



# GREAT ZIMBABWE UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR GREAT ZIMBABWE UNIVERSITY

## Showcasing innovations at 2024 Zimbabwe International Trade Fair



**Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Professor dr. Amon Murwira tours the GZU stand at ZITF 2024 in the company of GZU Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Zvobgo**

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Great Zimbabwe University participated at the 2024 edition of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair that was held at the Zimbabwe International Exhibition Centre in Bulawayo.

Held under the theme, "Innovation, the Catalyst for Industrialization and Trade", the country's blue riband expo provided an opportunity for organizations to interface with stakeholders to create synergies and enhance trade.

Great Zimbabwe University took the opportunity to showcase some of the innovations within the

institution such as the bird deterrent device and artefacts from the agro innovations section. Prospective students also took the opportunity to apply for programmes of their choice at the University's exhibition stand.

Patrons to the GZU stand included the Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Professor Dr. Amon Murwira, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo, senior members of University Management and captains of industry.



# Herbert Chitepo School of Law and Business Sciences hosts RBZ Governor



**Governor of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, Dr John Mushayavanhu,**

**G**reat Zimbabwe University's Herbert Chitepo School of Law and Business Sciences and the Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC) co-hosted a Monetary Policy Review breakfast meeting which was attended and addressed by the

Governor of the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe, Dr John Mushayavanhu.

The highly subscribed event attracted players from industry and commerce as well as from the academia. It was held at the Urban Lifestyles Hotel in Masvingo.



**Delegates following the proceedings**



# USD45 000 grant received from Research Council of Zimbabwe



**GZU management during the meeting**

**G**reat Zimbabwe University (GZU) has received a USD45 000 grant from the Research Council of Zimbabwe (RCZ). The grant is for the University's Smart Poultry Farming: Revolutionizing Agriculture in Zimbabwe project. The major thrust of the project is to develop and implement a comprehensive artificial intelligence (AI)-driven Smart Poultry Farm (SPF). Among the key objectives of the project is the attainment of a proper management system that reduces expenses and conserves energy in poultry farming.

Speaking at the Project Inception Meeting held at the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education on Monday, 29 April 2024, the Acting Vice Chancellor, Professor Bernard Chazovachii, expressed great

appreciation for the grant saying GZU was honoured to have received it.

The Pro Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs, Research and Innovation, Professor Moses Chimbari, who is also the Project Co-Investigator, said that securing the grant was “the beginning of pushing boundaries for innovation in terms of research for artificial intelligence”.

RCZ Technical Officer, Mr Job Tendenedzai, emphasised RCZ's full support for the project.

GZU was applauded for having young researchers in the team, and for having women and community representatives in their team.

The project is being done in collaboration with the Durban University of Technology (South Africa) and the National University of Science and Technology (NUST).



**Discussions during the Projection Inception Workshop.**



# Culinary skills shine at Amai's Traditional Cookout



**Director, Nehanda Centre for Gender and Cultural studies, Dr Ellen Zvobgo Giving Vote of thanks and the event**



**Honourable Barbra Rwodzi, Honourable Ezra Chadzamira and Honourable Professor Amon Murwira enjoying a culinary experience at the cookout**

Great Zimbabwe University totally dominated Amai's Traditional Provincial Cookout Competition that was held at Masvingo Polytechnic College on the 2nd and 3rd of May 2024 with its chefs winning top prizes.

The duo of Chefs Dhuvai Mhike and Behaviour Chinanga came first and third in the Professional Chefs Category while Grace Chitenhere came first in the Students' Category. Rejoice Gundura came first in the Communities Category.

The Professionals Category attracted nine contestants while the Students Category had 12.

Amai's Traditional Provincial Cookout Competition seeks to recognise and enhance value addition to Zimbabwe's traditional foods and cooking methods.

Speaking at the event, the Minister of Tourism and Hospitality, Barbara Rwodzi said that tourism has evolved beyond mere holidaying and recreation as gastronomy now plays a pivotal role as a gateway for understanding a destination's culture and heritage.

