



**Makerere University
SCHOOL OF LAW**

Annual Report 2020





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2020

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADR	-	Alternative Dispute Resolution
CLAPMOC	-	Community Law Programme and Mobile Clinic
CLE	-	Clinical Legal Education
CSOs	-	Civil Society Organizations
DGF	-	Democratic Governance Facility
ESCR	-	Economic Social and Cultural Rights
FRHI	-	Foundation for Human Rights Initiative
HURIPEC	-	Human Rights and Peace Centre
IFAC	-	International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants
KIU	-	Kampala International University
IT	-	Information Technology
LDC	-	Law Development Centre
MAK	-	Makerere University
MOU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
NETPIL	-	Network of Public Interest Lawyers
PILAC	-	Public Interest Law Clinic
PR	-	Public Relations
RLP	-	Refugee Law Project
SHUREA	-	Strengthen Human Rights Research and Education in Sub-Saharan Africa
UCU	-	Uganda Christian University



A Word From the Principal



————— “ —————
Prof. Christopher Mbazira

————— ” —————

The School of Law in accordance with the Universities and Other Tertiary Institutions Act 2001 is proud to present to you the Annual Report for 2020. Despite the Challenges realized in the period under review due to the breakout of COVID -19 and the subsequent lockdown, the School was able to devise ways and means of realizing the objectives using innovative means under the new normal. With the guidance of the University, the School immediately embraced technology to enable it deliver on its mandate.

In 2020, despite the restrictions in the first half, emphasis was put on the teaching, learning and research. Student centered approaches to learning were employed. In addition, the School continued with its service delivery to particularly address the needs of the communities that we serve. This was done among others through the outreaches undertaken as one element of knowledge transfer.

As a matter of fact, the practical element of the training was greatly affected. This included the internships that were affected since many organizations could not physically take on our students in observance of the SOPs. The School therefore devised means of ensuring that the students undertook some practical works that was assessed mostly online.

Albeit the challenges that are recurrent in nature year after year like inadequate infrastructure and the ever-increasing financial strain, a lot has been realized in the teaching and learning core function. Effort has been intensified in sourcing for alternative funding through mobilization of the alumni and other networks. Strategies have been laid aimed at supporting the research output as well as the infrastructure and a lot has been realized here. Indeed, one of the biggest achievements was the success in convincing the Centre to budget for a new School of Building. The procurement process is underway for this purpose.

I take this opportunity to appreciate the efforts of the staff of the School, students, alumni, partners and the University Management for their demonstrated resilience and support that enabled us compete rather difficult year.



INTRODUCTION

A. INTRODUCTION

The Annual Report of the School of Law for the year 2019/2020 details progress and activities implemented within the year. In the course of the year, a lot of achievements were realized and these will be illustrated in the report. Despite the efforts to move the unit to higher levels, there were a number of challenges that included COVID 19 that affected program implementation. Others were limitations in infrastructure, teaching aids, vis a vis the ever-increasing number of students to be attended to.

Vision of Makerere University

To be the leading institution for academic excellence and innovations in Africa.

Vison of the School of Law

The School of Law is a constituent college of Makerere University and therefore its Vision is; To become Africa's pre-eminent Law School with a rich tradition of excellence in the teaching of law, legal training and research.

Mission Statement

To impart quality legal knowledge and skills within an inter-disciplinary framework inspired by legal scholarship, outreach and a commitment to justice for all, and produce graduates well equipped to deal with new and emerging legal problems who will serve their clients and the community with integrity and excellence.

Objectives of the School of Law

- The objectives of the School of Law are;
- To promote and engage in cutting-edge legal research on contemporary legal topics and issues as well as legal scholarship in interdisciplinary and analytical spheres,
- To develop and impart legal knowledge necessary for practical applications in national development, democratic governance and integrity in public and private institutions,
- To establish and maintain state-of-the-art infrastructure to facilitate effective legal teaching, training and research,
- To mobilize and secure adequate financial, human and other resources necessary for attaining the vision of the School of Law



LEADERSHIP AT THE SCHOOL OF LAW



Prof. Christopher Mbazira

LL.B(Hons), (Mak); LL.M
(Pretoria); Ph.D. (UWC),
Dip. L.P. (LDC).

*Ag. Principal, Associate
Professor and Coordinator
Public Interest Law Clinic
(PILAC)*



Ronald Naluwairo,

PhD (London), LL.M
(Cambridge), LL.B
(Makerere), DIP L.P (LDC).

*Senior Lecturer and Ag.
Deputy Principal*



Dr. Kakungulu Mayambala LL.B (Hons) (Mak);
Dip. L.P. (LDC); SIDA/ WIPOFellow (Lund);
LL.M (Fordham); S.J.D. (Arizona).LL.B (Hons)
(Dar); LL.M. (Calgary), Ph.D.

Ag. Head, Environmental Law Centre.



Dr. Zahara Nampewo LL.B.
(Mak); LL.M. (Nottingham);
Dip. L.P. (LDC).

*Lecturer and Acting Director
HURIPEC.*



Dr. Daniel Ruhweza, LL.B. (Mak); LL.M.
(Cantab); Dip. L.P. (LDC); Ph. D (Kent)

Ag. Head, Law and Jurisprudence



Dr. Phiona Muhwezi

Mpanga ,LL.B (Hons)
(Mak); LL.M (Cantab);
Dip. L.P. (LDC), Ph.D
(Witwatersrand)

*Ag Head Commercial Law
Department.*



Patricia Atim LL.B. (Mak);
Dip. L.P. (LDC), Kampala,
LL.M (Pretoria) Ag. Head

*Commercial Law
Department.*

B. STAFFING LEVELS

The School of Law has a total enrollment of 37 Academic members of staff and 16 administrative staff. Effort is on to fill the existing staff establishment gaps and these have communicated to the central administration.

