

VICE CHANCELLOR GETS THE AFRICAN LEADERSHIP ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARD



Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe with the African Leadership Engineering Excellence Award.

The Harare Institute of Technology Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe was conferred with the African Leadership Engineering Excellence Award at the Third African Educational Institutions of Excellence Showcase (AEIS) held in Washington DC, USA on 20 April, 2018.

The Third African Educational Institutions of Excellence Showcase (AEIS) was held under the theme “The Role of Education in Fostering Social and Economic Development” and was designed to buttress the importance and impact of the education sector as a component of the continent’s socio-economic development, while putting into perspective issues affecting the progress of the sector. It is an annual meeting of leaders and actors in Africa’s education sector organized by African Leadership Magazine to examine, discuss and develop common policy perspectives on a range of issues affecting the continent’s higher education sector, and to proffer solutions towards the moulding of Africa’s development future.

In his acceptance speech, Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe said HIT is extremely humbled and grateful for the honour bestowed upon it and proudly accepts the award. “This award is dedicated to the entirety of the University staff, and in particular our School of Engineering and Technology and their colleagues in the complimentary Schools of Industrial Sciences and Technology, Information Sciences and Technology as well as Business and Management Sciences. We also pay tribute to our strategic partners who continue to believe in our destiny, cause and calling,” he said.

African Leadership Magazine is a Pan-African flagship of good governance journal dedicated to showcasing the best of Africa to a global audience. The magazine has in the last couple of years, dedicated its platforms as an avenue through which in-depth analytical solutions are proffered to the peculiar challenges being faced by the continent while shining the spotlight on best practices and outstanding leadership contributions in all spheres of African life.

The Third African Educational Institutions of Excellence Showcase (AEIS) engaged heads of education regulatory bodies in Africa, policymakers, development consultants, ministers of education, representatives of higher institutions, chancellors of universities, professors, and other stakeholders, who are committed to the pursuit of excellence in Africa’s education system; with an agenda geared towards fostering economic and social change and the molding of Africa’s development.



Contents

Vice Chancellor Gets African Leadership Engineering Excellence Award.....	1
HIT at National Cybersecurity Conference.....	2
Innovation in ICTs Workshop.....	3
Anti-Corruption Symposium.....	4
Zimbabwe Staff College Visit.....	5
Exams Processing Workshop.....	6
HIT @ZITF 2018.....	7

INNOVATION

LEADERSHIP

INTEGRITY

COMMITMENT

PROFESSIONALISM

HIT CO-HOSTS NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY CONFERENCE



Delegates follow proceedings at the Cyber Security Conference.

The Harare Institute of Technology's Department of Information Security and Assurance co-hosted the National Cybersecurity Conference held in Harare from 10 – 11 April 2018, under the theme “Cybersecurity- a shared responsibility”.

The National Cybersecurity Conference was organised by Ministry of Information Communication Technologies and Cyber Security in partnership with the Harare Institute of Technology, ZICT, Zimbabwe Institute of Engineers (ZIE), and Zimpapers.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of ICT and Cyber Security, Dr. Sam Kundishora gave the keynote address which set the tone for the conference. Dr. Kundishora highlighted that the conference was aimed at engaging all stakeholders in society, government, corporates and academia with the objective of spreading awareness on issues related to cybersecurity. “The main objective of this conference is to come up with a National Cybersecurity Strategy which is meant to operationalize the National Cybersecurity Policy.

Dr Kundishora said Government intends to strengthen national infrastructural security as this was vital to the security of the nation adding that government should coordinate its efforts with neighbouring countries, as cyber security threats were not limited to national borders.

“The Government’s vision in terms of cyber security is to make sure that Zimbabwe is secure, particularly the national information and communication infrastructure. The information and the data must be secure for the safety of the citizens. This can only be

done through the creation of a resilient communications infrastructure which can protect the cyber security, and it must also be done through a secure critical information services against the cyber attacks. SADC had since developed the basic framework on cyber security, which the country needs to domesticate.” said Dr Kundishora.

