

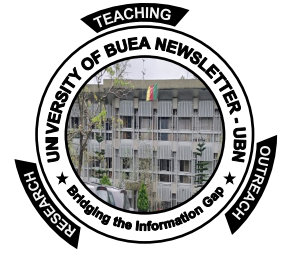


UNIVERSITY OF BUEA NEWSLETTER

UBN

Motto: Information Sharing for Empowerment

A Quarterly Publication on latest Developments in UB



June 2023, No. 4

Upcoming

The University of Buea International Research Conference, 25th October 2023 on the theme: *"International Conference on Social and Health Sciences"*.

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UBN No. 4

Deputy Vice-Chancellor/RCB leads Second Visit to UB Research Laboratories

As follow up of resolutions of the December 2022 visit by the DVC/RCB, Professor Kingsley Lyonga Ngange and his team, he and the delegation made an evaluation visit to some laboratories in the Faculties of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine and Science on 15 June 2023. The DVC/RCB was accompanied by all staff of the Division of Research and Publications and his Administrative Assistant.

Making the first stop at the Rhizobiology lab, the delegation was received by the Principal Investigator (PI) of the Project, Professor Christopher Ngosong and his collaborators. After a brief welcome by the PI, the DVC pointed out that the aim of the visit was to evaluate the mid-term performance of the lab. In presenting the activities within this period, the PI highlighted the following: the training of 2 post-Doctoral candidates; and the training of 6 PhD students. He observed that the lab has long term achievements with respect to the running framework.

Through zoom conversation, the audience also had the opportunity to listen to the collaborator of the Project in Germany, Professor Dr Silke Rupper who acknowledged the competence of the Rhizobiology laboratory under Professor Ngosong.



Prof. Ngosong Christopher, PI of Rhizobiology lab

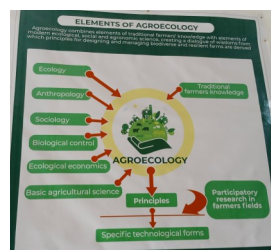


Prof. Dr. Silke Rupper, Co-PI, Rhizobiology lab



Moving over to the Agroecology Laboratory housed by the Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine (FAVM), the PI, Dr Ndam Lawrence welcomed the delegation. Relating to the aim of the visit, the PI presented in a coherent manner the activities of his lab within the period in question. Top on the agenda was the training of BSc, MSc and Ph.D students to ensure a steady stream of sustainability through a series of lectures by both UB recruited staff and part timers using the laboratory and its premises. He acknowledged a good number (182) of laboratory analysis conducted by the laboratory requested by students from other institutions like BIAKA and the University of Bamenda (UBa).

Apart from this, he pointed out that the laboratory within this period trained 100 candidates on laboratory skills, constructed a snairy for the Department of Animal and Plant Sciences, organized seminars and establishment of research fields. Despite this marvellous achievement, the PI did not hesitate to announce to the delegation some challenges impeding the smooth flow of the activities of the laboratory like space, inadequate equipment, inadequate consumables, no access to paid journals and above all, security challenges.



Dr Ndam Lawrence, PI of Agroecology Lab

DVC/RCB's Second Visit to Research Labs cont...



Prof. Ntie-Kang Fidele, PI of NiDNA Lab



The third halt was at the University of Buea Centre for Drug Discovery in Sub-Saharan Africa in the Faculty of Science with Dr Fidele Ntie-Kang as the Principal Investigator. Considering the creeping stage of the laboratory, nothing much of research work was expected. However, the PI presented the Centre's plan of action in 5 years. He emphasised that action plan for the first year which involved installation of the equipment has been met to a greater extent with 4 computers already running and a good number available but still to be mounted. While expecting to engage in full implementation in the second year, he stated that the third to fifth year will involve the actual research activities and possibilities of expansion. He made it known to the delegation that the documents to accord the final approval of the drug discovery programme was at the Central Service. In anticipation, the PI pointed out that the programme will be able to train 20 M.Sc. students and 5 PhDs, and generate at least 200 compounds. With these moves to run the drug discovery programme, the DVC/RCB appreciated the committed efforts of the PI for erecting structures in UB through donations and partnerships. Regrettably, it was noted that some unscrupulous individuals tried to break into the laboratory without success. This calls for vigilance.