A system has been initiated to undertake Staff appraisals to continuously assess staff performance as well as address the identified training and other needs based on the Staff performance targets set at the beginning the year.

Student Enrolment in 2019/20.

The School of Law has a total student enrollment of 1,272 students. At Graduate level, the School of Law has realizes an increase in the number of LL. D program uptake with 11 students on board. In the LLM class, there are 61 students in the 1st year, 61 and 40 students are in their second and first year respectively. At undergraduate level, the 1st year students total 323, second years are 206, while the third- and fourth-year students make 270 and 361 respectively.

C: PROGRESS IN MEETING ANNUAL WORK PLAN TARGETS

The School of Law set out to undertake a number of activities as laid out in the annual work-plan and these have been largely realized.



D: PROGRESS IN IMPLEMENTING THE 2019/2010 STRATEGIC PLAN

The activities of the School of Law are guided by the Strategic Plan for 2017/2018 2022/2023 which has 4 goals. The activities for the year were aligned to the aforementioned objectives.

	Progress to-date	Impediment
Strategic Objective 1. To promote excellence in the teaching of law to produce legal professionals who are well equipped to address new and emerging legal problems both at the national and international level		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous staff training • Staff Recruitment • Curriculum review • Continuous staff evaluation • Diversification of Teaching Methods • Promote peer-to-peer learning • Develop and deliver tailor-made short-term training courses. • Introduce ICT-Based Training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 Academic staff are on a PhD pro- gram. • 2 academic staff recruited • Programs revised in the curriculum review and new pro- grams introduced • All units are making final touches on program reviews • Staff evaluation through annual appraisals undertaken • Clinical Training methodologies continue to be mainstreamed in all programs • Increased experiential learning opportunities through community outreaches under CLAPMOC and CLE • The Administrative Law Short Course on going at Campus and in a number of Districts. • On line teaching progressively getting introduced in the teaching & learning. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource constraints • Big classes • Program can take on few students • The scheduled program affected by the lock-down • Inadequate resources.

Strategic Objective 2: To promote and engage in cutting-edge legal research on contemporary legal topics and issues as well as legal scholarship in an interdisciplinary and analytical manner

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the office of • the Deputy Principal • carry out its duties of promoting research and publications • Publication of • Departmental Journals • Developing research projects. • Developing a research policy and establishing • a data base for all dissertations and Law • publications and monographs • Establish a Research Fund • Establish a bonus system for staff who publish articles in higher ranked law journals or publish books with leading publishing houses. • Purchase contemporary legal publications and subscribe to online legal libraries • Promote research seminars for staff and graduate students. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnerships with institutions in Uganda, region and internationally established (DGF, Well-springs, Law teaching Universities in the Region) • Academic Staff have increased research efforts and continue to write papers under FOSI, PI- LAC, SHUREA and H U R I P E C . • Staff Published in refereed journals like the EastAfrican Journal of Human rights. • Research Validation meetings held. Research papers published. • Regular meetings, seminars and workshops held Online resources introduced to staff and students. • 4 Staff seminar series undertaken | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited under- graduate research opportunities. • Approval of revised programs delayed in the university structures • Limited IT equipment compared to the numbers that need the service for e- learning and other IT related work |
|---|--|--|

Strategic Objective 3.

To support our students and graduates in making correct career choices and in finding placements and jobs

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduce Mentorship Program• Organize career fairs• Establish partnerships and alliances• Establish and run career opportunity webpage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3rd year students undertook internship/externships with reputable organizations and appreciated the practical exposure.• The Clinical Legal Education Methodologies are slowly getting entrenched in the teaching of all pro- grams at the School of Law.• Students getting interested in the area Social Justice and Public interest litigation through NETPIL and PI- LAC• 30 Law students involved in an Extern- ship program with TASO, UGANET, Naguru Remand home and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The internship program is short and students would have preferred a longer period• Limited slots for students in PILAC and NETPIL
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Strategic Objective 4

To establish a robust School of Law Alumni Association

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compiling list of all alumni and their full contacts.• Drafting adoption of the Constitution• Establishing Alumni Newsletter• Establishing and running a highly interactive webpage for the Alumni Association• Examination administration	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Alumni Data base in place and regularly updated• Constitution of the School of Law Alumni Association in place.• Distribution of the 1st volume of the Alumni Magazine still on going• School of Law Alumni what sup formed.• All examinations duly administered	<p>Poor records management delaying the process of compiling the Alumni Data base.</p> <p>Lack of resources both financial and human to run the alumni relations activities</p>
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1.0 TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teaching and Learning are the core mandates of the School of Law. The School of Law t set out to;

“To promote excellence in the teaching of Law to produce law professionals well equipped to address new and emerging legal problems at National and International levels.’

1.1 PROGRAMS OFFERED

The School of Law offers three Academic programs namely;

☛ THE BACHELOR OF LAWS (LL. B),

☛ MASTER OF LAWS (LL.) AND

☛ DOCTORAL OF LAWS (LL. D).

