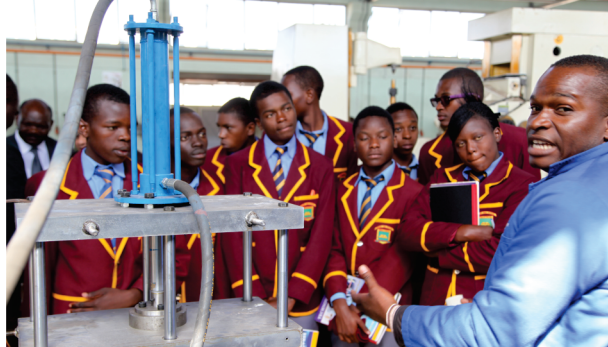




Celebrating Innovation: championing Technopreneurship

JUNE 2015

TECHNOVATION DAY HAILED



Some of the academics and high school pupils viewing the various technologies on display during the Technovation Day.

HIT successfully hosted the inaugural Technovation Day on Friday 19 June 2015 at the Institute campus.

The Technovation Day was held to showcase research and development outputs, products and services to a wide ranging audience including University academics, high school pupils and practitioners in the field.

Communications and International Relations Director, Tinashe Mutema added that the Technovation Day was held to provide an opportunity for networking and building partnerships with organisations within the same sector, as well as providing a platform for identifying research problems.

Specifically relating to high school pupils, the Technovation Day was held to expose high school students pursuing science subjects to various innovations and developments within the science and technology sector with a view to motivating them to become innovators and wealth creators.

Students were also given the opportunity to interact with individuals within the corporate sector and get information on career opportunities from HIT academics.

Over 1000 high school pupils from across Zimbabwe

attended the event.

Gamuchirai Gutu from St Peter's Kubatana High School said she was inspired by the Technovation Day because she learnt about the value and importance of being innovative. She highlighted that the Bio technology department was the most informative part of her tour.

Both Brandon Gonora from St Peter's Kubatana and Mthando Magwaliba from Shungu High School in Kwekwe were impressed with the various technologies on display at the Electronic Engineering Department. "We have been inspired to come up innovations so that we can help our communities," they said.

Vice Chancellor of the Harare Institute of Technology, Engineer Quinton Kanhukamwe said the Technovation Day was meant to expose future scientists and technologists to the various dimensions that science and engineering can take. "This exposure will help them to make a firm commitment to take up engineering and technology as careers," he said.

The Technovation Day was held as part of the 10th Anniversary Commemorations and is set to become an annual event.

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UPCOMING EVENT:

International Food Inspection Seminar- Level I

Venue:

Harare Institute of Technology Campus, Belvedere, Harare

Date:

20-24 July 2015

For more details, visit our website www.hit.ac.zw

CURRENT TRENDS AND THE FUTURE OF BIOTECHNOLOGY IN ZIMBABWE



Mr. Perkins Muredzi (right), Dean in the School of Industrial Sciences and Technology giving his opening remarks during the Biotechnology seminar.

Local Biotechnology experts have called for more awareness, the promotion of biotechnology research and a review of government policy on genetically modified organisms in order to provide solutions in food security and sustainable energy provision.

Several experts from the local biotechnology fraternity and industry said this at a seminar organized by the Harare Institute of Technology's Department of Biotechnology held on 10 June, 2015 under the theme "Current trends and the future of Biotechnology in Zimbabwe", as part of the Institute's 10th Anniversary Celebrations.

In his opening remarks, Dean in the School of Industrial Sciences and Technology Mr. Perkins Muredzi called for partnerships between

academia, industry and the regulatory authorities to further biotechnology research in Zimbabwe.

He added that the purpose of the workshop was to get together with biotechnology researchers, industry, policymakers and regulatory authorities to share and discuss the current trends and future prospects of biotechnology in Zimbabwe.

