



# MMUST NEWS

*Post*

A Weekly Digital Publication of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology

Vol. 3 Issue 10: 18<sup>th</sup> August- 14<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## SPECIAL TRIBUTE

# The Late Prof. B.C.C. Wangila



**UPCOMING**

**EVENTS**



**INSIDE**  
**MMUST Receives the**  
**Freshmen**



## Editor's Pen



Nashilluh Brendah Kabindio  
**Ag. Public Relations Officer  
/Chief Editor**

Greetings MMUST Community,

We bring issue ten of the MMUST NewsPost covering various events that have taken place at the University over a period of three weeks.

It has been a period of excitement having received new additions to the MMUST family; the fresh students. It has also been a period of mourning and sadness having lost the founding Vice Chancellor of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, Prof. B.C.C Wangila.

All in all, we thank you for keeping it with us to bring you events at the University. We continue to do our best.

Together, let us tell our stories.



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## Tribute to Professor B.C.C. Wangila: Founding Vice Chancellor, MMUST

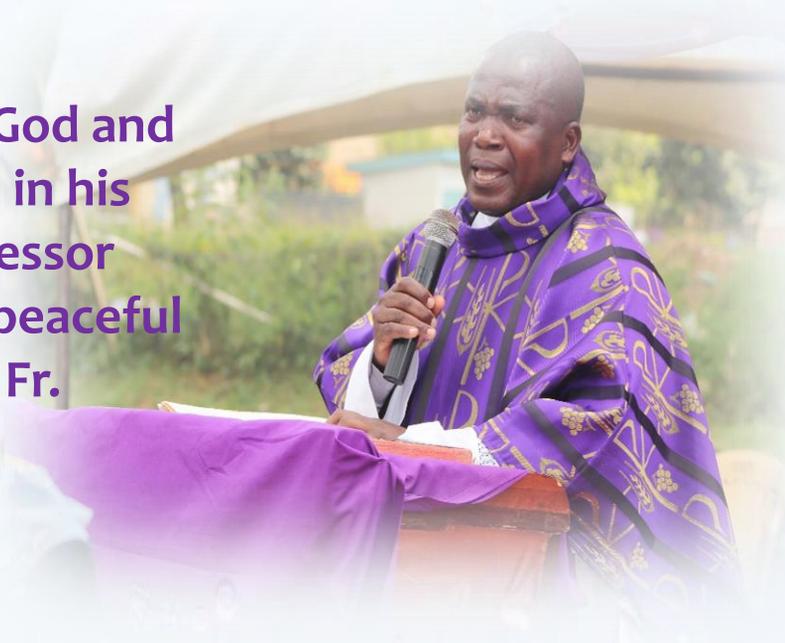
By Awuor Sandra Dorcas and Wambugu Mary Wangari

**A**

A sombre mood engulfed Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) when, on the night of Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> August 2019, the founding Vice Chancellor, Prof. B.C.C Wangila breathed his last at Aga Khan Hotel, Kisumu. Glowing tributes on the life and times of Prof. Wangila flowed with many referring to him as a person of humility, a mentor, jovial, wise, God fearing, peaceful and a great scholar. Current and past staff and students, as well as other stakeholders, were saddened by the passing away of Prof. Wangila fondly referred to as just 'BCC'. According to his family, the late was diagnosed with prostate cancer Stage 4 at the Aga Khan Hospital, Nairobi, in March 2018 and immediately began his treatment at Alexandria Cancer Centre, Eldoret. His health improved but started to worsen in mid 2019.

The University organized a requiem mass for the late Professor on Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at the University's Graduation Square. To pay him his last respects, members of the academia dressed in their academic regalia and escorted his body from the Main Gate of the University to the venue of the service. The requiem mass was led by Fr. Dr. Kizito Muchanga, in conjunction with the Kakamega Catholic Church where the deceased once served. As stated by Fr. Kizito, Prof. Wangila was a man of God.

**“He knew God and served him in his work. Professor has died a peaceful Christian,” Fr. Kizito.**



He further stated that the late fed many people and even helped some secure jobs. He described him as a humble man who had a good relationship with people; the young and old.

“Relate well with others so that they can benefit from you. God will evaluate us from the otherness,” Fr. Kizito advised.

Prof. Sibilike Makhanu, who served as the DVC for Administration and Finance during Prof. Wangila's tenure, said the late don shaped his character in terms of work ethics and humility.

Prof. Charles Mutai, representing the Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Asenath Sigot, said that the late Prof. Wangila loved teaching and undertaking research.

“He was always true to his word. His death has left a big gap,” he said.

The late scholar's wife, Mrs. Violet Nafula Barasa, eulogised him as a patient and loving father who always gave her hope. She thanked MMUST fraternity and members of the church for their support and prayers.