This strategy should give guidelines on the creation of bodies which should address critical issues related to cybersecurity and to also enable collaboration among all stakeholders in Zimbabwe to ensure the nation is “cyber-ready” for any attacks on digital platforms,” said Dr Kundishora.

Local and international cybersecurity experts from renowned organizations such as Bitcrack, Grant Thornton, Zimbabwe Republic Police, Kaspersky South Africa, Computer Society of Zimbabwe and NEC-Africa gave some presentations during the conference.

Chairman of the Department of Information Security and Assurance, Engineer Robert Shoniwa, who is also the Cybersecurity representative for ZICT, gave a presentation on “Theoretical and Contextual Aspects of Cyber security” that helped contextualize the goal of the conference. He also highlighted the need for a national strategy to handle Cybersecurity in Zimbabwe. Eng. Shoniwa emphasized the need for Cybersecurity capacity building, research and development not only for specialists in the ICT sector, but for all industries that use ICT systems including manufacturing, mining and others.

There were also panel discussions and HIT

participated in some of these discussions comprised of Cybersecurity experts from organizations such as Grant Thornton, Potraz, Econet, Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ), the Zimbabwe Republic Police, the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ministry of ICT and Cybersecurity, Kaspersky South Africa, Bitcrack, NEC-Africa, Computer Society of Zimbabwe, Save The Children and TelOne among others. The panel discussions were centred on the various ways society, government and corporates are affected by Cybersecurity and what needs to be done.

Mr Innocent Mapanga, Chairman of the Computer Science department, participated in the panel debating Cybersecurity in the telecoms industry while Kudzai Kangwende, an Information Security and Assurance student also participated on the panel focusing on the need for Cybersecurity capacity building, research and development. HIT students also acted as rapporteurs, in drafting the initial Cybersecurity strategy document.

This highly successful conference went a very long way in cementing HIT's reputation as the premier University spearheading industry-academia relations in the local ICT and Cybersecurity sector through the participation of its academic members of staff in crafting national policy and strategy, as well the participation of its students in the crafting of the Zimbabwe Cybersecurity Strategy.

INNOVATION IN ICTs WORKSHOP INSPIRES STUDENTS



Students and panelists at the Innovation in ICT workshop.

The School of Information Sciences and Technology hosted the Innovation in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Workshop under the theme 'Igniting Success Through Innovation' on 20 April 2018.

In his welcome remarks, Chairman of the Computer Science Department Mr Innocent Mapanga said the Innovation in ICT Workshop was held to promote innovation and technopreneurship. "This is a platform to network, learn and share information pertaining to innovation and technopreneurship," he said.

The workshop was graced by young innovators, players from the ICT industry, government, members from the academia, staff, students and other stakeholders who are committed to supporting young innovators.

Among the major presenters were Postal and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (POTRAZ), TelOne, Ambassador Mubi of DPAKAM-OPC, Mrs Chahuruva representing the Computer Society of Zimbabwe, Tendai Garandi, a Silicon Valley entrepreneur, Edmore Munedzimwe, a Microsoft Application Developer, Dominic Tapfuma of Purple Signs and Clive Nyapokoto, an HIT student and Founder of Shift Organic.

A representative from the Postal and

Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (POTRAZ) gave a presentation on what the government, through the Ministry of Information Communication Technologies and Courier Services expects from students and the academia as well the functions of the Innovation Fund and how to access it. "Government established the Innovation Fund to support ICT young innovators in the country and is also working together with other stakeholders to create an environment that motivates young people to participate to their full potential in the development of ICT's. The country can not continue to rely on ICT applications and solutions developed from other countries," he said.