Speakers included Dr Ian Robertson, a crop scientist and biotechnologist from the University of Zimbabwe and Agri Biotech Holdings, Charity Magwenzi, the Research and Development Manager at Dairibord Zimbabwe and Dr Mufandaedza from the National Biotechnology Authority of Zimbabwe.



Dr Ian Robertson, a crop scientist and biotechnologist from the University of Zimbabwe and Agri Biotech Holdings.



WOMEN IN ENGINEERING OPEN DAY CONFERENCE 2015

Women engineers call for support to other women and young girls pursuing careers in engineering.



Eng. Q.C Kanhukamwe
HIT Vice Chancellor



Mrs. Rungano Karimanzira,
DIRECTOR OF PROJECTS AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER
MHTESTD



Engineer T. Kapumha
President: Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers



Students from the various high schools who attended conference.



Engineer G. Magombo
CEO: Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority

The second edition of the Women in Engineering Open Day Conference was held at the Harare Institute of Technology on June 11, 2015 running under the theme: “Inspiring and Building Women’s Engineering Capacity for National Empowerment.”

The Women in Engineering Open Day provides a platform for women in the engineering sector to share their experiences on the challenges they face in their careers, their success stories as well as motivating and inspiring other women and young girls who would like to pursue careers in engineering. It is also a platform to contribute to a future where both male and female engineers are evaluated equally on their abilities and expertise and not on gender defined roles.

Speakers from various engineering backgrounds were invited to give their insights on how to make a mark in the engineering corporate world as a woman.

In his opening remarks, HIT Vice Chancellor Eng. Quinton Kanhukamwe called for support to

women in engineering, researchers and students to out-innovate, out- educate and out-build the rest of the world. “The development of world class talent in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) is critical to the global leadership. Increasing opportunities for women in engineering is an important step towards realizing greater economic success and equality for women across the board”, he said.

Engineer G. Magombo, Chief Executive Officer of the Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority, (ZERA) also made a presentation on “Alternative Roles For Women Engineers in the Workplace: Moving Beyond Challenges, Career Advancement, Sustainability, Leadership and Development” in which she gave an insight into the world of a woman in engineering.

President of the Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers (ZIE), Engineer T. Kapumha also presented a paper on “The Role of Professional Engineering Institutions in Promoting Women in Engineering”. He said that the professional

engineering bodies like Zimbabwe Institution of Engineers (ZIE) and the Engineers Confederation of Zimbabwe (ECZ) can help women engineers to execute all the multi-disciplinary tasks required in the sector.

Mrs Rungano Karimanzira, the Director of Projects and Technology Transfer in the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Science and Technology Development also talked about “The Role of the Mentor and Mentee in the Progressive Transformation of the Engineering Sector- A Women Centred Observation”. She said that the girl child must be nurtured from a young stage in order to catch them young and instill a creative and inquisitive seed in the mind of a young girl.

Other notable speakers at the Women in Engineering Open day were Ms B. Nyakutsikwa from Hazen Engineering, Engineer T. Kunaka, Technical Director of NATPACK (PVT) Ltd, Eng. L. Masiyazi and Eng. W. Mutenhabundo of the HIT Department of Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering.



SCHOOL OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES LAUNCHES PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMA

The School of Business Management Sciences has launched a new professional diploma and career-enhancing programme in Microfinance.

The programme gives an in-depth understanding of best practices, current technological developments, managerial acumen and strategic techniques that effectively drive economic growth through competent microfinance enterprise development.

The Microfinance programme is offered from the certificate level to the diploma level and is targeting Loan Officers, Supervisors in Microfinance Institutions, Banks, SACCOs and Credit Unions, Board Members, Senior Managers, Middle Level Managers of Microfinance Institutions, Banks, SACCOs, Policy Makers and Social Investors.

The programme has evening and weekend classes.

The professional certificate in microfinance has 7 modules consisting of fundamentals of microfinance, risk management, technopreneurship in Microfinance, Marketing of microfinance services, information technology in microfinance, accounting principles for microfinance and microfinance lending methodologies.

