

Welcome Note From VC



Dear Readers,

I am delighted to welcome you to the March edition of our newsletter, where we highlight some of the exciting developments at UNILAK.

This month, UNILAK established a fruitful partnership with Institut Supérieur Européen, further enhancing our global academic network. This collaboration opens up new avenues for academic exchange and research cooperation, benefiting our students and faculty alike.

A delegation from UNILAK also had the privilege of visiting the Embassy of Nigeria, fostering cultural exchange and exploring potential partnerships in education and research.

Our students from Nyanza Campus ended the month-long anti-Gender-Based Violence (GBV) campaign which saw different activities within the campus and in the neighboring secondary schools.

Their dedication to social causes is commendable and reflects our university's commitment to producing socially responsible graduates.

Furthermore, our students from Rwamagana Campus took proactive steps to educate citizens of Muhazi Sector on laws governing persons and families, contributing to legal literacy and empowerment within the community.

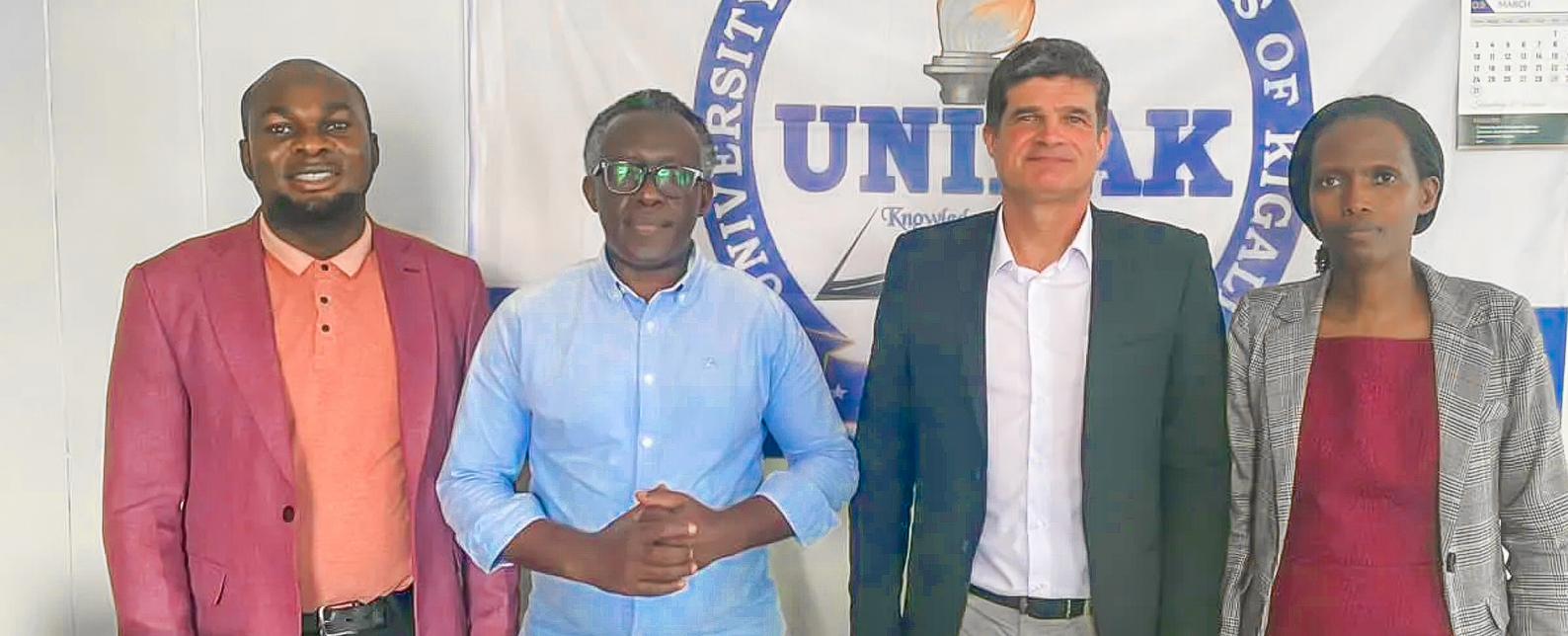
By sharing knowledge and resources, we empower individuals to navigate legal complexities and uphold their rights with confidence and clarity.

