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Harare Institute of Technology
success through innovation

JUNE 2018 · **Newsletter**

WORLD RENOWNED UNIVERSITIES DESCEND ON HIT FOR INAUGURAL LAB HACKATHON

Participants and delegates at the first ever Zimbabwe Laboratory Equipment Hackathon.
(Picture by Mr Jeffrey Barbee)

Contents

World renowned Oxford University, in partnership with NEPAD Southern Africa Network for Biosciences, (SANBio), National Biotechnology Authority of Zimbabwe (NBA) and the Harare Institute of Technology collaborated in hosting the first ever Zimbabwe Laboratory Equipment Hackathon to design low cost laboratory equipment. The event was held from 10-12 June 2018 at the HIT campus.

Over 100 students, comprising 12 teams, - local and international delegates participated in the Hackathon. Participants were drawn from undergraduate students from Zimbabwean universities and colleges. Students were challenged to form a team comprised of scientists, engineers, computer scientists, economists, social scientists and to design low cost laboratory equipment using Arduino starter kits and hardware.

The student teams' projects included digital microscopes, centrifuges, Bioreactors, magnetic stirrers and PCRs. The hackathon also included hands on demonstrations and workshops such as how to make a $10 microscope, working with Arduinos sponsored by Netro Electronics, 3D printing and 3D scanning by local companies; 3DGuys and 3D Kings, using Github for projects.

The winning project was a centrifuge by team SMEVFY made from discarded desks. A number of teams from HIT participated and won awards including; Team Bioreactor which won the award for the Most Promising Project, Team EMRECC winning the prize for integrating the most components, and Team BioNova, led by the SANBio Student Ambassador Tendai Gukuta, who won the prize for the Most Frugal Project -a centrifuge made from kitchen equipment.

The hackathon also included workshops conducted by some local and international delegates. It kicked off with some exciting presentations on open science and its benefits, as well as the need for responsibility and ethics in research and innovation by Dr Helena Webb and Dr Louise Bezuidenhout from Oxford University. Dr Andre Maia Chagas from the University of Sussex also gave a presentation on various collaborative initiatives being run in Africa, and the globe including TRend, GOSH and other open source hardware programmes, as well as how students could benefit from using them. Dr Ereck Chakauya of NEPAD SANBio facilitated a panel discussion on starting up a business, which was chaired by panelists from Netro Electronics, TechVillage and Elevate Trust. Mr Martin de Heaver from ORBIT RRI based in the United Kingdom gave an enlightening presentation on the benefits of Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI); while Mr Jeffrey Barbee, Director of Alliance Earth in the US, gave an inspiring presentation and demonstration on how he created a 3D scan and image of a mountain using 12 Megapixel cameras and a drone.

INNOVATION

LEADERSHIP

INTEGRITY

COMMITMENT

PROFESSIONALISM

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VC WINS ZIM INSTITUTE OF LEADERSHIP AWARD

ZIMBABWE INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

confers

Eng. Quinton Kanhukamwe

**NORTHEN REGION
LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARDS
PUBLIC SERVICES SECTOR**

1st Runner Up

For the year 2017

In recognition of contribution and dedication to developing
and promoting best practices in management and leadership

On this ....1st...........day of ....June... 2018
at the Institute's Annual Gala Dinner, Harare, Zimbabwe

Chief Executive   The President

The Harare Institute of Technology Vice Chancellor, Engineer Quinton Kanhukamwe emerged the first runner up in the Northern Region Public Sector Leadership Awards held at the Rainbow Towers Hotel on Friday 1 June.
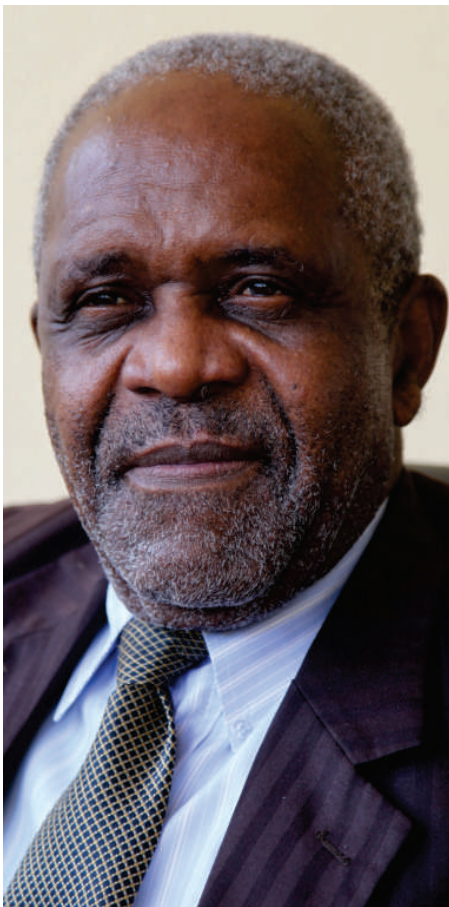
The prestigious awards are organised by the Zimbabwe Institute of Management and are held annually to recognize, develop and promote leadership excellence

The nomination process was conducted under the following categories: Resume and Leadership, Service Improvements Initiatives and Innovation, Service Standards and Quality, Social Responsibility, Human Resource Development and Compliance with Mandatory Returns.

