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# GREAT ZIMBABWE UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR GREAT ZIMBABWE UNIVERSITY

## President Mnangagwa's vision for Great Zimbabwe University

**H**is Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Chancellor of Great Zimbabwe University, Dr Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa envisions Great Zimbabwe University as a leading institution in science and technology. Presenting a policy statement on behalf of the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Ambassador Dr Frederick's Shava, at GZU's 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Harare on Monday, 25 November 2024, Permanent Secretary Professor Fanuel Tagwira said it is President Mnangagwa's wish to see GZU being at the centre of science and technology development in the country. President Mnangagwa's commitment to GZU's role in science and technology was demonstrated when he announced in 2022 that Masvingo Provincial Hospital would be upgraded to a Teaching Hospital. This initiative supports GZU's drive to expand its capacity for training medical professionals and reinforce its commitment to science and technology education. Professor Tagwira stressed the need for GZU to lay the

foundation for this transformation by developing world-class talent and prioritising science, technology, and innovation. He highlighted that these efforts must be aligned with Zimbabwe's Vision 2030, which aims to propel the country into an upper-middle-income economy. Meanwhile, the policy statement underscored the necessity of aligning GZU's academic and operational strategies with the heritage-based Education 5.0 framework and other government programmes. The statement outlined how the alignment would contribute to transforming the educational landscape and driving the nation's economic growth. In the statement, Minister Shava commended GZU for its excellent performance, particularly its 2023 unqualified audit opinion. He encouraged the University Council to spearhead the development of third-stream funding projects to sustain the university's growth. He further urged GZU to focus on the commercialisation of the goods and services produced within the institution. Minister Shava emphasised the importance of carefully managing major infrastructure projects, such as the Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture and the University Hospital at Mashava Campus.

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The President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Chancellor of Great Zimbabwe University Dr Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa



Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano J. Zvobgo

## Christmas and End of Year Message from the Vice Chancellor

### Dear Great Zimbabwe University Staff and Students,

As we come to the close of 2024, I extend my warmest greetings and heartfelt gratitude to each of you for your invaluable contributions to the growth and success of Great Zimbabwe University. This has been a year of tremendous progress, and I am proud of what we have achieved together.

It is with great joy and pride that we reflect on our collective accomplishments, and I look forward to what lies ahead in the new year. Christmas is a time for reflection and renewal, a moment to pause and appreciate the blessings we have received, and to look forward with hope and optimism.

This festive season, I encourage each of us to embrace the values of peace, goodwill, and unity as we celebrate with our loved ones. Let us continue to

support and uplift one another as we work toward building a brighter future for ourselves and for the communities we serve.

The year 2024 has been a remarkable one for GZU, marked by milestones that highlight our commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and national development. On November 1, we celebrated our 18th Graduation Ceremony, a momentous occasion that not only acknowledged the achievements of our 4,465 graduates but also reflected on the university's pivotal role in Zimbabwe's progress.

We witnessed the graduation of students from diverse fields, including 1,237 postgraduate students, and we celebrated the academic excellence of our top graduates, among them; Lauren Kudzai Gwatidzo, our overall best female student, and Jasi Andreas, our best male student.

Among the highlights of the ceremony was the pronouncement of Great Zimbabwe University's premier hospital at Mashava Campus, a transformative

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# Develop ambitious, yet realistic 2025 goals for GZU, Vice Chancellor urges strategic review workshop participants



Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Zvobgo giving his remarks

The Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo, urged participants at the 2024 Strategic Review Workshop held in Kariba recently, to critically evaluate Great Zimbabwe University's performance over the past year. He encouraged them to reflect on the institution's successes, identify challenges, and formulate actionable strategies to address any shortcomings.

In his remarks, Professor Zvobgo emphasised more focus on setting GZU's strategic targets for 2025. He challenged the participants to develop goals that are both ambitious and realistic, ensuring that they align with the country's national priorities and government programmes.

"The 2025 strategic plan must be in harmony with the policy direction of the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, as well as the overarching goals of Vision 2030 and NDS1," said Professor Zvobgo. He stressed that the strategy must be results-based and grounded in heritage-based education 5.0 which remains a core value for the University.

"The purpose of this review is to ensure that the University's operations are in line with critical government frameworks such as Vision 2030 and NDS1, thus ensuring GZU's continued relevance to national development," he added.

Looking forward, Professor Zvobgo also outlined several business development and industrialisation initiatives aimed at strengthening the University's third income stream. He encouraged workshop participants to develop a strategic vision that would not only address the immediate needs of the University but also create long-term benefits for future generations.

The Vice Chancellor's remarks came as the Permanent Secretary for Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Professor Fanuel Tagwira, lauded GZU for its significant contributions to Zimbabwe's national development goals. Professor Tagwira, who was represented by ministry official Ms Lorraine Moyo at the workshop, highlighted GZU's innovative initiatives, such as the Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture in Chivi. He praised the University for its role in advancing national food security efforts.

Professor Tagwira also commended GZU for the establishment of a hospital at the Mashava Campus, noting that the facility would enhance access to advanced healthcare for the surrounding communities.

As the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) approaches its conclusion, Professor Tagwira emphasised the importance for GZU to focus on completing existing projects rather than initiating new ones. He also shared that the Ministry was in the process of developing a blueprint for the next phase, National Development Strategy 2 (NDS2).



Ms Lorraine Moyo (Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development)



Members of staff following proceedings

## President Mnangagwa's vision for Great Zimbabwe University

**He praised the renovation of the Mashava Campus Stadium, noting that such improvements significantly enhance the student experience on campus.**

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He said that the Government remains committed to supporting GZU's critical initiatives, including the construction of a new administration block at its Main Campus site along the Masvingo-Mutare Highway. He praised the renovation of the Mashava Campus Stadium, noting that such improvements significantly enhance the student experience on campus. GZU holds 4th Annual General Meeting Great Zimbabwe University (GZU) successfully held its 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Monday, November 25, 2024, at the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science, and Technology Development Boardroom in Harare. The meeting, held in accordance with the Public Entities Corporate Governance Act, provided a platform for key stakeholders to discuss the university's progress and strategic direction. Professor Mandivamba Rukuni, Chairman of the University Council, presented the university's Annual Report for 2023, which was

delivered on his behalf by GZU Council Vice Chairman Mrs Patronella Musarurwa. The report focused on GZU's strategic initiatives, including its alignment with Zimbabwe's Vision 2030 and contributions to national development. The Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo, presented the University's 2023 Operations Report which highlighted the university's major achievements and challenges for the year. University Registrar and Council Secretary, Dr Sinikiwe Gwatidzo, presented the Compliance Report for 2023, demonstrating GZU's adherence to governance standards. Professor Fanuel Tagwira, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science, and Technology Development, praised GZU for its commitment to excellence and professionalism, emphasising the university's growing role in Zimbabwe's educational and economic development.

