and Technology
2. Godfrey Rukundo from the Department of Psychiatry at Mbarara University of Science and Technology
3. Laura Brennaman

Funded by: The East African Centre of Excellence in Oncology at the Uganda Cancer Institute with funding from the African Development Bank (ADB)



# Faculty of Science



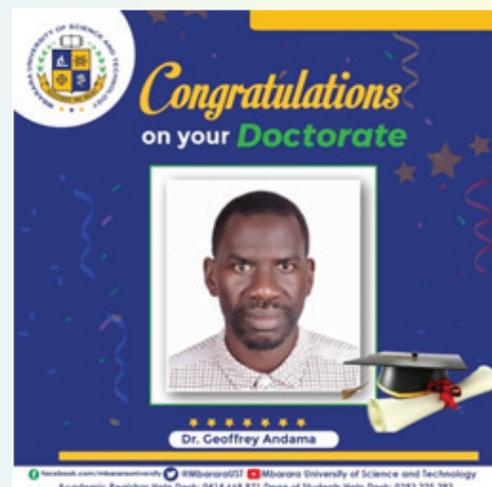
## Geoffrey Andama

**Topic:** “On planet formation by multi-species pebble accretion”

**Supervisors:** He was supervised by;

1. Associate Professor Jurua Edward (MUST),
2. Ndugu Nelson (Muni University)
3. Prof. Anguma Simon Katrini (Muni University)

**Funding:** International Space Programmer, Sweden (ISP).



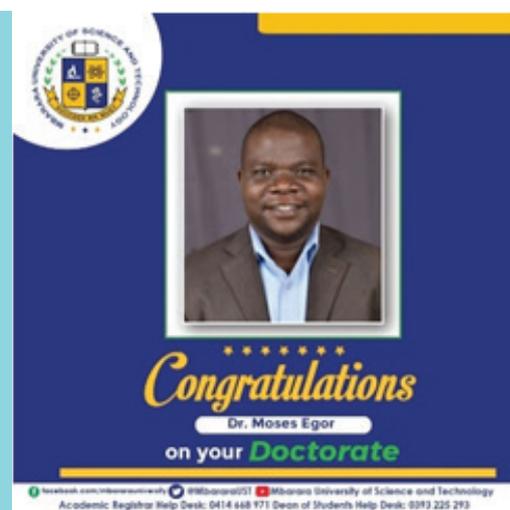
## Moses EGOR

**Topic:** “Cellulose-Bimetal Nano-composite Adsorbent for Defluoridation of Groundwater from Sukulu Hills, Uganda”

**Supervisors;**

1. Emmanuel Ntambi (MUST)
2. Samson Rwahwire (Busitema University)
3. Thalappil Pradeep (Indian Institute of Technology, Madras)

**Funding:** Funded by DAAD



## Clive MAATE

**Topic:** “Teaching-Learning Facilities and Students’ Performance in chemistry in Selected Secondary Schools in Kasese Municipality”

**Supervisor;**

Associate Professor Adrian Mwesigye (MUST).

**Funding:** He was self-sponsored.

## Duncans MUGUMYA



**Topic:** Mugumya's research addressed "Parental Engagement and Students' Academic

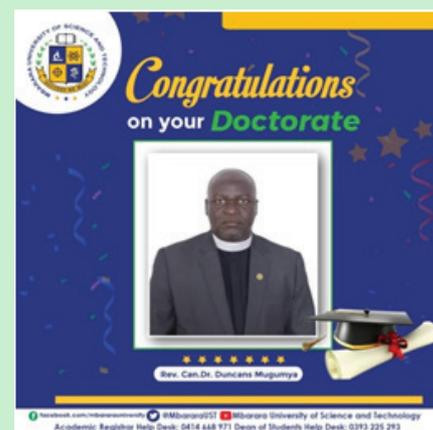
Performance in Government Grant-Aided Universal Secondary Education Schools in Sheema District, South-Western Uganda"

**Supervisors;**

1. Prof. Adrian Mwesigye – PhD (MUST)

2. Emmanuel Karoro – PhD (Mak)

**Sponsor:** He was self-sponsored



## Ronald MWESIGWA



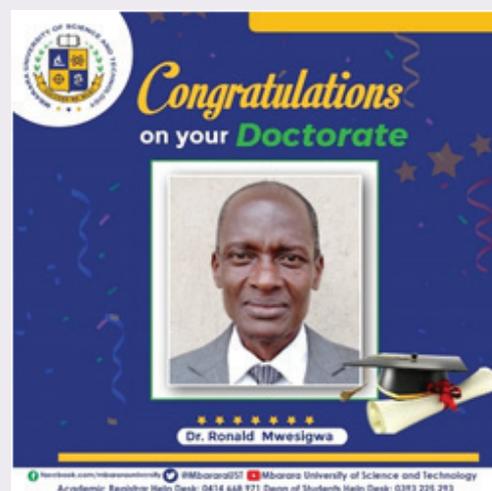
**Topic:** "Analysis of the Payne – Whitham Traffic Flow Model using the Finite and Boundary Element Methods"

**Supervisors;**

1. Everest Nabassa (MUST)

2. John Obongoloch (MUST)

**Sponsor:** He was sponsored ADB – HEIST support to MUST



## James NUWAGABA



**Topic:** "Pesticides in Vegetable Growing – A Case Study of Pesticide Use and Their Residues in Vegetables in Kabale District, Uganda"

**Supervisors;**

Prof. Grace Birungi (MUST)

**Funding;**

**Sponsor:** He was self-sponsored

## Bosco ORYEMA



**Topic:** Oryema’s research “Deep-space radiation effects on fluo-rine-doped SnO<sub>2</sub> thin films for spacecraft passive thermal control coating application”

- Supervisors;
1. Prof. Edward Jurua (MUST)
  2. Malik Maaza (iThemba Labs, South Africa) and
  3. Itani G. Madiba (iThemba Labs, South Africa)

Funding; The Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency (SIDA) through the International Space Programme (ISP) of Uppsala University, Sweden.