The University Community congratulates Eng. Kanhukamwe for this sterling achievement.

Congratulations!
Makorokoto!
Amhlope !

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT: 30TH INSTITUTE BOARD MEETING

I wish to welcome members to our first Board Meeting for 2018.

My exhortation to the Board, Management, staff and students is that we all rally behind the Government's call to adopt the, "Programmatic Approach." I reiterate His Excellency, the President Cde Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa's expectation when he addressed Vice Chancellors and Chairpersons University Councils on 9 January 2018 at the Harare International Conference Centre, I quote, "Institutions of higher learning should work as an integral part of the country's economy and should harness the knowledge and skills of graduands through Science, Technology, Research and Development for economic growth".

The government expectation calls upon each and every one of us to play our respective roles and ensure that the University delivers on its mandate. My appeal to Management is that they should take advantage of the willingness on industry's part, to partner institutions of higher learning for purposes of delivering on the Academic Transformation Agenda as outlined by the government.

The Vice Chancellor briefed me and highlighted a number of projects that the University has targeted as part of the "100-Day Deliverables" as well as those that are meant to have an impact on the economy as a whole. I wish to commend him and his team for such efforts. Our expectation as the

Board is that the University:-

- Embraces and implements the Programmatic Approach, it is no longer "business as usual," to service delivery.
- Contributes meaningfully to the Higher Education Transformation Agenda.
- Responds to the government's call for the University to play an impactive role in the various policy formulation platforms at national level.
- Registers growth in student numbers and infrastructural development.
- Registers tangible results in its technology, incubation, development, transfer and commercialisation effort.

Lastly I would like to commend our parent Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development for brokering the student Tuition Loan Scheme with a number of financial institutions. This should see a significant reduction in student indebtedness to the University.

Let 2018 be a year when our University makes waves and leaves footprints on the technological landscape of this country.

Thank you

**Dr G. Mandishona
Institute Board Chairman**

CPSE CONDUCTS NANOTECHNOLOGY TRAINING

Over 35 participants attended the two intensive short training courses on Fundamentals of Nanoscience; and Nanotechnology convened by the department of Chemical and Process Systems Engineering. The two courses were held from 7 - 8 June, and 13 – 15 June 2018 respectively.

Participants were drawn from local high school STEM teachers, lecturers from technical and polytechnic colleges, and industry.

Addressing participants at the official opening ceremony, Dean in the School of Engineering and Technology, Eng. Perkins Muredzi said the training programmes will enable them to have a comprehensive understanding of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, as well as a practical appreciation of its applications. "Nanotechnology is an emerging science which is expected to have rapid and strong future developments. It is predicted to contribute significantly to economic growth and job creation in Zimbabwe and the region in the coming decades," he said.

The two short courses offered participants the opportunity to gain knowledge and understanding of materials and their properties at the atomic and nanometer scales,- including an understanding of the intimate relationship between the scale and the properties of materials. It also offered practical skills in synthesis and characterization of nanostructured materials, current applications and state of the art technologies within nanoscience and nanotechnology including toxicity of nanostructured materials; as well as exposing participants to the potential applications of nanotechnology in process and product improvements.

The training programmes also aimed to strengthen research and innovation in nanotechnology within universities, research institutions and industry, as well as enhancing local and international collaboration among stakeholders involved in nanotechnology activities including the generation of Intellectual Property (IP) from this emerging technology.

The training courses were conducted by Eng. P. Muredzi, and Mr Tatenda Madzokere, a lecturer in the Chemical and Process Systems Engineering (CPSE) department. The two trainers are currently collaborating on publishing two books entitled "A Revision Texbook for Advanced Level Chemistry" (with fine details of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology) and a "Nanoscience and Nanotechnology Textbook" for use in institutions of higher learning to improve awareness of nanoscience and nanotechnology in Zimbabwe. A clarion call emerging from the training programmes was engagement of relevant policy makers on the importance of embracing nanotechnology, and the need to conduct more training courses for Chemistry teachers in Zimbabwe.

