3 successfully defend PhDs

Mr. Dans Naturinda Nshkenaabo successfully defended his PhD 30th April, 2015. The title of the thesis is: Investigation of the Structural Performance of Pozzolan – Lime Cement for Low Cost Housing Construction in Uganda. The Thesis was supervised by Assoc. Prof. A.G. Kerali and Dr. Dan Tindiwensi.

Ms. Eunice Naigaga on 25th May 2015 satisfied all the requirements for the award of a PhD. Her thesis was titled "Sustainable Mining of Pozzolana in Uganda". The Thesis was supervised by Assoc. Prof. A.G. Kerali.

Mr. Richard Irumba also successfully defended his Doctoral thesis on 8th June 2015. The PhD defense took place at KTH, Sweden. His thesis is titled; Modeling of Construction Safety Performance and Housing Markets in Kampala City, Uganda. The Thesis was supervised by Assoc. Prof. A.G. Kerali.

Promotions

Pro. Sandy Stevens Tick-odri-Togboa, lecturer in the Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering was appointed Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology. Congratulations to Prof. TT

A/Prof. Anthony Kerali was confirmed contract as the Chair Dept of Construction Economics and Management.

Dr Stephen Mukiibi was confirmed as the Head of Department Architecture and Physical planning.

Leadership changes

Dr Julius Butime, resigned from the position of Chair Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering. He was replaced by Dr Roseline Akol, in acting capacity.

Dr Maria Kizito-Kasule was appointed Dean MTSIFA. He was replaced by Dr Ife Xavier-Francis as the Chair, Dept. of Fine Art.

Dr Adam Sebbit, has handed over leadership of the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering to Dr John Baptist Kirabira, as acting head.

The Dept of Civil Engineering got a new Acting head; Mr Martin Tumutungire. This was after Dr Charles Niwagaba resigned from the position of HoD.

Dr Maria Kizito-Kasule, Dean MTSIFA was involved in a car accident. He is steadily improving.

Mr David Kaddu is also recovering from an accident he was involved in with Dr Dans Naturinda.

Dr Max Kigobe is also recovering from an arm injury sustained from a fall. Let us keep praying for their speedy recovery.

Transfers and retirements

Mr Mayega Henry, who was CEDAT HR Officer, was transferred. He was recently appointed by the President as the Ambassador to China. Congratulations to him. He was replaced by Mr Geoffrey Makubuya.

Dorcus Hashasha, secretary to the Registrar, was transferred to CHHUSS.

Mr Otim Tom, Registrar, was transferred to DRGT and replaced with Dr Alfred Tingo.

Ms Sarah Nakibuuka, procurement officer, was transferred to CAES effective August, 2015.

Ms Vivian Sentamu, Secretary Dept. of Geomatics and Land Management, took an early retirement from university service.

Mr Wilberforce Musoke, the CEDAT librarian, retired from university service. He was replaced by Ms Mukama Proscovia.

Ms Faith Kasule, registrar MTSIFA was transferred to CHS and replaced by Ms Ann Auma.

Some members were involved in accidents

Dr Maria Kizito-Kasule, Dean MTSIFA was involved in a car accident. He is steadily improving.

Mr David Kaddu is also recovering from an accident he was involved in with Dr Dans Naturinda.

Dr Max Kigobe is also recovering from an arm injury sustained from a fall. Let us keep praying for their speedy recovery.

Dr Alinaitwe and Dr Okure rewarded

CEDAT and US Embassy celebrate partnership

CEDAT gets new student leadership

Designs for Ekisaakaate kya Nnabagereka;
Remebering the loved ones we lost

We wish to join those who lost their loved ones in celebrating their lives. We pray that you find solace in trusting the Lord for he knows the plans he has for us.

The Dept. of Civil Engineering lost Dr Benny Mangeni.

The college lost Ms Robinah Namuli, a cleaner.

Dr Ian Senkatuka, Lecturer in the Dept. of Architecture and Physical Planning lost his beloved wife Pamela Senkatuka.

Ms Noeline Nansubuga, Secretary of the Deputy Principal, lost her dear father.

Mr Patrick Sserunjogi, Lecturer at MTSIFA, lost his dear mother.

Dr Wilson Musinguzi, Manager of the Renewable Energy Incubator, lost his baby girl.

