



UNZA Newsletter

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**State of The
University Address
By Vice-Chancellor**

"52 Years of Service and Excellence"

Vice-Chancellor Delivers 2018 State of the University Address, Launches 3 Campaigns

The University of Zambia (UNZA), Vice-Chancellor Prof. Luke Mumba, says the University recognises the importance of research not only as a way to inform teaching and knowledge creation but also as a tool required to contribute to solving many challenges that society faces. And Prof Mumba indicated that UNZA was closing the year 2018 in a firm position as the leading provider of higher education in Zambia and that the institution's desire was to be counted among the top universities in Africa.

"Our vision to achieve this is clearly guided in the 2018 – 2022 strategic plan which we launched in April this year," he said.

Speaking during the 4th quarter press briefing where he outlined the successes and challenges encountered by the University in 2018, Prof Mumba said the University had recorded a significant impact with regards to research output in 2018.

"I am pleased to announce that in 2018, our research output in the Scopus database hosted by Elsevier totalled 307 publications compared to 268 in 2017. Take note that this research output is only from one database, we are hopeful that we are going to do more in 2019," he said.

Outlining some of the achievements recorded in 2018, Prof Luke Mumba reported that UNZA had opened three Centres of Excellence namely the Digital Belt and Road (DBAR) Centre of Excellence leading in Food Security and Agriculture hosted by the School of Agricultural Sciences.



UNZA Vice Chancellor delivering his speech during the press briefing at Senate Chamber on 12th December 2018.

The second Centre of Excellence is the Africa Centre of Excellence for Infectious Diseases of Humans and Animals (ACEIDHA) sponsored by the World Bank Project for Eastern and Southern Higher Education Centres of Excellence Initiative under the School of Veterinary Medicine.

"Through this US\$6 Million project, we are training 20 PhD and 80 MSc students to develop a critical mass of skilled human resources to both the private and public sector," he said.

He also added that the University was strengthening linkages with local, regional and international institutions by developing advocacy programs for the community and policy formulation as well as developing infectious disease countermeasures.

Prof. Luke Mumba said the third Centre of Excellence was the Agricultural Technology Demonstration Centre (ATDC) at Liempe Farm where the University was championing the development of mushroom, various climate resilient crops and village chicken production.

"This is a Centre of Excellence we are running in collaboration with our partner University in China – Jilin Agricultural University," he said.

Prof Luke Mumba further revealed that the University had registered a special purpose vehicle called UNZA Investment Holdings, which would begin operations in 2019.

"This entity will be our hub for operating our commercial activities purely on business lines," he said.

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Vice-Chancellor Delivers 2018 State of the University Address, Launches 3 Campaigns - *Continued*

With regards to projects being implemented by the University in a bid to improve its operations and build its business portfolio, Prof Luke Mumba indicated that the University would construct two new and modern lecture theatres at a total cost of US \$ 2 Million with an estimated sitting capacity of between 400 to 450 students. He also revealed that the bidder had been selected and was waiting for contractual obligation formalities before the construction works could commence in 2019.

He said that the second project was the setup of a Maize Milling and Processing Plant at the University of Zambia's Liempe Farm.

"I am also delighted to mention that with regards to the operations of ATDC, Government of the Republic of Zambia in partnership with the Government of the People's Republic of China finalised an agreement to set up a Maize Milling and Processing Plant at the Centre on UNZA's Liempe farm.



UNZA VC, Prof. Luke Mumba (middle), DVC, Prof. Enala Tembo-Mwase (left) and Registrar, Mr Sitali Wamundila (right) during the press briefing in Senate Chamber.

The plant will have the capacity to process 40 tons of maize in a day. This investment once established will be used by UNZA to strengthen the ability of the ATDC to be self-sustaining. Additionally, the plant will be used for teaching and research purposes in food science. The Maize Milling and Processing Plant will also provide the important forward and backward linkages with our farmers, on the one hand, the labour market and the commercial sector," he said.

Prof. Luke Mumba said the Maize Milling and Processing Plant was important to UNZA as it was a major contribution towards fostering the warm bilateral ties between China and Zambia.

With reference to the Alumni Relations and Advancement activities, Prof Mumba thanked the corporate sector and the general public for the support they have continued to render towards UNZA's fundraising efforts for infrastructure development, research and scholarships.

"I am delighted to announce the launch of three major campaigns under UNZA Alumni Relations and Advancement operation to which you can render your support. The first one is a K100 Project Campaign, the second is the Buy a Brick Campaign and the third is Adopt a Hostel Campaign," he said.

