



Higher Education in the News

Global

[Stronger universities needed to support development](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 25 November 2012

Sub-Saharan Africa is experiencing positive economic development, and there is increasing understanding of the important contributions universities have to make if African societies are to achieve the next stages of development. So said Professor Nico Cloete, director of the Centre for Higher Education Transformation in Cape Town, at a seminar on “Research and Development” held in Oslo earlier this month and convened by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) and the Norwegian Research Council. The conference was among efforts to support researchers in developing countries and to enhance knowledge-based development

[African Union taskforce proposes continental research council](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 25 November 2012

An African Union-appointed taskforce has recommended the creation of a continental research council, to ensure that science becomes an effective instrument in overcoming underdevelopment, creating wealth and improving livelihoods in Africa. The taskforce concluded that the case for the establishment of an African Research Council (ARC) was strong, as it could fill important gaps in the terrain of research in Africa and help the continent in its quest to better interface research and policy.

[The future of African Development through its historical analysis](#)

SOURCE: University of Johannesburg, Posted to the web 5 December 2012

On Friday 28 September, the University of Johannesburg was privileged to welcome the Director of the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), Dr Adebayo Olukoshi to deliver an International Leadership Platform Public Lecture on “South Africa/Africa Relations.” The public lecture was hosted by the Vice-Chancellor and Principal of the University of Johannesburg, Prof Ihron Rensburg, who gave the welcome address. Prof Adam Habib, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research and Library, was the Respondent to the public lecture; Prof Chris Landsberg, Head of the Department of Politics, Dr Pinkie Mekgwe, Executive Director of the Division for Internationalisation, and Dr Sydney Mufamadi were among other dignitaries.

Science and Technology

[Open access to knowledge will boost Africa’s development](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 25 November 2012

Open access can help Africa to address its developmental challenges by moving the continent from the periphery of knowledge production to the centre. And the growth of open access on the continent signifies that Africa is ready to lead itself and its sciences deeper into the 21st century. Wherever one goes on the continent, there is a tremendous enthusiasm for knowledge production and full participation in the global knowledge community says Professor Russel Botman, Vice-Chancellor of Stellenbosch University.

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[Research network to service Africa](#)

SOURCE: IT Online, Posted to the web 29 November 2012

DANTE, the operator of pan-European research and education network GÉANT, and UbuntuNet Alliance, the regional research and education network for Southern and Eastern Africa, have announced the launch of the UbuntuNet network, a high-speed Internet network connecting scientists and academics throughout Southern and Eastern Africa to peers in the region and to Europe, the first network of its kind in Africa.

Malawi

[Science 'varsity to be handed over Dec](#)

SOURCE: Daily Times, Posted to the web 27 November 2012

The Malawi University of Science and Technology (MUST) currently under construction in Thyolo district is set to be handed over to the Malawi government next month, a senior official in the ministry of Education said. The university which is located within late President Bingu wa Mutharika's Ndata farm is being constructed with a grant from the Chinese government amounting to US\$79 million. The university will have four faculties. The Institute of Science and Technology, The Academy of Medical Science, Ndata School of Metrology and Climate Change and School of African Culture and Heritage.

Mauritius

[Mauritius hosts 1st International Bilingual Conference on Sustainable Entrepreneurship](#)

SOURCE: Government of Mauritius, Posted to the web 25 November 2012

The International Bilingual Conference on Sustainable Entrepreneurship opened yesterday at Le Meridien Hotel, Balaclava. The three-day event is jointly organised by the Faculty of Law and Management of the University of Mauritius and the Institut de la Francophonie pour L'Entrepreneuriat (IFE), which provides advanced training in entrepreneurship and works towards the promotion of entrepreneurial culture in Francophone countries. The main objective of the Conference is to promote high-quality research and development among stakeholders in the field of sustainable development pertaining to entrepreneurship.

Mozambique

[AITEC Mozambique to gather international and local experts to focus on ICT](#)

SOURCE: Web Business, Posted to the web 2 December 2012

With the rapid growth in Mozambique's economy, there is an urgent need to invest in ICT systems and skills that will empower the country's managers to maximise the positive returns of these new opportunities for enterprises and the nation. This is the challenge that the Southern Africa ICT Summit, being held in Maputo over 5 and 6 December, will be posing for the over 500 ICT professionals and managers that will be attending the intensive two-day knowledge-sharing event.



