



**MUNI UNIVERSITY  
NEWS LETTER  
JUNE 2018  
(ISSUE # 21)**



*Figure 1 Muni University's newly acquired Bus*

Muni University has acquired a brand new bus! The bus is an Isuzu make, whose body is aerodynamically constructed to reduce air resistance, thus enhancing efficient fuel usage. The interior is attractive and fitted with 67 comfortable seats, arm rests, red-carpeted isle, and sufficient leg-room for passenger convenience. The bus is implemented with a digital USB-compliant stereo radio system capable of transmitting on frequency modulated channels. In addition,

it has a television screen capable of receiving signals from both flash and Compact discs.



The purpose of acquiring the bus is for supporting the transport needs of the University community during community outreach programmes, students' placements, and to facilitate mass transportation needs of the University.

The Management of Muni University is grateful to the Government of Uganda for providing funds for procuring the bus and commend the University officers (University Secretary, Procurement Unit, Contracts Committee, and Finance Department) who worked tirelessly to ensure that this project was concluded in good time.

### **A new curriculum approved**

The curriculum for Bachelor of Business Management and Entrepreneurship has been accredited by National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) for a period of five years with effect from May 2018.

According to the Academic Registrar Muni University, adverts for the new program will be run from July to August 2018 and students admitted to the program are expected to start attending lectures in September 2018.

Currently there are four programs running in Muni University which include Bachelor of Science in Information Technology (ITM), Bachelor of Information Systems (ISM), Bachelor of Science with Education Biological (SMB) and physical (SMP), and Bachelor of Nursing Science (BNS)

### **Library training Held**

Muni University in collaboration with the Good Steward Global Initiative (GSGI) and National Library of Uganda held a Librarian training workshop for community and school librarians in West Nile from 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> June 2018. Over 70 participants from the rural Community Libraries, Public Libraries, and Institutional Libraries attended.



This was the second Librarians training held at Muni University to equip the Librarians managing the West Nile rural Libraries established by the Good Steward Global Initiative with the necessary skills required.

GSGI and Muni University are considering establishing a mobile Library in Bibibidi Refugee Camp and Imvepi Secondary School to enhance provision of information and enable the refugee children access information for knowledge development and improve their reading skills.

GSGI recently donated more books to Muni University Library to support the development of a Bachelors programme in Library Information Science (BLIS).



The Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academic Affairs, Professor Simon Katrini Anguma applauded the partnership of GSGI and the National Library of Uganda for their efforts in developing a reading culture in the West Nile region and establishing more libraries in the West Nile region.

The Deputy University Secretary Mr. Maxwel Abok who closed the function and awarded certificates to the participants at the end of the

training, thanked the partners for organizing and facilitating the training and the participants for positively turning up and encouraged them to put in practice what they have learnt. He called for continuity of such partnerships.

Present at the training was the President of the GSIG, Mr. Mark Cotham and Professor Thomas Goodnight, who is a Professor of Communication Studies from University of Southern California.

### **Local Language Conference Conducted.**

A local language conference was held at Muni University from 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at the university Guest House Conference Hall.



Objectives of the workshop

- (a) To develop local language preservation in West Nile
- (b) Find out what has been done in writing of various languages
- (c) Learn the process of writing
- (d) Learn the importance of teaching local languages.

The conference attracted participants from the District Language Boards, National Language Board, and Teachers of West Nile Local Languages, including Lugbara, Aringa, Alur, Jonam, Kakwa, Okebu, Lendu and Ma'di.

### **Topics Discussed**

- (a) How to encourage publication of materials in local languages
- (b) The role of universities as archives and promoters of local languages and culture
- (c) The role of local languages in formal primary and secondary education.
- (d) What role can libraries play in preserving and promoting local languages

- (e) The role of the African story book project in promoting literacy and local language.

The conference was concluded by showing a movie titled: The Linguists.

### **Visit by Mr. Ganard Orionzi**



*Figure 6. Mr. Orionzi Ganard (Right) Eng.Ocen Willy of Muni University (Middle) and the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academic Affairs Professor Simon Katrini Anguma (Left) in front of the Multipurpose Health Sciences Block.*

Mr. Orionzi, who is an employee of St John's University in the United States of America, visited Muni University on June 29, 2018.

He is also a Board member of Muni Labs, a company limited by Guarantee and incorporated in the United States of America, on one hand. On the other hand, he is also a Board member of Muni Labs Uganda Limited, an NGO to be registered with the Uganda NGO Board as a subsidiary of Muni Labs Company.

Muni University and Muni Labs Company are both desirous in building a partnership for enhancing laboratory, research, and teaching capacity at Muni University. Therefore, the purpose of the visit was to familiarize himself with the laboratory physical infrastructure at Muni University and make assessments on occupational and environmental health hazards associated with laboratory physical infrastructure.

During his visit, he was accompanied on a tour of the Multipurpose Health Sciences Block by the Engineers from the Estates and Works Departments of Muni University. His general evaluation of the

occupational and environmental status of the laboratory was excellent and was satisfied with the planning and the set-up.