



**MUNI UNIVERSITY
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6th Breakfast Meeting held.

Corporate bodies and stakeholders converged at Muni University on Thursday 31st May 2018 to participate in the University's 6th breakfast meeting held at the University Council Hall.

The breakfast meeting is an annual event organized by Muni University to create partnerships, foster relationships with corporate entities, appraise stakeholders on the current development at Muni University, and to discuss strategic Project initiative from the University by the Stakeholders.

The theme for this year's breakfast meeting was **“strengthening strategic partnership for Institutional sustainability and development”**.

The University Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academic Affairs, Associate Professor Simon Katrini Anguma welcomed the stakeholders to Muni University and thanked them for honouring the invitation. He stated that their gesture was a manifestation of the importance they had attached to the meeting.

He extended greetings from the Vice Chancellor who was out of the duty station on official duty. He presented a strategic initiative on Muni University's quest for establishing a Medical school by 2020: Challenges and opportunities.

According to Professor Simon Anguma, the need to establish the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery stems from the establishment objective of the University. He further gave the health sector situation analysis in Uganda, citing that Uganda's health system is rated as 149th by WHO through a process which considers several factors, including staffing. He reported that most of the health facilities in Uganda are fed by health workers trained in local health institutions and universities. Currently, the universities in Uganda graduate about 320 medical doctors annually. This translates to a Doctor: Patient ration of 1:24,725 (2013) and Nurse: Patient ration is 1:11,000; yet World Health Organization recommends Physician: Patient ratio of 1:1000. That there are currently 28 Radiologists, six (6) Urologists, and three (3) medical Physicists in Uganda. This picture is mainly due to the low enrollment in medical schools and high attrition rate of trained health workers. Generally, the staffing at all the levels in the health sector stands at about 58% of the established positions. This situation represents a picture that requires universities to respond urgently to fill the gap. Therefore, Muni University aspires to start a medical school that will admit 40 students by 2020. The medical students are expected to graduate

with the competencies of critical inquiry and scientific method, Professionalism and ethical practice, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Leadership and Managerial Skills, Population Health, Continuous Improvement of Health Care through Reflective Practice, Health Systems Management, Clinical skills and patient care, and Good Medical Knowledge.

Through this programme, Muni university aspires to train doctors who are available, competent, responsive, and productive.

According to Professor Anguma, opportunities associated with establishing a medical school at Muni University include but not limited to extra training opportunity for Ugandans, closing the Human Resource gap in the Ugandan Health Sector [1: 24,725; 1: 11,000], expansion of Health Research (create new knowledge & support evidence based decision making), Projects (bring a lot of resources-human & equipment), and building Partnerships [locally, regionally, and internationally].

However, the establishment comes with a lot of challenges which includes funding, infrastructural requirements, and the required human resource (Professors, Senior Consultants, especially in pre-clinical science courses). He therefore appealed to the government of Uganda, Partners (Local, regional and International), friends and well-wishers to join hands with the university in whatever way possible to enable this plan to be realized.

The stakeholders recommended Muni University to:

- (i) Start business courses to generate income to support the medical courses
- (ii) Engage in public private partnership arrangements with other institutional hospitals within and outside
- (iii) Start training staff for the pre-clinical science subjects
- (iv) Liaise with WHO, UNESCO for Dutch scholarships

- (v) Include health services management course to prepare the doctors for management positions in the health sector.

Some of the stake holders present included the Banking sector, National Forestry Authority, OPM, UNHCR Arua, Uganda National Roads Authority Arua, CEFORD, Save the Children Fund, Kampala International University Western Campus, Arua School of Comprehensive Nursing, National Water and Sewerage Corporation, and National Social Security Fund.

Public Lecture delivered by Professor Emilio Padoa-Schioppa.



Professor Emilio Padoa-Schioppa from Italy visited Muni University to give a lecture on “Landscape Ecology: From foundations to Anthropocene towards the IALE world congress”.

Professor Emilio is from RULE Research Unit of Landscape Ecology, Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences-

University of Milano Bicocca.