Apollo Baregeya, a lecturer in the Dept. of Civil Engineering lost his dear mother Salva Tumusiime, a messenger in the office of the registrar lost his father.

Ms Mbahazi Teddy, Secretary Dept. of Civil Engineering, lost her sister.

Our prayers are with those that lost their loved ones. We pray that you find solace and strength in the Lord. May their Souls rest in eternal peace.

Psalms 46:1-2 “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear, though earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of sea.”

Marriage bliss

Mr Ashabahebwa P, lecturer in the Dept. Of Construction Economics and Management, Mr Andrew Ayor and Mr Wangi Mario married their loved ones. We wish you all many happy years together and many, many babies.

674 graduate from CEDAT

The College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology on Wednesday January 21, 2015 witnessed 674 students graduate. Five of these graduated with PhDs, 17 masters, seven post graduate diplomas and 645 graduate degrees.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Vice Chancellor, Prof. John Ddumba-Ssentamu applauded the college for its continued leadership in research and innovation in the university. He also sent condolences to all members of staff that have lost relatives during the last year. He noted that the university had lost many members of staff, including 6 professors.

During the 65th graduation ceremony lasting 3 days (Jan21-23) 13,776 students graduated. Of these, 49.5% were female while 50.5% were male. We shall also witness a record attainment of 67 doctorates. Of these 67% were male and 33% were female.

CEDAT had 5 members graduate with PhDs, these are Dr. Geoffrey Bakabulindi and Dr Wilson Musinguzi from the Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Dr Senfuka Christopher from the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, Dr Mujumbu Paul and Dr Kusemererwa Kahuma Adolf from Dept of Civil and Environmental Engineering.

The university, during the ceremony, awarded an honorary doctorate to Mrs Ruth Morris Keesling, a celebrated American wildlife conservationist who has dedicated her life, resources and purpose for living to the transformation of Makerere University, the advancement of Veterinary Medicine and Wild Life, animal health research and tourism in Uganda, Africa and world over.
The Department of Architecture and Physical Planning, on March 18th, 2015 hosted a team of officials from Kampala City Council Authority.

The purpose of the visit was for KCCA officials to familiarise themselves with some of the research project ideas that the students had in regards to how best the authority can deal with garbage at the Kiteezi landfill.

The 3rd-year students had undertaken a 3-months research project at the landfill. Many advised on making pipes out of the plastics at the site, plastic doors, pipes, tiles, gas, cards, bricks etc.

The officials from KCCA included: Ms Harriet Madedo, the Director Gender CS&P, Ms Esau Galukande, Deputy Director Production and Marketing, Dr David Serukka, Lutakome Obed, Nakitingi Doreen, Godwin Kamugisha and Nyamatte Damalie.

This work was supervised Dr Nnaggenda Assumpta and Dr. Ssemwogerere Kenneth.

Below are some of the research projects/proposals on how best to utilise the Kiteezi landfill/ the factories that could be set up in the area.

**PROJECT NAME: PLASTIC INTERIOR FINISHING TILES FOR A BETTER KAMPALA**

By Edna M M Amayo

Kiteezi landfill located in Mpererwe is Uganda’s largest and only sanitary engineered landfill with its highest end rising up to 10 metres, sitting currently on 36 acres of land. It receives 1000 kilos of waste daily with under 400 salvagers working in the landfill every day in harmony.

The mysteries of Kiteezi’s great size arise from the slow decomposition process that is a result of unsorted waste, that is 15% inorganics and 85% organics collected from source together and disposed of at Kiteezi.

Out of the 15% of the organics, 1-2 tons of that is plastic, and of which 30% is salvaged leaving an alarming 70% – which includes polythene paper bags, commonly known as “kaveera”.

This makes kaveera a readily available raw material for a potential factory near Kiteezi. Choice of such a raw material can be complemented by the 2009/10 budget ban on kaveera where 20% was manufactured locally and 80% imported as per 2003 and the rising numbers of polythene bags floating in various streams and drains all over Kampala city, and littering of streets.

Considering its properties, both physical and chemical, kaveera can be manipulated in a simple process of; washing, drying, sorting, shredding, batching with sand, extrusion, pressing and printing - if necessary - to produce plastic interior finishing tiles. The advantages of plastic tiles include; durability; easy installation; low maintenance; cost effective; recyclable.

