

Higher Education in the News



Africa

SADC universities join forces

Senior university leaders from across the Southern African Development Community (SADC) officially pooled scholastic forces at the establishment of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Working Group on Research, Development and Climate Change, held at UCT recently. The initiative, driven by the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), follows the adoption of a *Framework for Action on Climate Change and Adaptation in Higher Education in SADC*, formulated at the Vice-Chancellors' Leadership Dialogue, a meeting of vice-chancellors from the SADC countries in Mauritius in October 2010.

SOURCE: My Capetown.com

Posted to the web 10 April 2011

<http://mycapetown.co.za/news/2011/04/sadc-universities-join-forces/>

Africa charts development course through governments' participation

The Fourth Joint Annual Meeting of the AU/UNECA Conference of Ministers of Finance and Economic Planning took place in Addis Ababa. The theme of the weeklong conference was Governing Development in Africa – the Role of the State in Economic Transformation. The conference culminated in the launch of the Economic report on Africa – 2011 (ERA 2011). The report outlines key issues affecting Africa including Current and Emerging Development Challenges in Africa, The State and Africa's Developmental Challenges and Africa's Need for a Developmental State.

SOURCE: The Times Zambia

Page last Accessed 15 April 2011

<http://www.afdb.org/en/news-events/article/african-migration-generates-win-win-benefits-says-new-report-7878/>

AfDB approves southern Africa integration plan

The African Development Bank (AfDB) board has approved the 2011-2012 regional integration strategy paper (RISP) for Southern Africa that aims at enhancing competitiveness and poverty reduction in the region. The bank's southern Africa regional integration agenda aims at a fully integrated and internationally competitive region with the overarching objective of poverty reduction.

SOURCE: Daily Mail Zambia

Posted to the web 7 April 2011

<http://www.daily-mail.co.zm/media/news/viewnews.cgi?category=18&id=1302209344>

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Science and Technology

Open access gets more readers, but not more citations

Claims that papers published in [open access](#) journals are not cited more highly than those in paid-for [publications](#) have been criticised by developing world scientists and open access campaigners. A paper published last week (30 March) in *The FASEB Journal* analysed more than 3,000 articles from 36 journals. It found that although open access papers are downloaded more, they are not cited by other scientists any more than paid-for articles. Citation rates are a key measurement of an article's relative importance and value.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net
Posted to the web 7 April 2011
<http://www.scidev.net/en/news/open-access-gets-more-readers-but-not-more-citations-1.html>

Pandor heads to Mozambique to check on SKA preparations

Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor in Mozambique to check on that country's progress in a bid to bring the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project to Africa. Mozambique is one of eight African partner countries helping South Africa secure a chance to host the multi-billion rand project. Pandor will also get an update on various other projects the two countries are working on.

SOURCE: Eye Witness News
Posted to the web 1 April 2011
<http://www.ewn.co.za/articleprog.aspx?id=63867>

Continent Can Now Leapfrog to the Best Technology

As the African continent moves towards embracing a digital future and governments debate the challenges of the digital migration, a wonderful opportunity is unfolding for our continent. Selecting the best possible technology available will drive Africa's technological progress and development given that access to information can radically enhance the lives of the people of Africa.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 7 April 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104040455.html>

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Botswana

The University of Botswana has established the new Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

The University of Botswana has established the new Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences as of April 1, 2011. The Faculty will comprise of four schools which are, the School of Allied Health Professions, School of Medicine, School of Nursing and School of Public Health. The establishment of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences is part of a comprehensive exercise of academic restructuring, and a significant step forward in the University's drive to become a more research-intensive institution by 2021.

SOURCE: University of Botswana
Posted to the web 7 April 2011
<http://www.sundaystandard.info/article.php?NewsID=10346&GroupID=1>

Mozambique

Budget Cuts Will Affect Quality of Higher Education

Education Minister Zeferino Martins has warned that cuts to the budgets of the country's two public universities, the Eduardo Mondlane University and the Pedagogical University, will compromise the quality of education in both institutions. The Minister said during an interview with the newspaper "O Pais" that the budget cuts are due to the current international financial crisis, which has forced the government to reduce funds for some parts of the public sector, including health and education.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 12 March 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104130139.html>

Namibia

WTO research chair launched

World Trade Organisation Deputy Director General Dr Harsha Singh has officially launched a research chair at the University of Namibia, four months after it became one of 14 universities from developing countries selected to hold WTO chairs for four years. The chairs were an integral part of WTO efforts to advance technical assistance and capacity augmentation through its Aid For Trade programme, which encourages teaching and research on international trade issues, he added.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 10 April 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110409153056804>

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NamPower gives Unam N\$3m

NamPower has donated N\$3 million to the University of Namibia's Faculty of Engineering and IT. The money will be used for the procurement and installation of equipment for a high voltage and power system laboratory for the faculty. Apart from the procurement and installation of equipment in the laboratory, the donation also covers the installation of a non-live mini-substation for the students' practicals.