The school of Law undertakes to teaching law students both at Undergraduate and Graduate levels using the contemporary and new innovations. Research and publications, are some of the ways through which knowledge has been collected, documented and shared for instance in 2020, the Human Rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC) came up with a special issue of the East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights, which put together a number of articles on c o n t e m p o r a r y issues specifically Access to Information as well as the effect of COVID -19.

1.2 GRADUATION 2020

A total of 260 Students graduated from the School of Law with a Bachelors and Masters Degrees. During the 69th graduation ceremony held at the Freedom square in January 2020. The Tablebelow explains the graduation status of the School of Law.

	Male	Female	Total
Bachelors	173	79	252
Master of Laws	5	3	8
Doctor of Laws	1	0	1
Total	179	82	261



LAW STUDENTS AT THE 69th GRADUATION CEREMONY

Two Hundred Sixty-One Law students of Makerere University on 17th January 2020 were among the University students that were conferred degrees during the 4th and last session of the 70th graduation ceremony held at Freedom square.

These included Dr. Benson Tusasirwe, a Lecturer at the School of Law who graduated with a Doctor of Laws of Makerere University. Nineteen were awarded Master of Laws degrees while Two Hundred and ten were conferred with Bachelor of Laws degrees.

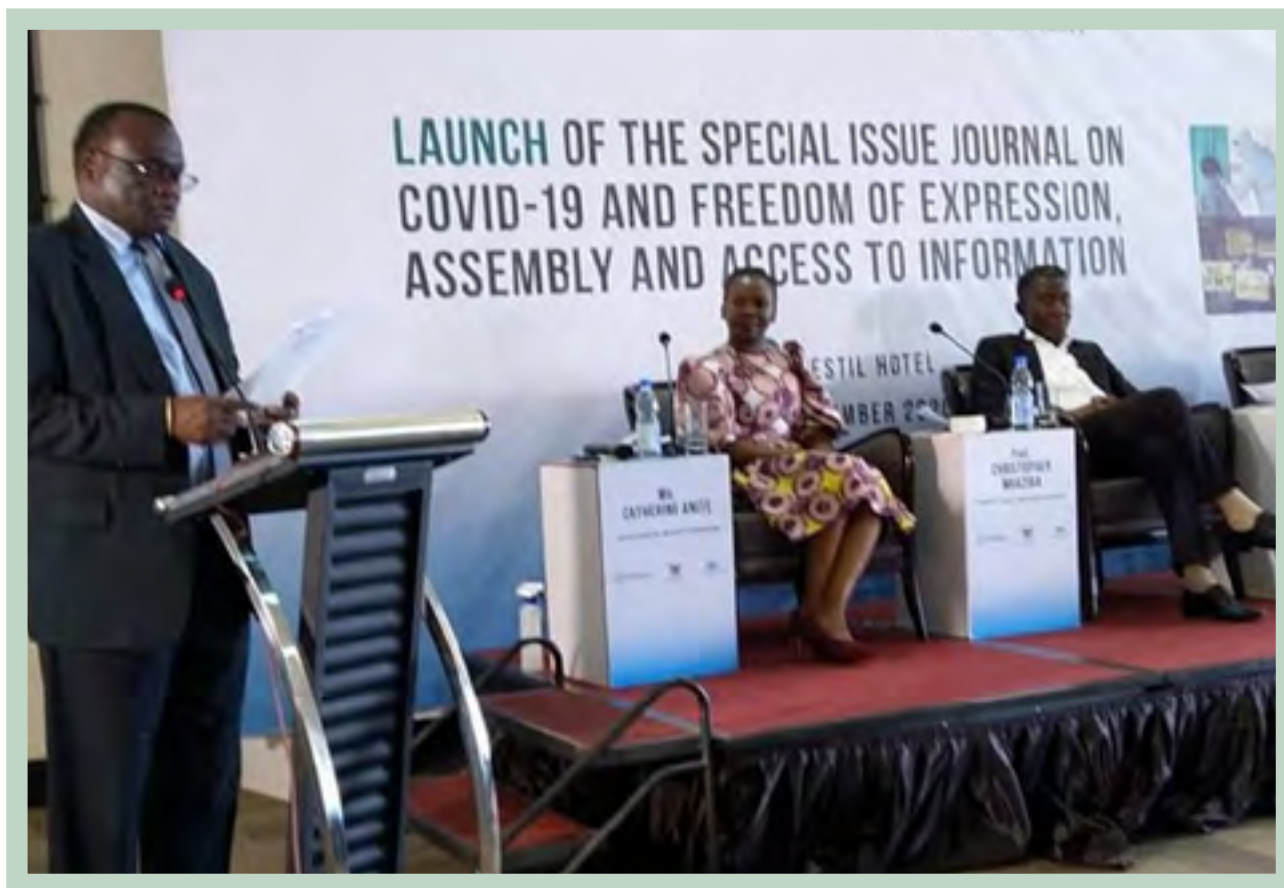
The colorful event was presided over by the Chancellor Makerere University Professor Ezra Suruma who commended the faculty and staff in School of Law and other Colleges that presented students for the excellent work done while preparing the students. ‘it takes a great deal of effort and time to train and graduate over 13,000 graduands including PH.Ds and Masters Degrees’ he said.





2.0 RESEARCH IN THE SCHOOL OF LAW

The East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights. A Special issue of the Journal Launched.



The Chief Justice of Uganda, Hon. Alfonse Chigamoy Owiny Dollo on 8th December 2020 presided over the Launch of the Special issue of the Journal of Peace and Human Rights at an event held at Mestil Hotel in Kampala.

