

Higher Education in the News



Africa

Africa Education Ministers Set for Nairobi Conference

Education ministers from Africa gather in Nairobi next week to finalise details on setting up of a new university in Kenya to handle the continent's science and technology training. The Conference of African Ministers of Education (COMEDAF IV) will deliberate on statutes of the university, research policies, curriculum, develop an African accreditation procedure as well as host agreement with Kenya. Already, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) has been selected as the hub of the Pan African University (PAU), which will start offering degree programmes in September.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 10 April 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201105050139.html>

More academics joining regional register

Increasing numbers of lecturers and researchers are qualifying to join the common register of approved personnel of CAMES, the *Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l'Enseignement Supérieur* (African and Malagasy Higher Education Council), Mamadou Moustapha Sall, the organisation's outgoing general secretary, told ministers and other delegates from the 18 member countries.

Professor Sall was addressing the 28th ministerial session of CAMES, which took place in Libreville, Gabon, this month, where the theme was "University governance and integration".

SOURCE: University World News

Posted to the web 24 April 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110421211133739>

Finnish Fund Innovation

THE Finnish government has granted about N\$60,5 million to Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique and Zambia to strengthen areas of economic growth, poverty alleviation and local development. The programme also identifies issues which place countries in the region at risk, such as climate change, to be able to mobilise the combined strength of the national systems for the innovative mitigation and adaption of technology and social innovation as appropriate solutions to these

SOURCE: The Namibian

Posted to the web 12 May 2011

[http://www.namibian.com.na/index.php?id=28&tx_ttnews\[tt_news\]=81513&no_cache=1](http://www.namibian.com.na/index.php?id=28&tx_ttnews[tt_news]=81513&no_cache=1)

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Science and Technology

Pan-African parliamentary science forum launched

An Africa-wide forum for parliamentarians which aims to give science, technology and innovation ([ST&I](#)) a more central role in the policy-making process was launched this week (2 May). The African Inter-Parliamentary Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation (AIPF-STI) was launched by speakers, presidents and delegates of African parliaments on the sidelines of the Second Session of the Committee on Development Information, Science and Technology (CODIST-II), held in Ethiopia.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net
Posted to the web 4 May 2011
<http://www.scidev.net/en/news/pan-african-parliamentary-science-forum-launched.html>

Only two African nations make top 50 in ICT

Tunisia and Mauritius are in the top 50 global leaders list in information and communication technologies. But most African countries are following a "disappointing" downward trend relative to the rest of the world, according to the latest world ICT report. Sweden tops the networked readiness rankings followed by Singapore, Finland, Switzerland and America.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 24 April 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110421202122176>

Angola

Brazilian Embassy Offers Scholarships

The embassy of Brazil in Luanda announced Tuesday here it is inviting applications from candidates wishing to study in its universities as from the year 2012. the embassy states that the scholarships are part of the Students Graduation Programme (PEC-G/2012), jointly run by the Division of Education of the Brazilian Foreign Ministry and the Department of Higher Education of the Ministry of Education and Culture. The programme, has the support of more than 90 higher education institutions around Brazil offering scholarships free of charge.

SOURCE: Angola Press
Posted to the web 5 May 2011
http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en_us/noticias

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Impact of Media Libraries on Future Generation Education Highlighted

The Deputy Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technologies, Pedro Sebastião Teta, highlighted on Tuesday in Soyo district in the northern Zaire province the importance of the media libraries in the education process of the future generations. Pedro Sebastião Teta, who is also the executive co-ordinator of the Angolan Media Library Network (REMA), said that the project contributes to the researches that will enable the socio-economic development of the country.

SOURCE: Angola Press
Posted to the web 12 May 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201105111038.html>

Malawi

Malawi finally starts building science university

Seven years after it was first mooted, the Malawi [University](#) of Science and Technology (MUST) is finally getting off the ground. At the foundation-stone ceremony, Mutharika said the university will create a pool of experts in areas such as environmental science and African [traditional medicine](#). He said it will be an academic centre of excellence, offering undergraduate, postgraduate and postdoctoral studies, and will provide a platform for African scientists to share knowledge.

SOURCE: Scidev.Net
Posted to the web 29 April 2011
<http://www.scidev.net/en/news/malawi-finally-starts-building-science-university-1.html>

Mozambique

Mozambique Higher Education Project

The Mozambique Higher Education Program (HEP) built on the Government's *Strategy for the Development of Higher Education* (2000). Major HE institutions in Mozambique are Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM), Pedagogical University (UP), and Higher Institute for International Relations (ISRI). The project has contributed to an increase in the number of students enrolled in higher education institutions from 9,800 in 2000 to 63,000 in 2007, and 80,000 in 2010 among other encouraging results.

