

Higher Education in the News



Africa News

AfDB Calls for Deeper Regional Integration - Tool for Growth And Employment Creation in Southern Africa

African Development Bank (AfDB) President Donald Kaberuka has affirmed his institution's strong commitment to enhancing regional integration and growth in Southern Africa.

Addressing the media close to the end of a six-day official visit to the region, Dr. Kaberuka said the AfDB had done well in terms of the volume of its support to South Africa and the broader SADC region but still had to do more in view of the challenges that still abound.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 15 March 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103150636.html>

Africa making R&D progress despite snags

A growing number of African countries have realized that, without investment in science and technology, the continent will remain on the sidelines of the global economy and will find it difficult to bring an end to extreme poverty. There has been significant progress in terms of institutions and policy; Africa contributes to the global research and development effort and this contribution is growing. These are some of the findings of the UNESCO Science Report, launched late last year at the organization's headquarters, to coincide with the World Science Day.

SOURCE: The Citizen

Posted to the web 12 March 2011

<http://thecitizen.co.tz/business/14-international-business/8981-africa-making-rad-progress-despite-snags.html>

Science and Technology

IT could split higher education

Information technology is a multi-faceted and potentially disruptive phenomenon and we should not assume business as usual, the President of the Commonwealth of Learning, Sir John Daniel has said. If used properly, education technology could achieve wider access, higher quality and lower cost all at the same time. He said this was a revolution - it had never happened before - but public universities had failed to achieve these advantages and could lose out to private providers.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews

Posted to the web 12 March 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110312091459268>

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Small-scale support counts for social science in Africa

Countries in Sub-Saharan Africa face numerous challenges — from a changing climate and water scarcity, to the double burden of infectious and chronic diseases, to limited agricultural productivity and rapidly growing cities. Any solutions will require better scientific understanding and effective application of both new and traditional technologies. But scientific advances alone will not lead to development: people and their societies are far too complex for this.

SOURCE: The Business Day
Posted to the web 23 February 2011
<http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=135100>

Seacom to lower African bandwidth costs

Sea submarine communication company, Seacom, says plans are underway to provide research and educational institutes with cheap international bandwidth to assist organisations such as the Climate System Analysis Group (CSAG) to develop home-grown solutions for Africa, says .

[Seacom](#) will help lower the costs of international bandwidth and make accessibility to information crucial to the development of Africa easier.

SOURCE: SA Daily News
Posted to the web 16 March 2011
<http://sadaynews24.com/seacom-to-lower-african-bandwidth-costs-915944.htm>

Angola

Technical University Runs Symposium On Education

The first symposium on Research, Extension and Integration of Teaching, promoted by the Technical University of Angola (UTANGA), was opened Monday, in Luanda, by the State secretary for Higher Education, Adão de Almeida. The meeting that is taking for the first time after four years of UTANGA foundation aims at contributing to the training process of teachers for research and extension areas in university education in Angola.

SOURCE: AngoIP
Posted to the web 22 February 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103150119.html>

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Botswana

Bocodol to become open university

The Botswana College of Distance and Open Learning, Bocodol, this morning held a stakeholder's breakfast seminar in Francistown to brief them on the envisaged transformation of the college into the Botswana Open University. The proposed transformation of Bocodol into the Botswana Open University would effectively contribute towards a knowledge society and self-sufficiency in human resource development through enhanced provision of tertiary distance education

SOURCE: GABZFM

Posted to the web 9 March 2011

http://www.gabzfm.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=4448:local-news&catid=39:news&Itemid=57

DRC

Renovation of 'martyred' Unikis

The government has approved funding of US\$3 million to repair and modernise six student residences at Unikis, the University of Kisangani, reported *Le Potentiel* of Kinshasa. The renovation of the Unikis accommodation followed a speech to Congress in December by President Joseph Kabila who announced his decision to modernise the country's universities. Other institutions already benefiting were Unikin and Unilu, the Universities of Kinshasa and Lubumbashi..