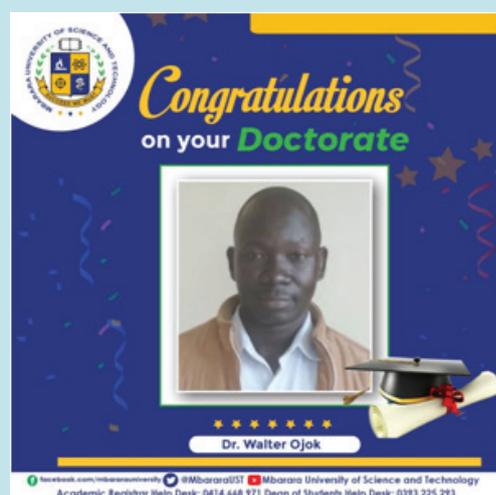
## Walter OJOK



**Topic:** Ojok’s research addressed the “Mesoporous Sorbents from Biowaste for Sustainable Fluoride Removal from Water”

- Supervisors:
1. Emmanuel Ntambi (MUST),
  2. Wasswa John (Makerere University)
  - 3 William Wanasolo (Kyambogo University)
  4. Brenda Moodley (University of Kwazulu Natala)
  5. James Bolender (University of Sandiago USA)

Funding: DAAD (Germany Exchange Programme). Part of the Research funds was also supported by the African Germany Network of Excellence in Science (AGNES)



# Faculty of Interdisciplinary Studies

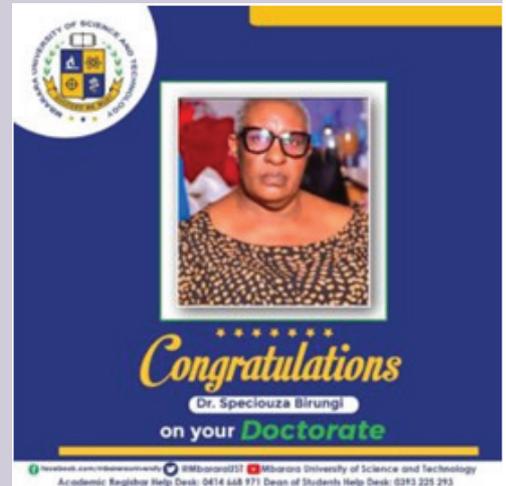
## Speciouza Birungi



**Topic:** Perceived Organizational Behaviour and Performance of Academic Staff At Bishop Stuart University Supervisors

1. Assoc.Prof. Charles Tushabomwe Kazooba
2. Assoc. Prof. Fr. Adrian Mwesigye

Funding: Self sponsored



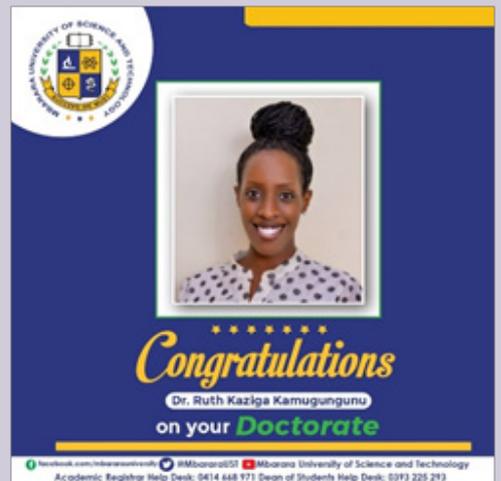
## Ruth Kaziga Kamugungunu



**Topic:** Young Adult Banyankore Girls Response To Social Construction Of Body Image In The Ankore Region, Uganda Supervisors:

1. Dr. Charles Muchunguzi
2. Dr. Suzan Kools, University of Virginia

Funding: Self sponsorship



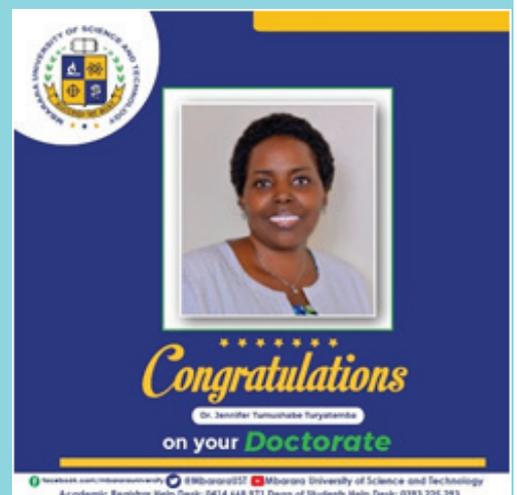
## Jennifer Turyatamba Tumushabe



**Topic:** Exotic Tree Growing And Livelihoods Among Rural Communities Of Kigezi Sub Region, South Western Uganda Supervisors:

1. Dr. Rogers Bariyo
2. Dr. Ronald Twongyirwe

Funding: Self sponsorship



## Wendo Mlahagwa



Topic: Captivity and Post Captivity Experiences of Formerly Abducted Young Mothers And Their Social Reintegration In Post Conflict Northern Uganda:

Supervisor: Prof. Roberts K. Muriisa

Funding: DAAD



## Faculty of Computing and Informatics

## Aggrey Obbo



Topic: Algorithms for Detection of People Crowds”, the main objective of the research was to develop algorithms to be implemented for the detection of people crowds that are known to be spontaneous and unpredictable and, in a resource, -constrained environment. The developed People Crowd Detection (PCD) algorithms were simulated using MATLAB software and their performance was analyzed by establishing their complexities.

The developed algorithms were of order  $O(n)$ , indicating a fair performance while at the same time highlighting room for improvement. The conclusion made was that wireless sensor networks provide a basis upon which algorithms can be programmed and people crowds detected especially for resource-constrained environments.