The construction industry contributes over 12% to Uganda’s GDP and has witnessed a steady growth for the last 20 years and despite the recent upsurge in inflation, the sector has remained on a steady path of growth and development (Uganda National Commission for UNESCO, 2013). Hence the manufacture of these tiles would be a great contribution to the growing construction industry and possibly the GDP through exports.

Lastly, the process for the manufacture of these tiles will require housing, hence the need for an architecture that is both feasible and sustainable right from the external façade to the interior main and support spaces, and efficient circulation systems, not neglecting required building services for proper functioning of the factory and the building as a whole.

**PROJECT NAME: THE ENDLESS SET.**

By: Namwanje Priscilla

When I took a closer look at what the garbage is comprised of, I discovered that it’s our lives. Small pieces of who we were, things we once loved, photographs, shoes, bags… stuff that actually meant something. It was all thrown away.

On realisation that we are literally throwing away our lives, I sought to back track the process and see if I can find the reason or any missing piece.
link. Why are we throwing all these things away? Anything that could cause us to stop/pause and think…anything. I searched through a dozen of dustbins, went through shopping carts at the supermarket. I found nothing.

It was just a helpless situation. We buy something, we use it, and we throw it away. End of story. Nothing along this process causes us to pause and think.

At this point, I knew exactly what kind of product I should produce from the garbage.

The Endless Set is a set of cylindrical jars made of out broken pieces of glass that are joined to each other using plastic. Each jar varies in size. The reason for this is so that the product can suggest various uses or should I say, endless possibilities.

It can be a lamp shade, flower pot, candle holder, pencil holder, cup, interior décor…the list is endless. Why broken glass? I want the product to be able to trigger/invoke thought…some sort of question from the user.

The idea behind this product is a new approach to product design. For so long, our waste management campaigns have targeted the consumer, and not the commodity. I believe that’s where the answer lies! What if producers made ‘endless sets’ of everything? Products with more depth.

Products with a less obvious fate of winding up in the trash almost immediately after they are bought.

Imagine if the plastic soda bottles were designed for more than just one use, and after taking soda, you’ve got yourself a new pen holder, or television stand or an entire list of endless possibilities! Maybe then, we can tackle the issue of high levels of waste accumulation in our city and our country. And reduce on the rate at which Kiteezi is filling up…otherwise, in a couple of decades from now, we could possibly be looking at districts of garbage!

PROJECT NAME: FUEL PELLET MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY
By: Opolot Jackson

Disposed waste comprising; organics 83.5%, Metal 8.6%, Paper 5.4%, Plastics 1.6%, Glass 0.9%, at Kiteezi land fill has increased from 1,400 to 1,700 tonnes daily.

The above statistics express that the rate at which the waste is accumulating is exponential. “Compacted waste, 10 stories high, caused garbage to spill over the gabion retaining walls partially burying the leachate treatment plant expressing that the capacity of the land-fill has been exceeded,” Mr Obedi Lutakome, the Kiteezi Site Engineer, said in an Interview.

As such this project hopes to curb the exponential growth of the waste as compared to the limited land solution for landfills by turning organic waste into environmentally friendly fuel pellets.

Biomass pellets are a sustainable fuel source with low co2 emission used for domestic heating and running steam turbines in industries for power generation among others. Fuel pellet manufacturing is composed of 5 key processes:

1. Receipt & processing of the feedstock; storage and sorting of the garbage to pick all non-organic elements within the garbage.
2. Drying; use of a rotary drum dryer to decrease the moisture content to a range of 10 – 15%.
3. Grinding; the biomass is ground to a finer powder, starch binders are then added to facilitate the sticking together of the particles.
4. Pelletisation; using steam to compress the powder to 1-2% and allowed to cool.
5. Packaging & storage; the pellets are stored in 25, 50 and 100 kilogram sacks for domestic use and jumbo sized sacks of 500 and 1000kg for industrial use.

