



Museveni lauds IUIU for prioritizing science

Uganda President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni has commended the Islamic University in Uganda for its decision to prioritize science education, noting this is in line with the government policy.

In a speech delivered for him by Vice President Edward Sekandi at IUIU's 26th graduation ceremony in Mbale on November 3, Museveni appreciated the University for starting a medical school.

"Am happy that the University introduced a very good medical school at Kampala campus. I have further learnt that besides the bachelors of medicine and bachelors of surgery, IUIU

has also introduced the bachelors of Nursing sciences and biomedical science," the president stated.

The President noted that the IUIU's science initiatives are highly commendable because Uganda and Africa as a whole still need many health workers.

He further expressed delight for the institution's plan to establish the faculty of engineering and technology with the help of Islamic development bank (IDB).

"We understand the importance of having a critical mass of technicians and engineers in the development process of our country and with such a project established, a number of resourceful individuals will lead to our growth," he acknowledged.

The president regretted the high unem-



H.E The Vice President of Uganda Mr. Edward Ssekandi giving a speech during the IUIU 26th Graduation Ceremony on 3rd Nov 2018

ployment levels which he blamed on theoretical approaches rather than skill-based training of graduates among many institutions of higher learning.

He however brought to notice that IUIU with support from IDB, the government of Turkey and other OIC countries are working to introduce over ten skills-based programmes to enable the youths in the country be self-reliant in accordance with the government's policy of skilling Ugandans.

He advised graduates to exercise integrity and honesty in order to gain success with their career endeavours.

"Remember that your behaviour and conduct in terms of integrity, honesty and hard work are key drivers to your career success," he cautioned.

The president asked the graduates to be good ambassadors of the university and role models.

EDITORIAL Use more Actions than Words in Conducting Daa'wa Missions

Dawah is obligatory on every Muslim, and every Muslim is obliged to call people towards the good and forbid what is evil. Those who consider Islam to be pure, truth and divine from Allah, should surely call to it, and invite others to share the truth.

However, before you move out to enjoin what is good and forbidding what is evil it is an important mission, hence those who undertake this mission must be of good character and must understand the objectives of shariah (ensuring peace and harmony); as well as invite others with wisdom, fair preaching and engaging them in a kind and gentle manner.

“Actions speak louder than words,” a strong saying indeed! Throughout history there are countless examples of empty words and inaction, which have led to the masses losing trust in the leader or speaker.

Such situations can only escalate, as people lose hope in that individual, and refuse to trust them anymore. When one embarks on a Daa'wa mission, not only must they convey the truth; they should also pair their message with correct action. This means, before a Muslim starts telling another Islam is the best, the conveyer should be the best in character such that the recipient of his message should not doubt the message.

Our Prophet peace and blessing be upon him, won the hearts of people through his exceptional standard of character, to the extent that his enemies could not speak about him in regard to it!

IUIU Gets IDB Loan, Moves to Open New Technology Faculty

The Islamic University in Uganda is set to admit the maiden class of engineering and technology students by 2021.

According to the University Rector Dr. Ahmed Kawesi Sengendo this has been enabled after securing a loan of \$13.79m (approx.Shs.51b) and a grant of \$150,000 (about sh558m) from the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB).

Launching the project at Imperial Royal Hotel in Kampala recently. Dr. Sengendo explained that the University will now proceed to set up the necessary infrastructure and ensure that the first class of engineering students opens by 2021.

It has been our prayer for the engineering and technology faculty to start; now that Allah has put it through the funding stage, our major focus is on setting up the necessary infrastructure for the faculty to start,” he stated.

The University vice-rector in charge of Academic Affairs (VR-AA), Prof. Ismail Simbwa Gyagenda offered that part of the funds would be committed to a 500-bed hostel, completion of the over 200-capacity university library and equipping the information communication technology centre.

“We expect to introduce video conferencing to enable



The Vice Rector in charge of Academic Affairs Prof. Simbwa Gyagenda (right) and Dr Ahmed Kawesi Sengendo (center) in one of the University meetings

students in Kampala campus have lectures directly from the main campus in Mbale,” Professor Gyagenda said.

This is the second time IsDB is offering support to the University. During the first phase, the Islamic Financial Institution provided funds for the construction of hostels.

The IsDB country manager, Dr. Issahaq Umar Iddrisu congratulated the University upon the successful funding process and urged top management to ensure the implementation and success of the intended projects.

