



AFRU NEWSPAPER

July Edition

<http://www.afru.ac.ug>

No.00002

Africa Renewal University Hosts 75th Uganda Vice Chancellors' Forum with a call to address PhD gaps.



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Africa Renewal University hosted the 75th Uganda Vice Chancellors' Forum (UVCF) on May 26, 2025, at its Buloba campus

under the theme "Innovation and Collaboration." for academic institutional growth. The gathering brought together all vice

chancellors, heads of degree awarding institutions and other academic leaders from across the country and served as a vibrant



platform for sharing experiences, addressing pressing issues, and exploring strategic solutions in higher education.

Embracing Artificial Intelligence in Higher Education



Prof. Jude Lubega, Vice Chancellor of Nkumba University

A key highlight of this year's meeting was an in-depth focus on the transformative role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in higher education as shared by Prof. Jude Lubega of Nkumba University. Discussions revolved around how AI is reshaping teaching, research, and administrative processes, with an emphasis on harnessing its potential to increase access, personalize learning, and improve academic outcomes.



Dr. Vincent Byamukama, the vice Chancellor of AFRU

Dr. Vincent Byamukama, Vice Chancellor of Africa Renewal University, emphasized the university's commitment to transformational leadership rooted in value-based education grounded in the gospel. He affirmed that the forum's objective of developing responsible citizens aligns perfectly with Afru's vision. "The Vice Chancellors' Forum is a critical platform for meaningful dialogue and collective advancement of our institutions' vision.

"The Vice Chancellors' Forum is a critical platform for meaningful dialogue and collective advancement of our institutions' vision and mission towards impactful societal engagement and development," said Dr. Byamukama.

He noted that the forum presents unique opportunities for collaboration, research, and partnerships. By bringing together edu-

cators, it helps develop innovative, real-world solutions to current challenges while drawing from both global and local perspectives.

Dr. Byamukama reiterated that Afru is committed to nurturing ethical leaders inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ, to instill

values such as integrity and humility in service to the nation and the Church. He stressed the need for leaders to serve with compassion, accountability, and a fear of God.

"The fear and love of God empower us to serve others with compassion and mercy, while holding ourselves accountable for our actions and decisions as we shall ultimately answer to God," he added.



Addressing the National PhD Shortage

Prof. Jude Lubega, Vice Chancellor of Nkumba University, called for joint efforts among universities to address Uganda's acute shortage of PhD holders. He emphasized that closing the PhD gap is

essential for boosting research capacity, fostering innovation, and improving the overall quality of academic instruction across the country. "Without a deliberate strategy to increase

the number of doctoral graduates, Uganda risks falling behind in regional and global academic competitiveness," Prof. Lubega warned. To bridge this gap, he recommended trans-

forming mentorship models, investing significantly in faculty development, establishing supportive ecosystems for doctoral training, expanding PhD programs, and building collaborative networks

Ethical Leadership in Higher Education Institutions



Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe Vice Chancellor Makerere University

Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe, Vice Chancellor of Makerere University, stressed the importance of ethical leadership among university heads. He challenged academic leaders to demonstrate discipline, integrity, and moral courage.

"Leadership is not merely about administration. It is about embodying the values our institutions stand

stand for; integrity, courage, service, and vision," Prof. Nawangwe said.

He added that Vice Chancellors must not only manage institutions efficiently but

also serve as models of principled leadership, setting the tone for institutional culture and

accountability.

Confirming the Newly Elected UVCF Executives

The forum concluded with the confirmation of the newly elected executive members in accordance with Article 10 of the UVCF Constitution. The newly elected leaders include:

- **Prof. Paul Wako (Vice Chancellor, Busitema University) – Chairperson**
- **Dr. Charity Basaza (Vice Chancellor, King Ceasor University) – Vice Chairperson**
- **Prof. Jude Lubega (Vice Chancellor, Nkumba University) – Treasurer**
- **Dr. Mwalimu Mushese (Vice Chancellor, Africa Rural University for Women) – Executive Committee Member**
- **Dr. Olive Sabiiti (Vice Chancellor, Cavendish University) – Executive Committee Member.**

The forum echoed AfRU's vision for transformational leadership focused on character development as foundational to institutional credibility, sustainability, and national impact.

