

# UB NEWS

Official University of Botswana Newsletter



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## A FIRST FOR CHANCELLOR MOHOHLO

**F**ormer Bank of Botswana Governor, Ms Linah Mohohlo, has scored a first as the only woman so far to hold the position of Chancellor of the University of Botswana since its establishment 36 years ago. Ms Mohohlo assumed her position on July 19, 2018 for a period of five years.

A statement from Acting Chairperson of Council, Mr Mathias Chakalisa, says the President, Mr Mokgweetsi Masisi, appointed Ms Mohohlo as per Section 7 (1) of the University of Botswana Act of 2008.

Ms Mohohlo is an experienced leader, having served in different capacities locally and internationally. Further, the statement says Ms Mohohlo has a firm and grounded understanding of the University which she served in various capacities over the years and notably the UB Foundation.

She succeeded President Masisi whose appointment as the fourth Chancellor on July 5, 2017, followed the death of Sir Ketumile Masire in June of the same year. Consequently, Ms Mohohlo's appointment makes her the fifth Chancellor of the University of Botswana and the first woman and third none head of state to hold such a position.

The inaugural Chancellor was Sir Ketumile who held the position during his tenure as state president from 1982 until 1998 when he retired from the presidency.

Sir Ketumile then passed the baton to former President, Mr Festus Mogae, who retired from the presidency in 2008. Sir Ketumile would then make history when he was appointed the third Chancellor and the first none head of state to



Ms Linah Mohohlo.

hold such a position in September 2008.

The appointment of a chancellor who is not a sitting president follows amendment of the University of Botswana Act in 2008 after a task group was set up in 2004 to review the governance and management structures of the

university.

The task group recommended, among others, that the position of chancellor be 'divorced' from the first office of the land - the presidency of the Republic.

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## PROFESSOR MOTSHEGWA IS CIMPAD ASSISTANT VICE PRESIDENT



Professor Baakile Motshegwa.

Professor Baakile Motshegwa has been appointed the Assistant Vice President of the Consortium for International Management, Policy and Development (CIMPAD).

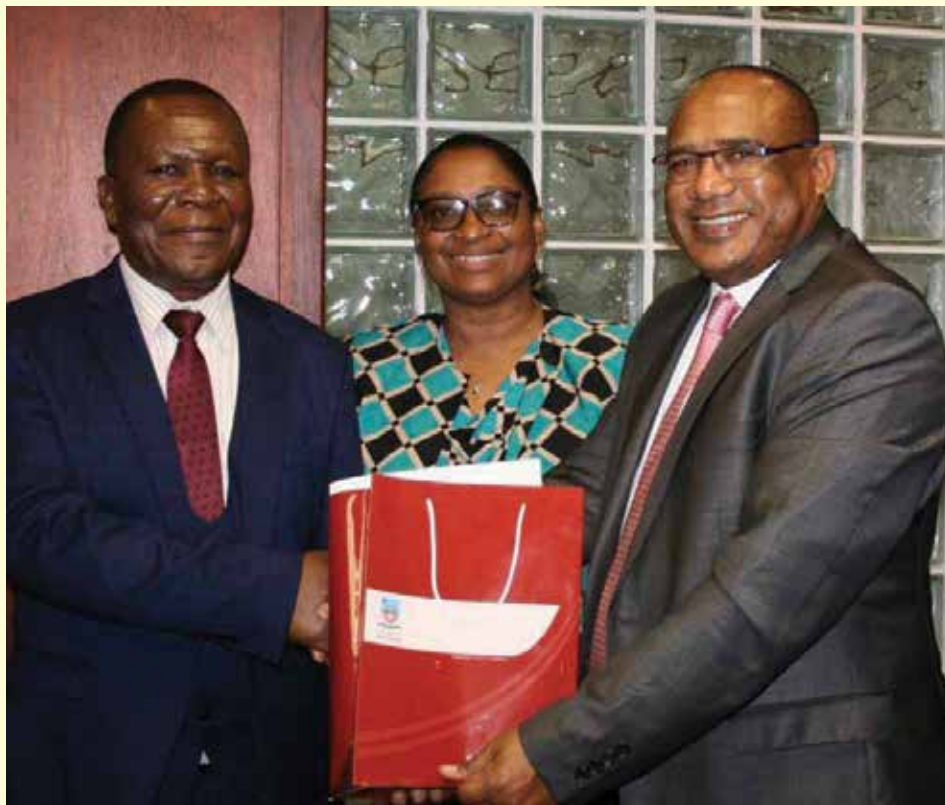
The appointment was made during CIMPAD's 11th International Conference held in Gaborone on June 26-28, 2018. The theme of the conference was *Priorities for the Future: Good Governance, Health and Safety, Social Justice and Economic Equity*.