The team made its last stop at the Biotechnology Unit (Biotech) where they were received by the PI, Professor Ghogomu Stephen. In his presentation of the midterm achievements to the delegation, the PI highlighted the discovery of malaria treatment using Artemisia tea infusions in a PhD work by Methodius Lahngong. In the same vein, another PhD Student, Abenwi Suh conducted a study on the acceptability of Artemisia tea infusions by the population. He also indicated the Biotech service to the community through the treatment of detected persons with onchocerciasis in Buea and Limbe. The treatment was carried out through operation and follow up at the cost of only 25,000 francs CFA.

At the end the visit to the laboratories, the team was able to conclude without doubt that research activities at the University of Buea are active.



Prof. Ghogomu Stephen, PI of Biotechnology



VICE-CHANCELLOR'S ADDRESS

The dream of contemplating the existence of the University of Buea Newsletter (UBN) is over. This statement can be justified following the successful compilation, production and distribution of three editions. The first three editions magnificently achieved the intended objectives for which it was created. As the Vice-Chancellor and more specifically, the publisher of the UBN, I am happy to announce that it has entered a new episode in its evolution as a news platform to compliment other platforms the University of Buea is proud of.

Blessed with a good technical and managerial team, the UBN is gradually overcoming all the hurdles we thought could impair its production process. It is against this background that on behalf of the entire university community, I am appreciating the excellent work by the DVC/RCB and his crew in their effort to respect production intervals as we welcome the fourth edition.

Ladies and gentlemen, the UBN covers events pertaining to UB. It makes its presence felt and communicated in UB and beyond. It is high time we see the UBN as an indispensable news platform and accord to it the attention it deserves for better improvement of its activities as a news platform.

A lot has been achieved in this fourth edition, starting with Labour Day Celebration and cutting across through the 2023 University Games and the University of Buea 30th Anniversary among other stories.

Permit me to use this forum to express my profound gratitude to the entire University of Buea community for the successful celebration of its 30th Anniversary. The crowd pulling event was historic and this opportunity was so important in the life of the University. The Anniversary also marks the commencement of a remarkable and far-reaching project - the construction of the Printing Press, which will be taking the University's name far and wide.

Most great universities around the world today are known and identified through their sustainable printing press. We are happy that UB will be joining this lot by making a good name through books, pamphlets, brochures, newspapers, magazines, and other items that we will now be able to print on campus when the printing press goes operational. By so doing, we will be contributing our quota to knowledge production and dissemination in today's globalized world.

We will keep innovating and thinking about positive ideas that will make research, teaching, and learning worthwhile in UB, 'The Place to Be'.

The UBN is growing in scope and importance. Let me give you a testimony about UBN within its short life span: one of our researchers was proud to announce that his grant award was finalized immediately the awardee was able to download a copy of the third edition online. Identify yourself with the UBN as a student, staff or researcher for more opportunities.

You are all welcome to the contents of the fourth edition.

Happy reading!



**Prof. Ngomo
Horace Manga,
Vice-Chancellor**



University of Buea Celebrates 30 years of Academic Excellence



UB's 30th Anniversary Cake

The University of Buea in three days - Thursday 25th May to Saturday 27 May, 2023 celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the institution highlighting its genesis, progress, difficulties and attempts to smoothen the way for better grounds on academic excellence. The unique event was celebrated under the theme: "University of Buea: Impacting the Future Together through Innovative Solutions". The celebration took place at the Dorothy Limunga Njeuma Amphitheatre and was massively attended by various categories of people in society, including a high profile government delegation in the persons of the Representatives of the Minister of Higher Education and Governor of the South West Region, former Vice-Chancellors and Deputy Vice-Chancellors, partner institutions, and the entire University of Buea community.

music performed by a UB student, Mr. Percy Abain who has made a name through successive winning of international competitions in solo singing advocating for peace.

