



MUNI
UNIVERSITY

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NEW STAFF COMPLETE ORIENTATION

“Don’t overlook your colleague. We hold each other’s hands and move together in team spirit...”
– Assoc. Prof. Anguma Simon Katrini

The newly appointed staff have been urged to embrace teamwork if they are to make meaningful contributions to the University community and the country at large.

The call was made by Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academic Affairs, Associate Professor, Anguma Simon Katrini at the opening of a three-day induction workshop for the newly appointed staff that wound up on February 24th at the Multipurpose Hall -Health Science block.

“Don’t overlook your colleague. We hold each other’s hands and move together in team spirit,” he said. He urged staff to show commitment and singleness of purpose in their work and avoid rumour mongering and instead focus on real issues.

“Intellectuals focus on real issues but simple minds discuss people...What can break an institution is hearsay. If you choose to cheapen yourself you will not progress,” he said. He said Muni University is an equal-opportunity employer and appointment to all positions in the University service is based on the principle of MERIT (Meritocracy). He said it is the policy of the University to recruit qualified, competent and experienced staff to ensure efficient and effective service delivery.

Right: Some of the Academic, Administrative and Support Staff who were oriented

Organized by the Human Resources section of the University, the workshop was aimed at orienting staff on Human Resource policies, procedures, practices and other strategic institutional aspects.

Presentations were made on key topics such as; University code of conduct, academic staff recruitment and promotions, discipline and disciplinary procedures, death and bereavement, termination and exit management, among others.

The University Secretary who is also the Accounting Officer, Rev Fr. Professor Odubuker Picho Epiphany, MIDM, asked the new staff to cooperate and have a common goal. “The ball is now in your coat. You dribble it or leave it. Be focused on what has brought you here and let us work together in unison of purpose,” he said. He also allayed fears of termination of staff saying dismissal should be the last resort after all other remedial steps have failed.

The new staff expressed gratitude to the Human Resources section of the University for the induction and pledged to uphold the good work done by the old staff. The orientation was concluded with taking of oath of allegiance and oath of secrecy as administered by the University Legal Officer/ Commissioner of Oaths.



EDUCATION STUDENTS FINISH SCHOOL PRACTICE AMIDST COVID-19

Final year students of Bachelor of Science with Education at Muni University successfully completed their last school practice, making them the first graduate-students to participate in the exercise in the whole country amidst disruptions caused by the COVID 19 pandemic.

This follows the closure of all education Institutions across the country on March 20th last year and re-opened on October 15th for final year students only in an attempt to prevent further spread of COVID 19.

The move has since disrupted normal programming in the academic calendar of many institutions across the country.

Under normal circumstances the student-teachers should have finished their school practice between late May and mid-July last year which was to be the recess of the second semester of their third year at the University.

Speaking during a school practice evaluation meeting at Muni University main campus in Arua on Friday 12th February 2021, the student-teachers recounted their “bitter-sweet” memories of weeks of school practice in the Covid times.

Martha Nagaba, one of the student teachers recounts how she battled with the students to follow Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) during the course of learning.

“You go to class and the students are saying the face masks are suffocating them, yet your supervisors are pinning you to tell the students to put on masks. Anyway, that is what we were supposed to do and we did,” said Nagaba Martha. She says, they also experienced challenges with communication within the classroom environment as well as keeping social distance. “We had the challenge of communication because there are some learners who learn by looking at your lips, your face, your body language...and you can’t remove the mask. Amidst COVID 19 we are not supposed to mingle with the leaners but the students would get close to you and ask you to explain more and more” she said.

Ahmed Kibampawo, another student-teacher says, the University Administrators were very innovative to have allowed them to go ahead with the school practice despite COVID 19. “Although at some point it was very stressful, we are very grateful to the University administration, our supervisors and all the staff of Faculty of Education for the support we received during this period. This was really an innovative approach” he said.

Speaking during the meeting which also doubled as a send-off to the final year education students, University Secretary who is also the Accounting officer, Rev Fr. Professor Odubuker Picho Epiphany, said there is a need for a paradigm shift to cope with the COVID 19 situation.

“You were not supposed to have gone for school practice at the time you did but because there was a window of opportunity you had to. It was a choice of between two evils so you had

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OUR VISION
OUR MISSION

**To provide quality education, promote
innovation and community
empowerment for transformation**

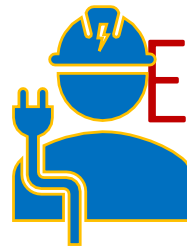
to look for a lesser evil. We are extremely happy that amidst all these challenges we have managed. Our joy that we have you as our bouncing baby amidst terrible birth pangs” he said.

Polycap Omara, the School Practice Officer, said that their students conducted school practice in thirteen secondary schools from Arua, Maracha, Terego and Koboko districts as well as Arua city.

The Dean Faculty of Education Dr. Joyce R. Bukirwa urged the students to be strategic in their plans and become ambassadors of Muni University and keep the good name of the institution.



