JUNE, 2024 ISSUE #5

The LEGACY

NEWSLETTER

Susan Nsibirwa

from intern to MD at Monitor Publications Ltd

Ready, steady, go...

how to prepare for the #MakRun2024

Word from the editor

Being inspired by those with us and those who have left

Death is not a subject many like to debate, expound on and generally talk about and yet the unchangeable fact is that it will happen to us all. Many times, we find ourselves in despair over the loss of a loved one, but the beauty in many cases is that we also find ourselves celebrating the life of some people who leave us inspired to do the best we can with the time that we have.

This is why in this issue, we write about four men who have passed away and indeed left behind heavy hearts, but who have also left a legacy in more ways than one. The articles written in memoriam of Martin Aliker, Justine Epelu-Opio, Patrick Rubaihayo and Julius Mugaga left me thinking about what more I can do for those around me and I hope they get you to reflect in the same way. We hope that as you read about their achievements, you will be encouraged to make the time that you have, count.

We also hope that when you read the intriguing stories of Susan Nsibirwa, the first female MD at Nation Media Group – Uganda, and Rev Lydia Nsaale Kitayimbwa – the first female chaplain at St Francis, you will believe that glass ceilings can be broken, through hard work, commitment to growth and continuously learning as these women share.

As Makerere Run 2024 approaches, we have ensured to provide you with a menu of stories on the same including, how to prepare for the run, understanding the cause behind it, and a word from the team preparing for it.

The Legacy is a newsletter written for the community of Makerere University – that is the alumni, the students, and the administration. We would therefore like to encourage you to write to us, whether it is about your stay while you were at the university, or what you are doing currently, or any words of advice and of course praise for the institution. Please send your piece to us at thelegacy@mak.ac.ug. We look forward to hearing from you.

Editor-in-chief

Carol Alyek Beyanga

From statistics to theology – the making of Digital Mama

Rev. Dr. Lydia Nsaale Kitayimbwa was excited to join Makerere University in the early 2000s and study statistics. After that, she pursued what she felt called to do, read, study, understand and pass on the knowledge of the Bible to others, to enable them live meaningful lives.

By Mark Wamai

Rev. Dr. Lydia Nsaale Kitayimbwa is popularly known in youth circles as "Digital Mama". She earned this title as a result of her active participation and regular presiding over the Online Church of Uganda, where she frequently preached, taught and made

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A note from the MAKEF board chair on the #MakRun2024

Makerere University has made strides in making education for people with disabilities easier. However more needs to be done and the university's endowment fund is organising a run to collect funds to put up a dedicated disability support unit.

By Dr. Maggie Kigozi

Makerere University has for the last century been a symbol of academic excellence, a place where bright minds are nurtured and empowered to continuously build for the future. But to ensure this legacy continues, we need your help!

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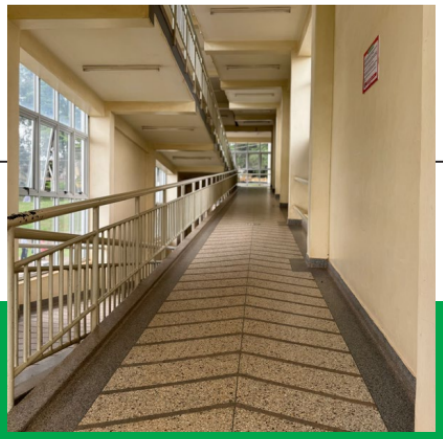
Running to improve the lives of PWDs



Makerere University has done a lot to make life easier for the PWDs including having ramps on many of its buildings, a section for them in the Main Library and more. The Makerere Run hopes to get funds to provide even more amenities for them.

By Immaculate Bazira

Makerere University Endowment Fund (MakEF) is set to hold a run whose proceeds will go towards constructing a new students' centre with a People with Disabilities (PWDs) support unit.

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Ready, steady, go... how to prepare to race

While many people love to get involved in various runs held in the city, a good number do not prepare themselves physically and mentally in order to finish the race without injuries, or to finish at all. We bring you tips on how you can best prepare for the Mak Run happening in August this year.

