



# MUHAS

# NEWSLETTER

MUHIMBILI UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SCIENCES

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*The MUHAS Chancellor, Alhaji Dr. Ali Hassan Mwinyi confers a degree to a PhD graduand during the 13th graduation ceremony*

## MUHAS CELEBRATES THE 13<sup>th</sup> GRADUATION CEREMONY

**T**he MUHAS Chancellor and the former President of the United Republic of Tanzania H.E Alhaj Ali Hassan Mwinyi conferred Diplomas and degrees to 911 graduates at the 13th Graduation Ceremony.

In this event 205 graduands were conferred diplomas and advanced diplomas, 437 were

conferred first degrees and 258 master degrees in different fields of health and allied health sciences. In addition, there were 7 graduands of master of science super specialties and 4 graduands who were conferred doctor of philosophy (PhD) degree.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony, the Chairman of the MUHAS Council, Ms

Mariam Mwaffisi congratulated the students for their good performance which made the graduation ceremony possible this year and appreciated professors, lectures and MUHAS staffs for their support and contributions to the student's performances. She further thanked the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania through the Ministry of Education, Science and

*A University excelling in quality training of health professionals, research and public services with a conducive learning and working environment*

Technology for the continued support to MUHAS that enables smooth accomplishment of its tasks.

Moreover, the MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Andrea Pembe spoke about the need of developing the Mloganzila land to be able to increase the number of students enrolled and therefore increase the number of human resources produced for health sector in the country.

Prof. Pembe emphasized that the number of applicants who have met the criteria to be enrolled at MUHAS keeps on increasing yearly however, a very small percentage of these students are selected to join the University due to the inadequate space and facilities for teaching and learning.

To elaborate more, the Vice Chancellor gave an example of this year admission process and said that out of 1,951 applicants who were qualified to join the Doctor of Medicine (MD)



*The MUHAS Chancellor, H.E. Alhaji Dr. Ali Hassan Mwinyi, in a group photo with Government dignitaries, members of the University Council, Management and academic staff.*

programme at MUHAS only 230 were selected, and this is the maximum number that the University can admit in this programme due to the available teaching infrastructure.

Prof. Pembe thanked the government through the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology for funding the construction of phase one of academic and support facilities at Mloganzila campus which is

done by the Tanzania Building Agency (TBA). However, Prof. Pembe requested to increase the speed of construction so as to enable the University to double students' intake for the academic year 2020/2021.

Furthermore, the Vice Chancellor added that in this year the University was able to establish 6 new programs where by 3 programs are for first degrees namely are Bachelor of Science in Midwifery, Biomedical Engineering, as well as Bachelor of Science in Nurse Anaesthesia. And three programs are for super specialization which are Master of Science in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, Master of Science in Interventional Radiology as well as Master of Science in Neuroradiology.

The 13th MUHAS Graduation Ceremony took place on 7th of December 2019 at the Muhimbili Campus and was preceded by the Prize Giving Ceremony for the Academic Year 2018/2019 on the Friday, 6th December, 2019, and Convocation Symposium on Thursday, 5th December, 2019.



*The 2019 MUHAS valedictorians, Goodluck Nyondo (left) for undergraduate and Roselyne Okello (right) for postgraduate during the 13<sup>th</sup> graduation ceremony*



## MUHAS CONDUCTS THE 4<sup>th</sup> CONVOCATION SYMPOSIUM



*The President of MUHAS Convocation, Prof. Charles Mgone, giving an introductory talk during the 4<sup>th</sup> MUHAS Convocation Symposium at the university.*

In this symposium, the panel discussants were Prof.

Melkizedeck Leshabari, a Professor in Behavior Sciences, Prof. Milka Mafwiri, a Professor in Ophthalmology and consultant ophthalmic surgeon, Dr. Mary Mwanyika-Sando, Chief Executive Officer for the Africa Academy for Public Health (AAPH) – Tanzania, Dr. Eshi-fisha Linda Sawe, a 3rd year medical resident in Obstetrics and Gynecology and Miss Jackline Ngowi, a 4th year medical student. The session was chaired by Prof. A.D Kiwara, a Professor of Health systems in the department of Development Studies.

The fourth Convocation symposium was held on 5th December, 2019 at Muhimbili campus. Majority of participants attended were alumni of MUHAS. The aim of the Convocation is to bring together its members and provide an avenue for graduates to maintain their links with the University and its faculties and schools.