NAMIBIAN TRAINING AUTHORITY COURTS HIT

Head of the Namibian Training Authourity delegation Mr Richwell Lukonga (second from right) during a meeting with members of the HIT Senior Management.
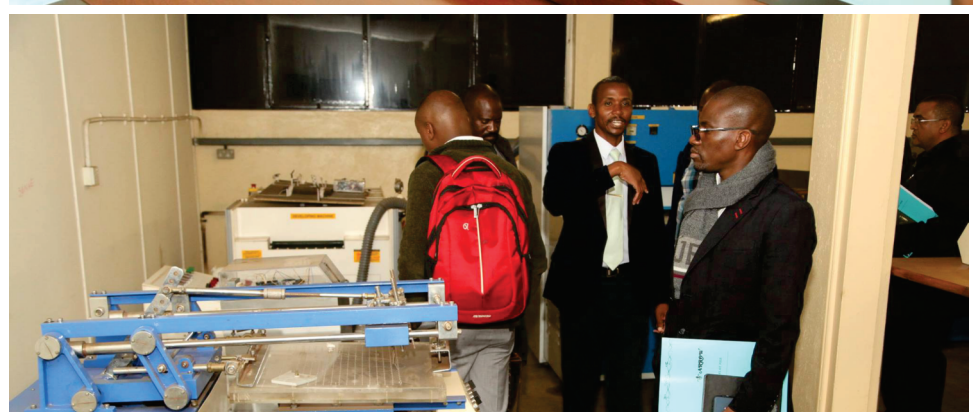
A delegation from the Namibian Training Authority visited the Harare Institute of Technology on 14 June 2018, to explore possibilities for collaboration.

The delegation led by Mr Richwell Lukonga, Chief Operations Officer of the Namibian Training Authority, met with HIT Pro- Vice Chancellor Dr M. Chanakira and some members of the Senior Management.

The purpose of the meeting was to create an understanding of HIT's programmes and services, and to establish how the two parties could forge mutually beneficial partnerships to advance the agenda of Technical Vocational Education Training (TVET) in Namibia. The discussions also focused on opportunities for training of Namibian TVET trainers, training standards and training materials development, application of work integrated learning at HIT and opportunities for training of Namibian learners at HIT.

The Namibian Training Authority is a national statutory body operating under the Ministry of Higher Education, Training and Innovation, mandated to regulate and fund the TVET sector in Namibia.

NAMIBIA TRAINING AUTHORITY

HIT HOSTS INAUGURAL DESIGN THINKING WORKSHOP

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr M. Chanakira and ICT Directors from Zimbabwean Universities who were part of the inaugural cohort to be trained in Design Thinking.

The inaugural workshop on '**Re-positioning ICTs Services in Zimbabwean Universities as a Strategic Function for Higher Education,**' was held at the Harare Institute of Technology's Innovation and Design Thinking Laboratory from 14-15 June 2018. The Lab was built with support from the United Nations Development Fund, (UNDP).

ICT Directors from Zimbabwean Universities were part of the inaugural cohort to be trained in Design Thinking.

In his welcome remarks, Vice Chancellor of the Harare Institute of Technology, Engineer Quinton Kanhukamwe underscored the important role of ICTs in leading the transformation of Universities for both institutional and national development. "ICTs have become an indispensable tool in all sectors of economic and social life, and as Africa leap frogs to Industry 4.0, the role of ICTs in harnessing our collective thoughts, ideas and actions becomes even more relevant. As ICT Directors, you are uniquely positioned to transform the role of the Universities through adoption of top ICT services," he said.

"ICT Directors within local universities are the first beneficiaries of this IDTL workshop, highlighting the integral role that information and communication technologies play in everyday lives, and their role in University operations. The concept of design thinking is meant to promote and enhance thought processes which can lead to faster development for our nation and the region," said Eng. Kanhukamwe

He urged participants to take advantage of the facilitators and learn from their knowledge and experiences.

Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dr Maxwell Chanakira said the IDTL is the first of its kind to be established in the region, and plans are underway to make the IDTL a Centre of Excellence in innovation and entrepreneurship in Africa.

Vice Chancellor Q.C Kanhukamwe

TOP INDIAN ACADEMIC SPEAKS ON TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Professor Prakash Sai L, of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras delivering a seminar on "Strategic Management of Technology and Innovation"

Professor Prakash Sai L, of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras delivered a seminar on "Strategic Management of Technology and Innovation" on 15 June.

The seminar was organised by the Technopreneurship Development Centre, and was attended by academics, management and administrative staff. It covered topics on technology, innovation and foresight, technology and culture, technopreneurship and Bottom of Pyramid Markets, as well as globalisation and innovation management.

Professor Prakash gave an insightful presentation on the evolution of technology. He traced its ideological foundations, and changing trajectories throughout the centuries to the current dispensation of Industry 4.0, - and its implications to development and human advancement.

He advocated for creativity and innovation in the science, engineering and technology sectors, underscoring its transformative role in the transformation of societies. "Creativity is the expression of novelty, value and aesthetics manifested in a product, and is usually accompanied by a response dominated by delightful surprise. Innovation involves commercial exploitation of a new or significantly improved product or service or widespread use and application of a new method or process as a result of creativity," he said.

Prof, Prakash also called for collaborative research and development activities driven by science, technology and user needs. He also highlighted the changing business models in the tertiary education sector, highlighting that in order to survive, Universities should also adopt a viable and sustainable business model.

MAYIBONGWE SCOOPS FIRST PRIZE IN HIT PRE- NESAC FINALS 2018

Mayibongwe Sibanda, a Chemical and Process Systems Engineering student won the first prize in the HIT 2018 Pre-National Engineering Students Awards Competitions (NESAC) held on June 6 at the University campus. She will proceed to represent HIT at the Nationals to be held in August this year.