After this, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ngomo Horace Manga took the podium to welcome those who came from far and wide to share the joy of the celebration. He acknowledged the special presence of the former Vice-Chancellors: Professor Dorothy Limunga Njeuma (1993-2005), Professor Cornelius Lambi (2005-2006), and Professor Vincent PK Titanji (2006-2012), and the lone Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 1993, Professor Beban Sammy Chumbow.

There were exhibitions going on within the three days period that witnessed the 30th Anniversary celebration. The exhibitions were glaring episodes exposing the level of the institution's prowess in science, technology, health, social sciences and research. The exhibitions also exposed the institution's level of commitment with other partner institutions like banks, companies, and Private Higher Education Institutions. The Vice-Chancellor and the high profile delegation made a tour round the exhibition stands and acknowledged the practical evidence of UB's hard work after 30 years.

The second day of the celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the University of Buea was geared towards building a wonderful Ex-Student Association through committed efforts under the umbrella of the ALUMNI Association. Speaking on behalf of the past students since 1993, the current President of the Association, Professor Michael Fossung Forzeh welcomed all who endeavoured to attend the workshop aimed at brainstorming possible mechanisms to make UB a better place to be. The President of the Association intimated that in the absence of money, the ALUMNI could contribute constructive ideas that give the institution face uplift and improve on the quality of dishing out its services to both the students and the public. During this workshop, he launched the construction of the University of Buea Printing Press and Bookshop.

The move towards celebrating 30 years of academic excellence of the University of Buea began with a march past on Thursday, 25 May 2023 from the UB junction marching through the UB street to the Amphitheatre. The march past, led by some top UB management officials, was flavoured by the University of Buea Band and the Fan Club. Others who took part in the march past were students, support and academic staff. The crowd marched happily from UB junction to the Amphitheatre. The colourful marching train spiced by the ultra-modern lyrics produced by the UB Band did not only make the event well deserving but an exercise which missing was regrettable. Together with its expertise performance, UB Band and the Fan Club with its talented fans thrilled the occasion as they made their way into the campus with songs of joy re-kindling the past memories when the University of Buea opened its doors fully in 1993.

The brief but rich march past ushered the participants to the Amphitheatre 750 where the events marking the genesis of the 30th Anniversary page unfolded with joy, appealing choruses from UB choir and private high profile discussions among the pioneer leadership of the institution.

A priest and pastors were invited to pray for UB. In the ecumenical service coordinated the clergy of the Catholic, Baptist and Presbyterian denominations, the men of God called on the Almighty to bless the institution with wisdom in order to enhance its impact in society. The clergy made a clear importance of celebrating UB at 30, pointing out that the institution has just begun its journey on impacting the future through innovative solutions. The ecumenical service ended with solo



Visit to Exhibition Stands



UB's 30th Anniversary Celebration cont....

Professor Fossung announced the operation of the UB-Finance, calling on ALUMNI to become members to the new financial scheme and reminding that the deadline to close subscription is September 30th, 2023.

The President informed the past students in attendance that the current executive assumed functions in 2021 determined not only to serve as portal for meeting past students but where to share ideas on how to collectively contribute to the development of the University of Buea. He introduced the following persons as some members of the executive arm:

- Dr Taku Victor, Vice-President
- Mr Batey George Oben, Secretary General; and
- Dr Fomin Emmanuel

The President announced that elections into the executive will be done in September 2023. The Registrar of the University of Buea, Professor Eneke Bechem, a past student of the 1993 batch enjoined the President of the UB Association requesting the ALUMNI to work together to improve on UB so that those coming behind will have the opportunity to enjoy improved condition.

A discussion on 'Leadership and Building a Sustainable ALUMNI Association' followed, coordinated by the President of UB Alumni. The President threw the subject on the floor and requested for feedback. The various proposals from the floor were recorded and will be considered subsequently.

