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NEWSLETTER JANUARY 18 TO 31, 2010.

“A noble idea can kick around an organization not because people there do not see the merits of the idea, but because nobody has converted the idea into action. Ideas are useless unless implemented, and execution is the discipline of getting things done”, the Works of Tom Peters and Robert Waterman Junior (1995). This is quite appropriate considering the task at hand for the fundraising committee’s campaign to raise funds to complete the construction of the administration block by the end of 2010.



Prof R. J Zvobgo, A/ Vice-Chancellor

Speaking to the members of staff who had gathered in the Multi-Purpose Hall for the meeting with the Acting Vic-Chancellor at the request of the Fund Raising Committee, Professor Zvobgo appealed to them to donate generously towards the completion of the block. In his speech he explained how MSU has become our source of livelihood (income), a home to all of us and how we should be proud to see it grow. He appealed to the members of staff to donate only US\$2 each towards the project. This is one of the strategies the Fundraising Committee has devised in order to raise the US\$8million that is required for the project to be completed. Furthermore the committee has launched the ‘donate something’ campaign in which donations in cash and/ or in kind are welcome. The idea of seeking for donations first from the MSU staff is primaced on the idea that charity begins at home, and as a university we have to be the engines behind our own growth.

The Committee comprises of both internal and external members and the internal ones are Mr C. N. Gwatidzo, who is the Chairman, Mr R Duve, Mr S Mpemhi, Mrs N Macheke, Sr V Matunhu, Mr E Mupfiga, Mr P Kutyauro, Mrs I Mangoma and Mrs L Gonzo.....to page 4

**MSU COMES ALIVE AS THE 2010 FIRST SEMESTER BEGINS...**

There was a hive of activity as supplementary examinations were being written on campus whilst returning students were streaming in for registration. Supplementary examinations for the Level 2 Semester 2 students as well as Level 4 Semester 2 students started on the 27th and ended on the 30th of January 2010.

All returning students were expected to be through with registration by the end of the week. The University has decided to

defer the opening of Level 1 Semester 1 students until ZIMSEC A’ Level results are out. This would allow students who sat the November 2009 examinations to be able to apply for admission into the various programmes on offer.

When contacted for comments, the Registrar advised that the University would give the applicants up to two weeks after results are out to

apply for admission before their new semester commences.

In a related development applications are being invited for the February and August 2010 intakes in the Faculty of Education. Applicants are being sought in the Bachelor of Education Honours Degree (February 2010), B.Ed Adult Education and Diploma in Adult Education, both for the August intake. The closing date for applications to these programmes is 30 April 2010.

**MINISTER TO LAUNCH RESEARCH AND INTELLECTUAL EXCELLENCY FAIR**

Following the observation by the Minister of the absence of publicity of activities taking place in higher education institutions, the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education has introduced and is yet to launch the Research and Intellectual Excellency Fair which is meant to showcase the intellectual prowess and rich cultural heritage of Zimbabweans.

The launch of the Research and Intellectual Fair Organising Committee (REIFOC) is expected to take place at the end of March 2010. Our own Vice-Chancellor, Professor Bhebe, is the Vice-Chairperson of this committee which is chaired by Professor C. J. Chetsanga. There are various sub-committees which include the Publications Committee, Program Design Committee and the Marketing and Publicity Sub-Committee to which Mrs I. Mangoma is a member. The Inaugural Fair is expected to be held in September 2010 under the theme ‘The Leadership Complex in Zimbabwe: The Past, Present and Future’, after which it will become an annual event.

Activities to be carried out at the Annual Fairs which are expected to run for at least two to three days would cover various activities as follows:

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## MSU benefits from synergies with SHAPE Zimbabwe

Oxfam Australia hosted a workshop from the 18th to the 20th of January 2010 at Fairmile Motel which ran under the theme "Hygiene Promotion in Emergencies". The workshop was funded by Oxfam Australia which funds SHAPE Zimbabwe and by extension SHAPE invited their partner Midlands State University.

The coordinators of the workshop were Mr S Bhebhe and Ms Vimbai Muzanhi, who is the Public Health Officer for Oxfam. Sister Viola Matunhu, Mr Isheanesu Chaka and Mr James Chivivi all from MSU and other representatives from other non-governmental organizations attended the workshop.

