



Chancellor College BULLETIN

EDITORIAL: GREAT STRIDES AT CHANCO

Things are looking up, not just at Chancellor College, but all over the country. The beginning of the delayed rains may bring some bumper yields in some areas although in other areas it is unfortunate that the crop had already dried up.

We are now halfway through the semester, and are proud of the achievements in research and student performance, which make us one of the model institutions of higher learning in the country.

What gives us the courage to make such a statement are a number of activities that have happened at the college, which are those one would expect only at a university. The most obvious, the most visible,

has always been our infrastructure, which continues to expand. This alone strengthens our reputation as a college.

Just last week, the Vice President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr. Saulos Chilima proved that government officials are not unwilling to engage with academics, when he delivered a lecture on ethics at Chancellor College. This is something that is unprecedented at the college. The closest event to this is when the Speaker of Parliament addressed college and staff in the Great Hall last year.

The Vice President is an example of how one should walk the talk. He has recently been in the news criticizing unscrupulous behavior seen in the construction

of the dyke in Nsanje.

This is not the only way that Government has recognized Chancellor College. In February, the First Lady of the country, Prof. Gertrude Mutharika, saw it fit to bless the college with a gift of musical instruments, recognizing that Chancellor College is among the premium institutions where students learn music theory and hone their skills in the playing of various instruments. And indeed we only await that day when we shall melodiously proclaim our joy to be a university.

Thanks to these instruments, we can look forward to the usual relaxation at the FPA, when the students perform mellow jazz tunes for free.



The Vice President of the Republic of Malawi, Dr Saulos Klaus Chilima, delivering a lecture in the Great Hall

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Highlights

Vice President delivers lecture on ethics

First Lady donates musical equipment to Chanco

College recognizes Dean's List awardees

Students plant trees on Zomba Mountain

Chanco hosts EBAFOSA workshop

Psychologists in Mental Health Awareness Drive

ADMINISTRATION

Malawi Veep discusses ethics with academic community

On the 27th of February 2018, the Philosophy Department hosted a Public Lecture on the topic, "Moral Decadence: towards an effective compliance and ethics program" which was delivered by Dr. Saulos Klaus Chilima, the Vice President of the Republic of Malawi.

Speaking before the Vice President, the Principal of Chancellor College, Prof. Richard Tambulasi, hinted that this is just one of the events in a series of planned guest lectures.

The Right Honourable Vice President then took to the podium and

delivered an engaging public lecture. In his exposition, he emphasized on collective responsibility towards ending moral decadence in the Malawian society. Displaying a keen awareness of global events, he gave examples of international organizations that engaged in unethical behaviour and the implications that followed. With that said, he highlighted on how expensive it was to recover from an unethical reputation. He also emphasized the need for patience from the Malawian people. "No

matter the effort, some things just take time. You can not expect to have a baby in a month even if you impregnated nine women in one month," The Vice President quipped. Referring to that, he stated that

people find themselves engaging in immorality due to lack of patience. He finished his presentation by referring back to his initial statement, "there is no right way of doing the wrong thing."



The Vice President delivers his lecture

First Lady shows appreciation for musical talent

Saturday 3rd February, 2018 was another great day for Chancellor College, when the Music Section of the Department of Fine and Performing Arts, and some selected secondary schools received musical instruments from the First Lady of the Republic of Malawi, Her Excellency Prof. Gertrude Mutharika at a colorful ceremony organized by the Gertrude Mutharika Beautify Malawi Trust (BEAM). The Musical instruments received included an electronic piano, a flute, a trumpet, a 24-hole harmonica, a ukulele, an aluminum xylophone, a drum kit, two djembes (10 inches and 12 inches), a waist drum, angle iron instrument, and a

tambourine.

The First Lady received the donation of musical

instruments to BEAM from China Africa Business Committee Capacity. The instruments were bought by five high school students in China. During

the function, the Principal of Chancellor College, Professor Richard Tambulasi, thanked the First Lady for the donation which he said will assist the College in the teaching and learning of the courses undertaken at the institution in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts.

