



umma university

Fostering knowledge and Innovation

Umma University Newsletter

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January 2016 Issue

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Word from the Vice-Chancellor

Umma University is a young Islamic-based University accredited by the Commission for University Education in Kenya. It offers quality higher education services to all, regardless of their faith, colour, creed nor social status. The University has excellent infrastructure, human resource, academic and research programmes that adequately facilitate realization of its strategic vision and goals.

The University combines Islamic studies with contemporary disciplines of learning including sciences, humanities and technology, for the enhancement of moral character, integrity and professional qualification of the students. The objective of such academic design is to stimulate nurturing of scholarship, talents and leaders rich in a multicultural and multidisciplinary environments with high ethical standards.

Umma University intend to grow into a regional centre of excellence by promoting the integration of knowledge, culture and peaceful co-existence by advancing debates, dialogues, discourses, and experience sharing for it to become a platform that nurtures growth of knowledge for today and future generation. It is dedicated to advancing the spirit of communication, networking, partnership building and exchange of ideas and best lessons on the contemporary issues affecting humanity.

This newsletter is a monthly publication of Umma University, covering the period of December 2015 and January 2016. It covers



Dr. Ahmed Abdi Ahmed
Ag. Vice-Chancellor

all the major events that had occurred in our University including research and publications, regional training workshop for Universities in the Eastern African region, inauguration ceremony of the 1st Chancellor of Umma University, new appointments, student affairs, participation by the University in the national and international academic/scientific related events, and visits by dignitaries, experts and others.

The debate and interactions generated through this newsletter in such a multicultural and multidisciplinary setting in diverse environments are expected to effectively contribute to the narrowing of gaps between faiths socially, economically and politically, thus becoming a vehicle for peace building and serving the community. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate the Newsletter team coordinated by Dr. Ali Adan for working hard to produce this first newsletter in 2016. I urge all Umma University staff, students and friends of Umma University to support this initiative.

The aim of the Newsletter is to objectively communicate the good work that is undertaken by the University, its staff and students for the benefit of its large and valued stakeholders. I urge you all to read this Newsletter and request you to give comments for its future improvements.

May God Almighty bless Kenya and humanity.

Events Calender

December 18 - 20, 2015

Regional Training workshop on Enhancing Research and Publication for Islamic Universities in Eastern Africa.

January 4, 2016

Classes resumes

January 20, 2016

Official visit by Direct- Aid CEO, Dr Abdallah Al Sumait and a delegation from Kuwait.

January 22, 2016

Inauguration of the Chancellor

APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS.

THE ACADEMIC REGISTRAR



Dr. Hussein Ali Osman holds a Phd in Microbiology from Universiti Sains Malaysia. Obtained his Master degree in medical microbiology at International Islamic University Malaysia and a Bachelor of Science (Microbiology)

holder from International University of Africa, Khartoum. He Joined Umma University in 2008 as the Registrar Academic Affairs, Thika College for Sharia and Islamic studies, before he left for his higher education in Malaysia. Dr. Hussein was appointed acting registrar in September 2015 and in December 2015 he was confirmed to the post. He also teaches microbiology courses at

the Nursing school. Dr. Hussein has published scientific papers in several international journals and presented numerous oral and poster conference presentations. He is a reviewer for African Journal of Microbiology Research and a member of American society for microbiology, Malaysian society for microbiology and Malaysian Society of Gastroenterology and Hepatology.

INAUGURATION OF FIRST CHANCELLOR OF UMMA UNIVERSITY, D R . A B B A S G U L L E T

Umma University is marking a new era in its History with the inauguration of the first Chancellor on the 22nd January, 2016. Umma University is an Islamic based private University in the Country and a monumental contribution to national development.

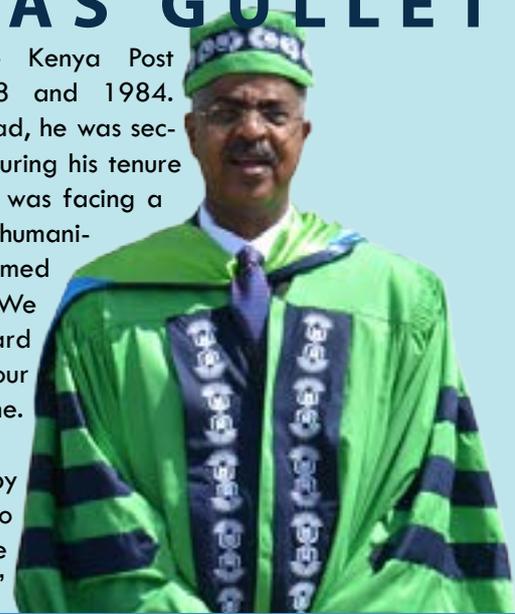
It has the vision to be University of Excellence in higher education and innovative technology based on high moral values. Its mission is to provide quality university education and training through nurturing and promoting creative and innovative, transmission and integration of knowledge and technology in order to produce wholistic graduates of high value and integrity.