The workshop was hosted as a follow up to the cholera outbreak that occurred last year countrywide and aimed at imparting knowledge on how to react when an emergence occurs. The workshop objectives were:

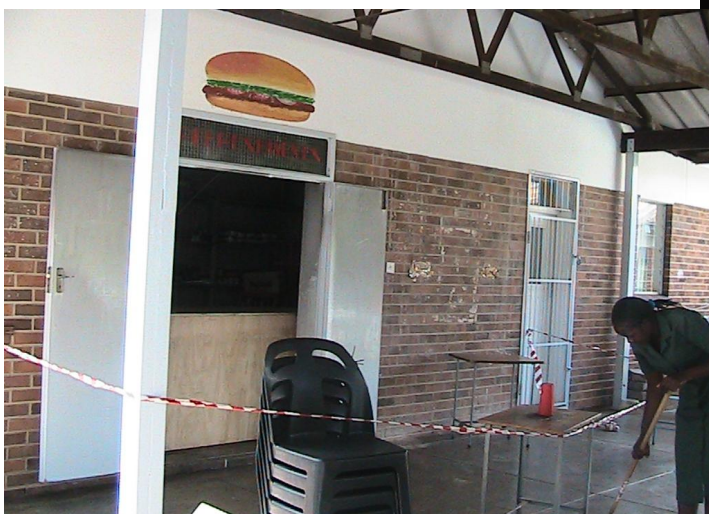
- ◆ Understanding hygiene promotion in an emergency situation
- ◆ Understanding the importance of hygiene-promotion and different methods of hygiene promotion
- ◆ To practice the implementation of practice and participatory hygiene promotion measures to prevent or control diseases
- ◆ Utilizing the SPHERE standards for hygiene promotion.

The workshop conscientised participants mainly on water and sanitation diseases in Zimbabwe and ways to prevent them and key water and sanitation priorities in an emergency. The workshop did not isolate HIV but also gave an overview of HIV and its relevance to WASH intervention and the emergency context. The study of hygiene and cholera prevention is of importance to MSU and the people of Zimbabwe as reports continue trickling in about the possibilities of another outbreak in our societies due to the erratic water supplies in some towns and cities. Oxfam Australia offers psychosocial support to affected victims and it is there to assist should people find themselves in such a situation. It is hoped that the Health Services department will devote time to conscientise the MSU community on how to manage and prevent cholera.

## A New Food Outlet Opens on Campus

The main tuckshop on the Main Campus has changed hands to the MSU Fund Raising Committee. The Chairperson of the Tuckshop sub-committee Mrs N Macheka revealed that they would be open from the 1st of February 2010 selling food and other items. This is the second food outlet that the committee has opened considering that they have also opened another one at Batanai Campus.

This is one of the many strategies the Fund Raising Committee has in order to raise the US\$8million required to complete the administration block by the end of 2010. Meanwhile plans are underway to embark on a massive campaign to raise the funds and these will be unveiled in the following issues of the Newsletter.



The MSU fundraising food outlet.

## MSU Student dies in a Car Accident

A road accident at Msipani along the Sibozva Zvishavane highway claimed a first year male student from the Faculty of Law. Tawanda Molekai Moyo died on the spot together with five others after a car that they were travelling in burst a tyre and overturned. He was buried on the 11th of January 2010 at his rural home in Mberengwa. He was 19 years old .

Members of staff who include the Registrar Mr E. Mupfiga, and representatives from the Faculty of Law and Student Affairs visited the bereaved family in Kwekwe to pay their condolences.

The Midlands State University Council, Senate, staff and students express their heartfelt condolences to the Moyo family. May his soul rest in peace.

## Condolence Message

*Professor Zvobgo lost a sister on Saturday, 30 January 2010 in Harare and she will be buried on Saturday in Masvingo. The MSU community wishes to pass its heartfelt condolences to the Zvobgo family during this time of sorrow. May the soul of the departed rest in eternal peace.*

### Prof Vambe imparts knowledge on writing scholarly articles to MSU staff

Professor Vambe, an expert in the department of English and Communications from the University of South Africa (UNISA) was invited to the MSU, courtesy of the Faculty of Arts, to a two day workshop held from the 14th to the 15th of January 2010.

The workshop targeted aspiring Masters and Doctorate students where the Professor guided participants through PhD proposal writing. He discussed issues pertaining to writing publications, how to write an abstract, and produce papers which meet the requirements of an international journal.

