

MAKERERE UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF LAW

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

DRAFT

Forward

On behalf of the entire staff of the school of law of Makerere University, I am pleased to present to you the school annual report 2015. The report highlights the achievements and key focus areas for the calendar year 2015/2016 respectively. A number of aspects including inaugural lecture by Prof. Joe Oloka-Onyango, PILAC staff retreat, partnership agreements, research and innovations among other key areas of focus are included in this report.

DRAFT

Address Maternal Death, Government urged

The School of Law, Makerere University in partnership with the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria held the 5th Helen Kanzira Memorial Lecture on the 15th October 2015 at Imperial Royale Hotel, Kampala under the theme: **“Exploring Uganda’s performance on the MDG’s in the area of Maternal Health: Achievements and Challenges?”**

The lecture was aimed at commemorating the life and achievements of the late Helen Kanzira while highlighting and generating more discussion on maternal and reproductive health issues as they affect women in Africa. Dr. Olive Sentumbwe-Mugisa, the Family Health and Population Advisor at the World Health Organisation gave a key note address, that was discussed by Prof. Ben Twinomugisha of the School of Law, Makerere University, Hon. Irene Ovonji- Odida, CEO FIDA-U and Mr. Moses Mulumba, Executive Director, Centre for Health, Human Rights and Development, (CEHURD). Dr. Olive Sentumbwe-Mugisa said the public lecture was timely being held during the safe motherhood week when a lot of effort was being put in to bring about the desired change in addressing maternal death.

She noted with regret that the Millennium Development Goal number 5 is the least realised, which she attributed to a number of factors for instance many young girls are sexually active at an early age of 16 yet not protected. In Uganda 16 women die per day which in day to day explanation means that a commuter taxi full of women die, but sadly go unnoticed, she added. She commended the School of Law Makerere University and the University of Pretoria for opening up the debate on such a big challenge, which she described as a tragedy of our time.

Further in her discussion Dr. Sentumbwe Mugisa observed that the problem is compounded by HIV/AIDS which poses a major complication to pregnant women and the children. This is so because there is a negative trend that has reversed the earlier achievements in combating HIV/AIDS in Uganda. She noted that young people now are more affected and the ratio of boys to girls is narrowing as many more boys are infected. These have to be targeted with serious interventions she suggested.

The other factors that have lead to maternal death that she noted was death of women arising out of unskilled deliveries, at the hands of unskilled personnel. She noted that total fertility rate is one of the stagnant indicators and yet the more pregnancies a woman gets, the more the chances of dying during delivery. She said after four children, the number that follows affects the physical, physiological and mental wellbeing of mothers, although pregnancy is seen as a normal event.

Dr. Sentumbwe Mugisa reported that although Uganda has achieved in the reduction of under five mortality, there has not been a reduction in neonatal deaths, with Uganda among the top five countries in neonatal mortality in Africa, which she described as a tragedy. She said this calls for more work because either mother or baby will die on the first day of birth or during the first week. The sad note is that when one pushes a child, there is a feeling that all is well, and few people stay close to the mother and the baby, she noted.

While highlighting some of the interventions that need to be strengthened, Dr. Sentumbwe said there is need to focus on the mother, which is a responsibility of many actors and sectors like access to education as well as ensuring the observance of the rights of the girls and women in the communities by according them the necessary environment. These may include resources at the health units to avert such maternal death that are largely related to bleeding, she said.

She said couples and individuals have the right to decide, get access to information and the right to scientific progress, explaining that complications arise out of the concept of three delays namely failure to make decisions, failure to access transport, and access to services. She pointed out a number of measures that Uganda has adopted to address the tragedy that include maternal death surveillance to document all death of mothers and their causes, support to marginalised and hard to reach areas among others.

The discussants of the paper included Prof. Ben Twinomugisha from School of Law Makerere University and Mr. Mulumba Moses Executive Director, Centre for Health, Human Rights and Development, (CEHURD). They indicated that there is need for legal intervention given that despite the efforts in addressing the challenges of maternal mortality, a lot of resources are misappropriated. They indicated that lawyers, have a duty to lobby Government on a law on termination of pregnancy and access to safe abortion. They however noted that as much as Government has a duty to offer services, it lacks right priorities in the expenditure of the national resources, with a view that a lot more needs to be spent in the health sector.

They emphasized the importance of the law in the efforts of addressing the challenge at hand and that a lot of this is happening because of a failed state and a collapsed system. They noted that 80% of all cases against doctors are maternal deaths and that there is need to enforce implementation of the minimum health care package as well as calling upon the State to take up its obligation by invoking the law to hold the Government accountable.

The Vice Chancellor Makerere University, in a speech read for him by the Deputy Vice Chancellor in charge of Academics Prof. Ernest Okello Ogwang said the role of institutions of higher learning is to think, invent and create for the purpose of contributing to global advancement. He said the Helen Kanzira memorial public lecture is timely given the current global discourse on Reproductive Rights of Women generally and maternal health specifically in order to find lasting solutions. He said Helen Kanzira personifies the countless women who die during pregnancy and childbirth, many of whom sadly go unnoticed.

The challenges of our health service delivery systems are known and often the rural underserved suffer the most, he noted. However, as far as maternal and reproductive health is concerned, the urban woman is also affected. This is an issue for all women everywhere and we must find sustainable solutions through our research and community outreach agenda.

The Ag. Principal School of law Dr. Damalie Naggita Musoke said Helen Kanzira gives a human face to the challenge of maternal death. She said Helen's life and death should not be in vain. 'We need to make a concerted effort to address this challenge, she added.

Dr. Damalie Naggita Musoke commended the Centre for Human Rights, a consortium of 13 Universities, for supporting such events annually. She said Helen Kanzira is remembered as a committed, brilliant law student in the then Faculty of law in 1995, whose life was lost while budding.

