



NEWS@GSU



Gwanda State University Newsletter

Excellence Through Esprit De Corps

Vol 1 (Issue 2)

December 2021



2021 Festive Season Greetings

University Constructs New Mining and Engineering Lab

A STATE of the art Mining and Engineering Laboratory is under construction at the Epoch Mine Campus. The project will cost USD\$1, 1 million after completion.

The project which is wholly funded by the Government of Zimbabwe commenced on 3 August 2021 and is expected to be completed by July 2022.

The construction of the new Mining and Engineering -



Artistic Impression of the Mining and Engineering Lab



Part of the foundation construction of the Mining and Engineering Laboratory at Epoch Mine Campus

Laboratory is part of the implementation of Education 5.0 mantra by the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development.

The University is currently offering degree programmes like Mining Engineering and Metallurgical Engineering among others which require students to do laboratory practicals. The Laboratory will go a long way in enhancing teaching and learning of students.

As part of community engagement, the lab is also expected to assist neighbouring Mines.

This will also increase revenue for the University. Meanwhile, another construction project of the lecture block is set to kick off after modalities have been completed. Among other preliminary works that have been done in preparation for the commencement of the Lecture block construction include site clearing, Architectural drawing, electrical drawings and structural drawings, printing of drawings and procurement of some building materials.



Artistic impression of the Lecture Block

After completion, the lecture block will offer facilities that include: 1 x 60 Student capacity Lecture room, 1 x 70 Student capacity Lecture room, 1 x 40 Student capacity Lecture room, 1 x 100 Student capacity Lecture room, 1 x 60 Capacity Seminar room, 4 x Staff Offices, 1 x Laboratory, 1 x 120 Computer lab room with server room and technician room, 1 x General Storeroom and ablution facilities.

Gwanda State University Third Stream Students Graduates

GWANDA State University (GSU) endeavors to be a world class centre for learning, research and innovation which proffers solutions to global challenges through value addition, beneficiation and industrialisation by 2030, a vision that has put the Institution on the lime-light.

Following its inception in 2015, GSU opened its doors for the first intake stream while it ran as a college under the National University of Science and Technology (NUST).

History was made in 2019 when the first cohort graduated under NUST. This year (2021) has been another great year following the graduation of 34 GSU students who also graduated under the same institution.

The year's edition of the graduation was a bit different as only invited First Class graduands attended the physical ceremony.

In the light of the Covid-19 pandemic and in line with World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines and Government regulations, the 2021 Graduation was mainly virtual, with selected graduands being capped physically at the NUST Ceremonial Hall.

Greater achievements lie ahead for Gwanda State University as it looks forward to install the first Chancellor on the anticipated first graduation ceremony to be held in year 2022.



Some of the students who recently graduated under NUST

The University is determined to implement its 2021 – 2025 Strategic Plan with the aim of adhering to and excelling in high service level standards set by the Zimbabwe Council for Higher Education (ZIMCHE). The University has fully adopted the Education 5.0 concept and is determined to embrace all aspects of this doctrine in all areas. That will help to grow the University from its infancy to become a credible University among other Universities both regionally and internationally.

GSU COUNCIL VISIT IN PICTURES



From left is Cllr Tendai Cletos Masawi, Cllr Prof Andrew Hlanganiso Siwela, Cllr Eng S. H. Ncube, Cllr Sithembisiwe Mpofu-Ndlovu, Council Chair Mrs Mabel Elaine Mwamuka and Vice-Chancellor Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo during a tour at Water works treatment plant at Epoch Mine Campus.



Tour inside the University Administration Block



Tour at the construction site

Gwanda Varsity Construction Starts



GWANDA State University (GSU) is set to start developing 87 hectares of land in Gwanda Town which the institution was allocated by the Government.

Currently, the university is operating from Epoch Mine in Filabusi at the same time as it is working on opening a campus in Gwanda Town.

The campus was supposed to be opened in August but was derailed by the closure of universities and impact of Covid-19.

Infrastructural developments at the 87 hectares piece of land in Gwanda Town will be done in phases. The first phase of the construction programme will focus on a multi-purpose building which will house offices for administration, and lecture rooms as well as the Innovation Hub and the Industrial Park to drive the Education 5.0 mantra.

Phase 1 has since started with the marking of the boundary around the University site.

This will be followed by the clearing of the land to pave way for the construction of the envisaged multi-purpose building which will house offices for administration and lecture rooms as well as the Innovation Hub and the Industrial Park.

Councillor Mrs Priscillar Musundire cuts the ribbon to mark the start of phase 1 works at GSU in Gwanda Town. Looking on is (from left) GSU Vice-Chancellor Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo, Councillor Mrs Tilibali Moyo (right) and GSU staff members.

The university is keen to operationalise the Gwanda Campus in order to expand its academic offerings. In the meantime, the University has secured office and teaching facilities in Gwanda Town on a lease basis to register its presence in the town. The identified premises will be refurbished to meet university standards.

As part of the institution's marketing strategy a billboard has been installed at the Gwanda campus for identification purposes. It is envisaged that the billboard will improve the university brand.

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GSU STUDENTS TOPS UNIVERSITIES QUIZ COMPETITIONS



One of the Quiz competition winners Mr Tadiwa Dhaka presenting a Trophy to the Vice-Chancellor

Gwanda State University came out tops in the third edition of the National Universities quiz challenge that was held at SAYWHAT studios on Monday and Tuesday in Harare.

The third edition of the National Universities Quiz Challenge was held at SAYWHAT newly built studios and had 12 Universities taking part.

Speaking at the end of the programme SAYWHAT deputy director Vimbai Mlambo said, the third edition of the National Universities Quiz challenge is running under the theme, 'securing the SRH of students and young people in the COVID -19 Era.'