The research recommended the need to factor in 1) Infrastructural changes that are common, especially in a resource-constrained environment when designing crowd detection algorithms, 2) The dynamic, spontaneous, and intelligent

nature of people crowds, 3) Despite progress in micro-electromechanical technology that is used in the manufacture of sensors, wireless sensor networks still suffer from known inherent challenges of power, memory, and computational capacity that are strong factors for wireless sensor networks especially people crowd detection.

Supervisors;

1. Dr Nabaassa Evarist
2. Dr Ariho Pius.

Funder: The research was funded by the Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) AfDB HEST project

Funder: The research was funded by the Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) AfDB HEST project





Richard Ntwari

compass key policy requirements, security controls, human resource training, application vetting, as well as storage and updating practices.

Supervisors:

1. Assoc Prof. Annabella Habinka
2. Dr. Fred Kaggwa of MUST

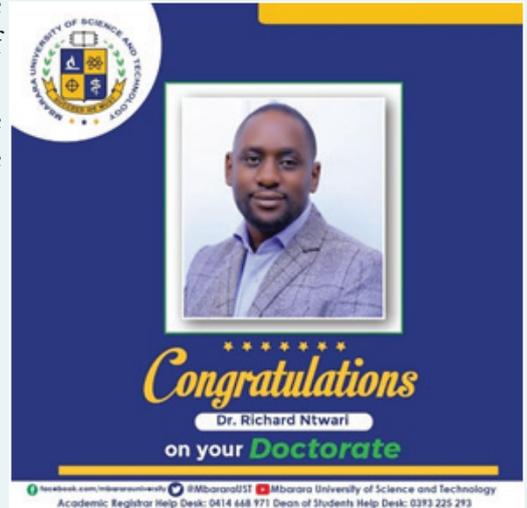
Funder: MUST and self sponsorship

**Title:** “A MODEL FOR ENHANCING SECURITY IN A BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE ENVIRONMENTS”

**Results:**

Richard has developed a model to promote the secure adoption and usage of personal mobile devices, such as smartphones, within a corporate setting. His research uncovered that data breaches and misuse within organizations were primarily caused by users’ inadequate knowledge and experience in managing controls. Additionally, organizations lacked policies that specifically addressed the use of personal mobile devices for work-related tasks.

Richard’s model offers stakeholders essential security considerations to ensure the secure utilization of personal mobile devices in corporate environments. These considerations encompass



## Daniel Muhanguzi



**Topic:** A Collaborative Knowledge Management Framework for Enhancing Value of Agricultural Information in Smallholder Farming Systems

**Abstract:** Information plays a key role in a smallholder farmer’s life. It enhances their knowledge and strengthens their decision-making ability which translates

to productivity and profitability. Smallholder farmers receive agricultural information from family and friends, extension agents, research institutions, middlemen, and input dealers among others. With the ubiquity of ICTs especially mobile phones and the internet, smallholder farmers are increasingly adopting and subscribing to services that provide them with market, weather, and agronomic information.

However, different sources use different channels and the information provided is not well processed and aggregated for sufficient utilization by smallholder

farmers. This is exacerbated by the variability in human capital and minimal formal methods to manage the information and knowledge smallholder farmers receive.

Furthermore, there is inappropriate and insufficient local content and also poor information/knowledge-sharing culture which affects the smallholder farmers’ ability to extract value from the agricultural information. These challenges are further compounded by the lack of a suitable and reliable framework that can be leveraged to enhance smallholder farmers’ ability to extract value from agricultural information.

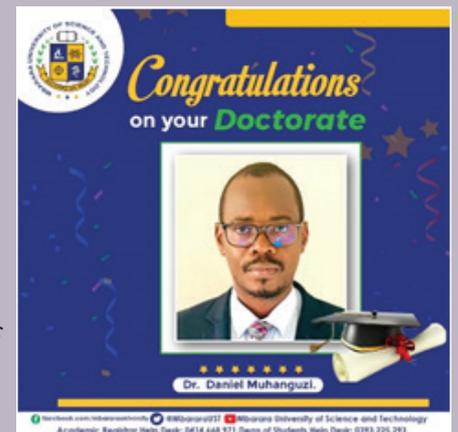
**Results:** A collaborative knowledge management framework that enhances smallholder farmers’ ability to extract value

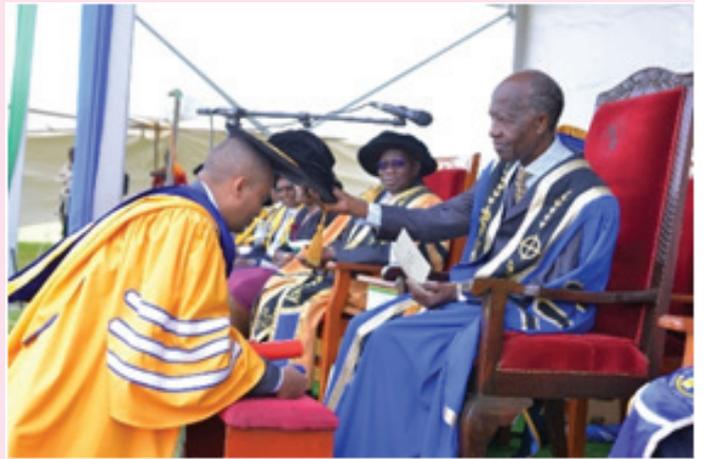
from agricultural information.

**Supervisor:**

1. Dr. John Ngubiri – Mak,
2. Dr. Kawuma Simon – MUST

**Funding:** Self sponsorship





# MUST convocation recognizes best students per programme

The MUST convocation, an association that brings together all MUST alumni, awarded a certificate of recognition to the best student per programme.

Representing Dr. Kamara Nicholas, Chairman Convocation Dr. Collins Agaba, presented the awards to the chief guest, Dr. John Chrysestom Muyingo the State Minister for Higher Education in the Ugandan Cabinet, who later awarded the students. The best students included:



## CONVOCATION PRIZES 2021-2022 GRADUATION

MUST Convocation, an association bringing together all graduates and staff members MUST, is proud to award Certificates of excellence to the graduands below for their exceptional performance in their respective programmes. The graduands listed below scored the highest CGPA in their respective programmes.

