



JANUARY 2016 VICE CHANCELLOR'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE



HIT Vice Chancellor Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe

common strand that informs the execution of our duties as we strive to deliver on our mandate. In the Institute's Ten Point Plan, we made an undertaking to "Commit to the National Development Agenda-ZIMASSET." The full import of this is that the developmental Agenda ZIMASSET, demands that as a public funded institution, we contribute meaningfully and in tangible ways to the growth of this nation's economy. Consequently, this has set the tone for the government's expectation for the higher and tertiary education sector.

As we execute our duties, let us remind ourselves of the ever present need for resource mobilization. It remains incumbent upon us to continue to contribute towards income generation in the various portfolios that we hold. It is now up to us to achieve what we made an undertaking to execute, in order to prove our mettle. The HIT Mandate provides numerous opportunities for growth and development. It is up to us to interpret the mandate to our varied stakeholders as we persuade partners to join HIT in this noble venture towards Zimbabwe's industrial revolution. Our efforts in technology development, incubation, transfer and commercialisation will become the bedrock of our very existence and the reason for our success. I urge each and every one of us this year to make that tangible contribution as we continue with our efforts at HIT.

We wish to acknowledge and thank God for the wisdom that enabled us to stay committed to the mandate in our academic programmes and research, development and innovation outputs during the course of 2015. We trust He will continue to do the same in 2016.

May God bless and guide you all as we strive to execute more effectively the Mandate bestowed upon us.

I thank you.

On behalf of the Institute Board, and indeed on my own behalf, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year and the encompassing spirit of hope and vitality which each New Year brings.

Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the staff and students of the Harare Institute of Technology for their individual and collective efforts in contributing to the realisation of the Institute mandate. 2015 was a year filled with various landmarks and achievements and this would not have been possible without your dedication and commitment to this great Institute.

Looking ahead, 2016 should reflect a radical change in focus and attitude reflected through a marked commitment to the HIT Core Values. These HIT Values:- Innovation, Leadership, Integrity, Commitment and Professionalism encapsulate and should be the

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SECOND SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS
Begins on Monday 22nd February 2016.

Mid Semester Break
Starts on Monday 28th March to Friday 1 April 2016.

SWOT Week
From Monday 16th May to Friday 20th May 2016.

Examinations
Start on Monday 23rd May 2016.

HIT HOSTS FIRST EVER GLOBAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP SUMMIT IN SOUTHERN AFRICA



Participants to the Global Training Programme Southern Africa 2016, the delegation from HGU, HIT Vice Chancellor and other senior staff members.

The Harare Institute of Technology was privileged to host the first ever Global Entrepreneurship Summit from 25 to 30 January 2016.

The Summit was hosted in partnership with the Handong Global University with support from the Korean Government and the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation, (UNESCO).

Over 100 participants attended the one week workshop which sought to impart entrepreneurship skills – with participants receiving instruction on ideological precepts to entrepreneurship; strategic planning, business strategy, intellectual property, business communication and e-commerce among others.

The GET was marked by an opening ceremony on Monday 25 January which was attended by the designate of the Korean Ambassador to Zimbabwe, the Vice Chancellor of the Harare Institute of Technology- Eng. Q.C. Kanhukamwe, and the delegation from Handong Global University led by Professor George Kim.

Wednesday 27 January saw the hosting of Culture Night; - which witnessed a display of both Zimbabwean and Korean culture; with both HIT and Korean students participating in the event. Zimbabwean mbira maestro and Kora Award nominee, Hope Rusike provided a repertoire of various cultural dances and narrations which proved both educative and entertaining to the audience.

Following the closing ceremony of GET on Saturday 30 January and the award of certificates, the Senior Executive Entrepreneurship Training was held on Monday 1 February. The event was officially opened by the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Honourable Professor Jonathan Moyo who was represented by the Deputy Minister, Honourable Dr. Godfrey Gandawa. Regional Director for UNESCO, - Professor Hubert Gijzen also attended the event. Hosted simultaneously was the Junior Entrepreneurship Training programme, targeting high school students.



HIT HONOURED IN 'MOST OUTSTANDING ORGANISATIONS AWARDS'



Dean in the School of Business and Management Sciences, Mr W. Gwarimbo receives the MEGAFEST AWARD on behalf of the Institute.

