**Mak Restructuring Committee consults with CHUSS staff**

The Makerere University Restructuring Committee on 12th April 2021 held a meeting with the leadership and members of staff from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHUSS) to seek their views on the exercise.

The Committee headed by Eng. Dr Steven Kagoda was set up by the University Council to review and align the Academic, Administrative and Support staff structures with the Makerere University 2020-2030 Strategic Plan. The 2020-2030 Strategic Plan seeks to transform Makerere into a research - led university responding to national, regional and global development challenges. It also seeks to promote innovations; enhance partnerships with government, private sector, local communities and international actors; and to transform Makerere into a professionally governed, equitable, inclusive and gender mainstreamed institution.

The Restructuring Committee will among other things assess the performance of the Collegiate system with a view of strengthening the teaching, learning and research infrastructure at the University. The exercise is meant to improve performance while optimizing the use of resources.

During the interaction, the Principal of CHUSS, Dr Josephine Ahikire briefed the Committee about the structure and objectives of the College. Presenting the College recommendations for reforms, the Acting Deputy Principal, Dr Julius Kikooma highlighted the need to re-activate tutorial spaces and improve the ICT infrastructure in a bid to strengthen teaching and learning. Other recommendations included; strengthening of inter-unit collaborations within the University; recruitment and maintenance of a dedicated research administration and management office to scout funding and research grants; strengthening the Professor Emeritus position; appointment of experienced research fellows who are leaders in their respective fields of expertise and universities across the globe; filling the vacant establishment and ensure timely promotion of staff to enable departments perform the dual mandate of teaching and research; promotion of a culture of appointing and attracting research chairs in departments; and the establishment of a Performing Arts Centre, which would not only be a hub for transformative research, but also deliver services to the broader performing arts fraternity in Uganda.

Commenting on the recent phase-out of some programmes at the College, participants emphasized the need for thorough research and review before approving or scrapping programmes.

Other members of the Committee who attended the meeting are; Mr Sifuna Fred Bob, Director Management Services, Ministry of Public Service; Mr Turyamtemba Joseph, Commissioner Management Services, Ministry of Public Service; and Hajjat Sharifah Buzeki, the commissioner human resource management in the Ministry of Public Service.