### FACULTY OF MEDICINE

#### **Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBR)**

MIIRO Emmanuel

#### **Bachelor of Pharmacy (PHA)**

ANN K. Stella

#### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BNS)**

MUSINGUZI Pius

#### **Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BNC) - Completion**

KUKUNDA Daphne

#### **Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (MLS)**

OKENY Christopher

#### **Bachelor of Medical Laboratory Science (MLC & MMLC) - Completion**

ADRANYA Bosco

#### **Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (PHS)**

MBAZIIRA Hatim Nasser

#### **Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy (BSP)**

ATWONGYEIRE Night

#### **Advanced Diploma in Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMH)**

NAKIRYA Joan Wakida

### FACULTY OF SCIENCE

#### **Bachelor of Science with Education (BS)**

KATEGAYA Isaac

#### **Diploma in Science Laboratory Technology (DLT)**

KYOMUHENDO Halimah

MUSANJE Enoch



### **FACULTY OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATICS**

#### **Bachelor of Computer Science (BCS)**

SSENDYOWA Martin

#### **Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT)**

MUGASHA Blaise Bradley

### **FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES**

#### **Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance (BAF)**

KISAAWE Hanifa

#### **Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)**

KAWUMA Sebastian

#### **Bachelor of Science in Procurement and Supply Chain Management (BPSM)**

ATUHAIRE Susan

#### **Bachelor of Science in Economics (ECO)**

MULWASIRA Salim

### **FACULTY OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES**

#### **Bachelor of Science in Planning and Community Development (BPCD)**

NUWAMANYA Innocent

#### **Bachelor of Science in Gender and Applied Women Health (BGWH)**

ATUKUNZIRE Doreen

#### **Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Livelihood and Farm Production (BSAL)**

NEMEYIMANA James

### **FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY**

#### **Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering (BCE)**

ANENA Rosemary Okot

#### **Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering (BME)**

KANENE Lillian Winnie

#### **Bachelor of Petroleum Engineering and Environmental Management Engineering (PEM)**

BATARINGAYA Edgar

#### **Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE)**

BASHABE John



Apart from the researchers, Dr. Medard Bitekyerezo was recognized as the outstanding convocation mobilizer for central region.



Students were urged to join and participate in convocation activities, such as the ongoing project of constructing the Main gate at the city campus.



**Other stars included:**

29<sup>th</sup> | Graduation Ceremony - 2023

**Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Livelihood and Farm Production**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CGPA</b>
NEMEYIMANA James	4.68
KYOMUGISHA Winnie	4.58
MATOVU Derick Kiwanuka	4.53
BUDUMA Specioza	4.49

**Bachelor of Biomedical Engineering**

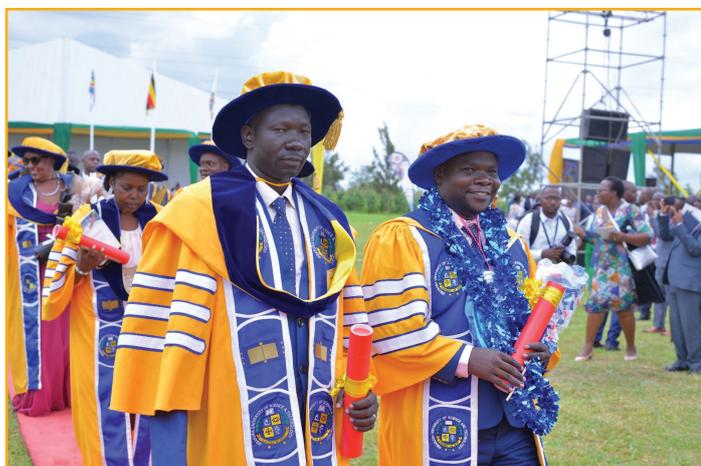
<b>NAME</b>	<b>CGPA</b>
KANENE Lillian Winnie	4.59
MBULAMBAGO Timothy	4.55

**Bachelor of Science in Petroleum Engineering**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CGPA</b>
BATARINGAYA Edgar	4.47

**Bachelor of Engineering in Electrical and Electronics Engineering**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>CGPA</b>
BASHABE John	4.59
ASINGWIRE Bonus	4.50



## FIRST CLASS STUDENTS 2021/2022

### Bachelor of Science with Education

NAME	CGPA
KATEGAYA Isaac	4.68
AYEBALE Moses	4.66
NIMWESIGA Wilson	4.61
KATO Derrick Bukenya	4.52
CHABI Robert	4.49
KAWOOYA Joseph Jjingo	4.47
SSERWADDA Godfrey	4.47

### Bachelor of Computer Science

NAME	CGPA
SSENDYOWA Martin	4.47
NABENDE Fahad	4.44
MUGISHA Edgar	4.43

### Bachelor of Information Technology

NAME	CGPA
MUGASHA Blaise Bradley	4.40

### Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance

NAME	CGPA
KISAAWE Hanifa	4.70
AMPUMUZA Ian	4.43

**Bachelor of Business Administration**

NAME	CGPA
KAWUMA Sebastian	4.83
KATO Edmond	4.72
MUTEEFU James Yona	4.62
KAYESU Naome	4.59
OKUBAL Charles	4.50
BIRUNGI Racheal	4.43
ALITUHA Morrine	4.41

**Bachelor of Science in Procurement and Supply Chain Management**

NAME	CGPA
ATUHAIRE Susan	4.46
KOMUJUNI Justina	4.44
AMPAIRE Ruth	4.43
MWESIGWA Samuel	4.43

**Bachelor of Science in Economics**

NAME	CGPA
MULWASIRA Salim	4.44

**Bachelor of Science in Planning and Community Development**

NAME	CGPA
NUWAMANYA Innocent	4.63

**Bachelor of Science in Gender and Applied Women Health**

NAME	CGPA
ATUKUNZIRE Doreen	4.61
NSIMENTA Bridget	4.57
BIRUNGI Steffie	4.49
ALILABA Ketra	4.48