South Africa

[Graduate unemployment in a skills-short economy bedevils growth](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 25 November 2012

South Africa has a glaring disparity between its higher education system and the workplace, an issue that can only further harm an economy struggling to absorb its youth and grow in line with its BRICS – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – trading bloc partners. South African Graduates Development Association ([SAGDA](#)) CEO Thamsanqa Maqubela said graduate unemployment – defined as that among people with a minimum three-year academic or vocational qualification – had escalated since the global economic recession.

[Partnership aims to bolster leadership and management in Africa](#)

SOURCE: African Business Review, Posted to the web 2 December 2012

Africa's top business school and one of the world's leading consulting firms have joined forces to boost leadership and management capacity in Zimbabwe by launching an innovative strategic alliance in that country. The first-of-its-kind partnership between the [UCT Graduate School of Business \(UCT GSB\)](#) and [PwC Advisory Services, Zimbabwe](#), will see the two working together to co-design and roll out executive education across the private and public sector with a view to bringing world-class learning opportunities to companies' doorsteps.

[Reflections on BRICS: prospects for South Africa and Africa](#)

SOURCE: University of Johannesburg, Posted to the web 5 December 2012

On 24 October 2012, the Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Mr Ebrahim I Ebrahim delivered a remarkable public lecture on the International Leadership Platform, titled "Reflections on BRICS: prospects for South Africa and Africa". The Division for Internationalisation at the University of Johannesburg (UJ) in collaboration with the Department of International Relations & Cooperation (DIRCO) facilitated the public lecture at the Soweto Campus.

Tanzania

[Varsity expansion to cost Sh260m](#)

SOURCE: The Citizen, Posted to the web 26 November 2012

Ardhi University has set aside Sh260 million for the university's expansion of projects to accommodate more students. Speaking to members of the press at the weekend, the University's Vice Chancellor, Prof Idrissa Mshoro, said, that such a fund was earmarked for building students' accommodation structures at the college as part and parcel of increasing students' enrolment.

Zimbabwe

[Virtual Learning Centre on MDGs Launches in Zimbabwe](#)

Development Reality Institute (DRI) in partnership with the Ministry of Economic Planning and Implementation Programme, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) have launched Zimbabwe's first ever virtual learning platform on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) for the country. The online facility offers a platform to



learn, share resources and lessons, discussions and other interactive facilities to help development workers and interested participants to connect and advance MDGs.

[ICT policy successfully validated](#)

SOURCE: The Herald, Posted to the web 28 November 2012

STAKEHOLDERS in the ICT sector recently met at a local hotel to validate the drafting of the national information communication technology policy framework. The validation stage involved corroborating information, which was gathered during the outreach programme with the information contained in the draft to replace the current eight-year-old policy. The head of the University of Zimbabwe's Computer Centre Dr Gilford Hapanyengwi called for a serious approach and expeditious implementation of all the agreed pointers during the outreach and validation process.

[Higher education, science on the move after crisis](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 2 December 2012

Zimbabwe has made strides in implementing some targets contained in its five-year science and higher education policy, as efforts to improve standards eroded by a decade of turmoil gather momentum. The 2011-15 Medium Term Plan, or MTP – which encompasses science, information and communication technology (ICT) and transformation of the university sector – has borne fruit in its first year of implementation, even though a lot of ground still needs to be covered, according to an official review.

[ZOU signs MOUs](#)

SOURCE: Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation, Posted to the web 6 December 2012

Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU) Vice Chancellor, Dr Primrose Kurasha says it is critical for local academics and professionals to acquire knowledge of global business trends so that they become more competitive. Dr Kurasha made the remarks at a signing ceremony of a memorandum of understanding with the Laying Solid Foundation (LASOF) leadership institute and the Southern African Association of Accounting (SAAA) in Harare this Thursday. Under the two agreements, the university will partner the institutions in running development training programmes aimed at equipping professionals in entrepreneurship, global strategy and accounting.