The industry would be located on a 2.5 acre, irregular 5-sided polygon, site. A multi-level roof system appreciates the varying site topography while various green spaces balance out the “hard” surfaces making the site cool and inviting. The exterior walls are built from concrete blocks and finished with rough-cast. The building is zoned into four major spaces;

- Feedstock & storage; a double volume space with a floor laid to a 6° fall finished with terrazzo, a low maintenance finish. While Pompeii grills facilitate passive design to counter the stench from rotting garbage.
- Sorting on the 1st floor; single volume space with sequenced 1200 x 600mm pivoted windows on the east and west faces of the building aiming at ‘releasing anxiety’ in the space while catering for passive design.
- Production; a tunnel like space with a polished granite floor finish that punctuates the transition between processes, fixed floor to ceiling windows open the interior space to the compound while Pompeii grills ventilate the space
- Packaging & Storage; a double volume space with steel, floor to ceiling storage racks, bolted into the walls and anchored into the rough concrete floor. Pompeii grills at a 4500mm sill-height keep the room aerated.

In conclusion, recycling and use of landfills for waste-disposal doesn’t provide a permanent solution. If better ways of optimising waste as an energy source are realized a new dimension could be added to the concept of energy efficiency. Thus I believe this innovation will be of great importance to the immediate Kiteezi community and Kampala at large.

KCCA officials and CEDAT staff examine the plans
CEDAT community on Thursday April 2, 2015 witnessed the swearing in of new student leaders for the year 2015/2016. The Principal, Dr Henry Alinaitwe, thanked all staff and students of the commitment shown towards ensuring a good academic and social environment at CEDAT.

He congratulated the new and old leaders upon the smooth transition of power and elections. He decried the noise made during the campaigns and asked the students to keep in mind that classes continue to take place despite the campaigns. He also cautioned against putting posters on the walls.

He advised the students to report matters to their Head of Departments and the Deans for action before reporting to the Principal. “Let us give the HoDs and Deans a chance to handle your problems,” he advised. In their speech, delivered by outgoing MES president Mwine Musa, the students thanked the administration for the support given to them and the achievements registered over the years.

Some of the achievements they listed include improved Internet connectivity, improved sanitation in regard to the ongoing works on the toilets in the old building, the placement of dustbins in the classes, holding a successful Open Day, Intellectual challenge and various study tours made. The students, however, cited delayed results and lecturer absenteeism as some of the areas that the administration of the college needs to look into.

Dr Allan Kenneth Birabi, who also attended the handover congratulated the new leaders upon winning the election. Quoting the late Pastor Myles Munroe “Success without successors is failure” Dr Birabi congratulated the students upon a good culture of peacefully handing over power.

The HR officer, Mr Makubuya Godfrey, asked the students to avoid engaging in strikes, emphasising that diplomacy is the best way to handle disputes and contentions.

“Ziliwa ziliwa? Zibaze, ziliwa?” (Where are they? Where are they? I can’t find them, where are they?) renown Ugandan Artist, fashion designer and poet Xenson (Samson Ssenkaaba) shouted, as he looked through the sack of old shoes that he’d just torn open.

Donned in a dirty, old overall coat and a hat, one could tell that this skit that he was acting out was out of the ordinary. After looking through this lot of old shoes and ranting on (in luganda) in what could be seen as clear frustration he stormed into the Art Gallery.

The people present for the opening of At Work 2015, didn’t know...
AtWork workshop and exhibition

what to make of it? Was this it? Is there more? After about 10 or so minutes, the acting Gallery curator, Ms. Hasifa Mukyala decided to call it and welcome guests to the exhibition.

That was the opening skit to the At Work exhibition 2015. What followed was a series of Musical performances, Poems recited and more musical pieces performed by participants of the Workshop. All this was besides the different Art pieces being exhibited.

What is At Work? According to Artist, writer and curator, Margaret Nagawa “AtWork workshop is unique in that it alters the materials at hand, with a strong focus on the critical thought processes leading up to making an object, planning an exhibition, or writing a text.”

The Director of the Institute of Heritage at the Makerere art Gallery, Prof. George Kyeyune in his remarks described the workshop as interesting because it brought together Artists from different areas of specialization.

“We had people from literature, we had people from performing arts, and fine art. We have seen from the different performances that it is embracing everything that is creative,” he said.

The 5-day intensive AtWork workshop, held in partnership with Makerere University’s art school and art gallery and Maisha Foundation. It included 5 days of questioning, sharing, exchanging, elaborating, metaphorically and literally taking their shoes off and exploring the notions, spaces and territories, where they have not set their foot before.