## Priceless memories during the 29th Graduation Ceremony











# SPEECHES

## MBARARA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### The Chancellor's Speech: Prof. Charles Mark Lwanga Olweny On The 29Th Graduation Ceremony, Saturday May 27, 2023 Kihumuro Main Campus Grounds, Mbarara



Prof. Charles Mark Lwanga Olweny

The Hon Dr Chrysostom Musingo, Minister of State for Higher Education, representing the Ministry of Education and Sport

The Vice Chancellor, Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST)

The Chairman and Members of MUST Council

Honorable Ministers

Your Excellencies, Members of Diplomatic Corp

Hon Members of Parliament

The Executive Director, NCHE

Vice Chancellors and Representatives of Sister Universities

Deputy Vice Chancellors, MUST

Religious, Civic and Local leaders

Members of MUST Senate  
Teaching and non-teaching staff  
Parents, Guardians and Sponsors  
Graduands soon to be graduates  
Continuing students  
Distinguished Guests  
Ladies and Gentlemen

I welcome you all to this 29th Graduation Congregation of Mbarara University of Science and Technology, I congratulate all those that are going to be conferred the different Degrees and awarded Diplomas.

Today is a day of celebration for all of us. We thank the Government for supporting the University's growth and development. Special thanks to the President and Commander-in-Chief of Uganda Armed Forces, H.E General Yoweri Kaguta Museveni for his visionary leadership and continued support for Mbarara University of Science and Technology. Through his Government, MUST has been able to grow steadily academically and infrastructurally as we can see on this campus. The Government has continued to provide for staff development across all faculties, and he has always strived to see that University employees get a living wage despite the current difficult times. We will always remain grateful to you and your Government.

I join the Vice Chancellor in condoling with the MUST community and bereaved families of the different staff and students that passed-on in the recent past. May the Almighty strength their families to bear the loses.

MUST Governance

Ladies and Gentlemen join me in thanking the University Council and the University management for the wonderful work they are doing in providing leadership at MUST amidst the very difficult economic situation prevailing in the country currently.



Mr. Melchoir Byaruhanga (US)

Prof. Celestino Obua (VC)

Dr. Martha Kyoshaba (AR)

Hon Minister, with that background, managing staff who are not very happy is a tough job, but I would like to thank the MUST staff for the spirit of perseverance and in ensuring that there is peace and harmony in MUST. That said, the staff at MUST are doing the best to deliver on their obligations, of teaching, research and innovations, hence the graduation ceremony that we are witnessing today.

Hon Minister, the National Council for Higher Education requires that all Universities have sufficient numbers of Professors as Quality Assurance of the education and training by the University. The University must ensure that her faculty grow professionally and academically through promotions with the ultimate goal of attaining professorial appointments. Thus, the Government ban on promotions in Public Universities, contradicts the very purpose and existence of the University to assure quality education. It is my humble appeal that University lecturers are motivated through promotions, to assure quality education and human capital production to guarantee development of Uganda.

Nonetheless, I thank all MUST Staff who have worked tirelessly to prepare the Graduands for graduation today - thank you so much and I trust your hard work will not go in vain.

Hon. Minister, we recognize that times are really not ideal, but I appeal to you and to Cabinet in general, that a financial solution for MUST needs urgent attention as this young but very progressive University is likely to become severely malnourished and stunted. Thus our request is that the University budget be increased in the coming budget, as there was cut in the current budget making it challenging for the administration to take effective decisions.

#### Recognition of Staff

Despite the bottle necks above, we celebrate the achievements of some of our staff members and in no particular order I congratulate the following people:

Dr. Francis Bajunirwe for being the top researcher in the university for the past year to date. A university serves three important roles viz., Teach, Research and Community Engagement. I have always stressed that we should place research on top. You do not need to be in a university to teach. You can teach at all levels. Thank you Dr. Bajunirwe. I trust you are mentoring others too.

MUST Staff and students have taken up leadership in different administrative positions at national and international level. This increases the University's visibility. I congratulate:-

Dr. JonansTusiimire who was elected Vice President of the Commonwealth Pharmacists Association (CPA) during the Regional Assembly. Prior to his election as Vice President, he had also been successfully nominated as a Regional Representative to the CPA Regional Assembly by the National Pharmacy Associations within the East and Southern Africa region.

Prof. David Kitya from the Department of Surgery for being elected President of the Neurosurgical Society of Uganda. He is also a member of the association of Duke Global Neurosurgery and Neurology, which aims to promote health in low- and middle-income countries through a multi-faceted evidence-based, and collaborative approach to improve patient access to care and health. We celebrate your success and congratulate you.

Mr. Brian Muhimbuura, a Graduand today, who is the Physiotherapy Future Network Facilitator for Africa. The Physiotherapy Future Network brings together physiotherapy students and early career Physiotherapists, who have qualified for less than five years, and want to connect with other students and early career professionals worldwide.

Dr Jolly DavidMuganzi, also a Graduand today, for winning two prestigious awards at the Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) 2023 conference recently held in Washington DC. These awards

were:1. Dr. Judy Wasserheit Young Leader award (Global) and 2. Velji-CUGH Young African Leader award. These well-deserved awards were in recognition of David's outstanding contributions to improving healthcare in Africa through student led initiatives across the continent and his exceptional leadership abilities. Congratulations Dr Muganzi

In this regard, I also thank the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Celestino Obua, for always encouraging faculty and students to carry out research, write winning grants and publish which has made MUST stand tall among its peers. Among the so many projects, I congratulate him upon the Health Education Partnership Initiative-Transforming Uganda Institutions Training Against HIV/AIDS (HEP-TUITAH).

This project mentored undergraduate students on research and scientific writing, where nearly 40 peer reviewed papers have been published in a number of top international journals, hence contributing to the visibility of

MUST. I congratulate these undergraduate publishers and their mentors for these great achievements.