# GZU celebrates graduates and reflects on progress at 18th Graduation Ceremony



**From left: Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Zvobgo, His Excellency the President of Zimbabwe, Emmerson Dambudzo Munangagwa and Minister for Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Ambassador Dr Frederick Shava**

Great Zimbabwe University marked its 18th Graduation Ceremony on 1 November 2024, highlighting significant institutional achievements and ground breaking developments. Among the most notable announcements was the completion of the university's premier hospital at Mashava Campus, which will operate as a strategic business unit for GZU. The hospital is expected to make a meaningful contribution to Zimbabwe's goal of achieving Universal Health Coverage by 2030.

In his speech, Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Zvobgo reflected on GZU's pivotal role in advancing Zimbabwe's development, particularly in the fields of health, agriculture, and education. He emphasised the university's commitment to innovation, noting several key accomplishments.

One such achievement was the success of the Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture, which won top honours at the 2024 Presidential Innovation Fair for its rural industrialisation projects. The university received two prestigious awards: Best Innovating University in Agro-Innovation for Rural Industrialisation, along with a trophy, certificate, and prize money of \$10,000 USD; and Best Innovator in the Agriculture Sector in the same category, awarded with a trophy, certificate, and prize money of \$5,000 USD.

Professor Zvobgo also expressed gratitude to the government for its ongoing support, especially in the transformation of Masvingo General Hospital, which will soon serve as a teaching hospital for GZU's medical students. The university's strong partnerships with local communities, including its initiatives in traditional grains farming, were highlighted as essential components of its commitment to sustainable development and innovation.

The Vice Chancellor also announced the creation of 11 student-led start-ups, ranging from cutting-edge technological innovations such as AI-powered radio presenters to agricultural ventures like the Hute Wine project. These student ventures reflect GZU's emphasis on cultivating entrepreneurship and practical applications of knowledge.

In his welcome address, Professor Mandivamba Rukuni, Chairman of the GZU Council, emphasised the university's vital role in supporting innovation and industrialisation efforts as part of Zimbabwe's vision for a prosperous, upper-middle-income economy by 2030. He praised GZU Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo, for his leadership in steering the institution through a transformative period of growth and development.

"Professor Zvobgo's leadership has been instrumental in positioning the university to meet the challenges and demands of a rapidly evolving educational landscape," said Professor Rukuni.

The ceremony celebrated the graduation of 4,465 students, with an impressive 63.8% of them being women. Among the graduating class were 1,237 postgraduate students, 57.5% of whom were female. Additionally, 11 students received doctoral degrees, with one earning a Master of Philosophy degree.

Among the top graduates, the overall best female student was Gwatidzo Lauren Kudzai, who graduated with a BSc. Hons in Peace, Conflict, and Governance. The second-best female student was Msipa Mercy, who earned a BSc. Hons in Mathematics. On the male side, Jasi Andreas, who graduated with a B.Com Hons in Economics and Finance, was named the overall best male student, while Gwini Kudakwashe Emmanuel, with a B.A. Hons in Musicology and Ethnochoreology, was the second-best male student.

In recognition of academic excellence, 54 students received the prestigious Vice Chancellor's Award for earning first-class honors and excelling in their respective programs.

A poignant moment of the ceremony was the posthumous award presented to Gladmore Nyambi, a student who passed away before she could receive her degree. Nyambi was honored with a posthumous degree in Banking and Finance, a testament to her dedication and the university's recognition of her academic achievements.

In his address to the graduates, Professor Zvobgo urged them to apply the knowledge and skills they had gained to address national challenges. He stressed the importance of perseverance, ethics, and social responsibility, encouraging graduates to be proactive agents of change as they embark on their professional journeys.

## Christmas and End of Year Message from the Vice Chancellor

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project that will contribute significantly to Zimbabwe's healthcare system and the goal of achieving Universal Health Coverage by 2030.

This year, we also celebrated record-high female graduation rates, with women comprising 63.8% of our graduating class. The growing presence and success of women at GZU underscore our commitment to gender equality and educational excellence. We are proud that over half of our postgraduate students are women, and we remain dedicated to fostering an inclusive academic environment for all.

This, alongside the Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture, which garnered top honours at the 2024 Presidential Innovation Fair, positions GZU at the forefront of technological and agricultural innovation. We were proud to receive prestigious awards for our work in rural industrialisation, further cementing our reputation as a leader in agro-innovation.

Another key achievement this year was the launch of new academic programmes to meet the nation's growing demand for skilled professionals. With the introduction of 12 new NDS1-compliant programmes in science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and mathematics (STEAM), GZU continues to align its curriculum with Zimbabwe's Vision 2030.

In 2025, we will introduce new engineering and agriculture degrees to further contribute to the nation's industrialisation efforts. We also celebrated the awarding of an Honorary Doctorate to the legendary musician Jonah Moyo,

recognizing his contributions to Zimbabwean music and culture.

Moyo's legacy as a co-founder of the sungura music genre and his mentorship of many influential musicians reflects the rich cultural heritage that GZU is proud to nurture through its Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education.

Additionally, the presence of over 400 international students from across the SADC region adds to GZU's vibrant academic community. Their contributions to our diverse environment and the university's growing international partnerships are a testament to our commitment to global knowledge exchange and cooperation.

As we approach the holiday season, I encourage all of you to take a well-deserved break. Rest, reflect, and reconnect with your loved ones. Let us look forward to a new year filled with renewed purpose, new opportunities, and continued success.

The journey ahead is one of growth and transformation, and I am excited to embark on it with all of you.

On behalf of the entire leadership of Great Zimbabwe University, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. May 2025 bring peace, joy, and fulfillment to you and your families.

Warm regards,

Professor Rungano Zvobgo  
Vice Chancellor

# Honorary PhD for Jonah Moyo

The 18th Graduation Ceremony was marked by several significant moments, but one of the most memorable highlights was the awarding of an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy (Creative and Performing Arts) to legendary musician Jonah Moyo. Moyo received this prestigious recognition for his outstanding contributions to music that reflects the essence of Zimbabwean life, expressing themes of hope, love, and shared aspirations that resonate deeply with ordinary Zimbabweans.