On Saturday 27 May 2023, the University of Buea community, together with its partner institutions and well-wishers gathered at the Amphitheatre 750 for the apex of the 30th Anniversary celebration that started on 25 May 2023. This episode which unveiled UB's genesis, achievements, and difficulties within these 30 years was opened by the Vice-Chancellor.

The Vice-Chancellor in his Anniversary speech, wittingly and coherently traced the genesis of the institution as laid down in the Presidential Decree of 1993. In addition to clearly identifying the administrative structures put in place to paddle the institution to safer heaven, he highlighted the major achievements of the successive Vice-Chancellors in their attempts to give UB a deserving name in the

Higher Education sector of Cameroon. The Vice-Chancellor noted that most of the innovations UB initiated as a pace setter were not only appreciated by other State Universities but copied. He used this opportunity to request from the Minister of State, Minister of Higher Education if possible, a legal framework to be constituted in order to enable mentorship by Cameroon State Universities go international.

Next on the line after the VC's speech was the presentation of the keynote address by the pioneer Vice-Chancellor, Professor Dorothy Limunga Njeuma. In her address, the seasoned administrator narrated the rugged terrain and challenges following the commencement of the University in 1993. Together with her collaborators, they coined various strategies to cope with some of the challenges and one of this was the financial assistance given to staff in training to obtain a terminal degree. She thanked all those who went for studies and came back to serve the institution. She expressed deep thanks to Dr Nkweteyim Denis and Professor Shu William for their commitment and hard work.

In her keynote address, Professor Njeuma recalled how UB was referred to as "Njeuma's Glorified High School" because of the strict discipline that was put in place. Further, the keynote speaker revealed her experience when she was serving in the then Ministry of National Education where scholarship scheme was developed to assist deserving students to study abroad. To crown this, she pointed that one of the students who won the scholarship is the current Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ngomo Horace Manga. The joy of this news broke the silence that was reigning in the hall for a brief moment. Still in her presentation, Professor Njeuma used the opportunity to acknowledge the administrative collaboration received from Professor Beban Sammy Chumbow, the lone Deputy Vice-Chancellor when UB was created, Professor Vincent PK Titanji, Professor Tala Kashim Ibrahim, Professor Victor Julius Ngoh and many others.



Prof. Dorothy Limunga Njeuma, 1st VC of UB, (1993–2005)



Prof. P.K Titanji, 3rd VC of UB (2006–2012)



Prof. Chumbow



Prof. Ngomo Horace Manga, 5th and current VC

UB's 30th Anniversary Celebration cont....

The former Vice-Chancellors and the lone Deputy Vice-Chancellor were each invited to give a word to the audience on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary. Taking the lead, Professor Lambi called on the students to maintain a stream of orderliness by respecting the teachers and keeping to the rules and regulations of the institution. In the same vein, Professor Vincent PK Titanji pointed out the steady growth of the infrastructure and the proliferation of academic programmes during his reign. He recalled the series of disturbances from the students, support staff and academic staff and how successful the administration dealt with them. In his own words, Professor Chumbow explained to the audience how to maintain and keep standards of the Anglo-Saxon system of Education, they were compelled during the early days to send staff to the University of Manchester to emulate its methodology of doing things. He thanked the government for making means available to achieve this goal.

After the cutting of the 30th Anniversary cake by all the former Vice-Chancellors coordinated by the Dean of the Faculty of Education, Professor Margaret Endley, awards were given to them for the valuable contributions in making UB what it is today. In the absence of Professor Nalova Lyonga, former Vice-Chancellor and current Minister of Secondary Education for important official matters, her award was handed to the Registrar for onward transmission to her. The current Vice-Chancellor was given a special award for holding and promoting the vision of the institution. In a football competition that graced the occasion, the Faculty of Social and Management Sciences won the Vice-Chancellor's Cup. Their trophy was awarded through the Dean to them. In drawing curtains to the event, the VC thanked every person who took time off to join in the celebration.