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) conducted the 4th MUHAS Convocation Symposium with the theme “Quality of Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences Graduates in addressing current Local and Global needs”.

Addressing the participants of the symposium, the Acting Vice Chancellor Prof. David Urassa welcome all to MUHAS. He also thanked the President of MUHAS Convocation, Prof. Charles Mgone for his effort in encouraging people to come to this symposium through a social media clip. He then appreciated the discussant for accepting to commit their time to participate in this symposium.

The acting VC commended the choice of the theme and said it was not only timely but it is always relevant because it is his believe that quality goes with current professional knowledge. He said that it is his hope that the experiences and discussion that will come out of this symposium will be used to improve our teaching and the revision of our curriculum.

The President of MUHAS Convocation, Prof. Charles Mgone gave an introductory talk on the theme. In his talk, Prof. Mgone spoke about changes in disease burden, inadequate capacity, changing landscape, how MUHAS is addressing these challenges, the future and way forward. He finished by reiterating the importance of monitoring and evaluating the quality of our graduates for relevance, effectiveness and fitness for purpose. By conducting Tracer studies, Prof. Mgone said, universities can know how well their products are performing, weaknesses and areas for improvement.



*Group photo of the President of MUHAS Convocation, MUHAS Management, Discussants and participants of 4<sup>th</sup> MUHAS Convocation Symposium*

## MUHAS CELEBRATED SENIOR RETIRED FACULTY MEMBERS



*MUHAS management with senior retired faculty members in marking the International Day of Older Persons*

In marking the International Day of Older Persons, MUHAS management appreciated the senior retired faculty members and also used the occasion to get their views and wisdom for the betterment of the University and the country in general.

In this event, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Andrea Pembe said that it is an honor and privileged to have quite a number of older faculty members of staff in this meeting and he also acknowledged their contribution towards the success of the University and country's health sector in general.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic, Research and Consultancy, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa spoke about the need of mentorship in the departments. He stressed the need to bridge the gap between the old generation and the young generation so that the young ones will have opportunity to be mentored by the older faculty

while they are still around.

In this meeting the senior staff commended the management for the initiative to celebrate senior staff. They recommended to the University to consider establishing geriatric program. It was urged that if 4% of the citizen are older people and this is likely to increase in the near future, there is a need to have specialists in geriatric to address older people health challenges. It was further urged that, the

country has health policies for older people but do not have specialists that focuses on health care of elderly people, therefore by establishing these programs, it will help the country to implement the policies effectively.

Speaking in this meeting, the former Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic, Research and Consultancy, Prof. Eligius Lyamuya urged the University to have strategies to strengthen supervision, mentoring and student counselling. He stressed the need for faculty members to evaluate themselves and see if there are reasons why students do not come to see them and find a way to bridge that gap. He commented that students have many problems academically as well as socially therefore for effective teaching and learning, they need to be well counseled.

The International Day of Older Person is celebrated on the October 1st and the theme for the 2019 celebrations was 'Journey to Ageing Equality'.



*Group photo of Senior retired member of staff with MUHAS management during the commemoration of International Day of Older Person.*



## MUHAS AWARDS 162 PRIZES TO THE BEST STUDENTS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2018/2019



*The MUHAS management in a group Photo with some of prize winners in the 2018/2019 Prize Giving Ceremony.*

He highly commended students who performed exceptionally well and scooped the highest number of prizes per individual (ranging from 2 to 12).

This year, the final year students of Bachelor of Pharmacy, Goodluck G. Nyondo performed exceptionally well and scooped twelve prizes. This was highest number of prizes won by a person in this ceremony.

For Postgraduate students, Prof. Kamuhabwa said 64 prizes were won by 45 students including 16 female and 29 male students. However, there were 9 Postgraduate prizes which did not get eligible winners for the academic year 2018/2019.

In this ceremony, the DVC-ARC got the opportunity individuals and organizations who have donated different prizes to support such kind of activities that promotes teaching and learning.

**M**UHAS awarded 162 prizes to 116 best students from the five schools (Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy, Nursing, and Public Health and Social Sciences) and the two Institutes (Traditional Medicine and Allied Health Sciences) in the Prize Giving Ceremony for the academic year 2018/2019 on the eve of the 13th MUHAS Graduation Ceremony.