The Christian Battles Or Success Are Divine Preparation For Greater Purpose

Mrs. Irene Kauma



“

Mr Irene during sharing at the Chapel

sometimes, our most painful experiences are the very grounds where God reveals His glory,” She said.

In a heartfelt and transformative Wednesday chapel service at Africa Renewal University, Mrs. Irene Kauma, the Private Secretary to the First Lady of Uganda, delivered a stirring sermon titled “Encounter with God.” Her message deeply moved students, faculty, and guests, leaving a lasting impact on all in attendance. Sharing from her own life experiences, Mrs.

Irene opened up about the highs and lows of her personal journey, testifying to how every season whether joyful or painful has been part of God’s divine purpose. Her honesty and vulnerability turned the sermon into more than just a message; it became a powerful reflection of God’s faithfulness through all of life’s seasons. She reminded the congregation that

no moment is wasted when lived with God. “I have learned that when we walk with Him, every trial, every success, and every delay becomes a divine

setup for a greater purpose,” she shared. “It is an opportunity for a deeper connection with God through purity of heart, daily fellowship, and worship.”



Students at Wednesday Chapel as Mr Irene shares to them.

A Message of Encouragement and Faith



Mrs. Irene encouraged students to delight in the Lord and wait patiently for Him, trusting that He will fulfill the desires of their hearts. She emphasized that leadership and Christian living come with challenges, but a passionate love for God and faithfulness to His Word empower believers to serve with humility and commitment. “As you pursue your

education and dreams, remember this: your encounter with God is not limited to church or dramatic moments. It’s woven through your daily obedience, quiet faith, and unwavering trust,” she urged. Her words resonated with many students who are preparing for careers in ministry, business, health, and leadership.

Testimonies from Students

Kwagala Faith, a second-year Journalism and Multimedia Communication student, described the message as a divine appointment. She had been struggling with doubts about her calling and future direction.

“This message reminded me that God uses both the highs and lows of our lives for His glory. Every season matters. Challenges are not setbacks—they’re setups for something greater,” Faith reflected. “This has changed the

way I view my purpose.”

Daniel M., a final-year Business student, shared that the sermon helped him let go of complaints and embrace God’s purpose even in pain.

“Mrs. Irene’s message

reminded me that our painful experiences are often where God shows His greatest glory. It was a wake-up call to trust the process and serve others with a pure heart.”

A Timely Word for the AfRU Community



Following the sermon, the chapel erupted in worship and prayer. Many students were visibly moved, taking time to reflect on their own spiritual journeys. Mrs. Irene’s message was a timely encouragement, reminding the university community that God is present in every part of life; in classrooms, dormito-

ries, workplaces, and in moments of joy or difficulty.

“Just as He guided Mrs. Irene through seasons of uncertainty and triumph, so too will He guide you,” the service moderator concluded. “Seek Him earnestly, and you will encounter Him in ways that will shape your destiny.”



Africa Renewal University Concludes May Examinations with High Student Hopefulness

Africa Renewal University successfully concluded its end-of-semester examinations held from May 19 to May 30, 2025, under a calm and focused atmosphere. The examinations marked a significant academic milestone, reflecting a strong spirit of academic integrity and optimism among students.

Commitment to Academic Excellence

Throughout the examination period, the university emphasized preparedness and academic honesty, which were evident in the conduct of students across all programs, including:

- Social Work
- Business Administration (BBA)
- Journalism and Multi-media Communication (BJMC)
- Public Health

- Disability Studies
- Higher Education Certificate (HEC)
- Information Technology (IT)
- Theology
- And others

Students demonstrated a high level of discipline and commitment, with many engaged in group discussions, personal study schedules, and academic

consultations with lecturers and peers.

“The participatory and practical learning approach, along with a friendly lecture environment, enabled us to prepare confidently,” said Faith Kwagalagwe, a second-year Journalism student.