Professor Motshegwa is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political and Administrative Studies Specialising in Human Resource Management and Industrial Relations. She is the first Motswana woman to be appointed Associate Professor in Public Administration in Botswana.

Professor Motshegwa holds a BA in Public Administration and Political Science from the University of Botswana and M.Sc. in Human Resource Management from Manchester United, United Kingdom. She completed her Doctorate Degree in Management at The University of Newcastle in Australia in 2008.

She has held different positions in both government and the private sector. She started her career at the Directorate of Public Service Management (DPSM) as a Personnel Officer but later joined private sector. Professor Motshegwa also held managerial positions in various organisations such as Motor Company of Botswana, Bank of Botswana and Flowtite before joining the University of Botswana in 2001.

Professor Motshegwa has facilitated several workshops. She is member of the Inter-nation Institute in her profession. She was a member of the Botswana Power Corporation (BPC) board from September 2013 to October 2017 and chaired several board committees.



AAP Director, Professor Richard Mkandawire, AAP Co-Director, Dr Jose Jackson-Malete and Professor David Norris.

## MSU Eyes UB for Alliance For African Partnerships

The University of Botswana is among eight African universities the Michigan State University (MSU) has identified to partner with through the Alliance for African Partnerships (AAP).

AAP Africa Director, Professor Richard Mkandawire, said UB was chosen for its impressive performance over the years in that to date it boasted a satisfactory number of academic staff with PhDs than most universities in southern Africa.

Professor Mkandawire said this when he met Vice Chancellor, Professor David Norris, to present a proposal for the University to become

part of the AAP at UB on June 23, 2018. He said MSU was mandated to establish alliances with long standing partners and other progressive institutions. Professor Norris accepted the proposal. A signing ceremony for institutions to become alliance partners is slated for Nairobi, Kenya on October 22, 2018.

The purpose of the Alliance is to promote sustainable, effective and equitable partnerships between African organisations, MSU and other international organisations to address mutually defined challenges facing Africa and the world.

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UB Director of Public Affairs, Mrs Mhitshane Reetsang, AAP Director, Professor Richard Mkandawire, AAP Co-Director, Dr Jose Jackson-Malete and Professor David Norris.

# VICE CHANCELLOR ASSURES NEW STUDENTS OF COMFORTABLE STAY ON CAMPUS

The Vice Chancellor, Professor David Norris, has promised new students a comfortable stay on campus.

Professor Norris was addressing and welcoming new students at the university at the Campus Indoor Sports Centre on August 3, 2018.

He said in addition to the state of the art facilities that the university boasted of, old equipment and other facilities such as mattresses and curtains would be replaced in their rooms to make their stay on campus a memorable one.

"For the next few years the University will be your home away from home. The university prides itself in qualified staff and excellent facilities," he assured the students.

He added that unlike other institutions, UB did not offer a 'spectator sport' type of training, where faculty talk dominated while there was less student driven learning. On the contrary, he said UB promoted a learner-centered approach, where students were in charge of their learning while lecturers only played a facilitative role.

"Take advantage of our Business Clinic and learn to be entrepreneurial while at the University so that when you graduate, you are a job creator and not a job seeker. Be proactive and have start-up companies while you're still at the University," advised Professor Norris.

Highlighting the challenges in higher education in the country, he said UB had also had its fair share and was currently grappling with issues of funding, student housing shortages, safety and security concerns especially given that the Gaborone campus was an open campus.

The new students were further advised to take responsibility of their studies. Professor Norris said the university would provide them with support to ensure they completed their studies on time.

The Vice Chancellor cautioned the students against substance abuse. However, he said those already struggling with substance abuse,



First year students at the Vice Chancellor's address.



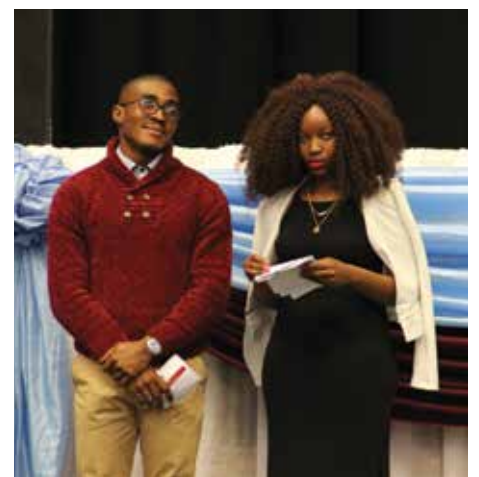
Mr. Ishmael Chiposyo (Former Resident Assistant)



Professor David Norris addresses the students.



