



MINISTER OF TOURISM CALLS FOR COLLABORATION



Mulwafu interacts with Kamtukule after the meeting with Management

Minister of Tourism Honourable Vera Kamtukule has called for increased stakeholder involvement in the tourism industry because such collaboration is essential in achieving greater success and making meaningful contributions to the country's development.

The minister made the remarks on Tuesday, March 4, 2025 when she engaged Mzuzu University's (MZUNI) management on possible collaboration during and beyond the 6th Edition of the Takulandirani Malawi International Tourism Expo (MITE) slated for the 24th-26th April 2025.

Honourable Kamtukule said she was proud that MZUNI has an autonomous faculty dedicated to tourism and hospitality management studies.

“**I would like us to have meaningful and impactful collaboration beyond the memorandum of understanding. Let's leverage our combined intelligence and other resources to develop and promote tourism in Malawi,**” she said.

Meanwhile, MZUNI will work closely with the Ministry of Tourism alongside UN Tourism to devise best methods of capturing accurate tourism data in the country. Other areas of collaboration are systems development, research, grant proposals, and tourism training.

VICE-CHANCELLOR LOBBIES FOR MZUNI PROJECTS' SUPPORT



Prof. Wales Singini

MZUNI Vice-Chancellor Professor Wales Singini has lobbied for provision of full funding for the Library and Auditorium construction project and increased allocation for hostel construction project.

The Vice-Chancellor made the plea during the Parliamentary Cluster on Education, Science and Technology which took place on Thursday, 6th

March, 2025 at Golden Peacock Hotel in Lilongwe.

“We appreciate the support that we get from the Government to enable us provide higher education services to students efficiently. However, we need more financial support to complete library and auditorium construction and start the construction of new students' hostels,” he said.

The Vice Chair of Parliamentary Cluster Committee on Education, Science and Technology, Honourable Mphatso Jones Boti Phiri, commended MZUNI for the strides it has made in resource mobilisation to complement Government subvention.

“What is more impressive is that MZUNI will implement the solar farm and it has already started

the mega farm. These initiatives are highly appreciated and we appeal to other universities to emulate the pace set by MZUNI,” he said.

The Vice-Chancellor's presentation focused on the University's budgetary performance in the 2024/2025 Financial Year highlighting major activities and projects undertaken and the budgetary related challenges encountered.

The areas requiring more support are the completion of MZUNI Library and Auditorium and the construction of new students' hostels. At the moment, the current bed space at MZUNI is at 813 versus 9010 students. Initially the University was allocated K1.0Bn in 2023/24 Financial Year for preliminary works of 2000 bed space hostel and all preliminary works were completed.

MACRA PROMOTES DIGITAL RIGHTS

Malawi Regulatory Authority (MACRA) Director General Daud Suleman says his agency plays a huge role in promoting digital rights in Malawi.

The Director General said this during the public lecture titled *Digital Rights: The Law, The Technology and The Myths*, which took place at Mzuzu University on Thursday, March 6, 2005.

“We indeed promote digital rights but citizens must use the digital platforms responsibly because the Electronic Transaction and Cyber Security Act of 2016 guides us all in the use of digital platforms. Indeed, citizens have a constitutional right of freedom of speech but it is important to respect the law too,” he said.

Speaking on behalf of the Vice Chancellor of Mzuzu University,

Chairperson of Public Lecture Committee Dr. Lydia Kishindo-Mafuta said the university values partners like MACRA.

“Our university does not exist in a vacuum; we exist in a community that is why it is open to stakeholders to come and share knowledge with us. The programmes we offer are responsive to the needs of the society, that is why we are open to our stakeholders to support the agenda of the university through such interaction,” she said.

Dr. Kishindo-Mafuta said to enrich the various academic programmes, practitioners on the ground help students to understand the practical realities.

“One of the strategic pillars of MZUNI is on research and

innovation. The idea is to bring out new knowledge and innovations as a way of providing solutions to the challenges the country is facing. Such public lectures, therefore, give students and members of staff ideas to research on because we are expected to provide solutions to the many challenges the country is facing,” she said.



MACRA Director General Daud Suleman

OLD MUTUAL MATHEMATICS OLYMPIAD EMPOWERS SCHOOLS

MZUNI has reiterated that the Old Mutual Mathematics Olympiad will help students from under-resourced schools to do better in the national examinations.