Ernest Kalibbala who talked on behalf of the family of Helen Kanzira commended the organisers of this memorial event and for bringing the lecture to Uganda, where Helen worked and lived. He described Helen as a friend of his, who was down to earth, focused and self driven. He regretted to note that Helen's death was a result and is still a sign of lack of care, lack of facilities, while our leaders continue to give statistics of improvements, while answers will come too late, he said.

Eric Lwanga based at the University of Pretoria gave a brief background to the Helen Kanzira Lecture. He said Helen Kanzira was in the 2000 class of the Masters of Human Rights and Democratisation program at the University of Pretoria. She died in 2007 and the institution decided to honour her through annual lectures and the one in Kampala today is the 5th.

INNOVATIVE TEACHING AND LEARNING

Students exhibited their best in a couple of moot court competitions internally and internationally. In the Moot court students take part in simulated court proceedings usually involving drafting briefs or

memorials and participating in oral argument, aimed at cultivating into young legal minds the culture of self expression and advocacy.

THE MOOT COURT COMPETITIONS

The School of Law officially received the trophies of the winning team following a win by Makerere University emerged Winners during the 7th National Moot Court Competition on International Humanitarian Law held recently.

The Competition, which was organised by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), was held from 28th September to 1st October, and involved Five Universities, including the Uganda Christian University, Nkumba University, the Islamic University in Uganda and Kampala International University.

Makerere University and Uganda Christian University made it to the Final Round, which was won by Makerere University. It will represent Uganda at the Region. Makerere University was represented by Simon Ssenyonga, Anne Tendo and Rachel Kobusinge, who each won 750,000 Uganda Shillings worth of shopping vouchers. They will also be representing Uganda at the 15th All Africa International Humanitarian Law Moot Court Competition from 14th to 21st November in Arusha, Tanzania.

The Uganda Christian University, which emerged Runners Up, also won a quiz which was held during the Competition, and had the Competition's Best Oralist. They each won 500,000 Uganda Shillings worth of shopping vouchers.

In another development, the School of Law through the Public interest law clinic (PILAC) initiated strategies of strengthening public interest litigation through formation of a network of Public Litigation organisations (NETPIL). It brings together advocates and CSOs interested in public interest litigation for purposes of collaboration. Similarly efforts are being made to mainstream the Clinical Legal Education module in the curriculum of law Schools. This, according to the Dean of Law, Dr. Damalie Naggita Musoke, will help the undergraduate students adopt additional skills and values not normally handled in classroom teaching of law, since it involves 60- 70% practical work. She however points at the challenges at hand like high numbers and changing the mindset of law teachers used to the Lecture methods.

ALUMNI

One of the members of the first law class in 1968, Vastina Rukiranze Rukirama yesterday paid a courtesy call on the Dean and staff of School of Law, where she commended the work being done in nurturing law students.

She was handed over a picture of the first law class, she being one of the pioneers of the Law program in 1968-1969. The same picture was in the 2014 Makerere University Calendar on the February page, which was one of the features celebrating MAK @90. The photo also features the likes of Professor Y.K Lule, (deceased) The Principal of Makerere University College, the Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof. Ali Mazui (deceased) and the Head of Department of Law Prof. J. Kakooza(deceased)

While handing over the framed Picture, the Dean School of law Dr. Damalie Naggita Musoke flanked by the Deputy Dean, Mr. Peter Wandera and Prof. Sylvia Tamale commended MS Vastina for taking off time to come to the School of Law, and asked her to request other old students of law School to come and contribute towards the development efforts of the School of law.

She said the School of Law is in the process of organising a resource mobilisation drive and called for support of Ms Vastina and other alumni in realising the objective of raising resources to improve the teaching and learning environment at the School of Law.

She said effective 1st July 2014, the School of Law became a College within the meaning of the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions (Management of Constituent Colleges of Makerere University) Statute 2012. Although a College, it retained the name "School of Law".

The Vision of the School of Law as a College is "To become a leading School of academic excellence in legal training, research and outreach in Africa" and its Mission is "To impart quality legal knowledge and skills based on inter-disciplinary research and provide services relevant to local, national and global needs."

Ms Vastina Rukiranze Rukirama, now a Commissioner with Law Reform Commission, in her reminiscence remarks said she is proud to be among the pioneers of the Law Class of Makerere University. She said the first Law class conducted their lectures in the Main building, above the administrators of the University.

She happily recalled some of her classmates that include The Chief Justice of the Republic of Rwanda His Lordship Sam Rugege, Ms Frida Lule and Joseph Ekemu, former Attorney general among others.

2ND SHORT REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON INTERNATIONAL WATER LAW, NEGOTIATION AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION

The School of Law hosted the 2nd short Regional Training Course on International Water Law, Negotiation and Conflict Resolution. It was jointly organized by the Environmental Law Center, School of Law, Makerere University, and the EU-funded IGAD Inland Water Resources Management Programme (INWRMP).

It was hosted at the School of Law, Makerere University between 13-15 January, 2015. The course was attended by 20 participants nominated by the Governments of the IGAD member states.

The Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) is an eight-country trade bloc in Eastern Africa. It includes governments from the Horn of Africa, Nile Valley, and the African Great Lakes. The member states include Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Uganda, Kenya and Eritrea with a focus on development and environmental control.

The INWRMP aimed, among other things, at assisting IGAD member states in the improvement of policy and legal frameworks for water resources management through the development of recommendations for regional policy and legal instruments and the provision of support in policy and law implementation. This support includes the enhancement of the capacity to find solutions to water management issues at the regional level through dialogue and cooperation.