Mayibongwe's Capstone Design Project entitled *"Production of 15 TPD Cement from Water Treatment Sludge and limestone for Construction of Roads and Pavements"* beat seven other contestants in the oral presentations. Her project involves the production of road construction cement from municipal water treatment sludge to fill potholes which have plagued the roads in our country due to the lack of maintenance and inadequate funding. This road construction cement is an alternative to the conventional asphalt currently being used to surface roads. The project is focused on solving two major problems which are management of municipal water treatment sludge that is currently dumped at treatment plants, and secondly, the formation of potholes that have become the characteristic feature of Zimbabwean roads due to excessive traffic and lack of road maintenance works.

The seven other contestants who participated at the pre-finals were drawn from Chemical Process Systems Engineering, Electronic and the Industrial Manufacturing Engineering and the Polymer Technology and Engineering departments.

In his opening remarks at the event, Dean of the School of Engineering and Technology, Eng. Perkins Muredzi reminded the contestants and delegates that HIT has previously won two national competitions, and the Institute was highly regarded by the Zimbabwean community as the cradle for engineering excellence. "It is a norm at HIT, for our students to present top notch engineering Capstone design projects that are deemed as the best output of the academic year. We are striving to teach the ability to conceptualize concrete solutions to abstract problems amongst our engineering students. We are empowering engineers as technopreneurs through hands-on learning, teaching them to design, develop, and to test their prototypes" he said.

Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Maxwell Chanakira said the HIT is a young and dynamic University that is focusing on Africa and is on a growth trajectory, with ambitions to increase infrastructural development.

Guest of Honour, Engineer F. Zowa, Chairperson of the Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers (Z.I.E) said the main thrust of this competition is to promote innovation among final year engineering students at universities. "All the projects presented by the contestants today are lucrative and need the support of industry towards their realisation," he said.
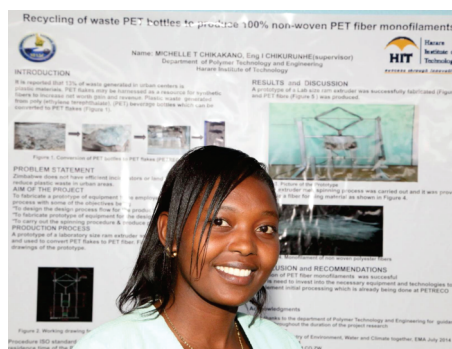

Mayibongwe Sibanda recieving her first prize in the HIT 2018 Pre-National Engineering Students Awards Competitions (NESAC)

The competition is a showcase of the university's students' best engineering research and development projects and was graced by Engineer F. Zowa from the Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers, HIT Pro-Vice Chancellor Dr. Maxwell Chanakira, Dean of the School of School of Engineering and Technology Eng. Perkins Muredzi, and spouse of the renowned Engineer Paul Mavhunga Kodzwa, Dr Gloria Kodzwa. In a moving tribute to the life and work of her late husband, Dr Kodzwa urged engineering students to work to the best of their abilities and to focus their energies on developing the nation.

Engineer F. Zowa
Chairperson of the Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers (Z.I.E)

POLYMER TECHNOLOGY EXCELS IN PRE- NESAC DEBUT

Michelle Chikakano
Polymer Technology and Engineering Department

Michelle Chikakano of the Polymer Technology and Engineering department came first in the poster presentations with her project entitled "Value Addition to Post-Consumer Pet Bottles to Produce 100% Non-weave Polyester Fibres for the Zimbabwe Textile Industry – A case of Petrocozim P/L". It was the first time that the Polymer Technology and Engineering department participated in this competition since its establishment in 2013.

Tanyaradzwa Masaire from the same department emerged second in the oral presentations with her project "Designing and fabrication of a fibre re-inforced plastics lap desk for poorly funded primary schools" while Tansley Kanembira of the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering came second in the poster presentations with his project "Development of an automated water hyacinth composting machine for organic fertilizer production." The first and second prize winners will proceed to represent HIT at the National Engineering Students Awards Competitions (NESAC) 2018 to be held in August.

UNIVERSITY ESCALATES ANTI-LITTERING CAMPAIGN

The University escalated its anti –litter campaign by holding a clean-up exercise on June 8 under the theme - "Litter Free Environment-Stimulant of Innovation."

All HIT staff participated in this robust and refreshed approach to anti-littering on campus and were addressed by the Vice Chancellor - Eng. Quinton Kanhukamwe, Registrar- Mrs - Mary Samupindi, Chaplain - Commissioner Stuart Mungate, Ms Sifila Maposa of Central Services and Eng Innocent Chikurunhe, a Lecturer in the Polymer Technology and Engineering Department.

In his devotion, Commissioner Mungate emphasised that cleanliness is next to Godliness and urged staff to keep their environment clean. Quoting scripture, he cited examples of God's instruction on hygiene and healthy practices.