She added that culinary experiences have become a driving force in travel decisions, as food enthusiasts search for opportunities to sample different dishes of the world. As such, tourists are increasingly seeking for destinations that offer a culinary journey alongside traditional sightseeing.

The Minister of Higher and Tertiary Education,

Innovation, Science and Technology Development, Professor Amon Murwira, called on Zimbabweans to embrace their heritage saying that the origins of poverty lie in the disrespect of one's own heritage.

"Heritage is what was left behind for us by our forefathers. It is a God given product. Never look down upon yourself. Let's grow our own food," he said.

The Director of Great Zimbabwe University's Centre for Gender and Culture Studies, Dr Ellen Zvobgo, gave a vote of thanks at the event.

The cookout programme is a concept introduced by First Lady Dr Auxillia Mnangagwa in 2019. Since then, the Ministry of Tourism and Hospitality Industry has been tasked to coordinate the implementation of the programme together with all provinces and other line ministries.

Zimbabwe is now geared to host the first-ever United Nations Tourism Africa gastronomy showcase following the resounding success of the Amai's Traditional Cookout Competitions.

The prestigious event, to be held from July 26 to 28, will see culinary talents from across the continent converge in Victoria Falls, showcasing the vast and vibrant African cuisine.

The National competitions have been scheduled for 24 and 25 May in Manicaland, ahead of the UN showcase.



# Campus Radio ruling the roost!



The country's trailblazing campus radio station, Great Zimbabwe University Campus Radio, claimed top spot in listenership in Masvingo Province in the recently released Zimbabwe All Media Product Survey (ZAMPS).

The Survey conducted by ZAMPS over a period of 4 weeks shows radio stations listenership levels amongst 42% of the national audience.

Campus Radio Director, Golden Maunganidze

commended the recognition by ZAMPS as evidence of the hard work and determination of the team at the station.

Maunganidze further praised Campus Radio's loyal listeners for their participation in programming and urged them to continue contributing to the overall content of the station.

We congratulate the "Varsity Voice Of Choice" on an outstanding achievement.





# Post Graduate and Publications Department Hosts Student Development Workshop



**The Pro Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs Research and Innovation, Professor Moses J. Chimbari presenting**

Great Zimbabwe University's Post Graduate and Publications department recently held a two-day Student Development Workshop at the Robert Mugabe School of Heritage and Education.

The Workshop aimed to create a coordinated postgraduate studies framework among its major objectives.

In his opening remarks, the Acting Pro Vice Chancellor Business Development and Strategic Partnerships, Professor Bernard Chazovachii described the workshop as a wonderful opportunity for postgraduate students and their supervisors as well as the wider university community to be inspired to imagine and create better futures aligned to national goals.

The Director Postgraduate Studies and Publications Professor Vongai Nyawo stated that the Workshop was

meant to equip students with necessary requirements at a time they need to submit their research projects. It also aimed to guide prospective post graduate students on the need to address the National needs (Vision 2063, Africa) when pursuing their researches.

The Pro Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs Research and Innovation, Professor Moses J. Chimbari gave a vibrant presentation which enabled both students and their supervisors to identify gaps in their targeted researches align their research with Heritage based education 5.0.

Members of GZU University Management, Deans, Directors, Chairpersons, Research Chairs from different schools of the University as well as Resource persons and postgraduate students from Midlands State University attended the workshop.



**Workshop participants pay attention to proceedings**



# Campus Radio, ZBC host training workshop for filmmakers



**GZU Campus Radio Director, Golden Maunganidze addresses workshop participants**

Great Zimbabwe University Campus Radio and the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation (ZBC) recently hosted a broadcasting training workshop for local filmmakers in Masvingo at the Herbert Chitepo Law School. Level 4.1 media students from GZU also participated in the workshop.

The event was a remarkable opportunity for aspiring and established filmmakers alike to hone their skills and build valuable connections within the industry. The workshop, which was well-attended by filmmakers featured a range of sessions covering a variety of topics including pre-production, scriptwriting, marketing of programmes, production, editorial policy and post production.