UB Alumni Association



Faculty of Laws and Political Science organizes symposium on Decentralisation

The symposium which took place in the Conference Hall of ASTI was organized by the Department of Public Law and Public Administration on the theme: ‘The Financing of Local Governments within the Context of Decentralisation.’ The event featured two activities: presentations by resource persons and debate by the students of Public Law and Public Administration. The symposium was highly attended by staff and students of FLPS.

Speaking to the audience, the Head of Department of Public Law and Public Administration, Professor Irene Sama Lang, warmly welcomed all those present and paid special attention to DVC/ICE, Professor Peter Sakwe Masumbe including the Dean, Professor Atangcho Nji Akonumbo and the presenters who marked present to grace the occasion with knowledge. They were: Mr Ewane Clifford, the Regional Treasurer for the South West Regional Council, Mr Paul Ngale, the Lord Mayor of the Limbe City Council and Dr Etienne Kentsa, Senior Lecturer in Public Law.

Taking the floor, the Dean acknowledged the competence and hard work of the HOD who fought relentlessly to make the occasion a veritable success despite her charged academic and administrative workload. He welcomed all the participants in session and made a special request to the students to use this golden opportunity to listen to experts who are directly on the field.

The Regional Treasurer took the lead to drill the participants on the theme “Budgeting and Financing Regional and Local Authorities (RLAs) in Cameroon.” In his presentation, he categorically dis-

played the understanding that budgeting in RLAs involves combined actions of the Chief Executive Officer of the RLA, the Supervisory Authority for Councils (SDOs) and representative of the State for Regions, the Governor. He indicated that budgeting and financing of RLAs in Cameroon aims at having a match between the competences transferred and the resources needed. The second presentation, done by the Lord Mayor, Limbe City Council, Mr. Paul Ngale focused on “Local Financing for Local Projects”. He traced various sources from which finances for local projects are raised.

While addressing the audience, Dr Etienne Kentsa in his discourse, “The Intervention of the State Representative in Local Budgetary Process”, identified two actors: Senior Divisional Officer and the Governor with respect to the council and regional budgets. He pointed out that the intervention is necessary to preserving the unitary state and controlling local acts legality. He emphasised that the administrative and financial autonomy of RLAs does not mean independence, but a balance between decentralization and unity of the state.

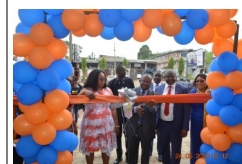
The last segment of the programme was a debate organized by students of Public Law and Public Administration on the topic “Are Youths at the Centre of Democratic Construction in Cameroon?” From all arguments and evidence from the audience, it was ascertained that the youths are progressively becoming involved in democratic construction in Cameroon.

University of Buea officially signs Partnership Agreement with UB Corporate

The University of Buea, Thursday 29th June, in the Boardroom of the Central Administrative building, signed an official partnership agreement with UB-Corporate. In the presence of the Vice-Chancellor, Deputy Vice-Chancellors and Registrar, the partnership agreement was sealed. The University was represented by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ngomo Horace and UB Corporate by the Chief Executive Officer, Professor Sone Michael Ekonde and the Board Chairman, Professor Michael Fossung Forzeh.

The UB-Corporate which began as a paper project is

now running a UB-Finance with a future project of constructing the University of Buea Printing Press. On this occasion, the VC used the opportunity to thank all those who initially accepted to buy shares and become members of the UB-Corporate. He encouraged others to join the team.



University of Buea signs Framework and Specific Agreements with two PHEIs: Institut Superieur Polytechnique les Armandis (ISPA), Yaounde and St Bernard Higher Institute (SBHI), Douala

Still in the process of offering its mentorship services to the PHEIs, the University of Buea on Tuesday 23 May 2023 entered into a partnership agreement with the above institutions which are based in Yaounde and Douala respectively. The brief but very enriching ceremony which started at 1:30 pm was attended by the representative of the Minister of Higher Education, top management officials, Deans and Directors and representatives from the both mentee institutions presided over by the Vice-Chancellor.