IUIU AIDS Bududa Victims



IUIU Staff preparing to distribute relief items to Bududa landslide victims

The Islamic University in Uganda has distributed relief items to over 700 people who were affected by the Bududa landslides that left over 43 dead and several displaced.

The team led by the University Public relations officer Ms Kantono Rehema in November delivered a consignment of items including clothes, food rations and house hold materials to the disaster survivors of Bukalasi sub-county.

They conducted counselling sessions to the still traumatized victims giving them a message of hope and destablization.

Ms Kantono noted that the survivors need consistent counselling exercises because

memories of what they experienced take a gradual process to erase.

“As an academic institution, we looked at this beyond just the relief items, these people are mentally tormented by the incident, and others have lost their dear ones. So, counselling them gives more sense of care and love to help them move,” she noted.

Residents, however, complained against local leaders who amass relief items at the cost of the weak and hapless poor.

Simon Wamoto, a resident of Kyisambu village said whenever relief items are handed to the local leaders, the distribution is not fair adding these leaders first sort out the good things for themselves and give out the bad ones.

George Wamara another resident explained that in many incidences, the relief items are just thrown to them and it’s a survival for the fittest.

“Often the real victims miss out as many people who were not affected storm the area to target the free things,” he complained.

However most of the residents where happy with the direct distribution by the IUIU team where almost all the identified victims received.

“Initially we thought we would involve the local leadership but from the complaints and advise by other humanitarian agencies, we had to put up a big team involving staff, administrators, student leaders to directly

EA University Council Commends IUIU

A team from the Inter University council of East Africa has commended Islamic University in Uganda for its affordable and quality education in the region.

This was at the sideline of a three days peer review meeting specifically for the Faculty of Law at the University Postgraduate lounge in Mbale rcently.

Contrasted with other regional academic institutions, the six-member team comprising academic experts from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania led by Professor Chiceri from Nairobi, cited IUIU as the most affordable institution in terms of fees structure and social amenities with an excellent educational service.

“When you compare the financial requirements for other Universities especially those I personally know in Nairobi and other parts of

Africa, you will find out that IUIU's is far more affordable," Professor Chiceri observed.

During the review, the team had interactive sessions with Students, Alumni, Support staff, Department heads, the Dean from the law faculty and the University top administration.

Their exercise indicated that the institution's religious way of operation and moral principles is the ploy behind its academic excellence and student's discipline.

While hosting the team to a dinner, the university rector Dr Ahmed Kawesa Sengendo noted that IUIU is open to any form of evaluation as long as it is in line with the guidelines of the National Council of Higher Education.

As a university our doors are open to any checks and balances as long as it aims at improving our performance as an academic institution," he explained.

The rector revealed that IUIU has always received educational experts both from within and outside the country.

"Recently we have been visited by a team from the National Council of Higher Education, the



The team leader of the East African Inter-university Council Peer Review Team Prof. Chiceri Preston of University of Nairobi speaking in one of the review meeting at IUIU Main Campus

Parliamentary committee investigating on sexual harassments in schools, the ministry of Education and Agricultural specialists from Putra Agricultural University of Malaysia among others," Sengendo recalled.

He explained that it is upon reports from such visits that the University Administration makes improvements where needed. He further revealed that IUIU has currently enlisted students from over 20 countries who are sharing experiences of their diverse cultural backgrounds.

IUIU Scoops 2018 Media Expo Prize



Kizito Ramadhan, a year II Mass Comm. student of IUIU Kampala Campus celebrates after winning the 2018 Media Challenge.

Kampala campus mass communication students emerged first prize winners of the national media challenge expo, 2018 at Serena hotel in Kampala recently. They beat 11 other universities in the category of TV news gathering, live reporting and anchoring.

The three-day event featured twelve top universities in the country as well as high dignitaries including officials from the prime minister's office, ambassadors of the US and German embassies, media professionals and academics.

It was themed "Reframing Media Coverage of Refugees in

Uganda," aiming to provide actors of media, civil society, academia, and refugees a platform to examine the role of the Ugandan media in shaping the narratives around refugees.

"We are very excited and proud to have successfully represented IUIU," said Shamirah Nagawa, a 3rd year mass communication student who coordinated the team.

Mr. Usama Kasagga, the acting coordinator of the faculty of social arts at Kampala campus, said the victory was worth the effort.

"We prepared adequately starting with internal competitions, by the time of the national event every

student had the confidence and vigour to show what IUIU can offer. Indeed, many cried for not being selected for particular roles,” he said.

