



MEMORIAL LECTURE

Joel Aita

Chairman Muni University

Council









Guest of Honor
Distinguished guests,
Faculty and Staff members,
Ladies and gentlemen,

- 1. With great sorrow and deep sadness, we come together today to commemorate and pay tribute to the remarkable life and significant contributions of Professor Christine, our esteemed former Vice Chancellor. We mourn the loss of an exceptional leader, an insightful educator, and a steadfast advocate for the pursuit of academic excellence.
- 2. Professor Christine was a Personal friend. She visited me in my office in Entebbe in December 2021 requesting if she can recommend me to be a member of Muni University Council.
- 3. Unfortunately, just one week into our Journey in the University Council, God took her away. We didn't get an opportunity to work with her.
- 4. Professor Christine's tenure as the founding Vice Chancellor was marked by her unparalleled dedication to fostering a culture of learning, research, and innovation. She believed that education had the power to transform lives and societies, and she tirelessly worked towards making Muni University a center of intellectual growth and social progress.
- 5. Professor Christine's tenure as the leader of Muni University brought about an era of unparalleled progress and advancement. She took the helm with determination, championing various endeavors aimed at elevating the standard of education, fostering interdisciplinary research, and cultivating a dynamic atmosphere on campus. Through her unwavering dedication to inclusivity, she guaranteed that students from diverse backgrounds were afforded equal chances to pursue their educational dreams. As a result, Muni University flourished under her guidance.



- 6. Professor Christine's impact surpassed the confines of Muni University, reaching well into the realms outside academia. She wholeheartedly embraced community involvement, establishing robust connections and alliances to tackle pressing societal issues. Her forward-thinking perspective on higher education earned her admiration and reverence from colleagues, not only within the country but also on a global scale.
- 7. Today, as we mourn the loss of Professor Christine, we also celebrate her life and enduring legacy. We remember her as a trailblazer, an advocate for knowledge, and a beacon of hope for countless individuals whose lives she touched. Her memory will forever be etched in our hearts, and her contributions will continue to shape the future of Muni University.
- 8. In honor of Professor Christine's profound impact, we have established the Prof. Christine Education Trust Fund. This fund will support scholarships, research grants, and initiatives that align with her vision of empowering students and promoting academic excellence. We invite all those who have been touched by Professor Christine's remarkable journey to contribute to this fund, ensuring that her legacy lives on and continues to transform lives for generations to come. To keep Christine's memory everlasting in Muni, the Council approved this Memorial Lecture which shall be an annual event in the calendar of the University. The Council also approved a building to be named Professor Christine Dranzoa Building; There shall also be a monument built in her honor and remembrance.
- 9. What kind of Muni University would make Professor Christine Proud up there?
 In the next four years, the Council would like to see the following goals and aspirations for Muni University.
 - I. Academic Excellence: Muni University aims to enhance its academic programs, curriculum, and teaching methodologies to ensure high-quality education and meet the evolving needs of students and industries.

- II. Research and Innovation: The university's focus is now on promoting a culture of research and innovation, encouraging faculty and students to engage in cutting-edge research projects, publish scholarly work, and collaborate with industry partners to address real-world challenges.
- III. Infrastructure Development: Muni University is investing in the development and expansion of its physical infrastructure, including the construction of new buildings, laboratories, libraries, and other facilities. This will provide a conducive environment for learning, research, and extracurricular activities.
- IV. Revenue Generation: The University through the established Muni University Investment Company is going to focus on revenue generation such that at least 90% of the Universities budget must be funded through local revenue. Commercial agriculture in our Lands, we have over 6,000 acres of Land. These must be utilized. Hostel construction through PPPs, we must increase our student enrolment to 6,000 in the next four years. Glad to note that for the fast time we have admitted more than 1,000 students this year. Next year this number must cross the 2,000 limit of admission per year.
- V. Technological Advancement: Embracing technology must be a crucial aspect of the university's vision. Muni University is striving to integrate advanced technology into its educational processes, such as implementing e-learning platforms, virtual classrooms, and digital resources to enhance accessibility and engagement for both on-campus and remote students. We can have 10,000 students through online lectures for these post graduate diplomas and certificates.
- VI. Collaboration and Partnerships: The university is establishing collaborations and partnerships with other educational institutions, research organizations, industry leaders, and government bodies. This will facilitate knowledge exchange, joint research projects, student

and faculty exchanges, and internship opportunities, enhancing the university's reputation and creating valuable networks.

- VII. Student Support and Engagement: Muni University must focus on providing comprehensive support services to its students, including academic advising, career counseling, mental health resourc es, and extracurricular activities. Creating a vibrant campus life and a supportive community can contribute to the holistic development of students. The University management has also started an aggressive community engagement sensitizing about the courses offered at Muni University. This year we should visit all the secondary schools in West Nile.
- VIII. Global Outreach: The university is aspiring to expand its international reach by attracting a diverse student body, faculty, and researchers from around the world. This should include an active mar keting of the University in DR Congo and South Sudan.
- **IX.** In conclusion, the Council extends its congratulations to the Nursing and IT students for their remarkable achievements in various competitions.
- 10. As we pay tribute to Professor Christine today, let us draw inspiration from her life and work. Let us continue her legacy by upholding the values she cherished: integrity, innovation, and a deep commitment to education and service. Let us strive to build upon the foundation she laid and work towards creating a society where knowledge flourishes, and every individual can reach their full potential.

May Professor Christine's soul rest in eternal peace.









Or visit: www.joelaita.com

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