In his opening remark, the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ngomo Horace Manga welcomed the representatives of the two institutions, the Minister's Representative, and all those who were in attendance. He thanked both institutions for the trust and confidence they have on UB for seeking its services for mentorship.

After a brief introduction of the UB, ISPA and SBHI officials, the Proprietor of the Institut Superieur Polytechnique les Armandis, Mr Mbuertand Armand was invited to say a word. In his presentation, he thanked the Minister of Higher Education for approving UB to continue with her mentorship services to his institution, and the Vice-Chancellor for accepting to sign the agreement. He expressed joy for the long awaited dream which was realized on 23 May 2023 and described the signing of the agreement as a milestone in the collaboration ties between UB and his institution.

The next on call was the Proprietor of the St. Bernard Higher Institute, Dr Tasha Manaseh who briefed the participants on the creation and activities of his institution. Speaking confidently and proudly as an ex-student of UB, he felt at home and acknowledged the competence and the meticulous manner in which

their submissions were corrected during the site visit. To him, it was a privilege for his institution to be mentored by an institution whose prowess over 30 years of its existence has been substantially proven.

After the signing proper and the official sealing of the contract of the agreement, the representative of the Minister of Higher Education, Mr Abbe Serge thanked UB for the great job she is doing in mentoring PHEIs. He reminded that UB has been noted for its excellence and should continue with that spirit of commitment. However, He noted regrettably that some institutions have failed to do things correctly, giving the impression that UB was overseeing what they are doing which was not correct.

In his closing remark, the Vice-Chancellor reminded the Proprietors of the PHEIs that the signing of the agreement is just a process to guarantee effective mentorship. To this effect, he informed them that they still have the obligation to seek for authorization from the Ministry before running the programmes they so desired. In line with the issues raised by the representative of the Minister, the VC pointed that the Ministry should device a mechanism to deal with defaulters.

The occasion ended with group photographs as one could see joy on the faces of the representatives of the two institutions.



UB emerges second position in three Categories of the 5th Edition of the Cameroon Students’ Ingenuity and Talent Contest (CSITC)

University of Buea students participated in the 5th Edition of the CSITC which was slated between 29 April and May 21 for selection phase which entirely took place on the campus of the institution and the final phase which took place in the University of Ngaoundere where UB won second position in 3 different categories.

In the course of the selection exercise to have candidates that represented UB in Ngaoundere for the competition, interested students were called upon to select, based on their competence and ability, from the topics as given by the Ministry of Higher Education as follows: Literacy and Artistic Creativity; Science and Technology; Agriculture, Livestock and Food Production; Social Sciences and Humanities; Science, Technology, Arts and Digital Technology; and Health Veterinary Sciences. The students from almost all the establishments participated in one or more categories with the exception of the following establishments: FHS; ASTI and FLPS while FAVM and FET participated in almost all the categories.

In order to guarantee the selection of quality candidates to represent UB in the final phase in Ngaoundere, a series of groundwork preparatory meetings were held in the Post Graduate lecture Hall, Faculty of Arts, to ensure a maximum level of transparency.

After scrutiny, five establishments represented the University of Buea for the final competition in Ngaoundere.

Out of 6 categories identified by the Ministry of Higher Education for competition, UB students presented projects for all within the institutional level. Interestingly, Faculty of Engineering and Technology emerged victorious in three categories to represent the institution in Ngaoundere for the competition.

The selected team, on the 26 of April 2023 left for Ngaoundere to represent the University of Buea in the 5th edition of CSITC. After a difficult competi-

No	Category	Establishment
1	A: Literacy and Artistic Creativity	COT
2	C: Agriculture, Livestock and Food Production	HTTT C
3	D: Social Sciences and Humanities	FET
4	E: Science, Technology, Arts and Digital Technology	FET
5	F: Health and Veterinary Sciences	FET

tion, UB won the 2nd position in three categories as presented below.

