



Chancellor College BULLETIN

EDITORIAL: CLOSING THE CYCLE

And just like that, the year is over once again. This time, we are not just talking of the calendar year, but also the academic year 2015/2016.

A lot has happened this year, worth reflecting back on. It is within this period that the country realized that Chancellor College is indeed serious about infrastructural growth. The construction projects are moving at breakneck speed, and soon we shall be making use of those spaces.

The projects are largely funded by the African Development Bank through the Government. They involve construction of the ICT and Business Centre Building. The ground floor will house the business centre. The second floor shall house another section of the business centre, in

addition to ICT laboratories and ICT offices. The form of the building is orthogonal inspired by the nature of commercial activities in the business centre and allows for interaction between the ground and first floor; hence the provision for an atrium.

Laboratories are also being constructed close to the existing ones. Additionally the College sewage system is being rehabilitated within the same project.

Another major infrastructural development project funded by the World Bank through the Government for the construction of lecture theatres and laboratories has commenced. It is a component of the Skills Development Project and a site handover ceremony to the contractors was

held in November 2017.

We tend to be proud of the infrastructural developments because they are the most visible. However, as usual there are always other developments ongoing at Chancellor College. End of year exams were carried out smoothly, and the assessment routine is due to begin soon. Hopefully, staff can find a few minutes to rest, in the midst of all the work.

As we close the second volume of the *Bulletin*, we are more assured than ever that this is a news channel that is here to stay. We are reliably informed that the College library has begun to archive back copies of *Chanco Bulletin*, ensuring that the information we carry shall be available to readers who require it.



Handing over of one of the construction sites

Editorial Team:

Dr. Ken Lipenga Jr (Chief Editor), Prof Samson Sajidu (Vice Principal).

Highlights

SELLIES assists UMSSA

Water is Life book launch

Malawi Economic Monitor presented at Chanco

Rethinking Chichewa Noun Classes

Administrators in Oslo for capacity building

Law Students win moot competition

ADMINISTRATION

Chanco to open WIPO TIS Centre

Chancellor College was one of the four institutions that signed an Institutional Agreement on setting up of Technology and

Innovation Support Centers (TISCs) with the Malawi Government, through the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs (Department of the Registrar General) on their campuses. The ceremony was held at Capital Hotel in Lilongwe

on 2nd December, 2016.

In April 2009, WIPO was mandated by its member states of which Malawi is party to carry out a pilot project to establish TISCs within the framework of its Development Agenda.

The WIPO TIS program provides innovators in developing countries with access to locally based, high quality technology information and related services, helping them to exploit their innovative potential and to create, protect, and manage their Intellectual Property (IP) rights.

Services offered may include: access to online patent and non-patent (scientific and technical) resources and IP-related publications; assistance in searching and retrieving technology information; training in database search; on-demand

searches (novelty, state-of-the-art and infringement); monitoring technology and competitors; basic information on industrial property laws, management and strategy, and technology commercialization and marketing

Signing on behalf of Chancellor College was Vice Principal, Professor Samson Sajidu and on behalf of Malawi Government was Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Honorable Samuel Tembenu, SC. The ceremony was witnessed by Minister of Education Science and Technology, Honorable Dr. Emmanuel Fabiano, the Registrar General Mr. Chapusa Phiri and the National Commission for Science and Technology (NCST) Director General, Mr. Anthony Muyepa.



Minister of Justice and Constitutional Affairs Honorable Samuel Tembenu, SC and CHANCO Vice Principal, Professor Samson Sajidu sign the agreement.

Administrators attend capacity building training in Oslo

The Department of Political and Administrative Studies (PAS) at Chancellor College and Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM) of the University of Oslo are jointly undertaking a project on Strengthening

Capacity for Democratic and Economic Governance in Malawi.

The main goal is to enable Chancellor College to help build a critical mass of more and better qualified Malawians who can effectively engage with political and

economic elites and policymakers, and thereby positively influence decision-making processes related to democratic and economic governance.