On a spiritual note, it was heartening to witness nine students from Rwamagana Campus getting baptized, a personal milestone for them as they continue their academic journey with renewed purpose and faith.

These accomplishments underscore our university's ongoing efforts to excel not only in academics but also in community engagement and holistic student development. I extend my appreciation to everyone who has contributed to these achievements and encourage all of us to continue striving for excellence in all our endeavors.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in UNILAK.

Prof. Jean NGAMIJE
Vice - Chancellor / UNILAK



UNILAK and Institut Supérieur Européen Sign Partnership Agreement

In an effort to enhance educational opportunities and promote international collaboration, UNILAK and Institut Supérieur Européen (ISE) have signed a partnership agreement.

The agreement, which was signed on the 28th of March 2024, by representatives from both institutions, outlines several key provisions aimed at fostering co-operation in various areas.

One of the main components of the agreement is the development of training programs and certifications. This provision will allow students from both institutions to access a wider range of educational offerings and enhance their skills in their respective fields. Additionally, the agreement includes provisions for the exchange of trainers for specific programs, which will help expose students to different teaching styles and approaches.

Another important aspect of the agreement is the organization of joint courses on e-learning and video conferencing. This provision will allow students from both institutions to participate in courses that combine the expertise of faculty members from both universities.

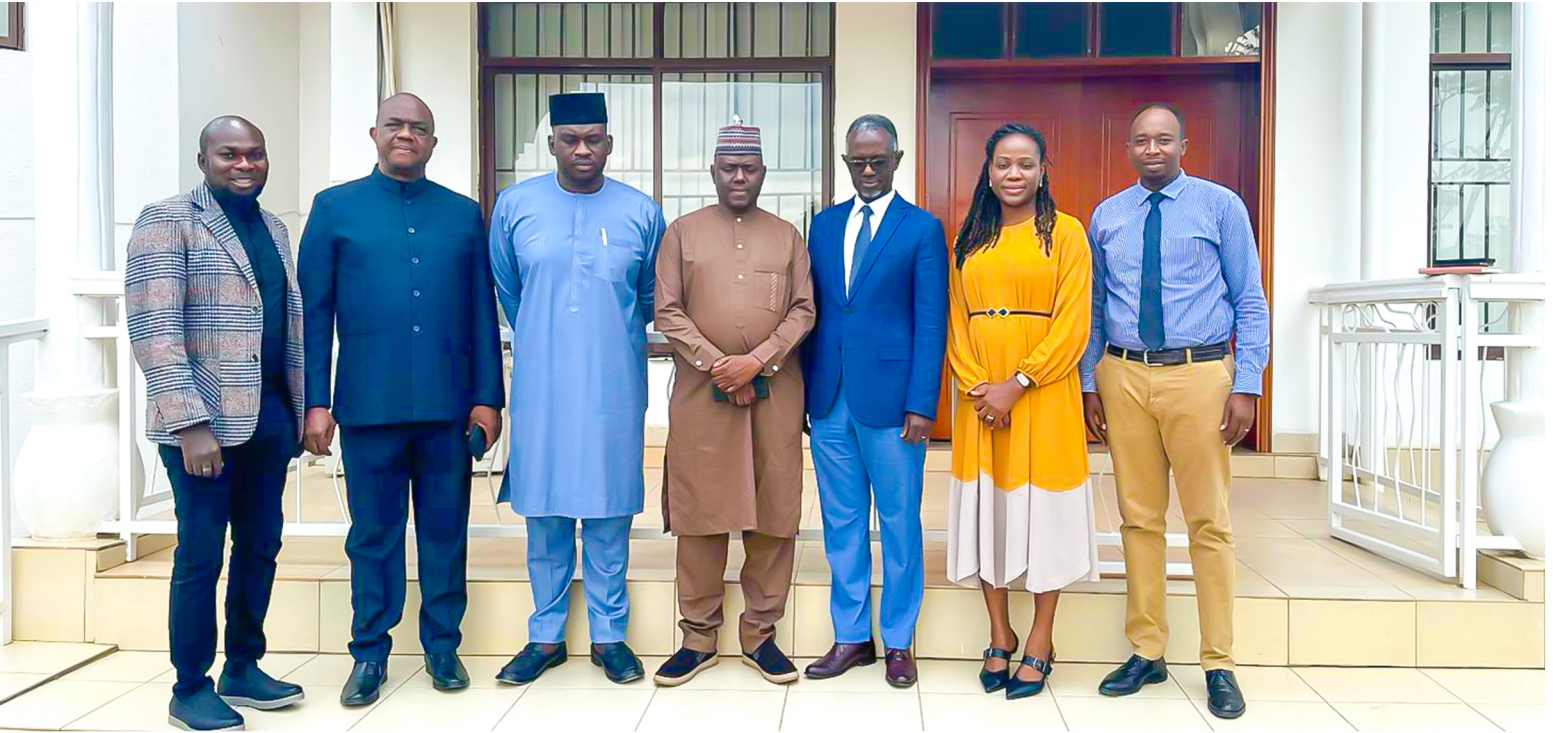
This will not only enhance the learning experience for students but also promote cross-cultural understanding and collaboration.