The workshop was facilitated by experienced industry professionals from ZBC, who included Head Television Production, Merit Munzwembiri, Senior Marketing Executive, Calista Chikanya, Manager Productions Skhangele Masunda and Chief Communications Executive Jesina Kuwana.

Resource persons from GZU Campus Radio included, Campus Radio Director Mr Golden Maunganidze,

Campus Radio Manager, Dr Last Alfandika, and Executive Producer Michael Mayere.

The workshop also saw participants getting inspiration from Sydney Taivavashe, an award winning Zimbabwean film director, producer and screenwriter who hails from Masvingo. Taivavashe is known for productions such as Gonarezhou: The Movie (2020), Through the Night (2013) and The Story of Nehanda (2021).

The resource persons provided practical guidance and advice on creation of compelling content. In addition to the educational sessions, the workshop offered networking opportunities for participants.

In his remarks, Maunganidze encouraged local content creators to undergo training to learn what is expected in the industry and to create content that reflects community activities.

GZU campus radio producer Tavita Natasha Mpala and Champion Mudavanhu, who were the Masters of ceremony drew on their expertise and experience to guide the participants through a range of topics.



# Improving the quality of healthcare in Masvingo and beyond!



**Professor Jacob Mufunda addressing the University Council and Management**

As part of efforts to ensure that the University continues to provide quality in terms of teaching and learning, the Simon Mazorodze School of Medical and Health Sciences took delivery of a consignment of medical equipment worth over five hundred thousand dollars (USD500 000).

The equipment which complements state of the art equipment that is already in place at the University's medical school was received by members of the University Council and Management led by the Council Chairman, Professor Mandivamba Rukuni, and the Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Zvobgo.

The delivery of medical equipment to the Simon Mazorodze School of Medical and Health Sciences, will not only improve the quality of learning at the Medical School, but will also enhance the quality of healthcare in the Province.

Sourced from China, with support from the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development, the equipment includes a laparoscopy machine to be used for key hole surgery-surgical procedures and examinations of internal organs- in a first of its kind development in the Province. The University also procured full dental machinery as well as Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) identity testing equipment which will also serve patients in Masvingo

Province. The other equipment is for teaching and learning in physiology, anatomy and biotechnology.

The latest machinery is going to be installed at the Mashava Teaching Hospital and services will be accessible to patients from Masvingo Province and beyond at an affordable cost that will also help the University to generate some revenue through its operations.

Also set to benefit from developments at the medical school is the Masvingo Provincial hospital which is set to be upgraded to meet the medical training requirements of the Medical and Dental Practitioners Council of Zimbabwe.







**The recently procured medical equipment**





# Boosting poultry production : Business Development targets 100 000 layers

The Business Development Unit's poultry farm project has registered an impressive increase in the production of layers, a development expected to result in an upsurge in the supply of eggs in the local market. There has been an increase of 8000 more birds from 3000 last year, with production sitting at 11000 layers in the 1st quarter of this year. The University targets to have at least 100 000 laying birds which will assist in sustaining University operations. Poultry expert and GZU farm manager, Ian Muyanga said he is set to implement a series of innovative strategies to continue boosting the production of layers. As the University Farm continues to thrive, the Business development Unit remains committed to pushing the boundaries of what is possible in poultry farming and the farm will continue to produce more eggs and make a huge impact on the agricultural community.



**Fowl runs under construction at the farm**



# Celebrating Our Women!



**Great Zimbabwe University female employees at the Women's Day Luncheon**

**G**reat Zimbabwe University celebrated International Women's day in style with a luncheon and motivational talk for the University's female employees.

The event was graced by the Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Jonas Zvobgo who gave his welcome remarks and two renowned Guest Speakers and women experts who include Mrs. Achi Mudzingwa, a social worker, mental therapist and GZU PHD student focusing on drug and substance abuse within Masvingo Province.

The other key facilitator was Mrs. Makaita Magarezano a criminal lawyer and founder of an NGO called Alleviate Justice.

