



Higher Education in the News

SARUA

[Strengthening universities is key to meeting growing demand: Outcomes of the SARUA Vice Chancellors Leadership Dialogue](#)

SOURCE: SARUA, Posted to the web 23 April 2012

On 14 March 2012 a unique dialogue took place at the University of Johannesburg. Vice-chancellors and thought leaders from 15 countries (mostly from within the southern Africa region) met to discuss how to build the capacity of universities to respond to the growing demand for higher education in all SADC countries. The importance of improving the numbers of doctoral education students emerged as a critical factor in improving the quality of university education, as did the need to consider a coordinated regional approach for accessing more funding to strengthen higher education institutions.

[SADC must grow student numbers](#)

SOURCE: Mail and Guardian, Posted to the web 5 April 2012

[Click Here](#) to Download Building Higher Education Scenarios 2025: A Strategic Agenda for Development in SADC.

Without long-term planning and aggressive policy interventions, the tertiary education participation rate in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region is unlikely to keep up with the demand from the region's 276-million strong -- and still growing -- population, let alone match the progress of regions such as East Asia and the Pacific, or average participation rates in the rest of the world. This key message is conveyed in a recent publication of the South African Regional Universities Association titled "Building Higher Education Scenarios 2025: A Strategic Agenda for Development in SADC".

Africa

[SA backs 'developmental integration', but still keen on African gateway role](#)

SOURCE: Engineering News, Posted to the web 12 April 2012

One of the few novel themes explored in the latest version of South Africa's Industrial Policy Action Plan (Ipap) is the concept of 'developmental integration' – an emerging idea that seeks to align South Africa's industrial policy aspirations with the even more challenging goal of regional integration. The notion is premised on an analysis showing that trade barriers are not the main impediment to raising Africa's intraregional trade levels, which remain almost trivial when compared with goods and services flows in other territories.



[Africa: Higher Education Needs Reform](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com), Posted to the web 2 April 2012

Africa's higher education is in shambles. For many decades, African governments and development partners have marginalized vocational training and higher education. The Darker summit on "Education for All" in 2000 for instance, prioritized basic education and adult literacy as a key driver of social welfare. Part of the reason higher education has been marginalized is because earlier studies by economists, including Milton Friedman, suggested that higher education yielded no social benefits beyond those accrued by the individuals.

[East Africa: Region Urged to Harmonise Education](#)

SOURCE: The New Times, Posted to the web 1 April 2012

Prime Minister Dr Pierre Damien Habumuremyi has called members of the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) to play a key role in the harmonisation of the education systems in the region. The premier made the call, on Friday, while officially opening the third Annual meeting for IUCEA in Kigali. "One of the strategies to operationalise the EAC Common Market Protocol relates to the harmonisation of the education systems in the region" he said.

Science and Technology

[DoE intends to integrate energy in SADC](#)

SOURCE: Business Live, Posted to the web 20 April 2012

Energy minister Dipuo Peters says the department is exploring the possibilities, of integrating SA's energy sources with those of other members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). According to the minister, the aim was for a roadmap to be formulated in order to chart the way forward for a regional integrated resources plan (IRP).

[Pandor: SA, Angola should lead in research and innovation](#)

SOURCE: Bizcommunity, Posted to the web 29 March 2012

Speaking at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in Pretoria during the fourth joint committee meeting between South Africa and Angola, Minister of Science and Technology Naledi Pandor called for the two countries' governments "to become active innovators, productive researchers and be supportive industrial partners to the private sectors and to the service sectors in our countries," Times Live reports.

[African states flouting AU declaration on funding STI](#)

SOURCE: Business Ghana, Posted to the web 6 April 2012

Member States of Africa have been accused of flouting the African Unions declaration, which compels members to commit at least one percent of their gross domestic product (GDP) to the funding of research and development (R&D). South Africa acknowledged for posting the highest commitment to funding STI by allocating 0.9 percent of its GDP between the 2010/2011 fiscal year to funding R&D and science, technology and innovation.