The Journal which covered the subjects of Covid-19 and Freedom of Expression, Access to information and Assembly, is a production of the Human Rights and Peace Centre (HURIPEC) of the School of Law, Makerere University, in partnership with the American Bar Association, Rule of Law.

It focused on how the state sponsored measures to respond to Covid-19 being the world's current primary menace which has also has introduced new limits on Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Access to Information. This is one of the scholarly publications of the School of Law that helps improve the research exposure to staff, students and other stakeholders in the different fields of Law teaching, learning and practice.



Dr. Zahara Nampewo,
Ag. Director HURIPEC

Welcomed guests at the Launch
The East African Journal of Peace and Human Rights is a publication of the Human Rights and Peace Centre, School of Law

**WHY THE SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE EAST AFRICAN
JOURNAL ON COVID-19 ON FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION, ASSEMBLY AND ACCESS TO
INFORMATION**

The Journal issue focused on how the State sponsored measures to respond to Covid-19 being the world's current primary menace which also has introduced new limits on Freedom of Expression, Assembly and Access to Information. The Journal aimed at stimulating research and thinking on contemporary governance issues, problems, challenges and policies by providing a platform to scholars, practitioners and activists in the fields of Human rights, Constitutional law, Rule of Law, among others, to share knowledge and experiences.

Professors John Jean Barya, Frederick Jjuuko of School of Law, Makerere University and Ms. Cathie Anite, Executive Director Freedom of Expression Hub led the discussions at the launch. In their discourse, they recommended to have more civic education about COVID-19 instead of using coercive force against citizens. Professor John Jean Barya said it was wrong for the country to organise the general elections in wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. ABA ROLI, the sponsors of the Journal are an international development program that promotes justice, economic opportunity and human dignity through the Rule of Law in more than 100 countries.

2.2. REACHING OUT TO COMMUNITIES

The Legal AID Day 2020



Law students give counsel to indigent persons

The School of Law increasingly makes effort to realize the Universities objective of being responsive to the needs of the communities. With support from Democratic Governance Facility-DGF, Public Interest Law Clinic- PI- LAC held the 3rd Legal Aid Day- LAD, on 27th November, 2020, at Makerere University Rugby Grounds.

The objective was to promote access to justice among the most vulnerable, marginalized and indigent groups in Uganda. This is one of the interactive learning opportunities for students as seen in picture above, as they learn from real life experiences.

Free legal services were offered to 53 persons, out of the 179 persons who attended the event; 28 of these were males, and 25 of

these females. The common cases reported that day included Civil, Land Cases, Criminal, and Domestic related. PILAC with support from DGF uses legal empowerment to reduce the rate at which crime is committed in the areas where they operate by over 8,560 people, out of the thousands of cases reported to police each year as per the 2019 crime report. PILAC, a project of the School of Law started in 2012 with the objective of instilling public interest lawyering skills among law students.

PILAC runs four legal aid programmes; The Community Law Program & Mobile Clinic-CLAPMOC, Network of Public Interest Lawyers-NETPIL, Clinic Legal Education (CLE), and East African Network of University Legal Clinics-EANULAC

2.3 COMMUNITY OUTREACHES



Community outreaches have been and continue to be one of the ways through which Law students have benefited from learning practically. A number of outreaches were made to areas like Kikoni, Kivulu, Katanga, Kimombasa, Kikubamutwe, Kasokoso, Amuru, Mubende among other areas. The objective was to help reach out to the least served communities and in the process enable students learn from real life situations. Nine outreaches were planned per quarter although the closure of business due to covid-19 reduced the numbers and frequencies of the events. The events involve conducting Legal Literacy Sessions, Counselling, referrals, case support. Students take lead supported by advocates.

2.4 INTERNSHIPS

The Internship exercise usually happens during the recess term from June to August every year. In 2020, the activity was interrupted by the lock down due to COVID 19. The School of Law made an innovation to ensure that the students did not miss out. They were put in groups and they undertook an online activity that led to an extended essay which was assessed.

With support from the Refugee Law Project, twenty students undertook the Internship activity in the refugee settlements. Ten were drawn from Makerere University and ten from Gulu University. Thirty students that were undertaking their externship program with a number of organizations were able to complete the activities with the production and submission of their group projects to the host organizations. These included recorded legal messages, a TV screen and a manual.

2.5 PUBLIC LECTURES, SYMPOSIA

Digital Money and Uganda's Economy, Facts and Issues.

This was the subject of discussion at the School of Law on Friday 28th February 2020, when a panel of experts led a discourse on the subject that is causing as much fear as excitement in all circles. The Public Dialogue was convened by the Centre for Law and emerging Technologies, an initiative of the School of Law started off by Law teachers with a passion for mainstreaming Law with technology that include Mr. Robert Kirunda, Ms. Grancia Mugalula and Ms. Hadijah Namyalo. This is one of the teaching and learning methodologies where students learn from experts in a given field.



During the forum, Hon. David Bahati the State Minister for Finance and Planning presented a paper on 'The Digital economy and its implications for the present and the Future'. It delved into the legislative and regulatory processes that the ministry was employing to buttress the effects of the digitalisation of the economy. He emphasized the need to differentiate between block chain technologies and ponzi schemes as some of the Fin techs spreading very fast which at times negatively affect the society.



