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COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES Office of the Principal

CHUSS CONVERSATIONS 2021

THEME: LIVING THE HUMANITIES AND HUMANISTIC SOCIAL SCIENCES IN THE 21ST CENTURY

December 9 - 10, 2021

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHUSS) is organizing a two-day event the under the theme: **Living the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences in the 21st Century**. The conversations aim at bringing both practitioners and scholars in the humanities to dialogue on the impact of the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences on contemporary issues of governance, insecurity and life-threatening epidemics and pandemics. This is on the backdrop of the ongoing debate about the relevance of Humanities and Humanistic social sciences. The conversations will focus on the following sub-themes:

1) **Humanities and Governance:** This sub-theme explores how the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences play a critical role in governance. The governance debate requires intense comprehension and recognition of contemporary commonalities and differences in fostering critical thought, social justice, equity and democratic practice. Realising that this is central in most, if not all, aspects of human survival (despite the recent questions about the relevance of the humanities in Uganda), the conversations will be answering a simple question of how the humanities are pragmatically responding to the governance issues in Uganda and the world at large.

2) **Humanities in the New Decade: Withering the tide of Insecurities and Pandemics**
While science and technology have been prized in the fight against terrorism, violent extremism but most importantly in the fight against the COVID-19, successes in dealing with such threats cannot be solely explained by the natural sciences (body) without the human factor (soul). What then has been the role of the Humanities in the fight against COVID-19, “terrorism”, and violent extremism?

Together, these conversations are a significant endeavour for us to rethink the centrality of Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences in addressing contemporary challenges and forecasting the future. We hope that through our deliberations over these two days, we will accentuate the contribution of the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences to the collective response that communities need to impact lives. *Let us continue to LIVE the Humanities and Humanistic Social Sciences in the 21st Century.*



Leveraging 100 years of Excellence in Building a Transformed Society