Tendai Garandi, a Silicon Valley Entrepreneur gave a chronicle of his life as a young entrepreneur in Silicon Valley as well as outlining what the world is looking for from young innovators in ICT's. Edmore Munedzimwe, an application developer with Microsoft urged young Zimbabwean innovators to position themselves to be marketable and compete with other young innovators from Kenya and India during his career guidance presentation.

Clive Nyapokoto, an HIT student and global award winning entrepreneur and founder of Shift Organic, described his journey to the spotlight urging his colleagues to work hard and be determined to come up with innovative ideas and projects in ICT's that

are marketable globally as well as empowering their communities.

Ambassador Mubi from DPAKAM-OPC gave a presentation on how ICTs can assist in branding Zimbabwe while Mrs Chahuruva presented on the operations of the Computer Society of Zimbabwe.



Clive Nyapokoto, an HIT student and award winning entrepreneur and founder of Shift Organic.



Edmore Munedzimwe, a Microsoft application developer.

ROMANIAN ENVOY SPEAKS AT ANTI-CORRUPTION SYMPOSIUM



His Excellency, the Ambassador of Romania to the Republic of Zimbabwe Dr Silviu Barbu and Mr Reverend Magowa, a Public Education Officer from the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission.

The School of Business and Management Sciences Department of Forensic Accounting and Auditing held a Public Lecture on Corruption in collaboration with the Embassy of Romania to the Republic of Zimbabwe and the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZAAC).

The Symposium, entitled 'YOU CAN STOP CORRUPTION' was held on 26 April in the Engineering Hall and was addressed by His Excellency, the Ambassador of Romania to the Republic of Zimbabwe Dr Silviu Barbu and Mr Reverend Magowa, a Public Education Officer from the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission.

Ambassador Barbu's presentation was entitled 'The Prevention, Prosecution and Conviction of Corruption Cases and Incidents -Lessons from Eastern Europe,' while Mr Magowa's presentation was entitled 'Corruption - The Biggest Evil in our African Society.'

In his opening remarks, Dean of the School of Business and Management Sciences, Mr Willard Gwarimbo said the Symposium was special and unique in that it has been graced by H.E Ambassador Barbu to share Romania's experiences and what it has done to combat corruption. "Romania had a

similar history to Zimbabwe and it has dealt with the issues of corruption more successfully. Therefore, there is need to tap from them and learn how to deal with our own situation here in Zimbabwe. We need to learn from Romania's experiences and what they have done to combat corruption in their country as well as sharing ideas in various areas that breeds corruption," he said.

Dean Gwarimbo added that this was a platform to share experiences and strategies as we are looking forward to a Zimbabwe which is free of corruption in the future. "HIT also intends to share with the world that it has a dedicated programme in the form of a Bachelor of Technology (Honours) Degree programme in Forensic Accounting and Auditing which was established to address and deal with the menace of corruption in Zimbabwe," he said.

In his presentation, Ambassador Barbu explained how Romania is dealing with the management of European Union Funds from the anti-corruption point of view focusing on the activities of the Romanian Anti-Corruption Directorate in combating corruption as well as the prosecution of corruption cases by the government and European Union anti-corruption bodies.

"Every where in the world, poverty is the main cause of corruption as it creates bad attitudes where some people would want to solve some problems using illegal means. Corruption is nothing new in the world and probably all countries with some exceptions have experienced issues of corruption in their political, social and economic development. Romania also passed through that period and by using Romania as an example, I think Zimbabwe can solve the issue of corruption in the near future. Corruption can only be solved when politicians, business people and the general public can work together to combat it," he said.

Mr Magowa, from the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) gave a presentation on the effects of corruption in our African societies. "Issues of corruption are so common in African countries. Corruption damages work ethics, erodes discipline and seriously undermines and damages the image of our nations globally. We encourage you to come and report to us whenever you come across any act of corruption," he said.

The Symposium was attended by HIT students and staff.



