



Higher Education in the News

Africa

[‘Global universities’ – A future for the many or the few?](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 13 May 2012

Australia’s Monash University and the University of Warwick in the UK have signed up to a new alliance that will establish them as ‘globally connected universities’. Big promises from the two vice-chancellors of these universities accompanied the announcement. The alliance will offer a seamless international experience to students, employers will be able to take their pick of globally educated graduates and the two universities’ research will address large, global problems.

[EU hosts dialogue on EAC integration today](#)

SOURCE: IPP Media, Posted to the web 9 May 2012

The European Union will today hold a round table discussion in Dar es Salaam to project the way through which the EAC regional integration will play a beneficial role amongst member states. Briefing journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the official launch of the European Week, Ambassador Filiberto Ceriani Sebregondi, the head of EU delegation to Tanzania, said the discussion will focus on Regional Integration and Trade: European Union and East African Community Perspectives.

[Costing a research proposal](#)

SOURCE: Research Africa, Posted to the web 17 May 2012

Many African research institutions struggle to cost their research projects accurately. Now help is at hand in the shape of a good practice document from a group of funders known as Enhancing Support for Strengthening the Effectiveness of National Capacity Efforts (ESSENCE). The document is entitled Five Keys to Improving Research Costing in Low and Middle-Income Countries. The good practice document was unanimously endorsed by all participants at a meeting of the funding agencies held in Cape Town on 23 April 2012.

Science and Technology

[Africa - fast realising ICT is an enabler of future economic growth](#)

SOURCE: IT WEB, Posted to the web 9 May 2012

Today, more than 70% of the world's citizens live in societies that have just begun their digitisation journey. As the individuals and enterprises in these societies continue to progress in developing their own digitisation capabilities, they will only increase and accelerate these economic and social benefits. This is according to the 2012 Global Information Technology Report.



[African to boost investment for science and technology](#)

SOURCE: The Citizen, Posted to the web 12 May 2012

The first forum of African ministers in charge of science, technology and innovation (STI) in Nairobi recently ended with a call by the ministers to increase investment in the sector. The ministers said increased investment will strengthen scientific research in Africa at national and regional levels. Read by Kenya's Prof Margret Kamar who is in charge of her country's science and technology docket, the African ministers said time was ripe for the continent to harness science, technology and innovation to solve societal problems such as water, health, energy and agriculture.

[Botswana benefits from sub-sea connectivity](#)

SOURCE: Biz Community, Posted to the web 14 May 2012

Gateway Communications, the supplier of pan-African telecommunications services, continues with its plans to bring sub-sea connectivity inland across the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The most recent country to benefit from this initiative is Botswana, with capacity from SAT-3 being brought into Gaborone securely via South Africa. Customers in Botswana, which reportedly has an internet penetration of about 6%, can now access high-speed, reliable connectivity.

Botswana

[UBLS graduates to convene in Gaborone](#)

SOURCE: Mmegi, Posted to the web 16 May 2012

Graduates of the now defunct University of Botswana Lesotho and Swaziland (UBLS) are on a mission to start offering scholarships to young Africans through their alumni, the UBLS Alumni Association. The chairman of the UBLS Alumni Association and former vice chancellor, University of Cape town, Prof Njabulo Ndebele has been in Gaborone mobilizing former students to form a Botswana chapter and raise resources to realize this dream.

[Diamonds Are Not Forever: Botswana at the Crossroads](#)

SOURCE: Inside Higher Education, Posted to the web 9 May 2012

At a higher education conference and fair organized by the Tertiary Education Council in Gaborone, Botswana, in March this year, it was announced that the diamond bounty of that country is expected to be depleted in 15 years. This is not good news for the country whose status as the middle-income country has been made possible by this pricey gem. Largely spurred by this eventuality, and also partly in its resolve to be competitive in the knowledge economy, Botswana is actively striving to deploy initiatives for its higher education system.



[Access to tertiary education declines](#)

SOURCE: Daily News, Posted to the web 4 May 2012

Access to tertiary education is reportedly declining due to government's inability to meet sponsorship demand for all qualifying students. According to Tertiary Education Council (TEC) 2011 annual report, the enrolment trends show a decline from the participation rate of 17.3 per cent of 18 to 24-year-olds in 2008/09 to 15.1 per cent in 2009/10 down to 13.4 per cent in 2010/2011.

[Government concedes it has no policy on Climate Change](#)

SOURCE: Sunday Standard, Posted to the web 17 May 2012

The government of Botswana has said that it has no official written policy on Climate Change but is hoping for financial assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to develop policy. Botswana is facing a complex challenge from climate variability and associated extreme events due to climate change.