Presenting the citation, Professor Munyaradzi Manyanga, Executive Dean of the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education, commended Moyo for his remarkable ability to create music that captures the spirit of the nation. Professor Manyanga also acknowledged Moyo's pivotal role as a co-founder of the sungura music genre, alongside the late sungura icon Ephraim Joe.

Throughout his illustrious career, Moyo has released 44 albums and has been a mentor to numerous influential musicians, including Alick Macheso, the late Leonard Dembo, and Oliver Mtukudzi. At the height of his career, Moyo's influence was such that Leonard Dembo, one of Zimbabwe's most beloved musicians, once opened performances for him, a testament to Moyo's towering presence in the nation's musical landscape.

In addition to awarding Moyo the honorary doctorate, Great Zimbabwe University has previously recognised his immense talent by appointing him as a music instructor within the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education. This honour reflects not only his contributions to music but also his ongoing dedication to nurturing the next generation of Zimbabwean artists.



## Record-high female graduation rates

At the 18th Graduation special recognition was given to the record-breaking number of female students, comprising 63.8% of the graduating class. Among the graduates were 1237 postgraduates, 57.5% of them being female. A total of 4465 fine young men and women graduated on the day. Laureen Kudzai Gwatidzo was the overall top female student and received the Chancellor's award.

In his address, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Zvobgo, lauded the university's continued commitment to gender equality and educational excellence, noting that more than half of postgraduate students at GZU are women.

## International students are key players in global knowledge exchange

The Vice Chancellor has stressed the importance of international students in the growth and academic excellence of Great Zimbabwe University. With over 400 international students from across SADC countries, including Namibia, Zambia, and Botswana, GZU continues to position itself as a regional hub for academic and cultural exchange.

During his graduation speech, Professor Zvobgo acknowledged the role international students play in enriching the academic environment and contributing to the university's diversity. He also highlighted the impact of the university's international partnerships and its commitment to fostering a global community of scholars.

A total of 104 international students graduated at the 18th Graduation Ceremony.

## New programmes to meet nation's skills needs



Great Zimbabwe University continues to shape Zimbabwe's industrial future by offering new academic programmes aligned with the country's Vision 2030. In his 18th Graduation Ceremony speech, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo, highlighted the launch of new engineering and agriculture degrees designed to address the growing demand for skilled professionals in Zimbabwe's rapidly evolving industrial sectors.

As the University continues to transform its curriculum in response to the nations development needs and to bridge the skills gap, twelve (12) new NDS1 compliant programmes were introduced this year in the science, technology, engineering, agriculture and mathematics (STEAM) areas. Furthermore, five new Engineering programmes, namely; BSc Electrical, mechanical, civil, mining and agricultural engineering degrees and two masters programmes; MSc Animal Science and MSc Agronomy will be introduced in 2025. An

additional 54 new programmes are currently being processed for accreditation by the Zimbabwe Council for Higher Education (ZIMCHE) in response to the ever evolving demands of Education 5.0.

The introduction of these programmes is part of GZU's broader strategy to bridge the skills gap and contribute to the national push for industrialization, innovation, and sustainable development. industrialisation efforts as part of Zimbabwe's vision for a prosperous, upper-middle-income economy by 2030. He praised GZU Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo, for his leadership in steering the institution through a transformative period of growth and development.

"Professor Zvobgo's leadership has been instrumental in positioning the university to meet the challenges and demands of a rapidly evolving educational landscape," said Professor Rukuni.

# 4th Annual General Meeting



**Professor Fanuel Tagwira, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science, and Technology Development**

Great Zimbabwe University (GZU) successfully held its 4th Annual General Meeting (AGM) recently at the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science, and Technology Development Boardroom in Harare. The meeting, held in accordance with the Public Entities Corporate Governance Act, provided a platform for key stakeholders to discuss the university's progress and strategic direction.

Professor Mandivamba Rukuni, Chairman of the University Council, presented the university's Annual Report for 2023, which was delivered on his behalf by GZU Council Vice Chairman Mrs Patronella Musarurwa. The report focused on GZU's strategic initiatives, including its alignment with

Zimbabwe's Vision 2030 and contributions to national development.

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Professor Fanuel Tagwira, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science, and Technology Development, praised GZU for its commitment to excellence and professionalism, emphasising the university's growing role in Zimbabwe's educational and economic development.

His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Zimbabwe and Chancellor of Great Zimbabwe University, Dr Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa envisioned Great Zimbabwe University as a leading institution in science and technology.

Presenting a policy statement on behalf of the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Ambassador Dr Frederick's Shava, at the AGM, Permanent Secretary Professor Fanuel Tagwira said it is President Mnangagwa's wish to see GZU being at the centre of science and technology development in the country.

President Mnangagwa's commitment to GZU's role in science and technology was demonstrated when he announced in 2022 that Masvingo Provincial Hospital would be upgraded to a Teaching Hospital. This initiative supports GZU's drive to expand its capacity for training medical professionals and reinforce its commitment to science and technology education.

Professor Tagwira stressed the need for GZU to lay the foundation for this transformation by developing world-class talent and prioritising science, technology, and innovation. He highlighted that these efforts must be aligned with Zimbabwe's Vision 2030, which aims to propel the country into an upper-middle-income economy.

Meanwhile, the policy statement underscored the necessity of aligning GZU's academic and operational strategies with the heritage-based Education 5.0 framework and other government programmes. The statement outlined how the alignment would contribute to transforming the educational landscape and driving the nation's economic growth.

In the statement, Minister Shava commended GZU for its excellent performance, particularly its 2023 unqualified audit opinion. He encouraged the University Council to spearhead the development of third-stream funding projects to sustain the university's growth. He further urged GZU to focus on the commercialisation of the goods and services produced within the institution.

Minister Shava emphasised the importance of carefully managing major infrastructure projects, such as the Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture and the University Hospital at Mashava Campus. He said that the Government remains committed to supporting GZU's critical initiatives, including the construction of a new administration block at its Main Campus site along the Masvingo-Mutare Highway.

He praised the renovation of the Mashava Campus Stadium, noting that such improvements significantly enhance the student experience on campus.