Mr. Kabelo Lebakile (Poet)



Student volunteers, Sethu Simelane and Boipelo Gaesi.

the University provided counselling services to assist and support them.

"I can confirm that you came to the right institution. Two, three, four, five years we will be celebrating your success," said Professor Norris. The students also received counselling from their peers who shared with them their failures and successes and how to navigate challenges.



UB Choir serenades the audience.

# AFRICA LOSES BILLIONS IN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS - VC



Delegates of the conference.

Africa is losing billions of dollars due to lack of Intellectual Property (IP) protection, the Vice Chancellor, Professor David Norris, has said.

Professor Norris was speaking at the official opening of a two-day IP Roving Seminar for Academic and Research Institution at the UB Conference Centre on July 5, 2018. The seminar was organised under the theme: *Fostering Creativity and Innovation for Economic growth and Development in Africa*.

Professor Norris attributed the loss of such huge sums of money to the fact that many African countries were not properly signed up to global protocols protecting IP rights.

To offset the problem, the Vice Chancellor encouraged tertiary institution to become epicenters of economic diversification through research output uptake, policy influence and commercialisation as key activities premised

on IP.

As such, Professor Norris said research and innovation outputs should now include deliverables in IP, commercialisation and influence to public policies intended for economic diversification, industrialisation, beneficiation of products and innovative business practices.

In addition, he said development of IP tools would be premised on formulating IP policies for institutions and ensuring that such were implemented.

Companies and Intellectual Property Authority (CIPA) Registrar General, Mr Conductor Paul Masena, said when officiating at the event, that it was critical for researchers to understand the value of IP system not to only protect their innovations, but to also commercialise them for economic benefit. Mr Masena also urged researchers to instil

innovative minds in their students through projects they undertook while studying.

On the other hand, African Regional Intellectual Property Organisation (ARIPO) Director General, Mr Fernando Dos Santos, highlighted the contribution of Botswana universities and research institutions to the statistics of patents using ARIPO route to protect their endeavours in the region.

The Seminar was organised by UB in partnership with ARIPO and CIPA. Its aim was to create awareness on IP and its benefits for economic development and how Africa could make better use of IP for business competitiveness and development.

Other activities at the seminar included a series of presentations on copyright protection for publications, issues of the digital environment, patents, trademarks and branding, creative industries, books, visual and performing arts and designs.

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## ALLIANCE FOR AFRICAN PARTNERSHIPS

The AAP focuses on three key areas - building bridges, transforming lives, and transforming institutions. AAP also aims at stimulating research given that Africa contributes less than one per cent of published output notwithstanding the need for responses that require context-specific knowledge besides a perspective that African researchers brought to the table.

Professor Norris said he was excited by the proposal and expressed his eagerness for UB to become part of the partnership. He said the proposal was timely as it came at a time when the university was undergoing a major transformation which included a move towards

becoming a research intensive institution by training more masters and PhD students.

"For a long time the University of Botswana has had a significant role in developing the human resource structure in Botswana in spite of endless societal challenges," said Professor Norris.

The Vice Chancellor noted that it was time the university forged alliances and partnerships that would greatly and positively impact on its transformation process and eventually people's lives.

Professor Norris maintained that it was time entrepreneurial skills were embedded in each student who entered the university gate so as

to prepare them for the world of work, not only as employees but as employers as well.

He said the University should move away from its traditional curriculum and introduce innovative and creative degree programmes to attract young and enthusiastic applicants.

AAP Co-Director at Michigan State, Dr Jose Jackson-Malete, emphasised the importance of UB setting the agenda and identifying its priority areas. Dr Jackson-Malete added that together with MSU and other universities in the consortium, UB should embrace the importance of co-developing programmes of mutual interest to advance research, fundraising, staff and student exchanges.

# Language experts decry lack of recognition of african languages

It is difficult to indigenise science and technology in Africa given they are still communicated in foreign tongues, says the Dean of the Faculty Humanities, Professor Andy Chebanne.

Professor Chebanne was welcoming participants of the three-day 4th International Conference of the Department of African Languages at UB recently under the theme: *Language, Literature and Culture for Sustainable Development*.