Addressing the participants of this event, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic, Research and Consultancy (DVC-ARC) Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa said “today out of these 162 prizes, 98 prizes will be awarded to undergraduate students and 64 prizes to postgraduate”.

Prof. Kamuhabwa further elaborated that the 98 prizes for undergraduate students were won by 71 students (including 45 male and 26 female students). The School of Pharmacy continued to lead in the number of prizes, for the past eight years consecutively, with 27 prizes this year. The numbers of

prizes won in the other Schools/ Institutes include Institute of Allied Health Sciences (17), School of Dentistry (15), School of Nursing (15), School of Public Health and Social Sciences (13); School of Medicine (11)

The DVC-ARC further said that in overall terms, 63.3% of the undergraduate degree and diploma prize winners in the academic year 2018/2019 were won by male students.



*Goodluck Nyondo (2nd left), a student who received 12 prizes, in a picture with the VC, Prof. Andrea Pembe, DVC-ARC, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa and DVC-PFA, Prof. David Urassa during the Academic Prize Giving Ceremony at the University Campus.*

## MUHAS CONDUCTS ORIENTATION TO THE INCOMING STUDENTS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/2020



*The DVC ARC Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa addressing the new incoming undergraduate students during the orientation week.*

Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa explained that examination irregularity carries a serious punishment, often discontinuation from studies. He further said that cheating in examinations and plagiarism is not acceptable at this level of training especially in professions where trainees are expected to acquire reliable and ethically sound competencies.

“Students should work hard to avoid these adverse outcomes and in the event that it happens, individual’s reaction should be guided by informed decision-making based on a clear understanding and interpretation of the standing regulations”, He said.

The Deputy Vice Chancellor - Planning, Finance and Administration, Prof. David Urassa explained on the MUHAS organization structure, functions of various organs, aims and objectives, the

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) conducted orientation to the incoming students for the Academic Year 2019/2020 with the aims of orienting students with rules and regulations and familiarizing them with MUHAS environment.

The MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. Andrea Pembe welcomed the new students and congratulated them for being among the very few students who were to selected to join to studies at MUHAS. “It is my hope that you will treasure, cherish and make maximum use of this very special opportunity you have been given”, he added.

Prof. Pembe further informed the newly enrolled students that MUHAS is among the best health profession training institutions in Africa, because of its good

track record and excellence of its scholars as well as devotion to professionalism. Also he added that, students are expected to have a high moral standard as well as showing a high degree of integrity throughout the time of study at MUHAS.

Speaking on welcoming the new students, the Deputy Vice Chancellor - Academic, Research and Consultancy,



*The incoming undergraduate students to the the DVC-ARC (not in picture) during the orientation week at the university.*



principal organs responsible for carrying out these objectives and functions, the responsible officers charged with the responsibility of overseeing the process of carrying out those objectives and functions, as well as welfare services offered to students by MUHAS.

He urged the new students to observe and follow the University structure which the University has clearly defined. He noted that the university has a participatory decision making and it also recognized the students as the stakeholder and therefore are represented in all major organs.

The event was conducted on 1st November, 2019 and attended by the Vice Chancellor, DVC-PFA, DVC-ARC, Deans, Directors as well as Heads of Departments at Muhimbili Campus.

## POST GRADUATE ORIENTATION NEWS IN PICTURES



*Head, External Relations Unit, Dr. Belinda Balandya addressing on the functions of the unit to the incoming postgraduate students during the orientation day.*



*The representative of postgraduate students giving details on student welfare issues to the incoming postgraduate students.*

## MUHAS RECEIVES A DONATION OF SICKLE SCAN KITS

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) through the Sickle Cell Programme received a donation of sickle scan kits from BioMedomics through Laborex Tanzania on 21st October, 2019

Speaking at the handover ceremony, on behalf of PI Sickle Cell Programme, Dr. Emmanuel Balandya gave brief remarks on the partnership history. He said BioMedomics met with Prof. Julie Makani during the Sickle Cell Side event at the WHO - AFRO meeting in Brazzaville. This was followed by a series of meetings between



BioMedomics and Sickle Cell Programme which was shaped by institutional involvement to MUHAS, Ministry of Health, Community Development,

*Mr. Kelvin handing over Sickle Scan Kits to DVC-ARC, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhambwa during the handover ceremony at MUHAS*

Gender, Elderly and Children and other stakeholders.