# GZU ranked second most prolific University in research output

Great Zimbabwe University (GZU) has been recognized as the second most prolific university in terms of research output in 2024 by the Zimbabwe Research Network (ZRN). This achievement is highlighted in the recently published University Rankings 2024 by the ZRN, which evaluated universities based on eight research criteria. The ZRN, a research-promoting

organization, is dedicated to uniting Zimbabwean researchers globally, fostering academic growth, shaping policy, and encouraging collaboration. GZU's ranking reflects its commitment to advancing research and contributing significantly to the academic landscape in Zimbabwe.



## Zimbabwe Research Network University Rankings 2024

Ranking	Name of University	Scholarly Output	Numbers of Authors	Weighted Numbers of output per capita*	Citations per output	h-index	Top 10% Citation, %	Top 10% Journal, %	Media Mentions	Score <sup>§</sup>
1	University of Zimbabwe	2,341	1,354	5.83	6.6	59	12.5	23.9	341	93
2	Great Zimbabwe University	526	253	5.66	3.4	13	12	14.3	47	66
3	Midlands State University	979	583	5.02	3.6	21	11	12.9	59	62
4	Bindura University of Science Education	358	214	4.27	4.2	21	6.1	12.9	28	53
5	National University of Science and Technology	438	302	3.83	4.2	19	7.1	13.3	77	52
6	Chinhoyi University of Technology	333	272	3.09	5	21	8.7	12.4	10	49
7	Marondera University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology	137	338	0.87	4.4	12	14.6	22.4	0	48
8	Harare Institute of Technology	87	71	2.38	3.7	12	5.7	20	12	45
9	Zimbabwe Open University	133	79	3.58	1.5	8	6.8	14.1	3	44
10	Gwanda State University	46	19	4.03	4.5	8	7.9	3.6	5	44
11	Africa University	136	85	3.41	2.7	9	8.8	8.4	70	43
12	Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University	62	110	1.01	2.2	4	19.4	14.4	0	42
13	Manicaland State University of Applied Sciences	74	64	2.16	3.1	8	14.9	8.3	5	41
14	Lupane State University	140	292	1.03	4.1	13	8.6	7.3	0	30
15	Women's University in Africa	81	180	0.86	3.3	8	11.1	3.8	0	26

Data compiled from SciVal

\* (Scholarly output/total authors) x log (scholarly output)

§ (weighted output per capita/highest x 35%) + (citation per output/highest x 10%) + (h-index/highest x 10%) + (output with top 10% citation/highest x 20%) + (output in top 10% journals/highest x 20%) + (media mentions/highest x 5%)

## New Senior Staff appointments



**Dr. Desmond T. Mugadza**  
Director, Research Innovation



**Mr Julius Munodawafa**  
Director, Monitoring and Evaluation



**Mr Innocent Tom**  
Chief Internal Auditor



**Dr Claris Mudzengi**  
Innovation Hub Manager



**Dr. Tendayi Maravanyika**  
Grants Manager

# Joy and jubilation at Chief Musara's Homestead as Radio Festival Zimbabwe celebrates in Hwendedzo



Players receiving prizes from the Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo



Chief Musara handing over certificates to the graduands

There was joy and jubilation at Chief Musara's homestead in Hwendedzo, in Masvingo Rural District as hundreds of local villagers gathered to celebrate the Radio Festival Zimbabwe, led by Great Zimbabwe University (GZU) Campus Radio.

Now in its second year, the Radio Festival Zimbabwe coincided with the graduation of the first cohort of fourteen (14) community radio volunteers. During the week leading up to the festival, these volunteers underwent advanced short courses in broadcasting journalism at GZU's emerging National Journalism and Broadcasting Centre.

GZU Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo, alongside Chief Musara, presented certificates to the graduates.

In his remarks, Professor Zvobgo explained that the University introduced these short courses to equip community radio personnel with professional training, as many volunteers had no formal journalism background. He highlighted that the initiative was part of GZU's commitment to fostering professional, ethical journalism and supporting national development.

"As a responsible stakeholder in national development, our university decided to offer these short courses free of charge to volunteers manning community radio stations," said Professor Zvobgo.

Chief Musara expressed his gratitude for being chosen to host the second edition of the Radio Festival Zimbabwe. He noted that his community had gained a deeper understanding of radio's role in development and now recognized the importance of being active sources of news and information for community radio stations.

Veteran journalist Cris Chinaka, who was involved as a trainer, emphasised that journalists must uphold accuracy and humility in their work.

In a solidarity message, Givemore Chipere of Community Radio Harare commended GZU for its leadership in community broadcasting and its commitment to professional training for community broadcasters. He expressed his satisfaction with the increasing presence of community radio stations across Zimbabwe.

GZU Campus Radio Director Golden Maunganidze explained that holding the festival at Chief Musara's homestead underscored the importance of drawing from the rich history and culture of local communities to enhance the quality of community broadcasting.

Maunganidze also noted that the festival served as a practical laboratory for GZU's media students, especially those in the 2.1 Media Studies programme, who were expected to produce news articles and demonstrate their ability to interact with and gather news from communities.

"The week-long activities provided valuable experience and deeper interactions, enriching the volunteers' understanding of the community radio environment," said Maunganidze.

Renowned broadcaster Hugo Ribatika presented a public lecture titled Power Moves and Critical Thinking for Modern Radio Journalists at the Herbert Chitepo Law School Moot Court as part of the week-long training. Ribatika emphasised the need for broadcasters to stay abreast of technological developments and to cultivate strong personal brands to advance in their careers.

Professor Munyaradzi Manyanga, Executive Dean of the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education, under which GZU Campus Radio operates, highlighted the significance of the public lecture in imparting essential soft skills to both students and practicing broadcasters.

He also noted that the training of community broadcasters and the radio festival marked a major milestone in the development of community radio. The week-long program provided a platform for exchanging ideas on current media issues.

Professor Manyanga expressed gratitude to the private organizations that partnered with Great Zimbabwe University to ensure the success of the programme and to support GZU Campus Radio with equipment.

# Schools of agriculture and engineering, and natural sciences host joint work-related learning orientation



The University Chaplain Reverend Tendai Brighton Mandirahwe giving a motivational address to the students

The Schools of Agriculture and Engineering, and Natural Sciences conducted a Work-Related Learning Orientation Programme for Level 2.2 and 4.2 students at the Main Campus.