“I’m hopeful and aiming for a First Class this semester.”



Part of the students doing their examintaion in a large number

Encouragement from University Leaders

The Academic Registrar, Mr. Benard Wanabwa, commended the students for their focus and integrity during the exams.

“Examinations are an important tool for evaluating how well we’re preparing students for the job market, with strong academic foundations and godly values,” he noted.

Mr. Wanabwa further explained that the university had already turned its attention to marking and preparing results, which are expected to be released by end July to give students feedback before the September semester begins.



A Spirit of Hope and Celebration



With the final exams completed, the Class of 2025 is filled with joy, relief, and anticipation. The green campus of Africa Renewal University in Buloba was buzzing with celebration as students across faculties concluded their academic journey.

“I can’t wait to carry the crown on graduation day!” said Susan, a Bachelor of Business Administration finalist.

“It’s been a journey full of challenges and growth. I’m grateful to God, my family, my lecturers, and my classmates.”

Susan shared that she hopes to use the skills she gained not just for her personal success, but to make a global impact, especially for women in business.

Looking Ahead

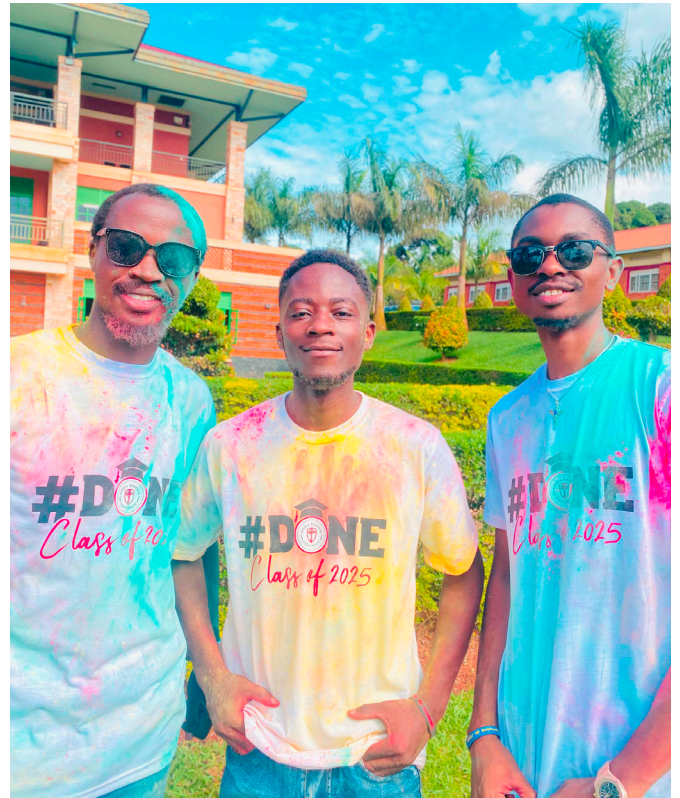
During the semester break, many students are setting goals for internships, community engagement, and personal growth. Africa Renewal University continues to gain recognition for producing graduates who are:

- Academically excellent
- Grounded in Christian values
- Equipped with practical skills
- Agents of community transformation

As the university’s reputation grows, it remains committed to preparing leaders who will impact families, churches, communities, and nations for the glory of God.

Programs offer include:

- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
- Bachelor of Theology
- Bachelor of Journalism and Multi-media Communication
- Bachelor of Community Development
- Bachelor of Education
- Bachelor of Social Work and Social Administration
- Master of Arts in Theology
- Diploma and Certificate programs across multiple disciplines



Some of the Class 2025 who remained and organised a color picnic at the campus compound

AfRU Cornerstone Medical Center(CMC) Hospital – A Centre of Hope for the Buloba Community

Africa Renewal University (AfRU), a leading Christian-based and chartered private university, has strengthened healthcare in the Buloba community through the establishment of the AfRU CMC Hospital. This health facility is managed by a dedicated team of eighteen staff members—seven of whom are AfRU alumni, and addresses the pressing health challenges of the growing Buloba suburban area.



