



## ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

INAUGURATION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR THE MAKERERE UNIVERSITY  
FEMALE SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION AND THE LAUNCH OF THE MATCHING GRANT  
FROM THE CARNEGIE CORPORATION OF NEW YORK, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY MAIN  
HALL, SATURDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2011, 6.00-9.00PM.

**PRESENTED BY DR. WILLIAM KALEMA**  
**Chairperson, Board of Trustees, FSF**

- The Rt. Hon. Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga
- Hon. Prof. Peter Anyang' Nyong'o, Member of Parliament and Minister of Medical Services, Republic of Kenya,
- Prof. Mondo Kagonyera, Chancellor, Makerere University
- Your Excellencies, the Ambassadors present
- Honorable Ministers Present
- Honorable Members of Uganda's Parliament and East Africa's Legislative Assembly
- Dr. Charles Wana-Etyem, Chairperson Makerere University Council and Host tonight
- Vice Chancellor, Makerere University
- Members of the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation Board
- Managing Director, DFCU, Sponsors of the Dinner Tonight
- Members of Makerere University Council , Management,
- Distinguished Alumni
- Ladies and Gentlemen

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Makerere University Female Scholarship Foundation, and on my own behalf as Chairperson of the board, it is my honor and pleasure to accept to serve on this board.

We take this responsibility to promote education for bright but disadvantaged girls humbly and seriously. At a personal note, it took me time to accept this

responsibility. Finally I made a commitment to be the chairperson of the board and for this short time, it has been worthwhile and rewarding.

I was able to attend the launch of the FSF at Kampala Serena Hotel on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2010, the dinner at the Palace of the Most Rev. Henry Luke Orombi, the royal visit of the Nnabagereka of Buganda to Makerere University and these have been opportunities to further appreciate the noble cause of FSF.

Through a series of meetings I have had with the Gender Mainstreaming Directorate, we have discussed very many constructive ideas and it gives me pleasure to see them come to fruition. Putting together an eminent and credible team of board members that command respect and confidence is one such key achievement. It was important for us that we put together a team of goodwill ambassadors, rich with ideas, expertise and experience and most of all, people that can be trusted and who are committed to gender equality and girl-child education.

We have here an African team from Tanzania, Kenya, Liberia and of course Uganda. We are ready to commit our time and resources to volunteer to FSF. Today, in our first board meeting this morning, at the encouragement of Ali Mufuruki, we each filled in the pledge form in the booklets before you because we believe that charity begins at home. Dr. Charles Mbire also offered to host the next board meeting. This is a team that is committed to walk the talk.

As the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of FSF for the next three years, I will ensure that the Foundation is run efficiently and effectively. This in order

to meet our goal of increasing enrolment, retention and improve the academic performance of female undergraduate students at Makerere University with specific emphasis on sciences and giving priority to applicants from disadvantaged backgrounds and under-represented geographical areas in Uganda.

I call upon you to partner with us to sponsor girls from the Eastern Africa Region to have a university education. I conclude with the wise words of James Kwegyir-Aggrey, a Ghanaian Educationalist (1875-1927) who stated:

*“If you educate a man you educate an individual, but if you educate a woman, you educate a family”*