By Claire Balungi

He seemed concerned that I was limping and offered to walk me back to my hostel. The 2017 Mak Run had just concluded in the Freedom Square when a kind male student, Joseph, saw me gasping for breath and dancing out of rhythm at the cheery music that

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Makerere University groomed me into the accountant I became

Mr Yusuf Karbani was born in Uganda and spent many of his formative years in Bushenyi and Kampala. Reminiscing on what his years in Makerere University were like, he tells his experience of the political astuteness students at the time had and how various leadership roles prepared him for the future.

By Yusuf Karbani

My story begins in Bushenyi in Western Uganda. I am the fifth child of the eight children my parents raised while setting up and running a successful medium sized

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Kaweesi uses art to create bespoke suits

Ethan Kaweesi loves fashion. The fourth year law student has built a fashion brand, Mbio za Mungu which makes suits. It is a brand that he hopes to make much bigger than it is today.

By Rita Kalendera

Ethan Kaweesi, a fourth-year law student at Makerere University is the founder of Mbio za Mungu, a clothing movement that combines art and tailoring. Kaweesi's educational roots go back to Mugwanya Preparatory School where he had his primary education;

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Sheer luck or the hand of God? Dr. Simba's fascinating journey through Makerere

"Having knowledge and inspiring others are two different things." The lecturers who taught Dr Simba Sallie Kayunga inspired him to become the person he is today. In this interview, he talks about the role the university had in in grooming him.

By Charlotte Ntulume

In January 2024, President Yoweri Museveni appointed Dr. Sallie Simba Kayunga, commissioner, on the Electoral Commission. Dr. Simba, a former senior lecturer in the

Department of Political Science and Public Administration,

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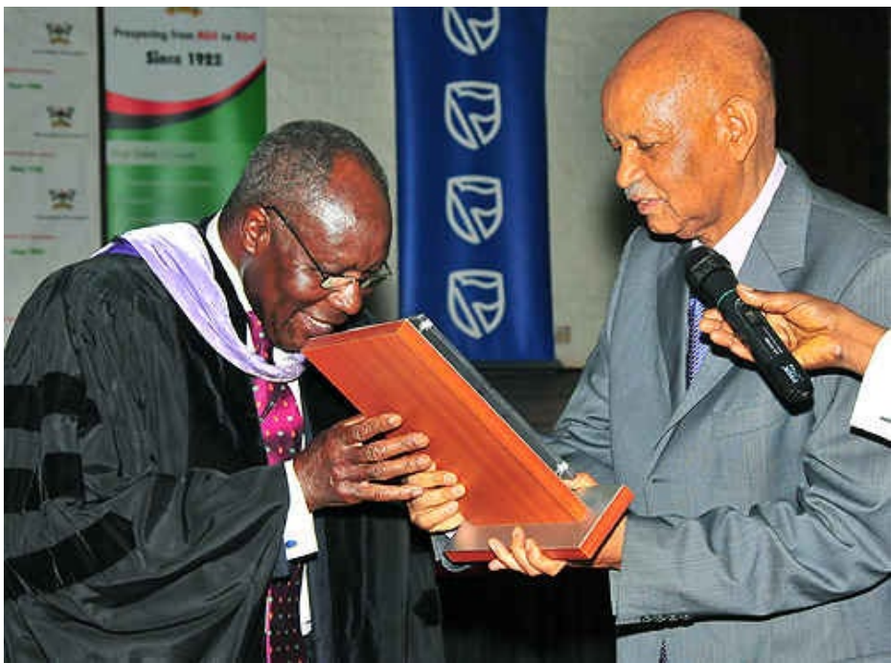
IN MEMORIAM

The enduring legacy of Dr. Martin Aliker: A tribute



By Tuhirirwe Karane

In 1960, as Uganda approached independence, Dr. Martin Jerome Okech Aliker established the first private dental practice in the nation, marking the beginning of an extraordinary career. This career would see him become a prominent businessman and influential public servant. But who exactly was Dr. Martin Aliker? The Legacy profiles a gentleman whose name has resonated in Uganda's corporate and political corridors for over 60 years.