He said the focus of the first campaign was to raise funds for the construction of the Multi-purpose Teaching and Learning Centre, the second was a vehicle for fundraising resources to cover the construction of a fence around the University and to provide a pool of funds for all block works

aimed at expanding teaching and learning infrastructure at UNZA while the third campaign was aimed at bringing the University hostels to a good state of repair.

"We are once again appealing to our alumni out there and all our well-wishers: let us make the nation's leading University a source of great national pride. We can make our contributions in the smallest way which together will make a huge difference. All we are asking for from each one of us around the Country is a modest contribution of K3.5n," he said.

Prof Luke Mumba further said that the 2018/19 Adopt the Hostel Campaign was under the theme "Delivering Better Water and Sanitation to the University Hostels" and that in this campaign UNZA was seeking to raise Six Million Kwacha .

In addition, Prof Luke Mumba indicated that besides the three campaigns, UNZA would be opening an Alumni Store at the East Park Mall.

"On behalf of the Alumni Board and the University Community, it is now my honour to launch the Buy a Brick Campaign, the Adopt a Hostel Campaign and the K100 Project Campaign.

The key challenge we have is to gain the support of everyone. I, therefore, make an earnest appeal that everyone out there including our corporate sector to stand with us as we promote the turnaround of UNZA's infrastructure for teaching and learning," he said.

Please take note that you can access the full speech delivered by the VC on UNZA website and the Facebook page.

VISION

An Eminent University Driven by Pursuit of Knowledge, Innovation and Social Responsiveness

MISSION

To provide relevant, innovative and demand-driven higher education for socio-economic development.

CORE VALUES

- ◆ Academic Freedom
- ◆ Accountability
- ◆ Equity
- ◆ Excellence
- ◆ Green Environment
- ◆ Innovation
- ◆ Integrity

EDITORIAL TEAM

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Solar Energy Centre Project at the University of Zambia Thrills Minister of Energy

The increase in the use of renewable energy such as solar off-grid technology will not only cushion the nation from the adverse effects of climate change but can also act as a catalyst for enhancing rural development the Minister of Energy, Hon. Matthew Nkhuwa, MP, has said.

Speaking during the official launch of the Solar Energy Centre (SEC) at the University of Zambia (UNZA) on Thursday, 22nd November 2018, Mr Nkhuwa observed that Zambia was endowed with a wide range of energy and resources including woodlands and forests, hydropower, solar and others which could be used to improve people's standard of living.

Hon. Nkhuwa observed that with the national electrification rate still as low as 31.4% in urban and 4.4% rural areas, the idea by UNZA to introduce solar energy was timely. He said solar energy, if well established and rolled out in rural areas, would help to improve the accessibility of better education, health services, information and an increase in productivity especially among women.

In addition, Mr. Nkhuwa said the idea by UNZA to set up a solar energy centre was a positive move, which would greatly contribute to Zambia's achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Number 7 on Affordable and Clean Energy.

And Chinese Ambassador to Zambia, His Excellency, Mr Li Jie, said he was confident that the Solar Energy Centre of Excellence would take full use of its training, testing and demonstration functions of solar technology to strengthen the research capacity of UNZA. Ambassador Li said he was glad that SEC was one of the successful examples of trilateral cooperation between China, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Zambian Government. Ambassador Li further observed that the promotion of renewable energy technology in Zambia would help to meet the rural electrification target rate of 50% by 2039.

Meanwhile at the same function, the UNDP Country Director, Ms. Janet Rogan, in a speech read on her behalf by the UNDP Resident Coordinator, Ms Mandisa Mashologu, said UNDP's focus was on three main issues which were inherently inter-linked: the importance of youth involvement in promotion of sustainable development, learning from other countries through South cooperation and the role of renewable energy in sustainable development.



Minister of Energy, Hon. Matthew Nkhuwa, MP (2nd left) with Italian Ambassador to Zambia, His Excellence, Filippo Scammacca (left), UNDP Resident Coordinator, Ms. Mandisa Mashologu (right), UNZA Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Luke Mumba (2nd right) during the launch of the Solar Energy Centre at UNZA, Main Campus on Thursday, 22nd November 2018.

Ms Mashologu reiterated that the renewable energy sources were key to providing off grid solutions especially for rural areas. He said Zambia's renewable energy away from the large hydro power, was very nascent.

And UNZA Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Luke Mumba, said Zambia was well endowed with solar energy and that this type of energy was sustainable for use because it does not cause pollution.