The Course on International Water Law, Negotiation and Conflict Resolution intends to provide officials with exposure to topics on International Water Law relevant within the IGAD regional context, so as to enhance their capacity to handle the problems and negotiate the solutions. The Course will be conducted by internationally recognized and national experts in water law, policy and administration

The Religion, Rights and Peace Fellowship is a multi-disciplinary academic programme designed to:

- Establish an intellectual space within which to promote pedagogic opportunities for diverse perspectives on the centrality of religion in promoting human rights and governance in Uganda;
- Create linkages between Academia, Religion Institutions and Leaders, Policy Makers and Students for the promotion of a constructive discourse;
- Stimulate a fresh culture of critical engagement and discussion by academics and religious leaders;
- Ensure that various perspectives and approaches to Religion, Rights and Peace can be shared, advanced and popularized throughout society with special attention to the youth;

The overall purpose of the Fellowship was to contribute to reviving and restoring the historical place of Universities as centers for research, innovation and enduring solutions, focusing in particular on the religious dimensions to human rights, peace and good governance.

The target audience of students, Civil Society, state and political actors were reached through:

- Advanced Seminars; which targeted post-graduate students and interested undergraduate students, these are intended to contribute to deepening intellectual discourse on the role of Religion and Faith in promoting Human Rights and Peace in Uganda.
- Public Lectures; focused on the themes of Religion, Human Rights, Politics, Governance and Peace; targeting Academia, students and the wider University community, Public Lectures were convened at different universities and institutions.
- Radio Talk-shows; provided an opportunity to draw the wider public into the discourse and debate related to the themes addressed in the public lectures through holding discussions on radio.

- Dissemination of monographs and other literature; All the presentations made at the Seminars, public lectures and conference are to be published as monographs which will be shared and distributed at other institutions of learning including universities where the public lectures may not be held.

Advanced Seminars and Public Lectures were conducted in Makerere and other Universities and religious institutions across Uganda.

Through this Project, we are keen on impacting the knowledge, attitudes and practices of the target audiences we work with through the above activities (Advanced Seminars, Public Lectures, radio talk-shows and the literature we disseminate) as we work towards the creation of a platform for engaging on the diverse perspectives on the centrality of religion and faith in promoting human rights, peace, social justice and equity in society as well as in governance in Uganda.

INSTITUTIONS REACHED

Over the foregoing period in the year 2015, the following institutions have been reached by the activities of the Fellowship; they include:

Bishop Stuart University, Mbarara; Uganda Pentecostal University and Mountains of the Moon University, Fort Portal; Kabale University, Kabale (Western Uganda); Uganda Martyrs University, Nkozi; Uganda Christian University, Mukono; Makerere University, Kampala (Central Region); Islamic University In Uganda, Mbale (Eastern Region); Gulu University (Northern Region); Seventh Day Adventist Church—Uganda Jurisdiction, Kampala Conference; Kinyamasika National Major Seminary, Katigondo National Major Seminary, St Mbaaga National Seminary, Alokolum National Seminary in Gulu, Ggaba National Seminary And St. Charles Lwanga Town Parish, Fortportal. Still in the pipeline are activities with the National Fellowship of Born Again Churches of Uganda, Young Women Christian Association of Uganda, Young Men Christian Association of Uganda, Kampala International, Victoria and Cavendish Universities as well as the Uganda Association of Traditional Healers and Herbalists.

PROJECT CONTEXT

RRPF has provided platforms for the exchange of diverse perspectives on the centrality of religion in promoting human rights and governance in Uganda through carried out 12 countrywide public lectures,

4 advanced seminars, 10 radio talk shows that have garnered a registered attendance of up to 4560 (2313 male; 2247 female) students in various universities, (excluding the broader audience which is reached by the radio programmes). The Project has fostered linkages between the Academia, Religious Leaders, Policy Makers and Students, thereby engendering constructive discourse on the subject.

i. Consistent and practical engagement with otherwise abstract topical issues for academic and religious audiences:

The framing of project themes and topics, choice of presenters and the deliberate balancing of (political, religious and other) affiliations is the foundation upon which the project is able to give its audiences comprehensible, varied and nuanced perspectives on the topics that are discussed in the different program areas. This has helped participants from university and religious institutions to relate to otherwise abstract theoretical concepts on human rights and governance to the daily aspects of their socioeconomic and political lives. Consequently, public debate has over time not only increased in terms of the number of voices raised but also qualitatively in terms of passion that accompanies the dialogues. The latter is an aspect that is much needed to counter the apathy surrounding the subjects of rights and good governance present in the country. Increasingly, we see students relating or example, aspects of corruption to youth unemployment. Through the project, the citizens are becoming more aware of how issues of governance affect their day to day lives.

ii. Coverage of both the urban-elite and rural-peasant sections of the project's target population:

The nature of the project's audience is delicately split between two broad social categories: a minority but influential urban-elite group on the one hand and the majority rural-peasant group on the other. Any interventions towards increasing public debate on human rights and governance issues must, of necessity, take care of this important distinction. Surprisingly the strong role played by religious leaders and the academia has been found to be equally strong in both setups. This is evidenced by pertinent issues raised by the participants (e.g. citizen's observation that some politicians use religious differences boost their political capital). As such, the RRPf through its radio talk-shows, public dialogues and advanced seminars—in that order—has been able to cover both groups offering related impact. This result is imperative to note because the more inclusive a given intervention is, the stronger its outcomes—especially when dealing with increased participation in human rights and governance issues.

iii. Shared participation platform for all religious, lay and scholarly view points on topical issues:

The third outstanding result is that the project has been able to convene, through its different activity types, the varied and disparate classes (religious leaders, academia, civil society, state actors et al) into

one audience. A good example was the hosting of radio talk show in Kampala in which an NRM political cadre, an Imam and a Catholic priest engaged their audience on question of whether religious leaders should be involved in issues of rights and good governance. A remarkable outcome on its own, this has enriched the depth and spread of the dialogues, civic awareness and competence. It has also reduced the problem of isolated groups discussing within their limited confines, completely oblivious of what other categories of society are discussing. Therefore, there is immense value in bringing these groups together for better engagement on and understanding of human rights and governance issues.

PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

There are two general levels of outputs:

Intermediate Outcome I focuses on building a critical mass of students and religious audiences engaging in issues of the role of religion in human rights and governance, the Short term Outcome I is the development and use of Public Engagement Discussion Guidelines for the project's activities;

There under is Output 1.1 which focuses on undertaking thirty two (32) public dialogues and twenty one (21) advanced seminars for informed discussion and interaction between academia, religious institutions and the general public on the role of religion in human rights and governance. Regarding the current planning period, out of the planned twelve public dialogues, all have been conducted; out of the nine scheduled Advanced seminars, four have been held; and finally, of the planned twelve radio talk-shows, ten have been aired.

Showing project outputs





Clockwise: Top Left: Advanced Seminar with the Muslim Association of Wakiso District; Public Dialogue at Kinyamasika National Major Seminary, Fort Portal; Public Dialogue at Bishop Stuart University, Mbarara and discussing The Confluence between Religion and Governance in Uganda on Radio One FM 90.0 in Kampala

Towards the building of a critical mass of students and religious audiences, the project has recorded a reach of 4560 (2313 male; 2247 female) students in various universities, (excluding the broader audience which is reached by the radio programmes). Public Engagement Discussion Guidelines for project activities were developed and are in force.

It should also be noted that the numbers of indirect beneficiaries from the project exceeded more than the statistics listed above. Through the radio programme, many more persons, both young and old, male and female have been reached across the country. We have run governance focused radio programmes in central, western and Eastern Uganda. It can thus be stated that thousands of Ugandans have been positively impacted by the project.

Outcome II focuses on strengthened partnerships between academia and religious institutions on the role of religion in human rights and governance. The Intermediate Outcome envisaged by the Log frame under Outcome II was the mobilization of academic and religious institutional partnerships. The Short-term Outcome to be realized under Outcome II was a Databank of existing and prospective university and religious institutional partners identified and engaged.

Towards the above, more religious institutions and institutions of higher learning have been added to the project's partner portfolio: these include Kinyamasika National Major Seminary in Fort Portal, Katigondo National Major Seminary in Masaka, the Uganda Herbalists and Traditional Healers

Association, Ggaba National Major Seminary in Kampala, Alokum National Major Seminary in Gulu, the Seventh Day Adventist Church of Bwaise, Islamic University of Uganda (Mbale) and prospectively, Mbarara University of Science and Technology.

In a related development, the project has the pleasure of reporting that perceived and real inter-faith barriers have been demystified by project interventions in the sense that we have had people of different faiths make presentations and express themselves in institutions of equally different faiths. Some examples include but are not limited to Ms Sophie Kyagulanyi (a Muslim) delivering a lead presentation at Uganda Christian University-Mukono, the Visiting Fellow Dr. Fr Paschal Kabura (a Roman Catholic) speaking at the Anglican-founded Bishop Stuart University in Mbarara. With more interactions slated between groups like the Traditional Healers and Herbalists and the Jewish (*Abayudaaya*) community of Uganda, these cross-cutting engagements will increase.

INTEGRATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

There are three cross-cutting themes that the Project has been in position to integrate into its program, namely:

i) Youth inclusion and empowerment:

Needless to say, it is an established fact that the demographics of Uganda are such that the youth form up to 78% of the country's population. This implies that a decisive majority of the RRPF's target audiences (both in universities and religious institutions) are young people under thirty five years of age. The youth cannot be ignored by any intervention that seeks to engender the kind of social change that the project aspires to.

ii) Extractives industry and the sustainable use of the environment:

The project has not only conducted topical discussions on questions relevant to the extractives industry and how it impacts on the environment; it has established a working relationship with Global Rights Alert (an oil and gas advocacy nongovernmental organization stationed in the Albertine Region of Uganda). As a result of this ongoing partnership a joint public lecture (whose discourse revolved around environmental conservation, the oil industry and civic awareness) was successfully held at Nkumba University on 23 February, 2015.

iii) International law and conflict resolution:

The interaction between municipal and international laws in a region as restive as the Great Lakes necessitated that the project pay attention to the cross-border conflicts, refugee influx and existing mechanisms towards peaceful resolution of conflict. This is reflected in themes and topical discussions like: “Prospects and Challenges for Transitional Justice and Peace Building in Uganda” which was discussed at the Institute of Peace, Gulu University; “The Role of Religion and Culture in Peace Building: Identities, Conflict Management and Resolution” which was the topic of the day at Bishop Stuart University in Mbarara; and, “Democracy, Political Culture and Peace Architecture” which will soon be the focus of discussion at a selected public lecture, in light of the current pre-election period and what it portends for the general elections due in 2016.

LESSONS LEARNED

- i. The project management has learnt to caution itself to the importance of balancing between religious, partisan and other interests when making invitations and designing activity themes. This is not just important as a way of conducting engagements; it also enriches the quality of discourse because of the diversity and depth of perspectives that come out from balanced and broad panels. The challenge though sometimes is that time is limited yet the audience is also always eager to participate. A delicate balance therefore has to be struck between the audience and the diverse panel of presenters.
- ii. Sometimes it is better to depart from conventional approaches for instance the public debate model to panel discussion model or from the collective (men and women) approach to gender sensitive approaches—the necessity was evident in interactions with Muslim communities during the Advanced Seminar convened with the Uganda Muslim Association in Wakiso. Organisers of activities ought to be alive to the latent dynamics within a group of participants; care must be taken to ensure that one section (the feminine gender in this case) is not suppressed by another section within the same audience for whatever reason.
- iii. Partner institutions (universities and religious institutions alike) ought to be allowed to determine (within the parameters of the project’s stated themes) their own topics for engagement; this builds a sense of ownership, and participation is more vibrant when groups are given the latitude to influence the scope and nature of the discussion they would like to have. The Project has in certain cases withdrawn a prospective presenter or discussant out of respect for the reservations expressed by a given institution. This builds trust and fosters cooperation which makes the organisation of future events easier and successful.
- iv. Collaboration with other civil society organisations especially those working directly with the thematic focus of the project has been of great value. For instance, when discussing governance and extractives in Uganda,

the project collaborated with Global Alert, an NGO with special expertise in that aspect. Because the RRP does not boast to be well versed in all governance perspectives, working with others has helped to strengthen the depth of presentation and analysis of information required for the public dialogues and Advanced Seminars.