Finally to the Graduands, soon to become graduates, today is your day. You are reaping where you sowed. As you collect your certificates and transcripts endeavour to register for your next course ie. Masters and Ph.D. I have always stated that learning never ends. A colleague of mine stressed that learning stops two hours after death. When I asked him why two hours? He responded by saying, "You need two hours to decide whether you are going to heaven or to hell". We must not forget to thank your parents and sponsors. Without their support you would not be where you are to-day. Finally allow me to appeal to graduands and faculty to uphold the motto of your alma mater, viz. "Succeed we MUST". I say all this for God and my Country. Thank you for listening to me.



Chancellor's Procession

**Valedictorian Speech: Dr. Emmanuel Miiro  
On the 29th Graduation Ceremony, Saturday May 27, 2023  
Kihumuro Main Campus Grounds, Mbarara**



Dr. Emmanuel Miiro

Our Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Chairman of the University Council, the chief guest, our esteemed faculty, parents and guardians, honored guests and fellow graduands, protocol observed, good morning to you all. I'm Miiro Emmanuel, standing before you as the valedictorian of the graduating class of 2021/2022. On behalf of all graduands, I deliver these words of gratitude from the bottom of our hearts.

To our esteemed alma mater:

As we bid farewell and prepare to embark on new horizons, we express our heartfelt gratitude for the transformative years spent within your hallowed halls. You received us as ignorant, naïve, unwitting boys and girls and you've unerringly transformed us into gallant men and women of knowledge and skill.

You have been a mother to us, fortifying our character and sharpening our minds. Dutifully, you have fulfilled the responsibility entrusted to you by our dear parents and guardians and our dear nation.



By and large, this has not been an easy task. We applaud our alma mater, for providing avenues for collaborative innovation among students from different disciplines such as the Hepi-Tuitah Research Training and CAM-Tech Hackathons among others.

You have bred within us a deep desire for success and provided us with the means to achieve it. The fire you have lit inside us shall continue burning. Our achievements in the world will be a testament to your timeless legacy. Succeed we must.

### Some of the University Council Members



## To our dear parents and guardians

As we look back and reflect upon our journey, we can't help but acknowledge your unwavering support. Indeed, none of us would have made it this far if it weren't for your sacrifices.

As children, you tended to us. You worried when we were sick, you were sad when we were hurt, you toiled so that none slept hungry. With a stern yet gentle hand, you shaped our character and fortified our integrity.

We celebrate you our dear parents and guardians for your love, patience, wise counsel, financial and emotional support. We thank you for being strong pillars upon which we've built our lives.

For our parents and guardians who departed onto the next life, we hold you dearly in our hearts, especially so on this day. May their souls rest in eternal peace.

## To my fellow graduands:



My heart feels with great joy when I look at all of you today. Your beautiful, sparkling attire truly befits champions. You have successfully endured long, arduous hours of study, and sleepless nights, to emerge as winners of your education journey.

Indeed, you are some of the brightest minds of our generation. Furthermore, you are a fine embodiment of courage, determination, grit and resilience. We have come very far yet our journey is just starting.

We live in an increasingly connected world, a global village, thanks to the internet. I therefore urge you as you move forward in your careers, to strive for global excellence. I ask you to constantly hone your knowledge and skills, using the global context as a benchmark.

To our departed comrades with whom we started this journey but whose lives were unfortunately cut short, may their souls rest in eternal peace. Thank you for listening.



**DR WARREN NAAMARA  
COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH  
29TH GRADUATION CEREMONY, SATURDAY May 27, 2023  
KIHUMURO MAIN CAMPUS GROUNDS, MBARARA**



The Chancellor, Prof Charles Mark Lwanga Olweny  
 Honorable Dr. Chrysostom Muyingo, State Minister  
 for Higher Education representing the Ministry of  
 Education and Sports  
 Members of MUST Council  
 The Vice Chancellor, MUST  
 Honorable Ministers  
 Your Excellencies, Members of Diplomatic Corp  
 Hon Members of Parliament  
 The Executive Director, NCHE  
 Vice Chancellors and Representatives of Sister Uni-  
 versities  
 Religious, Civic and Local leaders  
 Deputy Vice Chancellors, MUST  
 Members of MUST Senate  
 Teaching and non-teaching staff  
 Parents, Guardians and Sponsors  
 Graduands and Students  
 Distinguished Guests  
 Ladies and Gentlemen

Welcoming the Day's guests.

On behalf of the Council, the supreme University  
 GOVERNING body, I would like to welcome you Mr.  
 Chancellor, Sir, Hon Minister of education to Mbarara  
 University of Science and Technology on this import-  
 ant day.

To you all our special guests, parents and all you grad-  
 uands! A very, very warm welcome indeed.

The University Council

Mr. Chancellor Sir, and Hon Minister, the role of  
 Council as a supreme organ of the University is well  
 prescribed in the UOTIA (2021) as amended. Need-  
 less to emphasize, it takes conscious efforts to put it  
 into practice. The Council works through various  
 committees along with University Administration  
 to ensure the Institution strategic development and  
 smooth running. The guiding beacon at MUST has  
 always been FOR individuals to be the best they can  
 and orderliness. Everything in its place and a place for  
 everything.



At this juncture, I want to recognize and thank the Members of the Council for their steadfastness and a job well done in the overall strategic direction of the University and congratulate the University management and the entire academic staff for steering the University in the right direction.

To the Students, thank you for keeping us on our toes!!! Never forget that the key performance indicator is passing exams and graduation! Success is a long odious journey and not an event. You will not pass any course by just sitting through, cheating or going on strike or xeroxing as I hear some saying. At the very least, you will scrape through with a miserable GPA taking you nowhere. But certainly you will not and should not survive in Medicine and Sciences faculties or be allowed to pursue a PhD!!.

And to the academics in the University, the camaraderie congenial phrase is “publish or perish” A University without research is pretty much an eunuch. Therefore, regular academic audits will be the vernier scale to promotions.