Childhood

Born to a county chief in 1928, Dr. Aliker's life story is not a typical rags-to-riches tale but one where a privileged birth opened doors to a

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IN MEMORIAM

Prof. Epelu-Opio: The longest-serving Deputy Vice Chancellor who valued hard work and family

Rising through the ranks from research assistant up to second in charge at the university, Prof. Justin Epelu-Opio will be remembered for what he did as a professional, an administrator, a statesman, and as a father.

By Mark Wamai

On Sunday 21st April, 2024, Professor Justin Epelu-Opio was laid to rest at his home in Ocokichan, Soroti District after a long and illustrious career as a veterinarian, university

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IN MEMORIAM

Rubaihayo, a prolific plant breeder, incorruptible leader

Still strong and very much in the business of teaching, it was a shock to many when Prof. Patrick Rubaihayo died suddenly. He will be remembered for the tremendous work he did in plant breeding and biotechnology, through teaching and his role as a minister.

By Mark Wamai

Tuesday 14th May, 2024 dawned like just any other day for Professor Emeritus Patrick Rubaihayo. Despite having celebrated his 84th birthday on 4th April, 2024 with family right after the Easter weekend, Prof. Rubaihayo was not one to be found idling about.

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Tribute to Dad, Professor

Emeritus Patrick Rubaihayo

Suddenly time seems to rush
I don't know what to believe yet I have to
I pitch myself upon accomplishment of his aspirations
It dawns on me thinking of this great creature and his wonders
It is good to be important and more important it is to be good.
Oh the nation builder

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Susan Nsibirwa – from intern to MD at Monitor Publications Ltd

Although she did not dive into journalism right after she finished Mass Communication at university, Susan Nsibirwa has found herself working in different capacities at various media houses including in the top role in her current job.

By Agatha Christie Akello

"It may seem as though other people stumble upon their dream lives, but the truth is that everything inspiring is layered upon itself through time." ~ Brianna Wiest, *The Pivot Year.*

When I sit down to interview Ms Susan Nsibirwa, the Managing Director of Nation Media Group – Uganda (NMG-U), on a typical busy Monday morning, the aforementioned

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There have been various activities at the university in the past weeks including high profile visits, launches of different programmes and a career fair. We bring you a snapshot of what took place at these events.

Prof. Jeffrey Sachs (Holding Microphone) flanked by Prof. Ezra Suruma (2nd Left) and Rt. Hon. Robinah Nabbanja (Centre) at the High Level Policy Dialogue on 28th February 2024. Right to Left are: Ms. Nwanne Vwede-Obahor, Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe and Hon. Raphael Magyezi.

Prof. Jeffrey Sachs (2nd Right) receives a guided tour of the Makerere Innovation Hub prior to delivering the keynote address at the High-Level Policy Dialogue on 28th February 2024.

Launch of Reproductive Tract Infections (RTIs) Information Centre and Mobile App 3rd May 2024

Launch of Makerere Data Repository by Hon. Amos Lugoloobi 4th Apr 2024

The Principal Investigator-Mrs. Patience Mushengyezi (Left) receives a bouquet of flowers from her husband Prof. Aaron Mushengyezi (Centre) as Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe (Right) applauds on 19th April 2024 during the launch of the Digitalizing Academic Records and Processes (DARP) Project.

St. Francis Chaplain Rev. Dr. Lydia Kitayimbwa (Right) flanked by the day's emcee Dr. Zahara Nampeewo (Left) leads the opening prayer at the launch of the Digitalizing Academic Records and Processes (DARP) Project on 19th April 2024.

Left to Right: Mrs. Patience Mushengyezi, Mrs. Lorna Magara, Hon. Dr. J.C. Muyingo and Prof. Fred Masagazi-Masaazi at the Commissioning of the Archive of Students' Records as part of the Digitalizing Academic Records and Processes (DARP) Project launch on 19th April 2024.

Students from the Department of Performing Arts and Film (PAF) lead the anthems at the commencement of the Annual Graduate Research Forum and Research Management System Launch on 25th April 2024.

