

Higher Education in the News



Africa

Pan-African University to open first centres

The Pan-African University will start operations in September with the opening of three centres of excellence in Kenya, Nigeria and Cameroon, Amadou Lamine Ndiaye, president of the high-level panel overseeing the university's creation, announced in an interview with [SudonLine](#) of Dakar. The [PAU](#) was proposed by the African Union in 2008 to provide advanced graduate training and postgraduate research opportunities for high-performing African students, and also aims to promote mobility of students and teachers and harmonisation of programmes and degrees.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 28 August 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110827185108753>

East Africans Want University Tuition Fees Harmonized

The President of the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA), Professor Silas Lwakabamba has called on higher institutions of learning in the East African Community (EAC) to charge citizens from member states the same tuition fees as their locals. The IUCEA is a regional body comprising over 70 higher education institutions within the bloc. The need for universities to harmonise tuition fees was first discussed by the EAC Council of Ministers in 2004/2005.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 23 August 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201108231228.html>

Guidelines for OER in Higher Education

UNESCO has partnered with the Commonwealth of Learning (COL) to produce the UNESCO-COL Guidelines for Open Educational Resources in Higher Education. The preparation of these Guidelines was a continuation of the COL-UNESCO initiative Taking OER Beyond the OER Community: Policy and Capacity that involved a number of face-to-face and online workshops in 2010 and 2011. An important milestone was a Policy Forum on OER held at UNESCO, Paris on 1 December 2010. These Guidelines are a follow-up to that event.

SOURCE: OER Workshop
Posted to the web 1 September 2011
<http://oerworkshop.weebly.com/guidelines-for-oer-in-higher-education.html>

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Science and Technology

Internet times in southern Africa as SA, SADC launch SAIGF

Internet governance in Southern Africa has taken a giant leap forward as South Africa teams up with NEPAD and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) to launch the Southern African Internet Governance Forum (SAIGF), the first of its kind in a region populated by more than 260 million people. The three-day conference launch kicked off Thursday, 1 September 2011, at the Hilton Hotel in Johannesburg, South Africa.

SOURCE: Biz Community
Posted to the web 1 September 2011
<http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/410/16/63577.html>

Climate change: ECOWAS urges implementation of action plan

The ECOWAS Commission on Wednesday urged member states to implement Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMAs) agreed by developing countries to reduce the negative impacts of global climate change. ECOWAS Commissioner for Agriculture, Environment and Water Resources Ousseini Salifou, was quoted as saying, "It is necessary for our region to avoid repeating the negative experience of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and to build capacities for member states to have positive influence on the current mechanism to ensure NAMAs implementation".

SOURCE: Daily Trust
Posted to the web 2 September 2011
http://www.dailytrust.dailytrust.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=26952

Angola

Higher Education Minister Unveils Medicine Faculty

Angolan minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology Cândida Teixeira Thursday inaugurated the Faculty of Medicine of Katyavala Bwila University in southern Benguela province. Addressing the inauguration ceremony, Cândida Teixeira said that the institution and the resources spent will grant high dignity to the higher education. The rehabilitation of facilities is estimated at 120 million kwanzas, apart from equipment and others and it lasted eight months.

SOURCE: Angola Press
Posted to the web 1 September 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201109020210.html>

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Over 100 Country Students Attend Ukrainian Universities

At least 170 Angolan youth will attend lessons in diverse Ukrainian Universities, learning matters linked to pedagogy, medicine, computer science and mining, benefiting from scholarship supported mostly by the Angolan Executive. The source explained that some will go to Ukraine supported by the National Scholarship Institute (INAB), other supporting their own studies and other group supported by the Angolan government.

SOURCE: Angola Press
Posted to the web 1 September 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201108260163.html>

Botswana

Botswana offers lowest college fees in region

The Botswana Education Hub is part of the exhibitors at the Swaziland International Trade Fair, where there are several institutions showcasing different degree courses offered in their country. Swazis who are interested in studying in Botswana have been invited to visit the Education hub. Botswana offered the lowest tuition fees and certificates that were recognised in the whole of the SADC region.

SOURCE: Swazi Observer
Posted to the web 31 August 2011
<http://www.observer.org.sz/index.php?news=29266>

Malawi

Malawi could earn K68bn/year from Carbon Trade

As Malawi's top foreign exchange earner, tobacco, is being battered on the auction floors, a Chancellor College environmental expert says the country has potential to earn \$407 million (about K68 billion) annually from carbon trading. countries and companies with extremely high carbon footprints in the developed world are willing to pay developing countries for activities that reduce Green House Gases (GHGs).