In the same breath, therefore, today's PhDs should result in books, monographs, chapters in Textbooks books and publications in peer reviewed journals.

Mr. Chancellor Sir, Hon Guest of Honour, this is a “science and technology” institution and the founders of this University namely, H.E the President and Professor Kayanja, had in their mind a stepping stone to social economic transformation through relevant and contemporary technology development.



Extreme back Fomer Academic Registrar Mr. Stephen Bazirake and wife

Therefore, the graduates must optimize and apply the knowledge unearthed and imparted by the same University for the benefit of society. How otherwise do you expect social economic transition? What, then is the added value of “a science and technology” institution? I challenge the industries to be the primary consumers of the research findings!

This is the primary outcome and long-term impact of the training got from this important university.

Over the recent years, MUST has gone through some challenges. Some self-inflicted and others of fiscal nature as well as structural in making.

One example among many is when the University Council and the Senior management were dragged to Courts of Law on frivolous, indolent and rather innocuous issues.

Such unjustified engagements wasted valuable planning time, caused financial loss and all the while creating a balkanized and polarized environment.

The Council hopes that such infantile and misguided escapades have ceased, after all, the actors and the

whole caste have learnt their lessons.

However, in the face of such adversity, the administration and the Council have stood firm and fair and achieved tremendous strides.

Academic audit.

One flagship activity is the Academic audit

Mr. Chancellor Sir, Chief Guest Hon Minister, and all Distinguished Guests, I wish to let you know that in order to understand the productivity of our academic staff, the Council directed all academic staff to undertake a self-academic audit.

Mr. Chancellor Sir, the Academic Audit showed telling findings, especially indicating that while research/innovation activities at MUST appear to be on the upward, more needed to be done considering that Govt had provided funds for staff for research and innovations.

On behalf of this Council directed Audit, I would like to commend the following faculty for emerging top with high numbers of academic products/publications:

Mr. Chancellor Sir, the Academic Audit showed telling findings, especially indicating that while research/innovation activities at MUST appear to be on the upward, more needed to be done considering that Govt had provided funds for staff for research and innovations.

On behalf of this Council directed Audit, I would like to commend the following faculty for emerging top with high numbers of academic products/publications:

Name	No. of publication
Dr. Godfrey Zari Rukundo,	112
Dr. Ngonzi Joseph,	96
Dr. Edgar Mulogo,	88 (not around with apology)
Dr. Joel Bazira,	83
Prof Robert Bitariho	65

Assoc. Prof Grace Kagoro (Top Female) 54 (she is out in India presenting a paper)

The MUST (G.O.A.T) researcher is - Dr. Bajunirwe Francis with 124 Publications!!!!!! Currently at Harvard for stringent academic quality control.

In the same vein, we recognize Prof. Kamukama Nixon and Dr. Medard Twinamatsiko for leading a team of innovators behind the development of the iSOFT fertilizer, an organic fertilizer using animal manure and locally available plants.



Reflecting on the day.

Mr. Chancellor, Sir, Hon Minister, this 29th Graduation Day epitomizes the tremendous work by all; Professors, Lecturers, Students, Administration staff and all support staff without whom this day would be impossible.

In the same vein, I, on behalf of Council, wish to extend heartfelt gratitude to the parents and guardians who have nurtured and supported these exceptional individuals on their educational journey Congratula-

tions to you all. I have not forgotten how happy my late Mum was 43 years ago!

To the postgraduates and undergraduate graduands, I extend my warmest congratulations. LET yee all men acknowledge the countless hours spent in lecture halls, libraries and laboratories, the sleepless nights grappling with complex concepts, and the sacrifices made to reach this moment, as a testament to your unwavering dedication, perseverance, and intellectual prowess.

Your unwavering commitment to learning, personal growth, and the pursuit of knowledge is commendable. However, as momentous as this occasion is, let us remember that this is merely a stepping stone on the path to greatness. The degrees and diplomas you will soon hold in your hands are not merely pieces of paper, but symbols of the knowledge and skills you have acquired. They grant you the power to make a positive impact on the World, to contribute to the betterment of society, and to forge a future of your own making.

For our PhD graduates, the research you have undertaken holds immense potential for transformation. Your tireless pursuit of knowledge has not only expanded the frontiers of human understanding but has the capacity to shape our society in meaningful ways. I urge you to leverage your expertise to address the challenges we face, to engage in cutting-edge research and technology that improves lives, and to become agents of positive change in our world.



As you step out into the world, armed with the knowledge and skills you have gained here at Mbarara University of Science and Technology, I implore you to embrace the spirit of lifelong learning. The World is constantly evolving, and it is essential to adapt and grow along with it. Seek out opportunities for professional development and remain intellectually curious. Never cease in your pursuit of excellence. Remember, this is just the beginning. The World and Uganda, in particular await your contributions, your unique talents and your transformative ideas. Let the knowledge you have acquired serve as a catalyst for change, and let your actions be guided by compassion, integrity, and a deep commitment to making a positive difference.

Contribution by Government

While we celebrate this joyous occasion, we must not forget the invaluable support the Government has provided for quality and transformative Education in spite of numerous challenges including reduced income streams due to low businesses due to Covid19 among other global challenges. Let us not lose sight of the realities around us.

The demand for salary enhancement/promotions and persistent constructive mature engagement by MUST staff with the Government is well appreciated by the Council.

Negotiations and discussions on a suitable wage remuneration will always be work in progress guided by clear and glaring positive signs of economic improvement.

It is during such challenging times that banding together as a community, supporting each other and finding innovative solutions to the problems is truly unity in strength.

In conclusion, let me once again extend my heartfelt congratulations to all our graduates. May your accomplishments inspire future generations, and may your journey continue to be filled with purpose and fulfillment. Together, let us forge a brighter future, building upon the foundation of education, research, and innovation, after all **SUCCEED WE MUST!**

Once again Congratulations to you all and wish you the very best in your new Journey: It is just begun!