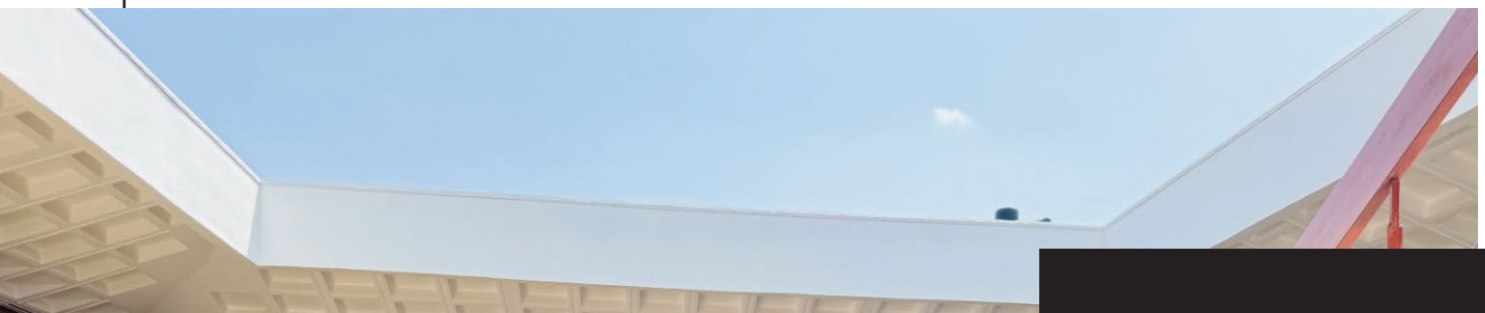
Chief Guest, Hon. Dr. J.C. Muyingo (Centre) flanked by Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe (to his left) and Ms. Clare Cheromoi (to his right) officially launches the Research Information Management System (RIMS) on 25th April 2024

Mrs. Lorna Magara (2nd Left) and Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe (Left) witness as Guild Information Minister Hon. Emojong Kisaija Harman (2nd Right) assisted by Mr. Joshua Muhumuza (Right) launches the Student and Staff Attendance Management System (SAMS) on 3rd May 2024.

Nalinya Lubuga Dr. Agnes Nabaloga (Centre) introduces her brother Prince David Wasajja as Katikkiro Owek. Charles Peter Mayiga (Left) and others beam during the official opening of the Sir Edward Muteesa II Museum on 21st February 2024.

Right to Left: Nalinya Lubuga Dr. Agnes Nabaloga, Prince David Wasajja and Katikkiro Owek. Charles Peter Mayiga present one of photos donated to the Sir Edward Muteesa II Museum by Buganda Kingdom to Prof. Barnabas Nawangwe and other officials.

Students from the Confucius Institute perform a Chinese dance during the Makerere Career Fair held in Partnership with Mastercard Foundation on 15th March 2024.



The renovation of Lumumba Hall

By Rita Kalendera

Nestled within the prestigious grounds of Makerere University, the historic Lumumba Hall has long stood as a symbol of the institution's rich heritage and commitment to student development.

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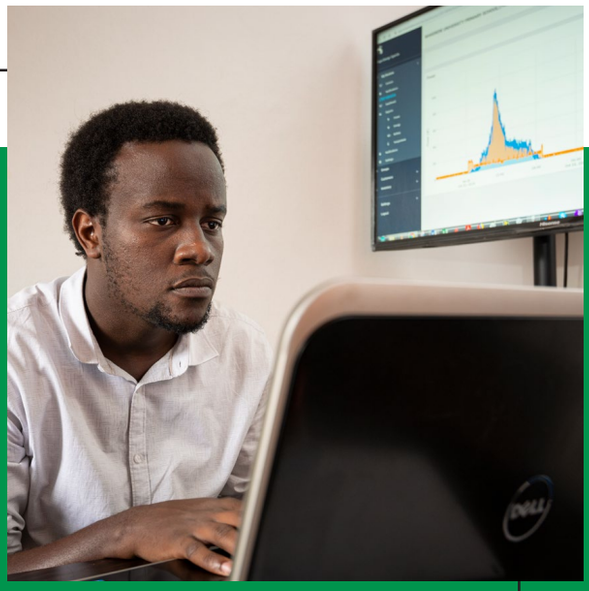

