



Celebrating Innovation: championing Technopreneurship

SEPTEMBER 2015

HIT SCOOPS RIO-SET TROPHY AGAIN



Mr Washington Chaduka of the School of Business Management Sciences poses with the RIO-SET Expo Award at the HIT Stand.

The Harare Institute of Technology once again scooped the best exhibitor's trophy, ahead of Zimbabwe's 14 state and private universities at the Research and Intellectual Outputs, Science, Engineering and Technology, (RIO-SET) Expo held from 3-5 September 2015 at the National University of Science and Technology in Bulawayo.

The National University of Science and Technology came second, while the Women's University in Africa came third.

HIT received the award at the RIO-SET official closing ceremony on Friday 4 September, presided by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Ambassador Dr Machivenyika Mapuranga.

RIO-SET was held under the theme, "Research and Innovation for Socio-Economic Transformation."

- The HIT exhibition was based on four thematic areas:
- Progress made in the area of Intellectual Property
 - The HIT Ten Point Plan
 - Prototypes
 - Software Applications

The adjudication process involved, among others, evidence of scientific thought, originality and creativity, thoroughness, visual display, oral presentation appearance of stand, demeanour and attitude of

personnel manning the stand. Other variables they took into consideration included knowledge and literature on the exhibition, content of the exhibit, innovation, relevance to the theme and to the vision and mission statement of the institution.

The RIO-SET exposition was a platform to showcase research and intellectual outputs, share knowledge and to foster collaboration with other higher education institutions.

In 2014, the Harare Institute of Technology won the RIO-SET Best Exhibitor's Trophy in the Universities category. The event was held at the University of Zimbabwe.



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INNOVATION

LEADERSHIP

INTEGRITY

COMMITMENT

PROFESSIONALISM

MINISTER CALLS FOR MORE INVESTMENT IN STEM



Prof Jonathan Moyo, Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, speaking at the official opening ceremony of the Research and Intellectual Outputs,- Science, Engineering and Technology Expo, (RIOSET) 2015 at NUST.

He added that as Zimbabweans, we were our own economic liberators, who could champion socio – economic transformation through national developmental policies such as ZIMASSET.

In terms of training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, (STEM), Professor Moyo empirically revealed that 52 % of the total enrolment in the country's nine state universities were in the humanities, 29 % in the commercials and 19 % were pursuing subjects in Science and Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. He added that his hope was the fruition of the prospects for a STEM culture, and for greater investment to be made in the STEM sector. He also added that some higher education institutions had deviated from their mandate, with 15 000 graduates being churned out each year with irrelevant degrees.

Professor Moyo paid a special tribute to former Higher Education Minister, Dr Stan Mudenge, who initiated the concept of the Research and Intellectual Expo, which was then officially launched by the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, His Excellency Cde. R.G. Mugabe on 16 February 2012 in Harare.

Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Honourable Jonathan Moyo has called for more investment in science education in Zimbabwe.

Speaking at the official opening ceremony of the Research and Intellectual Outputs,- Science, Engineering and Technology Expo, (RIOSET), on Friday 4 September, at the National University of Science and Technology, (NUST), Professor Moyo said while government pronouncements speak to the investment in science education and in education in general, the statistics do not support the claim. He added that science and technology were the chief drivers of development and hence the need for government to pour resources into the development of the sector.

Speaking on RIO –SET, Professor Moyo highlighted that the expo was a festival of scholarship and creativity and was formed to celebrate intellectual prowess and scholarship.

He revealed that the focus of RIO-SET was to showcase the best research and intellectual work in Zimbabwe, at home and abroad, and to harness it for national development. Another focus was networking, and collaboration amongst institutions of higher learning in Zimbabwe.



ARIPO HOSTS IP TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR FINAL YEAR STUDENTS



Dean Perkins Muredzi addressing students during the ARIPO two-day training workshop on Intellectual Property.

The African Regional Intellectual Property Organisation (ARIPO) is calling on African governments to embrace Intellectual Property to enhance national development.

Addressing a two-day training workshop on Intellectual Property for HIT final year students, ARIPO Deputy Director Mr Kige said intellectual property is crucial for national development and African governments should embrace them. "It must be organized and must involve all of us including the government, industry, commerce and institutes of higher learning. Therefore, governments must put policies to manage intellectual properties properly. No

country has ever developed without IPs", he said.