MCs of the day Ms. Shiela Niinye and Mr. Angum Solomon



Religious Leaders

**HON DR CHRYSOSTOM'S SPEECH  
REPRESENTING THE MINISTER, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION  
AND SPORTS  
29TH GRADUATION CEREMONY, SATURDAY May 27, 2023  
KIHUMURO MAIN CAMPUS GROUNDS, MBARARA**

The Chancellor, Prof Charles Mark Lwanga Olweny  
The Vice Chancellor, MUST  
Honorable Ministers  
Your Excellencies, Members of Diplomatic Corp  
The Chairman and Members of MUST Council  
Hon Members of Parliament  
The Executive Director, NCHE  
Vice Chancellors and Representatives of Sister Universities  
Deputy Vice Chancellors, MUST  
Religious, Civic and Local leaders  
Members of Senate, MUST  
Teaching and non-teaching staff  
Parents, Guardians and Sponsors  
Graduands and Students  
Distinguished Guests  
Ladies and Gentlemen



I salute you all and bring greetings from the First Lady and Minister of Education and Sports Hon. Mama Janet Kataaha Museveni who could not make it here today due to other state responsibility.

I thank the Almighty God for this day, and for having given us life such that we can witness this day come true.

I would like to recognize the Parents and Guardians present here today. Your sacrifices have indeed born fruit as you witness these young men and women graduate today. As Government we thank you for supporting the efforts of Government in ensuring that the young people of this country get the necessary training so as to play their part in the development of the country.

Dear Graduands, soon be graduates, there is nothing as sweet as being conferred upon a degree for which you have spent countless hours, standing the cold nights, deadlines, overcoming examination pressures and the anxiety of awaiting the verdict of the examiners, among others. Today that is now all history.

### Deans and Directors



Dr. Evarist Nabaasa(Dean FCI) Dr. Stephen Asiimwe, Director GHCDr. Denis Bossa (Dean FAST)



Prof. Jerome Kabakyenga (Director IMNCH) Dr. Rogers Bariyo ( Dean FIS) Dr. Julius Bunny Lejju (Dean FS)

When, the Government conceived the idea of setting up a University of Science and Technology in Mbarara, the vision was to see Science and Technology demystified for the ordinary person. That vision as lived to see its fulfillment in you the graduates from this University. As Government we are proud of graduates from MUST and so we share your joy as well as Congratulate you and look forward to your contribution to the development of Uganda. The trainings you have had not only prepared you for jobs but more importantly prepared you to be job creators. The development of this nation will strongly rely on your creativeness and entrepreneurial skills. You are therefore urged to exploit these skills to the best of your abilities.

Today you will join the illustrious MUST alumni, I implore you to carry the MUST legacy everywhere you go. MUST alumni are well known for standing out in everything they do, especially their professionalism, hence the reason employers seek out for MUST graduates.

All your successes could not have been possible without the tireless efforts of your teachers. On behalf of Government I congratulate the MUST staff, for the great work in molding these young generation into professionals thereby ascertaining the future of our country. I also congratulate the University Council Lead by their Chairperson Dr Warren Namaara, and MUST management, through the able leadership of the Vice Chancellor, Professor Celestino Obua, and the Senate for academic leadership and ensuring the high quality exhibited by the graduates from MUST.

I congratulate all those staff that have been recognized for the different achievements, serving as role-models, that your students should emulate.

#### Government funding

As government we are aware of the of the budget constraints the University is facing. As spoken about by the Vice Chancellor and Chairman Council, I wish to inform you that this is partly due to the recovery from the Pandemic (COVID-19) and other challenges like you may know as Ugandans . I appeal for understanding from all stakeholders. At the same time I would like to challenge you to be more innovative and raise more local revenue and aim at financial sustainability in the medium-term. According to history of universities in the world, there universities that are self-sustaining why not MUST.



## National Council for Higher Education

Mr. Chancellor, this week there has been a concern about expired programmes at various universities I wish use this opportunity to assure the graduating class today their parents and the public that qualification from all programmes that have received prior accreditation are all valid your degrees are safe they are going to be recognized and are recognized highly. the NCHE requires institutions to submit programmes for re-assessment periodically for accreditation it is done all over the world. While the re assessment is being done, programmes remain valid the University Management should therefore remain vigilant and ensure compliance of the law.

### Staff and students' discipline

I wish to thank the MUST staff who have opted for dialogue as a way of addressing their challenges. This has been emulated by the students. Discipline is one of the keys to success indeed succeed we MUST.

Dear students present I trust you wish to be on these grounds as graduands, I wish you the best of luck as you pursue your respective programme I thank the current student leadership, not a strike I have heard of. Special thanks to the new student leadership under the Guild President, Mr. Bill Clinton Nasasiira. I commend your leadership skills. As government we pledge our support to students and when their issues are presented through the right channels they are addressed as soon as possible

Dear students and Graduands MUST has always produced outstanding nationals. I will share a few of MUST's outstanding alumni who were honored with the Diamond Jubilee Award for National Service by the President of the Republic of Uganda, H.E Y. K Museveni during the Labor Day celebrations this month, namely: Dr. Annet Allenyo Ngabirano, ACP Dr. Peter Kitayimbwa, and ACP Dr. Barnabas Rubanza. Join me in congratulating them.

This is to encourage you that those who have gone ahead of you are holding the MUST flag high with pride and ego, you therefore, can do the same. These and many others have upheld the motto of MUST, "Succeed we must!" and so must you.

Finally, to the Graduands, soon-to-be graduates, welcome to the world. with the skills you have attained I trust you are ready to face the world. But everything might not go as planned, be ready to test your patience with everyone, by being flexible. What you should have at the back of your mind is we are all different and our roads are different, don't lose focus, and do not give up, rather you should have a positive attitude, talk to your seniors they could be of help due to experiences they have accumulated, and above all pray to your God who has brought you this far.

I pray you succeed beyond just graduating, because in MUST –

Succeed we MUST,  
For God and my Country.



Compiled by Angella Nakato Muyingo PRO.