[Minister hails SKA's academic achievements](#)

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

HE Square Kilometre Array SA's (SKA SA's) human capital development programme had funded 24 doctoral and 53 master's graduates since 2005, Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor said yesterday, and funding for this programme was set to increase fourfold. There is a shortage of postgraduate skills in science, engineering and technology in SA. An important driver in SA's bid to host the world's largest radio telescope is human capital development.

Angola

[Official Stresses Holding of Doctoral Theses in UAN](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com), Posted to the web 16 April 2012

The completion of doctoral courses at the Agostinho Neto University (UAN) guarantees highest quality and dignity for the country's higher education institutions, said on Tuesday in Luanda, the State secretary for Science and Technology, João Sebastião Teta. He noted that one of the main indicators of the quality of teaching and scientific research in a country is the number of doctors produced locally in years.

[Government Grants Land to Build Huambo University Campus](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com), Posted to the web 16 April 2012

The government of the central Huambo province granted a 2.500-hectare land for the construction of a university campus in that region. This was announced on Saturday in a meeting between the Vice President of the Republic, Fernando da Piedade Dias dos Santos and students with the José Eduardo dos Santos University. the governor said that there are already infrastructures for supporting the functioning of the campus.

Botswana

[Beware the pitfalls, BIUST warned](#)

SOURCE: The Midweek Sun, Posted to the web 29 March 2012

Gaborone councillors have questioned the reason behind hurrying student enrolment for the already behind schedule Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST). At a full meeting of council this week, the apprehensive councillors said rushing head-long with enrolment at BIUST would not assist the university to realize its goal of being a fully functional institution by 2014, when the university targets to have enrolled between 6-10 000 students.

[Private sector comes in support of UB Foundation](#)

SOURCE: Sunday Standard, Posted to the web 19 April 2012

The University of Botswana (UB) Foundation has in the last decade sponsored nearly 100 students after engaging the private sector in raising funds through a number of activities to grow an endowment fund. Speaking at the UB Foundation appreciation dinner, the Foundation Chairman, Satar Dada, said the university has since witnessed remarkable growth measured in terms of capital development, the range of academic programmes, staff and students numbers.



Mauritius

[University of Wolverhampton opens branch in Mauritius](#)

SOURCE: Le Defi, Posted to the web 13 March 2012

As part of its commitment to partnership and development for the global economy, the University of Wolverhampton launched a branch in Mauritius, in partnership with the Ramnath Jeetah Trust, on Monday. The courses will begin on April 15 of this year offering degrees in law and education. According to Professor Goeff Layer, a faculty offering MA Education, Post Graduate in Secondary Education and Post Graduate Certificate in Mentoring will be launched.

Malawi

[Joyce Banda: Second African female president](#)

SOURCE: Sunday Times, Posted to the web 8 April 2012

History-making Joyce Banda, who rose to prominence in Malawi as a champion for women's rights and empowerment, yesterday became the second female African head of state of modern times after Liberia's Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Born in Zomba on April 12 1950, she first rose to political prominence when she became the country's first female vice president in 2009, as the running mate of Bingu wa Mutharika, who died on Thursday in Lilongwe of cardiac arrest.

Seychelles

[UniSey launches environmental science degree course](#)

SOURCE: Seychelles Nation, Posted to the web 2 April 2012

The University of Seychelles (UniSey) is now able to offer students a degree course in environmental science with the possibility to specialise in a certain domain in this field. A recent 10-day workshop to prepare the groundwork for the course was attended by representatives of seven countries, including Seychelles. They prepared the course development process to establish the components of the environmental science course.

South Africa

[Time for Matrics to Explore Options for Tertiary Studies](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com), Posted to the web 17 April 2012

The April holidays are slowly fading, and this year's Grade 12 learners are only just settling into their last year at school. But an education expert warns that those who want to pursue studies next year must, without delay, investigate their options and submit applications to the tertiary institutions of their choice. "It is imperative that the lessons of the last three or four years are used to make this group's experience less stressful than those of the thousands upon thousands of prospective students who had their dreams dashed in recent years," says Dr. Felicity Coughlan, director of the Independent Institute of Education.