- v. Online presence is a huge coup for partner-efficiency. The Project has experienced firsthand the importance of having an online (social media sites like Facebook) presence both as a tool for publicising events in advance as well as conducting discussions with virtual discussions that commence before, continue during and carry on after the actual activity has happened. Some online engagements have gone on for up to twenty hours after the actual activity has happened. Online presence is therefore important and crucial.
- vi. Informal audiences and participants are best dealt with as they are, as opposed to trying to confine them within the framework that the project documents may at times stipulate. This is true for especially religious and traditional audiences which prefer to stick to their own means of conducting activities. Activity organisers ought to be flexible in the way they prepare for activities such as reaching out to religious audiences on weekends when it is most suitable to reach them after their worship sessions.
- vii. Tailoring of activity themes along mainstream course content and relevant/current thematic topics as opposed to a rigid, inflexible set of themes helps in improving the relevance of the project to religious institutions and universities. Core content is not affected since concepts may still be introduced into the subject matter for discussion while keeping the topic appealing and relevant to the intended participants at any given time.
- viii. Dissemination of publications within the partners' network is an avenue for increasing project scope and coverage. This has been done through the compilation of all activities from the previous phase into compendiums known as Monographs; these contain presentations made at Public Lectures and Advanced Seminars for the benefit of those who may not have attended the actual event. It also helps as a permanent record and reference for future use. A similar compilation is being prepared featuring all expositions delivered at previous activities. Sharing of project literature also builds the strength of partnerships within the organisations under the Deepening Democracy project.

TOWARDS THE EAST AFRICA NETWORK OF UNIVERSITY LAW CLINICS (EANULAC).

In a bid to fast track the establishment of the East African Network of School based Law Clinics, the Public interest Law clinic at the School of Law Makerere University held the second annual meeting for the clinicians from the region.

This is a follow up of the initial meeting held last year, to kick-start the building of a forum that would for the first time bring together university-based law clinics in East Africa and would also encourage universities without clinics to establish them.

The meeting held at the school of Law 12th November drew the participation of clinicians from Universities of Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda. It was aimed at bringing together law teachers from selected universities in order to promote the use of clinical methods of teaching the law and establishment of law clinics.

It was also aimed at embarking on processes of establishing the East African Network of University Law Clinics as well as discuss the modalities and functioning of the East African Network of University Law Clinics.

While welcoming the participants to the School of Law, Dr. Damalie Naggita Musoke, the Principal noted that many of the students undergoing training in law schools do not appreciate the application of the law until they get through the Law Development centres. She said by adopting the clinical legal education methodologies and mainstreaming them in the existing programs, the students will be helped to appreciate the applicability of the laws they study. She said through such pedagogical methods, the students will have an opportunity to get exposed to real life, hands on situations and gain from the experiential learning. She commended PILAC for initiating this noble idea of extending the clinic to the entire region

The Coordinator Public interest Law Clinic Dr. Christopher Mbazira while giving a brief background to the program said Clinical Legal education program in the School of Law was the first of its kind in Universities in Uganda.

It is was set up in 2012 arising out of the need to re engineer the training of law students to produce law graduates with public interest lawyering, that will involve protection of the rights of the vulnerable members of the community.

He said to date a lot of ground has been covered citing the example of the establishment of the

Network of Public interest lawyers NETPIL coordinated by Ms. Nicole Ismene. He said other activities that are primarily targeted to students include the Public Lecture series where they gain from sharing from expertise in selected thematic areas on contemporary issues.

Students also benefit from community engagements and field work. Dr. Mbazira said the move is on to extend the clinics to other Universities and that the meeting was intended to share experiences from various Universities and lay strategies for propelling it further.

He said one such idea was the establishment of the Law Teachers Association and to explore how the Clinical legal methodologies can be mainstreamed in other law programs. He said another way forward was to find means of bridging the gap between the Academia and the practitioners

The goal of this program is the development of professionally competent, socially conscious and ethical lawyers who will serve the society better. It is envisaged that clinical legal education will expose law students to the impact the practice of law has on the people by using their legal expertise in addressing issues of social concern.

SCHOOL OF LAW QUALIFIES AND SEEKS SPONSORSHIP TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 56TH PHILLIP C. JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION.

The School of Law will this year part in the 56th Phillip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition from 5th to 11th April in Washington DC, United States of America. Jessup is the world's largest and oldest Moot Court Competition dedicated to International Law, with participants from over 550 law schools in more than 80 countries.

The Competition is a simulation of a fictional dispute between Countries before the International Court of Justice, the judicial organ of the United Nations.

Represented by Donald Maasa, Adrone Nalinya Naggayi, Edline Murungi and Lucy Kemigisha, the School of Law participated in the Uganda National Rounds of the Competition on Saturday 21st February 2015, where they were selected, alongside the Law Development Centre and the Uganda Christian University, to represent Uganda at the Competition's International Rounds in Washington DC.

This was their maiden appearance at the Competition's National Rounds, which were held at the Law Development Centre, and the first time the School of Law will be participating in the Competition's International Rounds in many years.

However, the team is seeking sponsorship to be able to take part in this competition to a tune of \$15,000.