Dr. Balandya further thanked BioMedomics for the donation and emphasized that the Sickle Cell Programme will use the Sickle SCAN tests for community and newborn screenings over the next few months through its advocacy campaign in hospitals such as Amana, Mwananyamala, Temeke, Muhimbili National Hospital as well as Bugando Medical Center and at the secondary schools.

In appreciating the donation, the Deputy Vice Chancellor-Academic, Research and Consultancy, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa thanked the BioMedomics and Sickle Cell Programme for this partnership. He said the university supports the efforts to accelerate access to diagnosis and treatment for people living with sickle cell disease and trait in Tanzania. “We are here today because your support in newborn screening and we believe that early diagnosis, followed by treatment saves life”, He added.

A Representative of BioMedomics through Laborex-Tanzania Mr. Kelvin thanked the University for warm reception and also congratulated the Sickle Cell Programme for the fantastic job they are doing in saving lives of people living with sickle cell disease in Tanzania.

BioMedomics donated 20,000 Sickle Scan Kits which are the world’s first rapid, qualitative Point of Care test (POCT) for Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) to the MUHAS Sickle Cell Programme.

## PROF. JAPHET KILLEWO DELIVERS PROFESSORIAL INAUGURAL LECTURE ON WICKED HEALTH PROBLEMS



*Prof. Japhet Killewo delivering his Professorial Lecture*

MUHAS Professor in Epidemiology, Prof. Japhet Killewo delivered a Professorial Lecture titled ‘Wicked Health Problems and the One Health Approach in Tanzania’ at University premises on 31st October, 2019.

Speaking during the Professorial Lecture, the Deputy Vice Chancellor – Academic, Research and Consultancy, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa commended Prof. Japhet Killewo for being able to achieve this highest honour in academia of delivering a Professorial Lecture.

For MUHAS, Prof. Kamuhabwa said, topics selected for Professorial Lectures are supposed to be of public health importance with significant policy implications. In addition, he added, the presenter should show evidence of important publications in peer reviewed journals through research conducted while at MUHAS

Moreover, the DVC-ARC spoke of Professor Japhet Killewo as a seasoned researcher and experienced public speaker. “He has published over 100 publications in local as well as international journals and has written chapters in books and edited a section in the International Encyclopaedia of Public Health”, he added.

In introducing the speaker, the Chairman of the Professorial Lecture, Prof. Karim Manji said that Prof. Japhet Killewo has been a faculty member at MUHAS since 1980, and although, he retired from public service in 2008, he is still active in research and mentoring at MUHAS. “As a teacher and researcher his interests are in communicable and non-communicable diseases and reproductive health”, Prof. Manji added.

Moreover, the Chairman said, Prof. Killewo is a University Focal Person of the One Health Central and Eastern Africa (OHCEA) Network which has



its headquarters in Kampala, Uganda. The OHCEA network is active in 8 countries of Africa which are located in the so called “hot spot for emerging pandemic threats”, an area of high frequency of interaction between humans, their livestock and wildlife.

On the same note the DVC-ARC appreciated USAID for funding the One Health initiative in Africa and South East Asia and to the Government of Tanzania for embracing and supporting the initiative. “It is my sincere hope that this drive for ONE HEALTH will continue and become sustainable while truly addressing the needs of the participating countries, if not beyond” Prof. Kamuhabwa added.



*Participants following up Prof. Kilewo’s Professorial Lecture on Wicked Health Problems and the One Health Approach in Tanzania at MUHAS*



*Prof. Japhet Kilewo in a group photo with some of the dignitaries within and outside MUHAS who attended his Professorial Lecture.*

## MUHAS STAFF PARTICIPATE IN SPORTS AND HEALTH DAY

In recognizing the importance of physical exercises, the MUHAS management organized sports and health day for all employees aimed at improving the worker’s health and reducing the negative effects of non-participation in sports as well as creating a culture of participation in various workplace training programs.

Speaking during the sports and health day, the Vice chancellor, Prof. Andrea Pembe said that to exercise is very important as there has been a significant rise of non-communicable diseases mainly caused by eating junk foods, living sedentary life as well as drinking alcohol which led high blood pressure, stomach cramps and diabetes.

“The person who carries the luggage is different from the person who is sitting in the



*The MUHAS Staff practicing in the aerobic exercise during the sports and health day at the university ground.*

office, they should have different food needs depending on the type of work the person is doing, and often someone who spends a lot of time sitting then should eat less”, the VC said.