HIT Vice Chancellor Eng. Kanhukamwe said the escalation of the clean-up campaign was in response to a call by the Office of the President to make this concept part of institutional culture. "Cleanliness and hygiene should be part of our DNA. We should keep on escalating our anti-littering campaigns on our campus. Charity begins at home and we should all be reflective of who we are - People who are hygienic! So let us clean-up our campus," said the Vice Chancellor before getting a broom to launch the campus clean-up campaign.

HIT Registrar, Mrs Samupindi pledged Management's commitment to supporting strategies put forward by departments on how to maintain and escalate the level of cleanliness on campus. "We must up our game in terms of consciousness in maintaining a clean campus," she said.

Eng. Chikurunhe encouraged staff to embrace good and proper waste management technologies practices. "People must be educated and trained on waste management. We must embrace proper waste management technologies and also educate the communities around us," he said. Electronic Engineering student and EMRECC Club member, Blessing Mpala concurred, also highlighting student's awareness of maintaining clean environs.

Maposa called on everyone to take the responsibility to clean-up the campus, while "Cleanliness should be our culture here at HIT. This is our home and everyone should maintain this campus clean by practicing anti-littering," she said.

LEADERSHIP VITAL IN SETTING ORGANISATIONAL CULTURE

Malaysian academician and researcher, Dr Norazida Mohamed has stressed the importance of leaders in setting, nurturing and sustaining organisational culture.

In her presentation, "Tone at the Top", and "Mood in the Middle,"- The Power of Corporate Culture, Dr Mohamed said leaders had an integral role in directing an organisation to its intended destiny; galvanising support for organisational goals and objectives from stakeholders, and leading by example in terms of ethical behaviour. She added that ethical behaviour has emerged as a strong value proposition in the face of rampant corruption and fraud worldwide. Through empirical examples, Dr Mohammed also exposed the debilitating effects of fraud on an organisation's brand and performance.

The meeting, held at a local hotel was attended by captains of industry and commerce, and was hosted by the Harare Institute of Technology's department of Forensic Accounting and Auditing, in collaboration with the British Council and the Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa, (MEFMI).

Mrs Rose Malila –Phiri, Director of Finance and Administration at MEFMI said the hosting of the meeting was in recognition of the negative effects of fraud, corruption –prescribing mitigations against these vices in promoting a better life for the people. She highlighted her organisations' commitment to building successful partnerships in the public and private sectors, - as well as civic society. Dean in the School of Business and Management Sciences, Mr Willard Gwarimbo also highlighted the importance of instilling integrity and ethical behaviour from a tender age.

Director of the British Council, Ms Sam Harvey expressed her appreciation to all stakeholders, highlighting the importance of corporate governance in national development.

REFLECTIONS FROM EXTERNAL EXAMINERS

Several international academics visited the Harare Institute of Technology as external examiners for various departments. The Communications and International Relations department took time with some external examiners to hear their views on the quality and standard of HIT's academic programmes…

Africa there is actually a big focus on promoting local manufacturing of medicines. I think this is an area that can drive the economy of Zimbabwe and other African countries as well as improving the health of the local communities."

This is my third visit to HIT and I have always had a great experience here and I would recommend anyone to visit, learn and work at this University. HIT must advertise its programmes online so that more people will come to learn at HIT.

Professor T. Govender
Academic Leader of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Drug Delivery Research Proto-Unit and NanoHealth University of Kwazulu Natal.

Dr Arshard Peer
University of Technology, Mauritius (UTM)

Professor T. Govender is currently Professor of Pharmacy in the Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Academic Leader of the Discipline of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Head of the Drug Delivery Research Proto-Unit and Head of the NanoHealth Pillar of Nanotechnology Platform of the University of Kwazulu Natal.

"I am actually very impressed and pleased that HIT is committed to developing and promoting the pharmacy programme because the training of pharmacists is very critical for the country to ensure that pharmaceutical services are delivered to the people. The HIT pharmacy programme is highly relevant as it focuses largely on manufacturing good quality medicines.

Although the resources and staffing levels are limited, the quality and standard of the examination papers are impressive. The standard of the papers is undoubtedly at par with those of other international universities offering the Bachelor of Pharmacy programme. I am confident that pharmacy graduates from HIT are able to function competently on any international setting.

Pharmacy is an intensive, laboratory and community based discipline. HIT needs to focus not only on increasing staffing for the programme, but also to implement many continuous professional development initiatives for their retention. The other major focus should be on developing resources in terms of laboratory equipment to ensure that we are competently training our students.

The Pharmacy programme is very important because pharmaceutical services are very essential to any country. Within

Dr Arshard Peer is from the University of Technology, Mauritius (UTM), is an external examiner for the Financial Engineering programme.

"Just like another international university, HIT is making the necessary efforts to set their examinations and have them assessed by external examiners from outside the country. This helps them to get important feedback that will enable them to raise the level of standards and improving their programmes.

Moving forward, Financial Engineering is becoming a very important subject in many countries and Zimbabwe is set to benefit a lot from students and graduates of Financial Engineering."

