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## Innovation in Action: Shaping Future-Ready Graduates

At King Ceasor University, innovation is at the heart of teaching, learning, and research. The University continues to embrace modern technologies, practical learning approaches, and industry collaboration to equip students with relevant, future-ready skills.

From interactive classrooms to hands-on projects and entrepreneurial initiatives, KCU is fostering a culture where creativity and problem-solving thrive. These efforts ensure that graduates are not only academically competent but also adaptable to the evolving global landscape.

## EDITORIAL NOTE

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Innovation continues to redefine higher education, prompting institutions to adapt to a rapidly changing world. This month's theme underscores our commitment to embracing new ideas in teaching, research and community engagement.

Across our university, we see innovation in action through the integration of technology in learning, the growth of interdisciplinary collaboration and initiatives that equip students with practical, future-ready skills. These efforts are shaping graduates who are not only knowledgeable but also adaptable and solution-oriented.

Equally important is our commitment

to inclusive innovation. As we adopt new approaches, we remain focused on expanding access, supporting diverse learners and ensuring that no one is left behind.

In this edition, we feature voices and perspectives that reflect these ongoing transformations. The Office of Public Relations is proud to highlight these efforts and to share the stories that define our progress.

We invite you to engage with this issue and be inspired to contribute to a culture of continuous innovation.

**Office of Public Relations**



## WELCOME NOTE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

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It is with great pleasure that I welcome you all to this month's focus on Innovation in Higher Education. This theme is not only timely, it is strategic. Universities today are being called upon to fundamentally rethink how they teach, how they research and how they engage with society. This call was strongly reinforced at the recently concluded 7th Annual Higher Education Conference organized by the National Council for Higher Education in Gulu City.

At that forum, it was emphasized that higher education must move beyond theoretical instruction to practical, solution-oriented learning aligned with national development priorities. As rightly observed, research must not remain confined to libraries, it must be

translated into innovations, products and services that transform communities and drive economic growth.

This message aligns directly with Uganda's Vision 2040 and the Fourth National Development Plan (NDP IV), both of which place science, technology and innovation at the center of national transformation. These frameworks challenge universities to serve as engines of industrialization, skills development and knowledge-based growth. As King Ceasor University, we must therefore position ourselves deliberately within this national agenda.

Innovation is no longer optional, it is essential. It defines the relevance, competitiveness and impact of any modern university. For us as King Ceasor University, innovation must be understood not merely as the adoption of technology, but as a core institutional philosophy that shapes how we teach, how we conduct research, and how we contribute to society.

We must intentionally cultivate graduates who are not only knowledgeable, but also creative, adaptable, entrepreneurial and solution-driven. These are the attributes required to thrive in a rapidly changing world and to contribute meaningfully to national and global development.

A critical enabler of this transformation is the adoption of competency-based

education and training (CBET). As a University, we are shifting from the model that emphasizes what students know, to one that emphasizes what they can do. CBET equips students with the ability to apply knowledge in real-world contexts, solve practical problems, innovate and create value. This approach aligns with both national expectations and our institutional vision. It ensures that our graduates are not only employable but are also capable of driving innovation, entrepreneurship and societal transformation.

As King Ceasor University, we must move beyond intention to deliberate institutional action. Innovation must be structured, supported and sustained, and embedded within our academic programmes. It must be deliberately integrated into our curricula to ensure that teaching, learning and assessment are aligned with real-world problem-solving, creativity and value creation.

In this regard, the University is undertaking key strategic initiatives, including the establishment of an Innovation Office, the development of a University Incubation Centre, and the strengthening of industry engagement and partnerships. These initiatives are intended to create an enabling environment where ideas can be nurtured, research can be translated into practical solutions, and students can be equipped with the competencies

required to innovate and contribute meaningfully to society.

Through these efforts, we aim to position King Ceasor University as a hub for innovation, entrepreneurship and applied research, aligned with national development priorities and our institutional vision.

However, innovation cannot thrive without the right culture. As a University community, we must embrace openness to new ideas, interdisciplinary collaboration, experimentation and continuous improvement. Every member of staff and every student has a role to play in shaping this culture. Innovation must become part of who we are as an institution.

As we reflect on this theme, I urge all of us to consider our role in advancing innovation within the University. Let us challenge ourselves to rethink how we teach, how we learn and how we engage with society. We must position ourselves as a leading institution in innovation, research and community impact, aligned with our vision and with the aspirations of our nation - Uganda.

Let us move forward together with purpose and determination.

I wish you all a productive and inspiring month ahead.

