



# Chancellor College BULLETIN

## EDITORIAL: THE COLLEGE AND ITS WRITERS

In this issue, we would like to take a special moment to celebrate the writing of staff and students at Chancellor College. Some of the finest writers in the country, in the categories of both fiction and non-fiction, have emerged from the corridors of this institution.

Although some of these writers have departed from our world, their works are immortalized and are accessible in the college's library. We have amongst us prize-winning writers who rarely flout their awards in public.

In April this year, one of the momentous announcements was that of promotions for a number of academic staff. As any academic knows, one of the indispensable components of the promotion process is

publication of articles, and the rigors of publishing in academia are such that when one does publish, it is a moment to be celebrated. We therefore congratulate those who have been promoted for finding the time to sit and craft articles that journals of international renown deemed worthy of publication.

In the same vein, we celebrate the writing by staff and students at Chancellor College. In April this year, Mr Smith Likongwe launched two books, one comprising plays exclusively written by himself, and another containing plays written by other people, including former students of Chancellor College. These publications bear testament to the fact that the writing spirit

continues to live on at Chancellor College.

As if that were not enough, when the Malawi Writers Union launched its Anthology of Women's Writing in Malawi last month, it featured writing by Chancellor College female students. This is an achievement to be applauded.

No matter what category of the Chancellor College community—staff or student—one may find himself in, we must realize that writing is an activity that we can engage in not just for the sake of promotions, but also as a way of leaving our mark in a world that is increasingly becoming known for its deplorable reading culture. Perhaps what we are lacking are our stories. If we do not tell them to the people, who will?



Mr Smith Likongwe presents his new publications to the Dean of Social Science, Dr. Philip Kapulula

### Editorial Team:

Dr. Ken Lipenga Jr (Chief Editor), Prof Samson Sajidu (Vice Principal), Mr. Felix Mwalemba, Mr. Martin Ngalande

### Highlights

*IoT Conference attracts international audience*

*Staff-Students Sports Festival registers success*

*Students publish in MAWU Anthology*

*Likongwe launches drama books*

*Another new invention at Chanco*

*Students hold Art Exhibition*

## ADMINISTRATION

### Zomba Action Project assists Chanco once again

On Tuesday, 18th April 2018, Zomba Action Project (ZAP) donated laptops to six students

with special needs. The recipients included Steven Lomoliwa, Alinafe Matchado, Esther Mhone,

Akuzike Mzumala, Mary Pezengu and Maness William. After this, they donated fifteen cartons of law books, updating the Law library with UK cases and judgements covering a significant period up to

the present. The books were received by the Dean of Law and a representative of students. These donations were made by Councilor Stephanie Quagle, Ivon Boyle and Mr. Paul Snelling from Causeway Coast and Glens Council, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom. They were escorted by Mr Zondiwe Mbano, Chair for ZAP, Zomba.

This is not the first time ZAP has donated laptops to students with special needs. In May 2016, ZAP also donated a computer to another student, as well as journals and books to the main library and the Law library, besides providing tuition and upkeep scholarships to a number of students.



*One of the students receives her laptop from the donors*

### Staff-Students Sports festival

On 16th and 17th March, 2018 Chancellor College witnessed the first-ever Staff-Students Sports Festival. During the event, staff and students came together to participate in a variety of sporting activities. The aim was to enable to interaction of staff and students on an informal platform, as a way of enhancing communication between the two parties.

During the function, the Principal of the College, Professor Richard Tambulasi, applauded the organizing committee for enabling the function to happen. He also assured the gathering that the sports festival would be a calendared event. After

his speech, Professor Tambulasi took to the

basketball and volleyball courts, where he displayed his skills.

Other sporting activities during the function included

football, netball and athletics.

Students and staff also engaged in board games such as checkers, chess and Scrabble.



*Students involved in the organizing of the function*



## HUMANITIES

### **Makono Coolant: another invention from the FPA**

At Chancellor College, we always pride ourselves on the inventiveness of our students and staff. In the last few years, we have been witnessing a variety of inventions emanating from the

college community.

This year, the invention on display is the Makono Coolant, the brainchild of Vincent Sinalo (fourth year student) and Mr Willie Nampeya (lecturer in the FPA department).

The two of them used their personal funds to purchase the parts needed for developing the invention.