Gracing the occasion were the representatives from the Chancellor College, the recipient schools, BEAM Trust, Minister of Education Science and Technology, The Vice-President of the China Africa Business Council, His Excellency the Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Malawi and three students representing the five students who had generously set aside their pocket money to buy the equipment.



Chanco staff and students receiving the instruments

ADMINISTRATION

UNIMED holds sensitization meeting

On 7th February, 2018 staff from the University of Malawi Medical Scheme (UNIMED) visited the college as a way of sensitizing staff on the various efforts that are being made to improve their services.

During the visit, one of the key points that was raised by the Director of UNIMED, Mrs L. Ntata, was that of fraud. She pointed out that part of the reason that medical aid provides had been removed from the programme was fraud. She cited some cases in which the fraud emanates from the provider, where the provider sometimes overcharges the client, or recommends procedures that are not necessary. She also pointed out that

the clients can also be initiators of fraud, when they let unregistered

relatives get medical treatment in their name.

During the same meeting, members of staff at Chancellor College were able to raise queries on the way UNIMED is

run. For instance, members of staff bemoaned the way they had been denied services at various institutions without any notice from UNIMED.



Staff from UNIMED addressing Chancellor College Staff.

Dean's List students awarded certificates

Chancellor College recognizes its outstanding performers is through the Dean's List, which is produced at the beginning of each second semester.

To qualify for the Dean's list, a student must be pursuing an undergraduate programme and attain a GPA of 3.60 or high, with no grade in any module below B- in their first semester results. This year, 116 students featured on the Dean's List, drawn from all five faculties. Out of these, 72 were male students, while 42 were female. Last year, the Dean's List had 48 students.

On Thursday, 18th January, 2018, the college held a function in the Great Hall to celebrate the high scoring students.

The students were awarded with certificates. Since the ceremony was not held last year, the college took the same opportunity to award students who had been

on the Dean's list in the 2015/2016 year.

During the function, members of staff and various other students were present to cheer on the star performers. The Guest of Honor was Mrs Maureen Kwangwanya, the Branch Manager of National Bank, Gateway Mall Service Centre. She

is an alumnus of Chancellor College, having graduated in 2000, with a Bachelor of Education Science degree.

In her speech, Mrs Kwangwanya highlighted the point that a degree from the University of Malawi prepares one for pretty much any job in the industry. It acts as a foundation for other pursuits that an individual may wish to follow.

During the function, the Principal of Chancellor College, Prof. Richard Tambulasi, expressed pride for the students' achievements, noting that they serve as models for their colleagues. The Vice Principal, Prof. Samson Sajidu, who also serves as the Chairperson of the Deans Committee, observed that the certificates presented to the students would make them stand out in interviews in the future.



Some of the students on the Dean's List proudly display their certificates

ADMINISTRATION

Edward Chiwayula Trust assists students

Chancellor College Management is grateful to organizations and individuals that are giving a helping hand to students who need support for fees and upkeep. On Thursday, 15th February, 2018 the Edward Chiwayula Trust awarded six first and second year students with scholarships meant to assist with upkeep expenses. The trust will give K50,000 a month to each of the selected students up until they complete their studies at the college. This translates to K200,000 per semester and K400,000 per year.

According to Dr. Boniface Dulani, who accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Chiwayula in presenting the cheques, the Trust Fund was put together by friends of

Edward Chiwayula with the collaborative partners in the Governance and Local Development (GLD) project as one way of keeping Edward's memory alive. The late Edward Chiwayula was before his sudden and

untimely passing on April 17th, 2016, working as an enumerator on the Governance and Local Development Project, a collaborative venture between the Institute of Public Opinion and Research (IPOR), the Program on Governance and Local Development at the University of Gothenburg and the Chr.

Michelsen Institute. Edward had just graduated from the University of Malawi with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science in February 2016 and was supervised in his final year of undergraduate studies by IPOR's Senior Partner, Dr. Boniface Dulani.