Prof. Mumba further said Zambia was well suited for solar energy because of its large land mass and scattered population. He added that the setting up of the solar energy centre was timely as this initiative demonstrated how academicians could successfully collaborate with industry and private sector in order to bring tangible benefits to society.



Delegates from various institutions listening during the launch of the Solar Energy Centre at UNZA.

Shimabala Farmer Cooperatives in Planters Boost



Founding Chinese Director of ATDC Zambia, Prof. Heping Bao (middle), Kafue District Senior Agriculture Officer, Ms Monica Mulenga (2nd right) and UNZA Director for ATDC, Dr Mick Mwala (right) handing over a planter to one of the cooperative representative.

By Mary M. Maambo

The Zambia Agricultural Technology Demonstration Centre (ATDC) which is operated and managed jointly by the University of Zambia (UNZA) and Jilin Agricultural University in China recently demonstrated maize and soya-bean planting techniques using small-scale appropriate equipment (planters) to five (5) farmer cooperatives in Shimabala in Kafue district.

Speaking during the handover ceremony, ATDC Founding Chinese Director, Prof. Heping Bao, said he was confident that the planters would make a huge difference in the planting process as it was convenient and cost-effective.



Prof Heping Bao (left) and the team demonstrating to the farmers how to use the planter in Shimabala area in Kafue District

Prof Heping said some among the benefits of using the planters were that planting was easy and fast.

“The convenience is that these planters are divided into two parts which take seed and fertilizer at the same time, low cost as the amount of seed and fertilizer can be regulated and also helps to manage the uniformity of the space in between the plants,” he said.

Prof Heping added that he was confident that the use of the planters would improve the yields, especially for maize and Soya beans.

And at the same function, UNZA Director for ATDC, Dr Mick Mwala said he was impressed at the willingness of farmers to embrace new technologies which would help to improve their yields. Dr Mwala encouraged the representatives from the cooperatives to share the good news with other cooperatives about the benefits of using the new technology in farming. He indicated that Kafue was the first site where the planters were being tested before being taken to other areas in the country.

Meanwhile, Kafue District Senior Agriculture Officer, Ms Monica Mulenga, advised farmers to take advantage of the new invention by ATDC and improve their yields in the coming farming seasons. Meanwhile, Camp Agriculture Committee (CAC) Chairperson, Mrs Christine Tembo Singoyi, thanked ATDC for the kind gesture and pledged to put the machines to good use.

“As beneficiaries of these machines we are happy and we are positive that these planters will help to end many challenges farmers have been facing during planting,” she said.

ATDC’s main target is to promote technologies suitable for rural farmers especially women to enable them to improve on food security, income generation (wealth creation) and employment (through value addition aspects).

The project is also targeting the youth by introducing user-friendly and attractive technologies, which would encourage the youth to embrace agriculture as a way of living. ATDC is committed to providing relevant agricultural technologies through the generation and/or acquisition, Demonstrate/test technologies for small-scale farmers in Zambia and Scale-out (through outreach) technologies to farmers, commercialize relevant technologies for income generation.

UNZA Graduates 55 ZNS Officers

... as the University kick starts its 48th Graduation Ceremonies



UNZA Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Enala Tembo-Mwase (left) handing over Certificates to Defence and Security officers during the 48th Graduation Ceremony held at ZNS Bouquet Hall, Chamba Valley in Lusaka on Wednesday, 28th November 2018.

ZNS graduands at the 48th UNZA Graduation Ceremony at ZNS Bouquet Hall, Chamba Valley in Lusaka on Wednesday, 28th November 2018.



UNZA, HUNNU partner in postgraduate training



UNZA Vice-Chancellor Prof. Luke Mumba (seated, left), and HUNNU Vice-President, Prof. Li Dazhi (seated, right), pose for a photo with officials from both Universities after signing the Memorandum of Agreement.

“It is expected that the first cohort of six (6) students from UNZA would begin their studies under this agreement in September 2019.”



Chairman of the HUNNU Council, Prof. Li Min, exchanging a token of bilateral collaboration UNZA Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Luke Mumba (left).

The University of Zambia (UNZA) has entered into a strategic alliance with Hunan Normal University (HUNNU) to support postgraduate training in Chinese language under the Confucius Institute.

Speaking at the signing ceremony on 29th November 2018 at HUNNU in Changsha – Hunan Province, China, UNZA Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Luke Mumba, said the agreement would go a long way in meeting the demand for postgraduate trained Chinese teachers at UNZA and at national level.