One of the components of the project is to strengthen capacity of the College administrators. As such a team of administrators composed of the Vice Principal, Registrar, Senior

Assistant Finance Officer, Librarian, ICT Director and Assistant Procurement Officer was sent for a 3 day education visit at the University of Oslo (UiO) from 21st to 23rd November 2016. During the visit the team was appraised on how UiO handles a number of issues such as decision making processes, human resource management system, students record management systems, students welfare and support systems, project management and financial management.

The team also visited NORAD (Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation) office where presentations were made on the College's faculties, programmes, procurement processes, financial management structures were made for the NORAD's appreciation.



The Chancellor College team in Oslo

ADMINISTRATION

SELLIES Enterprises boosts UMSSA

As the University of Malawi Staff Sports Association (UMSSA) prepared for the trip to Swaziland in December, it was a pleasant turn of events when SELLIES Enterprises gave the team a financial boost through the presentation of R5000 to help towards transport

costs.

The presentation ceremony was held on 9th December, 2016 at the Senior Common Room, and was graced by the Principal of the College, Professor Richard Tambulasi. Also present was the Managing Director of SELLIES

Enterprises, Mr Peter Chikhungwa and his accountant, Mr Mjanga. The representatives of UMSSA informed the gathering that they had appealed to many organisations around the country for support. Thankfully, SELLIES is one of the organisations that has responded favorably. The company has a growing

relationship with Chancellor College, and they have been supporting both staff and students in various activities, such as the sponsorship of social weekends. During the ceremony, Mr Chikhungwa reiterated that SELLIES will always be there to assist Chancellor College whenever possible.

In his remarks, the Principal expressed appreciation for the gesture. He observed that the total budget for the trip to Swaziland was close to MK7,000,000.00. The college has come in to fund part of this cost. However, the organizers have been running around seeking assistance to meet the shortfall. The gesture by SELLIES therefore helps in reducing the burden on the sportsmen and women.



Mr Chikhungwa makes his speech

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Final Year Art Students hold Exhibition

Towards the end of the semester, final year art students held an exhibition in the art gallery at the FPA department. The exhibition featured a variety of artworks on display. These pieces included digital art, ceramics, oil paints, and acrylic on canvas.

The paintings are rendered in different styles, and cover a variety of themes. For example, Pauline Bodole displays her versatility by presenting pencil sketches on the theme of 'love and nudity'. A few of her sketches are daring renderings of the unclad – or partially clad – form of the African woman. In these sketches, the woman's face remains

hidden, leaving the viewer to engage in a moment of voyeurism, marveling at the artist's skill in mapping the feminine form.

The FPA department has enabled these students to discover their

true artist selves, and to experiment in styles, media and themes that may not have been possible had they not studied at Chancellor College. One of these experimenters is Akulu Lipenga, whose works mostly comprise of digital art renderings. Ellen Banda's paintings, most

of which appear in sets, suggest transient meanings, manifested in her love for abstract renderings.

The art pieces also include ceramic sculptures. Ellen Banda has on display a number of multipurpose vase shapes colored artfully in her signature abstract shades and splashes of many colors. Yamikani Bema's pieces are just as imaginative, and feature one particularly arresting piece, a bust of a monstrous mythological figure that achieves the remarkable feat of simultaneously horrifying and fascinating the viewer. Mervis Njunga and Roseby Makawa's cylindrical clay pieces are clad in a pleasantly captivating themes bound to bring a sense of color to any room.



In the art gallery

HUMANITIES

Dean of Humanities and CI Co-Director attend conference in China

Co-directors of the Confucius Institute at the University of Malawi Professor Feng Jianguo and Dr Damazio Mfuné-Mwanjakwa – and the Dean of Humanities, Dr Syned Mthatiwa, attended The 11th Global Confucius Institute Conference that took place from 10-11 December 2016, in Kunming, Yunnan Province, China. The Dean attended the conference as a representative of the Board Chair of CI UNIMA, Professor Al Mtenje, the Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Malawi.