Furthermore, Director of Continuing Education and Professional Development Dr. Doreen Mloka was very happy to be one of the participants in this sports and health day and

also asked the management to continue supporting this event regularly because it brings people together as well as creating the culture of doing exercises.

Chairman of the organizing committee, Prof Kennedy Mwambete said since 2013 there has never been such an event for staff. Events were organized only for incoming new students



but now we have learned and seen this is also important to staff and the event will be sustainable by organizing it regularly.

The event took place on 29th November 2019 at university ground and where staff participated in different games such as football, rope pulling, running with an egg. Staff also got tips on a healthy work life, healthy nutritional advises as well as free check up on high blood pressure, and diabetes.



*The Vice Chancellor (2nd) participating in the tug of war contest during the sports and health day at the university ground.*



*MUHAS staff in a group photo after aerobic exercise during the sports day.*

## TAPSA COMMEMORATES WORLD ANTIBIOTIC AWARENESS WEEK AT MUHAS

*By Esther Kisanga, BPharm 4*



*Panel Discussion involving (from left), Dr Doris Luktam, Prof. Said Aboud, Prof. Kennedy Mwambete, Albert Ntukula and David Myemba.*



Tanzania Pharmaceutical Students' Association (TAPSA) symposium on the future of antibiotics gathered a diverse group of delegates on 27th November 2019 at MUHAS. TAPSA has been highlighting the need to tackle Antimicrobial Resistance for over three years and the Symposium proved that the message did not fall on deaf ears. The symposium centered around the theme of the 2019 World Antibiotic Awareness Week, 'The Future of Antibiotics Depends on All of Us'.

The Registrar of the Pharmacy Council, Madam Elizabeth Shekalaghe addressing as Chief Guest on the occasion, congratulated students on the initiatives taken towards tackling AMR. She expressed Tanzania's commitment to work with stakeholders on the implementation of the National Action Plan for AMR. She then encouraged students to conduct research to define the extent of the problem in the country.

The Symposium included presentations from groups working to tackle AMR. Herrieth Ndumwa, from Jamii Medical Awareness (JMA), showed how JMA uses digital art on various platforms to raise awareness on AMR. David Myemba from Famasi Jamii described their focus to be the major source of drug information to the community through the utilization of social and mass media platforms.

Habibu Salimu, chairperson of TAPSA's AMR Campaign Taskforce, described the awareness-raising campaign conducted throughout the



*Participants watching a JMA animated video presentation*

country. David Myemba then presented pilot findings of a survey conducted to assess the impact of the previous campaigns in the communities visited.

The Symposium included a panel discussion where Prof. Said Aboud, a professor of Microbiology and Immunology at MUHAS, talked of the gap between researchers and policymakers that hinders the implementation of proper interventions. Stressing on the difference between knowledge and practice, he urged clinicians to correct their practice methods in an effort to tackle AMR.

The role of Academicians in tackling AMR was discussed by Prof. Kennedy Mwambete, a professor of Pharmaceutical Microbiology and Dean of School of Pharmacy at MUHAS, where he stressed on the proper dissemination of knowledge to students to facilitate productive campaigns.

Albert Ntukula, a microbiologist at Muhimbili National Hospital, addressed the challenge posed by the gap between lab technicians and other health personnel which hinders the provision of proper prescriptions based on culture results. Dr. Doris Luktam, a senior technical advisor at the Medicines, Technologies and Pharmaceuticals Services Program (MTaPS), talked on the role of NGOs and collaborations between institutions in addressing AMR. David Myemba emphasized on the responsibility of student associations in collaborating with other stakeholders to numb down professional rivalry and promote collective efforts to best address AMR.

Prof. Mainen Moshi concluded by thanking the Guest of Honour, panelists, and guests for participating in the symposium. He expressed his hope that students and stakeholders will continue to scale up dialogues and efforts in protecting antibiotics from improper use by the public.

## MUHAS DENTAL SCHOOL HOSTS A KICK-OFF WORKSHOP FOR NORPART PROJECT



*Representatives of all the partner institutions participating at the workshop.*

Members of the NORPART-project recently met at the School of Dentistry, Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS), at a kick-off workshop to discuss the initial phases of the project work and plan future activities. Representatives of all partner institutions engaged in the NORPART-project “Establishment of Joint Research-Based Education in Dentistry in Norway and East Africa” met for a three-day workshop to discuss the implementation of the project activities and coordinate future plans at the MUHAS School of Dentistry who is the project’s Tanzanian partners.

