



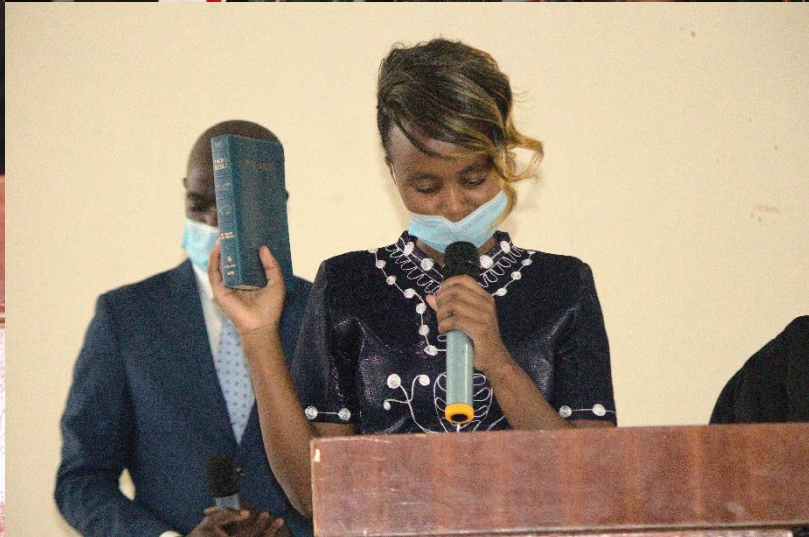
# MMUST NEWS

A Digital Publication of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology

Vol. 5 Issue 4: 21st February to 6th March, 2021

## Post

## NEWLY ELECTED STUDENT LEADERS TAKE OATH OF OFFICE





## Editor's Pen

**Dear Reader,**

In this edition, we bring you the newly elected student leaders who were recently sworn into office. We congratulate the Dean of Students Office for excellent planning and coordination of the whole election process. In addition, we congratulate the new team of student leaders and wish them well in executing their duties.

Read about the newly established Institute of Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Studies (IIKCS) on the steps it is taking to protect and document indigenous knowledge. Also, are you prepared for retirement? The MMUST Staff Retirement Benefits Scheme held a meeting where they were educated on attaining financial freedom post-retirement.

The Kenya National Secretaries Association (KENASA), MMUST Chapter was out for an excursion at the Kakamega Forest National Reserve where they engaged in a number of activities with the aim of building cohesion in the Association and at their place of work. We commend the School of Arts and Social Sciences (SASS) and the School of Business and Economics (SOBE) for joining the list of Schools which have so far held their research Workshop.

As always please reach us via [pr@mmust.ac.ke](mailto:pr@mmust.ac.ke). We shall be happy to carry your story in our next editions.



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### NEWLY ELECTED STUDENT LEADERS TAKE OATH OF OFFICE



*A section of student leaders taking their oaths.*

By Wangari Wambugu [[mwangari@mmust.ac.ke](mailto:mwangari@mmust.ac.ke)]

“This is going to be the most sober leadership you have ever seen in this University.” These were the words of Mr. Brian Odhiambo, the newly elected Chairman of the MMUSO Students Executive Council (SEC) during the swearing in ceremony of the 2021/2022 student leaders. This event took place on Tuesday, 2nd March, 2021 at the University’s Main Catering Unit. Mr. Odhiambo said that he will work together with his Council as well as the rest of the student leaders to ensure that each and every scholar is represented.

“To the University Management, we are not your enemies. We are merely people that have been sent by these students to air their interests,” he stated, adding that his goal is to make MMUST a student-centered institution.

“I have nothing personal against my opponent, it is just that we had some different ideologies.” Mr. Odhiambo also pointed out that MMUSO does not have a functioning office, an issue that the Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo, said will be addressed.

The Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Solomon Shibairo, reminded the newly elected leaders that they were coming at a very challenging time and asked them to set a good example to other students by observing the COVID-19 guidelines like wearing of masks and maintaining social distance. Additionally, he stated that there is need to develop a Comrades Centre so that the leaders can have their own offices.



*Mr. Brian Odhiambo signs his Certificate of Oath as the Legal Officer looks on.*

The Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academics and Student Affairs), Prof. Peter Odera, said that he looked forward to working with the new leadership. He advised them to have some strategies, designs and roadmaps of what they intend to do as leaders. “Give right directions and positively influence students. Remember that leadership comes with responsibility. Don’t sleep on your jobs.”

The Acting Registrar (Academic Affairs), Prof. Thomas Sakwa, was impressed by how the elections were conducted. In his remarks, he stated that he believes in a leader that is self-assured and one that instills confidence in his or her team members. “We shall operate an open-door policy with you. Feel free to walk in my office and I will give you a listening ear,” he said.