Prof. S. Rajendran is a lecturer and researcher in Information Security and Fraud Detection from the SRM University of India's Department of Information Technology, and is an external examiner for HIT's Information Security and Assurance programme.

Prof. S. Rajendran
Department of Information Technology
SRM University of India.

HIT's Financial Engineering programme is up to standard and it covers everything including courses such as computer programming, risk management and insurance. The programme is beyond expectations. The students are also performing to their best level and I have also attended some of their project presentations. My observation is that besides coming up with some good projects and prototypes, they are also developing some business solution applications.

HIT has taken a lot of good and progressive initiatives to improve the standards of education in Zimbabwe by introducing the Information and Security Assurance programme as it is more relevant today. This programme was designed with the help of international experts including staff from SRM University. The department's staff members are really dedicated, hardworking and sincere people.

This programme will go a long way in mitigating and minimizing the effects of and attacks in Zimbabwe."

My overall assessment of the department's examinations and students' answer sheet shows that that are some very excellent students except may be a few, but most of the them are very good and innovative, the way they answer and conceptualise information Security and Asurance concepts reveals that their understanding is really good."

progressing because the students here are learning the appropriate technologies and lots of subjects connected to engineering along with some management subject too.

Industrial and Manufacturing engineers coming from HIT are of high standard and will do a very good job for the country. I also hope that country's economy will recover and improve in the near future and Zimbabwe's industry will soon develop at a high rate to drive the country's rapid industrialisation as well as its economic

cyber-security and networking. This means HIT is well acquainted with the technologies and changes happening in the computer science world.

HIT's Computer Science programme is well connected with the industry and students are acquainted with all the latest technologies in the industry and have very good chances of internship placement. The future is looking bright for HIT graduates in terms of getting job placements in very good and reputable companies."

Prof B. Rajamony
Department of Advanced Manufacturing
University of Malaysia

Dr Sunil Sikkar
School of Computer Science and Engineering and Technology (ASET)
Amity University Haryana, India.

Prof B. Rajamony is a lecturer and researcher of Advanced Manufacturing at the University of Malaysia and is an external examiner for the Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering programme.

"I do assessment work for the evolution and upgrading of HIT's Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering programme to improve its quality and standards. I have given the University many suggestions to improve the quality of this programme including setting of the examinations and assessing the students' answer scripts as well as evaluating them. The lecturers have adopted my recommendations and have improved a lot from what I have recommended to them during my past visits.

The examination questions are of high quality as per recommendations and I see a lot of improvements. I am very happy that HIT is improving and this is likely to improve its world ranking.

IME is very important and is the backbone of any development in any country as it is mainly connected with the industry. Students are being acquainted with industrial developments which drives and improves the economy. For any country to progress, especially in the manufacturing sector, it needs to set up industries and manpower in the form of manufacturing engineers who have the technical expertise. HIT is doing a great job in creating manpower and technologies for the local industrial and manufacturing industries. This will definitely see the country

development."

Prof. (Dr.) Vikas Thada is an Assistant Professor of Computer Science and

Dr Sunil Sikkar is also an Assistant Professor at the School of Engineering and Technology (ASET) of Amity University Haryana, India. He is an external examiner for HIT's Software Engineering programme.

Prof. (Dr.) Vikas Thada
School of Engineering and Technology (ASET)
Amity University Haryana, India.

Engineering at the School of Engineering and Technology (ASET) of Amity University Haryana, India. He is an external examiner for the Computer Science programme.

"The quality of the question papers at HIT's Computer Science department is actually good. The programme encompasses all the new developments in the computer science world such as artificial intelligence (AI),

"HIT is doing well as the kind of projects its students are doing are very good, especially their relevance to modern day technologies. The world is changing and technology is changing too. We are now living in a digital world where everything is now digitalized and the main component of digitalization is software. Therefore, there is much need to develop high quality softwares which requires software engineers. According to my assessment the quality of the programme is very good."

HIT WITNESSES SURGE IN FIRST YEAR APPLICANTS

The Harare Institute of Technology has witnessed an exponential increase in the number of first year applicants as compared to previous years; testimony of the strong demand for the University's programmes and increasing brand prominence.

Presenting global statistics for the start of the 2018/2019 Academic Year, Assistant Registrar for Admissions, Mrs Elizabeth Kabasa says a total of 1650 applications were received this year, as compared to 1083 during the same period last year, representing a 53% increase in the total number of applicants as compared to 2017. 1270 candidates were selected this year, as compared to 907 during the same period last year, constituting a 40% increase in the number of students accepted into respective programmes.

The University also witnessed a 42% increase in uptake by female students, as compared to the previous year. The School of Industrial Sciences and Technology leads the pack with a 64% female uptake, Business and Management Sciences with 47%, Engineering and Technology with 29% and Information Science and Technology with 24%.

