

MAKERERE

P.O. Box 7062
Kampala Uganda
Website: <http://mak.ac.ug>



UNIVERSITY

Tel: (Gen) +256-414-532631/4
Fax: +256-414-541068
E-mail: pro@admin.mak.ac.ug

OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE

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PRESS RELEASE

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY RANKED 8TH BY ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN AFRICA

Makerere University's academic performance on the African continent continues to rise according to results released by the University Ranking by Academic Performance (URAP) Research Laboratory, Turkey. The University came 8th out of 59 Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) ranked in 18 African countries.

URAP, established at the Informatics Institute of the Middle East Technical University in 2009, aims at developing a ranking system of world universities by academic performance that is more comprehensive in coverage. By covering 2,500 HEIs in the world, the URAP ranking avails more universities the opportunity to observe the state of the academic progress at both global and national levels.

URAP considers the six academic performance indicators of; Number of articles(Current Scientific Productivity), Citation(Research Impact), Cumulative Journal Impact(Scientific Impact), H-Index(Research Quality), International Collaboration(International Acceptance), and Google Scholar Results(Long - Term Overall Productivity).

The University of Cape Town ranked top in Africa at the 256th position and Harvard University ranked number one in the world. Please refer to attached excel file for a full list of the 59 universities ranked in Africa.

The data used in the ranking is gathered from Web of Science – an online tool for retrieving accurate citation counts, Google Scholar, open-access sources and credible sources which provide lists of HEIs, such as the ISI (Information Sciences Institute) – a world leader in research and development of advanced information processing, computer and communications technologies. A total score of 600 is distributed to each indicator as follows; Number of Articles 24%, Google Scholar Counts 10%, Citation 21%, Cumulative Journal Impact 18%, H-Index 12%, and Collaboration 15%.

The ranking comes almost 6 months after the transition of Makerere University from a faculty-based to a collegiate university on 1st July 2011, which witnessed the review of the research function.

Reacting to the rankings, Dr. Vincent Ssembatya, Director, Quality Assurance, Makerere University noted that “The academic synergies provided by the college environments have fostered the sourcing of funds for research.”

Most of the funding has been directed at research projects. “This has in turn improved the quality and volume of publications from research findings,” he added.

Therefore, as international competition and collaboration have become high priority items on the agenda of most universities around the world, the URAP rank accords Makerere University an additional tool to regularly evaluate her academic performance.

-----**We build for the future**-----

Sincerely: Ritah Namisango, Senior Public Relations Officer, Makerere University

Resources

<http://www.urapcenter.org/2011/region.php?rcode=AF>