Prof. Wangila played a major role as a pioneer Vice Chancellor of the University in laying the foundation of the success of MMUST. He was responsible for execution of major programmes and projects at the University. Additionally, he was one of the full professors at MMUST.

Prof. Wangila was later laid to rest on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at his home in Kitayi Village, Bungoma County.

***Below: A procession escorting the remains of Prof. B.C.C Wangila to the University***



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**ABOVE: 1. The Widow Mama Violet Barasa receives comfort from the Women of the Church 2. Dr. Fernando Barasa (Son of the Late Prof. Wangila) condoles besides his mother 3. The Family of the Late Professor 4. Prof. Charles Mutai gives his Final respect 5. A moment of Silence. 6. Prof. Thomas Sakwa in his own words of remembrance.**



**ABOVE: Members of MMUST Community join the Family, the Clergy and a Host of Mourners to give their Final respect to the Founding Vice Chancellor the Late Prof. B. C. C. Wangila at The University Graduation Square**

# MMUST admits over 3,000 Freshmen for the 2019/2020 Academic Year

By Awuor Sandra Dorcas and Wambugu Mary Wangari

Over 3,000 newly admitted fresh students of Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST), reported on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> August 2019, for the 2019/2020 academic year. Registration venues were opened as early as 8:00 am.

By 11:30 am, most stations, had registered about 80% of students, thanks to the new mode of registration which decentralised the exercise to each School, and the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, which has reduced manual work such as hostel booking. Reporting and registration continued to Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2019 at the same venues. Some of the parents, guardians and students, especially those who had travelled from far, arrived a day prior to the admission day and were accommodated within the Main Campus. The MMUST NewsPost team talked to some of the parents to get their views on the admission process and services at the University on admission day.

### Ruth Auma,

Ruth Auma, a First Year student and a resident of Homabay County, enrolled for a Bachelor of Science in Economics. She said that she chose MMUST because of the good things she heard from peers, family and friends. A team from MMUST also visited her high school and that encouraged her to join the institution. When asked about her first impression of the University, she said, “I expected the University to be small but to my surprise, it’s very big and there are many buildings.”



*Ruth Auma and her father, David Ochieng', rest after submitting the entrance medical examination Form MMU/5 at the University Clinic.*

### Juma Carlos Baraka

According to Juma Baraka and his mother, they arrived at the University from Bungoma at around 8am and were immediately welcomed and given directions by security officers at the gate. “Things here are more organized compared to other universities I have been to. The systems were fast,” said Juma’s mother.

Juma expressed his enthusiasm in taking a Bachelor of Education (Science) at MMUST, adding that he chose MMUST because of its good academic reputation.



*Juma Carlos Baraka sits with his mother after clearing all registration and admission processes to join the University.*

## Orientation



The First Year students went through orientation, which began on Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019 and ended on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 with the Ag. Vice Chancellor's address at the Graduation Square. The Office of the Dean of Students took the students through student welfare issues such as alcohol and substance abuse, relationships and peer pressure. Matters concerning students' personal security and safety were also discussed. On Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019, the fresh students attended an interdenominational service, which was led by Fr. Dr. Kizito Muchanga.

The Acting Registrar (AA), Prof T. Sakwa, addressed academic issues such as University rules and regulations for Examinations, academic programmes and fees. On the other hand, the Registrar (Administration) talked to the students concerning administrative matters. Led by the Ag. University Librarian, students were given a tour of the University Library, marking the end of the orientation exercise for Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019.

On Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019, the first year students were addressed by respective teaching staff of the eleven (11) schools in order to acquaint themselves with their Deans and lecturers. There were different venues for each school to meet its students. The orientation exercise also included introductory remarks by different Directors, who gave brief explanations of what each of their sections entail and their importance in the students' academic journey. The students were also talked to about personal financial management in order for them to get guidance on how to use their pocket money responsibly. Apart from this, there was an address by Dr. Beatrice Barasa on the role of Higher Education Loans Board (HELB) in financing higher education.

## Vice Chancellor's Address

The climax of the one-week orientation exercise was marked by the much anticipated address by the Ag. Vice Chancellor.

The Acting DVC (PRI), Prof. Charles Mutai, advised the students to avoid distractions. He added that it is important for the students to remember their backgrounds and make good decisions. He further welcomed the international students from University of Oulu, Finland.

Prof. Charles Mutai read a speech on behalf of the Acting Vice Chancellor. In the speech, Prof. Asenath Sigot congratulated the first year students and thanked them for choosing MMUST. She advised the freshmen to take responsibility for their actions and extend learning beyond lecture halls. In addition, Prof. Sigot encouraged the students to form strong collaborative relationships with peers and focus on academics, which is the primary reason for them joining the University.