How a meeting with iLabs@Mak project in A-Level sparked the growth of a company

Although David Tusubira met a number of hurdles at the university, they did not deflate him. Instead they pushed him to immerse himself in learning technology and coming up with various solutions

exciting. The thought of finally being able to enjoy unlimited freedom as well as hands-on learning and experimentation for the more academically inclined is quite thrilling. For David Tusubira, this fire was stoked during his A-Level at St. Mary's College Kisubi, when he got involved in a robotics programme when the iLabs@

By Mark Wamai

For most secondary school students, the prospect of joining university is quite

Mak project as part of their outreach programme visited his school. The hands-on approach adopted by the College of Engineering, Design, Art and Technology (CEDAT)-

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From conflict to classroom: Safali Libia's journey of resilience and hope

When Safali Libia saw how difficult life was as a refugee, he did not think he would be able to further his education up to the university level, but hard work, resilience and kind sponsors saw him attain a degree.

By Karane Tuhirirwe

Uganda, famously dubbed the “Pearl of Africa” by Winston Churchill, hosts the largest refugee population in Africa and the sixth largest in the world. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), approximately 1.6 million refugees

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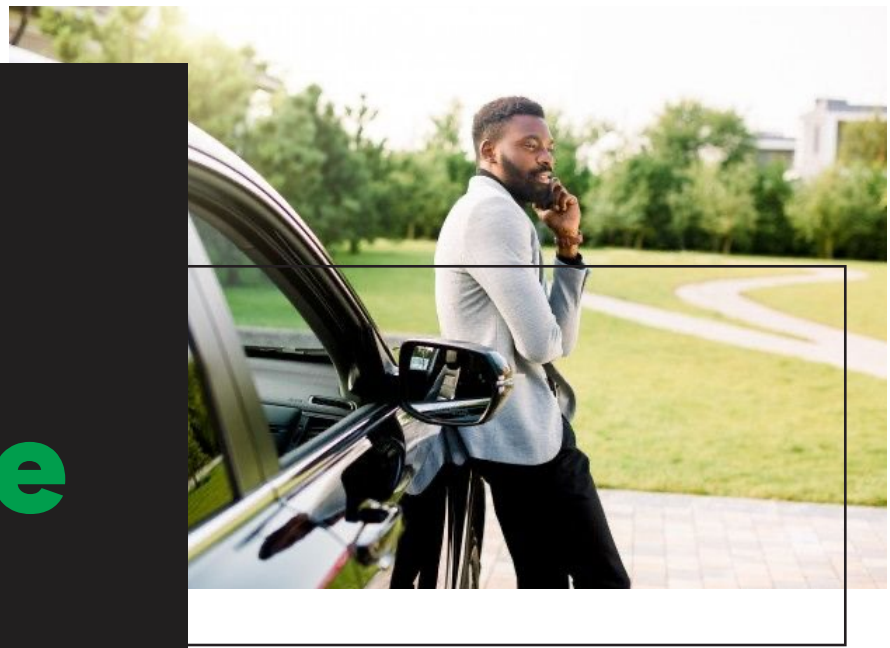
Dealing with the male gaze



The male gaze is a term used to describe how women are perceived from a masculine view that tends to objectify them. While the issue is pervasive, there are ways one can deal with it.

By Fionah Barbra Agaba

*Kente's (not real name) natural charm and friendly demeanour enabled her to connect with her colleagues at her new workplace. The usual big girl doing big girl things vibe! However, her boss, a senior executive known for his charismatic leadership, started

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Navigating relationships after campus

Have you tried dating after campus? It's a whole new world out there, in all sorts of ways. Our writer shares a few tips that can help you navigate that world a little easier.

By Agatha Christie Akello

Do you know what I miss most about campus? Dating for food! Back then, it was not as classless as it is now. In fact, it was a sign of being street smart as you could pocket your upkeep while eating KFC and CJs from toasters. Now that my restaurant connoisseur habits are all dependent on my visa card, I have started dating for looks, emotional intelligence, the ability to father twins, a Mercedes Benz GLE, along with a lake view mansion in Entebbe.