The invention has been placed on display at the art exhibition currently underway at the Fine and Performing Arts Gallery.

The cooling unit takes advantage of the natural

cooling properties of clay soil. The two inventors decided to capitalize on this fact upon realizing that they could harness the properties of this natural resource. "We aim to create a cool environment that can be regulated. We are aiming to achieve a temperature of 15 degrees Celsius", says Sinalo.

The primary ingredient of the device is kaolin clay (*Katondo*). This has been mixed with terracotta clay. However, it also has parts containing wood and sand. There is also a condenser attached to the device, and a fan. It is also encased in a metal body. Sinalo also installed a thermostat that helps in setting the minimum and maximum temperatures. According to Sinalo, the final aim is to have the device run on solar energy.

Currently, the coolant is used to cool foodstuffs such as fruits as well as water.



*Sinalo explains the mechanics of the cooling system to a colleague*

### **Art students hold exhibition**

At the end of every year, we are always pleased to witness the display of artistic skill at the Fine and Performing Arts Gallery. This year is no different, as students have put on display an amazing array of artworks, as the culmination of projects that they have been working on for the past year. These artworks include paintings and ceramic works.

In the category of painting, the exhibition features a variety of styles, including realism, impressionism and other abstract movements such as cubism and abstract expressionism.

One of the recurring images in the exhibition is the figure of the

woman. Priscilla Mbewe, one of the artists who has a lot of paintings depicting nude women,

points out that the decision was deliberate. "For me, the central idea is about feminism and liberty" she points out. "I aimed to illustrate that a woman ought to be

comfortable in her own skin".

The exhibition will be held until the 10th of May, 2018, so there is still time to visit the gallery and view the artworks.



*Some of the artworks on display*

## HUMANITIES

### Student writers publish in MAWU Anthology

The Malawi Writers Union, MAWU launched the Malawian Women's Short Story Anthology titled *A Grafted Tree and Other Stories* and the award presentation of the National Literacy Awards (NALA) at Jacaranda Cultural Centre, JCC in Blantyre on Saturday, the 21st of April 2018.

The publication of the anthology was funded by The Hivos-Malawi Cultural Fund through the Royal Norwegian Embassy and comprises a total of twenty-one short stories from both published and emerging writers that were winners of previous MAWU/FMB Short Story writing competitions.

The anthology serves as a platform for women to express their voice on the

issues that are of concern to them: themes of gender-based and sexual violence and corruption, among others. Amongst authors, two are fourth year Chancellor College

students, Dalitsani Anselmo and Tikondwe Chimkowola, who authored "The Night Owls" and "A Grafted Tree", respectively. They are students majoring in English literature at the institution.

Speaking during the function, Tikondwe

Chimkowola expressed joy that her story had been published. "MAWU has taken a great step forward by allowing women to step into the limelight with this publication," she observed. "I hope it inspires more women to write".



Dalitsani Anselmo and Tikondwe Chimkowola at the book launch

### Drama lecturer in dual book launch



Likongwe autographs one of the copies of his books

Drama lecturer Smith Likongwe made history on 22nd April, 2018, when he launched two books, entitled *The Chief's*

*Blanket and other Plays* and *Living Playscripts: A Trilogy* at the Little Theatre at Chancellor College. *Living Playscripts*

contains three plays focusing on three of Malawi's past presidents: Bakili Muluzi, Bingu wa Mutharika, and Joyce

Banda. Likongwe wrote the three plays after gathering research from a number of historical sources.

*The Chief's Blanket and other Plays* contains contributions from six playwrights, include Likongwe himself.

This book launch marks yet another achievement at Chancellor College, where we take publications of staff as a marker of the growth of the institution. For the Drama Section of the Fine and Performing Arts Department, this serves as an example of lecturers showing students how it is done.

Both publications have been funded by HIVOS People Unlimited, an international organization that promotes freedom of expression and human rights, among other values.



## SCIENCE

### Science Faculty hosts Internet of Things (IoT) Conference

From 19th to 20th April, 2018, the Faculty of Science hosted the Internet of Things (IoT) conference.

IoT is a term generally used to refer to the network of physical objects of “things” embedded with electronics, software, sensors, and connectivity to enable objects to collect and exchange data. The conference was held under the theme “IoT your key”. During the event, presenters showcased the various research projects that they have been undertaking in areas ranging from smart water

supply systems, cold chains, energy solutions,

security, smart and resilient cities, and applications to the fields of health, agriculture, education, finance and ICT.