SOURCE: The World Bank
Posted to the web 6 May 2011
<http://web.worldbank.org>

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Namibia

UNAM Medical School Campus Officially Opened

Government's vision of ending a situation where many Namibians lack access to medical doctors, has taken a major step with the new University of Namibia (UNAM) School of Medicine. The UNAM medical school is being developed in five phases. Friday saw the inauguration of part of phase one that is made up of office buildings for academic and administrative staff, laboratories as well as the departments of anatomy and physiology.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 6 May 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201105050826.html>

Mauritius

Finishing touches put on distance learning draft

Distance learning plays a significant role in improving access to education. It is gradually gaining momentum in Mauritius. In this context, a workshop on the validation of a draft distance education policy for Mauritius was officially opened by the minister of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology Dr Rajesh Jeetah . The workshop is an initiative of the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC) which aims to formulate policies and strategies to promote and develop quality tertiary education in the country.

SOURCE: The Independent (Mauritius)

Posted to web on 25 April 2011

<http://theindependent.mu/2011/04/22/finishing-touches-put-on-distance-learning-draft/>

South Africa

Minister Wants More Assistance for Young Graduates

To help the country address its skills shortage challenge, Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande wants public entities and government departments to play a bigger role in helping young students and graduates to get accreditation in their chosen professions. Nzimande was highlighting his performance agreement with President Zuma, the challenges in meeting the targets, and how the professional bodies could help the country produce the required professionals for the economy.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 5 May 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201105040053.html>

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Health Faculties Transforming Universities

The health faculties of South African universities have been applauded by members of the Portfolio Committee on Health for their efforts to transform their faculties to reflect the demographics of the country. The deans of the various health faculties appeared before the Committee to present their curriculum and admission criteria. Professor Khaya Mfenyana, Chairperson of Deans for Medical Sciences, and Dean of Health Sciences at Walter Sisulu University in the Eastern Cape, said the universities were trying to reach the same goals, but in different ways.

SOURCE: Parliament of the Republic of South Africa
Posted to the web 24 April 2011
http://www.parliament.gov.za/live/content.php?Item_ID=1499

Regional integration can give substance to SA's Brics role

NORTH Africa's current political conflagration, fuelled in part by rising food prices, should focus the attention of southern Africa's governments on challenges to our food security, including the ever present threat of drought and the longer-term effects of climate change. A practical, regional approach to food and water security in southern Africa could also re-energise the stalled regional integration agenda and help to cement SA's case for joining the Brics, the dominant developing market economies.

SOURCE: Businessday
Posted to the web 10 May 2011
<http://www.businessday.co.za/articles/Content.aspx?id=142230>

Tanzania

Higher Funding for Research Good Idea

The government's decision to triple the research budget in the next financial year is commendable. It demonstrates a commitment to carrying out a systematic investigation into the various socio-economic challenges in the search for appropriate solutions. The current research budget of Sh30 billion is hardly enough to cater for all the inquiries needed to provide answers to the myriad of problems. For the country to command enough knowledge and resources to industrialise, more funds must be put at the disposal of researchers in the various fields.

SOURCE: The citizen
Posted to the web 4 May 2011
<http://www.thecitizen.co.tz/editorial-analysis>

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e-Learning boosts higher education access

In the past decade Tanzania's public universities have witnessed rapid growth in enrolment. But this has not been matched by expansion of existing facilities and development of new ones. With government funding of public higher education continuing to decline, institutions are seeking innovative ways to earn additional income and cater for increasing student numbers. Today, there are nearly 30 public and private universities in Tanzania. Demand for higher education is huge: at the country's oldest and most prestigious university, the University of Dar es Salaam, or UDSM - established in 1970 - the student population, which stood at barely 2,000 in 1991, is today estimated at 15,000.

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 4 May 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110508101655939>

Zambia

Govt Pumps K5 Billion Into Teachers' Degree Programme

The Ministry of Education has released K5.5 billion for the implementation and management of the fast track teacher training degree programme that the upgrading of 925 diploma-holding teachers to degree level qualifications. Education Minister, Dora Siliya said the programme would be offered by the University of Zambia (UNZA), University of Lusaka and Zambia Open University using the distance learning mode with regular contact sessions during holidays.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to web on 5 May 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201105050600.html>

Second medical school to open soon

Zambia is set to open a second medical school soon, Deputy Minister of Health Christopher Kalila has said. And the government has devised an "elaborate incentive scheme" aimed at retaining graduates and combating medical brain drain. Kalila told parliament recently that the new institution would be called the Copperbelt University School of Medicine, or CUSOM, and would be affiliated to Copperbelt University. The initial intake would be 40 medical and 10 dental students.

SOURCE: University world News
Posted to web on 24 April 2011
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110421211603485>

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Zimbabwe

Private Sector Urged to Support ICT Projects

DELEGATES who attended the Information Communication Technology symposium in the capital on Wednesday urged local businesses to support and fund ICT research, development programmes and centres. Permanent secretary in the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology Engineer Sam Kundishora urged players in the private sector to facilitate the establishment of ICT infrastructure. His ministry is currently spearheading a review of the ICT policy.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to web on 12 May 2011
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201105130076.html>