The university’s Acting Director for the Centre of Open Distance and e-Learning, Lydia Kishindo-Mafuta said this during an awards presentation ceremony for Old Mutual Mathematics Olympiad which took place on Monday, 3rd March, 2025.

Mafuta said such competitions prepare students for tertiary education because mathematics is one of the subjects that enhances critical thinking requisite in tertiary institutions.

“The participation of CDSS’s is quite encouraging and we have seen students that have reached this far and yet people look down upon such schools. Their participation

shows that if we supported them, they can do better during national examinations,” she said.

Old Mutual Life Insurance Managing Director Mark Mikwamba said in the 2024/2025 season out of 122 schools that registered, 48 were CDSSs which he said is a significant rise.

“We would like to applaud all participating students because this is how big dreams start. Our wish that this number should keep growing as it aligns with our mission of helping individuals, communities and customers to thrive,” he said.

Princess Kanyatula, a form four student and the competition’s top female performer, expressed gratitude for the opportunity, saying it boosted her confidence in mathematics.

The overall winner was Precious Chikonde, a form four student from Magawa Secondary School in Mchinji.

A total of 237 students participated in this year’s Olympiad, which has been organised in collaboration with MZUNI since its inception in 2015.



Dr. Lydia Kishindo-Mafuta

MZUNI TECHNICIAN ATTENDS MALARIA CONFERENCE

Carol Tasiyano, who is Senior Laboratory Technician in Medical Entomology, attended the 20th RBM Vector Control Working Group Meeting which took place in Benin from March 3 – March 5, 2025.

During the conference, Tasiyano – who was the youngest presenter – presented on “The Efficacy of Different Mosquito Larvicides Used in America Vs Used in Africa” which was under the conference’s task team on Larval Source Management.

“My presentation generated significant interest, as it focused on larva source management as a novel tool in mosquito control. This approach is particularly relevant given the rising cases of insecticide resistance which is compromising the effectiveness of traditional vector control methods such as use of insecticide treated nets (ITNs) and Indoor residual spraying (IRS),” she said.

She said the bacteria-derived larvicides used in her study offer an environmentally safe solution for controlling *Anopheles gambiae* mosquito larvae, thereby reducing vector density.

Furthermore, discussions at the conference highlighted the promising potential of Chlofenapyr, a new insecticide used in IG2 mosquito nets, in decreasing malaria cases and deaths.



Carol Tasiyano, Senior Laboratory Technician in Medical Entomology

FACULTY OF TOURISM CONCLUDES GREEN JOBS TRAINING



The youths pose with facilitators after the training

The Faculty of Tourism, Hospitality and Management concluded the first phase of the Green Jobs Training on Saturday, 8th March, 2025 in Nkhatabay.

Project Manager and Lead for EcoTourism Emmanuel Banda urged the youth to utilise the skills and knowledge gained through establishment of small businesses or work in different establishments to support themselves and their families.

The faculty is working with Department of Energy Systems in implementing the Green Jobs for Adolescents and Youths with funding from Save the Children International targeting participants from Mzimba and Ntcheu.

The role of MZUNI is to train 190 youths in Mzimba and Ntcheu in renewable energy and ecotourism skills.

After successful training sessions in Ntcheu in December 2024, MZUNI organised training sessions in Nkhatabay for Mzimba youths. The Department of Energy Systems trained the youth from 17- 28th February, 2025. The Faculty of Tourism, Hospitality and Management conducted the trainings from 3rd to 8th March 2025 for 59 youths.

The youths were trained in food products, pastry and bakery, tour guiding, restaurant service and events decorations. The youth from both Ntcheu and Mzimba will undergo comprehensive practical sessions in their respective trades at the Skills Application Centre, Dunduzu campus in April 2025.

CANDIDATES UNDERTAKE PHD THESIS DEFENCE

On Friday, 7th March, 2025, two MZUNI students successfully defended their PhD Theses in the Faculty of Environmental Studies.

The two, Richard Zidana and George Ng’ambi, made their public defence which was attended by postgraduate students, members of staff, supervisors and assessors. Head of Department Agri-Sciences Dr. Frank Mnthambala said Thesis Defence was an important event in the University.