“I am grateful to God for a peaceful election and to all the people that contributed to its success,” said the Dean of Students, Dr. Bernadette Abwao. She urged the leaders to leave a legacy in the one year that they will be in Office. “Take ideas from your opponents. I’m sure that there are some good things that you can borrow from them.” She advised them to always have in mind that they are students first before they are leaders. “Some of the former student leaders are still in MMUST pursuing Masters programmes on Merit Scholarship because they excelled. Be leaders who take in dialogue and who consult,” she said, adding that they should be prayerful because leadership comes from God. “Always ask God these questions every morning. What is the main event today? What do you want me to focus on?”

According to the MMUSO Elections Commission Chairman, Dr. Judah Ndiku, candidates took up the challenge of campaigning within the stipulated rules and regulations. The student commissioners, who went through a rigorous interview, fulfilled their mandates as well. Further, he mentioned that an independent report has been presented by the international students that he appointed to observe the elections.

The oaths were administered by the Legal Officer Kibabii University, Ms. Jacklyn Wanjala.



*Part of the SEC Members.*



*Students witnessing the swearing in ceremony.*



# MMUST'S INSTITUTE OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE AND CULTURAL STUDIES TO SIGN MOU WITH COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS



*88-year-old musician and founder of the MotoMwaka community-based organization, Mr. Johns Malenya Wambetsa, entertains the audience with a song.*

By Awuor Sandra Dorcas [[sdorcas@mmust.ac.ke](mailto:sdorcas@mmust.ac.ke)]

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology's Institute of Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Studies(IIKCS) hosted the Kakamega Natural Forest Catchment Conservation Organization(KANFCCO) and MotoMwaka, a community-based organization in Kakamega, on Friday 26th February 2021 at the University for consultative talks ahead of a collective MOU signing with the two organizations.

This is in pursuit of the Institute's aim of creating awareness and enhancing appreciation of indigenous knowledge through community outreach and signing of MOUs.

The meeting was chaired by Prof. Judith Achoka, the Ag. Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Planning, Research and Innovation at MMUST. She commended the upcoming collaborative relationship adding that the University will continue to work together with the surrounding community.

Speaking during the meeting, Dr. Lucy Mandilla, the Deputy Director of the Institute said that MotoMwaka and KANFCCO are custodians of indigenous knowledge which require protection and proper documentation.

“We will help these organizations to patent the indigenous knowledge they have through our Science Park, Innovation and Incubation Centre(SPIIC),” she said.

Dr. Mandilla said that the Institute is multi-disciplinary and focuses on enhancing research preservation and sharing of indigenous knowledge on education, sports, music, languages, justice systems amongst other areas.

According to Dr. Mandilla, mobilization of resources for the Institute and enhancing cultural diversity is part of the Institute’s vision. It is also envisioned that the Institute will come up with a cultural museum and conduct cultural festivals to showcase cultural diversity in the Western region and beyond.

Mr. Johns Malenya Wambetsa, 88-year-old musician and founder of the MotoMwaka community based organization, livened the meeting with a song accompanied by his guitar. He expressed his trust in MMUST adding that the institution is well capable of preserving all the indigenous knowledge that they have.

According to Mr. Paul Lumadi, the Chairperson of KANFCCO, MotoMwaka and KANFCCO organizations share a vision to conserve genetic and indigenous resources in Kakamega County and enhance a healthy environment for conservation of cultural heritage. He said that his organization is working closely with the County Government of Kakamega through the County Technical Committee on Access and Benefits Sharing, to ensure that there is benefit sharing for the innovations drawn from indigenous knowledge.

Coordinating the discussions was Dr. Dennis Ochieno, the Coordinator, Short Courses and Webometrics Research at MMUST and

who is also a member of the County Technical Committee on Access and Benefits Sharing. He said that the collaboration is in the right direction when it comes to ensuring that indigenous knowledge is well preserved by research institutions like MMUST.

“Communities partnering with research institutions like MMUST will enable us come up with good proposals,” said Dr. Ochieno. Dr. Ochieno affirmed that the MOU drafting process will go through proper channels in the University such as the Directorate of International Relations and Academic Linkages and the Legal Office, to make sure that everything runs smoothly ahead of the MOU signing.

Dr. Humphrey Agevi, a member of County Technical Committee on Access and Benefits Sharing said that their mandate is to protect community inventions. “We want innovators to be recognized and rewarded for their indigenous knowledge,” said Dr. Agevi.

Mr. Issah Kweyu, the University’s Outreach Officer, said that it is the University’s mandate to collaborate with communities and provide solutions to their problems as a way of giving back.