Mr Kige added that HIT is one of the first institutions in Zimbabwe to have an institutional policy on IP.

In his opening speech, the Dean in the School of Industrial Sciences and Technology Mr Perkins Muredzi urged the participants to delve into intellectual property issues in order to make significant changes in their lives, communities and globally.

The two-day workshop was aimed at imparting knowledge of IPs to the students as they finalise their Bachelor of Technology degree studies in various technology and engineering disciplines. It was also aimed at

enhancing the students' appreciation of IPs, promoting research and transfer of the patented research to industry, providing basic assistance in the patenting of patentable research, enhancing the generation capacity of IPs (patents, utility models) and improving the exploitation of IP assets through licencing and joint venture assignments by HIT students.

Courses covered during the two-day training workshop included introduction to IPs, commercialisation of IP technology, transfer process, obtaining a patent (locally, regionally and internationally) and institutional IP policy formulation.

FUTURES CAREER GUIDANCE DAY

The Harare Institute of Technology participated in 'Future's,' a Careers, Education and Awareness Event held at St George's College in Harare.

Representatives from the Schools of Engineering and Technology and Information and Communication Technology, with the Communications and International Relations Department attended the exhibition.

The event attracted a large pool of high school students from across Harare.



EMRECCRC HOLDS CONSULTATIVE WORKSHOP ON PROPOSED DEGREE PROGRAMME

The Environmental Management, Renewable Energy and Climate Change Research Centre (EMRECCRC) recently held a consultative workshop on the establishment of a four-year Bachelor of Technology Honours degree in Envirotechnology and Waste Management Engineering at the Harare Institute of Technology.

According to the EMRECCRC Director, Dr. Anthony Phiri, the objective of the workshop was to carry out a consultative process before the launch of the degree programme so as to come up with a relevant degree programme that will enhance local environmental management, renewable energy and climate change issues.

“This consultative workshop is principally designed to enhance the adaptability of the country to climate change and preparedness to the Conference of Parties (COP) 21 framework on climate change. It will also enable the building of a productive dialogue amongst organisations involved in environmental management, renewable energy and climate change as well as providing an invaluable opportunity for networking”, said Dr Phiri.

Dr Phiri added that while most universities have created a degree programme on the environment, climate and renewable energy, HIT has responded by establishing EMRECCRC,

a centre responsible for proffering technological solutions to problems associated with environmental management, sustainable energy and climate change.

The four-year Bachelor of Technology Honours degree in Envirotechnology and Waste Management Engineering seeks to develop experts who will advise senior management in industry on the importance of resource conservation approaches and pollution prevention, among others.

Speaking to the media after the workshop, Dr Phiri said the next stage is to put the degree programme through the accreditation process and to introduce it by January 2016.

The consultative workshop was funded by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Zimbabwe (FES) in collaboration with the Southern African Regional Universities Association, (SARUA) and was attended by various representatives from industry, government bodies and independent authorities such as the Environmental Management Authority (EMA), Scientific and Industrial Research and Development Centre (SIRDC), Forestry Commission, Environmental Professionals Council of Zimbabwe (EPCOZ), National Biotechnology Authority of Zimbabwe (NBAZ), and the Ministry of Environment, Water and Climate



Dr Anthony Phiri
Director: EMRECCRC



KENYAN ACADEMIC HOSTS TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP TALK



Professor Eric Masinde Aseka, Vice Chancellor of the International Leadership University, Kenya,

Professor Eric Masinde Aseka, Vice Chancellor of the International Leadership University, Kenya, recently held a talk on “Transformational Leadership and Technology in the 21st Century,” on 25 September 2015 at the request of the Dean in the the School of Business and Management Sciences, Mr W.Gwarimbo.

Professor Aseka said Africa needed enabling technologies for economic and national development; adding that HIT was uniquely positioned to provide solutions to technological challenges. Professor Aseka also highlighted the importance of multi-disciplinary research, a crucial element in responding to contemporary challenges.

“Research should contribute towards wealth creation, and research needs drivers with great expertise to propel their institutions to greater heights, and this will enable you to place yourselves at the cutting edge of technology. Research can be a major income stream and through research, you can be able to establish credibility and reliability.