SOURCE: The Nation

Posted to the web 25 February 2011

http://www.mwnation.com/index.php?option=com_content

Mozambique

Italian Support for UEM

The Mozambican and Italian governments on Monday in Maputo initialled an agreement under which the Mozambique's largest institution of higher education, the Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), will receive support for academic reform, technological innovation and scientific research, budgeted at 5.45 million euros (7.56 million US dollars).

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web on 18 February 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103151431.html>

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Namibia

Namibia, DRC Sign Trade Pact

The governments of Namibia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have reached common understanding on the way forward in the areas of economic development, education, tourism and mining. This was said by the Minister of Works and Transport, Erkki Nghimtina, after the two countries held a second session of the Joint Commission of Cooperation in Windhoek

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 15 March 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103110429.html>

Law academics evaluate pending legislation

Academics from the University of Namibia's law faculty have been given the chance to make direct input into legislation going through the national assembly, and have developed a certificate training programme for MPs in constitutionalism and parliamentary practice. The faculty is also considering inviting the lower house of parliament, the national council, to participate in the parliamentary certificate programme.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to the web 13 March 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2011031210444265>

Mauritius

New universities to be created

The government has approved construction of four new university campuses and will soon give approval to the creation of a veterinary school, according to *L'Express* of Port Louis.

Rajesh Jeetah, Minister for Tertiary Education, announced that 815 million rupees (US\$28.2 million) would be released for the four universities on sites at Pamplémousses, Montagne Blanche, Piton and Rose Belle, reported the paper.

SOURCE: UniversityWorldNews
Posted to web on 13 March 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=2011031209120437>

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Master of Science in Social Protection Financing now available at University of Mauritius

Improving and extending the coverage of social protection is the greatest challenge facing social security in Africa, where less than ten percent of the population has access to existing programmes. In some countries of Africa, the proportion covered is as low as five percent. Key to improving and extending social protection is strengthening the financial management of social security schemes. For this reason, the University of Mauritius, in partnership with the International Labour Office (ILO), Maastricht University and other international organizations, is offering a Master of Science (MSc) in Social Protection Financing.

SOURCE: Wahenga
Posted to web on 13 March 2011
<http://www.wahenga.net/node/2042>

South Africa

DST collaborates on research tool

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) hosted a conference on best practices for its Web-based research tool. Users of the integrated [Research Information Management System](#) (RIMS) met for the first time to share the best practices in implementing the tool. The [DST](#) launched the Web-based research management tool in 2008, to provide real-time information on human resources for science, engineering, technology, research and development (R&D) capacity and technology improvement and innovation.

SOURCE: Newsupdates
Posted to the web 10 March 2011
<http://newsupdates.co.za/dst-collaborates-on-research-tool-258092.htm>

Engineering student intake rises, but schooling pipeline remains a binding constraint

The dean of the Faculty of Engineering at one of South Africa's top universities says that the number of engineers per capita in South Africa has dropped so low that any foreseeable growth in numbers in the immediate future would not bring the country to a competitive level, especially seen against the massive increase in student intake in tertiary education in a country like China. Professor **Roelf Sandenbergh**, of the University of Pretoria (UP), says that the biggest contributor to students not being accepted into engineering programmes at tertiary level is still largely the schooling system.

SOURCE: Engineering News
Posted to the web 11 March 2011
<http://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/engineering-student-intake>

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Getting education right is the point

Education seems to be one of the very topical issues in SA. From outcomes based education to curriculum 2005 up to the most recent adjustment of the grade 12 results, the debate rages on. Students at tertiary institutions have their own issues, ranging from financial and academic exclusion to the poor standard of lectures. On the other hand, industry is complaining about graduates who do not possess the requisite skills for the growth of the economy.

SOURCE: The Businessday
Posted to the web 18 March 2011
<http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=137449>

Zimbabwe

MDGs an Uphill Task

THE Millennium Development Goals Status Report 2010, aimed at providing the current standing of each of the eight MDGs in Zimbabwe and, where possible, show trend patterns in the past decade, has been released amid fears that the country is unlikely to eradicate extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. A team of four Zimbabwean consultants, comprising an economist, educationist, gender specialist and a health specialist facilitated the status report.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to web on 18 March 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103180007.html>