Lesotho

[Lesotho looks to ICTs to escape poverty](#)

SOURCE: Biztech Africa, Posted to the web 14 May 2012

The Kingdom of Lesotho has made ICT sector growth and manufacturing key priorities in its Poverty Reduction Strategy and National Strategic Development Plan. The plan, prepared by authorities of the Kingdom of Lesotho in broad consultation with stakeholders, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, notes that while Lesotho has made economic progress, it is still a Least Developed Country.

Mozambique

[The Challenges Faced By Portuguese-speaking Universities in Africa](#)

SOURCE: SARUA, Posted to the web 17 May 2012

A common challenge faced by members of the Association of Portuguese Language Universities (AULP) and by other Higher Education Institutions (HEI) around the world, is providing access to up-to-date and relevant academic literature. In an age where more research is being published than ever before, we need to move with the times and recognize that we should change our approach to tertiary education.



South Africa

[Engaging in the challenges facing Middle East and African higher education at 2nd QS-MAPLE](#)

SOURCE: SARUA, Posted to the web 10 May 2012

A total of 147 participants from 74 institutions in 33 countries attended 2nd QS-MAPLE in Durban, the first time it was held in Africa. The event was organised by QS Asia and co-hosted by University of KwaZulu-Natal. It was held in the beautiful hotel of Southern Sun Elangeni. 42 presenters discussed issues facing Africa and the Middle East higher education system and the challenges of achieving global recognition.

[South Africa and EU sign joint education cooperation declaration](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 17 May 2012

South Africa and the European Union (EU) signed a Joint Declaration on Cooperation in Education and Training on Thursday, the formal endorsement of years of intensifying collaboration between the two partners. South Africa was officially represented by Hlengiwe Mkhize, the deputy minister for higher education and training. Jan Truszczynski, director-general of education and culture, signed the declaration on behalf of the EU.

[Department of Science and Technology: Minister's Budget Vote Speech](#)

SOURCE: Parliamentary Monitoring Group, Posted to the web 15 May 2012

Minister of Science and Technology, Ms Naledi Pandor, gave her Budget Vote Speech on the 15 May 2012. The theme for 2012 for parliament is the "knowledge economy and development opportunities". In line with this theme DST chose the theme "innovation for development and socio-economic change" as the theme for this year's Budget Vote.

[University's turnaround 'needs R1,7bn'](#)

SOURCE: The Business Day, Posted to the web 10 May 2012

WALTER Sisulu University administrator Prof Lourens van Staden said yesterday he had sought R1,7bn from the Treasury, as he seeks to make the bankrupt institution both financially viable, and an effective institution of learning. The university was placed under administration at the end of last year, after years of financial difficulties resulting from the merger in 2005 between Border Technikon, Eastern Cape Technikon and the University of Transkei, which created it. Its formation was part of a wider consolidation of the higher education landscape, from 36 universities and technikons into 23 universities, with mixed results.



[Univen opens new buildings](#)

SOURCE: The Post, Posted to the web 17 May 2012

The University of Venda has added new buildings to its campus so that it can accommodate the increasing number of students and staff, it said on Thursday. "Due to the demand for access to higher education, the university was forced to double its intake, which currently stands at about 11 000 students," Vice-Chancellor Peter Mbatlana said. Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe, who is the chancellor of the university, officially opened the buildings, worth nearly R220-million, on the campus in Thohoyandou

Tanzania

[National ICT policy review is underway - government](#)

SOURCE: IPP Media, Posted to the web 4 May 2012

The government is reviewing the National Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Policy of 2003 to make it match with changes in the ICT sector and ensure equitable access to opportunities. The policy review process has come at an opportune time when ICT is increasingly becoming an important ingredient and tool in all facets of socio-economic activities, as demonstrated by the importance that the mushrooming initiatives are occupying in our society, including government, schools, economy and health.

Zimbabwe

[UZ rebuilding drive raises US\\$12,7m](#)

SOURCE: The Herald, Posted to the web 9 May 2012

At least US\$12,7 million has been raised so far under an initiative launched by Deputy Prime Minister Arthur Mutambara to help rebuild the University of Zimbabwe and resource the academic institution. Prof Mutambara told journalists in Harare that the fund raising committee raised the funds after a successful dinner held recently. He said US\$113 000 was raised from ticket sales, US\$7,2 million in pledges from the corporate world, civil society, the Diaspora and individuals while Government through Finance Minister Tendai Biti pledged to inject US\$5 million.

[Climate change policy long overdue](#)

SOURCE: The Herald, Posted to the web 12 May 2012

IMPLEMENTATION of the Zimbabwe National Climate Change Policy has not been swift and as desirable, even in the face of the deadly impact of climate and weather. It is nonetheless and in a significant manner, a very decisive response to the science of climate change capable of moving people and animals away from harm's way. Indications last week that work on the policy had reached high gear are instructive and encouraging in a lot of ways.