The programme commenced with a motivational address from University Chaplain, Reverend Tendai Brighton Mandirahwe, who emphasised the importance of staying focused in the workplace, reminding students that losing concentration can lead to dismal failure. He encouraged them to "keep the main thing the main thing" and stressed the significance of prayer.

In his keynote remarks Dr. Caleb Manjeese who was representing the Dean of Natural Sciences emphasised that students represent the University in the industry and urged them to, practice what they have learnt, to go and gain practical experience, to apply theoretical knowledge, enhance research areas and solve problems, to grow professionally and above all be

ambassadors of Great Zimbabwe University.

Various speakers from across university departments shared valuable insights. Mr Rugara from the Registry Department spoke on registration and communication issues. Human Resources experts presented work ethics, grooming, and etiquette. Life skills presentations from the student Affairs Division involved issues to do with HIV/AIDS among other issues.

Level 4.2 students shared their work-related experiences, providing an eye-opening perspective for Level 2.2 students

The programme equipped students with industry expectations, emphasised consequences of incompetence in work places. It also prepared students for professional growth as well.

The orientation programme aimed to bridge the gap between academia and industry, empowering students for success in their future careers.



Students from the Schools of Agriculture and Engineering and Natural Sciences during the workshop



# Research Council of Zimbabwe visits the University's smart poultry project



RCZ and GZU members of staff at the Innovation Centre of Excellency for Dryland Agriculture in Chivi

The Research Council of Zimbabwe (RCZ) visited the University to assess the progress of the Smart Poultry Farming project being undertaken at the institution.

The project, titled Revolutionising Agriculture in Zimbabwe, is a collaboration between GZU's Research and Innovation Department, the Gary Magadzire School of Agriculture and Engineering, and local farmer Mr Mes Magwazi.

The project, according to the project coordinator, Dr Claris Mudzengi, aims to develop and implement a comprehensive Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven Smart Poultry Farm (SPF) management system. This innovative initiative is based at GZU's Innovation Centre for Dryland

Agriculture in Chivi and is being supported by a \$45,000 grant from RCZ, with \$27,000 already disbursed to kick-start the project.

Professor Gwanzura, a representative from RCZ, encouraged the team to push forward and ensure the project achieves a successful outcome.

Dr Xavier Poshiwa, the Executive Dean of the Gary Magadzire School of Agriculture and Engineering, took the visiting team on a tour of the projects. They toured the project site in Chivi, observing the early stages of the smart poultry farming initiative, which aims to revolutionise the poultry industry in Zimbabwe through the application of AI and innovative farming practices.



Delegation assessing the abattoir under construction

## Agriculture students project proposal adjudication



Student's presentations

A second group of students from the Gary Magadzire School of Agriculture and Engineering successfully navigated a project proposal adjudication process to secure funding from the Zimbabwe Agricultural Development Trust (ZADT) in partnership with Sweden Sverige and Causeway recently at the Herbert Chitepo Law School.

This initiative follows the footsteps of a previous group of students who have already received funding and are currently implementing their projects. The proposed projects include, piggery, Hydro harvest nursery, Layers poultry production and Aquatic farming

The primary objective of this programme is to empower young men and women in agriculture, enabling them to excel in their personal livelihoods and contribute to national and international production.

These projects are envisioned to grow into scalable businesses, providing bulk supplies of quality products.

The programme aligns with Education 5.0 principles, which emphasise equipping students with entrepreneurial skills to start their own businesses upon graduation, rather than relying solely on employment.

# Developing teacher capacity; reviewing our curricula



Members of staff following proceedings



Professor Martin Musengi

The Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education's Department of Heritage, Historical and Sustainable Development held a Heritage Studies Teacher Capacitation Workshop at the Herbert Chitepo Law School recently.

In his opening address to delegates at the workshop, the Deputy Dean of the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education, Dr Daniel Madzanire highlighted the fact that Heritage as a discipline is reclaiming its importance in academia, as seen by the gradual shift from emphasis in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) subjects.

Outlining the purpose of the workshop, Dr Pauline Chiripanhura stated that the workshop is meant to capacitate Heritage teachers and bridge the gap between the Ministries of Primary and Secondary Education and Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development in the teaching and understanding of Heritage.

In a related Development, the Department of Quality Assurance and Academic Planning held a Curriculum Review Workshop for all Schools within the University as the institution continues with efforts to ensure that teaching and learning remains relevant to the needs of society. The workshop was attended by lecturers and administrators from the University's schools.

## Preparing for the future

As part of efforts to prepare employees due and nearing retirement for life beyond the workplace, the Human Resources Department facilitated a retirement preparation workshop at the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education.

Attendees received insights and information on topics including financial planning, life after work, mental and physical health as well as wealth preservation.

Senior members of management

including the University librarian, Mr Lawrence Chikwanha, the Deputy Bursar (Planning), Ms. Elector Masara and the Deputy Registrar (Human Resources) Mrs Yeukai Mutevedzi were in attendance alongside the Acting Vice Chancellor Professor David Chikodzi who addressed the workshop delegates and highlighted that the workshop is part of the University's efforts to create a soft landing and prepare colleagues for retirement.



Members of staff at the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education

## Restoring the iconic Great Zimbabwe monuments

Great Zimbabwe University (GZU) is at the forefront of restoring the iconic Great Zimbabwe monuments, which have stood for centuries, with many walls having collapsed and many stones having shifted from their original positions.

Professor Munyaradzi Manyanga, the Executive Dean of the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education, emphasised the University's commitment to preserving the monuments as part of its mandate to champion the Arts, Culture, and Heritage. He said that since the University is named after the monuments, it bears a responsibility to ensure their upkeep.

"The monuments have been there for a long time, and some structures need restoration for the sake of future generations and also to make the site more appealing to the visitors. We are working to restore them to their original state," he explained.

In addition to restoration, GZU is also focused on capacity building by collaborating with other universities to train young people in the maintenance of these important cultural sites. Students from Midlands State University, the University of

Zimbabwe, Bindura State University, and GZU are participating in this initiative, contributing their knowledge and skills in heritage studies.

Community engagement is also a vital component of the project, with GZU partnering with four youths from each local chiefdom, including Chief Mugabe, Chief Charumbira, Chief Murinye, and Chief Nemamwa. This collaboration fosters a sense of local ownership and involvement in the restoration process.

The National Museums and

Monuments of Zimbabwe (NMMZ) is a key partner in this effort, providing expertise in stonemasonry and restoration techniques.