Professor Aseka also underscored the importance of certain virtues; crucial ingredients for success.

“You will need personal values, a personal philosophy which will guide you,” he said. He also stressed the importance of intellectual and moral standards which should be observed both in personal life and in the academy.

“EDUCATION KEY TO NATIONAL SECURITY” - ZIMBABWE DEFENCE COLLEGE



Participants and staff members from the Zimbabwe National Defence College Course 4 during a visit to the Harare Institute of Technology's campus.

Over 30 participants and staff members from the Zimbabwe National Defence College Course 4 of 2015 visited the Harare Institute of Technology to familiarize with the Institute's mandate and activities and its contribution in enhancing national security.

In his introductory remarks, Air Vice Marshal M. T Moyo said the Zimbabwe National Defence College's 11 month training programme focuses on strategic national security and involves visits to selected institutions of higher learning, commerce and security sectors.

“The purpose of our visit is to enable participants and staff members of the National Defence College to appreciate the assets and resources that we have in the country. Education is one of them because it plays a very important role in national development,

which has a direct and indirect effect on national security,” said Air Vice Marshal Moyo.

HIT Registrar, Mrs Mary Samupindi gave a presentation about the Institute's mandate – the advancement of knowledge through the development, incubation, transfer and commercialisation of technology. She stated that while the Institute is focused on the development of technological expertise to the highest degree possible, HIT also intends to develop a science park and to provide educational programmes focused on the design, production and maintenance of technology relevant to industry, commerce and other sectors of the economy.

Dean Perkins Muredzi of the School of Industrial Sciences and Technology apprised the group on the Institute's research and development works while Eng. Ngoni Chirinda, Acting Director of the Technology

Centre explained the Institute's activities in the design, production and maintenance of technology.

The group was later led on a tour of the campus facilities, particularly the laboratories and workshops where there were shown some of the research and development projects and products as well as some utility models and prototypes.

Participants of the Zimbabwe National Defence College's Course 4 of 2015 are drawn from mainly the Zimbabwe Defence Forces, Prison and Correctional Services, Zimbabwe Republic Police, Central Intelligence Organisation, President's Office, Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, and security forces from Botswana, Kenya, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Tanzania and Zambia.



Mrs M. Samupindi
HIT Registrar



HEALTH CLUB LEADS CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING EXERCISE



The Institute's Students' Health Club, under the auspices of the Dean of Students department recently held a Cervical Cancer Screening and Cancer Awareness day on Friday 25 September.

The Club partnered with Population Services International, (PSI) who were providing cervical cancer screening as an intervention.

The exercise was targeted at both students and staff and was aimed at providing information on various types of cancers and how they can be prevented. Female clients were also educated on breast cancer examination techniques.

HIT Nursing Sister, Mrs J, Mashoko revealed that the cervical screening day was a great success.

"It was successful because we had an overflow of people who came to get

information on cervical cancer and other cancers," she said. "Worldwide, cancer is the lead killer and it generally has no symptoms, and so people need to be educated on how it can be prevented. We were also advocating healthy lifestyles and diet as a key prevention measure," said Sister Mashoko.

The Health Club is led by Ashmore Chinyere and is a group of 30 students on campus who work with the Health Centre in health information and education campaigns.



STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEE 2015/2016

The following students were elected into the Harare Institute of Technology Students Representative Council Committee 2015/16;



Farai Masunda
President



Achim Munene
Vice President



Cletus Ngwerume
Secretary General



Tanyaradzwa Masaire
Treasurer



Walter Somera
Secretary for Academics



Wendy Kawenga
Secretary for Equity



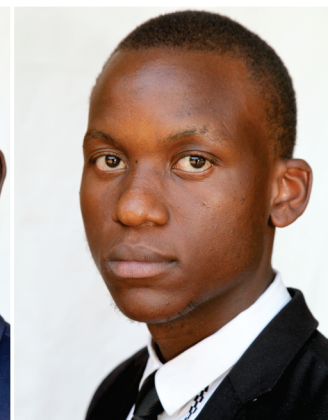
Munyaradzi Mutero
Secretary for Sports



Michael Garikai Masama
Secretary for Legal Affairs



Blessing Muchaya
Secretary for Welfare



Masimba Dzvoza
Secretary for Entertainment