Other representatives from KANFCCO present were Mr. Stanley Imbusi, Mr. Paul Lumadi and Mr. James Ligare. MotoMwaka representatives included Mr. Siminyu Albert and Ms. Lillian Nyangweso.



*Members of MotoMwaka and KANFCCO, community-based organizations in Kakamega, pose for a photo with MMUST Staff members.*

## MMUST BOOSTS STAFF AND STUDENTS RESEARCH PROWESS THROUGH GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING WORKSHOP

By Diana Nyatichi [[dianyatichi@gmail.com](mailto:dianyatichi@gmail.com)] & Shiundu Wilberforce [[wshiundu@mmust.ac.ke](mailto:wshiundu@mmust.ac.ke)]

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology School of Business and Economics (SOBE) held a two-day Grant Proposal Writing workshop which ran from 4th to 5th March 2021 in Kakamega.



*Members of the School of Business and Economics pose for a group photo after their two day workshop.*

The Workshop aimed at boosting research supervision and student research activities within the School. Speaking during the workshop, the Director of Research and Postgraduate Support, Prof. Peter Bukhala, pressed on the need to come up with multidisciplinary research teams to help in the production of relevant output.

“We should come up with multidisciplinary research teams that will aid in the production of relevant output. The produced output should fit with what the industry wants and not what the staff wants. Thus, we should work together to enhance this,” he said.

He further urged members to take leadership in business and economics matters in the country by writing opinion statements in the national newspapers. “Let our voices be heard. Who else will talk about this if not us?” he asked.

Speaking at the same venue, Dr. Robert Egesa, Dean of School of Business and Economics (SOBE) said that most of the students often wanted to know about the online courses available for them, the network available and how experienced the people they will be working with are. He stressed on the need to have professors’ profiles and updated Curriculum Vitae on the University website to help students understand more about the people they are coming to meet with in class.

Dr. Ben Oseno, a lecturer and researcher in the School explained the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved in postgraduate supervision. With keen interest, he further broke down the candidate -supervisor relations noting the importance a good relationship with supervisors to enhance credibility and finishing of the course at the required time. Challenges faced by students while undertaking postgraduate studies, being a matter of discourse, brought about the question of theoretical and conceptual framework. This led to a discussion that resolved that the two should be approached systematically.

The workshop also tackled the Post Graduate Thesis Structure involving the entities of the Thesis proposal. Dr. Willis Otuya indicated that a good study is based on a review of literature and theoretical or rather conceptual framework.



‘Research study should isolate the gaps since that is the whole concept of research’. He further explained that citations should be involved but at times it is not necessary. He, however, noted that research paradigm should be omitted in Masters students since it is only relevant with the PHD students.

Mr. Josephat Mulindo a researcher that has won several grants working with different organizations, explained the concept and process of grant proposals. He indicated the different types stating the rules and guidelines of writing a grant proposal and the component of a grant application. He further talked about the grant proposal development, accountability of funds to the donor after award of grant, and successful completion of a project.

“For a grant to be successful, the proposal should be fully detailed and you should find the right funder for the proposal,” he advised.