The talk from all the speakers was beneficial and motivational. In addition, the event had lots of entertainment including inspirational poetry. Key takeaway points were:

- Women cannot do it alone; they need support from men
- Women were taught empathy, humanity from a young age
- Women are confident
- When women are in charge there is order
- Women direct things into the world of order
- Women are beautiful and God never repeats his creation
- Women know how to endure
- Women are encouraged to be strong on their own
- Women are encouraged to empower themselves

- through studying
- Empowerment of Women with legal issues
- Women are generally looked down upon hence the commemoration of International women's month in March
- Women should protect their children
- Women should shun crime.



**Dr Sinikiwe Gwatidzo addressing female employees at the Women's Day Luncheon**



# Working, Learning and Sharing Ideas!



**Zimbabwe Staff College pose at the Simon Mazorodze School of Medical Sciences**

An entourage of students from the Zimbabwe Staff College recently toured Great Zimbabwe University as part of a working and learning visit. The entourage, comprising students from the Joint Command Staff Course, number 37 and led by the Deputy Commandant of the Zimbabwe Staff College, Group Captain Joyce Maeresera, toured the Simon Mazorodze School of Medical and Health Sciences, the Innovation Hub and the Centre for Excellence in Dryland Agriculture located in Chivi, to get insights into operations at the country's University of Choice.

Prior to the tour, the delegation was given a briefing on the history of the University, the thrust towards Heritage Based Education 5.0 and the University's contribution to the National Development Strategy 1 by senior members of Great Zimbabwe University management, notably the Acting Vice Chancellor, Professor Bernard Chazovachii, the Pro Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs Research and Innovation, Professor Moses Chimbari and the University Registrar, Dr. Sinikiwe Gwatidzo.

Members of the Great Zimbabwe University management including the Librarian, Mr. Lawrence

Chikwanha, the Director Information Communication Technology, Mr. Daniel Govo, Deans of Schools and Directors of University departments joined the visiting entourage





# In Loving Memory of our dearly departed

**G**reat Zimbabwe University held an Obituaries day in honour of GZU students who passed on as from 2021 to date.

Led by the Student Affairs Division, the event served as an opportunity to celebrate the memories and experiences that were shared and to say goodbye in a meaningful way, said Mr Onesimo Simbo, the Dean of Students.

In her remarks, the Registrar, Dr Sinikiwe Gwatidzo, expressed pain at the loss of the departed souls and sympathised with the families of the late students noting that their loss is also a great loss to the University.

In a speech read on his behalf by Professor Vongai Nyawo, the Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Zvobgo, expressed sorrow and mentioned that the University lost talented and skilled students who would have contributed immensely to the development of the country.

The Guest of Honour, Pastor E. Ndawi led a powerful Prayer session together with the University Chaplain, Reverend Tendai Mandirahwe, former GZU Chaplain, Reverend Dr E. R Mutumburanzou and Overseer Matambanadzo from the AFM church.



*Dr Sinikiwe Gwatidzo addresses the gathering*

This session was a reminder that death is a natural part of life and we can still cherish memories and lessons that have been left behind by the dearly departed.

We remember;

**Hazel Mbetu, Tatenda Mautsa, Enia Mudawose, Tapiwanashe Gwete, Julian Tafa, Dean GoNyoni Charity Mukaro, Angel Nyamakupe, Methuseli Dube, Fungai Nyoni, James Ngulube, Nyarai John, Yolanda Chigumura, Priveledge Chakanyuka, Tariro Fumanda, Philemon Mavhondo, Blessing Mutandadzi, Ngoziwe Nyati, Nyasha Paudala, Tatenda Mhunga, Langton Madima, Sean Mhlanga, Elizabeth Chidaguru**

May Their Souls Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.



*Inter-denominational choir*



# Risk Management and Insurance Club launched



*IIZ and Risk Management and Insurance Club pose for a group photo*

Great Zimbabwe University has taken a significant step in equipping its students with vital industry-relevant skills by launching the Risk Management and Insurance Club. In collaboration with the Insurance Institute of Zimbabwe (IIZ), GZU has established this club to provide an engaging platform for students to deepen their understanding of risk management and insurance.

