



Higher Education in the News

Africa

[Mamdani blames World Bank for poor education standards](#)

SOURCE: New Vision
Posted to the web 28 March 2012

Renowned scholar Prof. Mahmood Mamdani has blamed the World Bank for the poor quality of university education in Uganda and across Africa. Mamdani particularly attributed [Makerere University](#)'s current woes and fading glory to the World Bank's ill-fated structural adjustment policies (SAPs) on education. He made the remarks during the fourth lecture of the [Makerere University](#) Africa lecture series.

[Northern Node of Pan-African University Launched in Country](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 28 March 2012

The northern node of the Pan African University (PAU) was formally launched at a meeting in the Algerian capital earlier this month. The Algerian campus is the fourth of five being set up around the continent by the African Union (AU), to improve the quality of postgraduate science education and research and boost regional economic productivity.

[Emerging countries need world-class universities](#)

SOURCE: University World News
Posted to the web 25 March 2012

All tertiary education systems face the problem of breadth and depth. More specifically, where should they strike the balance between extending tertiary participation across more of the population in good institutions (breadth), and building the scientific firepower of a small number of outstanding research universities so that they rise in the global rankings (depth)? Naturally everyone wants both.

Science and Technology

[Good SKA news for Scifest](#)

SOURCE: SciDev.Net
Posted to the web 12 March 2012

Over the past few days, the internet has been abuzz with reports traced back to the Sydney Morning Herald indicating that the scientific panel for the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio telescope has favoured South Africa's bid ahead of the joint Australia and New Zealand proposal. This is extraordinarily good news for South Africa, because although the final decision rests with the SKA board of directors consisting of representatives from China, Holland, Italy and Britain, the scientific panel report is extremely influential.



[Free Wi-Fi for the people](#)

SOURCE: Service Leadership in Local Government
Posted to the web 23 March 2012

Transforming the historic town of Stellenbosch into the hi-tech capital of Africa through a partnership between the University of Stellenbosch, the instant messaging platform MXit and the local municipality by offering free Wi-Fi Internet access, is the vision of Alan Knott-Craig Jr., chief executive officer of MXit. The hope is that MXit's bandwidth will serve the initiative's early needs, although the university and SEACOM may be called in to provide extra if and when it is needed.

[Spend more on science: Pandor](#)

SOURCE: The New Age
Posted to the web 26 March 2012

The southern African region should spend more on science and technology, Science Minister Naledi Pandor said on Tuesday. "We need to become active innovators, productive researchers and be supportive industrial partners to the private sectors and to the service sectors in our countries," she said. Pandor was speaking at the fourth joint committee meeting between South Africa and Angola at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria.

Angola

[UAN Stresses Importance of Research Centre](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 27 March 2011

The Public Policies Research and Local Governance Centre of the Agostinho Neto University (UAN) Law Faculty stands as a viable alternative to respond to the needs of institutions, helping to understand the analysis of public policies and local governance. This was said Monday in Luanda by UAN chancellor, Orlando da Mata, during the opening of the Research Centre's academic year.

Botswana

[UB and Partners to Launch Vaccine Development Project](#)

SOURCE: University of Botswana
Posted to the web 28 March 2011

The University of Botswana (UB), through the Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science, will launch a vaccine development project on April 2nd, 2012 at the Gaborone Sun Conference Centre. In collaboration with the Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI) and Pitzer College, California, USA, the launch will culminate in the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement that will govern the partnership.



[How gov't plans to fix its tertiary training blunders](#)

SOURCE: Botswana Gazette
Posted to the web 28 March 2011

Part of the numbers of unemployed youth has been blamed on skill-mismatch. Recently the Minister of Education and Skills Development (MoESD) Pelonomi Venson Moitsoi told Parliament that her Ministry has established that there is shortage of skills and skill-mismatch in the job market hence they are introducing a re-tooling and re-skilling programme from August this year. The reskilling and retooling programme means that those who already have tertiary education qualifications but remain unemployed will be taken for training in fields that have not been saturated yet.

Mozambique

[Eduardo Mondlane university introduces new mining courses](#)

SOURCE: Mining Review
Posted to the web 13 March 2012

The Vice-Chancellor of Eduardo Mondlane University (UEM) in Mozambique has announced the introduction of three new degree courses related to mining and oil exploration Eduardo Mondlane University would this year offer courses in Cartography and Geological Surveying, Applied Geology, and Oil Engineering. He also announced four new master's degrees in the areas of Oil Engineering, Wood Technology, Food Technology, and Resource Management.

