



MUNI UNIVERSITY NEWS LETTER SEPTEMBER 2017 (ISSUE # 14)



Muni University Chancellor Orientation.

The Chancellor of Muni University Eng.Dr.Erick Tiyo Sekebuga Adriko has once again expressed gratitude to the Government of Uganda for establishing a University in the West Nile region. This was during his orientation at the university on Thursday 28th September 2017. The Chancellor who said this was a very emotional visit to the students, shared his experience of having to travel for a whole week to access secondary and higher education, which he acknowledged the government has now brought to the door steps. "This is the best gift anybody can give you because it is education that releases you, I know it because I have been all over the world, and if you are clever, any door will be opened to you. At the University of London, the professors were from eastern Europe, they were not English and they were accepted because of

their academic excellence, education makes one acceptable where ever he goes.” Stated the Chancellor. He added that the graduating students are showing us the way to go and how to make impact in this world he therefore advised the students to take this education to the villages they come from and put the assets to use because that is what education does.

The Chancellor, thanked Chair University Council Hon.Dr.Johnson Nkuhe and his team for putting in place a strategic plan, Human Resource manual and Policy documents which drive governance, he said, unless you have these things in place it is very difficult to govern an institution and we have to own and accept the documents which are produced so that we develop peace and tranquility in the institution. He promised to look in to the issues raised by the Vice Chancellor Prof Christine Dranzoa while presenting the status report.

He urged the management to be responsive towards university stakeholders. “We are here to respond to the wishes of the government because the government in place puts in place a manifesto, we should also be responsive to our local community and their wishes so that we can be accepted in the community”.

The Vice Chancellor Professor Christine Dranzoa thanked the Chancellor for creating time to come and listen and understand the needs of the University for example the bad access roads which was not included in the status report. She also acknowledged the presence of members of University Council and thanked them for coming to interact with the Chancellor. She presented a detailed status report and remarked that a starting university is like a baby growing which needs to be nurtured and coached and the management is very willing to be coached

The Chancellor was taken through a tour of the University including the multi-purpose Health Science Laboratory that is still under construction



World Bamboo Day Celebrated at Muni University.

The World Bamboo Day Celebration is an event that is organized to create awareness about bamboo and its usage. This celebration was started in Asia where the value of bamboo is equated to that of gold and is slowly spreading to other parts of the world. The event that was celebrated on the 18th of September 2017 at the university campus saw lots of information shared on bamboo and its usage, experience sharing by bamboo growers and companies dealing in bamboo products.

The Vice Chancellor Muni University Professor Christine Dranzoa said that Bamboo is a fast growing business potential, a plant that can be used from its roots to leaves to manufacture thousands of products. She revealed that bamboo globally generates over 7 billion US dollars of which 5 billion goes to China. She said the celebration of the International Day of Bamboo is not in vain.

She shared the following facts about Bamboo.

- Bamboo globally generates 7 billion us dollars.
- Bamboo grown in Moyo, Nebbi and keyi have been tested by Makerere researchers as having the best strength globally.
- Tensile strength of bamboo is stronger than that of steel.
- Only Ethiopia in Africa exports bamboo
- Clinton library built using bamboo
- Bamboo is fire resistant
- One bamboo seedling generates 10 more



According to Dr. Fred Ijjo, a Civil Engineer and bamboo grower who travelled all the way from Moyo District to come and celebrate the world bamboo day at Muni, this is the first ever World Bamboo Day celebration being held in the West Nile region if not in the entire country and so this day to is very historic both to him and to all of those who have turned up to celebrate. "Bamboo does a lot of wonderful things around the world but often times people do not pay attention to the significance of bamboo in their daily lives and so we are gathered here to share with you what Bamboo does in our daily lives."

He said he has a back ground in Civil Engineering and picked interest in bamboo while still at the university. In 2009 he decided to carry out some research in bamboo and in the process discovered that Bamboo can do a lot of amazing things. The application of

bamboo is over 1500 in different ways, he resolved that this is a material that needs to be moved forward, around the country not so many people knew about bamboo. He revealed that in 2012, he constructed a storied building and 80% of the material was made of bamboo and the structure is standing strong, he also constructed fish cages in Kalangala District, the famous Acacia Lodge in Kampala whose roofing was done out of bamboo material which has excellent insulation properties, it is a favorite to whites who come to Kampala. These are a few among many others he mentioned.

He challenged the students to engage in bamboo growing instead of only focusing on searching for jobs as bamboo offers immeasurable business opportunities at its different stages right from nursery to products. He demonstrated to the gathering how bamboo is planted.

Launch of Mission green.



In a move to promote afforestation, the Rotarians in Arua launched mission green leaf at Rotarians were at Muni University on Thursday 7th September 2017 to launch Mission Green project during which over 50 fruit tree seedlings were planted at the university backyard. The event was officially launched by the Deputy Vice Chancellor Muni University, Professor Anguma Simon Katrini who was the Guest of Honor. Rotarians present at the launch

included the President of the Rotary club, Madam Abiru Lydia Olivu, the Head Mission Green, Madam Proscovia Arima, Emmy Arima, the Deputy Governor Rotary club and Professor Christine Dranzo the Vice Chancellor of Muni University among many others.

Upcoming events

- 1st graduation Ceremony on 4th November 2017
- Open day 4th November 2017
- BULAMU Health Camp (13th to 17th November 2017)

For more information, visit www.muni.university.ac.ug/Facebook page.