The University is glad to announce the inauguration of its first chancellor Dr. Gullet to steer up the University to a higher level. Dr. Gullet is The Secretary General of The Kenya Red Cross, UN Person of the Year (Kenya), 2007, for his leadership in making Red Cross the leading Humanitarian Organization in Kenya. He is a renowned philanthropist.

Dr. Gullet was born in Modogashe, Garissa in 1959 and received his basic education from Buxton Primary before proceeding to Mombasa Polytechnic. Dr. Gullet worked for Kenya External

Telecommunications Company and the Kenya Post and Telecommunications between 1978 and 1984. After several postings in Kenya and abroad, he was seconded by the IFRCs to Kenya in 2001. During his tenure he transformed the society from one that was facing a host of challenges, to a vibrant growing humanitarian organization, for which he was named Person of the Year in 2007 by the UN. We as Umma University Community look forward to working with Dr. Gullet in transforming our institution from local to the international one.

The inaugural program was shaped by a desire not only to celebrate, but also to “engage in deep reflection of the next stage in the life of the University.”



The Chancellor being dressed by the Council Chairman, Dr. Abdulrahmaan Al-Muhailan assisted by BOT Members Dr. Abdalla Al-Sumait (Right) and Dr. Ismail Hassan (Left).

APPOINTMENTS AND CONFIRMATIONS.

DEAN OF STUDENTS



Dr. Ibrahim Bulushi, Is the Current Dean of Students at Umma University. He holds a PhD in Islamic Banking and Finance from International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), a Master of Arts from Loughborough University

(United Kingdom), a Bachelor of Education from International University of Africa (IUA), Khartoum. From 2010 – 2013, he had a stint at the International Islamic University Malaysia as a part-time Lecturer and Graduate Research Assistant. He has been an Assistant Examiner with Cambridge International Examination (CIE) with a wealth of experience in participation and presentation of papers in International conferences.

THE MARKETING MANAGER

Mr. Golicha Tatache is the Marketing Manager Umma University. He holds a Masters degree in Strategic management (MBA), a Bachelor's degree in marketing. He has a versed experience in Marketing and Public Relations Communications from different institutions.

Compiled by:
Beatrice Kerei.

1ST REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP

By Dr. Ali Adan Ali,

Head, Research, Innovation and Outreach

Umma University in collaboration with International Institute of Islamic Thought (IIIT) organized its 1st regional training workshop on enhancing research and publication for Islamic Universities in Eastern Africa region from 18-20th December 2016. The training programme benefited 10 Islamic Universities, research institution and organizations.

Special apologies was received from Musa Bin Bique University (Mozambique), State University of Zanzibar (Tanzania), Zanzibar University (Tanzania), Kampala University (Uganda) and Kampala International University (Uganda) for not participating in the regional training since they were all engaged with graduation ceremonies at the period of workshop.

The regional training workshop on research and publication was part of implementing the resolution reached during the 1st international Islamic Universities Conference held in August 2014 at Morogoro Muslim University (MUM).

It was graced by internationally renowned Eminent Muslim scholars, scientists and experts including Prof. Omar Hassan Kasule, Secretary General International Islamic Institute of Thought, Prof. Hamza Njozi Vice-Chancellor Morogoro Muslim University, Prof. Hammed Hikmany Vice-Chancellor Al-Sumait University, Prof. Ismawi Ben Zen from International Islamic University Malaysia, Prof. Jaafar Mori Coordinator Islamic University Project South Sudan, Dr. Adan Ali representing Dr. Ahmed Sengendo Vice-Chancellor Islamic University in Uganda.

More than 10 lead papers presented by distinguished scholars and 5 parallel sessions workshops were held to upscale levels of sharing experience between participating Islamic Universities.

The participants were also treated to special presentation of smart boards of Umma University since the University teaching approach is digital and many participating

Universities expressed interest to know how smart boards work. About 50 persons participated in this regional training workshop on research and publications.

The main objectives of the 1st regional training workshop on enhancing Research and Publication for Islamic Universities in Eastern Africa were:-

1. To identify and examine key challenges affecting research and publication issues in the Islamic Universities in Eastern Africa.
2. To build capacity of research and publications of the Islamic Universities.
3. To develop and strengthen collaborative partnership across Islamic Universities.