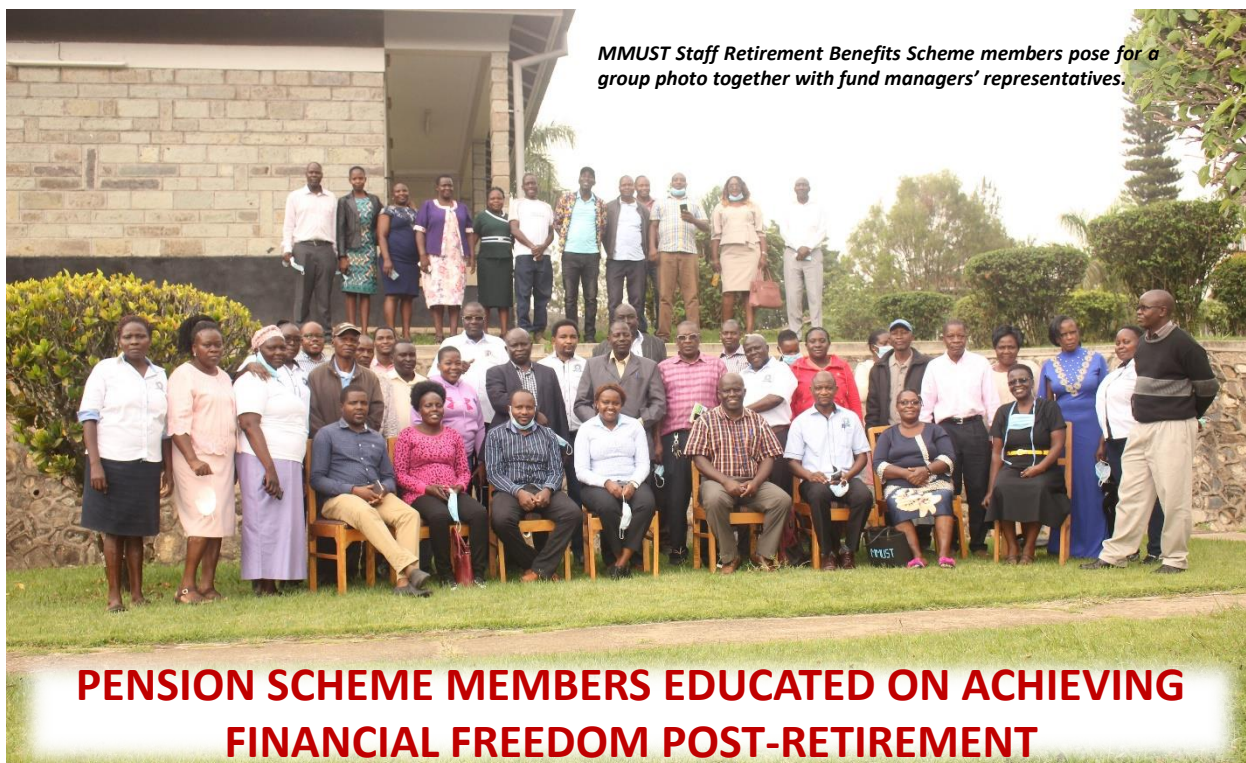
Dr. Denis Bulla talked about choosing research themes where he indicated that researchers should identify a problem that needs to be looked into. Emphasizing on getting a topic that an individual is interested in, he talked of instances where researchers quit due to lack of interest in the research they were undertaking.

“Our interest has been aroused and this being the intent of this workshop, we should form research teams with identified leaders, choose a topic of interest and work it through,” said Dr. Umulkher Ali.

The participants agreed on selecting members who had won grants before as team leaders. This is with the aim of coming up with different grant proposals.







By Wangari Wambugu [[mwangari@mmust.ac.ke](mailto:mwangari@mmust.ac.ke)]

On Friday, 19th February, 2021, members of the Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology's Staff Retirement Benefits Scheme were educated on financial well-being postretirement. "You will only enjoy life after retirement if you start planning now. Think about your career plan as an employee of MMUST, skills plan if you are self-employed, growth plan if you are a business owner and investment plan if you are investing," said Mr. Michael Ndung'u of Octagon Pension Services Ltd.

"To achieve financial freedom, you need to invest more. For starters, have a spending plan or budget. Spend money on what you need and the wants can wait. Additionally, work on making your assets more than your liabilities," he advised.

Mr. Ndung'u urged members to start contributing for postretirement medical covers as soon as possible in order to gather more money. "If you retire and you realize that your funds have not accumulated enough, you are allowed to take up to 10% from your pension and transfer it to the medical cover," he said, adding that terms and conditions are friendly if one goes through a medical scheme than as an individual.

In her presentation, Ms. Rose Limo of African Alliance Investment Bank talked about traditional investments that fund managers can manage for members. They include well-known assets such as Bonds, Shares, Stocks and Treasury Bills. On the other hand, Mr. David Kyalo of Old Mutual Investment Group (OMIG) informed members of alternative investments.





“These kinds of investments are still new in the market. They are a bit riskier than traditional ones and, therefore, you should expect more returns,” he stated.

As mentioned by Mr. Kyalo, one of the alternative investments is in real estate/property. According to him, putting money in properties comes with a lot of benefits including guarantee of regular income, capital appreciation and predictability of

returns. Furthermore, returns are inflation adjusted. The other alternative is private equity, which involves investing in companies, normally small businesses or startups. This kind of investment is long-term because a business takes more time to scale, meaning that your funds are locked. Thirdly, is investing outside of the country, also known as global and offshore investment, which allows investors to put their money into sectors that are not in their countries.

Understanding the mortgage regulations was another topic of discussion during the training, where Mr. David Lentiyo of Retirement Benefits Authority (RBA) enlightened members on accessing a percentage of their retirements benefits to acquire homes. The following are the mortgage regulations that were mentioned:

- The home must be a residential house, not for commercial use.
- Members can only access 40% of their benefits.
- One can only purchase a completed house (ready for occupancy).
- Do not buy a house from an individual but from a registered entity.
- Buying a house does not limit you to your region.