The Risk Management and Insurance Club was officially launched at Mashava campus' Chemberi Hall. It is a student-initiated club, which aligns with the national heritage-based philosophy of higher education. This philosophy encompasses five important components that are teaching and learning, community service, research, innovation, and industrialization. In the Dean's address at the launch of the club, Dr Clainos Chidoko represented by Dr Munyaradzi Duve, stressed that GZU's ongoing collaboration with industry ensures that the university's education, research, community service, and innovation efforts are aligned with market demands and contribute to positive industrial development.

"At GZU, we promote and support the interaction between our students, lecturers, and industry, as well as the formation of partnerships. This is done to ensure that our graduates are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to actively contribute to the development of our country, Zimbabwe."

"Today, we are privileged to have the Insurance Institute of Zimbabwe (IIZ) in our presence. The IIZ is a professional insurance organisation and independent examining body.

Its primary objective is to enhance efficiency and enhance business practices among its members and its trainees", he said.

IIZ General Manager Mr Davison Choeni nominated the Secretary General of the Club, Rufaro Machedmedze who is a part 2.2 student and the club's president Sheunesu Chinyakata to attend winter school in Nyanga in August 2024.

Mr Choeni was impressed by Machedmedze's leadership qualities and contribution to the club, and decided to award her a unique opportunity of work related learning at IIZ. Machedmedze said she was elated with the offer and thanked IIZ General Manager Mr Choeni for choosing her to attend winter school and also for offering her the work related learning opportunity. The Risk Management and Insurance club president, Chinyakata said their objectives are education and awareness, skill development, networking and career opportunities and encouraged all Risk Management and Insurance students to join the club.

The patron of the club Dr Hlupeko Dube who is the chairperson of the Economics and Finance Department said the club consists 33 members and they are expecting a rise in numbers. The club members will get certificates of proficiency which will give them competitive advantage over those without certificates when they apply for work related learning and jobs after graduating.



# Onwards and Upwards



***Keith Bhebhe***

Great Zimbabwe University Level 2 Biomedical Science student, Keith Bhebhe was recently appointed as the financial secretary for the Standing Committee on Publications (SCOPUB), of the Federation of African Medical Students Association (FAMSA).

FAMSA is an independent, non-political and no profit representative body of medical students meant to foster and promote friendship amongst African medical science scholars, whilst promoting and advocating better African health systems.

In his capacity as financial secretary, Keith will be handling all financial transactions of FAMSA SCOPUB as well as offering financial advice to the committee.

Currently Keith is serving as Zimbabwe Medical Students Association (ZIMSA) GZU chapter Pre-Clinical Representative where his roles include facilitating smooth transition of students into medical school as well as smooth transition into clinical years.

He is also serving as Standing committee director for human rights and peace, where he is working towards ensuring that medical students are capacitated in promoting peace at all times, and are also aware of the interactions between medical practice and peace.

The University of Choice extends hearty congratulations to Keith and wishes him all the best in his tenure.

(Additional reporting courtesy of FAMSA)



# Workers' Committee a vital corporate and business partner - Vice Chancellor



***Attendees following proceedings during the Induction Workshop***

In a verge to foster a healthy and productive environment, Great Zimbabwe University hosted a two-day Workers Committee Induction Workshop for recently elected workers' representatives. The workshop, was facilitated by Labour Officers from the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare at Brondesbury Park Hotel in Nyanga.

In his remarks, the Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Zvobgo, who was represented by the Acting Vice Chancellor Professor Bernard Chazovachii, said that the workshop was an important platform to “learn, engage and understand each other so that together we can harmonise the work environment and grow Great Zimbabwe University to be the employer of choice”.

The Vice Chancellor congratulated the newly elected members of the Workers Union saying that their appointment signified the trust and confidence that fellow workers had placed in them to represent and advocate their rights and well-being.

Professor Zvobgo said the importance of a workers' committee in any organisation could not be over emphasised as the committee was a corporate and business partner with a common interest in the

organization's goals and successes.

“It is a requirement for any healthy working ecosystem and has a huge impact on labour relations,” he said.

