



# Higher Education in the News

## Global

### [AU Pan-African University launches](#)

SOURCE: Biz Tech Africa, Posted to the web 30 July 2012

The [AU Pan African University](#) proposed four years ago will admit its first students in September. The PAU was proposed by the African Union in 2008. It will comprise five branches in centres across Africa, with each branch focusing on a specific area of study. PAU is intended to enable African students to embark on high-level, specialized fields of study in their own region.

### [Association of African Universities loses new leader](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 3 August 2012

The struggling Association of African Universities (AAU), the umbrella body for higher education institutions across the continent, has lost another secretary general prematurely. Professor Olugbemi Jgedede, who was appointed in 2011 and has been in office for less than two years, will leave the association at the end of this month after apparently being recalled to Nigeria to attend to 'national duties'. Jgedede had replaced Professor Goolam Mohammedbhai, a former vice-chancellor of the University of Mauritius.

### [New programme to study higher education leadership and governance](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 12 August 2012

The Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa, CODESRIA, is calling for proposals for a new research programme supporting university-based academics in six African countries to undertake studies into higher education leadership and governance. The countries that will initially benefit from the Higher Education Leadership Programme, or HELP, are Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda – countries where HELP projects are already under way.

### [US University Receives Grant To Train Africa's Agricultural Scientists](#)

SOURCE: African Investor, Posted to the web 8 August 2012

America's Michigan State University has received a \$7.3 million grant that will be channeled towards building the capacity of agricultural scientists in Africa as the continent struggles to achieve food security. The project dubbed Borlaug Higher Education Agricultural Research and Development after Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Norman Borlaug, will begin in Ghana, Uganda, Mali, Mozambique as well as Bangladesh in Asia.



## Science and Technology

### [Energy Access Crucial for Attainment of MDGs](#)

SOURCE: All Africa Global Media, Posted to the web 2 August 2012

Access to energy is widely regarded as the "missing" Millennium Development Goal (MDG) and debate among development experts is that poverty eradication and the general global socio-economic condition would improve if energy were to be identified as the ninth MDG. Street-lighting improves the safety of women and girls at night, allowing them to attend night schools and participate in community activities. Data from the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA) shows that more men than women enrol for tertiary education, despite the fact that latter makes up more than half of the SADC population.

### [High-level panel to review African science](#)

SOURCE: Research Africa , Posted to the web 6 August 2012

The African Union (AU) has created an advisory panel to review the progress on Africa's science and technology plan. An eight-member panel will meet for the first time on 8 and 9 August in Alexandria, Egypt, to discuss progress on Africa's Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA) for science, technology and innovation. Calestous Juma, a Kenya-born international development professor at Harvard Kennedy School in the United States, will chair the panel together with Ismail Serageldin, director of the Library of Alexandria in Egypt.

## Botswana

### [BIUST to attract investors](#)

SOURCE: Daily News, Posted to the web 6 August 2012

Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) is strategically located and this would increase the country's chances of attracting investors and business people. In an interview with BOPA at the campus tour on Wednesday, BIUST Chancellor and former president Mr Festus Mogae said it was advantageous for BIUST to be located in Palapye because the village was along the A1 road, a railway line and it sits in the center of the eastern part of the country.

### [Botswana tech park wants tenants](#)

SOURCE: IT Web Africa , Posted to the web 7 August 2012

Botswana's first science and technology park has put out an expression of interest to potential tenants ahead of the much anticipated opening of the project in 2014. The developers of the park, Botswana Innovation Hub (BIH), have said construction of the 31,000 square metre facility is to kick off during the first quarter of 2013.



### [School of Medicine opens to public](#)

SOURCE: The Botswana Guardian, Posted to the web 10 August 2012

The University of Botswana School of Medicine has begun operations. The new building was opened to the media and members of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Education and Skills Development. The Dean of Health Sciences Professor Yohana Mashalla said the building was financed by government at a value between P400 million and P500 million.

## Mauritius

### [IBM helps Mauritius with ICT skills](#)

SOURCE: IT Online, Posted to the web 30 July 2012

IBM has announced a collaboration agreement with the University of Mauritius to help meet the demand for computer science skills in the Indian Ocean island region. The joint academic initiative will provide technology and training resources while boosting support for computer science professionals at the University.

## Namibia

### [Higher education review in offing](#)

SOURCE: The Namibian, Posted to the web 3 August 2012

IF current trends in tertiary education continue, Namibia will have a shortage of semi-skilled labour and unemployment among higher education graduates in all sectors by 2030, suggests a preliminary review of higher education demand. An Kitzinger, a consultant from Higher Education Management Africa, said the current structure of tertiary education in Namibia has an “over focus” on general vocational training and degree courses at the expense of lower vocational training levels, below apprenticeship levels.

## Seychelles

### [UniSeY partners with top Mauritius resorts for hotel management degree](#)

SOURCE: Seychelles Nation, Posted to the web 6 August 2012

The University of Seychelles (UniSeY) has signed partnership agreements with two top Mauritius hotel groups to allow practical trainee attachments at their establishments for students pursuing a four-year course in hospitality and tourism management. The memorandums of understanding were signed at UniSeY by the university’s vice-chancellor, Marina Confait, with the human resource managers of Shanti Maurice and Beachcomber hotels, Deepak Balgobin and Bertrand Piat, respectively.



## South Africa

### [We need to raise science awareness: Pandor](#)

SOURCE: New Age, Posted to the web 28 July 2012

Raising public awareness about science, engineering and technology, is one of the key priorities of my department, Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor said on Saturday. "Raising public awareness of science, engineering and technology does not appear to be as important as the highly varied and advanced scientific activity taking place in our universities and science councils," said Pandor.