**Dr. Charity Basaza Mulenga**  
VICE CHANCELLOR

## MESSAGE TO THE KCU FRATERNITY

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### **Warm greetings from the 7th Guild Government.**

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We trust this message finds you well and in good health. We extend our sincere gratitude to all members of the KCU fraternity who have stood with us throughout this journey by participating in our activities, honoring our invitations and supporting our initiatives in various ways. To those who were unable to actively engage, we equally appreciate your presence and shared spirit within this community.

Since assuming leadership on 25th March 2025, our tenure has been marked by a dynamic mix of challenges, tests and notable achievements. We encountered obstacles from multiple fronts including within the student body, the administration and even internally within our cabinet. However, through resilience, unity and an unwavering commitment to our principles, we persevered. It is with pride that we note the successful implementation of 89% of our manifesto.

We express our appreciation to the University Administration for the support extended to us in several of our initiatives. In instances where support was limited, we remained steadfast and found alternative ways to fulfill our mandate. To members of the fraternity who may have felt dissatisfied with aspects of our leadership, we

acknowledge your concerns. Leadership is inherently imperfect and expectations can, at times, exceed practical realities. Nonetheless, such experiences serve as valuable reminders that growth lies in embracing both successes and shortcomings.

To my colleagues in the 7th Guild House and Cabinet, I extend my deepest gratitude for your dedication, unity and tireless service. Together, we demonstrated that even in the face of limited resources, determination and teamwork can yield meaningful results.

As we conclude our term, we turn our attention to the aspiring leaders. We encourage you to remain steadfast, courageous and resolute in your aspirations. Do not be discouraged by doubt or intimidation., trust in your vision and in God's guidance.

As aptly stated, "Leadership is not about being in charge; it is about taking care of those in your charge."

Thank you, KCU fraternity, for walking this journey with us. May the path ahead be even more impactful and inspiring.

### **Adonia Ainebyona**

Guild President

Chairman, Agenda 25

*Intentional and Directional Leadership*

## WORKSHOPS AND PUBLIC LECTURES

### King Ceasor University Champions Entrepreneurial Learning



King Ceasor University continues to position itself as a forward-thinking institution by promoting practical, industry-oriented education that prepares students for life beyond the classroom. This commitment was recently demonstrated during a public lecture held at Bunga Hill campus under the theme “Entrepreneurship Skills Development among Students” and “Where Academia Meets Industry Leadership.” The engagement brought together students, faculty and industry players to explore ways of bridging the gap between academic knowledge and real-world application.

Delivering the keynote address, Dr Denis Ngabirano, founder and CEO of Psalms Food Industries, emphasized the need for universities to embed entrepreneurship across all disciplines. He highlighted the importance of equipping students with the mindset and skills to create opportunities in the

face of rising unemployment. Drawing from his own journey, he shared how his business idea began during his university years and grew into a successful enterprise, encouraging students to think innovatively and take initiative early.

University leadership reaffirmed its commitment to such initiatives, with Prof Peter Turyakira noting that the lecture forms part of a broader strategy to strengthen industry partnerships and expand opportunities for internships, employment and research collaboration. By fostering innovation and practical skills development, King Ceasor University continues to prepare graduates to thrive in and shape the modern economy.



## **Strengthening Diplomatic Discourse: Insights from Venezuela’s Ambassador at KCU**

King Ceasor University, in collaboration with the Inside Diplomacy (KCU Chapter) and the KCU Law Society, hosted a public lecture on 3rd March 2026 at the Bunga Campus rooftop. The lecture focused on the topic: “Evaluating the Role of International Law in Upholding State Sovereignty and Non-Interference: The Case of Venezuela.”