SOURCE: The Nation
Posted to the web 31 August 2011
http://www.mwnation.com/index.php?option=com_content&view

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Namibia

New Accounting Degree Programme At Unam

The University of Namibia on Monday launched a new 3-year Bachelor of Accounting programme at a hotel in Windhoek. The Pro-Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Research Professor Osmund Mwandemele said despite Unam's efforts since Independence, the country still faces acute shortages of relevant skills and evidence shows that accounting is one of those skills. "We have a meager 300 chartered accountants to take care of financial activities of our economy, business and public at large.

SOURCE: New Era

Posted to the web 31 August 2011

http://www.newera.com.na/article.php?title=New_accounting_degree_programme_at_Unam&articleid=40388

South Africa

ICASA Collaborates With the University of Pretoria on a Spectrum Research Program

The Chairperson of the ICASA led a delegation to a walk-about visit at the University of Pretoria (UP) last week; to view a research setup which is part of ICASA's Research Collaboration Program. The program was initiated by the Engineering and Technology Division of ICASA to facilitate wireless technology research and forecast and to facilitate policy development and rule making.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 31 August 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201108310422.html>

Statement By Higher Education And Training Minister, DR Blade Nzimande

Higher Education And Training Minister, DR Blade Nzimande, On the Occasion of the Address to the Pretoria Press Club released a statement. Some of the issues the statement highlighted included the National Skills Development Strategy III, strengthening of stakeholder engagement with consultation and summits, The Human Resource Development Strategy South Africa (HRD-SA) and the unbundling of the University of Limpopo and Medunsa.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 22 August 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201108231745.html>

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SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 22 August 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201108231745.html>

Grappling with curriculum 'relevance'

Seventeen years after the end of white rule and against the backdrop of persistent high unemployment levels, South Africa's universities continue to grapple with the issue of a 'relevant' curriculum and how best to achieve it. Higher Education and Training Minister Dr Blade Nzimande announced that a learning and teaching charter was on the cards to address, among other issues, the issue of curricula that are relevant "to the South African context specifically and the African context generally.

SOURCE: University World News

Posted to the web 28 August 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2011082719002574>

Swaziland

UNISWA Opens, No allowances

The university Senate reviewed the factors that led to the postponement of the commencement of the first semester lectures and came up with the decision to open on 1 September. Even though the University of Swaziland (UNISWA) opens today, students will not get their allowances yet. Government decided to pay the allowances in installments. The first installment will only be released at the end of October.

SOURCE: Swazi Observer

Posted to the web 1 September 2011

<http://www.observer.org.sz/index.php?news=29261>

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Tanzania

Sh317 Billion Set Aside as Students' Loans

The government has allocated Sh317.8 billion this academic year as loans to students in higher education learning institutions, a Sh80 billion increase compared to last year's Sh 237.8 billion allocation. The Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) said yesterday that out of 48,477 applicants, 37,924 or 78 per cent) have been admitted at various universities through the Central Admission System and 23,340 students (61 per cent) had qualified for the loans.

SOURCE: The Citizen

Posted to the web 1 September 2011

<http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/news/4-national-news/14336-sh317bn-set-aside-as-students-loans.html>

Tap Benefits of E-Learning, Varsities Told

Local higher learning institutes have been advised to grab the potential of e-learning system by sharing contents with their foreign counterparts online and thus reducing cost incurred in exchange programmes. According to the Seacom Head of Sales for East Africa Region, M Julius Opio, following the recent development in construction of Information Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure, plans were underway to link colleges and universities on one educational network.

SOURCE: The Citizen

Posted to the web 1 September 2011

<http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/business/14-international-business/14254-tap-benefits-of-e-learning-varsities-told.html>

Funding boost for science, maths students

In an effort to increase numbers of health professionals, the Tanzanian government will from the next academic year grant full scholarships to new medical students. First-year students of science teaching and maths will also be fully-funded. Students who want to pursue science teaching courses, mathematics and medical sciences would be granted 100% scholarships, while those pursuing engineering or agriculture studies would receive 100% loans.

SOURCE: University World News

Posted to the web 1 September 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110827190914609>

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Zambia

Zambia backs SA's SKA bid

Zambia has joined a consortium of seven countries in the continent's bid to host the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) main telescope hub, which will promote space science and the use of electronic engineering in Africa. Zambia joins SA, Botswana, Kenya, Ghana, Mozambique, Mauritius and Namibia, who fall under the SKA initiative that is training students in astronomy, engineering and information and communication technology (ICT). Ministry of Science, Technology and Vocational Training's acting permanent secretary, Albert Kayamba, says the SKA will improve access to ICTs in Zambia.

SOURCE: Web Telecoms

Posted to the web 1 September 2011

http://www.itweb.co.za/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=46801:zambia-backs-sas-ska-bid&catid=260