

KYAMBOGO UNIVERSITY

MORE INNOVATIONS

Kyambogo University To Launch Bakery And Business Incubation Center

Kyambogo University is proud to be part of the higher education in science and technology (HEST) project. HEST is implemented by government of Uganda, through Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Sports (MoESTS) with funding from African Development Bank (AfDB). This five (5) year project ending in June 2018 is being implemented in eight (8) public Universities and aims to contribute to building Uganda's human capital skills particularly in Higher Education, Science and Technology (HEST) and to respond to labor market demands and spur national productivity.

Kyambogo University is grateful to Private Sector Foundation Uganda (PSFU) for providing facilitation and technical support to the project. At Kyambogo University, the project is worth USD 24 million and has profoundly supported construction, rehabilitation and external works of:

- Central Library with Virtual Capabilities
- Renovation of eight (8) blocks of Engineering Laboratories & Workshops
- New block Engineering Laboratories & Workshops comprising 18 workshops/laboratories
- Central Teaching Facilities with a sitting capacity of 3000 students

- Technical Teacher Education (TTE) & Capacity improvement Facility
- Central Multipurpose Science Laboratory

Part of this project includes enhancement of Research and Industrial Linkages for Science & Technology (Business Incubation Centre, BIC). The BIC comprises of a specialized bakery, research laboratory and a state-of-the-art business incubation center. The facility will support young persons and the general public to promote skills and entrepreneurship development and aims to contribute to income generation for the University. The Center will enhance academic and non-academic partnerships for the University at national, regional and international levels through research and innovations, promote technology development and demonstration, as well as provide solutions to common challenges affecting the baking industry in Uganda, more especially for small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

According to the Vice Chancellor of Kyambogo University, Prof. Eli Katunguka - Rwakishaya, the Business Incubation Center aims to

1. Provide UNIQUE quality bakery and confectionery products to the university and general public
2. Stimulate business startups in baking and

- confectionery
3. Stimulate student learning & innovation and provide apprenticeship opportunities for KyU student community
4. Provide a platform for translating University research into practical business solutions
5. Provide a source of revenue for the University

Prof. Katunguka noted that effective operation of the Center through production of high value added products is certainly going to promote economic development in Uganda through job creation and is therefore one of the desirable University innovations in the frame of policies for a viable bio-based Ugandan economy. He is proud to reveal that the project is geared to be one of the success stories of the University because of the high demand for bakery and confectionery products, availability of raw materials, and high interest by staff and students. In fact, the University Management has already put in place a strong team of competent staff led by Dr. Edrisa Mugampoza, a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Food Technology, to manage the Center. The staff will be supported by a 10-man technical working committee chaired by Mr. Apollo Segawa, the Director of CURAD and an authority in operations of Business Incubation Centers.

In the long run, the BIC will expand to support incubation of other sectors including meat & dairy value chains in order to promote the much needed knowledge/ technology transfer between the University and the Ugandan communities which is in line with the University Mission "To advance and promote knowledge and development of skills in Science, Technology and Education, and in such other fields having regards for quality, equity, progress and transformation of society".

According to Prof. Katunguka, construction of the Business Incubation Center is scheduled to be complete by January 2018 and the Center will be launched early February 2018 in order to kick-start these planned activities. Application are ongoing for persons with innovative ideas that can be nurtured into viable enterprises in the area of baking and confectionery. For further information about the Business Incubation Center, please visit our website: www.kyu.ac.ug or please call Dr. Mugampoza on 0781-713 555. With this project, Uganda stands to benefit from the research outputs by maximizing the economic value of locally available raw materials and reduction in utilization of imported wheat for production of bakery and confectionery products.

Kyambogo Hosts International Conferences in Education

Universities are research institutions that must focus on the challenges in the community and create solutions to solve them. Knowledge created must be disseminated to the intended beneficiary in a timely and more organized manner. One of the ways in which a university can be regarded as a knowledge creation hub is the way in which it is able to disseminate knowledge generated from within. Any research that is never disseminated to the intended consumers remain as mere notes that will even make no meaning to the producers. One way of disseminating research information for the wider community is through hosting of International conferences. People will choose to come to a conference if they believe in the quality of the information that is to be shared in such conferences. Kyambogo University is gaining more ground in exposure to the international community through international conferences

hosted at the campus. This year 2017, KyU has had the opportunity of hosting important conferences on campus. Some of the notable ones include the 1st National Conference on Learning Outcomes in Uganda from 12th to 13th April 2017. This conference was supported by Twaweza East Africa, Uwezo Uganda, CACSA and Makerere University. The conference that was opened by Minister of State for Primary Education, Hon. Rose Mary Sseninde focused on the theme: Learning outcomes: The measure of progress in Uganda. Information shared in this conference has made it possible for stakeholders to start focusing on achievement of learning outcomes as opposed to teaching to complete the syllabus.