No	Category	Candidate	Topic	Position	Establishment
1	C	Ngede LauraSenge Amungwa Immaculate	Formulation of Snail-protein rich maize base food	2nd	HTTT C
2	D	Djofack Mefaza Ulrich	Ajuoja: Mobile Finder	2nd	FET
3	E	Formasit Fokunang Oben Desmond	Intelligent learning space: An intelligent E-learning Platform	2nd	FET

The UBN uses this opportunity to acknowledge and appreciate the efforts of students and staff of FET for their relentless commitment to hard work. Their performance is a glaring example of excellence.



Renowned Radio Journalist, Kolle George Nkume defends Ph.D in Conflict Resolution



Dr. Kolle George Nkume

On 8th June 2023, the Faculty of Laws and Political Science (FLPS) recorded another milestone. A Ph.D thesis on “Appraisal of the Role of Social Media in Cameroon’s Anglophone Conflict” was defended by Dr Kolle George Nkume in the Department of Conflict Resolution. The defence took place in the Conference Hall of ASTI, presided over by a competent jury chaired by Professor Abangma James. The PhD defence put in record, the fifth since the inception of a doctorate degree programme in the Department of Conflict Resolution.

In his public presentation, Dr Nkume eloquently and intelligently demonstrated his authorship and originality of the subject clearly screening the role of social media in Cameroon’s Anglophone Conflict. In retrospect, he brought to notice the initial cause of conflict stemming from the industrial action by Common Law Lawyers and later by the teachers that degenerated into a conflict.

Staying within his objectives, the candidate substantially, with relevant and founding evidences, diagnosed how both the Separatists and their sympathizers made use of the social media platforms like WhatsApp and Facebook to express their views as well as committing their opinions into actions. The candidate pointed out that with the absence of local forums where the voice of the separatists could be heard; they intentionally resorted to social media to fill the vacuum.

Using different theories, descriptive and semi structured interviews, Dr Kolle was able to validate that the use of social media by the separatists and their sympathizers have set both the agendas for government activities in the Anglophone Cameroon and the social and economic life of the zone.

His brilliant performance was recorded in the words of the Chairperson, Professor Abangma who acknowledged the worth of his work and recommended that the Senate of the University of Buea should award him a Ph.D. in Conflict resolution.

In an interview with the candidate to know why despite his communication background he opted to study Conflict Resolution for a doctorate degree, he responded that his priority even before embarking on the study has been to draw a line between conflict and social media. He believes through social media, change could be possible.



Faculty of Health Sciences organizes Defences in Medicine

The 11th batch of medical students in the Faculty of Health Sciences as part of the requirements to complete their intense end of year programme were involved in a series of defences that was organized by the Faculty under the supervision of the Dean, Professor Halle-Ekane Edie Gregory. The four days event, organized in different sessions, saw in total fifty nine defence panels to cross examine the equivalent number of students who were ready for the defence. Of the sixty one students on roll, two did not defend giving a success rate of 97%.

The 11th batch of students were admitted in 2016 and rigorously went through a series of academic and professional training, ranging from coursework to clinical which took them to different hospitals within and out of the region.

The defence which was last phase of the training programme witnessed the students in various research areas and speciality displaying their abilities. Most of the defences centred on current health challenges and possible solutions to harness its ramification.

The UBN caught sight of a student who defended, Forcob Brandon and his his work titled “Prevalence and Determinants of Self-Medication Amongst Pregnant Women in the South West Region”. He showed the negative consequences of self-medication amongst pregnant women using a hospital based cross-sectional study in women antenatal clinic sessions in six hospitals.

While citing some examples of self-medication administered by pregnant women to include pain-killers, antimalarial fever grass and blood herbs, the study revealed the adverse effects of un-prescribed medication such as antimicrobial, drug resistance, organ damage, fatal malformation and death. His study helped to raise awareness on the disadvantages and dangers of self-medication during pregnancy.

MoU signed between the University of Buea (Faculty of Health Sciences) and Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST)

Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the University of Buea (Faculty of Health Sciences) and Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST), Professor Obua Celestino, Vice-Chancellor of Mbarara University of Science and Technology and an 8-man delegation were at the University of Buea for a Staff Exchange Visit.