Mr. Lentiyo emphasized on Additional Voluntary Contribution (AVC) to increase savings. Members were also advised to build houses when they are still working rather than waiting for when they retire. “The Scheme is not for helping you to build a house but to ensure that you get a regular salary after retirement,” he said.



**Mr. David Lentiyo.**



**Ms. Rose Limo.**





*Dr. Rose Auma, Ag. Dean, School of Arts and Social Sciences, giving her opening remarks at the workshop.*

## SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES WORKSHOP TACKLES RESEARCH WRITING

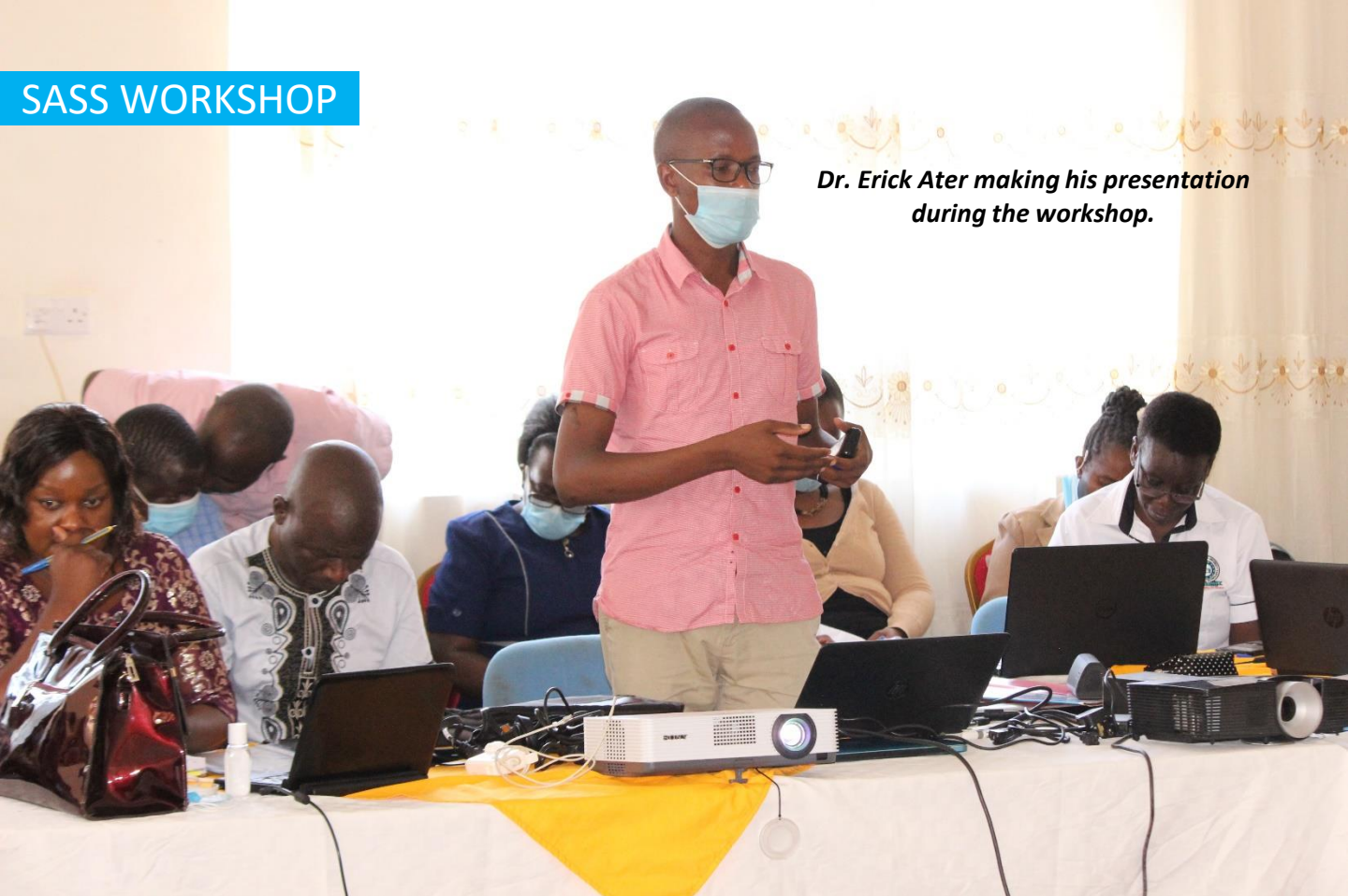
By Awuor Sandra Dorcas [[sdorcas@mmust.ac.ke](mailto:sdorcas@mmust.ac.ke)]

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology's School of Arts and Social Sciences(SASS) held a research writing workshop on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at the University's premises. The Workshop tackled key issues in research such as grant writing, writing up research for a global audience and how to publish in high impact journals.