He observed that a natural scientist without a language was irrelevant. However, he expressed delight to the fact that the

Department of African Languages and Literature enjoyed an enduring track record of contributing towards the development of African studies at the University of Botswana.

"You cannot truly and convincingly talk of culture and society without the knowledge of how people's wisdoms and philosophies are appreciated; and how literature represents society and how language conveys other knowledge domains to the people," said Professor Chebanne.

The conference had two major objectives, namely: to discuss African languages and literatures in the context of sustainable development, which is a primary preoccupation of most African countries, and to examine African languages, literature and culture in the light of new socio-political and economic dynamics of the continent. Topics discussed included Literature and Tradition in the era of Innovation, and Language, Literature, Culture and the Development of African Societies.

It was attended by researchers from African countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, Zimbabwe and Kenya. Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of Malawi, Professor Al Mtenje whose presentation was specifically on language and literature and the development of African societies, delivered a keynote address.

Professor Mtenje lamented that as long as colonial languages such as French, Portuguese and English were still recognised as economic languages while African languages viewed as too undeveloped and technical, development in language and literature in Africa would remain an enormous challenge.

"Speaking a local language is equated to ignorance whereas a foreign language as intellectual," said professor Mtenje.

Ideological control of African people by Western people, according to Mtenje, has proven to be an impediment towards development of African societies. Further, he said African languages ought to serve as catalysts for Africa's development.

## EXPERTS, STUDENTS SHARE IDEAS AT ICAPC INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Delegates of the conference.

Academics, researchers, educators and students alike converged on the University of Botswana on July 9, 2018 for a three-day 4th International Conference on Academic and Professional Communication (ICAPC 2018) to deliberate on challenges in the teaching and learning of academic writing.

The conference attracted delegates from all over the world and provided a platform for delegates to share ideas and knowledge on academics, professional writing research and pedagogy. It also afforded them the opportunity to reflect on past practices and new approaches to teaching.

Officiating at the event, Deputy Vice

Chancellor Academic Affairs, Professor David Sebudubudu, said the aim of academic writing was to communicate and that it was the only instrument that student assessors utilised as a window to their thoughts. "Therefore, it is important that the students learn how best to write to persuade their lecturers in a way that they would understand what they have written clearly," said Professor Sebudubudu.

He also noted that written communication should be clear and easy to follow and be understood. Writing, he added, was a fundamental skill that could immensely affect the credibility and success of an organisation. Professor Sebudubudu said within teaching

and learning graduates displayed limited capabilities in the language particularly writing effectively which resulted in poor academic performance across the school curriculum.

In addition, he said many factors had been suggested as precipitating the low level of proficiency in the English language including unsuitable content regimes, under resourcing and poor caliber staff and learners. Professor Sebudubudu said underperformance from employees could emanate from, among others, inadequately trained manpower with unsatisfactory language resources, skills and talent resulting in failure to fulfill set objectives.

He commended the diversity of conference participants which included educators, linguistics and communication experts and language learners which helped to enhance knowledge and skills in the teaching of general areas of academic literature and communication particularly writing. That, he noted, would help to continue training versatile graduates.

Professor Sebudubudu also implored the participants to network with colleagues from other universities and organisation to solicit their input on the course programme revision exercise that was ongoing at UB as per the Botswana Qualifications Authority requirements.

# HAPPY WORKERS MAKE FOR BETTER OUTPUT – DR ODIRILE

Self-awareness in employees helps them to not only understand and appreciate their own shortcomings but also those of their co-workers and those they interact with on a daily basis such as customers, Career and Counselling Centre Director, Dr Lucky Odirile, has disclosed.

Dr Odirile was speaking at a two-day Careers and Counseling workshop for personal assistants, administrative supervisors and faculty administrators at the University of Botswana on July 10, 2018.

She noted that through employees' self-awareness, organisations would ensure that each person was mindful of their behaviour and would consistently work on improving such. She added that where people understood themselves, they would be in control emotionally hence adjust their behaviour towards others such that each person worked in a stress-free and congenial work environment.

"The attainment of goals and vision of the organisation is easier when each person in the organisation is working towards them rather than against each other. Happy workers make for better work quality and output and higher levels of customer service," said Dr Odirile.

She further stated that self-awareness in employees helped each person to objectively judge situations and people's responses and remain aware that their co-workers would have different opinions that deserved respect.