2.6 STUDENT EXTERNSHIP PROJECTS

The School of Law is increasingly taking on the Clinical methodologies of teaching law. Under the Clinical Legal Education Program (CLE), the students undertook an Externship program that was more or less an extended Internship with various organizations at the end of which, they came up with projects aimed at addressing some of the legal issues observed.



At TASO Mulago, the students handed over a Tele- vision Screen and Human Rights Education mes- sages. The objective was to empower persons living with HIV/AIDS through human rights education and to enhance access to justice of persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.

The students identified the Human Rights informa- tion gaps and they set out to bridge this through information dissemination. such gap was that the rights of people living with HIV that were often violated because of their status.

The Care Giver's Manual designed by students



2.7 A RESEARCH GRANT ON LAW, POLICY AND THE VOICES OF SGBV SURVIVORS



The School of Law in collaboration with the Royal Holloway University London set to undertake re- search on Law, policy and the voices of sexual and gender-based violence survivors. Dr. Josephine Ndagire, School of Law Makerere University to- gether with Prof. Jill Marshall from Royal Hollo- way University of London received a grant from the Academy of Sciences as part of the Global Chal- lenge Research Fund in the United Kingdom. The project will address the need to place the voice of the survivors of sexual and gender-based violence in conflict at the core of the work of civil society activists, national and international practitioners, and the academia.

A consultative workshop for experts was held at the School of Law Makerere University on the 17th to 19th of February 2020 to lay strategies for the implementation of the research project on Infusing Law and Policy with the voices of Displaced survi- vors of Sexual Violence in Conflict.

According to Prof. Jill Marshall, the outcome of the research project will be research papers and user friendly materials for lawyers and non-lawyers with a focus on the feminist and development based approaches to vulnerability to sexual and Gender based violence of displaced persons including those who bear children from rape and their lack of inclusion and belonging to society.

The project is rooted in the global challenge of Lis- tening to and incorporating the voices and lived experiences of sexual and gender based violence survivors amongst displaced persons to inform fu- ture drafting and interpretation of Law and policy.

2.8 THE DISABILITY LAW AND RIGHT RESEARCH CENTRE LAUNCH



The Disability Law and Rights Centre (DLRC) was formerly launched on 29th January 2020 at a ceremony attended by the Academia, Law students, and a number of stakeholders in the Disability movement in the country.

In 2015 the School of Law, with support from the Open Society Fund, progressively embarked on a process of putting disability rights issues at the center of its core activities and what started off as a project evolved to become a center in 2019.

The center coordinates disability rights research in partnership with organizations of persons with disabilities and contributes towards dispelling the negative myths and practices concerning PWDs through research and awareness interventions, collaborations and strategic partnerships with various key players in society.

First Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs Dr. Umar Kakumba commended the School of Law for this initiatives which would help in building the research brand of Makerere University.

2.9 OTHER RESEARCH IN THE SCHOOL OF LAW

Security, Peace and Development in Uganda.

The Human Rights and Peace Centre in collaboration with the Centre for Resolution of International Conflicts (CRIC) launched a Danida supported research project on Security, Peace and Development in Uganda. Through research will provide a deeper understanding of the role of security actors in Uganda and regionally, as a means to ensure avenues for further support and increased effectiveness towards sustainable peace and development.

Use of Legal Education to Promote Public Interest Lawyering and Improve Access to Justice

The School of Law received another grant from the Democratic Governance Facility (DGF) and with this support there has been an increase in the level of service delivery especially in the Legal Aid arm of the School of Law through the Public Interest Law Clinic. Over 50 civil cases including land, family law, and administrative matters were successfully handled from May to November 2019 in the legal aid Clinic.

Transmission pathways for EIDM in Uganda (TRAPE Uganda) Project

The study aimed at mapping all actors in the evidence-policy interface for the Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation and to identify opportunities for effective engagement along the sector's decision/policy formulation processes. It among other things set out to collaboratively design a sector specific evidence pipeline to support decision making processes at sector/ ministry level and recommend to government a coherent national evidence pipeline strategy for institutionalising the evidence pathway that can be scaled up in all its different sectors Project Design.

The Disability law and Rights Centre

- Disability Rights in (Urban Transport in Uganda). A case study of Kampala Capital City by Professor Emmanuel Kasimbazi.
- Using ICTS to Promote Inclusive Education in Uganda by Associate Professor Ronald Kakungulu Mayambala.
- Formal Employment Recruitment Processes: Reasonable Accommodation and Persons with Disabilities.

The Transactional Law Clinic

The Business Law Clinic set out to increase the use of Clinical legal education to enhance skills for law students, enhance capacity for academics to use Clinical methods for instruction, increase partnerships between academia, legal practitioners and private business sector as well as Advocate for policy reform to encourage clinical programs in teaching commercial law subjects in other Schools of law in Uganda. This is one of the forums for students to gain hands on practical exposure in commercial law subjects.