The exhibition held on Thursday 9th March 2015 was a chance to show the world the works of Art that had been created as a result of this workshop.

Prof. Kyeyune said that he always wondered why the literature he had come across on African Art exclude Uganda and East Africa in General.

“I think I have the answer to that, it is because we’ve been focussing on conventions in Art and not innovations.” He added. The professor continued to thank everyone who participated in this workshop, and invited everyone present to begin thinking outside the box. “This is an opportunity for us to shine.”

The main theme of the workshop was “Should I take off my shoes” A challenge, posed by the Gallery curator to each person present at the exhibition. This challenge was introduced in order to get people out of their comfort zones and think outside the box, do something completely out of the norm.

Dr Okure, Dr Alinaitwe recognised for Service to Makerere – Sida Programme

The Vice Chancellor Makerere University Prof. John Ddumba-Ssentamu has recognised A/Prof. Henry Alinaitwe and A/Prof. Mackay Okure for their contribution to the growth and sustainability of the Makerere– Sida Collaborative Research Program.

This was during the Makerere – Sida International Research and Innovations Dissemination Conference that took place from 20th -21stApril, 2015 at Hotel Africana, Kampala, Uganda under the theme: “Community Transformation through Research, Innovations and Knowledge Translation”

A/ Prof. Okure has coordinated the Technology sub-program since the inception of this collaboration in 2000.

The programme has since graduated 25 members of staff and another 11 are scheduled to complete before the end of the year.

A/Prof. Alinaitwe has been the coordinator of the regional collaboration component of the program. Under his leadership, the college successfully hosted the 9th regional collaboration conference which attracted scholars from Tanzania, Mozambique and Sweden. Over 80 papers were presented over a period of two days.

The awards were presented to them by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (F&A), Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe.

Biomedical students to get access to Duke online resources

Students of Biomedical Engineering at Makerere University will get a chance to access online resources from Duke University in the US, following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions.

This was agreed upon in a meeting on Thursday May 14, 2015. The delegation from Duke University was accompanied by a team from the College of Health Sciences led by the Acting Principal, Dr. Charles Ibingira.

Biomedical Engineering is run jointly by CHS and CEDAT. For the first two years, students do the bulk of their study at CEDAT then move to CHS for the last two years of study. Biomedical Engineering is a new course whose first cohort was enrolled in 2011.

Teaching the course has had some challenges which include staffing and lack of laboratories for biomedical engineering. Because the program is new in the country, it is also difficult to find these students internship placement. Library material for biomedical engineering is lacking.

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Biomedical students to get access to Duke resources

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and the CHS needs resources to set up a Fab-Lab.

To this end, the two colleges saw it fit to collaborate with institutions that have grown in the area of Biomedical Engineering. CHS has collaborations with Uganda Heart Institute, Joint Medical research centre, Moi University and Nairobi University for purposes of internship training.

Duke University on the other hand will help Makerere University in the area of Curriculum review and access to material. Others areas of collaboration will include:

- Duke University will give the students access to the online library at Duke so that they access E-resources
- Graduate students of Duke University will teleconference and teach the undergraduate students here.
- Makerere Students will be given access to online introductory courses
- Faculty exchange will also be done.
- Duke University made an offer to send one of our students to China where they opened a university. The student would take some courses in Biomedical Physics.

The delegation was received by the Deputy Principal, Dr Venny Nakazibwe who welcomed the collaboration as one that would go a long way in improving the quality of students we have.

The Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Art, together with History in Progress Uganda on 14th May 2015 opened a unique Photography exhibition and launched two books, Ebishushani 2 and Ebishushani 3, showcasing work from two Ugandan photographers: Musa Katuramu and Elly Rwakoma.

Musa Katuramu, 1913-1986, was a carpenter, a constructor of houses and a teacher. On top of all of that, he owned, probably from the late 1930s onwards, a photo camera that he used to portray people and moments in time around him.

He was at times commissioned to do this but on many occasions, it was his own initiative.

Musa’s son Jerry Bagonza held on to and maintained his father’s photographs, giving us the opportunity to look into a past that has mostly been photographed by outsiders. The publication Ebishushani 2, People Poses Places is fully devoted to Musa Katuramu’s work.

Elly Rwakoma, born 1937, was a teacher by training, a social worker, photo-journalist and businessman. He ran a studio in Jinja and Bushenyi.