ZIM STAFF COLLEGE VISITS CAMPUS



Chief Instructor Col. T. Ndlovu and Eng. P. Muredzi during the Zim Staff College visit.

A delegation of over 40 senior military officers from the Zimbabwe Staff College Joint Command Staff course Number 31 visited the University on 17 April 2018.

Leader of the delegation, Chief Instructor Col. T. Ndlovu said the purpose of the visit to give the senior military officers an opportunity to understand exactly what is being done at HIT. “This is important for them to appreciate your contribution the nation’s education system and how you are supporting industry and commerce to enable them to protect what we have in our education system,” he said.

Engineer Perkins Muredzi, Dean of the School of Industrial Sciences and Technology apprised the group the

Institute's mandate – the advancement of knowledge through the development, incubation, transfer and commercialisation of technology, research and development works while Engineer Z.N Duri, Director of the Technology Centre explained the Institute's activities in the design, production and maintenance of technology.

Eng. Muredzi emphasised that while the Institute is focused on the development of technological expertise to the highest degree possible, HIT was developing a science park and providing educational programmes focused on the design, production and maintenance of technology relevant to industry, commerce and other sectors of the economy.

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 by HIT students and graduates.

Participants and staff members from the Zimbabwe National Defence College Joint Command Staff Course Number 31 are drawn from mainly the Zimbabwe Defence Forces, Prison and Correctional Services, Zimbabwe Republic Police, Central Intelligence Organisation, President's Office, and security forces from Botswana, Namibia, Lesotho, Tanzania, South Africa and Zambia.



ACADEMICS ATTEND EXAMS PROCESSING WORKSHOP



HIT academic staff during the Examinations Processing Training Workshop.

The Human Resources and Administration department organised a two-day Examinations Processing Training Workshop from 4-5 April 2018.

The workshop's main objective was to equip academic staff with the latest information in exams processing, as well as to update their skills and competencies.



HIT @ ZITF 2018

The Harare Institute of Technology participated at the just-ended Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) which took place from 24 to 28 April 2018 at the ZITF Grounds in Bulawayo.

Held under the theme, “Sustainable Industrial Development,” and the sub themes Inclusive, Competitive and Collaborative, - the fair attracted hundreds of local, regional and international exhibitors.

The University exhibited the concept of the HIT Technopark, as well as two startups, - Nhume and the Local Authority Database Systems, (LADS).

Hundreds of visitors including prospective students and their parents and varying stakeholders visited the HIT stand with a view to get information on programmes offered at the University and partnership opportunities.

Distinguished visitors to the HIT stand included the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Prof. Amon Murwira, Vice Chancellor of the Bindura University of Science Education, Prof. Eddie Mwenje, Deputy Chairperson of the Institute Board, Eng. Gloria Magombo, Dr Leonard Madzingaidzo among others. Vice Chancellor, Eng. Quinton Kanhukamwe joined the HIT team for the official opening of the Fair.

At the same event, Acting Director of the Technology Centre –Training, Eng. Ngoni Chirinda presented a paper on “Capacitating Industry through Precision Component Manufacture and Tool Reverse Engineering” at the Original Equipment Manufacturers Forum organised by the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries (CZI) and ZITF.

Eng. Chirinda outlined the work of the Technology Centre as the Institute's strategic unit that links with industry's various activities. He highlighted that both the Technology Centre's Research & Production Unit and the Technical Training Unit have a significant role towards industry retooling through skills transfer, reverse engineering of tools and/or components and import substitution of production equipment. He also highlighted that Hi-Tech Short Term courses are being offered to industry personnel to close the much needed skills gap, especially, the ever present technological gap that comes with every advancement in production equipment design. Eng. Chirinda also gave evidence of the work of the Technology Centre in providing high precision machining and reverse engineering; ranging from shafts, gears, flanges to press tools & dies at component manufacture level. He also added that complete fabrications and assemblies are also being reverse engineered and manufactured at the Technology Centre.