Tanyaradzwa Magwira, a 4.1 student at GZU studying Heritage, Historical, and Sustainable Development, expressed enthusiasm about the hands-on experience the project offers. "We are using photographs from the past to restore the walls to their original appearance, and we're excited to be applying our theoretical knowledge in a practical setting," she said.

GZU is also an implementing partner with UNESCO's regional office and the

French Development Agency (AFD), with coordination from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS). Rodney Bunhiko, a programme officer from UNESCO's regional office, noted the importance of collaboration among universities for the conservation and documentation of the project, which aims to enhance the skills of Heritage students.

The GZU team involved in the project included Professor Manyanga, Dr Genius Tevera, Dr Thomas Todhlana, Dr Tawanda Mukwende, Dr Raymond Mubaya and Dr Pauline Chiripanhura. Professor Shadreck Chirikure from Oxford University was also a member of the project team.



# Management echoes from Great Zimbabwe

## GZU's Kariba declaration unpacked

**K**ariba to most Zimbabweans is a place which is associated with aqua culture and generation of electricity. However, to the GZU family it is a reminder of the University's past, present and future. It was at Kariba's Carribea Bay Hotel that a review of the 2024 GZU strategy and the formulation of the 2025 GZU strategic documents was carried out in earnest. In strategy they say 'it's either you plan for the future or you are destined towards failure'. The all-important Strategic review and planning workshop was held from 11 to 15 November 2024. It is now apparent that the National Development Strategy 1 (NDS1) is coming to an end come December 2025 after scoring highly through short and long term gains and successes. It is now clear that the Government of Zimbabwe is making plans to move a gear up as it prepares for National Development Strategy 2 (NDS2) which will culminate to the attainment of Zimbabwe's Vision 2030. GZU has not been left behind in visioning Zimbabwe's future as the University seeks to move towards its vision towards an exceptional Pan African University which seeks to champion heritage-based scholarship and modernization and industrialization. GSU has made a commitment to contribute towards industrialization and modernization of society through heritage-based teaching, research and modernization and is guided by its core values of ubuntu/unhu, innovativeness, excellence, integrity and results focus. It is in that regard that the GZU council, executive, management and other key stakeholders went for a retreat in Kariba with the following critical objectives:

- To review and evaluate the Great Zimbabwe University Strategic Plan
- To draft the Great Zimbabwe University 2025 Annual plan
- To draft the Council of Chair's 2025 Performance Contract, and
- To draft the Vice Chancellor's 2025 Performance Contract

It is a requirement in Integrated Results Based Management (IRBM) that all the policy documents mentioned above should speak to the national



**Julius Munodawafa, Director, Monitoring and Evaluation**

vision which seeks to elevate Zimbabwe to an upper middle income economy by the year 2030. At the heart of the public sector strategic planning process is the IRBM concept, a process which calls for an adaptive, inclusive and responsive approach towards the management of public sector institutions. The IRBM philosophy places emphasis on the need for measuring outcomes over inputs thereby offering a deep understanding of the impact of policies and programs. Institutions should therefore align their institutional mandates by reviewing and aligning their operations to suit the national vision.

### **Bringing together key stakeholders under one roof**

The process of coming up with an organization's strategic documents which are the reviewed strategic plan, the reviewed annual plan and the 2025 Council Chair and the 2025 VC's Performance Contracts involved the participation of critical stakeholders, some who were internal while others external. Amongst the internal stakeholders involved in the process were the GZU Council chair, Professor Mandivamba Rukuni, and the Vice Chairman, Mrs P Musarurwa and council members, GZU executive comprising the VC, Prof Rungano Jonas Zvobgo, the two Acting PVCs, Prof David Chikodzi (Industrialization, Business Development and Strategic Partnerships) and Prof Martin Musengi (Academic Affairs, Research and Innovation), the University Registrar, Bursar and the Librarian, members of the GZU management team and the non-teaching staff and the teaching staff Presidents. Other stakeholders included representatives from the line

Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development (MHTEISTD), and the Corporate Governance Unit (CGU). The workshop was being facilitated by Mr Mazvizvi and Mr Katsande from the Chinhoyi Public Service Commission Academy.

### **The empty chair**

Mr A Choruma who is the Permanent Secretary in the CGU under the Office of the President and Cabinet (OPC), made a presentation on what public entities are, why governments create public entities and why governments the world over create public entities. He also emphasized on the need to satisfy interests of the populace who in governance terms are represented by an 'empty chair'. The empty chair concept, as explained by Mr Choruma is a powerful way of reminding public institutions of the unseen stakeholders who at the end of it all are affected by decisions made in those public institutions. It is therefore important for Universities and public institutions to ensure that they consider the interests of all their stakeholders including even those who may not be physically present in the decision making room but will be affected either directly or indirectly and will feel the repercussions of the choices and decisions by governments and public institutions. Public institutions like Universities should therefore direct up their strategic thinking process and contribute towards nation building and consider the views and contributions of all stakeholders.

### **Visioning the GZU 2030**

The Chairman of the GZU Council, Professor Mandivamba Rukuni spoke passionately about the need for the GZU to come up with strategies of ensuring that GZU innovations are commercialized contribute towards an industrialized Zimbabwe hence the full attainment of Zimbabwe's Vision 2030. Moving towards commercialization of projects and programs. He emphasized on the need for the GZU to come up with strategies which make a territorial impact by impacting on social, economic and environmental impact. The University should not only be in the primary industry only but should find space in the secondary, tertiary and quaternary levels of production. Universities should not adopt a 'tuck-shop mindset' but should introduce projects and programs which impact on humanity. Universities, GZU included should be centers for creative thinking and be able to solve real life challenges. From the chairman's presentation, the message was loud and clear: GZU should

continue to produce graduands who are ready to face any situation or environment and make a meaningful contribution by solving problems.

### **All hands on the plough**

The VC, Professor Jonas Rungano Zvobgo encouraged workshop participants to ensure that 'all hands are on the plough', as the University makes a contribution towards attainment of Vision 2030. The need for such a focused approach in strategic planning was further buttressed through a presentation on quality where emphasis was on the need for Universities to ensure they incorporate the ZIMCHE quality standards in their operations. Going forward, there is need for collective effort by everyone. The University should be guided by its vision as well as the national vision. Such an alignment is key and would take the University to great heights. In coming up with its strategies, the University should set clear goals, objectives and strategies and make use of the multi skilled team members to achieve. More so, the University should have strong and vibrant performance measurement and monitoring and evaluation systems.