Overall, the partnership agreement between UNILAK and Institut Supérieur Européen (ISE) represents a significant step forward in promoting international cooperation in education.

It is hoped that this agreement will not only benefit students from both institutions but also pave the way for future collaborations in other areas.



UNILAK engages Nigeria High Commission in Kigali for Collaboration



A delegation from UNILAK, led by Mr. Richard Niyonkuru; the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance, recently paid a courtesy visit to the Nigerian High Commission in Kigali. The delegation was warmly received by the Acting High Commissioner of Nigeria to Kigali, where they engaged in discussions aimed at fostering partnerships in education and exchange programs between Nigeria and Kigali.

During the meeting, both parties expressed their eagerness to collaborate on various educational initiatives, including student exchange programs, faculty collaborations, and joint research projects. The delegation from UNILAK highlighted the institution's commitment to promoting international cooperation and enhancing the academic experiences of its students through such partnerships.

The Acting High Commissioner of Nigeria to Kigali commended UNILAK for its interest in strengthening ties with Nigeria and expressed Nigeria's readiness to support initiatives that would promote educational development in both countries.

He emphasized the importance of education as a catalyst for socio-economic growth and urged both parties to work towards creating sustainable partnerships that would benefit students and academia alike. In conclusion, the meeting between the delegation from UNILAK and the Nigerian High Commission in Kigali was described as fruitful and promising.

Both parties agreed to further explore collaboration opportunities and to work towards formalizing partnerships that would enhance educational opportunities for students from both countries.

The Anti-GBV Campaign Culminates in Nyanza Campus Event

In an event held at Nyanza Campus on the 27th March, 2024, the month-long anti-Gender-Based Violence (GBV) campaign, reached its conclusion with a powerful message of empowerment and solidarity.

The campaign, spearheaded by members of the UNILAK Law Students Society in collaboration with the Rwanda Investigation Bureau (RIB), aimed to raise awareness and combat GBV within the university community and its surrounding secondary schools. Throughout the past month, students and volunteers actively engaged in various educational initiatives, workshops, and awareness programs, emphasizing the importance of respecting gender equality and fostering a culture of mutual respect and understanding.

The closing event at Nyanza campus saw different speeches from organizers and community leaders underscoring the significance of collective action in eradicating GBV.

"We stand here today as a united front against gender-based violence," remarked one of the members of UNILAK Law Students Society. "Our journey doesn't end here; it's a continuous commitment to creating a safer and more inclusive environment for all."

The campaign's impact extended beyond the university grounds, as outreach activities reached neighboring secondary schools, spreading the message of empowerment and advocacy to younger generations.

Reflecting on the campaign's achievements, a representative from RIB highlighted the importance of education and community involvement in addressing the root causes of GBV.

"By working together, we can break the cycle of violence and build a society where everyone can live free from fear and discrimination."

As the event concluded, participants pledged to carry forward the momentum generated by the campaign, advocating for systemic change and support for survivors of GBV.

With the conclusion of the anti-GBV campaign, Nyanza Campus and its partners reaffirmed their commitment to fostering a culture of respect, equality, and empowerment, serving as a beacon of hope for communities striving for a safer and more just society.





Law Students educate Muhazi Sector citizens on legal rights

Law students from the Rwamagana Campus took to the field in Muhazi Sector on the 26th of March, 2024 to educate citizens about the laws governing persons and families. This initiative not only provided legal insights to the community but also highlighted the importance of legal awareness in society.