Professor Vambe opened up linkages with UNISA Press for joint publications, funding and technical support. He is exploring the arrangements of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with UNISA. He has further promised to assist in the development of new modules and degree programmes in the

Faculty of Arts.

In a related development, Dr Drew Shaw from NKE College, University of London has been hired as a visiting lecturer in the Departments of English and Communication and Media and Society Studies up to the end of May 2010.

During his tenure with the MSU, Dr



Dr D. Shaw giving out a lecture during one of the seminar series.

Shaw would be holding fortnightly seminar series on Post Colonial theories to members of staff in these departments who are working on their PhD proposals. The seminar series are targeted at providing the theoretical background to the proposals. Currently the seminars are scheduled to run fortnightly on Fridays between 10am and 1pm in Room 59.

Interested candidates from the faculties of Arts and Social Sciences are welcome to these seminar series and they can make arrangements through the Chairperson of the English and Communication Department Mr T Javangwe on extension 246.

## MSU EXTENDS ITS WINGS BEYOND THE BORDERS OF ZIMBABWE

The Midlands State University, through the Associate/ Affiliate Status Committee has formalized relations with various local and international colleges where memoranda of understanding have been signed.

An associate college is an institution that is nurtured by Midlands State University. Associate college students are registered with their parent college and Midlands State University participates in their programmes. Their results are processed by the Board of Studies comprised of parties from both the college and the MSU but chaired by a member from MSU.

On the other hand Affiliate colleges apply to be part of MSU. It participates in MSU programmes and the programmes are run the same way as MSU run their programmes. Their results are marked and processed by MSU. On completion of their studies the graduands will get certificates from MSU. MSU is recognized internationally through an affiliate college AMADI which is based in Swaziland. The Memorandum of Understanding between Midlands State University and AMADI was signed in August 2008 and they offer studies in Commerce and Education. By the end of 2009 the Faculty of Education had enrolled a total number of ninety-seven (97) students from AMADI while seven (7) students were enrolled with the Faculty of Commerce. Gaborone Universal College of Law is also an associate college of the Faculty of Law.

The Faculty of Natural Resource Management has two associate colleges namely Rio Tinto and Mlezu and a total of 200 students graduated in last year from these colleges, whilst the Faculty of Education has Zimbabwe Military Academy as an associate college. Chipawo is also an associate college of the Faculty of Arts' department of African Languages and Culture.

Domboshawa is an associate college of the Faculty of Social Sciences and plans to take IPMZ on board are at an advanced stage. The department of Human Resource Management and IPMZ are yet to sign the memorandum of understanding. The Faculty of Science and Technology has Trust Academy as its associate college while the Central Africa Correspondence College (CACC) and the Zimbabwe Institute of Management (ZIM) are associate colleges of the Faculty of Commerce.

The Affiliate and Associate colleges help to market the University locally and internationally and faculties and departments are encouraged to make use of these agreements for the benefit of their departments through collaborations in research, publications and exchange programmes.

### ACTING VC LAUNCHES THE FUND RAISING CAMPAIGN from page 1

To date the committee has received donations in form of groceries to sell, bags of cement, cash and many other items. Members of staff whom we had the privilege to interview concurred that the idea was good and that they would support the project as much as they could. Representatives of staff associations are yet to brief the committee on the final word form the staff as they proposed to discuss the issue at constituency level.

“I consider the project achieved for as long as we sail in the same boat”, said Mr Duve. “We have to complement government effort and implement our pace setting trends. We need to kick start the process.” Completion of the administration block would lead to decongestion of the classrooms and other buildings that were converted into offices creating more office and teaching space for both lecturers and students.

Construction of the administration block came to a halt due to the financial crisis that hit the country between 2006 and 2008. Due to high levels of inflation it

became practically impossible to raise any meaningful funds for the project. However it has become clear that the destiny of the project lies in the hands of MSU as there is little coming from central government to support the project. Funds received from there constitute just a fraction of what is required and hence the idea to resuscitate fund raising efforts towards the completion of the block.

Several projects have been lined up to support the main fundraising thrust and the committee has since acquired two tuck-shops to sell food and other items. One tuck-shop is situated at the Main Campus and the other one is at Batanai Complex. Students, staff and visitors are encouraged to visit these tuckshops for a brand new taste of good , quality food.

