

UNIVERSITY SIGNS DECLARATION OF INTENT WITH IUM



The University has signed a declaration of intent to cooperate with the International University of Management (IUM). Under the accord research, teaching as well as staff and student exchange will form the key areas of cooperation. The Vice Chancellor Prof. Lazarus Hangula remarked that cooperation with local institutions has always been something close to his heart.

"The signing of this declaration of intent here today will not only add value to our already cordial relations but will assist to easily find common ground inside or outside the Vice Chancellors & Rectors Forum, National Council for Higher Education and at other national or international fora," said the VC.

Prof. Hangula formed part of Association of African Universities team that approved the applications of the Polytechnic of Namibia and IUM to become members of that body. "When the issues of the admission of both the Polytechnic of Namibia, first, and the International University of Management, later, to the membership of the Association of African Universities (AAU) was tabled at the AAU Governing Board where I was serving, I advocated for these two important national sister institutions to be admitted."

IUM Vice Chancellor Virginia Namwandi expressed delight at the opportunity of collaborating with local institutions. "We have in the past entered into MOUs and collaboration agreements with universities and institutions outside of Namibia and it increasingly became evident that to us time was overdue to seek collaboration with our own Namibian University."

JAPANESE UNIVERSITY TO SUPPORT SILVER KOB AND MARINE ENGINEERING RESEARCH AT UNAM



The University's research on artificial propagation of the silver kob (*Arygrosomus nodosus*) is expanding with technical support from a Japanese University, the Tokyo University of Marine Science and Technology (TUMSAT). TUMSAT has a long history of research in Marine Science, which started in 1875 as the Mitsubishi Nautical School. UNAM signed a memorandum of understanding with TUMSAT last year, in the area of research and collaboration in Marine Science.

The Director, Office of Liaison and Cooperative Research at TUMSAT, Professor Mitsuru Izumi led a four-man delegation to UNAM from 04 to 10 October, 2010. This is the second of such visits aimed at initiating specific areas of research interests between the two institutions. Other members of the delegation were Professor Hiroshi Yamakawa, a shellfish aquaculture expert, Professor Yutaka Takeuchi, an expert in germ cell transplantation application in aquaculture and Mr. Motohiro Miki, a doctorate student researching on the development and optimization of vessel propulsion.

During a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor, Professor Lazarus Hangula, the delegation pledge TUMSAT's support towards assisting UNAM in its research efforts in Marine Science. In response, Professor Hangula expressed gratitude for the development. He noted that the experience gained from the collaboration will in the long run contribute to food security for the Namibian nation. He also urged staff from the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences to make use of the opportunities offered through such cooperation in enhancing their academic careers.

The delegation spent the week in the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences as well as in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology where lectures and discussions were held with staff members in specific areas of research.

FISHERIES BENEFITS FROM INTERNATIONAL RETIRED SCHOLARS



Prof. Kurt Hanselmann

Photo by S.K. Mafwila



Photo by P. Kaipinge

The Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences in the Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources has benefited from a generous though competitive grant for visiting scholars from the Scientific Committee on Oceanographic Research (SCOR). The grant helped to fund the visit of a retired microbiologist, Professor Kurt Hanselmann from Switzerland to come to UNAM. Prof. Hanselmann will assist in teaching and strengthening the Chemical and Biological Oceanography course, in the third-year course for the B.Sc (Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences). The theoretical part of the course was taught at the UNAM main campus in Windhoek and practical course was offered at the coast (Walvis Bay, Swakopmund, and Henties Bay).

Prof. Hanselmann is a retired microbiologist, who worked at the University of Zurich in Switzerland for 34 years. He is currently on a courtesy appointment at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) as a Geomicrobiologist in the Department of Earth Sciences. He was a founder of Ecology

and Diversity of Marine Micro-organisms (ECODIM), which offers graduate and post-graduate courses in marine sciences. It is a Regional Graduate School in Marine Sciences in Concepción, Chile and it is now Centre of Excellence in Marine Sciences in South America.

His visit to UNAM was beneficial to both students and staff of the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences. He has been at UNAM for a month (08 Oct – 08 Nov 2010). The Resident Lecturer for Oceanography Mr. S.K. Mafwila could not hide his excitement and said that he was expecting another SCOR visiting scholar next year for Physical Oceanography. SCOR helps developing countries in strengthening their capacity in teaching marine sciences, thus they have the SCOR visiting scholar programme whereby countries in need could apply for funding, and if accepted SCOR looks for suitable candidates based on the needs of the host institution. The Department of Fisheries and Marine Sciences was successful in this regard.

STAFF URGED TO CONTRIBUTE TO NEWSLETTER

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