The strategic issues that the regional training workshop handled included:

1. Research on Islamic Epistemology, Islamic Thought, Nursing and Medicine
2. Research on Social Sciences
3. Research on Physical and Biological sciences
4. Research Management and its financing

The outcome from the regional training workshop included:

1. Awareness creation on the importance of research and publications created.
2. Contribution made towards building capacity for research and development in regional Islamic Universities.
3. Institutionalized research policy, research funding and publications programmes promoted.

The regional training workshop also provided further opportunities for Vice-Chancellor Round Table Discussions to occur under the leadership of Umma University Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ahmed Abdi Ahmed.

The discussion dealt with critical issues that determine institution strategic growth and sustainability in the globalized and competitive knowledge based economies including the need to train more qualified manpower, research funding, and expanded collabor-

ative partnership. Umma University Vice-Chancellor Dr. Ahmed Abdi Ahmed, also held strategic partnership meeting with Prof. Omar Hassan Kasule, IIIT Secretary General (Saudi Arabia) and Prof. Ismawi Bin Zen, from International Islamic University, Malaysia.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE WORKSHOP

The 1st Regional Workshop on Enhancing Research and Publications in Eastern Africa Universities, held on 18th – 20th December 2015, at Umma University in Kajiado - Kenya, made the resolutions, where Regular Research and Publications Training for the Eastern Africa Universities is to be continuously held to help them sharpen their writing skills for quality publishing. The participants also urged the respective Universities to set aside a sensible budget in support of research and capacity development projects.

Each university is advised to establish a Division of Research, Innovations and Outreach affairs supported by robust policies. The proposed division is expected to initiate at least one Journal for the University through collaborative partnership. The division is then expected to grow and nurture young scholars as a Center of Excellence in Research, Publication and Consultancy supported by a well-developed system of databanks on research dissemination, publications and expertise.

The workshop also recommended each University to promote sharing of resources and facilities for the benefit of enhancing a functional regional network for research, partnership and publications.

It also recommended that International Institute of Islamic Thoughts (IIIT) should facilitate research funding to the Members of the Regional Eastern Africa Universities. Finally, the training workshop recommended that each University to promote reading, writing and publication culture among its academic and research staff.



Group photo of the participants

STUDENTS CORNER

Word from Dean of Students

It has been a great experience after I have been appointed as the new Dean of Students at this prestigious University. I have been attached to students throughout my educational career as student of knowledge, as an expatriate in different continents. This preparation equipped me with experience and skills which are crucial to my current position. It is another experience being at Umma University, due to passion, dedication and enthusiasm of students from diversified learning and teaching environment which opt to integrate the modern sophisticated methodology in preparation for the future of young leaders in our society.

I take this humble opportunity to intricate and highlight the function of the Office of The Dean of Students. The Dean of Students mandate is the overall need and long-term improvement of students' life, Student Services and the efficient operation of certain additional Services. The office is concerned and responsible for the overall coordination and quality of Students Services which includes Academic, Athletics, Spiritual Activities, Career & Employment, Counseling Services, Health Services, Hostel Life, Security, and General Students' Welfare.

The Dean of Student Affairs is responsible for ensuring respect for the Charter of Students Rights and Responsibilities. This includes receiving student complaints about alleged infringements of their rights by other students or University Staff members and resolving the problems appropriately. It also includes providing support to the Committee on student Conduct, primarily to ensure that all existing procedures are defensible in light of principles of due process and natural justice.

In return the students must adhere to the rules and regulations provided in the students' handbook on rules and regulations. Working closely with the Umma Students' Union leadership, my role is that of an advisor and partner on projects and programs initiated either by the University or the Students' Union. I also demonstrate the role of ensuring the respect of the University's policies and approving the use of University property for major student activities and events.

*By: Dr. Ibrahim Bulushi,
Dean of Students*

Students Leadership

Chairperson



Mohammad Sherally

Deputy Chairperson



Mwanaisha Khaoya Asumwa

Secretary General



Abdulrahman Guyo

Finance Director



Asha Mohammed Musa

Sports and Entertainment Director



Hassan Wanini

Da'awa and Culture Director



Osman Ibrahim

Academic Affairs Director



Hamdi Ibrahim

Health and Environment Director



Duba Ibrahim Guracha

Deputy Director Health and Environment



Khadija Kaigi Abubakar

Deputy Director Da'awa and Culture



Deka Keif Ahmed