Highlighting the purpose of the workshop, Dr Odirile said in the recent fast-paced and stressful world, it was not unusual for an organisation to have some employees struggling with workplace-related stress or personal issues. She also said such problems could affect an employee's work performance through lowered productivity levels, increased absenteeism and tense relationships with co-workers.

Other topics that participants were lectured on included Emotional Intelligence and Customer Care given they were the fore-front of organisations. Dr Odirile said improving Emotional Intelligence (EQ) and taking active steps to make changes, led to enhanced productivity, and could build more productive relationships around employees.

"Emotional Intelligence is important and intrinsic to humans, and as such it impacts on every facet of life and most notably the workplace. Therefore, those with higher EQ typically successfully navigate the workplace more effectively. EQ enables an individual to



Self awareness helps each employee to objectively judge situations.



Dr Odirile says self-awareness helps employees to not only understand and appreciate their own shortcomings but those of others as well.



Some UB staff members in team building exercises.

build and drive successful teams, and to be agile and responsive as needed," said Dr Odirile.

She further said a lower level of EQ could be detrimental to the workplace and its worst level could be seen in bullying, harassment, and demotivated staff. She added that it could also present as insensitivity, arrogance, or even

aggression and volatility to other employees. Meanwhile, other activities which took place during the workshop included exercise games to teach participants how to approach life challenges and digest the message in a simple way.

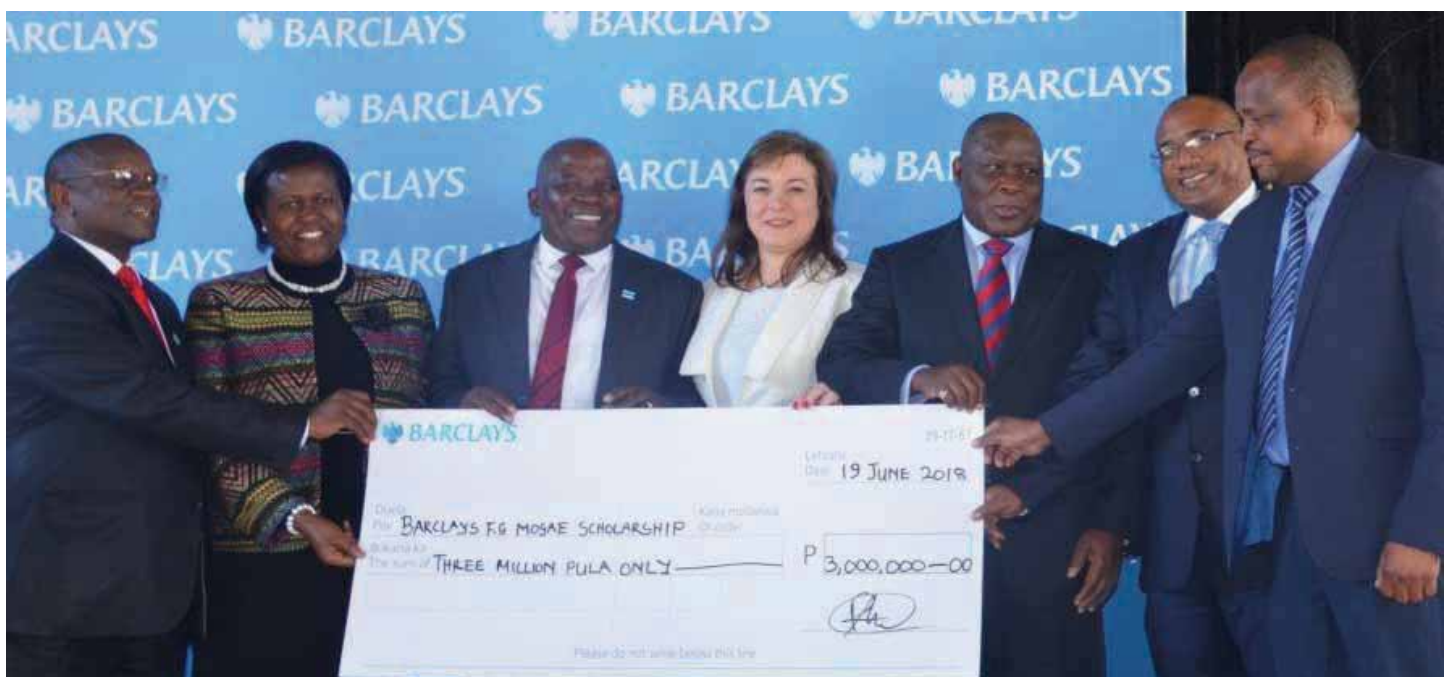
# UB PARTNERS WITH BARCLAYS BANK



Professor David Norris.