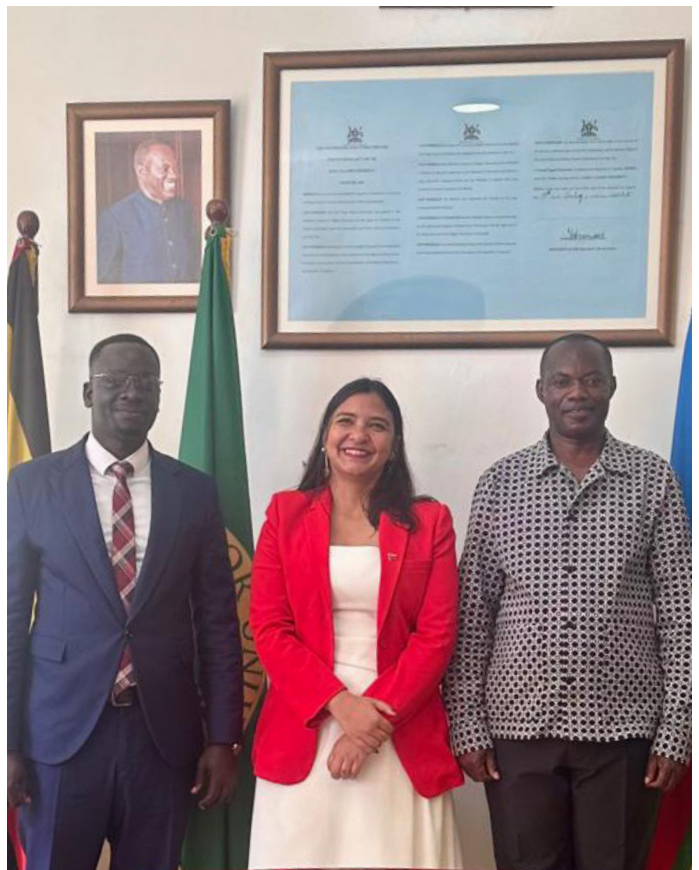
The session was delivered by Ambassador Fátima Fernandes Juárez, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela to the Republic of Uganda. In her address, the Ambassador provided valuable insights into international law, diplomacy and the importance of sovereignty, while also highlighting perspectives on economic growth and global cooperation.

The lecture was highly interactive, with students and staff actively engaging the speaker through a question-and-answer session. The event attracted participants from within the university as well as students from other institutions, including Makerere, Cavendish University, IUIU, KIU and UPU, reflecting strong regional academic interest.

In addition to the lecture, the Ambassador held a courtesy meeting with the University Chancellor, King Ceasor Augustus Mulenga further

strengthening institutional ties and international collaboration. Also present at the event were the Director of Inside Diplomacy Mr. Carlos Ogik P’ato, the Patron of the KCU Chapter, Advocate Keith Busingye and the Chapter President Ms. Guhirwa Shallon alongside other distinguished guests.

The public lecture provided a valuable platform for dialogue on international law and diplomacy, enriching academic engagement at King Ceasor University. The active participation of students and guests highlighted the importance of collaborative learning in fostering globally aware graduates.



*From left: Director of Inside Diplomacy, H.E. Fátima Fernandes Juárez, and King Ceasor Augustus Mulenga*

## Gender Perspectives Training Held at King Ceasor University

King Ceasor University recently hosted an insightful Gender Perspectives Training at its Bunga Campus rooftop, bringing together students, staff and stakeholders for a meaningful conversation on gender equality and inclusion.

The training, held on Thursday, 5th March 2026, was facilitated by Mrs. Pauline Laker, a Gender Consultant with UNHCR. The session focused on raising awareness about gender issues, promoting equity and equipping participants with practical knowledge to foster inclusive environments in both academic and professional spaces.

During the interactive session, participants explored key concepts of gender perspectives, including equality, representation and the importance of addressing gender-based challenges in society. The training emphasized the role of institutions in creating safe, respectful and non-discriminatory environments, an objective that aligns with the university's commitment to gender mainstreaming in education, research and community engagement.

The event is part of the university's broader efforts to strengthen capacity among students and staff in handling gender-related issues and to promote a culture of inclusivity. As a growing private institution in Kampala, King

Ceasor University continues to organize such impactful programs to prepare learners for responsible leadership in a diverse and evolving global society.

Overall, the Gender Perspectives Training was a success, leaving participants better informed and inspired to champion gender equality within their communities and beyond.

The session also encouraged participants to reflect on their individual roles in advancing gender equity, highlighting the importance of everyday actions, inclusive language and conscious decision-making. Such continued engagements are essential in fostering a university culture that not only values diversity but actively works towards achieving fairness and equal opportunity for all.



*Mrs. Pauline Laker, Gender Consultant with UNHCR, addresses participants during the Gender Perspectives Training at King Ceasor University.*

## Mental Health Awareness Session at King Ceasor University



*Fr. Dr. Richard Kyazze delivers insights on identifying challenges and promoting early intervention*

King Ceasor University, in collaboration with the Serenity Centre, held an informative session on Understanding Mental Health and Mental Illness on Wednesday, 4th March 2026, at the Bunga Campus rooftop.

The engagement focused on the theme “Mental Health and Addictions - Awareness, Prevention and Support,” and brought together students and staff for a comprehensive discussion on mental well-being. The session featured expert presentations from Fr. Dr. Richard Kyazze, a Clinical Psychologist and Quality Assurance specialist, and Brother Clesistom Ahimbisibwe, a Psychologist and Clinical Coordinator.