The diploma course is more strategy oriented and will enhance the skills and knowledge of organizational managers. The courses include current trends in microfinance, strategic direction, microfinance management and corporate governance, organizational architecture in a microfinance institute, building efficient microfinance institutions, regulations and supervision, enterprise wide risk management, financial reporting and Analysis for microfinance and technopreneurship for microfinance.

EMBASSY OF NETHERLANDS—HIT PARTNERSHIP ON THE CARDS

A partnership with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi is in the offing, following a visit by the Deputy of Head of Mission, Maarten Rusch.

The partnership will largely be based on entrepreneurial development among the youth.

Theodore Klouvas, a Dutch expert on entrepreneurship, a young Ghanaian entrepreneur and Tinotenda Pasi, a Policy Adviser in the Embassy were also part of the delegation.

The visit comes against the backdrop and potential for the Embassy of the Netherlands in Zimbabwe to start an incubation programme with the Harare Institute of Technology.

“Zimbabwe has a very strong education system, the literacy rate is also very high and we came to HIT to share ideas on how we can promote entrepreneurship among the young people,” said Rusch.

Klouvas, a entrepreneurship expert, who has so far initiated incubation projects in Dutch embassies in Greece, South Africa and Ghana added that he was keen to get exposure on the Zimbabwean experience of entrepreneurship and alternative ways of thinking. He was also cognizant of the fact that all attempts in the start of any new programme should be contextual and specifically targeted to a people's lived experiences and aspirations.

The visit by the Dutch Embassy officials is a welcome move as their proposal closely fits with the HIT mandate of technology development, incubation, transfer and commercialisation. Currently, HIT has initiated a successful incubation programme with the UNDP and SANDOWN where 10 student projects were adopted.

Other possible areas of partnership and collaboration which were discussed include exchange programmes for students and staff and collaborative research.

The meeting was attended by staff from the Technopreneurship Development Centre, School of Business and Management Science, Central Services and Communications and International Relations.



Royal
Netherlands
Embassy

INSTICHEM LAUNCHES NEW PRODUCTS

InstiChem, a chemical engineering business unit of the Harare Institute of Technology's Department of Chemical and Process Systems Engineering has launched a range of chemical products that include detergents such as toilet cleaner, dish wash and car wash.

Chairperson of the Department of Chemical and Process Systems Engineering, Eng. Mercy Manyuchi said that the production of fine chemicals and detergents from InstiChem to meet the local and national needs is economically and technically feasible and is a source of funds for the department and the Institute as a whole.

Mr. Perkins Muredzi, Dean of the School of Industrial Sciences and Technology commended the development of organic detergents by InstiChem as a noble idea.

“The company's goals are to produce quality products from the use of our natural resources to produce quality branded products for our local market consumers. It is envisaged that InstiChem will mature into a production unit that will delve into other areas of chemical plant design and deployment of technologies relevant for the development of solutions for our local chemical industry in line with the Institute's mandate”, he said.

Driven by the HIT mandate, InstiChem strives to be the hub of technology incubation and transfer in chemical engineering technology through technopreneurship. Its vision is to satisfy the customer through high professionalism and excellence in chemical engineering.

InstiChem is also set to launch other products such as a Degreaser, Engine cleaner, Drain cleaner and a Stain remover.



HIT EXHIBITS AT AFRICA BIG SEVEN TRADESHOW



InstiFoods Chairperson Mr D. Moyo (left) at the Africa Big Seven Exhibition in Midrand, South Africa

The Harare Institute of Technology recently exhibited at the Africa Big Seven, (AB7) Tradeshow in Midrand, South Africa from 21-23 June.

The event was coordinated by ZIMTRADE. InstiFoods, represented by the Chairperson, Mr D. Moyo participated in the exhibition.

“The event provided a platform to network and exchange ideas on current trends in food processing, packaging and presentation,” said Moyo.