Mr. Ngaka Ngaka



Barclays Bank Botswana Managing Director, Mrs Reinette van der Merwe (Middle) Minister of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology, Mr. Ngaka Ngaka (third left) with four representatives of universities in partnership with Barclays F. G. Mogae Scholarship Fund.

The University of Botswana is the first university to sign a partnership with the Barclays Bank Botswana-F.G Mogae scholarship Fund. A re-launch of the event was held recently at Botswana Craft.

Three other local institutions namely, Botswana Accountancy College (BAC), Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BUAN), and Botswana International University of Science and Technology BIUST have also partnered with Barclays.

UB Vice Chancellor, Professor David Norris, said the gesture bore testimony to the value Barclays placed on education.

"I am elated by the fact that 80 per cent of the scholarship will go to graduate studies. Without graduate education we cannot speak about knowledge economy," noted Professor Norris.

Barclays Bank Botswana has injected P3 million into the fund to cater for undergraduate studies in addition to opportunities to pursue Master Degree qualifications.

Barclays Bank of Botswana Managing Director, Mrs Reinette van der Merwe, said it was the bank's intention through the scholarship to support Botswana youth with opportunities for post-graduate studies that would equip them with business and psychological skills.

"Our priority as a financial services partner is to collaborate with stakeholders such as the Former President, His Excellency Dr. Festus Mogae, to improve people's lives and strengthen communities," said Mrs Merwe.

In support, the Minister of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology Mr. Ngaka Ngaka maintained that; Barclays Bank F. G. Mogae Scholarship Fund spoke to

one of the paramount needs in community, of access to quality tertiary education; towards empowering the youth of Botswana.

Mr Ngaka underscored the importance of a knowledgeable society in the country's economic diversification process.

As such he said the ministry's primary role was to assist transform the country's economy from resource-based to knowledge based in line with Vision 2036 through development and implementation of policies on tertiary education, research and technology.

## SOMOLOKAE COMMENDS UB FOR OPENNING UP TO THE WORLD



Dr. Gloria Somolekae delivers a Keynote Address at the CIMPAD Gala Dinner.

Former Assistant Minister of the then Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Dr Gloria Somolekae, has hailed the University of Botswana for hosting the CIMPAD's 11th International Conference in

Gaborone on June 26-28, 2018. The theme of the conference was *Priorities for the Future: Good Governance, Health and Safety, Social Justice and Economic Equity*.

"The issues the conference focused on



CIMPAD Committee representatives at the 11th international conference in Gaborone.

## THREE UB RESEARCHERS COLLABORATE

Three University of Botswana biomedical researchers have collaborated with Infers Group artists to create a three-part street art installation tackling public health issues which was unveiled at Molapo Crossing Mall recently.

The project aims at engaging the public on

health issues through art to promote prevention, wellness activities and communicate health information to improve knowledge. It is further hoped that it will help students in medical and other healthcare fields understand patients in a different way hence connect with them on a

more humanising level.

Dr Keneilwe Molebatsi collaborated with Morekolodi Mantle on Mental Health while Dr Tiny Masupe partnered with Khwezi Nsibande on Hypertension and Dr Ava Avalos Careena, Centre for Health, teamed up with Refilwe Bantle Wale on HIV/AIDS.

Infers Group and Arting for Health for Impact Principal Coordinator, Mr Abraham Mamela, said the project united stakeholders in the co-creation of street art installation that inspired the public, triggered social dialogue to challenged science and the community to unpack scientific concepts for laymen in a unique, stimulating and thought provoking manner.

Mr Mamela observed that the project was an international Welcome Trust funded collaborative public engagement partnership between Botswana, India and South Africa. He said it was running among the countries under the theme: *Engage, Enlighten, Empowered: Collaborating for Public Health*.

In addition, he said the UB biomedical researchers and a team from the Botswana



Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Dr Oathokwa Nkomazana (2nd left) with Dr Keneilwe Molebatsi, Dr Tiny Masupe, Dr Ava Avalos Careena.



were all interesting in the sense that these were all issues government grapples with on a day to day basis. The reason this conference was organised is because everyone believes we can all create societies that we want through making several interventions," said Dr.Somolekae.

The former assistant minister spoke

about the African Union Vision 2063, which articulates the Africa its citizens want and one that is prosperous based on inclusive growth and sustainable development. In addition, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for Agenda 2030 in 2016.