South Africa

[Higher Education to Take Over Management of Fets](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)
Posted to the web 9 March 2012

Over R147 billion invested over 15 years is needed to alleviate the massive backlog and improve conditions for student housing, revealed a report released by the Minister of Higher Education Blade Nzimande today. Releasing the ministerial committee's report on the review of the provision of student housing in Parliament, Nzimande said inadequate student housing had been a contributing factor to the country's high university failure rate.

[White River earmarked for university](#)

SOURCE: Jacaranda
Posted to the web 12 March 2012

Plans for a new university in White River in Mpumalanga have been expedited because of an overwhelming need, the provincial government said on Monday. Provincial government spokesman, Lebona Mosia, said the fatal stampede at the University of Johannesburg in January was a factor in accelerating the process. Mosia said the Mpumalanga government was asked by the national department of higher education and training to identify parcels of land where a university could be built. White River was deemed appropriate.



[Nzimande identifies causes of skills gap](#)

SOURCE: Get News

Posted to the web 15 March 2012

The failure of business to equip workforce by providing training opportunities to graduates and school leavers is part of the underlying cause of skills gap in the country and the department of higher education has called for employers to take their part. The minister of higher education, Blade Nzimande told parliament that in other countries employers provide training at their own expense. He said although the government is supposed to play the forefront role in skills development, businesses should open doors to provide learnerships.

[UKZN researchers make major impact](#)

SOURCE: The Mercury

Posted to the web 15 March 2012

The University of KwaZulu-Natal yesterday officially welcomed some of the province's top matrics into its fold, just as it also celebrated being among the top three universities in the country for the amount of research it generated in 2010. According to a report by the Department of Higher Education and Training, UKZN contributed 11.8 percent of the country's total research output.

[Varsities 'no' to Info Bill](#)

SOURCE: The Citizen

Posted to the web 23 March 2011

Twenty-three public universities, represented by their vice-chancellors, have voiced their opposition to the controversial Protection of State Information Bill. This may put the vice-chancellors, acting under the umbrella of Higher Education SA (Hesa), on a collision course with the Minister of Higher Education, Blaze Nzimande. Nzimande is a fierce foe of opponents of the Bill. In a statement over the weekend, HESA said the Bill will limit the ability of academics to engage in teaching and research.

Tanzania

[EU Gives Tanzania 110 Billion Grant to Support MDGs](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 13 March 2012

THE European Union (EU) has extended a grant aid of euro 51.51 million (108b/-) to Tanzania to support Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) initiative for improved access to drinking water and sanitation. The agreement was signed in Dar es Salaam on Monday by Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs, Dr Servacius Likwelile and Head of EU mission in the country, Ambassador Filberto Ceriani Sebregondi. Dr Likwelile said the funds were provided under the EUs MDG initiative framework that aims at supporting developing countries to achieve MDGs by 2015.



[African Science to benefit from 3.4 million pounds](#)

SOURCE: Ghana News Agency
Posted to the web 26 March 2012

African scientists will benefit from an extra 3.4 million pounds, following a grant by the Leverhulme Trust to the Royal Society, to continue its capacity building scheme for Ghana and Tanzania. The Leverhulme - Royal Society Africa Awards have already seen £ 3.3 million invested in science in Africa over the last three years. Due to the scheme's success so far, the Leverhulme Trust has agreed to extend funding for another five years.

Zambia

[Strategic Plan for School of Medicine Launched](#)

SOURCE: UNZA
Posted to the web 15 March 2012

The school of Medicine on 15th March 2012 launched its five year Strategic plan. Officiating at the occasion which was held at the Mulungushi International Conference Center, Education, Science, Vocational Training and Early Education Minister John Phiri said it was gratifying that the University of Zambia through School of Medicine has developed a Strategic plan on how training shall be conducted and what the requirements of such training should be.

Zimbabwe

[ZOU establishing more infrastructures](#)

SOURCE: Masvingo Mirror
Posted to the web 15 March 2012

Zimbabwe Open University, the country's largest university is establishing more infrastructures at centers throughout the country, the Vice Chancellor, Primrose Kurasha said this when she toured buildings that are under construction at the University center in Masvingo last week. The new buildings and those that are being extended are to accommodate staff offices, a new library, a boardroom and a laboratory. There will also be facilities for students.