The conference, which was attended by thousands of delegates from 140 countries, was aimed at, among other things, sharing

experiences and best practices in running of Confucius Institutes (CIs), developing work plans for CIs for the next five years, and discussing proposed activities and new administrative policies or approaches. At this meeting the delegates shared their experiences in running CIs in their

respective universities, their achievements, and their plans for the future.

Dr Mthatiwa said the trip was an eye-opener with regard not only to how much the Chinese value culture and intangible heritage, but also to the need for impoverished countries like Malawi to take the teaching and learning of Chinese seriously if they are to benefit more from their strategic

relationship with China, which is the second biggest economy on the globe. “Looking at Chinese culture and the warmth with which the Chinese welcome and relate with foreign visitors, one is tempted to believe that poor countries in Africa have more to gain by turning east than by facing, admiring, and emulating the hypocritical west,” he said.



Dr. Mthatiwa and Dr. Mfuné in China

Re-imagining Chichewa Noun Classes

The Faculty of Humanities has been engaged in monthly academic seminars, where members of the faculty staff volunteer to present papers on what may be research in progress or just an area of interest.

The seminars are usually held in the Senior Common Room.

The most recent Seminar, held on 8 December 2016 included a presentation by Peter Kondwani Msaka, a lecturer in the African

Languages and Linguistics Department. Msaka is currently enrolled for PhD study at Stellenbosch University. His presentation is part of the work that he is involved in in his study. The title of the presentation was “A synchronic approach to the Chichewa nominal classification system”. In

the presentation, Msaka pointed out that he is proposing a new noun class system to replace the current Chichewa noun class system, which is mainly based on prefixes. “What I am arguing is that these prefixes can be used to derive nouns, but not necessarily to classify them,” says Msaka.

The current Chichewa noun class system that is taught in Malawian schools has 18 classes, most of which are based on the types of prefixes attached in singular and plural forms. These include familiar ones such as the *mu-a* and *mu-mi* classes. Msaka’s proposed system, which he declares is cognitively based, has 5 classes, and take into consideration noun properties such as animacy, and word initial phonetic –phonological features.



Msaka makes his presentation

SCIENCE

Dr Chikuni attends 10th Global RCE Conference

Dr Marlene Chikuni recently participated in the 10th Global Regional Centres of Expertise (RCE) Conference held from 23rd to 25th November 2016 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. The theme of the conference was 'Engaging with Local communities for the Sustainable Development Goals'.

Participants were drawn from RCEs in Africa, Americas, Asia Pacific and Europe and comprised of academicians, policy makers, private sector, youth and interested individuals. The main focus of the conference was RCEs' engagement with sustainability processes and this was expounded through plenary and thematic discussions on various topics including: climate change & disaster risk

reduction; biodiversity, ecosystems & traditional knowledge; capacity

building for educators; policy makers engagement; sustainable consumption & production and sustainable livelihoods; higher education- driven



Dr Chikuni as part of the African secretariat facilitating a discussion for African RCEs

initiatives, TVET, policy support and migration.

The conference was hosted by Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) secretariat of RCE Yogyakarta and was partly funded by the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS).

Dr Chikuni was invited in her capacity as the current coordinator of RCE Zomba but also as the Vice President of African RCEs. She co-chaired the discussion by African RCEs but also served as a co-facilitator for the parallel session on Capacity building for Educators. The conference was a success and participants renewed their commitment to promote ESD through multi-stakeholder partnerships as a transformative tool for change at the interface of education, research, policy and practice.

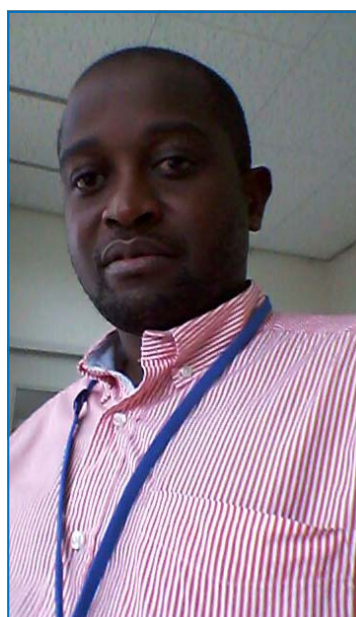
Head of Chemistry attends ECSA Workshop

The Head of Chemistry Department, Dr. Timothy Biswick, recently attended the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSA) workshop as part of a team from Malawi that also included members from the Community Health Science Unit (CHSU) in the Ministry of Health and the Malawi Bureau of Standards (MBS). The workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya, from 13-16 December 2016.