Dr Somolekae said implementation of Vision

2063 and SDGs would pave way for a future free of poverty, reduced inequality, good health and wellbeing, quality education, zero hunger, clean water and sanitation and clean energy.

She observed that while public administration had historically been at the center of developing the African agenda, traditionally it had been concerned simply with how to run a government.

Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Professor David Sebudubudu, said collaboration between UB and CIMPAD was an illustration of the desire to strengthen engagement and partnership and fostering diversity.

The conference attracted a number of delegates from the United States of America, Namibia, Lesotho, South Africa, Uganda and Zimbabwe, among others.



CIMPAD President and Conference General Chair, Dr. Peggy Valentine presents CIMPAD Conference and General Conference Chair, Emeritus Professor Sylvester Murray, with a certificate of appreciation.



Dr. Peggy Valentine, awards programme Committee Chair (USA), Ms. Karyn N. Onyeneho.

# TE WITH ARTISTS ON STREET PAINTING



The art at Molapo Crossing Mall.

Psychiatric Association shared messages on mental health, HIV/AIDS and hypertension with the public during the installation.

In Botswana, the project was sponsored

by UB, Duma FM, and Molapo Crossing in partnership with Alliance Francaise, Careena Centre for Health, Botswana Society of Arts, Botswana Society for Human Development,

Botswana Network for Mental Health and the Department of Research Science and Technology.

## UB COMMUNITY SAVOURS CUCSA GAMES OFFICIAL OPENING CEREMONY

The University of Botswana community led by Vice Chancellor, Professor David Norris, joined hundreds of athletes as well as scores of Batswana who converged on the UB Campus Indoor Sports Centre for the official opening of the 19th Confederation of Universities and College Sports Associations (CUCSA) Games on June 18, 2018.

The games were officially opened by the Vice President, Mr Slamba Tsogwane, on behalf of the President, Mr Mkgweetsi Masisi.

Mr Masisi could not deliver his speech because he had lost his voice due to ill-health but that was not enough to stop him from gracing the official opening ceremony together with First Lady, Mrs Neo Masisi and joined by some Cabinet Ministers, diplomatic corps, captains of industry and sports administrators from different sporting codes and organisations.

Nine out of 10 countries - Botswana, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Lesotho, Malawi, Angola and eSwatini - participated in the week-long games which Botswana hosted for the third time. The games attracted more than 1 500 athletes competing in 10 sporting codes with rugby and softball appearing as new entrants.

CUCSA Games bring together regional university and college athletes to compete in netball, football, chess, rugby, basketball, darts, volleyball, table tennis and others. The games were played in different sporting facilities across Gaborone including the University of Botswana.

Giving a key note address, Mr Tsogwane said Botswana recognised the potential of the youth to contribute to the overall development of the country by enhancing its global competitiveness.

"Similarly, we have recognised that sport and its associated activities can contribute in a meaningful way towards the much needed employment creation for the youth," said Mr Tsogwane.

In this regard, Mr Tsogwane said the Government of Botswana continued to invest in infrastructure in various sectors of the economy including sport stadia as well as designating some schools as centres of excellence in sport. He also encouraged the athletes to compete fairly. "Try your best to make yourselves, your universities and your

countries proud," said Tsogwane. He also implored the sporting fraternity, particularly the athletes, to play a leading role in promoting healthy lifestyles among their peers and refrain from drugs and substance abuse.

## Universities encouraged to infuse entrepreneurial skills in sport



Experts say sport is one of the most powerful tools for unlocking potential for entrepreneurship.

An associate professor from the Michigan State University Department of Kinesiology in the US, Professor Leapetswe Malete, has encouraged universities to infuse entrepreneurial skills in their sport curricula.

Professor Malete was speaking at a panel discussion the University of Botswana organised in collaboration with Ms Tsoseletso Magang under the theme: *Entrepreneurship and Life Skills Through Sport: A Tool To Develop Youth* at UB Conference Centre on July 25, 2018. Ms Magang is a former sportsperson who played volleyball in her prime.

Professor Malete said athletes also needed to be always actively engaged during formulation and implementation of sports programmes and policies for such to have impact. In addition, he urged universities to promote youth participation in sport and to contribute in the development of their communities.

"For African countries to transform, they should work together and youth must be empowered to attain life and entrepreneurial skills through sport," said Professor Malete.

He said sport was one of the most powerful tools for unlocking potential and providing a foundation for youth to gain entrepreneurial and life skills to connect with the real world

of work.