Prof. Peter Bukhala, the Director of Research and Postgraduate support at MMUST, said that he is proud of the Schools that have organized their respective workshops, adding that the workshops will go a long way in ensuring Schools tackle issues that are unique to them. He challenged members of the SASS to come up with quality research and a CV writing short course taught by staff from the School.

Prof. Bukhala also alluded to the creation of a grants office and a consultancy firm at the institution in a bid to make it easier for researchers at MMUST to access research funds. He emphasized on the importance of grants to a research institution, citing the MMUST Gym as a project accomplished through a grant.

"We have developed a new strategy on spending grants by devolving them to Schools. We have enough money to support publications, however, we are lobbying for more funds to support all proposals on COVID-19 that were not funded," said Prof. Bukhala.



***Dr. Erick Ater making his presentation during the workshop.***

In his final remarks, Prof. Bukhala urged researchers to align their proposals to the interests of the funders and make meaningful connections and networks among peers. He encouraged formation of multidisciplinary teams.

Dr. David Barasa, the Coordinator of Publications and Research in the Department of Literature and Language Education(LLE) spoke on writing up research for a global audience. He said that the appearance of any research work matters a lot, adding that a good manuscript must have a clear scientific message, flow in a logical manner and the introduction should not be too wordy. He noted that the references section in many publications contain a lot of mistakes.

Speaking on writing up research for high impact journals, Dr. Rose Auma, the Ag. Dean, School of Arts and Social Sciences and Dr. Erick Ater, tackled areas that researchers should work on in order to improve the quality of their research. Some of these were avoiding excessive citations of publications from the same region and references to contain main scientific publications on which a researcher's work is based.

Dr. Lucy Mandillah, a lecturer in the School and the Deputy Director in the Institute of Indigenous Knowledge and Cultural Studies, said that grant proposal writing is about convincing funders to support the research. She urged researchers to select appropriate funding agencies for their proposal, adding that the budget needs to be activity based and the funder needs to know the outcome of the research project.

**See next page;**



Dr. Ochieng' Ahaya, a lecturer in the School and the MMUST Rugby Coach, challenged members to extend their boundaries since there is a range of research scope. "Grant proposal writing requires working together. Let us form multidisciplinary groups in order to achieve this," he said.

Dr. Ahaya said that the fact that people from different Departments look at issues from different perspectives should be a strength for the School.

Dr. Lydia Anyonje, a lecturer in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication and the Director, Corporate Communications and Marketing, highlighted the importance of publishing in Open Access Journals, such as provision of access to latest research, free permanent availability of research online, thesis archive and retention of full copyright of researcher's article. She posed a question about whether or not Open Access self-archiving should be part of Universities' normal practice.

Dr. Angeline Savala said that it was time for researchers to start embracing publishing in Open Access journals for their work to be visible.

The topic on strengthening Open Access journals in Africa and starting an Open Access journal was discussed at length by Dr. Bernard Mudogo. He said that there is a process to be followed for one to open an Open Access journal such as applying for an ISBN number, identifying fields to be covered in the journal, figuring out the nature of research, selection criteria and choosing the type of content the journal accepts. Dr. Mudogo, urged researchers to register on Google Scholar to ensure that all their research work is visible.

Dr. Jairus Omutche encouraged researchers to continue submitting their papers for calls while taking keen interest on what the call entails. "Rejections can lead to demoralization of researchers. Create mechanisms to maintain the highest quality of research," he said.

In his final remarks, Dr. Omutche said that in order to decolonize writing and publishing in Arts and Social Sciences, there is need to come up with independent standards to ensure rigorous research.

Dr. Atichi Alati and Dr. Fridah Miruka made a presentation on feedback and reviews, network building and planning ahead. They said that the purpose of reviews is to improve quality and conform to conventional standards.

This is the 8<sup>th</sup> research workshop to be held at the institution.

*A section of KENASA members walking to the Udo Campsite.*



## KENASA MEMBERS TOUR KAKAMEGA FOREST IN AN EFFORT TO BUILD A COHESIVE TEAM

By Wangari Wambugu [[mwangari@mmust.ac.ke](mailto:mwangari@mmust.ac.ke)]

The Kenya National Secretaries Association (KENASA), MMUST Chapter, on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2021, went for an excursion at the Kakamega Forest National Reserve where they engaged in a number of activities with the aim of building cohesion in the Association. It was also an opportunity for the members to take a break from their busy schedules and rejuvenate.