Participants at the workshop were from government departments, academia and industry that are actively involved in food fortification activities, and were drawn from 13 ECSA region countries including Malawi.

As part of reducing micronutrient deficiencies, Malawi and other countries in the region have embarked on programmes to fortify certain common foods. Currently Malawi is fortifying salt with iodine, sugar with vitamin A and flour with vitamin A and iron. The methods that are being used in the

analysis of the fortificants in the various food vehicles were developed



Dr. Timothy Biswick

over ten years ago. In view of technological advances and several challenges encountered over the years when using these methods, it was decided that the methods should be reviewed.

The overall objective for the workshop was therefore to develop a comprehensive framework towards harmonization of the laboratory methods and testing guidelines for fortified and nutritious foods. It was agreed at the end of the workshop that the new laboratory methods and testing guidelines should be ready by September 2017.

LAW

Law Students win Africa Disability Rights Moot Competition

A team comprising of two students, Khwima Mchizi (4th Year Law) and Atupele Masanjala (3rd Year Law), emerged winners in the African Disability Rights Moot Competition, which was held from 7th to 10th November, 2016. The team had initially emerged winners of a competition that was held locally, within the Faculty of Law.

The competition is run by the Centre of Human Rights in the Faculty of Law at the University of Pretoria, and involves universities from all over the continent. However, only nine institutions participated in the competition.

The finals were held at the Southern Sun hotel. The Chancellor College team paired against Makerere University.

During the trip, the teams was accompanied by Dr. Enoch Chilemba.

The competition takes the moot court format, where the team makes an argument in front of the African Court on Human Rights. One team is the applicant, whereas another represents the

state. The team makes arguments in response to a hypothetical situation. This year, the situation presented tackled the matter of albinism in a fictional African country.

The victory is even more impressive given that the team did not have a lot of time to prepare. In a space of less

than two weeks, they created multiple hypothetical situations. They also had to prepare memorials of law, which contained their arguments.

It is usually quite a challenge for the students to juggle preparations for the competition with classwork. "I think this exposure makes me a much better lawyer than someone who would just read cases. I think such an experience has given me a better perspective as a Human Rights lawyer," observes Mchizi. Similarly, Masanjala is of the view that the experience helped her to approach her Human Rights exam from a more practical point of view. "In addition to that, we get to meet many different people—other students, lecturers, and people working in the Human Rights field".

Students from the Law School at Chancellor College have been participating in such events for several years.



The winning team poses with their lecturer, Dr. Enoch Chilemba

Faculty of Law hosts *Water is Life* book launch

On December 22, 2016 the University of Malawi, Faculty of Law held a colourful event to launch the book entitled *Water is Life: Women's Human Rights in National and Local Water Governance in Southern and Eastern Africa*. The book is a joint effort of 21 authors, of whom five are from the University of Malawi. These include Dr. Ngeyi R. Kanyongolo, Mr Timothy Chirwa and Dr. Ngcimezile Mweso from the Faculty of Law; and Dr. Asiyati Chiweza and Mr Michael Chasukwa from the Faculty of Social Science.

