

SPEECH NOTES BY THE PRINCIPAL COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES (CHUSS) – INTERNSHIP HOST INSTITUTIONS EXHIBITION

Prof. Edward K. Kirumira
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Hon. C. Miyingo, Min. of State for Higher Education,
Ministry of Education & Sports
The Internship Host Institutions in your respective Capacity
The University Management
Colleagues from the College of Humanities & Social Sciences
Colleagues from Other Colleges
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Guest of Honour, Hon. Miyingo and our partners in internship of students, I welcome you warmly to this occasion, the first of its kind for us. It is a great pleasure and honour to have you accept to partner with us in having this Host Institutions Internship Exhibition. We are very grateful.

One of the three thematic areas of the University Strategic Plan is Knowledge Transfer Partnership and Networking. Through this we seek to move the University out of the Gates of Makerere and forge strong partnerships with our stakeholders.

The United Nations (UN) and Africa's NEPAD have echoed the need for Universities and higher education institutions in Africa to implement curricula that produce a new generation of all-round graduates with blended entrepreneurial, vocational & intellectual competences to act as nuclei for change. To do this, Universities must partner with critical stakeholders especially the practitioners and employment and work world in the process of training. Makerere University is also moving more in the direction of Problem-Based Learning.

The times of "we train them and what they do is their business" are long gone. Combining theory and practice in the course of training of our students is a necessary must and for which we have to join hands with you. I am glad that this partnership has started and it is becoming more and more institutionalised.

On behalf of the CHUSS I express our sincere thanks to you our Host Institutions who have done a commendable job in receiving our 2nd Year students for their Internship. Thank you very much for providing our students with a much needed exposure to the real world and the world of work. For the majority of our students, it is the first they are coming up close with the world of work or indeed with the world outside a protected environment. Please appreciate them as Freshers!!!

For the two days we are going to be with you, we intend to consolidate our relationship and partnership in training these young people. I look forward to the formalisation of memoranda of understanding and a commitment to taking on our students for the next season of Internship next

year June to August 2015. But also we are open to having our students engaged with you on a regular mutually beneficial basis. Additionally the Exhibition is an opportunity for the Academic members of staff to interact with you and show their capabilities that you may wish to tap in. Why for example would you go for a very expensive expatriate consultant when you have one right here at home. Once engaged you will not only put extra shillings in their individual pockets but you will contribute to their retention at Makerere University and on the quality of their classroom delivery.

As a College of Humanities and Social Sciences, I give you a student body of almost 9,000 students, academic staff strength of 259 and a sizeable competent administrative staff. This is a huge resource that I invite you to tap into. This should of course necessarily be extended to other Colleges at Makerere University.

As I conclude I want to thank my team here at the College, from the Deputy Principal, the Internship Coordinators, the Registrar and Bursar staff, the Communications Office, and the support staff. Special thanks to Dr. Christine Mpyangu who has kept us on our toes and organised both our side and the Host Institutions for this event to happen. I want to thank the University Administration that has given us permission to use the Freedom Square and you the Host Institutions that have put in time and resources. All of you are greatly appreciated.

Guest of Honour, Ladies and gentlemen, please enjoy the two days.

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