Vimbai also added that the teenage pregnancy cases and marriages that have been reported during Covid-19 induced lockdown in particular, in January and February 2021, are very disturbing. "It is a testimony of a disproportion between young people's access to reproductive health services and observing Covid-19 regulations" added Vimbai.

Vimbai also added that among other objectives the third Universities Quiz challenge aims to inspire the production on new sexual and reproductive health curriculums that inform a comprehensive sexuality education. "There is need to appreciate the evolving and emerging of sexual and reproductive health challenges."

The quiz challenge was also graced by Embassy of Sweden in Zimbabwe Deputy Head of Mission and Head of

development cooperation Berthollet Kaboru who said there must be a balance between observing Covid 19 induced health protocols and the young people's access to sexual and reproductive health services. Harare Institute of Technology (came third) "This year's National Quiz Challenge is running under the theme, Securing SRH of student and young people in the Covid-19 era.

"This theme calls for decision makers and all stakeholders, to ensure that young people access to sexual and reproductive health services remains on the agenda even in an ongoing pandemic. 'said Kaboru. Kaboru also added that Sexual reproductive health rights remain important issue globally. "Sweden has a long history of prioritizing sexual and reproductive health as part of its health gender and human rights as well. 'added Kaboru.

Among universities that participated in the Universities quiz challenge were Midlands State University who came second, Harare Institute of Technology (third), Lupane state university, University of Zimbabwe, Bindura University of science Education, Chinhoyi University of Technology, Midlands State University, Marondera University of Agricultural sciences, among others.

Source: H Metro 29 October 2021

ZIMBABWE INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR IN PICTURES



The Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development Prof. dr. A. Murwira discussing one of the University's projects at the 2021 Zimbabwe International Trade Fair - On the far right is Dr B Moyo, the Acting Dean of Natural Resources Management and Agriculture



Vice-Chancellor Professor Doreen Zandile Moyo talking to some visitors at the Gwanda State University Exhibition stand during the 2021 Zimbabwe International Trade Fair



Mr Tumelo Mathe Chairperson of the Department of Geomatics and Survey talking to some visitors at the GSU Exhibition Stand



On the far right is Councillor Priscillar Musundire visiting the University stand during the 2021 Zimbabwe International Trade Fair

GWANDA AGRICULTURAL SHOW IN PICTURES



Vice-Chancellor Professor DZ Moyo touring the University Exhibition stand at the Gwanda Agricultural Show



Ms Annabel Banda talking to one of the visitors at the GSU Exhibition stand during the Gwanda Agricultural Show

GSU TEAM SCOOPS THREE MEDALS AT THE CHANCELLORS' GAMES

Gwanda State University won three bronze medals at the recently ended Chancellors' Games held at the University of Zimbabwe from 14 November 2021 to 20 November 2021 under the theme "Mentally and physically fit human capital to implement Education 5.0". The first medal was won by Mr Winston Banda at the 200m final. The second medal was won by the male Volleyball team after defeating the National University of Science and Technology at the Semi-finals. The third medal was won at culture night competitions.



200m bronze Winner Mr Winston Banda receiving his medal



Mr T Mathe receiving bronze medals on behalf of the male Volleyball team



Mr Masuku receiving bronze medals on behalf of culture team members



Male Volleyball team members



GSU Soccer dream team



Ladies Volleyball team

WHAT IS COVID-19?


COVID-19 is a mild to severe respiratory illness that is caused by a coronavirus (*Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2* of the genus *Betacoronavirus*), is transmitted chiefly by contact with infectious material (such as respiratory droplets) or with objects or surfaces contaminated by the causative virus, and is characterised especially by fever, cough, and shortness of breath and may progress to pneumonia and respiratory failure. You can be infected by breathing in the virus if you are within close proximity of someone who has COVID-19, or by touching a contaminated surface and then your eyes, nose or mouth.

NEW COVID-19 VARIANTS

Viruses constantly change through mutation. When a virus has one or more new mutations it's called a variant of the original virus. Currently, several variants of the virus (SARS-CoV-2) that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) are creating concern globally. These variants include:

- **Alpha. (B.1.1.7) (Kent variant).** This COVID-19 variant appears to spread more easily and might have an increased risk of hospitalization and death.
- **Beta (B.1.351) (South African Variant).** This variant appears to spread more easily. It also reduces the effectiveness of some monoclonal antibody medications and the antibodies generated by a previous COVID-19 infection or COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Gamma (P.1) (Brazilian Variant).** This variant reduces the effectiveness of some monoclonal antibody medications and the antibodies generated by a previous COVID-19 infection or a COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Epsilon (B.1.429).** This variant appears to spread more easily. It reduces the effectiveness of antibodies generated by a previous COVID-19 infection or COVID-19 vaccine.
- **Delta (B.1.617.2) (Indian Variant).** This variant appears to spread more easily. It might reduce the effectiveness of some monoclonal antibody treatments and the antibodies generated by a COVID-19 vaccine.
- **B.1.1.529 (Omicron Variant).** Initial reported infections were among university students—younger individuals who tend to have more mild disease—but understanding the level of severity of the Omicron variant will take days to several weeks.

HOW CAN I PREVENT COVID-19?

 <p>Stay at least one metre away from people, and even further when indoors.</p>	 <p>Wear a face mask around others.</p>	 <p>Avoid places that are crowded, confined or involve close contact with others, especially indoors.</p>	 <p>Wash your hands regularly or use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.</p>
 <p>Get a COVID-19 vaccine when you're offered it.</p>	 <p>Keep rooms well ventilated when you're inside with other people.</p>	 <p>Cough or sneeze into a tissue or your elbow. Throw the tissue away and wash your hands after.</p>	 <p>Stay at home and call your health worker if you're unwell.</p>