Guaranteeing livelihoods through secure land rights (GLLR) Project

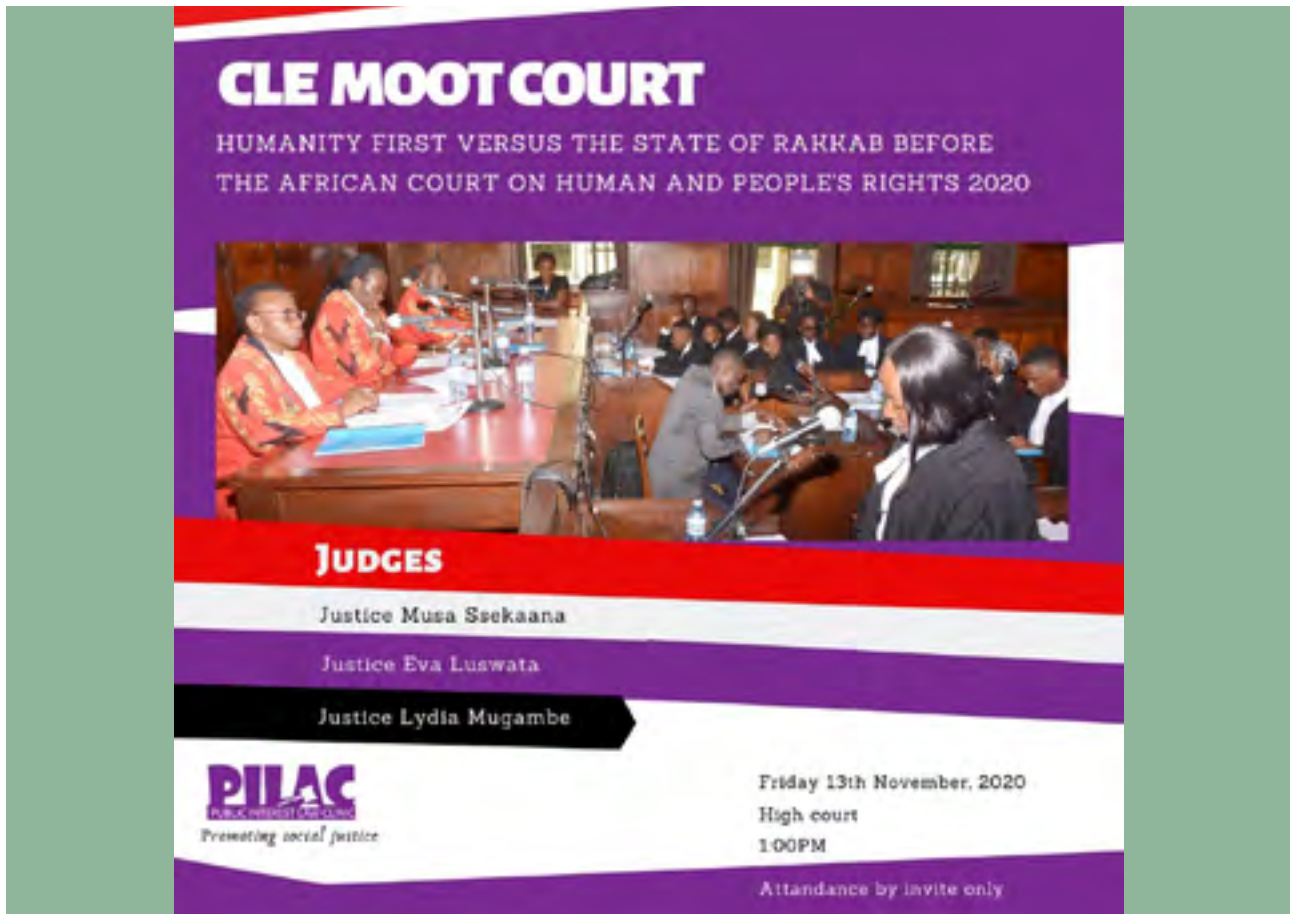
The overall objective of the GLLR project is the incorporation of human rights-based approaches in the ongoing and proposed land reforms and the country's development initiatives as a way of guaranteeing livelihoods and therefore the right to life of Ugandans especially marginalised groups such as women and children.

The Effectiveness of the Small Claims Court in enhancing Access to Justice to the vulnerable groups

This aimed at examining the efficacy of the Small Claims Court, to identify any bottlenecks that bedevil the workings of the Small Claims Court and its ability to enhance access to justice and to propose recommendations and best practices for the improved implementation of the Small claims procedure court.

Empirical study to examine the Challenges faced by Juvenile Justice Courts in enhancing Access to Justice by Juvenile Offenders.

The study set out to assess the performance of the courts in enhancing access to justice for juvenile offenders; To establish the challenges faced by the judicial system in determining justice for juvenile offenders; and to provide practical recommendations to improve the experience of juvenile offenders utilizing the justice system.



2.10 STUDENTS HIGH COURT MOOT COURT 2020

The Moot Courts gets better by year. In the words of Justice Musa Sekaana, the students were privileged to have such exposures early enough and urged them to keep up the skill acquired even while in practice. He said this kind of mentorship to the young lawyers would go a long way to sustain and give further effect to the foundation laid by the senior counsels.

Abbas Luyombya, a student with visual impairment was named as the best male orator, while Natalie Okeny was named best female oralist.(R-L)





Howard Mwesigwa and Aine Milly ably represented Makerere University at the Great lakes regional Moot and were first runners up. The participants are Kukundakwe Denise, Joel Omiat and Charity Amoiti.

Above, Ruth Muhawe, the star mooter.

2.11 THE BUSINESS/TRANSACTIONAL

Law Research Report Launch.



The Department of Commercial Law of the School of Law Makerere University launched the report of the Pilot Transactional Law Clinic, following a successful completion of the one-year research project in Transactional/Business Law.

The launch held on December 8th 2020 at Fairway Hotel saw the presentation of the major outputs of the project that included The Clinical Manual, The Student's Reflective Journal and the Client Satisfaction survey report. The reports gave an in depth analysis of the processes, activities, and lessons learned in the course of the project. It was supported by the Government of Uganda through the Makerere University Research and Innovations Fund (Mak –RIF I)

was initiated in September 2019 and during this period the Clinic engaged in various activities involving academicians from Schools of Law in Uganda, Law Students and the community seeking legal advisory services for their small businesses.