The speakers addressed critical

aspects of mental health, including the identification of mental health challenges, the impact of addictions and practical approaches to prevention and support. Emphasis was placed on reducing stigma, promoting early intervention and encouraging individuals to seek professional help when needed.

This initiative reflects the University’s continued commitment to fostering a supportive academic environment that prioritizes the mental well-being of its community.

The session also provided an interactive platform for participants to share experiences, ask questions and gain practical coping strategies for managing stress and emotional challenges. Such engagements continue to play a vital role in building awareness, strengthening resilience and promoting a culture of openness and support within the University community.

“Promoting mental well-being is not just support, it is a commitment to building resilient and empowered communities.”

## ENHANCING ACCESS TO E-RESOURCES AT THE KCU LIBRARY

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In today's fast-paced digital learning environment, access to reliable and up-to-date academic information is more important than ever. To better support students, researchers and staff, the KCU Library has developed a ***Step-by-Step Guide to Searching and Retrieving Electronic Information Resources***.

This user-friendly guide is designed to help users confidently navigate and make the most of the wide range of electronic resources available through the library. Whether conducting research, completing assignments or expanding knowledge, the guide simplifies the process of locating relevant academic materials quickly and efficiently.

The e-resources guide has already

been shared with staff and students via email and is also available on the library website: <https://library.kcu.ac.ug>.

In addition to electronic resources, the library maintains a rich collection of physical books and learning materials. These can be conveniently searched through the online catalogue: <https://catalogue.kcu.ac.ug>.

The physical library remains open to serve the university community from **7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday to Saturday**, except on public holidays.

The KCU Library warmly encourages all patrons to take full advantage of its resources and services to support teaching, learning, and research across the university.

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## THE GIFT OF LEARNING: A TESTAMENT TO OPPORTUNITY AND IMPACT

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Education is one of the greatest opportunities one can receive. It shapes minds, opens doors, and prepares individuals to serve society with knowledge, integrity, and purpose. Yet for many capable students, the dream of higher education is limited by financial challenges.

As a proud beneficiary of the scholarship program at King Ceasor University, I express my sincere gratitude to our Chancellor, King Ceasor Augustus Mulenga, for this life-changing support.

This opportunity has turned my dreams into reality and strengthened my determination to excel.

This scholarship is more than financial aid, it is a beacon of hope, a vote of confidence, and a call to excellence. It inspires us to grow academically, build character and contribute meaningfully to society.

For this invaluable gift, I remain deeply grateful.

**Maniriho Jacintah**  
LLB 2.2

## **DRIVING INNOVATION FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION AT KING CEASOR UNIVERSITY**

King Ceasor University places strong emphasis on innovation as a core driver of its vision, mission and motto. It views innovation as essential for advancing teaching, learning, research and overall service delivery. In this context, innovation is expected to address real institutional or societal challenges whether in education, research processes, grant management or stakeholder engagement and lead to meaningful improvements such as increased access, efficiency, quality or safety. The university also prioritizes research outputs that demonstrate innovation, including publications, policy changes, improved practices and potentially patentable or commercializable products.

An innovation is defined not simply as a new idea, but as a new or improved approach that is successfully implemented and creates tangible value. It may take the form of a strategy, method, tool, or outcome, but must go beyond theory to practical application. True innovation solves a real problem,

works better than existing approaches and is feasible for real-world use. Additional features such as trust, safety, local ownership, integration into existing systems and evidence-based design enhance its impact and usefulness.

Key characteristics of innovation include implementation (idea put into action), effectiveness (demonstrable improvement), adaptability to local contexts, scalability or replicability, sustainability over time and a strong user-centered design. Together, these ensure that innovations are not only creative but also practical, impactful and capable of driving long-term socio-economic transformation.