The Harare Institute of Technology has clinched 6th position in the 'Top 20 Most Outstanding Organisations for 2015.'

The awards ceremony was hosted by Megafest at a colourful ceremony attended by Government and corporate leaders, at the Rainbow Towers Hotel, Harare on Friday 18 December 2015.

Dean in the School of Business and Management Sciences, Mr W. Gwarimbo accepted the award on behalf of the Institute at the event which was also attended by the Registrar, Mrs M. Samupindi and HIT staff.

Awards organiser, Dr T.P. Matsika said the Megafest awards ceremony rewards the best men, women and organisations in Zimbabwe.

Guest of Honour at the event, Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry, Honourable Walter Mzembe, represented by the Deputy Minister, Honourable Annastancia Ndhlovu urged Zimbabwean companies to be innovative and create a competitive niche for their products. The Minister also expressed appreciation for the "amazing men and women who have brought Zimbabwe thus far"

Other higher education institutions honoured at the awards ceremony were Mutare Polytechnic, 15th place, Bindura University of Science and Technology, 10th place, and the Great Zimbabwe University, 8th place.

The MBCA bank won the first prize.

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY INNOVATION



The Director of Communications and International Relations Mr T. Mutema (right) receives the 'International Award For Excellence in Sustainability Innovation' at the World Sustainability Congress held in Mauritius in December.

The Harare Institute of Technology was honoured with the 'International Award For Excellence in Sustainability Innovation' for its research, which delivers tangibles in the form of Patents, Utility Models, and Copyrights that are sustainable and industrially applicable.

In its citation during the awarding ceremony, Africa Leadership Awards said the Institute is alive to the need for sustainability in all its innovations and pays serious attention to ecological, and

stakeholders' needs. This is coupled with Administrative structures, academic departments, human capital and an institutional ethos aligned to issues of sustainability.

Africa Leadership Awards bestowed the award on HIT at the World Sustainability Congress held in Mauritius on December 2015.

<http://www.worldsustainabilitycongress.org/award-winners-2015.html>

HIT ACADEMIC NOMINATED TO ONGOING COP 21 NEGOTIATIONS



Dr Anthony Phiri

Director of the Environmental Management and Climate Change Research Centre, Dr Anthony Phiri has been appointed to the capacity building negotiations as part of the ongoing deliberations on how to build the capacity for African nations and other parts of the developing world in dealing with Climate Change.

The nomination followed his attendance at the 21st Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, (COP 21), held in Paris, France from 30 November to 11 December 2015.

Dr Phiri was part of the Zimbabwe delegation made up of academics and experts in climate change, from academia, government departments and the media fraternity.

The COP 21 saw a gathering of 195 countries; with an address by Government leaders from across the world on 30 November.

PROF GUNDIDZA AT ICASA: MEDICINAL PLANTS, IMMUNE SYSTEM BOOSTER FOR HIV PATIENTS



Professor Mazuru Gundidza.

Professor Gundidza, Chairperson of the Harare Institute of Technology's Department of Pharmaceutical Technology was among the panel of presenters on scientific research at the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA) held in Harare from 29 November to 4 December 2015.

Professor Gundidza, an expert in plant medicine presented on medicinal plants as an immune system booster for HIV patients. He proposed that more research needs to be conducted on the efficacy of medicinal plants to fight opportunistic infections in HIV and Aids patients as these opportunistic infections can lead to death.

According to his research, plants are effective in

boosting the immune system and help to fight opportunistic infections especially through the application of nano technology which can actually stop the multiplication of the virus or even the bacteria, fungi and parasites.



SANBio ALL STAKEHOLDERS MEETING



Part of the delegates to the all stakeholders meeting of the Southern African Network for Biosciences (SANBio) hosted by the Department of Biotechnology.

The Harare Institute of Technology's Department of Biotechnology hosted an all stakeholders meeting of the Southern African Network for Biosciences (SANBio) aimed at sharing Zimbabwe's research insights and assisting local organisations to align themselves with priority research areas as well as creating opportunities for collaborative research between research institutions and the SANBio network.