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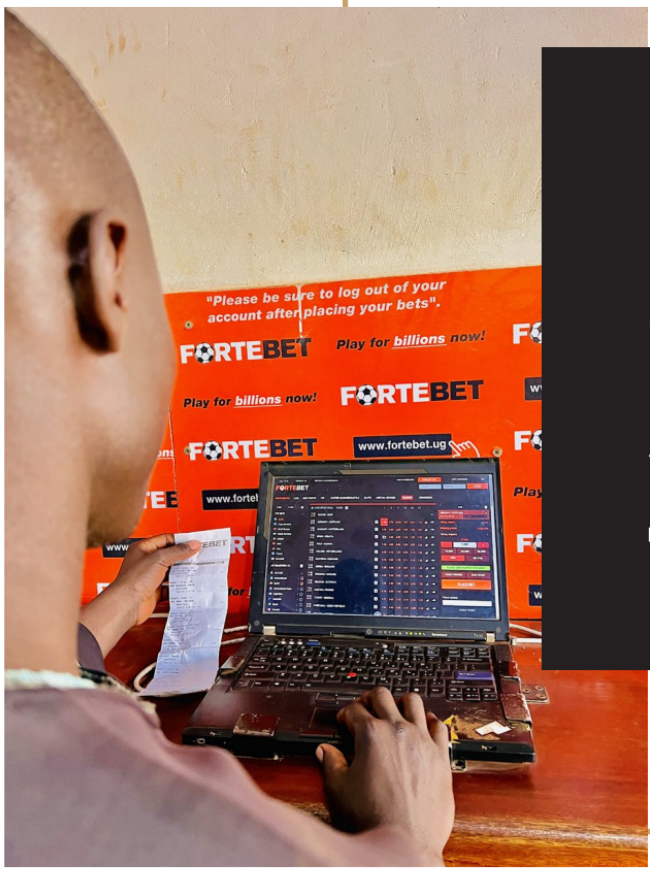

Betting, a problem sweeping through campus

Betting is such an alluring thing. The promise of making quick and easy money is tempting to believe. Sadly however, many students have found out it is not what it appears to be, when it is too late.

By Claire Balungi

Like heroes, great institutions have their demons. For many a student, getting through a semester at Makerere can be a struggle as they stake their tuition or living allowance on unguaranteed gains. This has led to the worrying emergence of betting within the esteemed walls of the institution, jeopardising the prospects of bright minds. Once an occasional indulgence, betting, a destructive habit, has staggered into Makerere's halls of residence onto students' television screens and mobile phones.

The Makerere of the 80s and 90s was however different, in fact sophisticated.

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CLASS NOTES

Kevin

Mugabi: Working as guild information minister has been fulfilling

Having made a number of changes in the communication of the Guild, Kevin Mugabi is happy about the work he has been able to do, despite the challenges faced. He shares his achievements.

By Kevin Mugabi

My name is Kevin Mugabi, and I'm currently a fourth-year student studying Journalism and Communication at Makerere University. I hail from Iganga town, Iganga District, in the Eastern part of Uganda.

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IN MEMORIAM

Julius Mugaga the innovator who wanted to see people live healthier lives

When the news of the death of Julius Mugaga, a lecturer at Makerere University, broke, many were shocked. In this obituary, a friend honours him and writes about a man who was smart, hardworking, and whose driving force was to see people's lives made better.

By Julius Mugaga

On Friday, May 17, 2024 I was making some calls, reminding members about an upcoming annual general meeting when I started receiving endless horror calls from my workmates and fellow journalists. Each kept asking whether I was alive, which was an odd question since I had picked their calls and answered them. I would ask why they were asking and then they would tell me that someone from Makerere University called Julius Mugaga had died and they knew only one person in the institution with that name – me.

A few minutes after these calls, an update popped up on my phone. It was a story published on the *Daily Monitor* website and was titled "Body of missing Makerere lecturer found in Lake Victoria". When I opened to read further,

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