

## **MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON COUNCIL**

On behalf of Makerere University Council, I wish to congratulate our 2017 graduands upon the successful completion of your studies. This reminds me of my own graduation day in the Science Quadrangle in 1976!!

You have completed an important phase of your education. Use it well and challenge yourselves to progress further. You need to know that having a degree today is just but the start. The real challenge of life starts now after walking out of the gates of Makerere University. I challenge you to build your career, and set achievable goals to accomplish in life.

As Council our responsibility as a supreme organ of the University is to provide direction of the administrative, financial and academic affairs, formulate policies and guidelines on matters relating to operations of the University.

Since the last graduation, the University Council with support from AfDB-HEST and Government of Uganda has implemented a USD 30million project including construction of two multi- purpose buildings (one next to College of Humanities and Social Sciences and the other next to College of Business and Management Sciences), Renovation of Laboratories, these facilities will go a long way in improving teaching, learning and research environment at the University for the benefit of both students and staff.

The major road network has been revamped and by end of March 2017, the road network within the University including walk ways and street lighting will be complete.

I urge the stakeholders to protect and utilize these facilities very well.

The University approved a new fees policy in wide consultations with all key stakeholders including students, government and staff. I appeal to all stakeholders to support the policy and enable the University provide improved services to the students.

Great research achievements have been achieved with largely funding from the development partners. We are grateful to the many development partners who have continued to contribute to Makerere University's growth and development. Thank you for the partnership and your support.

Despite great achievements, the University faces challenges including inadequate financing and cash flow. These have often resulted into strikes from both the Teaching, Non – Teaching Staff and Students. These actions resulted into closure of the university. This was regrettable but a lot was learnt.

Allow me to recognise our members of academic staff who taught, assessed and supervised your academic work.

It is the fruits of years of hard work that have culminated in this success. Allow me also salute both the University management and administrative staff for providing the necessary leadership that made it conducive for you to complete your courses on time.

We thank God who made it possible for this day to happen. I know there could be some of you who have had to struggle to pay your tuition fees; but through God's grace you have made it! Allow me also recognize all the parents, guardians, relatives, siblings, friends and so many others who have poured their love and support into your education journey. Congratulations.

Our growth covers all segments of the University in terms of more quality students turned out, increase in qualified human resources and infrastructural development, especially increasing teaching space to make Makerere a more functional student-friendly institution.

I express my gratitude and appreciation to my colleagues in the University Council to whom I owe much of the success that the University has recorded in the last few years. As Council, we will continue to make policies that maintain an environment that nurtures academic excellence and participation in world-changing research and development for both scholars and society.

I am highly delighted by the openness and passion of Senate and Management staff, whose dedication to duty has helped to create an enabling environment for us to work together as a team. This spirit has and continues to be the backbone of the University's overall progress.

Finally, I pledge my support and dedicate myself to the progress and success of Makerere University.

I wish you all the best in your endeavors.

**As We Build for the Future, For God and My Country.**

**Eng. Dr. Charles Wana-Etyem**

**Chairperson, Makerere University Council**