The Southern African Network for Biosciences (SANBio) is conducting a publicity and information gathering programme: - meeting stakeholders and informing them of SANBio activities and opportunities. The organisation sought to understand the nature of research being undertaken by Zimbabwean institutions as presented in their business plan from 2013 to 2018.

SANBio is an African Union, New Partnership for Africa's Development (AU/NEPAD) collaborative research, development and innovation platform aimed at addressing Southern Africa's challenges in health and nutrition. Membership within the SANBio network provides opportunities for research and development through collaborative networking. It also aligns stakeholders to streams of funding opportunities through various grant opportunities.

In his opening remarks, the Dean in the School of Industrial Sciences and Technology, Mr P. Muredzi highlighted that Harare Institute of Technology is willing to work with such like-minded institutions for

the betterment of our communities and society at large.

"HIT's departments of Food Processing Technology Department, Pharmaceutical Technology, and Biotechnology are engrossed in research that is of interest to SANBio and we confident of a convergence of ideas, fruitful engagement, and collegial networking that would bring success to the achievement of set goals for the gathering", he said.

A laboratories committee was established to spearhead consolidation of equipment in all research institutions that fall under SANBio influence and to ensure harmonized collaborations in the use of such critical equipment. The HIT Department of Biotechnology is a member of this committee.

The meeting also agreed to create a comprehensive database and information on critical equipment needs. SANBio also agreed to avail its state of the art laboratories that HIT researchers can use for specialised experiments.

"SANBio has a network of researchers to act as mentors and the network provides funding opportunities. We would like to scale up participation and collaborations with leading institutions under the Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Mushroom nodes. SANBio will provide funds for such projects. HIT researchers can apply for this type of funding for international or regional study tours, knowledge exchanges and sharing in specific thematic areas as well as attendance at scientific workshops and

conferences", said Mr J. Kutyauro, Chairperson of the HIT Department of Biotechnology.

Mr Kutyauro also added that HIT students are set to benefit from the SANBio Student Ambassadors Network that engages enthusiastic students who are keen to promote biosciences saying that such a platform will form a group of passionate supporters and volunteers who will be equipped to speak confidently on biosciences, SANBio and its vision.

A number of researchers attended the meeting from the National Biotechnology Authority, Tobacco Research Board, Department of Research and Specialist Services, University of Zimbabwe, Chinhoyi University of Technology, and Bindura University of Science Education.

The SANBio delegation that visited Zimbabwe from 25 - 29 January 2016 was led by Dr Ereck Chakauya (Network Manager).

The delegation visited key stakeholders in bioscience, relevant research institutions; as universities and government institutions, and assessing their capacities (human and infrastructure) and alignment with the SANBio priority areas. They also raised awareness on SANBio activities at the political and technical levels within Zimbabwe as well as establishing a region-wide equipment and expertise database.

VICE CHANCELLOR'S END OF YEAR LUNCHEON 2015



Dean in the School of Business Management Sciences Mr W. Gwarimbo (left) presenting the Vice Chancellor's address at the Vice Chancellors End of Year Luncheon 2015 held in December.

The 2015 Vice Chancellor's Luncheon was held on 17 December 2015.

On a speech read on his behalf, the Vice Chancellor expressed his heartfelt appreciation to all staff members for working tirelessly throughout the year to make HIT the most preferred university brand, especially when the Institute celebrated its 10th Anniversary.

"As you are all know we have achieved great milestones despite the economic challenges our nation is facing. You remained resolute and focused on your work.", he said

He commended all staff to retain that spirit adding that as a result the Institute has earned several commendations and recognitions locally and internationally,

among them the citation by the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development, Professor Moyo when he made his inaugural visit to HIT on 25 August 2015. The Minister affirmed HIT's adherence and commitment to its mandate.

"HIT also scooped the RIO-SET best exhibitor among other universities for the second year running, the Best National Students Engineering Award among universities for the second year again, the International Platinum Technology Award For Best Trade Name from Association Otherways of Italy in May and the Award for Excellence in Sustainability Innovation from Africa Educational Leadership Awards to mention a few".

the Vice Chancellor urged all staff members

to continue working studiously to execute the core business of the Institute our mandate by delivering lectures and ensuring all exams are written, marked, and results released in time.

"I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a prosperous 2016!", he concluded.