In July 2014, Students from the School of Law won the first ever Commonwealth Moot Court Competition held in London and the best memorials were by Irene Itol (LL.B IV) and Elijah Enyimu (LL.B IV).

Similarly, The School of Law beat five other Universities in the International Humanitarian Law moot that it hosted in October 2014. The team comprised Maasa Donald (LL.B III), Enyimu Elijah (LL.B IV), Murungi Eva Edline (LL.B IV), earned One Million Shillings each and represented Uganda at the Regional English speaking Africa moot competition Arusha in November 2014.

The Moot court is a method of teaching Law and legal skills that enable students acquire skills to analyze and argue both sides of a hypothetical issue thereby teaching students the practical side of practicing law.

PILAC CONVENES THE INAUGURAL CLE ANNUAL MOOT

The Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC) in the School of Law held the Inaugural School Moot Court in Court Room 1 at the High Court, presided over by real Judges. The Moot was by the Clinical Legal Education Students. According to the Coordinator PILAC, Dr. Christopher Mbazira, this is one of a series of activities intended to build a partnership with the Judiciary.

He said the Moot was aimed at exposing the students to the Court Environment so that by the end of the Course, students have had some practical exposure of the Court.

The Theme for the Moot was African Human Rights System, particularly the African Court of Human Rights. It was designed to help students understand the workings of the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights and the rights of indigenous peoples evicted as a result of mining activities.

The Moot had panel of four judges, consisting of Justice Geoffrey Kiryabwire (Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court), Justice Prof Lillian Ekirikubinza-Tibatemwa (Court of Appeal/Constitutional

Court) Justice Solome Bbosa (Court of Appeal/Constitutional Court, also Judge of the African Court on Human and Peoples Rights), and Justice Lydia Mugambe (High Court).

In a debrief after the session the Judges commended the Lecturers for their efforts in preparing the students for the moot, adding that they would continue to be involved in the annual Moot activities.

Students were advised on a number of areas for improvement that include their etiquette and confidence, self esteem as well as have a good command of the English language, balancing the flow of their speech, use of complete sentences as well as working on nervousness. Other areas were on Clarity of issues, explanation and analysis, balancing breathing and speaking, catching the eye of the Judge and ensuring that one completes the issues once given an opportunity to speak

The judges expressed the need to have more and more Moots and asked the students to use their free time to come to courts and observe the proceedings adding for one to be a good lawyer , one needs to argue cases in Court and not only being brilliant in Class. They emphasised the need to prepare and work on the art of Public Speaking and to read widely.

PLEA BARGAINING AS A RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM IN UGANDA, WILL IT WORK?

This was the theme of a discussion organised by the Public Interest Law Clinic In the School of Law. Hon. Justice Mike Chibita, the Director Public Prosecutions (DPP) was guest speaker at a public dialogue that drew participation from a cross section of personalities that included Professors of Law, Lecturers and students.

While explaining the concept of Plea Bargaining, Hon. Justice Mike Chibita said this is a system that has been put in place where accused persons are enabled to bargain for a plea. He said plea bargaining will and is already working in addressing some of the pressing challenges in the judicial system that include case backlogs, high costs, delays, and more.

He explained that in Uganda, One Hundred Fifty cases are registered annually although the number of prosecutors is only Three Hundred spread out through One hundred stations all over the country.

He said much as the best practice is for one prosecutor to handle one file a week, the reality is that many more are handled.

He said the judiciary is faced with a case back log partly because of such challenges of limitations in both human and financial resources. He said much as all people awaiting trial are entitled legal representation by the state, Ninety nine percent will actually rely on this because they cannot afford other advocates.

He said in other countries like the US, public defenders and legal aid service providers get dispensation from Government to represent such people. It's against this background, he said, that Plea bargaining comes in.

If one has committed a crime and is willing to take responsibility and plead guilty of the offenses, they are fast tracked.

He said the Plea bargaining pilot has score eighty percent success rate. He said it took a day for instance to Plea bargain a case against the usual prosecution case lag for years.

As a result, he said it helped in reducing costs in forms of time, finances as well as Human resources.

He however explained some of the challenges experienced in the process of implementing plea bargaining in the court system that include shortage of resources, and the limitations arising from the fact that the implementers are learning on the job.

In her remarks, the Ag. Principal School of Law Dr. Damalie Naggita Musoke commended Hon. Justice Mike Chibita for taking off time to come and share his wealth of experience with the University community.

She called for a deeper working relationship with the DPP in order to expose students to the deeper working of the Justice System.

RELIGION, RIGHTS AND PEACE, CONVERGENCIES AND DIVERGENCIES

The Academia, Religious leaders and Civil society have been urged to play more active roles in questioning political excesses in order to forge a way forward for peace in Uganda.

This came out of a two national conference on Religion, Rights and Peace organised jointly by the Human rights and Peace centre, School of Law and the Interreligious Council of Uganda held in Hotel Africana from 20th- 21st November 2013.

The conference that was jointly organised by the Human Rights and Peace Centre, through the Religion, Rights and Peace Fellowship in collaboration with the inter religious council of Uganda was aimed at providing a platform for interface among religious leaders, academia, political leaders and human rights actors to engage on issues of religion, human rights and peace.

It was also intended to enhance knowledge in this thematic area to enable participants appreciate their civic duty as political and human actors

The other objective was to come out with recommended initiatives for creative collaboration among the same groups to address historical tensions relating to the confluence of religion, human rights and peace.

The Dean of Law, Dr. Naggita Musoke, in a speech read for her by the Deputy Dean Post graduate and administration, in the School of Law, Dr. Ronald Naluwairo commended the organisers for the platform. She said the place of religion touches on the role of Religious leaders in Politics but noted that the current Government does not approve of the Religious leaders involvement in Politics.