Director of Communications and International Relations, Mr Tinashe Mutema says the University also embarked on an aggressive targeted recruitment and outreach activities to high school students with an interest in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics, (STEM) subjects. Random surveys at exhibition fora and on campus say prospective students and parents are attracted by HIT's practical emphasis, unique programmes and positive student experience.

The University is also set to increase enrolment through the uptake of a new undergraduate programme, Materials Engineering and Technology and graduate programmes in Cloud Computing, Computer Science, Software Engineering, Information Technology, Machine Design and Strategy and Innovation.
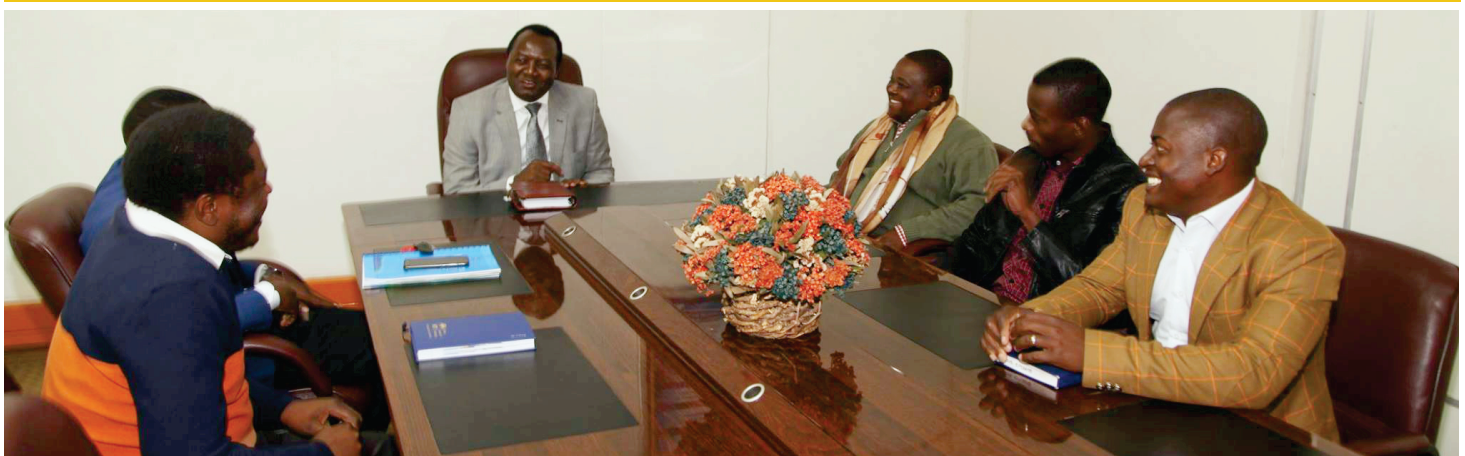
Over the years, the University has kept a keen commitment on issues of growth,- commensurate with quality. The highly capital-intensive nature of the University's Engineering programmes has prompted the Administration to maintain a student population in tandem with facilities such as laboratories and workshop for the ultimate student experience, - taking into account the practical and hands-on nature of the University's degree programmes. However, the University is optimistic of expansion in its University facilities and services against the backdrop of Government's commitment to expand university infrastructural development through Public Sector Investment Programmes, (PSIP) grants and private financiers.

Plans are also underway to strengthen the University's internationalization programme through the recruitment of international students.

Government has since independence adopted expansionist policies in higher education, - with an exponential increase in the establishment of Universities in the past 38 years. Since 1980, Government has established 11 state Universities, and has granted charters to six private universities.

ZVIMBA RDC GIVES THUMBS UP FOR THE LOCAL AUTHORITY DATABASE SYSTEM (LADS)

Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe meets members of Zvimba RDC..

Zvimba Rural District Council has given a thumbs up for Local Authority Database System (LADS), a business solution application developed by the Harare Institute of Technology's School of Information Science and Technology and the Technology Transfer, Commercialization and Licencing Centre to improve the ease of doing business in Zimbabwe's local authorities.

The Local Authority Database System (LADS) helps in proper debt management, bills payments, stand allocation and project management. The benefits of LADS include improved service delivery, transparency in service delivery, increased customer satisfaction and ease of doing business.

In a meeting with the Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe, Zvimba Rural District Council Finance Manager, Mr Blessing Chafesuka said the Local Authority Database System (LADS) has enabled them to collect more revenue than any other local authority in the country resulting in many inquiries from other authorities. "We have managed to collect revenue that was beyond our budget and that is unprecedented in Zimbabwe's local authorities. Most local authorities are now coming to us to appreciate the Local Authority Database System (LADS). Its payment plan module has demonstrated beyond doubt to be a very positive solution to a problem that our local authorities are facing. We are putting more problems on the management and administration of local authorities on your table to solve them for us," he said.

Mr Chafesuka commended HIT for taking the lead in terms of developing home-based information technologies' systems providing solutions to problems facing local authorities. He also challenged HIT to work towards providing support services for Local Authority Database System (LADS). "There is need for HIT to provide support services as more local authorities are coming on board. You have to be prepared for that!" he advised.

Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe assured local authorities that HIT is always available to deliver home-based and user-friendly application systems according to their specifications. "We are in it together and there is need to bolster our relationship so that you will look no further than HIT. We will give our team the necessary resources for the support services required for the Local Authority Database System (LADS)," he said.

FORENSIC ACCOUNTING LEADS ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING CONFERENCE 2018

Delegates and participants at the 2018 Annual Conference on Ant-Money Laundering

The Department of Forensic Accounting and Auditing hosted its 2018 annual conference on anti-money laundering under the theme "Leveraging Anti-Money Laundering Policies to Fight Terrorism Financing and Human Trafficking."

The one-day annual conference was held on 22 June 2018 and was attended by delegates from the banking, financial, insurance, legal, immigration, police, military, private, public and non-governmental sectors.

In his welcome speech, Mr Willard Gwarimbo, Dean of the School of Business Management Sciences emphasised the need to deal with issues involving money laundering to fight terrorism financing and human trafficking. "This should involve our security agencies, tax authorities, the financial sector, anti-corruption commission and immigration. This is a seminar to interact, share ideas, experiences and to identify the gaps and areas that we need to concentrate on. This is the beginning of what we want to develop together to make sure that Zimbabwe and the world at large is safe from terrorism and human trafficking," he said.

Guest Speaker, Mr M. Chiremba, Director of Bank Use Promotion and Financial Intelligence Unit at the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe said there is need to educate the public about anti-money laundering and his department is currently conducting public lectures in schools, colleges, universities and will soon be targeting the army and the police force. "It is important that everyone understands why we need to be aware of the dangers of money laundering activities such as the financing of terrorism, human trafficking and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction because these are all phenomena that can destroy the economy, "he said.

Mr Chiremba added that Zimbabwe has two statutes under money laundering and terror financing. The Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime Act deals with how the Financial Intelligence Unit generates law enforcement and prosecution. The Bank Use Promotion and Suppression of Money Laundering Act promotes the use by the public of financial institutions for the purpose of mediating, facilitating or obviating cash transactions; and to discharge the functions assigned to it under the Money Laundering and Proceeds of Crime Act.

Mr M. Chiremba
Director of Bank Use Promotion and
Financial Intelligence Unit
Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe

"There are some amendments that have been made to these Acts and are awaiting the President's signature to become law. These amendments will effectively deal with money laundering and parallel trading, terrorism financing and human trafficking. There are also some international and regional organisations currently in operation to curb money laundering," he said.

Other speakers include Mr T. Murape, Manager of Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe's Financial Intelligence Unit, Dr N.M Mohamed, Lecturer and Research Fellow with the University of Technology of Mara,

Malaysia, L. Sanya, Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration in Zimbabwe, O. Nyaude, Chief Publicity Officer for the Zimbabwe Ant-Corruption Commission (ZACC) and Mr M. Mutandavari, a lecturer at HIT.

Mr Murape's presentation was based on Anti-Money Laundering Systems and Technical Compliance in Zimbabwe. He said the Financial Intelligence Unit is a hub where information regarding financial intelligence is digested. "We gather information on financial irregularities, analyse it, identify the culprits and report them to the law enforcement agencies for prosecution. The public plays a very important role through whistle blowing as people are free to come to us and report or give us information about money laundering activities," he said.

In her presentation on the Malaysian Anti-Money Laundering Policies and Measures, Dr N.M Mohamed who is also an external examiner for the Forensic Accounting and Auditing department said that inorder to tackle terrorism financing and human trafficking, there is need to tackle money laundering first. The law enforcement agencies must identify and confiscate proceeds from these crimes," she said.

Other presentations included "The Growing Threat of Human Trafficking and Terrorism Financing" by Mr L. Sanya, Chief of Mission for the International Organization for Migration in Zimbabwe, "Anti-Money Laundering Measures to Fight Terrorism Financing in African Countries" by Mr. O. Nyaude, Chief Publicity Officer for the Zimbabwe Ant-Corruption Commission (ZACC), and "Technologies and Tools to Counter Money Laundering" by Mr M. Mutandavari, a lecturer in the Department of Software Engineering.

Harare Institute of Technology

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CONDOLENCE MESSAGE

Mr Joyce Mbudzi

The Institute Board Chairman, Dr Gibson Mandishona and the entire Institute Board, the Vice Chancellor - Eng. Quinton C. Kanhukamwe, Senior Management, Staff and Students of the Harare Institute of Technology convey their deepest condolences to the Mbudzi family and the higher and tertiary education fraternity following the passing on of Mr Joyce Mbudzi.

Mr Mbudzi was one of the founding members of the HIT Board that made tremendous contributions to the transformation and development of the Institute. He advocated for HIT to be a hands-on University of technology and will be best remembered for his assertiveness, constructive counsel and lively disposition.

May the family be comforted by the rich legacy he leaves behind of courage, tenacity, service and integrity. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult moment.

May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace.

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 2 Timothy 4:7

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