According to Mr Swaib Kaggwa Nsereko, a Communication lecturer at IUIU Kampala campus, if next time IUIU makes use of its full potentials, Uganda will get to know where to find best media studies.

He said the mass communication department is planning to install a new TV studio at Kampala campus and together with the FM radio studio at the main campus in Mbale and new IT facilities IUIU students will gain the full exposure to what it means in the world of new and traditional electronic media.

The university also has a printing press where students can gain orientation to the workings of print media and machine operations.

Apparently, plans are under way to organise an inter-campus competition pitting mass communication classes from Mbale, Kampala and Kabojja in a mega public relations event that will attract several stakeholders including but not limited to government officials, parents, media practitioners and the general public.

“From these groups we shall identify the cream to play major roles in the national media expo of 2019 inshaa Allah,” said Mr Kaggwa.

IUIU Strengthens Quality Control Measures

Islamic University in Uganda (IUIU) has instituted new measures for effective monitoring and evaluation processes of its departments for good governance.

This comes shortly after the creation of an independent audit unit, charged with the responsibility of governance, risk management and control (GRC).

According to the Vice Rector in charge of finance and administration (VR-FA) Assoc. Professor Abdul Kaziba Mpaata, the new measures shall not stop at enhancing educational quality but will also generate prospects for further development.

He expounded that the unit shall also empower the university to strategize and position its self in the educational market as well as maintain its competitiveness in providing quality educational services to its clients.

“Research has shown that internal audits carried out by the institution itself determine the accordance of the results of educational activities to the current international

standards,” explained the VR.

According to the University Internal Auditor, Mr. Kibombo Issa Musoke, academic institutions need systematic, independent and documented processes of monitoring and evaluating its activities if they are meet their goals.

“As an audit unit we are charged with ensuring that all the university’s systems are operating according to its set standards in order to achieve the overall goals and objectives,” Kibombo explained.

Initially, IUIU’s audit unit was in the payment and verification unit (PVU) under the bursary department. However, the Internal Auditor pointed out that being under PVU limited their area of operation to finance.

“It’s hard to audit a system where you are part, and therefore there was need to put in place a unit independent of other departments,” the Auditor emphasized.

Meanwhile, Prof Mpaata clarified that despite the fact that universities have baseline leadership structures and operational guidelines, it has become a mandate for institutions to have bodies that check their operations.

Freshers Are 2018 Sports Gala Champs

First year students are the overall winners of the 2018 Islamic University Inter-Study- Year Sports gala. They garnered a whopping 284 points against a dismal 28 for the fourth years who came last.

The early November event at the main campus Mbale had different study-years battle in several sports disciplines including football, basketball, net ball, volley ball,

athletics and badminton among others.

The thrilled freshers who beat their seniors in most entries were awarded a trophy and a bull by the sports tutor and top administrators at the main campus playground.

The yearly event is organized by the University sports department headed by Mr Haruna Kebba and the



Year one students Jubilate after winning the inter year sports competition

student's guild leadership.

The defending champions 2nd years were second with 128 points and received two goats; while 3rd years in third position with 102 points earned a goat. Fourth years, mainly comprising law students garnered a miserable 28 points score with only a consolation victory in badminton.

On the females' side, 3rd years were overall winners with several victories, earning themselves two goats.

Year One team captain Abujerry, man of the match in their last football game, attributed their victories on team work.

"We are different talents from different backgrounds but we came together, identified ourselves and agreed to do what we know best. So each team

did the best they could in their category and that is why we emerged overall winners, the secret is teamwork," he proudly stated.

The sports tutor Mr Kebba while handing over the trophy noted that such competitiveness is a good gesture for the IUIU sports department.

"Having first year students who are good in almost all the sports areas is a boost to the University sports," he stated.

Kebba explained that IUIU has always been blessed with more footballers than other sports talents but with such an aggressive group of first year students that are all round, he would diversify sports in the institution.

The Students' Union (IUSU) sports minister and lead organizer Hon. Mukesi Sulaiman revealed that unlike previously, where awards were handed after group stages, this year was different because of the many categories participated in.

"We agreed to award points for each game and at the end tally them to ascertain the overall winner," he explained, adding, "the new approach worked and the competitions where a success without major complaints."

Through these competitions, initially played as inter cultural games; the University identifies special talents to comprise its teams that represent it at national levels.