[Kresge Foundation invests R100m in higher education](#)

SOURCE: Biz Community, Posted to the web 19 April 2012

The Kresge Foundation has announced the renewal of its commitment to South African higher education and expects to invest at least US\$15 million (over R100 million) during the next six years. That includes a continuation of its partnership with Inyathelo, the South African Institute for Advancement. Kresge, the American foundation based in Michigan, has made grants in South Africa since 1989. Between 2005 and 2011, the foundation invested almost \$19 million to support South African higher education, focusing on institutional development and advancement.

[Don't drop the skills ball, Mantashe warns Nzimande](#)

SOURCE: Mail and Guardian, Posted to the web 29 March 2012

ANC secretary general Gwede Mantashe has cautioned Minister of Higher Education and Training Blade Nzimande against losing focus on South Africa's skills needs while undertaking his project of promoting humanities in the country. "I hope that the minister of higher education will not be trapped into being a sociologist and ignore the overall needs of the country," said ANC secretary general Gwede Mantashe last night, keynote speaker at Nzimande's conference on the dire state of the humanities in South Africa.

[Vuka Tshabalala appointed DUT Chancellor](#)

SOURCE: City Press, Posted to the web 31 March 2012

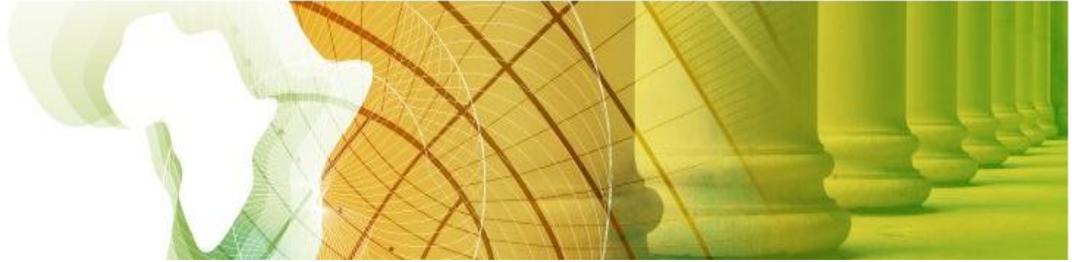
KwaZulu-Natal's colourful former judge president, Vuka Tshabalala, has been appointed as the new chancellor of the Durban University of Technology. Tshabalala, who recently retired from the bench, replaces human rights activist Ela Gandhi as chancellor and takes up office from April 1.

DUT spokesperson Alan Khan said Tshabalala had played an important role in the development of the city and the province's legal fraternity and had mentored many influential South Africans over the years.

[NMMU to appoint research chair in shallow water eco-systems](#)

SOURCE: Get News, Posted to the web 3 April 2012

NMMU is to appoint a Research Chair in Shallow Water Eco-Systems. The chair is one of four allocated to the university as part of the South African Research Chairs Initiative that is designed "to significantly expand the scientific research". The other three research chairs for which applications have been called are in Earth Systems Science, the Law of the Sea and Development in Africa, and Microfluidic Bio/Chemical Processing.



Tanzania

[Govt should take varsity students` views seriously](#)

SOURCE: IPP Media, Posted to the web 29 March 2012

Students in institutions of higher learning in Tanzania have lately made wide-ranging comments, including recommendations, on the delivery of education in the country. In their 90-page "letter", they cite a number of factors they see as problems or challenges and believe the government ought to look into as a matter of urgency to spare the country's education system a troubled future.

[Parliament intervention sought to secure UDOM construction loan](#)

SOURCE: IPP Media, Posted to the web 19 April 2012

The National Assembly has been called on to press the government to sign a contract with the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) for the construction of the University of Dodoma (UDOM). Tabling a Parastatal Organisations Accounts Committee (POAC) report for the financial year ending June 30 2010, the committee chairman, Kabwe Zitto, said the committee had decided to press the government because of an increase in interest rates which results from a debt the government secured from the fund for the construction of UDOM.