The team was taken on a hike of about two and a half Kilometers to the waterfall. Thereafter, they gathered at the Udo Campsite to discuss about the experience and the lessons learnt from it.

“The team did very well. We went together and came back as a group. From that walk, we have learnt the importance of teamwork, communication, as well as accommodating and motivating each other,” said Ms. Ednah Sabiri from the Department of Health Promotion and Sports Science.

The KENASA members agreed that there is need for the University Management to provide such opportunities more often so as to release work pressure and stress. They also expressed hope that the Management should be sensitized on the importance of staff taking their leave days.



Speaking during the event, the Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic and Students Affairs, Prof. Peter Odera, mentioned failure to accept diversity, poor influence from peers, social-economic status, petty University politics, lack of proper communication and lack of trust, as some of the issues which may affect cohesion at MMUST.

“You should know that you belong to the same family and that is MMUST. We are a diversified social unit and we have to be careful about how we communicate with each other. We have to trust one another. Try to avoid judging people, learn to accept each other’s limitations and accept to be positively influenced by those with better skills.”

- PROF. ODERA,  
Ag. DVC (Academic and Students Affairs)

According to Ms. Elizabeth Onyango, Secretary KENASA (Kisii County), cohesion is not achieved by chance; one has to work for it.

“So, how do you improve cohesion? You have to define your goals and values, offer training and development, encourage teambuilding, increase communication and build transparency,” she stated, adding that building a cohesive team leads to greater work efficiency. Further, she encouraged members to go back to class in order to improve their skills.

KENASA is a professional body that was launched in the year 2011 to give secretaries a professional outlook and to create a platform for them to interact and deliberate on emerging issues. Currently, there are about 5,500 duly registered members of the Association. “As secretaries, let us join KENASA so that we can increase bargaining powers in our profession,” advised the Chapter Chairperson, Ms. Mildred Chimwene.



**Prof. Peter Odera, Ag. DVC (ASA)  
addressing KENASA-MMUST  
Chapter members.**

## ANTI-CORRUPTION WORKSHOP GREAT EYE OPENER FOR MMUST HEADS



*Part of MMUST Staff members pose for a group photo with the EACC trainers*

**By Diana Nyatichi: [[dianyatichi@gmail.com](mailto:dianyatichi@gmail.com)]**

Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology had a three-day staff sensitization Workshop on Ethics and Integrity in the Public Service for members of Senate and Heads of Cost Centers held at the Main Campus from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021.

The training was facilitated by a team from the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC)-Bungoma region office. While addressing the trainees, CPA Peter Onyango, who led the team from EACC, stated that the general objective of the training was to make sure that the members present are instilled with basic knowledge concerning the tenets of ethics and anti-corruption. Understanding leadership and integrity, corruption prevention mechanisms, Chapter Six requirements of the Constitution, acquiring skills, tools and strategies to be used in the fight against corruption, were among the many expectations the trainees had.

“In order to have a corruption free institution, leaders need to internalize the mandate of EACC and its foundational understanding. Therefore, this will be our core objective” CPA Onyango stated.

He further explained the causes of corruption and emphasized on the need for transparency in public offices. He called on each individual to understand the role they play in the fight against corruption. Obligations of state and public officers under the Leadership Integrity Act (LIA 2016) also formed part of the discussions.

‘The Leadership and Integrity Act states what is and what is not ethical in the public service. This involves the ethics, code of conduct, guidelines and principles of leadership’, CPA Bogonko stated.

CPA Bogonko further enumerated the deadly sins of our times that bring about corruption citing that greed is the heart of it. He emphasized on the need to put forth mechanisms to help curb corruption as an institution.

It was also proposed that clear research should be involved in the anti-corruption fight. As such, mechanisms that can help develop a corruption free institution and also train individuals on the same should be put in place.



# STRENGTHENING OF INDUSTRY- UNIVERSITY COLLABORATIONS EMPHASIZED TO BOOST RESEARCH OUTPUT



*Workshop participants keen during a presentation.*

The Directorate of Research and Post-Graduate Support at Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), in collaboration with the School of Engineering and Built Environment (SEBE), organized a workshop for members of staff in the School and Professionals in the Engineering Industry on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at Bishop Stam Pastoral Center.

The Vice Chancellor's representative, Dr. Judah Ndiku gave his opening remarks at the workshop, whose theme was 'Industry Collaboration for Development Research'. Dr. Ndiku appreciated the organizers for including the MMUST alumnus in the workshop and was guaranteed of a serious outcome from the workshop.

Dr. Bernadette Sabuni, the Dean School of Engineering and Built Environment, reminded participants that the University plans on research are anchored in the vision of the university to be the Premier University in Science, Technology and Innovation. She challenged the participants to strive to contribute to this vision through research.