Another important conference was the 4th International Interdisciplinary Conference 2017. Kyambogo University hosted this conference from

1st to 4th August 2017. The conference, organized around the theme "Internationalization of Higher Education for Sustainable Development", was opened by the First Lady and the Minister of Education and Sports, Hon. Janet Kataha Museveni and later closed by the Minister of State for Higher Education, Hon. Chrysostom Muyingo. The Conference is part of a broader partnership between collaborating universities of Kyambogo University, Uganda; Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Uli, Anambra State, Nigeria; University of Eldoret and Mount Kenya University in Kenya. Other areas of collaboration include research, academic programs, staff and student exchange.

The three day conference attracted over 320 participants from eight (8) countries and forty three (43) different institutions and a total of 170

oral paper presentations. The conference made it possible for both academic and administrative staff to build institutional and individual capacities to cope with the various challenges in our institutions and societies. Research and network groups were formed and collaborations in staff exchanges were made in some departments. From the conference, we were able to raise the profile of Kyambogo University further to attract more international students to join university programs, especially in the area of e-learning that started taking shape this year. The conference also provided opportunity for our graduate students to present their researches and proposals to international audience to gauge their quality and general standing with international peers. The papers presented in the conference are now being peer reviewed and those that merit publication will be published in a series of journal publications starting January 2018.

Kyambogo University to Establish an Innovations and Entrepreneurship Centre of Excellence

Kyambogo University has planned to establish an **Innovations and Entrepreneurship Centre of Excellence** in the financial year 2018/19. The Centre will be based in the School of Management and Entrepreneurship. "This is a strategic intervention put forward by the university to address the chronic problem of unemployment among graduates" says the Dean of School of Management and Entrepreneurship, Kyambogo University. Statistics indicate that about 80% of graduates in Uganda do not find jobs in the first two years of graduation, the Dean adds. Unemployment, especially among the youth, is associated with numerous socio-economic problems such as insecurity, drug abuse, etc.

The problem of youth unemployment has been attributed to the colonial system of education which emphasized job seeking rather than job creation. The skills that are imparted on the graduates simply cannot make them relevant to the present time job market. According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), a number of educational institutions in Uganda churn out graduates with skills that are not relevant to the job requirements (ILO, 2013). Unless deliberate strategic interventions are undertaken, it would be very difficult to resolve the youth unemployment in Uganda. This calls for revamping of our education systems from training job-seekers to job and wealth creators.

Although, there have been several government interventions to address the problem of youth unemployment, such as youth livelihood, and others, these efforts have not had big impact on job and wealth creation, largely because it has been very difficult to coordinate the youth and support them with mentoring services, says the Dean of School of Management and Entrepreneurship of Kyambogo University.

The Innovations and Entrepreneurship Centre of Excellence will put emphasis on practical entrepreneurship and building entrepreneurial mindset and culture of staff and students at Kyambogo University. It is intended to transform the traditional elitist university into a technical and entrepreneurial university, says the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eli Katunguka- Rwakishaya. This will be achieved by integrating practical entrepreneurship training into the university curricula by putting emphasis on supporting job and wealth creation during the formal training of students. The Centre will establish an appropriate entrepreneurial environment for mentoring and supporting potential entrepreneurs. "Entrepreneurs are not taught conventionally in class, but they are mentored in an entrepreneurial-friendly environment", says the Dean of the School of Management and Entrepreneurship.

Specifically, the Innovations and Entrepreneurship Centre will:

1. Provide knowledge, requisite practical entrepreneurship skills, support and connections/linkages to students and staff to come up with innovative ideas that can be supported to become viable commercial ventures for job and wealth creation.
2. Work with various stakeholders in the entrepreneurship ecosystem, including the private sector, government, angel financiers, venture capitalists to support business startups and scale them into profitable ventures.
3. Coordinate all Memoranda of Understanding with various organisations and institutions in relation to supporting practical entrepreneurship training.

1.1 The Vision of the Centre

To contribute to the development and advancement of practical entrepreneurship in the Ugandan market in a way that positively impacts job and wealth creation by aspiring entrepreneurs through to the creation and development of early-stage ventures, all the way to small and medium size enterprise growth.

1.2 The Mission of the Centre

To support the innovations and entrepreneurial talent development and commercialisation of

new ideas at Kyambogo University.

1.3 Objectives of the Centre

1. To act as an institutional mechanism for providing various services including information on all aspects of enterprise building to budding entrepreneurs.
2. To create practical entrepreneurial culture in the university students and staff.
3. To inculcate a culture of innovation-driven entrepreneurship through student projects.
4. To solicit for funding of students and staff innovations and business startups.
5. To catalyse and promote development of management, science and technology knowledge-based enterprises and promote employment opportunities through innovations and entrepreneurship.
6. To respond effectively to the emerging challenges and opportunities both at national and international level relating to SMEs and micro enterprises.
7. To undertake practical research and consultancies in entrepreneurship and job creation.

It is envisaged that the Centre will mentor and support students to be innovative and create their own jobs while still at the University, an intervention that is intended to reduce on graduate unemployment.