# **MMUST Teaching Staff Undergo TVET CDACC Training in Competence-Based Assessment**

**By Awuor Sandra Dorcas**

**M** Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) members of staff, through the Directorate of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) at the institution, went through training in Competency Based Assessment (CBA) on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2019.

The CBA training, which was carried out by representatives from the TVET Curriculum Development, Assessment and Certification Council (TVET CDACC), laid emphasis on competence based education and training given that the competence based curriculum is already rolled out in training institutions.

MMUST Ag. DVC (ASA), Dr. Bernadette Sabuni said that the University is aware that Kenya is experiencing increasing unemployment among youths and that the quality of outcomes of the current tertiary education system is low and unable to respond to the expectations of employers. She added that a large number of individuals in Kenya develop skills through the traditional apprentice programmes, for which they obtain no certification and hence no formal recognition of their competences.

“The University is of the view that this can be resolved by the introduction of Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) approach. This is an outcome based, and industry centered and flexible mode of training delivery where the emphasis is placed on the acquisition of competencies,” she said.

Dr. Sabuni, who spoke on behalf of the Ag.VC, Prof. Asenath Sigot, said that MMUST is committed to supporting the capacity building of its lecturers and instructors in the area of Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) and Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) with special emphasis on the tertiary education sub-sector. She thanked the TVET Curriculum Development, Assessment and Certification Council (TVET CDACC) for supporting the University in building the capacity of its staff to fully participate in CBET. Additionally, she said that the University is looking forward to partnering with TVET CDACC to deliver sound TVET programs, based on the CBET approach, in Western region and beyond.

Speaking during the training, the Director of TVET at MMUST, Dr. Samuel Waweru, said that the Ministry of Education identified Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology (MMUST) as a technical University in 2015 with the mandate of offering TVET programmes (undergraduate, diploma and certificate). He added that the University has gone ahead to admit students in various TVET programmes which were approved by the University Senate and accredited by TVETA in the year 2016.

**“Close to 2,000 students are undertaking these programmes in MMUST. More programmes are in the pipeline for submission and accreditation by TVETA,” Dr. Waweru**

Dr. Waweru added that the CBA training by CDACC was meant to equip MMUST members of staff who are coordinating the TVET programmes in their respective Schools and Departments with knowledge and skills on how to implement Competency Based Education and Training (CBET) in MMUST.

“These staff members will act as our ambassadors in the Departments and will assist in curriculum development of CBET programmes and in the implementation process. I, therefore, wish to thank the TVET Curriculum Development, Assessment and Certification Council (TVET CDACC) for supporting the University in preparing for the implementation of the CBET curriculum,” he concluded.

TVET CDACC linkage with TVET institutions such as MMUST is important in ensuring training institutions provide competent staff, establishment of training needs by carrying out training needs assessments, providing necessary tools, equipment and materials, management of trainees’ records and assisting in the development and acquisition of training materials.

Mr. Ronald Kimitei, a TVET CDACC secretariat, said that the training was meant to ensure development of TVET Curriculum effectively, make TVET programmes more practice-based, conduct competence based assessment and train TVET trainers and other stakeholders on how to conduct competency based assessment. He said that CBET also focuses on what trainees are expected to do rather than just acquisition of knowledge and attitudes. Mr. Kimitei added that implementation of competence based curriculum will improve employability and competency of TVET graduates and contribute towards attainment of BIG 4 Agenda and Vision 2030.



*Members of staff taking part in development of assessment tools exercise during TVET CDACC training in competence based assessment (CBA).*

Ms. Lucy Okwiki from TVET CDACC, said that there is need for training institutions to work hand in hand with industries in order to come up with occupational standards. She said that occupational standards provide a good practice framework outlining benchmarks against which performance can be assessed. In addition, she emphasized that occupational standards are important in directing curriculum development, specification of competences which workers need to possess, certification of workers, directing professional development within the workforce, set quality standards within sectors and occupations among others. The interactive training workshop involved faculty from different trade areas, with training focusing on development of assessment tools and how to conduct competent based assessment, in order for them to be both internal and external assessors.

TVET CDACC has the mandate of undertaking design and development of curricula for the training institutions' examination, assessment and competence certification. TVET CDACC has developed over 200 curricula and occupational standards in fields such as agri-preneurship, airport operations, beauty therapy, broadcast journalism, Christian ministry, cyber security, fashion design, front office operations, baking technology among others. The Council also awards certificates to individuals who have gone through training in competence based assessment.