He implored the workers' representatives to embrace their responsibilities with utmost dedication, integrity, and sense of purpose saying their role was not merely to represent their colleagues but to help foster a culture of mutual trust, empathy, and collaboration.

The Vice Chancellor said that the success of Great Zimbabwe University was intricately tied to the well-being and satisfaction of the workforce. “The union acts as a catalyst for positive change, helping us shape policies that promote fairness, equity, and inclusivity. Together, we can build an organization that embodies the principles of fairness, transparency, and progress. I assure you that Management is committed to working closely with the workers' union, fostering a relationship based on open communication and shared goals,” he said.

Professor Zvobgo underscored the need among the workers' representatives to have a clear understanding of the objectives of Education 5.0. He said every employee must play a part in ensuring that Education 5.0 is fully and successfully integrated in all activities of the University.



# Heritage based Education 5.0 in action... Law Clinic puts justice within reach



**Law school lecturer, Douglas Musebenzi interacts with community members**

In the true spirit of ensuring access to justice by all, Great Zimbabwe University's Law Clinic is providing free legal services to the less privileged members of society who cannot afford a lawyer.

It also offers free legal education to communities, students and inmates to ensure that the right to a fair trial is fully exercised.

Law Clinics do not only improve access to legal services for vulnerable members of the community but also provide space where law students can acquire, develop and improve their clinical skills.

As part of its activities, Great Zimbabwe University's Law Clinic, which was established in 2019, conducts outreach activities in rural and peri-urban communities, schools, community outreach radio sessions and prisons. The clinic has also mounted a help desk at Masvingo Magistrates Court and conducted mobile help desks at Gutu, Chivi, Bikita, and Zaka Magistrates Courts.

Statistics from the Law Clinic help desks stationed at Masvingo, Chivi, Gutu, Bikita and Zaka Magistrates Courts indicate that the initiative has so far assisted 837 indigent people who had different legal challenges.

Ten secondary schools in Masvingo District were visited and received legal education on Children's Rights, Child Marriages and Domestic Violence where 1445 students attended.

Prison visits conducted in seven prisons in Masvingo Province saw 176 indigent inmates receive free legal education and advice on bail applications, inheritance, domestic violence and maintenance.

A total of 2742 participants in Chiredzi, Gutu and

Masvingo District received legal education on Domestic Violence, Inheritance and Maintenance. The same initiative saw 200 participants receive one on one consultations.

The Law Clinic has conducted 24 radio sessions on several topics on Great Zimbabwe Radio Station.

For one to get legal assistance he/she should be unemployed, be a pensioner, be disabled and be a child in contact with the law. A means test will be carried out to assess your income and expenses, if you qualify for assistance, your case will be assessed and a Law officer will be allocated to handle the case. The Law officer will decide the service to be given to the person and the assistance will be provided until the case is closed.

The clinic assists clients who qualify for legal aid in cases in which the protection of children and their rights are at issue, cases in which the protection of women and their rights are at issue, cases in which the protection of disabled persons and their rights are at issue, divorces and related matters, evictions, general contractual and delictual civil claims, collections and bad debt cases on behalf of the debtor, maintenance and family violence matters.

The GZU Law Clinic is in line with the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation Science and Technology Development's Heritage Based Education 5.0 model which is the new paradigm of education based on innovation and industrialization, creating solutions-based education that is more effective and equitable for all students.

Those who are in need of legal services from the GZU Law Clinic can visit them at Muccheke Campus or call them on +263392260789, or mobile +263772259433 or email [dmusebenzi@gzu.ac.zw](mailto:dmusebenzi@gzu.ac.zw)



# Chivi community empowered by Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture.



*Proceedings at the meeting with the Chivi community*

Great Zimbabwe University's Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture is working to bring new life to Chivi district through agriculture and also empowering the local community to take charge of their own future.

Chivi which is under ecological region 5, is a well-known dry land, prone to drought on a regular basis. However, the centre is encouraging the local community to rediscover the power of traditional grains which are more nutritious and better suited to the Chivi environment.