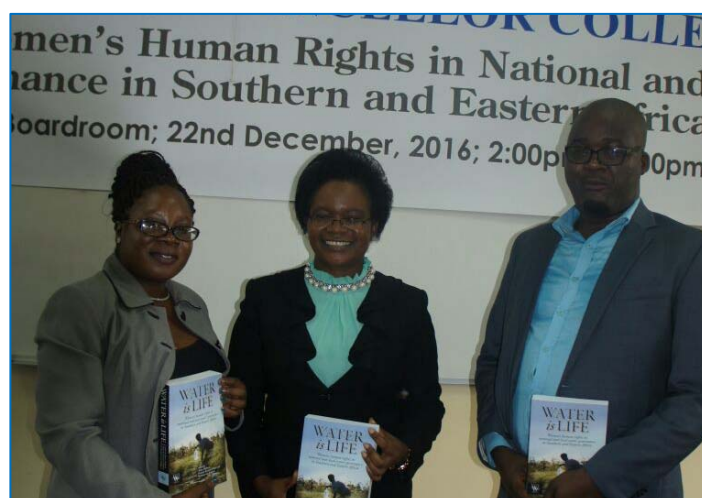
Water is Life is a result of an internationally

collaborated research carried out in Malawi, Kenya, Zimbabwe and South Africa. In it researchers make recommendations for African states on governance structures that, among other things, would be accountable to the poor vulnerable water users, especially women; and assure them the basic human right to clean drinking water and sanitation.

The book launch ceremony was officially hosted at the Faculty of Law Boardroom, by the Principal of Chancellor College, Prof. Richard Tambulasi with T/A Mlumbe as the Guest of

Honour. In attendance were people from all walks of life such as members of various faculties of University of Malawi, members of Water Users Associations, women rights activists,

traditional leaders, councillors, legal professionals, students, librarians, journalists, and local and central government representatives.



Dr. Ngcimezile Mweso, Dr. Ngeyi Kanyongolo, and Mr. Timothy Chirwa pose with copies of the book

SOCIAL SCIENCE

Economists discuss 4th Malawi Economic Monitor

A good number of the economists in the country have had their undergraduate and postgraduate training at Chancellor College, in the Department of Economics. It is therefore no wonder that economists in various organisations in the country often consult

and students at the college. The delegation was hosted by the Department of Economics, and the presentation was done at the Little Theatre.

In his welcoming remarks, the Dean of Social Science, Dr. Levison Chiwaula thanked the delegation

Malawi Economic Monitor is an example of how students can appreciate how the subjects they learn have direct application to the real world, and to the economy of Malawi, in particular.

Two members of the team made presentations. The first was Dr Richard Record, World Bank Senior Country Economist, who gave an overview of the areas

economic performance, including interest rates, inflation rates, and foreign debt, among others. The discussion also highlighted the impact of Brexit on the Malawi's economy, as well as climate vulnerability and climate shocks. The general outlook of the monitor is optimistic, reflected in the "Emerging Stronger" tagline.

The second presenter was Priscilla Kandoole, Country Economist, whose talk was on the special topic "Persisting Poverty and Vulnerability." She observed that Malawi is especially vulnerable to climate shocks, and poverty remains a persistent challenge to development. This is, in part, due to the lack of robust growth in agricultural activities, and the lack of opportunities for non-farm activities. The report made various recommendations to the Malawi government, which would reduce poverty levels, to achieve a more positive outlook for the country.

The presentations ended with discussions with the audience, who included lecturers, undergraduate and post-graduate students, mostly from the faculty of Social Science.



Dr. Record makes his presentation

scholars at the college on various events of fiscal importance.

One such event was the presentation of the 4th Malawi Economic Monitor (MEM) on 5th December, 2016, by a delegation from the World Bank, to lecturers

for making the visit to Chancellor College, and observed that such presentations were important in complementing the training in economic theory that is presented to students at Chancellor College. Therefore, the

highlighted in the MEM. He pointed out that the report is released every 6 months, with the aim of fostering "better informed policy analysis and debate on Malawi's development challenges". The report covers several areas that are key to Malawi's

Announcements

Looking back on the last two months, we again take note of the highs and lows of our existence as a community.

We express our condolences to Prof. Lewis Dzimbiri on the passing of his mother.

We also offer words of

comfort to Dr. Japhet Bakuwa on the passing of his cousin. May his soul rest in peace.

We would like to take the time to thank those members of the community who have

sent us stories from time to time. We encourage you to continue this spirit, since the Bulletin cannot exist without you.

Have a happy new year!