He was part of the team of presidential photographers from Oboke up to the early days of Museveni’s rule with only a brief break at the end of Amin’s era. Elly tells his own stories with the photographs he took, which adds significant value to what can be seen.

HIP Uganda looks for, digitizes and shares photo collections in Uganda. The images can be found on their website www.hipuganda.org, on their facebook page www.facebook.com/HIPUganda and in publications and exhibitions like this one.

The exhibition was curated by Andrea Stultiens with the help of Rumanzi Canon, Robinah Nansubuga and the Makerere Art Gallery team.

The books People, Poses, Places – Musa Katuramu and and All the Tricks – Elly Rwakoma are the second and third part of the book series called Ebifananyi/Ebishushani published by History In Progress Uganda.

Both words are equivalents of the English word ‘images’ in Luganda and Runyankole respectively. Each book of this series is focusing on one specific photo collection and/or photographer in Uganda.
MTSIFA celebrates partnership with US Embassy

Art lovers on April 30, 2015 gathered at the Makerere Art Gallery to celebrate a partnership the Gallery has with the US Embassy in Uganda. The US Embassy in 2012 started funding the documenting of Art pieces, improving storage space and staff training among other things.

This was done under the US Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation awarded to the Institute of Heritage Conservation and Restoration.

On April 30, 2015 the Ambassador, H.E, Scott DeLisi invited other diplomats in an effort to woo them to start on a journey that he embarked on in 2012; support the preservation of Art.

The cocktail, attracted guests from different diplomat missions including France, Netherlands, Norway, Poland and British Council among others. Ambassador Scott DeLisi emphasized the need to preserve art and culture so that generations to come can better understand their cultures. He called on others to join him in this noble journey.

Our journey

In 2012, the United States Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation was announced and as a starving but vigilant institution, we responded to the announcement with a proposal. The Institute of Heritage Conservation and Restoration is still in its infancy having been launched in 2010.

Its immediate needs of documenting the collection, training of staff, revamping of storage space and repair of the Institute and gallery building fitted well in the United States Ambassador’s Fund for Cultural Preservation funding criteria. The gallery successfully competed for 36,000 dollars (three hundred and sixty thousand dollars only) and spent it in 2013 and 2014 as follows:

1. We acquired an office space on the Ceramics building next to the Institute building and furnished it. It was also burglar proofed.
2. The storage space in the Gallery buildings was fitted with modern railings, which now makes it easy to retrieve large and small paintings. A large cupboard that can keep large format prints was also acquired.
3. Given the large size of the collection, one of the exhibitions in the Gallery space was sectioned off and converted into storage space. Impressive well aerated storage compartments were created.
4. Four large glasses on the Institute buildings which were shuttered during the 2012 students strike were replaced. Painting of the building was also carried out.
5. The Institute Administrator received a two weeks training in archiving at the Gallery of Modern Art, Harare Zimbabwe in 2014. After her trip, an expert in archiving was hosted here at the Institute.

The US Ambassador in Kampala was impressed by the changes his funding had done at the Institute and the transparency we had exhibited in the way we used the funds.

He promised and fulfilled his promise of inviting his counterparts from other embassies in Uganda to follow his example by supporting the work of the Institute.

On 30th April, he organized a cocktail party at the grounds of the Institute where he underscored the relevance and importance of visual culture in the development of any nation.
Ekisaakaate kya Nnabagereka; designed by CEDAT student

Emphasis was, on Thursday May 21, 2015, on knowledge transfer partnerships as CEDAT handed over Architectural Designs of the Ekisaakaate Kya Nnabagereka Centre of Excellence (The Royal Enclosure) to the Nnabagereka.

“We had many international organisations bidding to design the Ekisaakaate but, as an organisation whose goal is to nurture local talent and mentor the youth, we decided to approach Makerere University to identify a student to do this work for us,” Ms. Solome Nakaweesi, the CEO of the Nnabagereka Development Foundation, said.

“As a foundation that promotes local talents, values, culture, Architecture and We had many international organisations bidding to design the Ekisaakaate but we said, as an organisation our goal is to nurture local talent and mentor the youth. So we approached Makerere University to identify a student to do this work for us.”