### [Poor leadership cripples tertiary institutions](#)

SOURCE: Sunday Independent, Posted to the web 30 July 2012

WITH five universities placed under administration in less than a year, the management and leadership of these institutions has come under the microscope. Assessors appointed by Higher Education Minister Blade Nzimande to investigate the rot have produced damning reports that paint a disturbing picture of poor governance and bad management..

### [Knowledge accumulation key factor in economic growth](#)

SOURCE: Business Day Live, Posted to the web 30 July 2012

AN ECONOMY's competitiveness depended on the capabilities and human resources in the country, and comparing SA's research output to global output indicated SA's capabilities, Anastassios Pouris, director at the University of Pretoria's Institute for Technological Innovation, said at the weekend. Research and development (R&D) is a key driver of economic growth, competitiveness and job creation, and is the foundation for a knowledge economy.

### [African Doctoral Academy attracts international participation and expertise](#)

SOURCE: African Doctoral Academy, Posted to the web 8 August 2012

Building on the success of Stellenbosch University's African Doctoral Academy (ADA) Winter School, the ADA is pleased to announce that its next event, the ADA Summer School will be presented 14-25 January 2013. These courses in research methodology for the social sciences are aimed at current and prospective PhD students, but are open to anyone holding a Master's degree.

## Tanzania

### [UDSM to Start Postgraduate Course on Climate Change](#)

SOURCE: All Africa Global Media, Posted to the web 1 August 2012

THE University of Dar es Salaam is developing a curriculum on Masters of Science degree in Climate Change and Sustainable Development to enable the varsity become a centre for excellence with respect to climate change studies. The Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof Rwekaza Mukandala, said that the curriculum to be established through Climate Change Research, Education and outreach Programme (CCREOP) would be operated under the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Professional Chair in Environment and Climate Change.



## **OUT up to standard-Malecela**

Open University of Tanzania (OUT) Chancellor, John Malecela has defended the education standard provided by the university saying it met all required standards. He made the remarks in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday when opening the 20th anniversary celebration of OUT and took the opportunity to rebut the institution's critics. Malecela sees the university, in his words, as the savior of the poor who lacked the opportunity to join the few universities otherwise available in the country.

SOURCE: IPP Media  
Posted to the web 2 August 2012  
<http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/index.php?!=44332>

## **Tanzania bandwidth costs down 'thousands of percent'**

The arrival of new submarine telecommunications cables starting in 2009, paired with government investment in the national telecommunications backbone, has spurred a revolution in Tanzania that has seen the cost of Internet connectivity drop to as little as 15 US cents a day on a prepaid service. This represents an effective drop of thousands of percent in the cost of internet bandwidth in the country over the past three to four years, says Anna Kahama-Rupia, managing director of Seacom Tanzania.

SOURCE: Biztech Africa  
Posted to the web 7 August 2012  
<http://www.biztechfrica.com/article/tanzania-bandwidth-costs-down-thousands-percent/3782/>

## **Zambia**

### **Universities' use of ICTs improves, but challenges remain**

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 29 July 2012

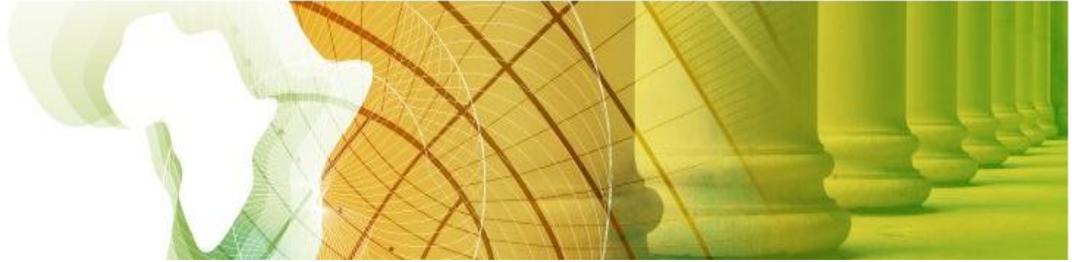
Zambia's higher education institutions have improved in the field of information and communication technologies (ICTs) – but access remains very low. In a report tabled in parliament this month, following an investigation that started last year, the legislature's education, science and technology committee said tertiary institutions had evolved tremendously in the use and application of ICTs.

### **Zambian delegation to African education summit**

SOURCE: Biztech Africa, Posted to the web 29 July 2012

Zambian Education Minister John Phiri will lead a delegation of Zambian officials to attend an [innovation summit](#) in Cape Town, South Africa in October. Phiri will join other African Ministers of Education and Technology from Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Angola, Botswana, Ghana, Mozambique, and Rwanda.

The Summit will present an opportunity for Phiri to present his ministry's progress on policies and implementation after one year in office before an international audience.



## Zimbabwe

### [Zim to boost R&D](#)

SOURCE: BizTech Africa, Posted to the web 28 July 2012

Zimbabwe's government says it will allocate 1% of its national budget towards scientific research and development, to keep up with the latest technological advancements. That translates to USD34 million from the revised 2012 budget, but Science and Technology Minister Professor Heneri Dzinotiwei says that is not enough.

### [Mbada Diamonds releases \\$1 million UZ pledge](#)

SOURCE: Daily News, Posted to the web 5 August 2012

ining giant Mbada Diamonds has released \$1 million towards the construction of University of Zimbabwe (UZ) metallurgy department. The diamond company adopted the dysfunctional department in April and promised to resuscitate it. Mbada Diamonds chief executive officer Patience Khumalo said the company was committed to fulfilling its mandate of ploughing back into communities through intellectual property for national development.