The students, accompanied by their professors, engaged with residents of Muhazi Sector, discussing various aspects of the law related to persons and families. They addressed topics such as marriage, divorce, child custody, and inheritance, aiming to clarify misconceptions and raise awareness about legal rights and responsibilities.

"Many people in our community are unaware of their legal rights, especially when it comes to family matters," said the legal clinic manager, Mr. Mugabe Bora Thaddée "By providing information and clarifying doubts, we hope to empower individuals to make informed decisions and access justice more effectively."

The outreach event was well-received by the community, with residents expressing gratitude for the opportunity to learn about the law from the students.

Local leaders also commended the initiative, emphasizing the importance of legal education in promoting a just and equitable society. We are grateful to the law students for their efforts in educating our community about the law," "This knowledge will help our citizens protect their rights and resolve disputes in a peaceful manner." said Mr. Kazungu Frodoudard, the Executive Secretary of Karambi Cell who was a delegate from Muhazi Sector.

The event concluded with a question-and-answer session, allowing residents to seek further clarification on legal matters. The students expressed their willingness to continue such initiatives in the future, underscoring their commitment to serving the community through legal education.

The outreach program in Muhazi Sector reflects the dedication of Rwamagana Campus law students to making a positive impact in society. By empowering citizens with legal knowledge, they are contributing to the promotion of justice and the rule of law in Rwanda.



Nine Students Baptized at Rwamagana Campus as week of prayer concludes

Rwamagana Campus bid farewell to its Week of Prayer, which started from 16th to 23rd March 2024 on a profound note as nine students, including one from Liberia, made a profound commitment to their faith by getting baptized.

Throughout the week, the campus resonated with prayers, reflections, and spiritual discussions, fostering an atmosphere of introspection and community. Students from diverse backgrounds came together to explore their faith and strengthen their bonds with one another.

As the week drew to a close, the culmination came with the baptism ceremony, held at Rwamagana campus. Friends, faculty, and well-wishers gathered to witness the pivotal moment in the lives of their peers.

"Baptism is not just a symbolic act but a profound commitment to one's faith and spiritual journey. It's a step towards renewal and a deeper connection with the divine," said the campus chaplain, Mr Dushime Peter Emmerison.

Among the nine students who chose to be baptized, one stood out—the Liberian student, whose journey to UNILAK Rwamagana Campus and subsequent decision to embrace baptism showcased the universality of spiritual seeking. Reflecting on his decision, the student, expressed gratitude for the supportive community at Rwamagana Campus.

"I have found a second home here," said Mr. Karn GBEAKER. "The acceptance and warmth I've received from my peers and mentors have been overwhelming. Today's baptism marks a significant milestone in my spiritual journey, and I am grateful for the opportunity to share it with such wonderful people."

The baptisms marked the culmination of a spiritually enriching Week of Prayer, where students engaged in reflective worship, prayer, and community building.

The campus chaplain expressed gratitude for the spiritual growth witnessed throughout the week, emphasizing the importance of faith in the lives of students.



DR. CHARLES UWARAMUTSE PROFILE



Dr. Charles UWARAMUTSE holds a Ph.D in Co-operative Development and Management from Moshi Co-operative University in Tanzania, a MSc in Accounting and BSc in Finance from University of Lay Adventists of Kigali.

Dr. Charles has over 12 years' experience in teaching and program development and review in higher learning institutions.

Throughout his career, Dr. Charles has actively pursued opportunities for professional development, participating in various training programs aimed at enhancing his skills and professional experience, these include co-operating out of poverty:

Co-operative and Enterprise Promotion in Africa held at Be'er sheva in Israel, syllabi and books writing organised by Rwanda Education Board.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Dr. Charles has been involved in several consulting assignments and community service projects with both national and international organizations.

Currently serving as the Head of the Accounting Department at UNILAK, Dr. Charles plays a pivotal role in shaping the academic direction of the department and fostering a conducive learning environment for students.

His leadership, coupled with his expertise and dedication, undoubtedly contributes to the continued success and growth of the institution.

His broad research interests encompass Co-operative Management, Community Development, Governance, Accounting, Finance, Marketing and Quality Management.