

Speech on Occasion of Farewell by CHUSS
Prof. Edward Kasujja KIRUMIRA
December 19, 2018

My colleagues in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Members of University Council
The Vice Chancellor and Management Makerere University
Fellow Principals and Deputy Principals
All Protocol Observed

December 31, 2018 I will formally retire from Makerere University and also cease to be Principal of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences a position I have held since April 1, 2013. This is occasioned by the fact that I have recently been appointed Director of the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study (STIAS) in Stellenbosch, South Africa effective January 2019.

I was told that this occasion is not a Handover ceremony so I will keep my speech to celebrating with you and thanking you for honouring me with your presence this evening.

I became the Principal of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences on April 1, 2013 thus becoming the first substantive Principal of the College. I say without hesitation that it has been a great pleasure to serve as the first substantive Principal of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences and to work with colleagues Deputy Principal, Deans, Director, Heads of Department, Academic staff, administrative staff and support staff to move the College to the level where it has a fully fledged cohort PhD programme now boasting of 27 registered PhD students from Uganda and the rest of Africa. This in addition to the MISR PhD program and the individual PhD students. It is worth noting that the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, as of now, has the biggest number of registered graduate students.

Since 2013 when I took over leadership of the College, 28 members of staff have been promoted from Senior Lecturer to Professorial rank, 17 from Lecturer to Senior Lecturer and 43 from Assistant Lecturer to Lecturer position in the University Services. 66 new appointments have been made (Lecturers and Assistant Lecturers). There are 25 members of staff still on study leave.

I have extensively fundraised for the Department, the School/Institute, the College and the University. The College now is a recipient of several Training and Research grants and its grant portfolio now exceeds US\$20million. We have witnessed the establishment of the Confucius Institute, the Centre for the Study of the African Child (AfriChild) and the Julius Nyerere Leadership Centre. Several Memoranda of Understanding have been signed that have boosted our institutional networking and internationalization. Our website is indeed pleasing to visit. The media has also been very supportive of our efforts at the College to Build for the Future.

Certainly a lot is yet to be done. For example establishing Centres of Excellence, Chairs and Thematic Research groups as well as achieving a more autonomous College governance structure. I am confident that the colleagues taking over the mantle will push the College to

greater heights and increase the engagement with the Central Management on the ever-teething challenges of infrastructure, space, staff establishment levels and financing.

For the time I have been in office I would like to appreciate my immediate supervisor the Vice Chancellor Professor Barnabas Nawangwe and the preceding Vice Chancellor Professor John Ddumba-Ssentamu, who was in Office at the time I took over the Office of Principal. Both individuals and their Management Team have been a useful resource and provided support at various levels. I thank the Chancellor, Professor Ezra Suruma who appointed me, the Chairman of Council, Dr. Wana Etyem, and Members of Council for the explicit and implicit support accorded to me. The University Senate members made that particular Organ a pleasure to attend. My Deputy Principals, Prof. Abasi Kiyimba and Associate Professor Josephine Ahikire, Deans and Director, Heads of Department, members of the various College Committees, and the Academic, Administrative and Support staff of CHUSS, thank you for the support, constructive criticism, good counsel and acceptance for me to lead you. You have made me grow in many ways than you can imagine.

CHUSS is arguably the best test ground for academic leadership at Makerere University. To not only survive but build a scholarly community and win substantial College-wide capacity building grants is testimony to the support you have given me. Prof. Oswald Ndoleriire, with whom we started the College administration and with whom I had very good relationship and mentorship is equally acknowledged. My fellow Principals and Deputy Principals and their College Management Teams, you have provided much need counsel and support. The Chaplains of St. Augustine and St. Francis and the Imam and the Communities around them thank you, thank you very much. It will not be presumptuous on my part to say that every single person at Makerere University has touched my life and I hope that I have positively contributed to your lives.

I have had a very satisfying time service Makerere University consistently since I was appointed as Lecturer on Permanent terms on 29th December, 1987. I have thus served this University for an incredibly exciting and rewarding 30 years plus of course three years as a Teaching Assistant. I have had the opportunity of being an academic, a Head of Department, a Dean, an Ag. Deputy Principal and a Principal. I have served on varied University Committees, Senate and Makerere University Council.

It is my sincere hope and prayer that I will carry with me the warmth I have come to associate with many people I have interacted with during my time at Makerere University. To my successor, I give you the assurance that I will be within reach and pledge my support.

Prof. Edward K. Kirumira
Outgoing Principal CHUSS
December 19, 2018