“The event validates doctoral candidate’s research journey and signifies the transition from student to scholar,” he said adding that the defence also provides a platform for

candidates to present and justify their research findings to a committee of experts, it allows for rigorous examination of the thesis and candidates receive constructive criticism and suggestions that can lead to enhancements in their research work.

In an interview, Ng’ambi said it was a fulfilling experience that ushered them into the world of fellow academicians.

“It was a worthwhile experience and the support that I have received from the university in this journey is a testimony that indeed MZUNI is one of the best research

institutions in Malawi,” said Ng’ambi whose thesis is titled *Political Economy of Public Finance Management in Livestock Development in Malawi*.



PhD Candidate George Ng’ambi

MKHAMANGA LEARNERS VISIT MZUNI

Learners from Nkhamanga Academy visited MZUNI on Thursday 6th March 2025.

The learners visited the Children’s Library and were given the opportunity to showcase their performances including drama.

Nkhamanga Academy was founded in 2022 by Louis Adamson Kapesa, a former student of Mzuzu University and MUSREC President. The school is located at Chibavi, in Mzuzu. “I learnt a lot from MZUNI. I am glad that apart from giving the young learners the chance to learn, I have also created jobs for teachers,” he said.

The visit was aimed at inspiring young learners to pursue their studies with passion and purpose.



Nkhamanga Academy learners pose for a group photograph

ATTORNEY GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGES MZUNI'S RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMES

The Attorney General Thabo Chakaka-Nyirenda has acknowledged MZUNI's responsive programmes that are addressing the country's needs.



Attorney General
Hon. Thabo Chakaka-Nyirenda

Speaking on Friday, 7th March 2025 during the Continuum Symposium organised by the Department of Language, Cultural, and Creative Studies under the theme "Language, Law Enforcement and Access to Justice," Honourable Chakaka-Nyirenda said the symposium was a celebration of the intersection of language and law which is a powerful confluence that shapes the understanding of

justice, development, and the collective ability to build a prosperous future for Malawi.

"Language is not just a tool of communication; it is the very essence of law itself. It is through language that laws are crafted, rights are articulated, and justice is sought. Yet, language can also become a barrier – creating divides between legal systems and the communities they are meant to serve," he said.

The Attorney General said the power of language is undeniable in law enforcement.

"The words chosen by officers during investigations, interviews, or public engagements can shape narratives and influence legal outcomes. A misplaced phrase or culturally insensitive expression can erode trust and escalate conflicts," he said.

Representing the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lydia Kishindo-Mafuta said MZUNI

continues to register milestones in coming up with academic programmes which are vital in strengthening the human resource capital necessary for the socio-economic development of the country.

"The Master of Applied Linguistics (Law Enforcement Discourse) has come at the right time when the issue of access to justice for all is a serious concern now that Malawi is enjoying the fruits of a democratic dispensation. The citizenry wants to see real justice being served in our courts," Kishindo-Mafuta said.

The symposium was also attended by Honourable Justice Dorothy nyaKaunda Kamanga (SC) who presented on "Examining Linguistic Issues in the Malawian Courtroom: A focus on Case Law" and, Northern Region Police Commissioner Richard Luhanga.



EVENTS AND UPDATES

- Two members of staff Marshal Shaba (Clinic Attendant) and Alinafe Nthakomwa (Porter) completed Customer Service Ethics and Attitudes Training at Chisanga Complex which was organised by TEVETA.
- MZUNI Football Team on Thursday 6th March, 2025 drew 0-0 against a Super League outfit Moyale Barracks. The game was played at MZUNI Football Ground. In Basketball, MZUNI Reserve 52 - 45 Pistons Reserve, MZUNI Hotshots 70 - 33 Moyale Ladies and MZUNI Panthers 55 - 54 Pistons Senior.
- MZUNI extends its heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Victor Mgomezulu from the Department of Teaching, Learning and Curriculum Studies who completed his tour of duty on February 28, 2025. His dedication and commitment to excellence in education have left a significant mark on both the University and the students.
- FAFASA and ODeLSA Elections which were supposed to take place on 6th March and 7th March, 2025 were postponed due to technical issues. New dates for the elections will be communicated in due course