The workshop was officially

opened by the Acting MUHAS Vice Chancellor, Prof. David Urassa who welcomed all the representatives to Dar Es Salaam to the kick-off workshop. The first day of the workshop was devoted to the topic of student mobility and research activities. On the second day a blueprint for the course on global oral health was discussed. During the discussions a particular attention was given to exploring the possibilities in developing an interactive teaching mode using various digital platforms. On the final day of the workshop program the main points on the agenda were staff exchange and sustainability of the project.

The project “Establishment of Joint Research-based Education in Dentistry in Norway and East Africa” is financed by

the Norwegian Agency for International Cooperation and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education (DIKU) in the framework of NORPART program and will be implemented in the period of the next five years. The general aim of the project is to develop and establish a standardized educational platform for the global oral health at the University of Bergen and partner institutions.

UiB partner institutions for this project are - University of Khartoum (Sudan), University of Science and Technology (Sudan), Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (Tanzania), Makerere University (Uganda) and Addis Ababa University (Ethiopia). The main activities of the project are student mobility, development and implementation of course in global oral health and a winter school in research methodology.

The project already welcomed the first exchange students from Tanzania and Uganda to Bergen in autumn 2019. New students from Sudan are expected to come to visit e UiB during spring semester 2020. In addition, the first student exchange from UiB to Eastern Africa is planned to take place during spring 2020. While student mobility has already been initiated and is ongoing, the project group is continuously working on the next milestone of the project that will be the implementation of the course “Global Oral Health” during autumn 2020.



# ALLIANCE GROUP DONATED SURGERY EQUIPMENTS TO MUHAS

**M**uhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) has recently received surgery equipment as a donation from Alliance for Global Clinical Training. MUHAS through the department of surgery will utilize the equipment for training postgraduate and undergraduate students.

Speaking at the hand over ceremony, Director of Quality Assurance, Dr. Obadia Nyongole, explained about the existing collaboration between the Alliance Group and the Department of Surgery. He said that Alliance Group has posted a medical director to work as the honorary lecturer at the department to assist on building capacity in grant writing, research dissemination as well as to collaborate with the department to design short courses depending on the needs of the country.

“We have residents who have benefited from this collaboration on skills and patient care attitude which they got from the experience of our partners and we assure this collaboration will be sustainable”, He. said.

After receiving the equipment, the Deputy Vice Chancellor-Academic Research and consultancy, Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa conveyed his appreciation to Dr. Obadia and his colleagues from the department of surgery for their efforts in obtaining this donation.



*The DVC ARC- Prof. Appolinary Kamuhabwa receiving the surgery equipment from the Alliance for Global clinical training at the university.*

He said as the university when you receive such equipment it shows that as the department they have a good relationship with our external collaborators.

Moreover, the Acting Vice Chancellor expressed gratitude to Alliance Group Clinical Training for this donation. He said this donation is continuous to support the department to connect the residents through exchange programs as well as to provide the short courses.

He added that as the University have increased the number of post graduate programmes and the number of the students have increased but resources have remained limited. In order to have quality doctors we need to train them well so through this donation of equipment's

our residents and undergraduate students will be benefited a lot.

Prof. Kamuhabwa assured the audience that as the university management will value this collaboration and urged the department of surgery to take proper care of the equipment's and also urged residents who will be benefited from this training also train the undergraduate students through this equipment's.

The handing over ceremony was on 11st November, 2019 and attended by the Deputy Vice Chancellor- Academic, Research and Consultancy, Representative from Alliance for Global Clinical Training, Director of Quality Assurance as well as representative of residents.

## MUHAS CONDUCTED WORKSHOP FOR THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE MEDIUM TERM STRATEGIC PLAN (2017/18-2019/20)

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences conducted a one-day workshop on the review of the implementation of the Medium Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) for the period of 2017/18-2019/20 and roll it forward for the next five years Medium Term Strategic Plan 2020/2021-2024/2025.

The Vice Chancellor, Prof Andrew Pembe officially opened the Workshop by welcoming and thanking all participants for their participation. He stressed the need of reviews as not only to learn from the achievements and challenges encountered in the last three years, but also to seize opportunities to redesign and refocus the University plan to achieve the greater good in all the issues mandated to MUHAS by the Government of Tanzania and the Tanzania Community.