Mr and Mrs Chiwayula, Dr. Boniface Dulani and Mr Witness M. O. T. Alfonso (Research Associate, IPOR)

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Psychologists in Mental Health Awareness Drive

Members of staff in the psychology department at the college decided to hold a Mental Health Awareness Campaign, from 19th to 23rd February, 2018. The staff members, accompanied by some volunteering Psychology majors, camped on the quadrangle outside the library, providing information to any students curious about mental health. There was also a box available for students who wishing to ask questions in anonymity. The psychologists handed out questionnaires, as part of the effort to gauge the level of knowledge of

mental health among students.

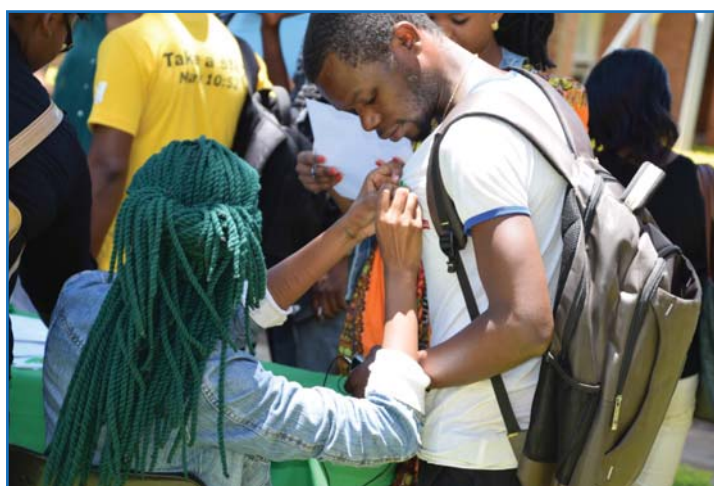
According to the Head of Psychology Department, Mrs. Tilinao

Lamba, the overall aim of the campaign was to find out the attitude that students have with regard to mental health, and to inform those students of avenues available at the college should they wish

to discuss matters of mental health.

"Many students have mental health problems, but they often don't know who to talk to," Lamba observes. "We therefore thought this would be a good forum to inform them that there is a support system in place. This support system includes the office of the College Counsellor, the Dean of Students Office, the Assistant Registrar (Student Welfare), and members of staff in the Psychology department."

As part of the information drive, the psychologists pinned green ribbons on people's chests. The green ribbon is an international symbol of mental health, drawing its origins from Medieval Europe.



A student receives a green ribbon during the campaign

SCIENCE

Academics discuss food security at EBAFOSA workshop

Food security is a theme that is of importance to all Malawians, especially in a year like the current one, where the rains have been erratic. For this

reason, the Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFoSA) Workshop, held on 18th January, 2018, was a timely event.



The Principal opens the workshop

EBAFOSA is the first inclusive pan-African policy framework and implementation platform, a solutions space aimed at bridging gaps to ensure appropriate policies to tackle Africa's key and related challenges of food & nutritional insecurity, poverty & unemployment, climate change and environmental degradation are developed and appropriate means of implementation availed to ensure effective implementation.

Opening the event, the Principal of Chancellor College, Prof. Richard Tambulasi, observed that the college was well placed to play the host. "Chancellor College has been involved in numerous projects in the field of agriculture, agroecological farming, climate change

adaptation, ecosystems conservation, food value chains and post-harvest loss reduction".

In this light, he observed that it was only natural for the college to adopt a leadership role in matters of food security.

Malawi launched her EBAFOSA Chapter in 2016. One of the local initiatives that primed EBAFOSA in Malawi was the multi-disciplinary Attaining Sustainable Services from Ecosystems through Trade-off Scenarios (ASSETS) project on managing ecosystem services for food security, nutrition and health supported by ESPA. It was implemented in Malawi by University of Malawi, Government through Department of Forestry, WorldFish and LEAD SEA.

GES Department hosts GEMMAP Conference

On 18th and 19th January 2018, the Geography and Earth Sciences Department hosted a conference on "Geological Mapping and Mineral Resources Assessment Project (GEMMAP)". The conference was jointly organized by the GES Department and Geological Survey Department (GSD), as part of a project that started in June 2016 and is funded by the French Government. The implementation of the activities is carried out by an international Consortium comprising the Council of Geoscience of South Africa (CGS), the Finnish Geological Survey (GTK) and French Geological Survey (BRGM).

