



REMARKS

BY

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ACTING VICE CHANCELLOR

AT THE SWEARING IN CEREMONY OF THE GUILD PRESIDENT

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY MAIN HALL

23RD MARCH, 2012

- The University Management
- Members of Staff
- The Outgoing Guild
- The Incoming Guild
- Distinguished Guests
- Students
- Ladies and Gentlemen

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Congratulations and Appreciation

It is my privilege to welcome you all to this special and important function, when we gather to inaugurate this Guild Government headed by H.E Kata Ivan. Mr. President, I warmly congratulate you and welcome you, together with your team, to the leadership of this great University

Distinguished colleagues, ladies and gentlemen, allow me also congratulate all those who stood for various posts and were successfully elected and those who have been appointed to the various positions in the executive leadership of the Guild. I warmly congratulate you.

In the same way, may I register my very special thanks and commendations to all the candidates who participated in the elections—thus creating the right competition that made it possible for H.E Kata and his colleagues to emerge winners. I particularly salute those who, with honour and humility, accepted that their competitors were more successful and conceded to that. I also thank all the voters who turned up to vote in big numbers.

To the Electoral Commission, I extend my heartfelt appreciation for a job well done. I thank you for the impartiality and good judgment. You made a land mark in your leadership role as arbiters of a very important function. I thank you very much indeed.

I thank the Dean of Students and his team for the invaluable guidance they offered throughout the entire exercise, which made it a success. I also take this opportunity to appreciate the outgoing guild leadership for a job well done. You have now seen it all and on behalf of the University, Management and entire family of Makerere University and indeed on my own behalf I thank you and wish you a happy retirement.

Guidance to the new Guild Leadership

I appeal to the new guild leadership to begin its work with dedication and humility, knowing very well that you are to serve the University beyond self.

You are joining the Guild leadership when the University has undergone and is still undergoing several reforms. The most significant is the establishment of constituent Colleges. Please endeavour to understand and support these reforms, for they are intended to make service delivery to the students faster, more convenient, more effective and also propel Makerere University to its number one slot on the continent.

In tackling issues that affect the students and community of Makerere, I urge you to use dialogue in resolving them. In a big community like this one, no single person can achieve their goals without relying on the support and advice of others. As student-leaders, please work with your fellow students, lecturers and the University administration and organs in advancing your cause. Much of your success will be determined by how well you harness these different components within your community for positive ends. Please pay special attention to the University Council, Senate, the College Boards, and other statutory organs, the G.R.C. and all the policies and procedures of the University. Luckily, the Dean of Students has promised to conduct an induction at which these organs will be discussed in greater detail. I encourage all student leaders to attend that induction.

Your leadership should be based on the knowledge that there are rules and regulations which guide the operations of Public Universities like Makerere. Your government should travel along a clear path of discipline, hard work and accountable leadership. It is imperative for all public officials, including you, Mr. President, to take serious note of the requirements of that law. Therefore, procurement procedures should be part of the induction programme referred to earlier.

Mr. President, I appeal to you and your colleagues to be studious leaders. Have a yearning to know more, remain open and be good listeners to all voices. Let me add that your number one call in this university is academic excellence, professional growth and development. Honourable members, you are students first and foremost. Therefore, I call upon you to study very hard as you provide good leadership to your colleagues. Remember the vision of this University is: ***To be the leading institution for academic excellence and innovations in Africa.***

As I conclude, I would like to remind your government that the University exists for all of us. Therefore, strive to do what is good for all of us so that at the end of the day we are able to achieve the vision and mission of Makerere University. On the part of management, I promise full cooperation. When your term is over, you should be able to join the University records of guild leadership that left a positive landmark on the university. Makerere University is proud of so many guild Presidents who came before you, some of whom have returned to give back to the university in various ways like facilitating public lecturers and supporting other initiatives.

Ladies and gentleman, I once again welcome you to this function and congratulate the new government. It is now my privilege and singular honour to commission the new Guild Government 2012/2013 under the leadership of His Excellency Kata Ivan.

I thank you as **We Build for the Future.**