Left to Right: Ag. VC. Prof. A Sigot, Ag. Registrar (AA) Prof. Sakwa, Mr. welton Keya pose alongside the donation



## MMUST's Welton Keya Donates Colour Drum Printer worth KES. 250,000

By Wambugu Mary Wangari

**T**he Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology community, led by the Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof. Asenath Sigot, and the Acting Registrar (Academic Affairs), Prof. Thomas Sakwa, would like to thank Mr. Welton Odenyo Keya for his kind gesture of donating a Colour Drum printer worth Kshs. 250,000.

Mr. Welton, who has been working for MMUST at the Examinations section since 2005, received the Drum as a reward from the MFI Company for helping it sell many of its machines. The Drum will be used in the Duplo DP-J450 Duprinter machine to produce examination papers in the University.

According to Mr. Welton, the printer has the ability to produce up to ten (10) million copies in its lifetime. It has a maximum speed of 125 copies per minute and a minimum of 60 copies per minute. Prof. Sakwa said that the Drum will ease the cost of paper production in MMUST.

## Linet hawks boiled Eggs and *Smokies* and its Earning...



**Photo: Linet Akumu goes about her business of satisfying Clients**

Other than registration of students on admission day, a lot of other activities were going on in the University compound. Business men and women had displayed their products and services ready to sell them to the new members. However, the story of Linet Akumu, a 4<sup>th</sup> year student at MMUST, who sells *smokies* and eggs to make ends meet, caught our attention.

Linet, a student pursuing a Bachelor of Technology Education (Computer Studies) at MMUST, hawks *smokies* and eggs within Kakamega Town in order to raise funds for her pocket money. She says that her *smokie* business enables her to also partly pay her fees. Linet, who comes from Siaya, stays with her sister who sells clothes in town. According to Linet, she has been able to buy another trolley which she has rented out and gets 100/= daily.



## MMUST RFC Declared Fan Favorites as the 2019 National 7s Circuit Comes to a Close.

By Real Nyambane

Six Legs, over 30 matches at the Division I National Sevens Circuit is all it took for the young, fast rising university team to be declared the 2019 fans popular team of the Tournament-MMUST RFC!

The Tournament which kicked off on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2019 with the Kakamega 7s saw the gallant boys make it to the Quarter finals four times and falling for the challenge cup at the Christie 7s (Nairobi) on 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2019 and the Driftwood 7s (Mombasa) on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2019. The team garnered a total of 50 points overall top of the old giants in Kenya Rugby Union; Kabras Sugar, Kenya Harlequins, Mean Machine, Blac Blad, Strathmore and many more.

At the Driftwood 7s, MMUST was pooled against the Kenya Cup winners KCB, Kenya Harlequins and Administration police.

In the opening match, the obviously fatigued varsity boys went down 17-31 to Kenya Harlequins. Two tries from winger Claus Shirievo and one by Felix Wamocho were crowned by one conversion from John Bahati-all this did not salvage the situation for the opening match of the Mombasa leg.

In the second match of the day, MMUST walloped Administration police 14-8 to keep the quarter finals dream alive with one match against the KCB Champions. Captain Samwel Mbeche broke the deadlock with a try which went with successful conversion from the fly half Nobert Lumbwani as the policemen gained a penalty kick advantage before the break. In the second half, “veteran” left side winger Elvis Amunya sunk the Administration Police with a try converted by Nobert Lumbwani.



*Above: KCB defend against a charging MMUST RFC forward line*

The final match of the day saw MMUST face the star studded top seeded KCB which saw off the varsity boys fall to a 12-22 defeat condemning them to the Challenge cup. At the challenge cup Quarter finals, MMUST RFC beat Mombasa 17-07 to proceed to the Challenge cup semi finals.

## Challenge Cup semi Finals

The Challenge Cup semis was to be the final match of the Sevens season for the young side meeting the Kenya Cup giants Mwamba RFC. A highly tensed match that finally ended 17-12 in favour of the Mwamba side was an elegant display of tactic, reaction and speed. Claus Shirievo was the first to draw blood from the Mwamba big boys. A successful conversion from John Bahati made it 7-0. The experienced side Mwamba would come back with two successive tries to make it 7-10 at half time. Collins Injera captained Mwamba would land an opening try at the second half with a successful conversion from the Kenyan International to stretch the lead to 7-17.

A final try by John Bahati in the dying moments of the 14 minutes was not enough to salvage the varsity boys dream of lifting the Driftwoods Challenge Trophy as the curtains fell for the rat race 2019 National 7s Circuit.

MMUST Vice Captain Kevin Abuga applauded the team for the agility throught the 7s circuit-winning the overall Kenya Universities Championship and giving the experienced Kenya Rugby Union teams a run to finish Position 8 overall.

He asked the team to remain focused as they take a two months break before the start of the 15-aside Championship late October.





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