The main objectives of the project are to provide

a set of modern geological and thematic maps of the territory of Malawi that will serve as a fundamental base for the management of the mineral resources and allow risk assessment of geo-hazards of the country, develop strategies to supervise, control and improve conditions of artisanal mining and build capacity of geoscientists of Malawi to manage efficiently the geological resources and enhance geological knowledge.

The conference was specifically organised to disseminate GEMMAP and airborne geophysical survey preliminary results. Additionally, numerous presentations were made on the general and structural geology of Malawi. GES the opportunity to market its

currently running Masters programmes, and the PhD programmes soon to be implemented after Senate approval. The conference attracted distinguished participants from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Energy and Mining,

exploration and mining companies, GSD, The Polytechnic, Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST), Press Corporation, International Geological Surveys and of course staff and students of Chancellor College.



Participants at the GEMMAP conference

LIBRARY

Chanco to launch Diploma in Information Management programme

In a bid to respond to the high demand for qualified personnel in information management, Chancellor College is in the process of introducing a Diploma in Information Management program.

During a meeting with stakeholders, which took place on 2nd February, 2018 in the Faculty of Science boardroom, delegates observed that if information is to be well managed then such a program could be the answer to the current situation. It was further observed that the Diploma program will provide the learners with basic skills and knowledge in library and information studies that will help in efficient collection management

and dissemination of information, while ensuring that the information needs of users are satisfied. The

meeting drew participants from Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR), Mzuzu University, The Polytechnic, College of Medicine, Catholic University and Chancellor



Mr. Brian Sitima-Ndau addresses participants at the meeting

College.

Speaking on the sidelines of the meeting, Chancellor College Librarian, Brian Sitima-Ndau said that information management has become an important resource more than ever before. Access to information has enhanced development in society at large. Ndau further said that it is important to equip all people working in libraries and other information management centers with knowledge and skills to collect, organize, store, retrieve and disseminate information. "The need for middle level information managers is pertinent in Malawi today," he observed. "However, the majority of those charged with the responsibility of manning these resources happen to be unskilled."

UNIONS

CCASU commemorates academic freedom struggle



The Unionists proudly display the new banner

The Chancellor College Academic Staff Union (CCASU) on Friday, 16th February, 2018, held a function to commemorate the passing of seven years since the academic freedom saga. Exactly

seven years ago, the union rose to fame in Malawi and the region due to the solidarity displayed when one academic, Dr. Blessings Chinsinga, was summoned by the Inspector General of

Police, to explain why he had used certain examples in his lecture.

During the commemoration function, the members of the Union, dressed in red, participated in the replacement of the banner at the front of the

college, which salutes visitors to the campus with the words "Welcome to Chanco, The Home of Academic Freedom". The new banner was mounted with much pomp and ceremony, as the lecturers chanted various songs in memory of that testing period.

Several lecturers who had been key to the academic freedom struggle gave speeches during the function, emphasizing the need for academics to always remain vigilant against those who would wish to remove their treasured academic freedom.

During the event, Assistant Prof. Garton Kamchedzera pointed out that CCASU has given the college an identity. "It is now known as the home of academic freedom. We must pass this on from generation to generation", he stressed.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Students in rape awareness campaign

On Friday the 19th of January, 2018, a day dubbed “Black Friday”, the Chancellor College Women’s Affairs directorate invited the entire college community, and supporters alike, to join them in solidarity in the condemnation of all acts of rape and sexual violence, and the perpetuation of rape culture. By appealing to the public to mark the launch of this campaign by wearing black, the directorate and its members endeavored to raise awareness on the various manifestations of rape, and the many ways in which as individuals, we contribute to the creation of an environment that allows rape culture, and its accompanying negative manifestations to thrive. Further, members of the directorate aimed to use this campaign as a way of

getting the student body actively involved in the fight against rape, and to prompt them to stop viewing rape and sexual violence as something that only affects its victims, but rather as a problem that effects the entire society, and one that can only be solved with collective effort.