He was warmly welcomed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Academic Affairs), Associate Professor Anguma Simon Katrini, who urged the staff to pay keen attention because knowledge is power. He emphasised that learning is lifelong and that we should embrace any opportunity like this to learn even in areas out of your specialization.

Professor Emilio gave a lecture on the concept of Anthropocene, a short history of landscape Ecology, and the role of landscape ecology in the development of theory in ecology.

HEST Project supervision conducted.

A team led by the ADB HEST coordinator, Dr. Peter Ogwang was in Muni University on Wednesday 16th May 2018 for on-site supervision of ADB V HEST Projects.

The objective of the mission was to assess the progress of the project to date, establish any constraints to implementation and put in place the necessary strategies for achieving the project objectives.



The team toured the ongoing civil works at the Multi-Purpose Health Science Laboratory block before converging for a meeting at the University Council hall.

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Christine Dranzoa welcomed the team and thanked them for coming to the University. She extended appreciation from the University Council who were informed about the mission.

She appreciated the Ministry of Education for their continued support. *“We have progressed very well and in some areas we have over performed as will be given in the report. We are grateful to the Ministry of Education for backing us up when we needed a lot of help and we are happy you did not let us down”* she said.



Figure 1 The Multi-purpose Health Science Lab under construction

“In the area of Human Resource, we have done very well and our students are very happy, we received an emotional email from one of the beneficiaries of a scholarship. Another impact is in the iconic

building being constructed by M/s COIL! We pray that the project will end well

and we hope that when the facility will be handed over, we will be able to run more programmes” she added.

The University ADB V HEST Project Coordinator, Dr. Alfred Alumai gave a detailed report on the progress made to date, achievements made so far under the project as well as challenges faced.

According to Mr Smith Kiiza Semu, a representative from the Ministry of Education, they are moving to all HEST beneficiary Institutions to check on the progress of work. He said he was happy to receive feedback from the student beneficiary as revealed by the Vice Chancellor, adding, they appreciate the team spirit in Muni University.

He revealed that the project got an extension of one year and thanked ADB for their consideration. The project has got a new Coordinator, Ms Miria Lawino.

The University Secretary, Rev. Fr. Dr. Odubuker Picho Epiphany expressed gratitude for the extension without which the work wouldn't come to an end, however, he cautioned the Management of M/s COIL Limited not to relax due to the extension. He congratulated Miss Lawino for her elevation.

Dr Robert Ngobi of ADB HEST thanked Muni University Management for accepting the request to allow the students to continue accessing the University, including allowing them to sit for exams and graduating.

He said the plan for the Business Incubation Centre that was requested was reviewed and considered and all the money will be released. He also expressed gratefulness to the University for not misusing the funds.

Muni University Management briefed on mElimu.



The Management of Muni University was on Monday 7th May 2018 sensitised on mElimu Platform by Sumit Paliwal, a Sales and Support Manager of mElimu from Kenyatta University in Kenya.

mElimu is a Kiswahili word that stands for Mobile

education. The platform according to Mr Sumit has three functions. These are: to promote Higher education and e learning, provide Corporate training platform, and Skills development platform.

He said the e-learning platform has numerous functions which include the following:

- E-Learning interaction between Lecturers, Students, and Administration.
- Can be used to generate time tables, record of students, attendance, and gives percentage of attendance.
- Running some mentorship short courses.
- General networking
- Preplacement offers
- Alumni platforms for interaction
- The system can be linked to the Administrative Information Management System (AIMS) which is currently running.
- Allows for online Application, Administration, Admission, and Approvals
- Can manage multiple funding methods
- Generating reports
- Online counselling
- Viewing course content
- Has online calendar for noting assignments
- Teaching using mobile applications
- Teleconferencing
- Students assessment for instance, the number of tests done, percentages using compliance dash boards, teacher attendance can be monitored and recorded

The Dean Faculty of Technoscience, Dr. Geoffrey Andogah, confirmed that the System is good and promotes eLearning.

According Mr. Summit, the cost of running the system annually is 67 million Uganda shillings. mElimu is currently running in over 10 Universities in Kenya, South Africa, West Africa, and Cairo.