He also called for greater recognition of aligning University Objectives with those of the parent Ministry. He reminded the participants that, the University activities need to contribute to the accomplishment of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology objectives. He emphasized that the misalignment between our objectives and that of the government budgeting template may result in ineffective budgeting and performance of our plans.

The workshop was facilitated by Mr. Muga Cliff a consultant from the Ministry of Finance



*Participants of the strategic planning workshop in a group photo with the Vice Chancellor*

and Planning (MoFP) who enlightened the participants on an overview of the Strategic Planning Process as per National Term and the relationship between Strategic Plan (SP) with MTEF. He also assisted the workshop participants to become capable of setting objectives, strategic, activities, targets and indicators.

During the workshop, the Acting Director of Planning and Investments Dr. Hendry Sawe presented on the progress of implementation of the MUHAS 3 years Medium Term Strategic Plan (MTSP) for the period of 2017/18-2019/20. He reminded participants that the University had eight Objectives as per the previous MTSP describe them one by one.

The workshop was closed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Planning, Finance and Administration Prof. David Urassa who acknowledged effective facilitation of the Chairperson - Dr Dinah Gasarasi. He also expressed gratitude to the facilitator from the Ministry of Finance and Planning for a

fruitful narration of relationship between national guideline, Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and the Strategic Plan's objectives, targets, strategies, activities and indicators.

The DVC-PFA also appreciated the patience, contributions and full participation of the stakeholders that to made the workshop active and productive. He added that, participants have gained a better understanding of a Strategic Plan concepts and its importance to the development of the University.

He further appealed to the Chairs and Secretaries of the groups' discussion to take time to amend and make appropriate changes to their presentation before submitting their reports to DPI to compile and come up with new University Strategic Plan.

The workshop took place at CHPE ground floor on the 26th, of November 2019 and was organized by Directorate of Planning and Investment.



# MUHAS STUDENTS WON A GLOBAL COMPETITION ON AMR - Innovate4AMR

*Innovate for a World Free from the Fear of Untreatable Infections – A Tanzania Story*

Students from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences have emerged among the 10 winners of a global competition of innovations on Antimicrobial Resistance known as Innovate4AMR. Innovate4AMR is an annual global competition for innovations on Antimicrobial resistance that is co-organized by ReAct, International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and South Centre.

In its second year, Innovate4AMR has gained widespread interest from both students and professionals working in the field. Through Summer 2019, the organizers had called for student teams from all around the world for their solutions on Antimicrobial Stewardship in resource-limited settings, with a video from WHO's Assistant Director General, Dr Hanan Balkhy also encouraging students to apply.

A team of students from Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) working for a project called Pharmlinks applied in the competition. With more than 1,250 young health advocates signed up for the competition, Innovate4AMR received 163 submissions from teams coming from 40 countries. After several rounds of judging, first by an IFMSA-ReAct-WHO Technical Review Panel and then by a panel of International Expert



*The 10 finalist teams in the capacity building workshop with the organizers and experts from WHO on the opening day of the workshop*

Judges, 20 teams were selected and among the 10 best proposals Pharmlinks team made it, and it was also one of the two best projects from Africa. The 10 teams attended a three days' capacity building workshop in Geneva, Switzerland that was worth 5000\$ from November 21 to 23, 2019.

Pharmlinks is a vertically integrated supply chain system that is being developed to improve medicines access and surveillance in Tanzania. The team working on the project is made up of MUHAS students, Frank Arabi an MD five student, Castory Munishi & Zainab Patel Bachelor of Pharmacy Year 4 students and Daniel Lyatuu a computer scientist. They are under the mentorship and guidance of Dr. Omary Chillo, Dr. Raphael Sangeda and Mr. Mudhakhir Abubakar.