She said the conference would have an invaluable contribution to the future of the country with the participation of students and other categories of participants from varied backgrounds namely the religious affiliations the politicians and civil society.

The Dean extended appreciation to the donors for the support particularly DGF and GIZ for both the conference as well as other activities under the Religion and Rights fellowship program in the School of Law. She said the School of Law is proud of the unique intellectual contribution by HURIPEC through the Religion, Rights and Peace Fellowship. She particularly commended the persons steering the program namely Bishop Zac Niringiye, the RRPf fellow and Dr. Rose Nakayi, the Acting Director Human rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC) for steering the program.

She expressed optimism that the seeds planted in the area of Human Rights and democratisation will one day bear fruit for the benefit all Ugandans.

Bishop Zac Niringiye explained that the conference is meant to be a platform to interface between the academia, religious organisations, political leaders and Human Rights actors. It is on this platform, he said, where we have critical engagement on Religion, Human rights and Peace in order to enhance knowledge.

In a key note speech by Prof Hasungule, it was pointed out that there are challenges in Africa on the Political front. He illustrated the relationship between religion and Human Rights, saying that the two are in a divergent relationship although in a number of areas they are convergent. He said the fundamental principles behind the two form the pillars of peace, namely dignity, non discrimination and rights.

He referred to two schools of thought that Religion and Rights are in a juxtaposed dichotomous relationship, closely intertwined and complementary and that peace is a characteristic feature of both religion and Human Rights. He noted that the divergence between religion, peace and Human Rights on the other hand can be attributed to the fact that all religions have historically been too closely associated with some of the grossest human rights violations, for instance in slavery and colonialism in Africa, and the way people were suppressed. He said Human rights abuses continue even today for instance in practices like early marriages.

In the course of the two day conference, a number of other speakers highlighted the convergences and divergences between Religion, Human Rights and Peace.

Prof. Deusdedit Nkurunziza made a presentation on the topic, Human Rights through the lens of African Culture. He said people have a right to religion but the issue of concern is what happens when the same religion abuses people's rights.

He said that culture is a Human Right. He made reference to a number of Human Rights instruments like The African Charter on Human and People's Rights and the 1948 Universal declaration of Human Rights. These, he said, give a framework for engagement with different aspects of African culture. He stressed the significant role of culture as a medium of existence, communication and self identify, adding that the issue of cultural relativism should be considered.

Prof. Frederick Jjuuko from the School of Law presented a paper on The Political Economy of Religion in Uganda. He said that traditionally there has been a relationship between politics and religion in Uganda. He cited political party formation as one instance of this relationship and explained how religious factions have endorsed the political status quo.

He pointed that the African culture had far reaching concepts of human rights through 'Obuntu', which is related to balance, reciprocity, restoration approaches to conflict resolution. He compared this to the western model of Human rights which are individual oriented.

Other presenters at the conference included Mr. Kabumba Busingye who made a presentation on the topic, Constitutionalism, Rule of Law, or Law of the Ruler: Prospects and Challenges in Uganda today, and Reverend Canon Grace Kaiso on the topic, The Role of Religion in fostering Human Rights and Peace in Uganda: Looking forward.

During the discussions that ensued, Participants pointed out that the Academia has played a weak role in promoting Human Rights. They were urged to undertake more research on the Political Economy of Uganda as well as the different cultural beliefs and values that promote or hinder Human Rights in Uganda.

On the side of the Religious groups in the country, it was observed that there is a lot of disunity and lack of mechanisms for peaceful conflict resolution. It was noted that Religious groups have been politicised for selfish interests. Religious leaders were urged to work towards addressing disunity, stereotyping and factionalism that is evident among the various religious groupings.

The discussants noted also that Government has not created an enabling environment for the religious organisations to take up their roles in the promotion of Human Rights. It was recommended that religious leaders continue advocating for peace, peace policy and advocacy as well as human rights promotion in the country.

On the political side, It was pointed out that the constitution of Uganda has been abused and that there is lack of rule of law and instead, 'there is rulers law' with leaders achieving what they need to stay in power. Freedom of expression has been hampered by law. Regimes have diverted in administration to pursue their own interests or those of particular groups. It was also observed that all regimes have made mistakes and that there is need for a platform to review past mistakes and a common dialogue in order to forge a way forward.

Other areas of concern were the weak structures. It was recommended that institutions need to be strengthened to be relied on instead of relying on individuals in institutions. There is need to build strong institutions and organs of state like the army and the Police, that should run on set principles and guidelines.

Participants were drawn from Academic institutions, the civil society, Religious institutions as well as the human rights actors.

Educating Lawyers for Social Change at the School of Law, Makerere University

The Public Interest Law Clinic at the School of Law, Makerere University, Uganda, has continued to implement the activities aimed at creating changes in the lawyers in the making with practical, hands-on and experiential teaching techniques which inculcate public law skills and instill a sense of responsiveness to the justice needs of indigent groups and individuals. PILAC has made some strides in encouraging other law schools in the country to establish clinics and clinical programmes, in addition to bringing together university-based law clinics in the East African region, including Southern Sudan, to building synergies and share experiences and best practices.

ACTIVITIES

Institutionalisation of PILAC

In terms of activities, PILAC has since 2012 grown beyond its Clinical Education and internship activities to include community legal literacy and legal aid activities. PILAC is also progressively positioning itself as research hub on access to justice issues in Uganda. Additionally, the Clinic has embarked on a process of building public interest litigation in Uganda through capacity building and creating the Network of Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL). This was inaugurated in mat 2015.

Clinical Legal Education

The CLE class has expanded in size, from 12 in 2012 to 20 in 2015. The CLE activities continue to be popular among the students. The CLE activities which attract students to the module include: the Guest Lecture Programme; and PIL Research Support Programme; internships; and moots.