The objectives of the exchange programme are:

- ◆ To establish an official in-person contact between top officials of both institutions;
- ◆ To provide opportunities for students and staff for learning and exchange on ongoing research projects;
- ◆ To consolidate and finalize the joint research projects initiated during the first exchange visit.

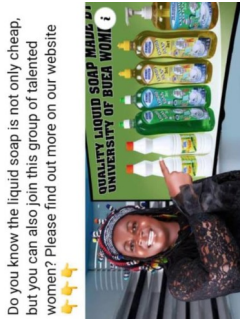
Professor Obua and his team arrived Buea on Sunday, 2 July and were expected to be in Buea until Saturday, 15 July 2023, during which they will work with the Faculty of Health Sciences to exchange ideas, share knowledge and skill to build capacity in the drug development process.

They will also conduct Clinical Examination (long essay) of Level 600 Medical Students, discuss projects initiated during the visit and conduct Masters' Thesis Defences in Pharmacology and Toxicology.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buea, Professor Ngomo Horace Manga, welcomed the visiting delegation in a ceremony attended by Principal Officers of the University as well as Staff and students of the Faculty of Health Sciences. He promised MUST that "UB will fulfill its own part of the Agreement".

During the welcome ceremony, Professor Obua Celestino took time to explain the importance of this partnership, emphasising on the need for both institutions to develop capacities, especially in phytomedicines.





University of Buea Women intensify Sensitization on Mental Health and Depression

The University of Buea women on 6th May 2023 organized the first ever workshop that took place in the Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters to sensitize staff and students on Mental Health and Depression. The conference which was approved by the Vice-Chancellor, Professor Ngomo Horace Manga saw in attendance a cross section of the UB community including staff and students of both sexes.

Due to the prevalence of cases involving mental health and depression and its repercussions on the community now and hereafter, the UB women under the leadership of Mrs Tangui Louisa saw the necessity to run a workshop to edify participants on the implications, prevention and management of the crisis.

The University of Buea Newsletter (UBN) contacted the President of the UB Women Association to get her opinion for choosing the topic "Mental Health and Depression" for a workshop. In reply, she pointed out that women and especially young girls have suffered from mental health challenges and depression with a wide range of health consequences.

Further, in a very sad tone, she informed UBN that a female University of Buea student committed suicide because of depression. With this in mind, a good team of resource persons, including medical doctors and social analysts, were invited to grace the day with wis-

dom. In the process of trying to capture the essence of the workshop, the resource persons drilled participants on the different categories of mental health and depression and mentioned the various coping strategies in case of mental health and depression.

At the end of the workshop, participants were better equipped to give first aid assistance to mental health patients, how to handle it, and preventive measures.

In another stride, the UB Women Association on 4 May 2023 took a giant step to ameliorate the economic viability of the UB women by organizing a capacity building workshop on the production of laundry soap, liquid soap and detergent. This was not only just a theoretical capacity building workshop, but a practical session where the women were trained on how to produce the above mentioned items.

At the end of the session, laundry soap, liquid soaps and detergents were produced. Interestingly, the liquid soap was bottled. It is hope that with this new innovation, the UB women will augment their income levels.

UB host 3rd Conference organized by the Association for Translation in Africa

Under the coordination of the Director of ASTI, Professor Sakwe George Mbotake, the University of Buea was honoured to host, for the first time, the third edition of the ATSA conference, 20th to 24th June, 2023. The theme of the conference was: "Contemporary issues in translation and intercultural mediation". It was widely attended by participants across the continent and elsewhere: Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, City University of Hong Kong, and Atlanta. Professor Mona Baker from the University of Oslo was the Guest Speaker.

The four days event began with a welcome speech from the Director, who appreciated ATSA for accepting to have the 3rd conference hosted by the University of Buea. He urged those present to keenly follow the presentations coming from experts in the field of Translation. After the end of the four days event, participants made a leisure trip to Limbe where they visited the Wild Life Centre, Slave Village, and Lava Terminal.