Guests at the conference included representatives of corporate institutions, the manufacturing industry, and many others.



*Prof. Vikas Monebhurrin makes his keynote speech during the conference*

### Interdisciplinary project shortlisted for Digital Lab Africa competition

Mr Rodney Likaku and Mr Francis Kambili-Mzembe, of the English and Computer Science departments respectively, have been shortlisted as finalists in the Digital Lab Africa 2018 pitch competition.

Their project is among 30 that have been selected from over 700 entries from Sub-Saharan Africa. The next stage will be a selection of 10 winning projects. All of the winning projects at the final stage will receive a 3,000 Euro cash prize and a tailor-made incubation program to accelerate their project development. They will also be given a resident period in France, and will participate in industry

events in France and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Their project, which is entitled “Cause and Effect:” is a virtual reality video game. The game allows the player to participate in the climate change conversation, immersing them in an apocalyptic sub-Saharan Africa. As Likaku, the project’s narrative director observes, in Malawi, the game development industry is almost non-existent. The two scholars are therefore charting a path into a field that can potentially open up possibilities of new narrative platforms and innovations for Malawians.

Kambili points out that as the projects grows, there are plans to engage

the Computer Science departments, as a way of involving undergraduate students, exposing them to game development and virtual reality and potential field of research.

The team is currently preparing for a telephonic interview to be held on 7th May. The final results of the competition will be announced on 10th May, 2018.



*Francis Kambili-Mzembe*

## LAW

### Chanco makes strides in Special Needs Education

On 15th March, 2018, the Faculty of Law organized a one-day staff and students workshop on Special Needs Education at the faculty's

boardroom.

According to a presentation by Henry Chizimba, a fourth year Law student, from primary school through

college, persons with disabilities face barriers like lack of accessible facilities and lesson content, insensitive teachers and lecturers, and non-inclusive assessment methodologies.

Dean of Students, Dr

Jonas Mwatseteza, said that as a college they are doing all they can to make the college have facilities that can accommodate people with special needs to achieve universal education for all. Students with special needs too are now able to study in a general classroom setting, access relevant technologies and use them for higher cognitive development, helping them integrate with their surroundings.

It is for this reason that the College has included information and communication technologies, to compliment special needs education on campus. He said the college is developing a disability policy with the aim of ensuring that students with disabilities at the college are not denied access to the college's facilities and services.



Participants at the workshop pose for a group photograph

### Faculty of Law awards top performing students

On 07 March 2018, the Faculty of Law held an inaugural Law awards ceremony, in recognition of the outstanding success of students in the faculty. The event took place at the Faculty of Law premises.

During the event, the faculty awarded 27 students with certificates of recognition. These included those who were on Dean's list, Heads list, most improved students, and those with outstanding skills in mootings, clinical and other practical skills.

According to the Dean of the Faculty of Law, Associate Professor Garton Kamchedzera, as a faculty they thought of recognizing students' hard work and professionalism and encouraging them to do better and inspire others as well. He further said that by appreciating the students it will help them realize that they are building a strong foundation in their profession.

The Guest of Honour at the event, retired Chief Justice Anastasia Msosa

applauded the Faculty of Law in taking such a giant step to recognize students' hard work, which she said would go a long way in inspiring

them for the future as their academic journey continues. She further congratulated and encouraged the awardees to aim even higher.



Eliya Zawanda receiving a certificate of recognition from guest of honor retired Chief Justice Anastasia Msosa

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the last two months, we mourned the loss of Mr Victor Masina, who was until his death a Masters student in the Department of Public Administration and Management. Mr E. Maloya,

previously a guard at the college library, also passed away during this time. May they rest in peace.

It is also during this period that Mr Millward Maliyoni lost his daughter. Mrs Ndungunya's husband

also passed away during this time. Dr Kondwani Munthali also lost his mother during this period. It is also in the same last two months that Dr Jacob Mazalale lost his father. Mr Vito Sandifolo's father also passed

away during this period. Professors Pascal Kishindo and Paul Kishindo also lost a brother in April.

We pray that the Lord comforts you all during this difficult period.