The key note address was given by Mr. Moses Apunda, an alumnus of MMUST and the Executive Assistant to the Managing Director of Rai Sugar Group. Mr. Apunda pointed out that the Industry perceives Universities as knowledge hubs and problem solvers for the major issues facing the industry.

He reiterated that there has been a gap between the industry expectations and the academic content from Universities. He further disclosed that industries prefer graduates from certain Universities based on how the Universities prepare their graduates through University-industry collaboration.



*Staff members in the School of Engineering and Built Environment and the Directorate of Research and Post Graduate Support pose for a photo during the School's research workshop at Bishop Stam, Kakamega.*

Mr. Apunda then shared areas of collaboration based on his working experience in the sugar industry. These were summarized as: Stack emission analysis, Energy audit for effective production, Yearly environmental audits, Environmental impact assessment, Effluent water analysis and treatment, Soil analysis and trainings on inventory management, Root cause analysis for recurring operation problems, Structural designs just to mention but a few. Other benefits of collaboration were summarized as follows:

- Planned attachment placements for the students
- Research arena for scholars (data collection)
- Donation of the instructional spare parts and equipment
- Graduate engineers incorporated into the company's management trainee programs
- Arena for the students to exercise practically what has been theoretically taught
- Production of practically oriented graduates

Other speakers were Eng. Justus Otwati, CE, MIEK, MAAK, MPPM, on **Research Opportunities in Civil and Structural Engineering**, Eng. Eric Ngage, PE, MIEK, MAPM on **Research opportunities in Mechanical and Industrial Engineering** while Eng. Henry Obura of KPLC on **Research opportunities in Electrical and Communication Engineering** and finally Prof. P Bukhala, the Director, Research and Post-graduate Support, MMUST crowned the day by sharing **Research Funding Opportunities in Engineering** that led to formation of research teams that will yield multi-disciplinary research in various thematic areas as shown.

See next page;





*Formation of Research teams during the workshop.*

RESEARCH AREA	MEMBERS
<b>Mechanical engineering/ Water engineering</b>	
Waste water reuse, UAVs, Water use efficiency, Membrane processes, Water security, Food security, Smart materials, Nano-technologies and security, Green manufacturing, GIS technology in water metering, Mechanical optimization, Medical engineering equipment training, IOT in manufacturing and process control	Prof. Basil Ong'or, Dr. Edwin Kanda, Mr. Willis Awandu, Mr. Odhiambo Obondo, Dr. Ebinga Emmanuel, Dr. Benard Omondi, Dr. Micah Mukolwe
<b>Electrical engineering/ Green energy</b>	
Waste management for energy generation and incineration facility, Smart grid, Biomass for fuel, Internet of Things (IOT), Electrical mobility, Invariability of renewable energy, Biogas project in MMUST for research and use, EE optimization in HEINETS and CRANS, Backhauling vs energy use	Mr. Paul Rotich, Mr. Wekesa, Mr. Makhoka, Mr. Okanya, Dr. Bernadette Sabuni, Mr. Murage, Mr. Oloo, Dr. Owuor, Dr. Cherop, Dr. Osore, Mr. Ogega, Mr. Ombugi
<b>Civil engineering/Environmental impact assessment</b>	
Solid waste reuse, Building collapse, Water treatment, Smart cities, Smart buildings, E-waste, Smart transport system, Clean and safe drinking water, IOT in management water resources, Disaster management and mitigation, Waste water recycling, Building materials, Pollution and control, Prefabricated houses, 4-D designs	Dr. Owuor, Dr. Peter. Cherop, Mr. Willis Awandu, Dr. Samwel Waweru, Dr. Bernadette Sabuni, Dr. Alexander Khaemba, Mr. Fredrick Arasa, Prof. Basil Ong'or, Dr. Benard Omondi, Mr. Wilberforce Otini, Ms. Zeruiah Onditi, Dr. Edwin Kanda
<b>Recognition of prior learning/ Disability assessment</b>	
Policy implementation in collaboration with Kenya National Quality Assurance, Refresher courses for artisans, Redesign of buildings to accommodate persons with disability (PWD), Design of equipment for PWD such as motorable wheel chair, Training for industry operations, Review of standards and policies, Internships	Dr. Samwel Waweru, Dr. Benard Omondi, Dr. Nyongesa, Ms. Zeruiah Onditi, Dr. Edwin Kanda, Mr. Paul Rotich, Dr. Bernadette Sabuni, Mr. Fredrick Arasa, Mr. Murage, Prof. Basil Ong'or



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*Post*

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