### **The need for a strong monitoring and evaluation system**

The GZU operational structure is made up in such a way that there are three (3) programs, namely: (i) Policy and Administration, (ii) Skills Training and Development and (iii) Science Technology and Innovation for Industrialization. Such a system coupled with a Program Based Budgeting (PBB) ensures that University business can easily be planned for, monitored and evaluated. The ultimate beneficiary is the GZU student who should come out well polished and ready to solve national, regional, national and international challenges. Great Zimbabwe University has established a robust M&E system under the Registry department whose function is to track progress and ensure there is transparency and accountability in the running of the University. It is through the Monitoring and Evaluation systems by the department that the University has been able to make periodic assessments of individual, departmental and institutional performance.

### **Key take away messages**

The following were the key takeaway messages from the five (5) day workshop:

- The need to commercialize GZU innovations and ensure that those innovations have an impact on society by solving current and future problems
- GZU to maintain and sustain a robust monitoring and evaluation and performance management system. Strategies should not be made to gather dust in offices but should be implemented and bring results for University.
- Aligning GZU operations and strategies

...continued on page 11

# Dream come true for GZU law student as National Mooting platform is launched



Michelle Dliwayo,

Michelle Dliwayo, a law student at Great Zimbabwe University's Herbert Chitepo Law School, has achieved her dream with the launch of the Moot Society of Zimbabwe (MSZ) on December 6, 2024. This national platform, a brainchild of Dliwayo, is designed to enhance experiential legal education in Zimbabwe by offering a space for law students and young lawyers to engage in mooting, skills development, and advocacy. MSZ aims to foster collaboration and coordination between law students and professionals across Zimbabwe. The MSZ is a national platform aimed at enhancing experiential legal education in Zimbabwe through interactive learning, skills development, and advocacy. MSZ's executive committee includes representatives from the five law universities: Midland State

University, Great Zimbabwe University, University of Zimbabwe, Ezekiel Guti University, Zimbabwe Ezekiel Guti University, and Africa University. The launch event, held at the University of Zimbabwe, brought together esteemed guests, including the Guest of Honour, Mr Charles Manhiri, Chief Law Officer from the Ministry of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Mr Lincoln Magojo, the author of the Art of Mooting, guest speaker, Mr Obert Bore from Zimbabwe Environmental Lawyers Association (ZELA), and keynote speaker Mr Kudakwashe Muzenda, an alumnus of Great Zimbabwe University Law School. Muzenda, now a director with the Ministry of Information Communication Technology and Courier Services, shared his professional journey, alongside other notable alumni like McDonald Chirima, Lincoln Magojo and Thabo Magwaliba. Representatives from the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission, Ministry of Justice,

Legal and Parliamentary Affairs, Zimbabwe Gender Commission, Zimbabwe Environmental Lawyers Association, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Zimcodd, Muvingi and Mugadza Legal Practitioners, and Dube, Manikai and Hwacha Legal Practitioners also attended the event. The event highlighted the importance of mooting for shaping the future of legal professionals in Zimbabwe. MSZ's sponsors, including the Minister of State for Masvingo Provincial Affairs and Devolution, Honourable Ezra Chadzamira, the Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (ZELA), Muvingi and Mugadza Legal Practitioners, and Saragota Makausi Law Chambers, have been instrumental in making this initiative a reality. The Moot Society of Zimbabwe expressed its gratitude for the support and endorsement of its initiative by the esteemed guests, organizations, and alumni in attendance.



Mooting Society of Zimbabwe Executive



Mr Lincoln Magojo handing over his book to Michelle Dliwayo

## GZU's Kariba declaration unpacked

- ...continued from page 10
- to the national vision
- Incorporating the ZIMCHE quality standards to GZU operations. We all have a role in ensuring quality is achieved
- Education 5.0 philosophy and

ensuring Zimbabwe's challenges are solved once and for all

- GZU has made a lot of strides particularly in research and post graduate studies. However more has to be done in ensuring that such successes are publicized and shared with national and international audiences
- More has to be done in ensuring the number of work for fees beneficiaries is increased
- The need to come up with strategies to address the challenge of decreasing enrolment.

- The need to improve on income generating projects and consultancy services by offering support

Other activities

The proverb, 'all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy' motivated the organizers of the Kariba function to include other activities as part of the hectic program. Every day started with some aerobics under the leadership of the University Registrar, Doctor Sinikiwe Gwatidzo. Participants were also treated to a boat cruise and adrenalin pumping speed boat rides. Those who love wild life had the privilege of seeing some zebras, the African

elephant and some crocodiles. On the last day those who love food were treated to a dinner. Fashion enthusiasts also had their day as each day had a guided dress code. There were prizes for the best dressed, the most punctual and the overall best contributor.

Article by Julia Munodawafa (Director Monitoring and Evaluation and Performance Management, Great Zimbabwe University)

# Law clinic participates at 7th congress of the CJCA

Students and lecturers from the Herbert Chitepo Law Clinic recently participated at the 7th Congress of the Conference of Constitutional Jurisdictions of Africa (CJCA), held at Elephant Hills in Victoria Falls. The conference was themed “Human Dignity as a Fundamental Value and Principle: A Source of Constitutional Interpretation, Protection of Fundamental Human Rights, and Application.”

Led by lecturers Mr Douglas Musebenzi and Mr Blessing Azangwe and Law School Librarian Mr Oscar Mafuta, Part 3:1 students Tinotenda Muyambo and Sithabile Claire Tshuma found the experience invaluable for their education.

“This event has raised awareness about the Law Clinic and its public

services, such as free legal advice,” said Tshuma. Muyambo expressed honour at being in the presence of seasoned legal experts actively engaged in addressing legal issues.

Chief Justice Luke Malaba welcomed delegates from over 40 African countries, expressing his pleasure that Zimbabwe was hosting the event.

The conference was officially opened by the Vice President Honourable Retired General Dr Constantine Chiwenga, who emphasised the importance of such gatherings as essential platforms for members of constitutional courts from the region and beyond to connect and collaborate.



From Left: Mr Oscar Mafuta, Sithabile Claire Tshuma, Tinotenda Muyambo, Mr Blessing Azangwe and Mr Douglas Musebenzi

## “Clean campus, bright future”



Students and Lecturers from Tourism and Management Department

A group of 4.1 students from the Department of Tourism and Management successfully organised and executed a campus cleanup event at the Mucheke campus. This commendable initiative demonstrates their commitment to community service and environmental sustainability.