### **Dan Kabonge Kaye**

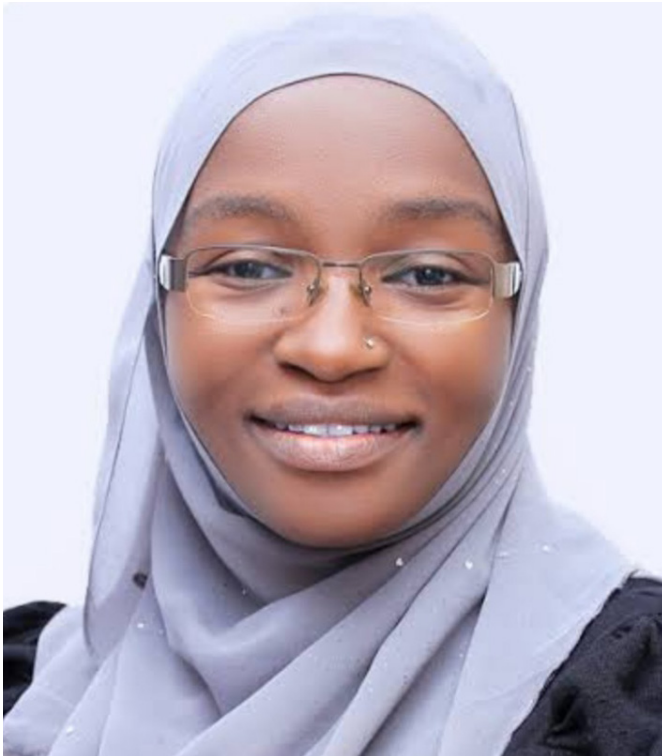
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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

1. The Inaugural National Inter-University Moot Court Competition (Hosted by KCU). 2nd April 2026
2. Community Engagement at Gaba Market 8th April 2026
3. Rotary District 9214 (Uganda/Tanzania) RMB Mega Business Expo 2026. 23rd – 25th 2026

## WE CELEBRATE DR. HABIBA NJERI NGUGI ON EARNING HER PHD



Dr. Habiba Njeri Ngugi is a distinguished Information Systems Management expert, computing scholar and academic leader whose contributions have advanced research, innovation and higher education across East and Southern Africa. She was recently awarded a PhD in Computer Science from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa (2022-2026). She also holds an MSc in Information Systems from Kampala International University, as well as a Bachelor's and Diploma in Computer Engineering.

She currently serves as Head of Department for Computing, AI and Data Analysis at King Ceasor University, where she has played a key role in strengthening departmental

performance, research and academic excellence. Previously, she lectured at Kampala International University and Mt. Kenya University, where she contributed to curriculum development, student mentorship and supervision of innovative projects.

A prolific researcher, Dr. Ngugi has published widely in areas such as Artificial Intelligence, cybersecurity and data science, including notable work on deep learning for crop disease detection. She has also presented at international conferences and contributed to professional discourse in AI and digital innovation.

Driven by a passion for technology, digital literacy and sustainable development, Dr. Ngugi continues to champion academic excellence and innovation within the region.

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PhD Earned.  
Excellence Affirmed.  
Future Inspired.

## **KING CEASOR UNIVERSITY SHOWCASES INNOVATION AT THE 16TH NCHE EXHIBITION**

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King Ceasor University proudly participated in the 16th National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) Exhibition held from 26th to 28th March at Gulu University, reaffirming its commitment to academic excellence, innovation and transformative education.

The exhibition provided a valuable platform to engage stakeholders, share insights and showcase impactful initiatives shaping the future of higher education in Uganda and beyond.

### Day One Highlights

The event commenced with a visit from the Chief Guest, Hon. JC Muyingo, State Minister for Education, who toured the University's stall. During the visit, student Arinda Andrew Besigye presented AI MEDICA UG, an innovation aimed at improving triage responses during health emergencies, demonstrating the power of student-driven solutions in addressing real-world challenges.

### Day Two Engagements

On the second day, the University hosted His Worship Okwonga Alfred, Mayor of Gulu City, who commended the innovations on display and emphasized the importance of student-led initiatives in advancing the Competency-Based Education and Training (CBET) curriculum. The team also engaged with

secondary school students, offering guidance on academic and career pathways.

The University's exhibition stall attracted significant attention throughout the event, with visitors expressing interest in the practical applications of the project showcased. The interactions provided an opportunity to highlight the institution's emphasis on research, innovation and hands-on learning as key drivers of academic excellence.

In addition, participation in the exhibition strengthened networks with other universities, policymakers and industry stakeholders. These engagements opened avenues for future collaborations, knowledge exchange and partnerships aimed at enhancing the quality and relevance of higher education.

### Exhibition Closure

The exhibition was officially closed by Hon. Martin Ojara Mapenduzi, MP for Gulu West Division, who appreciated participating universities for showcasing innovations that contribute to socio-economic transformation.

King Ceasor University extends its gratitude to NCHE for organizing the exhibition, Gulu University for their warm hospitality and the University administration for their continued

support. The event marked yet another opportunity to inspire innovation, build partnerships and strengthen the University's role in shaping the future of higher education.

## PICTORIAL