Members of the directorate initiated the first phase of the campaign by circulating posters and memos to raise awareness on the campaign, and by pasting “Rape Is” slogans on all campus notice boards. These posters articulated the many actions that constitute rape, ranging from sexually engaging with an intoxicated and incapacitated individual to issues of male rape, female on female rape as well as male on male rape. The activities that took place on Black

Friday included an awareness desk set up by the main quadrangle, and professional photography that allowed the student body to show their support by holding a placard and having their picture taken. In addition to this, the Women’s

Affairs directorate strived to investigate the existing attitudes on rape and issues of sexual consent that prevail in Chancellor College campus culture, and this was done through the formulation of scenario-based questionnaires.



Students in solidarity against rape culture

Sociology Society visits Dzaleka

The Chancellor College Sociology Society had an educational and outreach trip to Dzaleka Refugee Camp in Dowa on 8th February, 2018. The motto

of the society is “Society is Our Concern,” which highlights their desire to appreciate the experiences of those residing at the refugee

camp.

Through the visit, the society saw the opportunity of witnessing the practical application of classroom knowledge. For instance, the trip offered the students the opportunity to appreciate cultural diversity by coming into contact with the camp’s occupants from other countries. The students also appreciated the work which the government and other organizations are doing in providing security, protection and emotional support to refugees and asylum seekers.

Matthew Phiri, the Sociology Society President, a third year Social Work student, points out the reason for the trip: “we wanted to understand whether refugees still bear hope for the future and have

dreams in a land diametrically foreign to them, or whether their dreams are so inextricably attached to their mother country such that all is in a ramshackle now that they are in a different place, country and environment. It was rewarding to see how some of the refugees get settled, cope with the trauma and do their best to unlock their potential.”

He concludes that it was a worthwhile experience to see how these people are assisted holistically by various non-governmental organizations such as UNHCR, Plan International and Jesuit Refugee Service. Before they left the camp, the Society donated exercise books, boxes of chalk and tablets of soap to assist school-going children.



The students pose with the Director of the Camp

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Making Zomba green again

Community service is a key aspect of Chancellor College staff and students, as they display their love for the town, its people and the environment in different ways. One of these is through concern shown for the depletion of trees on Zomba Mountain. In response, on Saturday, 17th February, 2018 the Chancellor College student community together with the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic of the Faculty of Law participated in the 2018 Tree Planting exercise which took place at the Zomba Mountain Plateau near the Queen's View.

The students were encouraged to engage in the exercise because of the depletion of the trees

on this mountain and importance of having trees which has several advantages. For example, thriving forests contribute to the natural beauty of the country,

and help in bringing rainfall, which in turn contributes to the food security to the communities and empowers them financially. Ultimately, such rainfall becomes a crucial factor in improving the economy

of Malawi. During the exercise, 3500 trees were planted over an area of 3.5 hectares. We thank the Chancellor College Management for the full support, as well as the Forestry Department for allocating the plot for the tree planting activity.



Students planting trees on Zomba Mountain

Disability Rights Awareness campaign in Thyolo District

The Faculty of Law organized an awareness campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities. The aim of the campaign was to promote community awareness on disability rights. The event was held at Thyolo boma on Monday 26th February 2018.

The messages were spread through music, poems and drama by Chancellor College students and Lecturers. The main themes in the songs were the rights of persons with disabilities

with much emphasis on the need for parents to send children with disabilities to school.

Third Year student Godfrey Phunyanya made a motivational speech in which he encouraged the audience to educate children with disabilities just like they do with other children. He said that if he was not sent to school he would not have made it to university. He continued by saying that disability is not inability, and appealed to the audience to love all their

children equally and support them so that one day they should be independent and make

meaningful contributions to the development of the country.



Students spread the message through drama

ANNOUNCEMENTS

During the last two months we bid farewell to Necton Mhura, who had served as a lecturer in the Faculty of Law for a long period.

We offer words of condolence to Dr. Edith Kalilombe on the passing of her mother, Mr Timothy Mgutha on the passing of his father, Mr. Dickson Mazibuko, on

the passing of his mother, and Dr. Emmanuel Ngwira on the loss of his mother.

Mr. Blessing Msikuwanga, also passed

away during this period. May he rest in peace.

We offer our condolences to Mr. Chunga, on the passing of his daughter. May she rest in peace.