

### VP Urges OUT to Establish Youth Programmes

**The Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania (VP), Hon. Samia Suluhu Hassan urged the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) to establish youth training programmes on technical skills which will enable them to contribute towards industrial economy in Tanzania.**

Hon. Samia made the call when she was officiating the OUT's Silver Jubilee on behalf of President John Magufuli on September 24th, 2019 at OUT's Kinondoni temporary Headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

She told the OUT management that the programmes should focus on changing the mindset of Tanzanians especially the youth by providing knowledge that would enable them to be sole contributors and beneficiaries of the industrial economy.

"If we don't acquaint youth with technical skills and knowledge, then we should know that the beneficiaries of industrial economy shall come from other nations," Hon. Samia said.

Hon. Samia assured the OUT's Management about the government's commitment and support on addressing its challenges to ensure that the vast majority of Tanzanians have access to quality and affordable education. She emphasized that President Magufuli is aware of the challenges facing the OUT, including the scarcity of operational funds.

The OUT's Vice Chancellor, Prof. Elifas Bisanda, who had earlier pleaded for government support on its plan for setting up science laboratories in seven zones in the country recapitulated that the planned laboratories will be used to facilitate OUT and community schools science students' experiments.



*Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences Dr. Felician Mutasa briefing the Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Samia Suluhu, on the Faculty's 25 years achievements on offering productive education during the OUT's Silver Jubilee at its Kinondoni temporary Headquarters in Dar es Salaam on 24th September, 2019.*

# Astronomical Tourism

The Deputy Minister for Tourism and Natural Resources Hon. Costantine Kanyasu on 30th September 2019 at OUT's Kinondoni temporary headquarters in Dar es Salaam commended the OUT for a useful report on astronomical tourism and their endeavor on developing Kiswahili vocabularies for new astronomical discoveries.

The OUT's Senior Lecturer in

Astronomy Dr. Noorali Jiwaji in his presentation to the Deputy Hon. Kanyasu said Tanzania can benefit from astronomical tourism.

He added that Tanzania has the opportunity to explore and invest in the available spectacular astronomical attractions, which will increase the number of tourists and the national income.

“If Tanzania installs large

telescopes on Mount Kilimanjaro, the country will get more tourists and even researchers and scholars who will come for learning and research.” Postulated Dr. Jiwaji.

Dr. Jiwaji Also urged the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism to collaborate with the OUT community in coordinating the process of proposing Kiswahili vocabularies for new astronomical discoveries.



*The Deputy Minister for Tourism and Natural Resources Hon. Costantine Kanyasu commending the OUT's useful astronomical tourism report and its endeavor on developing Kiswahili vocabularies for new astronomical discoveries. Others are Ministry's Archeology Department Acting Director Fabian Kigadye (first seated right), OUT's Acting Vice Chancellor-Resource Management Prof. Hosea Rwegoshora, and OUT's Director of Research, Creativity and Publications Prof. Emmanuel Kigadye (seated on left) on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at the OUT's Kinondoni temporary headquarters in Dar es Salaam.*

## Prof. Ndalichako: The Role of ICT In ODL Cannot Be Downplayed

Minister of Education, Science and Technology Prof. Joyce Ndalichako urged higher learning institutions to embark on Information Communication Technology (ICT) in delivering quality education.

Prof. Ndalichako aired this remarks on September 25th, 2019 during the opening session of Distance Education Association of Southern Africa (DEASA) and Distance Education Association of Tanzania (DEATA) joint program at the OUT's Kinondoni temporary headquarter in Dar es Salaam.

“The potential of ICT in facilitating ODL in Tanzania and Africa at large cannot be downplayed.” She said.

Prof. Ndalichako commended the OUT for taking a leading role in

using modern ICT tools, which is worthy to be emulated by other universities in the country because it transforms lives of individuals, communities and publics. The OUT's Vice Chancellor Prof. Eli-

fas Bisanda, said “We don't need to send hardcopy books to students anymore because ICT solved the problem. Nowadays, ODL students read through computers or Smartphone.”



*The Minister for Education, Science and Technology Prof. Joyce Ndalichako calling upon higher learning institutions to embark on Information Communication Technology (ICT) in delivering quality education on September 25th, 2019 at the OUT's Kinondoni temporary headquarter in Dar Es Salaam during the opening session of Distance Education Association of Southern Africa (DEASA) and Distance Education Association of Tanzania (DEATA) joint program.*

# OUT Staff Encouraged to Donate Safety Blood

The head of department of Economic Law in the Faculty of Law at the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) Doreen Mwamlangala encouraged OUT's staff to participate in East Regional Center safe blood donation exercise conducted on 19th September, 2019 at the OUT's Kinondoni temporary headquarters.