SOURCE: New Era
Posted to the web 14 April 2011
<http://www.newera.com.na/article.php?articleid=38296>

Medical school set for inauguration

Preparations for the inauguration of the new premises for the School of Medicine of the University of Namibia are under way. President Hifikepunye Pohamba is expected to inaugurate the premises nearly a year after he broke the ground to signal the start of their construction. Located between Katutura and Windhoek hospitals, the new campus will house teaching facilities for the Faculty of Health Sciences which includes the School of Medicine, planned schools of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences as well as the School of Nursing

SOURCE: New Era
Posted to the web 7 April 2011
<http://www.newera.com.na/article.php?articleid=38183&title=Medical%20school%20set%20for%20inauguration>

Mauritius

Students throng job fair organised by UoM

The Student Union, in collaboration with the faculty of law and management (FLM) at the University of Mauritius. The objective of the fair was to facilitate networking between students and prospective employers. It is an opportunity where employers can meet potential employees and discuss issues like working environment, work culture, individual and professional development.

SOURCE: The Independent (Mauritius)
Posted to web on 13 April 2011
<http://theindependent.mu/2011/04/14/students-throng-job-fair-organised-by-uom/>

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South Africa

South Africa adds legitimacy to BRICS

Ahead of the first meetings of **BRICS** nations, analysts have hailed South Africa's inclusion as offering impetus and reach to the economic block. South Africa was added to the BRICS group of nations as a strategic and political measure by the founding member nations. Making its debut at the summit, South Africa has earned a spot politically as the stepping stone to the quickly emerging states of sub-Saharan Africa, which helps expand the geographic reach of the original BRIC states — Brazil Russia, India and China.

SOURCE: News Updates
Posted to the web 14 April 2011
<http://newsupdates.co.za/analysis-south-africa-adds-legitimacy-to-brics-276988.htm>

UFH to host Conference on Higher Education in South Africa

The University of Fort Hare is extending an open invitation to all interested parties to attend and to read academic papers at a conference to be held at the University from 22 to 24 November 2011. Conference theme: "Beyond the Apartheid University? Interrogating the transformation of the South African Higher Education landscape".

SOURCE: Govan Mbeki Research and Development Centre
Posted to the web 14 April 2011
<http://www.ufhgmrdc.ac.za/AboutUs/GMRDCNews.aspx>

South Africa, Tanzania Strengthen Science Co-operation

South Africa and Tanzania will sign a bilateral agreement in Tanzania on Friday that will provide the two African states with a framework for cooperation in science and technology. This provides significant opportunity for South Africa, through the Department of Science and Technology, to provide support to Tanzania in developing its science and technology system by strengthening regional integration in the sector.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 7 April 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104080058.html>

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Tanzania

Govt Allocates Sh100 Billion for Higher Education Institutions

The Government has allocated Sh100 billion for implementing a new programme to improve higher learning institutions during the fiscal year 2010/2011, with priority being placed on rehabilitating dormitories and hostels. The deputy minister for Education and Vocational Training, Mr Phillip Mlugu, said yesterday that the programme known as MEJU will tackle various problems facing students. He said these have been the major source of riots and demonstrations in the universities and other higher learning institutions.

SOURCE: The Citizen

Posted to web on 6 April 2011

<http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/news/4-national-news/9716-govt-allocates-sh100bn-for-higher-education-institutions.html>

Zambia

State Looks to UNESCO for Upgrading Teaching Skills

THE Government has appealed to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) to help support the upgrading of teaching skills in selected Technical Education, Vocational Entrepreneurship Training (TEVET) institutions to enhance science and technology in Zambia. Science, Technology and Vocational Training Minister Peter Daka said despite the strides the Government was making to improve skills training in science and technology, more should be done for Zambia to achieve its Vision 2030 of becoming a middle-income State.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to web on 14 April 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104060587.html>

Zimbabwe

Loan Scheme for Academic Glory

BANKS and other private players should complement government's efforts in resuscitating the country's education system by providing loans and grants to tertiary education students, if the country is to return to its glory days of academic excellence, the Ministry of Finance secretary has said. Willard Manungo said tertiary institutions needed in excess of US\$150 million annually if the government was to implement in full the loans and grant scheme.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to web on 7 April 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104010728.html>

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Tough times for Zimbabwe's science minister

Next month, Zimbabwe plans to make public the results of its science and technology [policy](#) review, which began in February. The review could be seen as a verdict on the work of Heneri Dzinotyiweyi, who [took over as science and technology minister two years ago](#) with a pledge to rebuild the [research capacity](#) of institutions and plug the country's brain drain. He has established a department for the commercialisation of research and development, as well as a framework for a national [nanotechnology](#) programme.

SOURCE: SCIDEV.Net

Posted to web on 7 April 2011

<http://www.scidev.net/en/features/tough-times-for-zimbabwe-s-science-minister.html>