The Nnabagereka Development Foundation (NDF) approached CEDAT and requested that the college identify a student to design the Ekisaakaate. They wanted a design that celebrates culture, Africa and its people.

James Kalyango Ssen-Abunya, a final year student of the Dept of Architecture and Physical planning designed the Ekisaakaate Kya Nnabagereka as part of his final year project.

The student worked under the supervision and mentorship of Dr Kenneth Ssemwogerere.

“After running the Ekisaakaate for 10 years, we realised we can no longer run it from school to school so we decided to get a permanent home and ensure we run programs all year round and open up to a wider community including the adults. This will be the first such centre of excellence in Africa,” Ms Nakawees added.

As a foundation that promotes local talents, values, culture, Architecture and design, the Nnabagereka Development Foundation (NDF) approached CEDAT and requested that the college identify a student to design the Ekisaakaate. They wanted a design that celebrates culture, Africa and its people.

About the design

The site is located on 25 –acres of land at Ssisa, Wakiso District.

The master plan sits on 15.7 acres. It has the main building, dormitories for both male and female students, gardens, music and dance auditorium, art studios, swimming pool, play grounds and offices among other things.

The plan was inspired by the need to tell the story of Buganda, transcending through pre-independence and post independence, the abolition of kingdoms and the later restoration of the same as well as telling the story of Buganda’s cultural values.

The Vice chancellor, in his remarks read for him by the Principal of CEDAT, A/Prof. Henry Alinaitwe, thanked the Kingdom for believing in the University staff and students to be able to accomplish such a big project.

He called on the Kingdom to continue engaging the university in various knowledge transfer partnerships

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such as conservation, design, and archiving, research in Buganda’s history, sculpture, surveying among other things.

“I call upon the kingdom to use us a little more in generating new knowledge,” he said.

He called on the public to promote positive culture and avoid promoting retrogressive cultures.

The Nnabagereka, HRH Sylvia Naggina emphasised the need to preserve cultural values.

“In Buganda Kingdom, we value culture as a form of expression that unites us as people. We value creativity and innovation of our people. We hold dear the promotion of African ideas and cherish the harmonising of traditional and modernity as a way of ensuring sustainable development,” she said.

She thanked Kalyango James for his commitment to the project, passion and creativity and the management and staff of the University for journeying with the Kingdom.

The handover of the designs, she said, celebrates culture and its potential to create a formidable link between Buganda and Makerere University, being the glue that holds the two institutions together in establishing Ekisaakaate kya Nnabagereka Centre of Excellence.

“As a foundation established to promote the livelihoods of children, youth and women, we further recognise the significance of this relationship especially in promoting African values, skills and talent,” The Nnabagereka said.

She noted that another CEDAT student, Salim Kasamba a graduate from the Margaret Trowell School of Industrial and Fine Art had designed the logo for the foundation. “It’s important for us to engage students in various projects not only to tap into their creativity but for them to also look back and realise they did something good for their country and kingdom. It encourages them in their future endeavours,” she noted.

The Head of Architecture and Physical Planning Dr Stephen Mukiibi, thanked the Nnabagereka for giving the Dept an opportunity to design the centre. He re-echoed the Vice Chancellor’s call for the kingdom to engage the academia.

“The Ekisaakaate

Ekisaakaate is the traditional enclosure of a homestead of a local chief in Buganda. Traditionally, the children would be taken to the Kabaka’s loyal chiefs where they would be groomed into responsible adults of the future. Future kings too, were never spared this noble inculcation. Ekisaakaate was a prime institution where a child was exposed to development of character, leaning of valuable life skills as well as discovery of new interests through practical training. Hence, the alumni of this informal education and training institution were the model icons of society in manners, discipline, responsibility, cultural norms and values of the Baganda.

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Above: Dr Ssemwogerere interacts with the Nnabagereka as others look on.

Left: Dr Alinaitwe and Ms Solome Nakawesi after the handover of the Architectural Designs.

Below: (L-R) The Nnabagereka, Kalyango, Deputy Principal Dr Venny Nakazibwe and Dr Henry Alinaitwe.
Wedding bells for Dr Wilson

Dr Wilson Babu Musingusi and wife Brenda were wed on June 20th at St. Paul's Cathedral Namirembe. They hosted their guests to a dinner reception at Sedena Gardens in Rubaga.

Wishing you a blissful marriage.