Zambia

[ZANEC urges CBU to heed fee reduction calls](#)

SOURCE: PostZambia, Posted to the web 20 April 2012

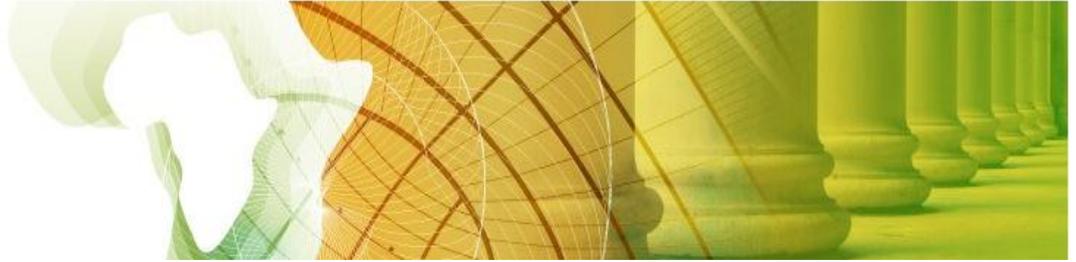
COPPERBELT University management must heed calls by several stakeholders to reduce the sky-rocketing fees, says ZANEC board vice-chairperson Hilary Chipango. Chipango said the high tuition fees introduced by the CBU management would deny the majority of Zambians access to higher education. "It is very unfortunate that CBU management has failed to heed public pleas to reduce the newly-hiked tuition fees. We are very saddened as ZANEC bearing in mind that the fees are very high for many students at CBU.

[Let's invest more in university education](#)

SOURCE: PostZambia, Posted to the web 29 March 2012

OUR universities, public or private, are the engines of a knowledge economy and an incubator for skilled labour. They are crucial to industrial research and development strategies. They shape, or have immense potential to shape, Zambia's future by training our people in crosscutting skills.

Dr Kenneth Kaunda once said that a "University is one of the keys that can open the door to the future of our nation and help us to overcome the persisting evils of poverty, ignorance and diseases; without such an institution we cannot hope to become the nation we want to be".



[UNZA signs MOUs with Soka University & UN University](#)

SOURCE: University of Zambia, Posted to the web 4 April 2012

The University of Zambia (UNZA) recently signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Soka University of Tokyo, Japan. The MOU is aimed at promoting the development of academic and educational activities in both institutions. The MOU will conduct academic and educational exchanges through the following exchange of faculty members, staff and students, joint faculty / staff researches and exchange of academic information / publications. Consultancies and other activities will be conducted to contribute to the development of both universities.

[Microsoft to set up ICT lab at UNZA](#)

SOURCE: University of Zambia, Posted to the web 4 April 2012

MICROSOFT Corporation says the company is considering setting up an information communication technology (ICT) laboratory at the University of Zambia (UNZA) Great East Road Campus. Vice-president of the world-renowned computer software manufacturing company Ali Faramawy said this when he addressed UNZA faculty and students during a special interactive lecture session in Lusaka in April. He said the laboratory will enable students to develop a proactive approach in researching and accessing information.

Zimbabwe

[Mutambara Launches Programme to Raise U.S.\\$20 Million for UZ](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com), Posted to the web 6 April 2012

A programme to raise US\$20 million for the University of Zimbabwe has been launched in Harare. Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Mutambara announced yesterday the beginning of various activities to raise part of the US\$70m required by UZ. Prof Mutambara explained: "These funds will go towards meeting part of the UZ's US\$70m requirement for capital projects, which are outlined in the UZ's fundraising handbook. UZ Vice-Chancellor Levi Nyagura welcomed the move saying the "mother of all universities" had fallen on hard times and needed to be helped to fulfil its mandate to churn out human capital.

[Three New State Universities On the Cards](#)

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)m, Posted to the web 19 April 2012

PRESIDENT Mugabe says preparations for the establishment of three more State universities have gained momentum in three provinces. Three of the country's 10 provinces -- Mashonaland East, Matabeleland South and Manicaland -- do not have State universities. "To meet the growing demand for higher education, preparations have begun for the establishment of the Marondera University of Agriculture Science in Mashonaland East, Manicaland University of Applied Science and the Gwanda State University in Matabeleland South.