



MZUNI WEEKLY Bulletin

MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION IMPRESSED BY MZUNI’S GROWTH



Minister of Higher Education – Dr. Jessie Kabwila

Minister of Higher Education Dr. Jessie Kabwila has said the growth of Mzuzu University (MZUNI) will play a crucial role in advancing the country’s development agenda.

“The University’s strategy not only speaks to the development agenda of Malawi but also the vision of Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, President of the Republic of Malawi and Chancellor of the University. This emphasises the role of institutions of higher learning in the development of Malawi,” she said.

Dr. Kabwila said the University has the responsibility to shape the destiny of the country and the continent.

“I know that MZUNI has fought through adversity to reach where it is right now. It is an institution that is committed to contribute to the development of Malawi,” she said.

Earlier, the Chairperson of the University Council, Ambassador Hawa Ndilowe (Rtd), highlighted the university’s strategic priorities.

“We are committed to expanding access to higher education, securing accreditation for all MZUNI programmes, enhancing the quality of academic programmes, improving infrastructure, and ensuring financial sustainability,” she said.

Ambassador Ndilowe said that the integration of new technology and the implementation of a performance management system are essential for enhancing the university’s operations.

“We have worked tirelessly to address numerous challenges through the adoption of new technologies. Most importantly, the implementation of the performance management system has enabled the members of staff to effectively meet their performance objectives,” she said.

MZUNI’s Vice-Chancellor Professor Wales Singini shared the strategic vision of the university by focusing on infrastructure development, new technologies, research, innovation and introduction of new academic programmes. Earlier, the minister visited the new Library construction site and assured the media and members of staff that the construction will be completed this year.



Students’ representatives pose with the Minister of Higher Education Dr. Jessie Kabwila, Council Chairperson Hawa Ndilowe, Vice-Chancellor Professor Singini and Ministry officials

MZUNI PARTICIPATES IN EDUCATION DAY

MZUNI participated in International Education Day which was held at Katoto Secondary School in Mzuzu on Friday, 31st January, 2025.

The event was graced by Minister of Higher Education Dr. Jessie Kabwila, Minister of Basic and Secondary School Education Honourable Madalitso Kambauwa Wirima, Vice-Chancellor Professor Wales Singini and other government officials.

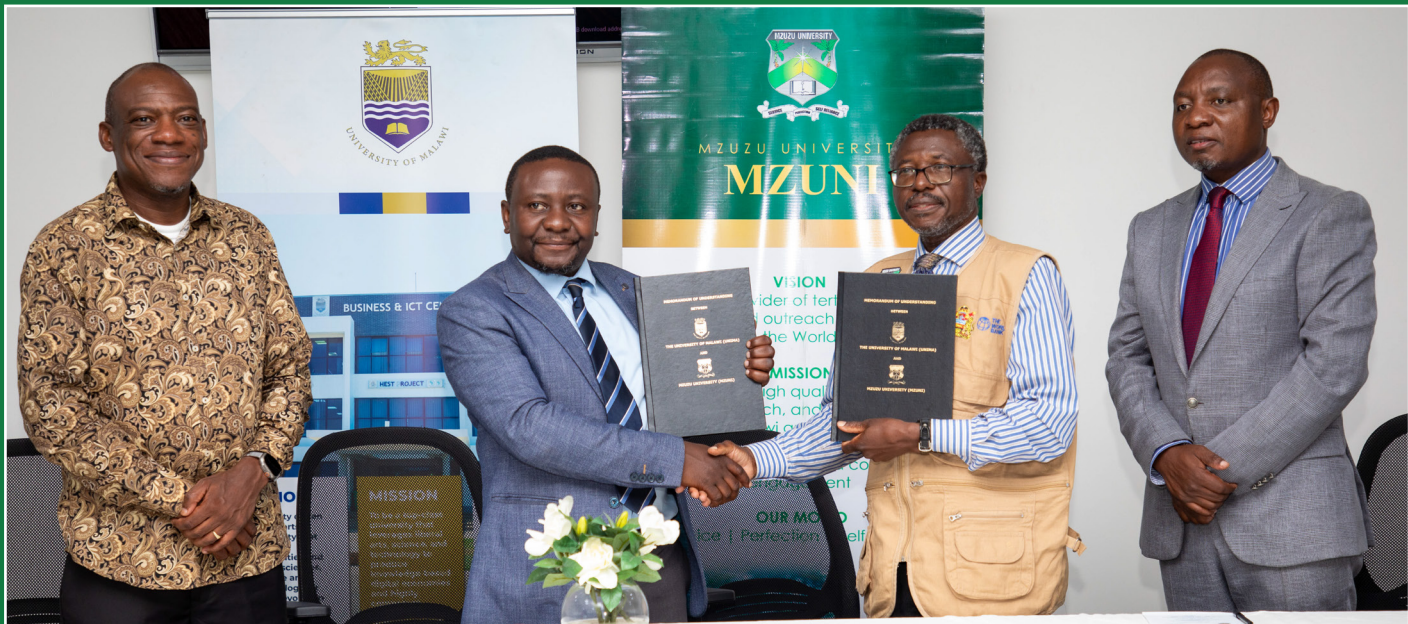
During the commemoration, MZUNI showcased two innovative projects Study Hacks and Recordial Innovation System (RIS) from the Faculty of Science, Technology and Innovation.