A meeting was held in Chivi and in attendance was; Chief Madyangove, Chivi village heads, GZU Vice Chancellor Professor Rungano Jonas Zvobgo and GZU members of staff who included, Gary Magadzire School of Agriculture and Engineering Dean, Dr Xavier Poshiwa, who enlightened the community on the benefits of farming small grains which are drought-resistant, nutritious and suitable for their district.

He added that the community will be given the seeds and other inputs to grow traditional grains such as millet, and sorghum. Once the harvest is complete the community will sell the grains back to GZU providing an income for farmers and a source of locally grown food for the region, a project that is known as contract farming. This project is meant to improve livelihoods in these communities.

Dr. Poshiwa also said the University made a deliberate effort to employ people from Chivi district at its Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture, thereby empowering the community. So far, the University has employed 40 people, 11 of them women, in the spirit of inclusivity. Six people are working in the road runner project, nine are working in the milling company where they process the grains into mealie-meal. 11 were employed to build fish ponds for the fish farming

project and others are building the administration blocks.

He added that, "Under the Integrated Skills Outreach Program (ISOP), the University is building skills capacities where individuals are receiving training in carpentry and building and awarded certificates after completing the program. To date in Chivi 36 people have been trained and the 18 who successfully completed the program were given certificates of competence.

"GZU is implementing a revolutionary road runner project in Chivi of 3500 roadrunners where local farmers will be given starter pack roadrunners to rear and after they are grown they will be bought back by GZU and sold to Supermarkets", said Dr. Poshiwa.

GZU Director of Business Development, Dr. Tasara Majoni added that, the projects at the centre are in line with the government's vision 2030 of industrializing the nation. He highlighted that his department is bringing in the 3rd stream of income for the University through the sales of the products.

In an interview with the community one member, Tungamirai Mudereri of Dizanadzo village under Chief Madyangove said they are enthused that GZU is employing their children, and this has seen the crime rate in their community declining. John Hungwe of Denga village said the projects at GZU are well appreciated and the community is being developed.

Professor Zvobgo encouraged the Chivi community to embrace the capacity building initiatives and the jobs that they would have acquired so that they improve their livelihoods.

Chief Madyangove expressed satisfaction with the projects that were brought by GZU which he said have accommodated the local community. He ended by saying that his prayer is that their children do not disappoint but work well with the employers.



# Diaspora Investment Conference Display

Great Zimbabwe University participated at the second Annual Diaspora Investment Conference and Homecoming Event which was hosted by The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Ambassador Fredrick Shava at Clevers Lakeview Resort in Masvingo Province.

The conference was running under the theme “Celebrating Diaspora Participation Through a Mutually Beneficial Partnership for National Development and Sustained Economic Growth.”

The University, through the Innovation hub and The Innovation Centre for Dryland Agriculture has promoted national development through various projects including Wezhira wines made from indigenous fruits and traditional grain farming respectively, which are enabling an environment critical for transformative economic growth.

The aim is to contribute in achieving an upper middle income economy by 2030 through partnerships with all investors, foreign and domestic including Zimbabweans in the diaspora.





# Fun, colour and medals at ZUSA Cluster One Games



*Team GZU at the ZUSA games*

**T**eam GZU put up a commendable performance at the just ended Zimbabwe University Sports Association Cluster 1 competitions that were held at Midlands State University.

The "Team of Choice" competed in basketball, volleyball, soccer, chess and netball against thirteen other universities, returning home with a sizeable medal haul.

The women soccer team won 1-0 against University of Zimbabwe (UZ) in the semi-final but lost 1-0 against hosts and perennial rivals MSU in the final to qualify for the Zimbabwe Tertiary Institutions Sports Union (ZTISU) games, later this year. Team coach, Bigboy Masocha was impressed by the team and applauded the girls for playing well.

In men's soccer, GZU won 4-3 against Lupane State University after a penalty shootout with the match having ended goalless. The team then lost 5-4 to the University of Zimbabwe after a penalty shootout in the semi-finals. GZU drew 0-0 with BUSE in the 3rd and

4th place playoff but won 5-4 in the penalty shoot.