*The Open University of Tanzania's don, Prof. Modestus Varisanga donating blood during the East Regional Center safe blood donation exercise on 19th September 2019 at the OUT's Temporary headquarters in Kinondoni as part of the university's social responsibility to the community. Several other OUT's staff and stakeholders participated on the exercise.*

“Donating blood reduces the shortage of blood in blood bank reserves. The goal is to save lives of people in need of blood, so we need to get much involved in such activities,” Emphasized Mwamlangala.

In addition, the coordinator of the event from the OUT's Gender Unit Mr. Godefroid Mudaheranwa, said the event would be ongoing to address various challenges facing blood in needy due to the deficiencies in the blood bank.

“We will partner with the Safe Blood Center by organizing blood donation concerts as the need of blood in hospitals is particularly high to help pregnant women, children under and accidental injuries.” He said.

According to the Community Mobilization Officer of the National Health Plan for Safe Blood in the East Region Ms. Mariam Juma, the organization is in desperate need of blood as the demand is high for the service.

“Tanzanians do not wait their relatives to be sick to remember to donate blood; they need to have the habit of donating blood regularly which will be used to treat patients and other high risk groups like cancer patients and patients undergoing surgery.” She said.

She acknowledged that the response was satisfactory and thanked the OUT staff as well as other OUT stakeholders and students from the neighboring Ukwamani secondary school for their commitment to accomplish this exercise.

## OBITUARY

### OUT Incur Another Loss

**The Open University of Tanzania's (OUT) Community on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September 2019 lost a Senior Human Resource Officer Mr. Cosmas Mwampelwa.**

The late Mwampelwa was born on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November, 1960 at Tukuyu, Mbeya Region. He



joined the OUT on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 1995 as a Human Resource Officer and on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 2000 was confirmed at work.

Mwampelwa worked with different departments and faculties. He once worked with the Faculty of Law, Temeke Regional Center and until his death he was working with the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

*May His Soul Rest in Eternal Peace*

# Keep Your Body Warm Avert Elderly Diseases

The Vice Chancellor of the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) Prof. Elifas Bisanda, urged retirees to engage in entrepreneurial activities in order to generate income and enhance their physical and mental health diseases at the World Elder's Day celebrations, held on 1st October, 2019 at the OUT's Kinondoni temporary headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

"It's good to have a vegetable gar-

den that will keep you busy and earn something. Gardening activities also will keep your body warm, strong and away from elderly diseases like diabetes and blood pressure." Said Prof. Bisanda.

He cautioned elders not to isolate themselves because isolation invites feelings of stigmatization and stresses. He advocated for outgoing and intermingling which brings a sense of belonging, inter-

connectedness and feelings of being loved that in turn revitalizes retirees and elderly.

A retired Police Commissioner and former Dar Es Salaam Police Special Region Commander Suleiman Kova, said "Getting old is not a disease or something terrible but just a psychological and changes of age numbers. Getting old is a process in life and gifts from God, not all people are fortunate to reach that age." Said Kova.

HelpAge International Elderly Association's Health Project Manager Dr. Edwin Mung'ong'o, said despite of various complaints or challenges pertaining to elders health care service delivery scheme Tanzania is doing better compared to many third world countries.

"Tanzania is striving to look after the elderly; however it has not yet managed to alleviate all complaints. I advise all institutions especially Elders Health and Pension Funds Institutions to address these complaints."



*One day ahead of World Elder's Day a Retired Police Officer and Chairman of the Tanzania Retired Police Officers Association (TARPOA) Suleiman Kova, speaking to his fellow elders at the OUT's temporary Headquarters in Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam on 30th September 2019.*

## OUT Receives Solar Powered Lights Donation

Indian Institute of Technology - Bombay (IIT Bombay) in partnership with Skill Council for green Jobs (SCGJ) of India on 04<sup>th</sup> October 2019 donated 50 solar-powered lights to the Open University of Tanzania (OUT) for facilitating OUT students' studies.

The Head of Department of Environment of the Open University of Tanzania Dr. Irene Tarimo said the IIT Bombay and SCGJ donation aims to encourage Tanzanians to conserve environment through the use of environmentally friendly materials, including solar-powered equipment's.

Solar Power Technician Mr. Charles Mahona taught the beneficiary students on how to take good care and use the light properly when they are studying. One of the OUT's beneficiary students Mr. Benson Kaile, said

the lights are very important to them because they are experiencing regular electricity outages.

"The problem of electrical outages

is still apparent in our country has, these lights will help students during electricity outages and our colleagues who are in areas that are not yet connected to electricity." He said.



*The OUT students showing solar-powered lights donated in partnership by Indian Institute of Technology - Bombay (IIT Bombay) and Skill Council for green Jobs (SCGJ) of India after handover event on 4th September 2019 at the OUT's Kinondoni temporary headquarters in Dar es Salaam.*