ICT Lecturer Mac Donald Phiri explaining to the two ministers how the innovations work

“Study Hacks Project aims at revolutionising secondary school education by leveraging Artificial Intelligence (AI) as it has the ability to generate video lessons, pamphlets and assignments. The goal is to make education more accessible while the RIS seeks to register and track innovations, potentially connecting them with investors,” said MacDonald Phiri, a lecturer in Information Communication and Technology at MZUNI.

MZUNI, UNIMA SIGN MOU



Professor Sajidu (2nd left) shakes hands with Professor Mulwafu (2nd right) after signing the MoU

Mzuzu University and the University of Malawi (UNIMA) on Wednesday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to enhance collaboration between the two institutions of higher learning.

Speaking in an interview after the signing ceremony, UNIMA Vice-Chancellor Professor Samson Sajidu said the MoU will foster collaboration and cooperation in research,

teaching and community engagement, among others.

"The MoU will go a long way in fostering exchange of innovations and ideas between students and staff," Sajidu said.

MZUNI's Deputy Vice-Chancellor Professor Wapulumuka Mulwafu said the agreement was a defining moment in the history of the two universities.

"It is the first of its kind between public universities in Malawi. We believe that working together will have a meaningful impact,"

he said adding that working together will lead to achievement of greater things.

LIBRARY STAFF TRAINED IN NEWS WRITING

MZUNI Library Staff participated in news writing training on Friday 31st January, 2025 which will enable them to publicise MZUNI's achievements.

Speaking during the opening ceremony, University Librarian Dr. Aubrey Chaputula said members of staff should be actively involved in increasing visibility of the university.

"The skills acquired will help us to utilise social media platforms, contribute news articles MZUNI's newsletters and national newspapers," he said.



Library Staff pose for a group photograph

Assistant Registrar (Human Resource) Wezi Galera Shaba said members of staff play a huge role in increasing the visibility of the University.

"There are a lot of stories to be told. Let us share our achievements so that our stakeholders should know our contributions to the development of the country," he said.

The training was facilitated by Cliff Kawanga, who is Assistant Registrar (Public Relations and International Affairs) and former newspaper editor with Times Group.

DEPARTMENT OF OPTOMETRY HOLDS WHITE COAT CEREMONY

The Department of Optometry in the Faculty of Health Sciences conducted a White Coat Ceremony for 120 Optometry students at Ungweru on Friday, January 31, 2025.

The ceremony marked an important milestone in the students' academic journey as they prepare to embark on their clinical practice.

The Guest of Honour Allen Jones, who also represented Canadian Vision Care, said it was important that students should adhere to a strict code of conduct when they transition into clinical practice. The White Coat Ceremony is a significant tradition in healthcare education, symbolising the transition of students from the classroom to clinical practice. The ceremony serves as a reminder of the importance of professionalism, ethics, and compassion in healthcare.



MZUNI HANDS OVER ACENUB CONSTRUCTION SITE TO CONTRACTOR

On Monday, Mzuzu University handed over the construction site of the African Centre of Excellence in Neglected and Underutilised Biodiversity to Blithe Nile JV Construction Limited. The construction is expected to be completed in December this year.



BALANCING ACADEMICS AND LEISURE

University life can be stressful, and social weekends provide a much-needed break from academic pressures. At Mzuzu University, engaging in leisure activities can help students recharge, reducing burnout and enhance productivity during the week.



EVENTS AND UPDATES



Congratulations to Dr. Chimango Nyasulu and Dr. Moses Nyasulu for their attainment of a higher qualification and new title. Dr. Chimango Nyasulu's PhD in Computer Science was awarded by Gaston Berger of Saint Louis, Senegal while Dr. Moses Nyasulu earned his PHD in Transformative Community Development from Mzuzu University.



MZUNI Alumni Association members Wezzie Nyirenda and Grace Daka Manda joined Dean of Students Dr. Agnes Hara for a counseling session with first-year female students on Friday, January 31, 2025. Dr. Hara emphasised that these sessions aim to empower female students with essential skills and knowledge to navigate challenging situations.



The Renewable Energy Industries Association of Malawi launched its student chapter at Mzuzu University on Friday, 31st January, 2025.



MZUNI Alumni Association (Northern Chapter) was involved in tree-planting exercise in Kaning'ina, Mzuzu as one way of influencing the communities to embrace this importance exercise especially during the rainy season.



Members of staff in the Finance Department enjoyed a rare retreat at Sambani in Chintheche where they engaged in team-building exercise to foster trust, improve communication, and enhance collaboration in order to serve both internal and external stakeholders better.