The common thread during the panel discussion was that infusing values such as good leadership, communication, hard-work, and teaching youth in sport to take responsibility, contributed meaningfully to youth development. Such taught them how to overcome adversity, achieve goals, commitment, team work, confidence and self-discipline.

UB senior lecturer in the Department of Physical Education, Health and Recreation, Dr Tshephang Tshube, said together with some academics they were developing a sport curriculum that would infuse entrepreneurial skills in the teaching and learning process.

"Learning values such as teamwork, effective communication, leadership, respect, fair play, self-esteem, resilience and confidence through sport will not only assist youth to become responsible and active citizens, but also directly impact and improve the performance of those who take up sport more seriously in their life," said Dr Tshube.

The event also attracted panellists from the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and University of Ghana.

Culture Development, Mr Thapelo Olopeng, also shared the same sentiments and encouraged the participants to stay away from doping which was a serious offence with long term effects on their health as well.

Minister of Youth Empowerment, Sport and

# ACADEMICS COLLABORATE ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT THROUGH SPORT



University of Dar es Salaam's Ms. Juliana Machuve is excited about the project.

Two University of Botswana academics have joined hands with research scholars from other African countries and the US to work on a collaborative project that is envisaged to take youth development through sport to a new level in Africa.

This emerged at a panel discussion the University of Botswana organised in collaboration with Ms Tsoeletso Magang at the UB Conference Centre on June 24, 2018.

The academics are senior lecturer in the Department of Physical Education, Health and Recreation, Dr Tshepang Tshube and senior lecturer in the Department of Management in the Faculty of Business, Mr Thuso Mphela.

They duo has joined hands with Michigan State University, Department of Kinesiology's Professor Leapetswe Maletse, University of Ghana Professor and Head of Physical Education and Sport Department College of Education, Professor Reginald Ocansey, and College of Engineering and Technology (CoET) lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania, Ms. Juliana Machuve.

The youth development programme is a sequel to a study carried out in southern Africa under the auspices of the Alliance for Africa Partnerships to teach entrepreneurship and life skills through sport.

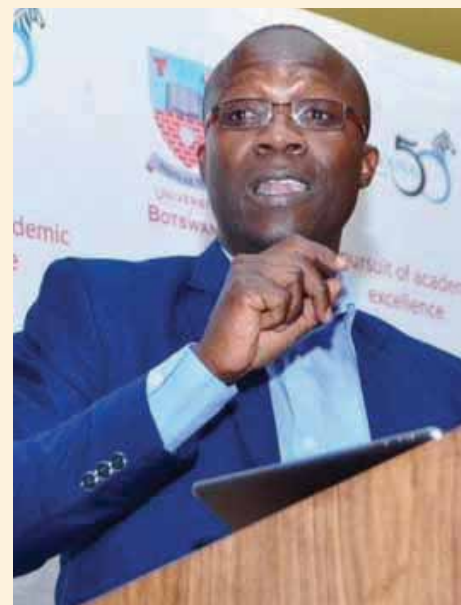
Presenting at the panel discussion, Dr Tshube underscored the importance of according



The audience listens attentively.



Ms Tsoeletso Magang directs the proceedings.



Dr Tshube emphasises a point during the panel discussion.

youth in sport life skills. Dr Tshube said in their study, they worked closely with Botswana Integrated Sport Association president, Mr Joshua Gaothobogwe during piloting where 25 teenagers participated in the programme for a period of two weeks. He

Professor Maletse also buttressed Dr Tshube's point, saying life skills that could be developed through sport in young people included decision-making, goal setting, communication, time management as well as business planning. Through transferable skills learned through sport, Professor Maletse, said Africa would also be able to transform its youth.

"Africa would realise this transformation only if the youth was active in decision-making bodies," he added. Consequently,

statistics indicate that Africa is home to the world's youngest population with 63 per cent estimated to be under the age of 25.

Professor Maletse said through his experience in the US and in collaboration with relevant stakeholders such as financiers, motivational speakers, coaches, he remained optimistic that the project would reach every corner of Botswana and yield tangible results. Currently the programme is in pilot stage while lobbying for policies to infuse it into the school curriculum is underway as well.



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**Pay at Admin Block 108 / 043 (8:30 – 15:30), UB, VOTE NO:P0839**  
(Easy payment plan available)

**STARTING:** 8<sup>th</sup> October 2018; **DURATION:** 8 weeks; **TIME:** 6pm – 830 pm

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