Prof Mumba said that in the newly signed agreement, HUNNU would design the teaching plan for the Chinese language postgraduate programme and facilitate the Chinese Government Scholarships for postgraduate students from the University of Zambia.

“It is expected that the first cohort of six (6) students from UNZA would begin their studies under this agreement in September 2019,” he said.

And HUNNU Vice-President, Prof. Li Dazhi, said HUNNU was the leading Provincial University in Hunan Province founded in 1938 and has a total of 36,000 students supported by 1,800 staff. He said the University has over 1,000 international students from 172 international exchange programmes and partnerships from 41 Countries.

“HUNNU currently runs three Confucius Institutes in Russia, the United States of America and South Korea,” he said.

63 Students Receive Commendation Letters For Voluntary Service

By Public Relations

The School of Education has recognised 63 students for their outstanding and distinguished voluntary service to the University and the surrounding community in the City of Lusaka by giving them letters of commendation.

Speaking when he handed over commendation letters to students, Dean School of Education, Dr Bentry Nkhata, said that the exemplary service rendered by the students on a voluntary basis was an important gesture worthy appreciating.

He said that the University tradition for a long time had been that of recognising students who were outstanding academically. However, the School of Education had taken an initiative to extend the acclamation to students who have sacrificed their time amid academic pressure to do community service.

Dr Nkhata said that he had been impressed by the spirit exhibited by the students in the School of Education to offer voluntary service whenever there was need or crisis. He recounted that last rain season when the City of Lusaka experienced an outbreak of cholera students from the School of Education offered to clean some parts of the City among others, Misisi compound.

Dr Nkhata said that within the University community, the School of Education had been spearheading the cleaning exercise long before the University Management made it a policy for everyone to participate.

And University of Zambia School of Education Association President, Harrington Thole, commended the School of Education for recognising the student's efforts. He observed that the desire of the students to work without monetary reward was an indication of selflessness and sacrifice, which would even help them to fit in society.



Dean School of Education, Dr Bentry Nkhata (2nd right) joined by the immediate past Dean, Dr. Oswell Chakulimba (far right), hands out letters of Commendation to students during the award-giving ceremony.



Dean and Members of Staff and students pose for the group photo after the ceremony

“These are the students who members for the positive spirit have dared to make a difference and had appealed to the University in the University community. Notwithstanding the fact that they are here for studies they have always found time to respond to community service both within and outside the University at no cost,” he said.

Mr Thole commended his

community to emulate what the School of Education was doing. I wish to take this opportunity to encourage everyone in the University to participate in making our environment clean and healthy. It is our responsibility,” he said.

UNZA Strikes Deal with Zambia ICT College

Friday, 14th of December, 2018 was a landmark for the School of Education and the Department of Advisory Unit for Colleges of Education as the school witnessed the signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the University of Zambia (UNZA) and Zambia Information and Communication Technology College (ZICT) of Ndola which falls under the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

The signing ceremony was graced by the Minister of Transport and Communications, Hon. Brian Mushimba who was represented by the Director of Communication at the Ministry of Transport and Communication, Ms Susanna Niinivaara, while UNZA Vice Chancellor Prof. Luke Mumba signed on behalf of UNZA.

The Senate of the University of Zambia through the School of Education approved/affiliated two degree programs for ZICT College namely: Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) with education for In-service teachers and Bachelor of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) with Education. The two programs were affiliated in September this year and will be underwritten by the University of Zambia. The college has already enrolled students in the two degree programs who have just completed the first year of study.

The signing of the MoU comes at a time when UNZA is moving towards creating a fully-fledged 100% virtual University in the coming three years whose objectives of ICT are:- To train academic staff in various applications, card payments system, E-tutorials, SMS systems Google Docs for elaborative research, data storage through Google drive for efficiency and effectiveness, Educate students on the available academic applications and the card payment systems in order to minimize queues during student's registration, to bring awareness of the various ICT applications available at CICT as well as Help improve Personal Cyber-security Safety.

ICTs have created a global educational revolution by providing modern and dynamic methods of delivering educational content to students.



UNZA Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Luke Mumba (right) and Zambia ICT College Executive Director, Mr Betty Shitima Bweupe signing the MoU in Ndola.



UNZA Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Luke Mumba (2nd left) pose for a group photo with Zambia ICT College Executive Director, Mrs Betty Shitima Bweupe (middle), Dean, School of Education, Dr. Bentry Nkhata (right) and Head of Department of Advisory Unit for Colleges of Education, Dr Tomaida Milingo (2nd right) in Ndola.