Internship

PILAC continued preparing and placing students outside the CLE class and placed the same with partners. A number of organizations have been admitting our students for internship and they retain a good record with number offered job placements even before they complete the course. The internships afforded the students the opportunity to put to apply the public interest lawyering skills they had acquired and resulted into the acquisition of practical skills.

Moot activities

The moot activities continue to positively impact on students. Students have acquires research skills, mastered the human rights systems and norms, in addition to getting the much needed exposure. PILAC continued with its support of moot activities in the School, which the Clinic believes empowers young law students with practical skills to engage, present and argue human rights cases before competent national, regional and international human rights bodies/courts.

Study Tour/Capacity Building

Staff capacity building activities have also benefited some of the staff and the Principal in the School of Law. 3 PILAC staff attended the International Conference of the Global Alliance for Justice in Turkey where a lot of knowledge and experience was shared. PILAC members learnt a lot about running a university clinic and drew a lot from the experience of other Clinics. For instance, it is from this that the Clinic conceived the idea of streamlining clinical activities in other modules, after learning how this could be done.

Alumni activities

The PILAC alumni association was formed in 2013. They undertook activities like the annual Alumni Alumni had prior to this engaged in some school outreach activities. The second Newsletter of the Alumni Association was shared during the Gala.

2015/2016 FRESHER'S WELCOME

The management and staff of the School of Law officially welcomed the first year students with a call on them to prioritize their academics while at University. The event held at the School of Law on Wednesday was graced by among others members of professional organisations that included Ms. Ruth Sebatindira, President Uganda Law Society, Ms Stella Diwaga from FIDA Uganda, heads of Departments and the President Makerere Law Society, Edwin Mugumya.

While addressing the students, the Ag. Principal Dr. Damalie Naggita Musoke, congratulated the incoming students upon choosing a noble profession and for successfully going through the sieving process.

She asked them to take note of the requirements of being at the law school by reading the School handbook and utilising the offices in place in order to have a smooth stay in the Law school.

Further, she advised the students to use the newly found freedom at the University responsibly and cautioned them against over reliance on photocopied reading materials, but rather read widely as the course requires.

Ms Ruth Sebatindira President Uganda Law Society in her address to the students said ULS has over two thousand three Hundred members. She said the organisation has a Legal Aid program which reaches

out to communities and urged the students to get interested in the work of the association while still at University because they too would eventually become members.

Sebatindira counselled the students to be focused, develop personal plans and get useful relationships while still at University. She asked them to use the time at the Law school profitably and gain skills that will be very useful in the future such as professional relationships.

The students were also addressed by Ms. Stella Biwaga from FIDA Uganda who informed them that being a Lawyer goes beyond a Court room, to other areas like Human Rights and gender justice targeting women, just like FIDA does. She invited the students to utilise the resource centre at FIDA to be able to appreciate the diverse nature of law and the career options that are open to the students of Law.

Mr. Henry Nsubuga from the Counselling Unit of Makerere University introduced the service to the students and advised them to utilise the service for their own development. He said the unit supports students in terms of career development but also when faced with challenges ranging from academic to psychological that in some cases have led to suicide, depression and alcohol abuse among University students the world over.

Representing the Uganda Christian Lawyer's Fraternity, Ms Niwamanya Daphne urged the students to join such associations while still at Law School. She said the association convenes a number of activities that are beneficial to the academic and career growth of the students and these include Moots, Seminars and symposia.

Ms. Atim Patricia a Lecturer in the Law School and Instructor in PILAC introduced the incoming students to the Public Interest Law Clinic, with the objective of interesting them to Public interest lawyering options available in their pursuit of a law career. She said PILAC aims at creating a change in the mindset of the lawyers to be able to address issues of public interest targeting the underserved indigent communities.

Other officers that addressed the students included the Registrar Joan Basigira, the Chair Department Commercial Law, Dr. Winifred Tarinyeba, Dr. Maria Nassali, Ag. Chair, Public and Comparative Law Department

RESEARCH

In research, Law students, Joseph Wandabwa (LL.B IV) and Amy Itogot (LL.B IV) took part in the World Universities Comparative Law project organized by a law firm Allen & Overy. It involved assessing aspects of the law in Uganda including tax, intellectual Property, financial and corporate law. The rating provided a guide for assessing legal risk in a particular jurisdiction. They were supervised by Dr. Winifred Kiryabwire, coordinated by Professor Philip R. Wood QC (Hon), Head of the Allen and Overy Global Law Intelligence Unit.

Faculty in the School of law published literary materials. They include Professor David Justin Bakibinga's Books like *Company Law in Uganda* (2013: 2nd Edition, The Written Word Publications, Allahabad, India; ISBN 978-81-925371-0-8). Others include *The Trial of Civilians in Uganda's Military Courts: Interrogating the Reasons and Constitutionality* by Dr. Ronald Naluwairo. Dr Tarinyeba Kiryabwire published two articles in *Legal Ethics and Professionalism: A Handbook for Uganda* namely, *Duties of the Ugandan Advocate* and *The Advocate – Client Relationship in Uganda*, and more.

Research output is also documented in *The East Africa Journal of Peace and Human Rights*, Vol.19. No.2. December 2013 and Vol.20. No.1. June 2014. This is in addition to the various working papers produced that include working papers by PILAC and HURIPAC all of which are available at the School of Law. Additionally PILAC has produced 'The Community Law program Instructor's manual' and the 'Learner's and the Public interest litigation manuals'.

THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S LAW COURSE

The short course formerly began in the year 2011 when the office of the President and the Public service commission approved of it. The short course leads to the award of a Certificate in Administrative Law. The certificate that is awarded is a requirement at Entry, Confirmation and Promotion for Administrative Cadres in Government and other agencies. It is also useful for Administrative Heads of technical Departments as well as Political leaders at all levels. The coverage has increased to cover over twenty districts.