The Principal Investigator Dr. Phiona Muhwezi- Mpanga said the seminar was intended to disseminate the findings, and to share experiences and best practices in using clinical methods of learning in teaching commercial law subjects in Universities in Uganda. She said the dissemination seminar was one of the last activities of the pilot Transactional Law Clinic which was characterised by varied learning experiences whereby the learners led the learning process and took charge of their learning. The project set out to use clinical training methodologies of instruction to train law students in corporate and commercial law areas as well as to provide commercial legal services to small business start-ups, the indigent, vulnerable entrepreneurs and other disadvantaged groups and in so doing contribute to the sustainable social economic development of Uganda.



3.0 KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER

3.1 LAW TEACHERS TRAINED IN THE USE OF CLINICAL METHODOLOGIES

Staff of the School of Law Makerere and other University have been re oriented into the Clinical teaching methodologies and called upon to adopt their use in the teaching and learning experiences at their respective Universities

The Commercial law subject teachers of the Bachelor of Laws program drawn from Makerere University, Islamic University in Uganda, King Ceaser University and Uganda Christian University came together to deliberate on the best ways possible to utilize the methodologies that have been proven to be very effective in knowledge transfer globally.



The training held at Esella Hotel 21st to 22nd February 2020 was convened by the Commercial Law Department, under the Transactional Law Clinic, an initiative supported by the Research Initiative of Makerere University.

The Principal Investigator, Dr. Phiona Mpanga, who is also the head of the Commercial Law Department said the training was organized to interest the participants into exploring the use of clinical methods in the teaching and learning of commercial law subjects in the LLB program.

She explained that the Transactional Law Clinic that was established in 2019 as a pilot initiative was aimed at enhancing the appropriateness and relevance of legal education and practice in addressing the legal needs of the indigent persons, low income earners, and not for profit business ventures. She said through the clinic activities, students were involved in the communities to enable them appreciate the importance of community service as well as offer commercial or transactional legal services to the people in need.

3:2 INTER UNIVERSITY ACTIVITIES



A team of law students joined their counterparts at Kampala International University to attend the KIU law week . They participated in offering free legal aid services to communities in Kan- sanga Market . The activity was supported by PILAC



Some of the Information, Education and Communication materials that were distributed to the communities included the Board games like the one in the picture above, where messages on criminal procedures were designed.

3.3 A LEARNING VISITOR FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SOMALIA



While on a learning exposure to gain from the practical learning experiences from PILAC, Sheena from city University of Somalia interacted with staff, both teaching and administrative, as well as students to get firsthand information about the Clinical teaching methodologies. She had an opportunity to go to FIDA on 25th February 2020 to see what the students were doing on an Externship program. She was optimistic that a similar program would be started back at her University. She was excited to learn that the program was quite an experience for the law students who gained a lot of skills.

3.4 PRISON OUTREACHES



Students take off time to pose for a picture with the Prison Officials at one of the outreaches in Mubende . Law students interact with inmates and offer counsel.



Law students at one of the outreaches to prison in Mubende where they shared information with inmates about criminal procedures. Practical, hands-on learning from real-life experiences, courtesy of the DGF supported Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC)

Apart from interacting with the inmates in areas like Criminal procedure, the students conduct trainings for the prison officials as well as conducting Radio talk shows on legal literacy.

3.5 THE CENTER FOR LAW AND TECHNOLOGY (CLET)

The Centre for Law and technology is to be opened soon at the School of Law to support student innovations and the use of technology in the teaching and learning processes. According to Dr. Ronald Kakungulu Mayambala, a lot of effort has been put into integrating the use of information technology not only in supporting the learning of students with disabilities but also across all courses in the School of Law.

During a Lawbot public dialogue held at the School of Law, Dr. Kakungulu said it was important for the law teachers and students to get fast tracked and repositioned in the face of the ever-changing technologies that are a necessity in facilitating the teaching and learning of law.

He said law-based technologies were innovations specially made by law students taking into consideration the specifics of the law and that they were a platform for students to share ideas, get information and space for discussion in addition to offering visual and hearing learning aides.

He explained that lawbots were one of the ways of elevating student innovations with students coming up with apps like the AMICUS APP, an innovation that was relevant to the study and practice of law. The public dialogue attracted leading legal practitioners with remarkable experience in the use of technology that included Ms. Alice Namuli, Opio Bill and others.



In the discussions, Ms. Namuli said she was always happy to share her experience with young people and she explained that there were a number of definitions of the term innovation ranging from the scientific and legal and that it all revolved around an idea to change or invent with the actual work coming out with an innovation.

On the safety of innovative ideas and the fear of their budding ideas being poached, she explained that it was important for the young people to appreciate the fact that they

could not do everything on their own and hence the need to team up with experience in the different areas. She advised them to utilize laws like the Law of confidence, despite the fact that it was an oral contract. Further, she said the innovator could use the Copy right Law and ask for patent in order to have a higher bargaining power.

" School of Law is to establish a Centre for Law and Technology to enhance student innovations using Information Technology "



4.0 Research Output & Staff Publications

4.1 COLLABORATIONS

The School of Law continues to get into collaborations with other agencies that have similar objectives. These include other Universities, development partners, Civil society organizations among others.