The level of competitiveness was high in the Basketball tournament. The men's basketball team powered through to the quarter-finals against Gwanda State University (GSU) and won the game convincingly. The men's team also performed well in the finals, losing narrowly to win silver, with their female counterparts winning bronze.

GZU volley ball teams showed great sportsmanship and determination, with the men losing out in the semi-final. Coach Clemence Muzondo expressed satisfaction with his team's performance.

The Netball and chess teams also performed fairly although they did not make it to the Semi-finals.

Overall, the University displayed a lot of talent, teamwork, and sportsmanship with the coaches expressing gratitude for the support from the University management and the entire university community.

Congratulations to all the participants and medal winners for flying the University flag high!



# A Well Deserved Appointment!



The Vice Chancellor, Professor Rungano Jonas Zvobgo, the University Council, Senate, staff and students of the Great Zimbabwe University congratulate Professor Mandivamba Rukuni on his appointment as Chairman of the Zimbabwe Council for Higher Education (ZIMCHE). The mandate of ZIMCHE is to promote and co-ordinate education provided by institutions of higher education and to act as a regulator in the determination and maintenance of standards of teaching, examinations, academic qualifications and research in institutions of higher education.

Professor Rukuni, who is the Chairman of Great Zimbabwe University Council, is an accomplished scholar who has served the higher and tertiary education sector with distinction over the years. His appointment to the latest portfolio is a well-deserved deployment from which

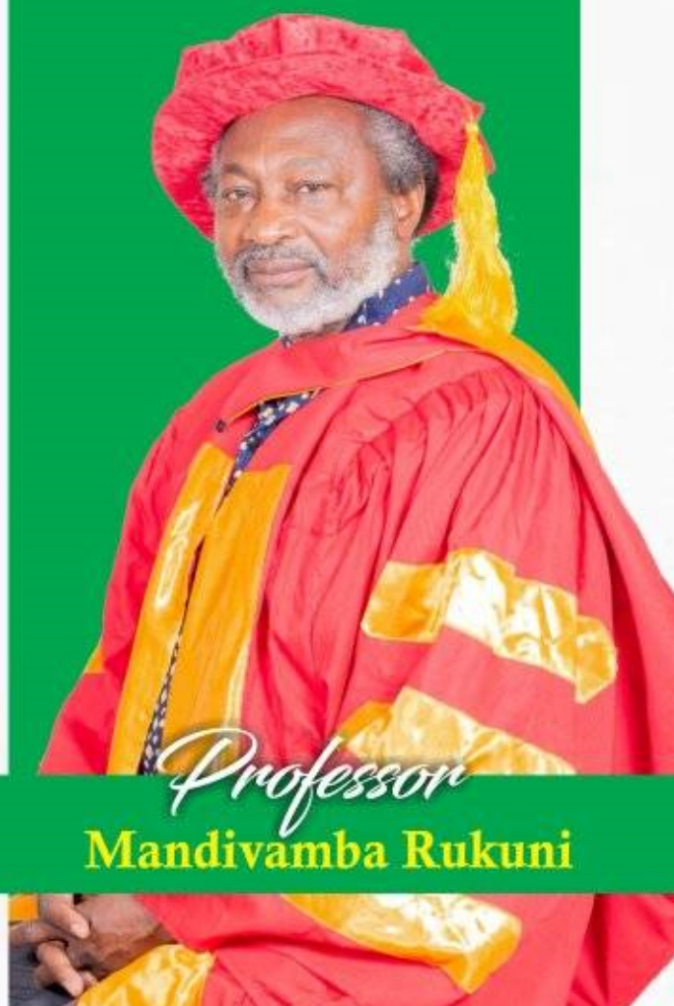
ZIMCHE is set to benefit immensely.

CONGRATULATIONS. MAKOROKOTO,  
AMHLOPHE!

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## Congratulations

### ON YOUR APPOINTMENT AS CHAIRMAN OF ZIMCHE



*Professor*  
**Mandivamba Rukuni**



# Women's Day Celebration Luncheon in pictures









# A view from the lens: Mashava Campus highlights

## Walk about Wednesday...we rocked up in Mashava!









# ZITF in pictures