The committee has an email address for those who might wish to get in touch with them or those who might have more strategies on how to raise funds for the project. For these and other comments about fundraising forward your emails to [msufundraising@msu.ac.zw](mailto:msufundraising@msu.ac.zw).

### AFRICAN DESTINY EUROPE BOUND

The Department of Music and Musicology is going to host a farewell bash for the Award Winning group “African Destiny” on the 3rd of February 2010 in Harare. The group is going to have a month tour of Europe from the 5th to the 28th of February 2010.

The Midlands State University Music and Musicology band, African Destiny won the second prize of the tour in the last year (2009) Music Crossroads Interregional Festival Competition that were held from the 5th to the 8th of August 2009 in Harare.

The group is going to leave the country on the 4th of February 2010 and will be back at the end of month. Contacted for comment the Chairperson of the Music and Musicology Department, Mrs Shoko said that the Department was very proud of the band, and that she was very happy to be associated with the group as what the group has done markets the department, faculty and the University as a whole.

The MSU Vice Chancellor, Staff and students wish them a successful trip as they continue to raise the MSU flag further up!



Mrs Shoko— Chairperson Music & Musicology

From page 1

### Higher Education to launch Research and Intellectual Excellency Fair

- ◆ Displaying the results of research obtained in science, technology and innovation including Integrated Skills Outreach
- ◆ Fora for Higher and Tertiary institution exhibitions.
- ◆ Presentation of research papers by eminent scholars including scientists, doctors, lawyers, social researchers, and political scientists.
- ◆ Moot courts for pertinent legal issues
- ◆ Debates by experts on selected topical issues.
- ◆ Drama and cultural dances ,music and poetry
- ◆ Memorial lecturers
- ◆ Platform for medical personnel to demonstrate, advise and educate the public on prevailing health related issues
- ◆ Presentations by linguistics given the opportunity to unite local and regional languages, including development of a dictionary of Shona in all dialects.

Work is already in progress towards the launch of the Inaugural Fair scheduled for the end of March 2010.

Faculties and departments are encouraged to start working on the fair as it presents an opportunity for MSU to shine through the various activities that they have been doing.

## FACULTY APPOINTS NEW SET OF SSRSS COORDINATORS

The Faculty of Social Sciences has appointed a new set of the Social Science Research Seminar Series coordinators namely Mr S Mugari from the department of Media and Society Studies, Mr S Jerie from the department of Geography and Environmental Studies and Mrs V Makanza from the department of Local Governance Studies.

The coordinators have the duty to work towards attracting research funding from such organisations as CODESRIA, to attract individual research funding opportunities, to increase the number of journals so as to create more outlets for research finding, to assist post-graduate students to publish at least a paper before they graduate, to spearhead the publication of modules and study guides, to explore the possibility of establishing departmental seminar series apart from the faculty one and finally to explore the possibility of establishing a Faculty Research Institute.



Meanwhile the outgoing coordinator Ms C Hungwe is proud to have held six seminars during her tenure of office, a development which has influenced University policy of at least a seminar per faculty per semester, as the university strives to achieve its key result area 2 goal number 1 on Academic Excellence in the Results Based Management of 'attaining the top 20 ranking in Africa by the year 2015'.

**Ms C. Hungwe Acting Chair—HRM and out going coordinator of the Social Science Research Seminar Series**

## More International Students enroll with the MSU

The department of International Students Recruitment and Bridging Programmes (ISRBP) headed by Mr Peter T. Chinofunga has informed the Information Department that fifteen students from Namibia have enrolled with the MSU for the 2010 first semester. Of the fifteen nine are male while six are female. They will be admitted in the faculties of Arts, Commerce, Education, Science and Technology and Social Sciences. In total thirty two have been enrolled to date through the facilitation of the ISRBP department.

The Director also highlighted that they are working with the Government of Namibia for more students. He further informed us that the first cohort of Namibian students from this arrangement will be enrolled in the Faculty of Education.

The department also recommends students from non-English speaking countries to receive tuition in English proficiency in the Communication Skills department to enable them to fully participate in their studies as English is the medium of instruction at the MSU.



**PART OF THE NAMIBIAN STUDENTS WHO RECENTLY ENROLLED WITH MSU**