The Democratic Governance Faculty (DGF)

This gave support to the project namely; Use of Legal Education to Promote Public Interest Lawyering and Improve Access to Justice that was implemented by the Public Interest Law Clinic (PILAC).

The Legal Aid services network (LASPNET)

The Public Interest Law Clinic of the School of Law is a registered legal aid service provider and is a registered member of the LASPNET. It subscribes to the network in the field of provision of Legal aid.

The East Africa Network of University Based Law Clinics (EAUNILAC)

The School of Law serves as a secretariat of the East African Network of University based Law Clinic. This is a forum that bring together law teaching Universities in the region offering legal aid services. It helps build synergies and pool resources to promote public interest lawyering in East Africa through Clinical legal education, joint research, study tours and public interest litigation among other activities.



Students, Community Leaders, SCOs and Clients take off time to pose for a photo during the Legal Aid Day 2020 at Rugby grounds, Makerere University

4.2 PUBLICATIONS

- K. Busingye, “The 1995 Constitution and Covid-19 by Dr. Busingye Kabumba”, 2020.
- C. Mbazira, “Background Paper to the Transactional Law Clinic Manual for the Business Law Centre of the School of Law, Makerere University”.2020
- K. Busingye, “Black Laws matter Benedicto Kiwanuka’s legacy and the Rule of Law in the ‘New Normal’”.2020.
- A. Joel Kaleeba and Ntungwerisho, C., “ A case for costa in public interest litigation matters ” . 2020.(A study Commissioned by NETPIL/PILAC)
- Z. Nampewo, “Covid-19 and the Social Economic Lives of Women in Uganda”, LAW AFRICA, 2020.
- I. Engoru, “COVID-19: NEW DAWN FOR THE WORK PLACE Reflections for a ‘Typical’ Ugandan Em- ployer” 2020.
- W. Tarinyeba Kiryabwire, “The Covid-19 Pandemic and Implications for Corporate Governance”. 2020.
- D. Justin Bakibinga, “COVID-19: Social Protection and Fiscal implications”. 2020.
- S. Tamale, Decolonization and Afro-Feminism. 2020.
- Itol and Victor, M. Keith, “The Fate of the young lawyer in the absence of minimum wage ” .2020. (A study commissioned by NETPIL/PILAC)
- P. Muhwezi Mpanga, “Formal Employment Challenges in a Post COVID-19 Uganda by Phiona M.Mpanga”, LAW AFRICA ARTICALS, 2020.
- R. Kakungulu-Mayambala and Rukundo, S., “ LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS IN THE USE OF DIGITAL TOOLS IN UGANDA DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS”, 2020.
- R. Nakayi and Witte, A., Making Cultural Heritage Claims on Profitable Land: The Case of the Ngassa Wells in Uganda’s Oil Region. 2020.
- D. Muhanuuzi, Ivan, E., Paul, K., Alexandria, K., Tumwesigye, L. Martha, and George, S. Martin, The pro- ject is for the fulfillment of a CLE module to design a pocket handbook on freedom of expression in Uganda. 2020. (A study Commissioned by PILAC)
- B. Twinomugisha, “ Public Health, Human Rights and the COVID-19 Pandemic in Uganda ” ,LAW AFRICA ARTICALS, 2020.

- E. Wanyama and Arinaitwe, A. Kato, “Towards Balancing The Role Of The Uganda Police Force And The Electoral Commission In Electoral Democracy In Uganda”. 2020. (A study Commissioned by NETPIL/ PILAC)
- R. Naluwairo and Amumpiire, A., “Access to Justice in Uganda’s Forestry Sector’ in Onesmus Mugenyi, Ronald Naluwairo and Russell Rhoads (eds)”, in Natural Resource Governance and Sustainable Live- lihoods in Uganda, London: Adonis & Abbey Publishers Ltd, 2019.

Public interest law clinic reflective journal for the period between May 2019 - February 2020.

Freedom of Expression in Uganda. A Handbook. (Commissioned by PILAC/EAUNILAC).

Costs in Public Interest Litigation Cases. (Case and Issue Series III, A publication of the Network of Public Interest Lawyers (NETPIL)

Empirical Study to Examine the Challenges of Juvenile Courts in Enhancing Access to Justice for Juvenile Offenders. (A Study Commissioned by PILAC 2020).

The effectiveness of Small Claims Courts in enhancing access to Justice to vulnerable groups. (A Study Commissioned by PILAC 2020).

Makerere Business Law Clinic. Student’s Reflective Journal (September 2019- August 2020) Commis- sioned by the Business Law Clinic.

Background Paper to the Transactional Law Clinic Manual for the Business Law Centre of the School of Law Makerere University, July 2020.

Land Capping in Uganda: Tackling the Land Crisis through Regulated Acquisition. Citizens’ Perspective (Human rights and Peace Centre, December 2020)



5.0 SUPPORT FUNCTIONS

5.1 INFRASTRUCTURE

The School of Law approved the structural plan for the proposed office structure to be constructed. The School currently operates in an old dilapidated office structure that was technically condemned over forty years ago. Once completed, the block will help address the challenge of lack of space for staff offices which makes teachers not readily available for consultations by the students. It will also help improve storage facilities for academic documents.



Students at Busiika Motor Sport Arena after completing their CLE/CLAPMOC program

WHEN LAW STAFF TOOK OFF TIME TO COOL OFF





Makerere University, School of Law
P.O.Box 7062 Kampala, Uganda
www.mak.ac.ug