A Vision Rooted in Transformation

Dr. Vincent Byamukama, Vice Chancellor of AfRU, emphasized that the hospital aligns with the university's vision of transformational education. He noted that the facility is designed to provide healthcare innovations and practical solutions for Uganda and the wider African context. It also serves as a training ground for graduates, helping to bridge the gap between education and employment.

“This hospital is a testimony of our commitment to offering solutions that integrate healthcare and employability for our graduates,” Dr. Byamukama stated.



Growing Services and Community Impact



Dr. Diana Nalubega, a clinician and the hospital's In-Charge, reported a steady increase in patient numbers and services. Key statistics include:

- 30 children immunized weekly
- 10 births per month, with referrals for surgical cases
- 20 outpatients daily
- 15 weekly admissions

Since 2023, the hospital has held free medical camps annually, offering five days of treatment to the public. In 2023, over 3,000 people received care, and in 2024, the number rose to over 4,000. In April 2025, a two-day eye camp in partnership with Cornerstone Church of West Los Angeles provided checkups, treatment, and free eyeglasses to over 200 patients.

Plans for Hospital Expansion

Dr. Byamukama revealed that the university is in the process of upgrading the hospital from Health Centre III to Health Centre IV. The expansion includes:

- A new maternity ward with 10 beds (up from the current 4)
- A fully equipped surgical theatre
- Dental services, among other additions

Construction is in its final stages, with the aim of improving both maternal care and access to specialized services.

“The expansion will not only improve community health services but also provide AfRU students with enhanced opportunities for practical and experiential learning,” Dr. Byamukama said.

Currently, around 10 students from various departments, including Marketing, Accounting, Logistics, ICT, and Computer Technology, do their internships at the hospital. That number is expected to double as the facility grows.

Advancing Dental Care

Nelson Nkwasiwe, head of the Dental Department and an AfRU alumnus, shared that the facility currently offers:

- Tooth extractions
- Scaling and polishing
- Tooth replacement

With the planned expansion, the dental unit will provide comprehensive dental care, including:

- Root canal procedures
- Fillings
- Crowning
- Whitening
- Permanent and temporary replacements
- General oral health services

The dental clinic currently attends to an average of 40 patients per month.



Advancing Dental Care

Upgrading the hospital to Health Centre IV is a significant step toward greater collaboration with government and development partners in the fight against poor health outcomes in Uganda. It will also further position AfRU as a centre of excellence for hands-on, community-focused learning, aligned with global standards.

AfRU Staff Crowned Champions of the AfRU Guild Premier League 2025



In a season filled with adrenaline, unity, and fierce competition, the AfRU Staff Team emerged as the champions of the AfRU Guild Premier League 2025, earning campus-wide

praise and celebration. What started as a casual inter-program football tournament quickly transformed into a vibrant campus spectacle. With electrifying performances on the

pitch and roaring support from the stands, this year's league was more than a competition, it was a celebration of talent, identity, and community pride.

A League That United the Campus

The tournament brought together teams from across various university programs, including:

- Social Work
- Information Technology
- Journalism and Multimedia Communication (BJMC)
- Business Administration (BBA)
- Education
- Public Health
- Administration
- And the elite AfRU Select Team

Teams were divided into Group A and Group B, setting the stage for an unforgettable season packed with drama and excitement.

From the start, Group A saw early dominance from Social Work and IT, while Group B was set ablaze by the stellar performance of Public Health and Administration.





The Rise and Reign of the Staff Team

While students competed intensely, the AfRU Staff Team steadily built momentum, combining experience, tactical discipline, and resilience. Their journey to the final was marked by consistency and skillful play.

In the grand finale, they faced the Public Health team, who had just delivered a strong semifinal performance. Despite Public Health's youthful energy, the experience and composure of the Staff Team proved decisive.

When the final whistle blew, the campus erupted into celebration. Staff members were lifted high in the air by cheering fans, true campus heroes.