Pharmlinks is a broad solution that can be customized to address health care challenges that relates to supply chain such as medicine access and medicine quality all of which links to AMR. Pharmlinks takes

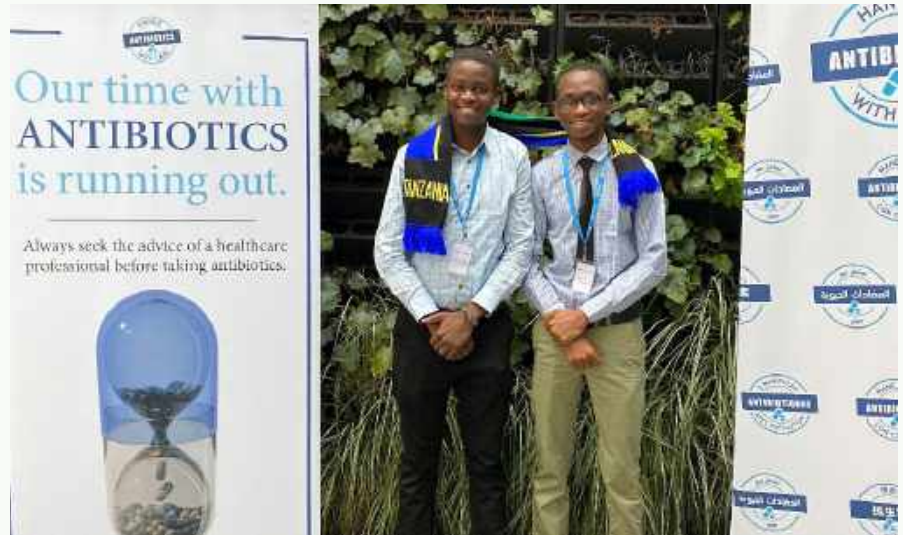
AMR as a big challenge that threatens the health care system and the position of healthcare workers as it is hard to imagine to whom will patients go in the healthcare system when all drugs are not working, when people will be dying from diseases of which drugs have failed. This has given the team the drive to play a role in addressing AMR through improving medicine access and surveillance.

“Attending the Innovate4AMR capacity building workshop has been an incredible experience that has helped to grow and shape my thinking about AMR and the best way to shape our solution in combating it. I would like to commend the organizers for the hard work they have done to get us here. With my team, we are ready to use the skills and connections that we gained in the workshop to implement our solution which is our next move.” said Castory Munishi.

“During the event, we have learnt a lot regarding how we can realize and implement our project. It has been great to connect and network with fellow

change makers from all over the world, and of course touring to WHO and South Centre was really inspiring.”, said Frank Arabi, Pharmed team leader.

The team has opened doors for those who are interested to play a role in the implementation of the project. They can be reached through their website(www.pharmed.com). Moreover, they have encouraged students with similar projects to apply in the next competitions which will start around August 2020.



MUHAS Pharmed team representative at Geneva from left Frank Arabi, Castory Munishi.

## MUHAS TO ADVANCE TRANS FAT ELIMINATION IN TANZANIA

*Highly Competitive Grant Awarded by Resolve to Save Lives Awards*

Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) has been awarded a two-year, highly competitive grant of USD 80,000 to address the dangers of trans fat exposure in Tanzania. The project will conduct the first-ever assessment of levels of harmful trans fats in local street foods, fast foods and edible oils/fats in the country.

The grant program, part of the LINKS platform that connects people working to improve cardiovascular health around the world, is funded by Resolve to Save Lives, an initiative of Vital Strategies, and managed by Resolve along with the World Health Organization (WHO) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention through the CDC Foundation.

“In my community, cardiovascular diseases are increasingly common, including

life threatening complications like stroke and heart failure,” said Fredrick Mashili, lecturer and research officer at the East African Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences, MUHAS. “Knowing of the amount of trans fats in Tanzanian foods will help guide the community for better and healthy choices, and spur policy action towards the elimination of trans fats from the Tanzanian food chain. This grant will allow us to influence policy and practice towards the prevention and control of cardiovascular disease.”

Trans fats cause heart attack and stroke and were estimated to cause more than 540,000 deaths a year worldwide. A recent analysis concluded that eliminating trans fats from the global food supply could save 17 million lives over 25 years. “Cardiovascular disease kills more people each year than all infectious diseases combined,

but it remains neglected by many health systems and the global health community,” said Dr. Tom Frieden, President and CEO of Resolve to Save Lives. “LINKS is connecting champions on the front lines of work in low- and middle-income countries and sharing lessons and resources to accelerate progress.”

This second round of grant funding will support government and civil society organizations working in 18 countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Georgia, Haiti, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nigeria, Pakistan, South Africa, Tanzania, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Vietnam. Funded programs include a patient-centered hypertension screening and treatment program in Pakistan, monitoring South Africa’s sodium reduction laws, and advocacy for effective regulation of trans fat in Kenya.

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