



Higher Education in the News

Africa

[EU, education department sign pact](#)

SOURCE: New Age, Posted to the web 23 May 2012

The Department of Higher Education and Training has agreed to reinforce cooperation and dialogue on jointly identified issues of human interest. This follows the African Higher Education Harmonisation: Tuning and Shaping Responsive and Quality Postgraduate Education Conference, which was recently held at the UWC. The Higher Education Harmonisation and Tuning Initiative is an EU Commission and African Union Commission initiative. The education initiative is steered by the two commissions in collaboration with the Association of African Universities and coordinated by the University of Deusto in Spain.

[Rwanda's inspiring education initiative in East Africa](#)

SOURCE: IPP Media, Posted to the web 20 May 2012

At a time when Africa would be reaping from the demographic dividend that benefited East Asian economies, some countries are moving to make a difference by promoting higher education, partnerships and collaborations to improve the employability of African youth. One such effort is taking shape between a top-ranked US research institution, Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and the government of Rwanda, in a collaboration CMU-R, to deliver graduate programmes with an in-country presence and resident faculty.

[African science ministers meet after delay](#)

SOURCE: Research Africa, Posted to the web 28 May 2012

Funding shortages and the uprising in Egypt has delayed African science policy deliberations, Research Africa can reveal. The news comes as the advisory arm of the forum for African science ministers begins on 28 May after a two-year hiatus. The continent's biennial science ministers' summit, which was scheduled for April this year, is also delayed.

[Infrastructure development key to Africa's success](#)

SOURCE: Research Africa, Posted to the web 31 May 2012

Africa must address the challenges of inadequate infrastructure, small and fragmented markets, and inadequate diversification of industrial output if it is to realise meaningful growth and development, says Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies. Addressing the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Mainichi Forum in Tokyo on Wednesday, Davies said the answer lay in promoting a developmental regional integration agenda and industrialisation.



Science and Technology

[Southern Africa and Australasia to share SKA](#)

SOURCE: SciDev.Net, Posted to the web 25 May 2012

South Africa and Australia are to share the hosting of world's most powerful radio telescope, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA), the SKA Board decided at a meeting in the Netherlands. This is despite the conclusions of an independent site advisory committee, which carried out an objective technical and scientific assessment of sites that had been proposed in each of the two countries, and identified the South African site as being the preferred one (although both sites were found to be suitable).

[Building a future for mathematics in Africa](#)

SOURCE: SciDev.Net, Posted to the web 22 May 2012

Next month will see graduations from the two branches of the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Senegal and South Africa, bringing the total number of alumni of this ambitious project to 450 since it was started in 2003. A third AIMS centre is scheduled to open in Ghana in September, followed by a [fourth in Ethiopia next year](#).

Angola

[Outstanding personalities get "Angola 35 Degrees" award](#)

SOURCE: Angola Press, Posted to the web 30 May 2012

The most outstanding personalities in various fields of knowledge in 2011, in the country, were honoured Tuesday in Luanda, with "Angola 35 Degrees" award, sponsored by "Semba Comunicações". The event, held at the Tropical cinema in Luanda, aimed essentially at paying tribute to the competence and technical quality of young Angolans aged to 35 years.

Malawi

[Govt. to bail out cash-strapped Mzuzu](#)

SOURCE: Maravi Post, Posted to the web 29 May 2012

The government has agreed to assist cash-strapped Mzuzu University. Student leaders accuse the University Senior management – All five of whom are acting in the positions – of failing to discharge their duties sufficiently.

South Africa

[International Companies Investing In South African Education](#)

SOURCE: IDEATE, Posted to the web 18 May 2012

The bad state of education in South Africa is often a topic of discussion in the media, with the low levels of literacy and the skills shortage being bones of contention. South Africa ranks 58th out of 183 countries on the literacy rating and Deloitte & Touche reported that 81% of companies struggle to find employees equipped for the job. They held that accountants, information technology specialists, sales and marketing candidates and scientists were in short supply.



[NMMU play key SKA role](#)

SOURCE: The PE Herald Online, Posted to the web 31 May 2012

NMMU is playing a key role in the square kilometre array (SKA) project, with research into the best way to collect and transfer astronomical data from the project's vast arrays of satellite dishes. Leading the way are two young students from Burkina Faso and Kenya and their South African manager Dr Tim Gibbon, who are together working on a project which is "the information transfer backbone of SKA".

[RIM opens BlackBerry apps lab at the University of Pretoria](#)

SOURCE: Companies, Posted to the web 30 May 2012

Research In Motion (RIM) the maker of BlackBerry® smartphones and BlackBerry® and the University of Pretoria today announced the opening of the BlackBerry apps lab at the University of Pretoria, a BlackBerry Authorised Academic Centre. The BlackBerry apps lab aims to accelerate mobile application development in South Africa, thereby creating new economic opportunities and jobs in the mobile space, and supports the larger context and objectives of the South African Department of Communications' (DOC) e-Skills Institute.

[Environmental sector responds to Green Paper](#)

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

The greening of SA's economy can create 460 000 new jobs, says the Department of Higher Education and Training's (DHET) Green Paper on post-school education and training. Many of these jobs would be at an intermediate skills level. There therefore exists considerable potential to generate mid-level green skills through FET colleges that could be geographically focused around employment opportunities such as national parks and eco-tourism lodges.

Tanzania

[Higher Education Students Lack Proper Career Guidance](#)

SOURCE: All Africa, Posted to the web 4 May 2012

EDUCATIONAL experts have said lack of career guidance among Form Six students joining higher learning institutions is a snag often leading them to opt for professions not of their choice.

An Assistant Lecturer at the School of Journalism and Mass Communication (SJMC) of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Mr Abdallah Katunzi, told the 'Sunday News' in Dar es Salaam yesterday that today's students were doing courses they absolutely had no interest in.



Zimbabwe

[GREAT Zimbabwe University suspends learning programmes due to shortage of lecturers](#)

SOURCE: Bulawayo24, Posted to the web 18 May 2012

GREAT Zimbabwe University (GZU) in Masvingo has reportedly suspended some of its learning programmes due to a shortage of lecturers. The development is likely to leave hundreds of prospective students stranded. The university is allegedly failing to attract lecturers for higher degrees due to lower remuneration and unattractive conditions of service.

[Gwanda university prepares for first intake](#)

SOURCE: Bulawayo24, Posted to the web 30 May 2012

THE Gwanda State University (GSU) has started recruiting senior staff in preparation for its first intake in September. In an interview yesterday, the university's designate vice-chancellor, Dr Sikhulumani Bayeza Mangena, said the new institution had started scouting for qualified candidates to run the posts of dean of the Faculty of Life Sciences and the Faculty of Engineering.

[NUST medical school given a go ahead to resume](#)

SOURCE: Bulawayo24, Posted to the web 22 May 2012

THE Zimbabwe Medical Council (ZMC) has given the National University of Science and Technology (NUST), has been given the go-ahead to resume its medical school studies, ending almost a decade of an acrimonious battle. Felix Moyo, director of marketing and publicity at the university advised that the University has met all the requirements required and has advertised for places.