“The show also provided us with an opportunity to showcase what we can produce,” he said. “There was a lot of interest in our dried fruits because of the method of

drying that we employ. Most dried fruits in the market are over dried and some are subjected to various chemicals which then in way distort the colour, texture and taste. Our solar dried fruits only have citric acid added to them to help maintain the original colour of the fruit,” he said.

The Africa Big Seven is one of the largest continental events which displays food and beverages, food processing equipments and machines, fresh produce, manufacturing technologies among others.

The event is dedicated to serve the food and beverage industry.

OBITUARY: MARGARETH CHIUMBE



The late Margareth Chiumbe

The Vice Chancellor, Engineer Q.C. Kanhukamwe joins the entire HIT community in mourning the passing on of Margareth Chiumbe, (39), a staff member in the Library and Information Services Department who succumbed to cancer on Friday 26 June 2015 at Parirenyatwa Hospital.

She is survived by her parents, two brothers and two sisters.

Margareth joined the Harare Institute of Technology on 1 January 2005, as a Library Technical Assistant, a position she held until her time of death. She graduated with a Diploma in Library and Information Science from the Harare Polytechnic College in 2014 having successfully completed a Certificate course in the same field in 2011. She attained primary education at Mbuyamaswa School and

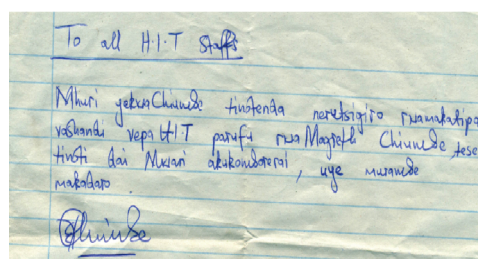
proceeded to Jichidza High School in Zaka for her secondary education.

Colleagues have described her as a team player, hardworking and always striving for excellence in all assigned tasks and activities. She will be remembered by her colleagues and friends both at work and church.

Her family's eulogy was centred on her great sense of responsibility and her enduring nature which saw her working hard to assist and provide for the family. She placed her family before herself and diligently carried this responsibility. As a pillar of strength and support she will be greatly missed.

Margareth was interred on Sunday 28 June, 2015 at her rural home in, Zaka East, Masvingo.

May her soul rest in eternal peace.



LIBRARY STAFF ATTENDS AFLIA CONFERENCE IN GHANA

The Librarian Mr J. L Maenzanise and Mr M. Nhakura, a Senior Library Assistant recently attended the Third African Library and Information Associations and Institutions (AFLIA) conference held at the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) Conference Centre, University of Ghana, Accra from the 30 May to 2 of June 2015.

The conference was attended by 157 library professionals with vast experience in school, academic, public and private libraries from all over the world.

Mr Menzanise made a presentation on Leadership Excellence and Use of Technology at the Harare Institute of Technology while Mr Nhakura presented on Social Media as a Tool for Sharing Academic Knowledge among undergraduate students at HIT.

The Harare Institute of Technology was given an award in recognition of an outstanding presentation by the HIT Librarian Mr J.L Maenzanise.

The workshop was held under the theme – African Libraries Rising Leadership and Innovation for Development with the objective of building the capacity of librarians in order to support their sustenance.

It was also aimed at building the capacity of librarians to lead the provision of effective library and information services in their countries by providing planning services and presenting them effectively to their clients.

Another objective was to establish a core of effective leaders on the continent who are able to shape change in their countries and engage effectively in the global library and information space.

Various experts and participants in the field made presentations which stimulated constructive debates and contributions which resulted in meaningful resolutions being adopted.

Librarians across the world were thus urged to form partnerships that could sustain such services in the communities at the national, regional and international levels.

The Library workshop was graced by the wife of Ghana's Vice President, Mrs Effie Amisshah-Arthur, who is also a Librarian by profession.



Delegates attending the AFLIA Conference in Ghana