Above & Right:
Sections of the
equipment
received under
the ACTEA
project



Electrical Engineering

AUGUST 2021

Muni University is set to roll out the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering Program in August 2021.

The new Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (BSc. EE) curriculum of Muni University undergoing accreditation with National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) has incorporated seven (7) courses from ACTEA Project - EEM 2234: Renewable Energy, EEM 3235: Basic PLC Programming, EEM 3236: Sensor Technology, EEM 3237: Electrical Motors and Drives, EEM 4133: Advanced PLC and Motion, EEM 4134: Process Simulation and Control, and EEM 4232: Embedded Measurement and Control. Additional courses developed under ACTEA Project are planned for implementation as part of the short-courses programme at the University.

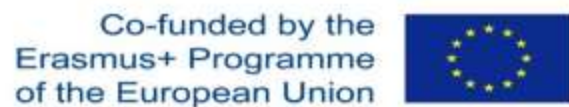


MUNI UNIVERSITY RECEIVES EQUIPMENT UNDER THE ACTEA PROJECT

Muni University has received under the ACTEA Project equipment worth €19,800 to provide training in (1) Basic PLC Programming and Advanced PLC of Motion Control, and (2) Electrical Installation. The University through ACTEA project is also receiving free Solid Edge Software from Siemens to provide training in Computer Aided Design / Manufacturing (CAD/M).

ACTEA Project has scheduled from February - May 2021 a series of online trainings using the equipment delivered under the Project for staff and external stakeholders in (1) PLC programming; (2) Motors and Drives; and (3) Embedded Measurement and Control. Four (4) staff of the University have signed for PLC Programming; another six (6) staff for Motors and Drives; and another seven (7) for Embedded Measurement and Control. Six (6) staff from Muni University have received training on Solid Edge Software from experts from Siemens.

Applied Curriculum in Technology for East Africa (ACTEA) is a €998,345 Project of the European Union's Erasmus+ KA2 Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education. ACTEA project aims to fulfil the specific needs in engineering, provide better skills matching, deliver course material in two specializations - Computer Aided Manufacturing Technology, Electrical Engineering & Automation and Labor Market Skills and, establish technology laboratories, with virtual and remote accessibility, establish learning tools, give academic staff additional training on technology and in developing technological course material according to EU standards.



The expected impact of the Project in the short term is increased technological and pedagogic knowledge, increased operational capacity, increase in engineering students, and a better cooperation with local industry. In the long term, the project aims at an increase in employability, in added value produced locally, sustained life-long-learning and long-term high-quality knowledge gain in technology.

The Project has twelve implementing partners, (1) AP Hogeschool – Belgium; (2) Howest – De hogeschool West-Vlaanderen – Belgium; (3) Fachhochschule Dortmund – Germany; (4) Technological Educational Institute of Crete – Greece; (5) Mekelle University – Ethiopia; (6) Jimma University – Ethiopia; (7) Mbarara University of Science and Technology – Uganda; (8) Muni University – Uganda; (9) Mzumbe University – Tanzania; (10) Ardhi University – Tanzania; (11) Research and Education Network for Uganda – Uganda; and (12) Tanzania Education and Research Network -Tanzania.



DR. JALIRA NAMUGAYA

Acting Head of Department
MATHEMATICS, MUNI UNIVERSITY.

PhD Mathematics and MSc. Mathematics from Pan African University, Institute for Basic Sciences, Technology and Innovation, BSc. Education, MUST.

What inspired you to study mathematics as there's a general belief that females fear this very subject?

The most important thing was the need to be one of the role models and I also had the affinity to break the stereotype that mathematics was/is a subject for the male gender.

At what level did you realize that you had interest in mathematics?

At my advanced level when I opted for Mathematics as one of my subject combinations.

OUR PROGRAMMES

- BSc. Information Technology
- Bachelor of Information Systems
- Bachelor of Nursing Science
- Bachelor of Science with Education (Physical & Biological Options)

One on One with MUNI UNIVERSITY'S FEMALE MATHEMATICIAN

How has the journey of studying and teaching mathematics been?

The journey has been a very long one, with ups and downs. The most important thing is the destination.... SUCCESS!!!

Did you have a role model who inspired you?

Yes. She is by names of Dr. Betty Nanyonga Kivumbi, Senior Lecturer Mathematics at Makerere University and is the Chairperson Uganda Women Mathematicians (UGAWOM).

What have been some of the challenges you have encountered in this field?

Having very few girls and sometimes being alone in the mathematics class, it was always hard to interact freely with the boys' dominated class plus the male teachers who knew little about gender sensitivity during class hours. Additionally, being the only female mathematics Lecturer hinders democracy when it comes to gender issues.

Roughly how many female students do you teach yearly?

On average, I teach 10 female students out of a total of 85 students.

Any words of encouragement especially to the upcoming female mathematicians?

I encourage them to continue working smart, stay positive and focused and never give up in order to keep the candle burning.

- Bachelor of Business Administration & Management
- Bachelor of Education Primary
- Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Mgt.
- Postgraduate Diploma in Education – PGDE
- Bachelor of Science in Agriculture