The event objectives included promoting a clean and healthy environment, fostering a sense of pride and responsibility among students, staff, and the surrounding community.

Dr Phanos Matura, lecture in the department said "The Department of Tourism and Management Events is proud of our students' initiative and dedication to community service."

This event embodies the university's values of social responsibility and environmental stewardship.

## Senator Zhou discusses welfare of Students with Disabilities

Honourable Ishmael Zhou, the Senate representative for Persons with Disabilities, visited Great Zimbabwe University to engage with University officials and students about the welfare of students with disabilities.

Senator Zhou highlighted the unique challenges faced by students with disabilities, particularly the intersection of disability and poverty. He stressed the importance of ensuring timely fee payments for students with disabilities, pointing out that delays in payments often prevent these students from accessing vital services, including meals, and can hinder their ability to view semester results or even affect their graduation.

Students took the opportunity to share their experiences, with many expressing concerns that late fee payments not only limited their access to basic necessities but also jeopardised their academic progress.

Senator Zhou urged GZU to seek partnerships with donors or organisations that can fund income generating projects to support students with disabilities financially. He said that such initiatives would provide sustainable solutions and ease the financial burdens faced by these students.

Austina Rufurwokuda, a disability specialist from the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, also attended the meeting.



Delegation attending the meeting

# Law Clinic educates Chibaya Secondary School learners on Domestic Violence, Drug Abuse, and Child Marriages

The Great Zimbabwe University Law Clinic visited Chibaya Secondary School in Bondolfi to raise awareness about domestic violence, drug abuse, and child marriages. The initiative aimed to educate students on these critical issues and empower them with knowledge to make informed decisions.

The team, led by Douglas Musebenzi, a law lecturer at Great Zimbabwe University, encouraged the learners to work hard and consider pursuing a law degree at the university.

During the session, different students from the Law Clinic took the lead on various topics. Michelle Dhliwayo focused on the issue of domestic violence, providing vital information on recognising and addressing abusive relationships. Blessing Mande spoke about the dangers of drug abuse, while Precious Tsunanai and Tatenda Mafuta highlighted the severe consequences of child marriages and the importance of delaying marriage until adulthood.

Peter Costern Chihava, the school head, praised the programme, describing it as invaluable for both the students and the wider community. He noted that the programme complemented the school's counseling curriculum by providing deeper insights into these important social



issues. He also emphasised that having law students serve as educators made the session more relatable and impactful for the learners.

“We will continue to encourage our students to speak up when they are experiencing abuse and to help them understand the

importance of stepping away from abusive relationships,” said Chihava.

Form 3 student Cathrine Muparuri expressed her gratitude for the session, particularly highlighting the dangers of child marriages.

“I have learned that rushing into child marriages can expose you to

serious health risks, including the potential for contracting diseases. I also now understand that drug abuse can lead to unwanted pregnancies,” Muparuri said.

The awareness session at Chibaya Secondary School was part of the GZU Law Clinic's ongoing efforts to promote social justice and empower young people to make healthier, safer choices for their futures.

## 26 medals back home from the ZUSA cluster 3 games



GZU student's hockey team

Great Zimbabwe University participated at the Zimbabwe University Sports Association (ZUSA) cluster 3 games in Mutare hosted by the Manicaland State University of Applied Sciences scooping 15 silver and 11 bronze medals.

12 Universities competed in several disciplines including hockey, swimming, karate, taekwondo and golf. Team GZU raised the University's flag high in karate as the team got 15 silver medals and 10 bronze medals.

The vibrant hockey men team scooped a bronze medal which was likely to be upgraded to silver medal according to the GZU sports officer Mr Percy Ngwenya.

“One of the finalists had three non-student players and therefore, faces disqualification, a two-year ban

and a \$1000.00 fine, I advise our coaches to have learnt from that, cheating is costly”, said Mr Ngwenya.

He added that the GZU teams put on a very decent fight as most of them are on rebuilding process with a lot of rookies that is indeed very encouraging in terms of continuity and experiences.

The hockey coach Arnold Mpofo, who is also the Zimbabwe National Team under 21 coach is proud of his team's performance against tough competition.

Mr Olivarth Guvuro, the GZU Sports Director appreciated the University management's continued support for sport and said students did an outstanding job, raising the University's flag high at these high level competitions.

# Teeing off for Education: The University's Inaugural Charity Golf Tournament



Players in course

The University successfully hosted its first-ever Charity Golf Tournament at the Masvingo Golf Club recently. The event aimed to raise tuition fees for disadvantaged yet intelligent students, ensuring their continued education.

The university's stakeholders and individuals from Masvingo and beyond demonstrated remarkable support through generous sponsorships. In his opening remarks, Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Zvobgo expressed his delight and commendation to staff members for organising the noble event. He further extended heartfelt gratitude to stakeholders for their unwavering support.

Byword Motors CEO, Mr. Sternly Kondongwe, who was in attendance as the guest of honour said that he was honoured to be part of such a great initiative and he is looking forward to more. The event was also graced by Mr Hugo Ribatika, a television personality, who participated in the tournament and also served as Master of Ceremonies.

The Registrar, Dr Sinikiwe Gwatidzo expressed gratitude as she gave the closing remarks after the prize giving ceremony.

The tournament's success marks a significant milestone in GZU's commitment to providing educational opportunities to deserving students. The university looks forward to continuing this initiative and making a meaningful impact on the community.

The University would like to express its heartfelt appreciation to the following stakeholders for their generous support towards the successful hosting of our inaugural Charity Golf Tournament:

- Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority (ZERA)
- Byword Motors
- Midlands State University (MSU)
- Harare Institute of Technology (HIT)
- Central African Building Society (CABS)
- Moonlight Funeral Services
- PhillAir
- N.Richards
- Royal Flair
- Masvingo Golf Club
- Interlink Advertising and Printing
- GZU Golf team
- Zimbabwe Prisons and Correctional Services ZPCS
- Kyle Preparatory
- Zvishavane golf Club
- ChipSet
- Great Zimbabwe Realtors
- Manicaland State University
- Etteled
- Zimnat
- Elegant Homez



Byword Motors team players



Players receiving prizes from the Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo



The Registrar, Dr Sinikiwe Gwatidzo giving vote of thanks after the Prize Giving Ceremony

# GRADUATION MOMENTS CAPTURED







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