Semi-Final Surprises

The knockout rounds were full of twists and surprises:

- In the first semifinal, Public Health defeated Information Technology in a tactical showdown to book their spot in the final.
- The second semifinal delivered a major upset as Administration stunned tournament favorites Social Work, despite Social Work's star striker Alonedhino already boasting 6 goals. Administration's strategy and discipline earned them a well-deserved place in the final.





Celebrating Individual Brilliance

The tournament also recognized outstanding individual performances:

- **Golden Gloves: Dirissa (Public Health) – A reliable shot-stopper known for his clean sheets**
- **Most Valuable Player (MVP): Mbiru Dissan (Administration) – A midfield**

maestro who led his team with precision and power

- **Top Scorer: Alonedhino (Social Work) – Scored 6 clinical goals, lighting up the tournament with flair despite his team's semifinal exit**

More Than Just a Game

The AfRU Guild League 2025 was more than football, it was a celebration of diversity, talent, and student spirit. It built new friendships, inspired healthy rivalries, and fostered unity among departments.

From Social Work's passionate play to the tactical depth of IT, from Administration's resilience

to Public Health's youthful energy, every team left a mark on this unforgettable season.

Even though Social Work exited with heartbreak, they earned admiration for their fearless style and sportsmanship.

As the sun sets on the 2025 season, one truth remains:

AfRU's Guild League is no longer just a competition, it's a tradition. A festival of brains, boots, and boldness.

And as for next season? Anything can happen.

Join Africa Renewal University – August to December 2025 Intake Now Open!

Are you ready to pursue a life-changing education that combines academic excellence with Christian values and real-world skills?

Africa Renewal University (AfRU) is excited to announce that applications for the August–December 2025 intake are NOW OPEN!

Why Choose AfRU?

Christ-Centered Learning

Grow academically and spiritually in a nurturing environment that shapes your character and deepens your faith.

Industry-Relevant Programs

Our diverse range of programs is designed to equip you with the knowledge and practical skills needed to thrive in today's competitive job market.

Experienced Faculty, Personal Mentorship

Learn from passionate, qualified lecturers committed to walking with you every step of your academic journey.

Affordable, Accessible Education

With flexible payment plans and a supportive learning environment, your dreams are within reach.

Beautiful Campus in Buloba

Study in a serene and secure environment just 20 km from Kampala, ideal for focused learning and spiritual growth.

Programs Offered Include:

SCHOOLS OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES

PhD in Leadership

Master in Public Health

Master in Information Technology

Master in Social Work

Master in Business Administration

- Finance Accounting
- Human Resource Management
- Organizational Leadership and Management
- Marketing
- Entrepreneurship
- International Business

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- Theology
- Christian Leadership
- Church Planting
- Community Development

Master of Arts in Educational Planning and Management

Post Graduate:

- Education
- Early Childhood Education

UNDERGRADUATES PROGRAMS

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Department of Theology and Education

- Bachelor of Arts in Theology
- Diploma in Theology
- Higher Education Certificate

Department of Education

- Bachelor of Arts with Education (Secondary)
- Bachelor of Education (Primary)
- Bachelor of Arts in Disability Studies and Special Education
- Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Development with Education
- Diploma of Arts in Early Childhood Development with Education

SCHOOL OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Development and Developmental Studies

- Bachelor of Public Administration and Management
- Bachelor of Arts in Community Development
- Bachelor of Arts in Child Development
- Bachelor of Social Work and Social Administration
- Diploma in Child Development
- Diploma in Social Work and Social Administration

Department of Media Studies

- Bachelor of Journalism and Multimedia Communication
- Diploma in Journalism and Multimedia Communication

Department of Health Science

- Bachelor of Public Health

Here!

Whether you're finishing high school, upgrading your skills, or changing careers—**Africa Renewal University is the place to be.**

Apply today and take the first step toward becoming a leader who transforms your community and the world.

For details and applications, visit: www.afru.ac.ug

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Email: admissions@afru.ac.ug

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- Bachelor of Information Technology
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