

MEETING POINT

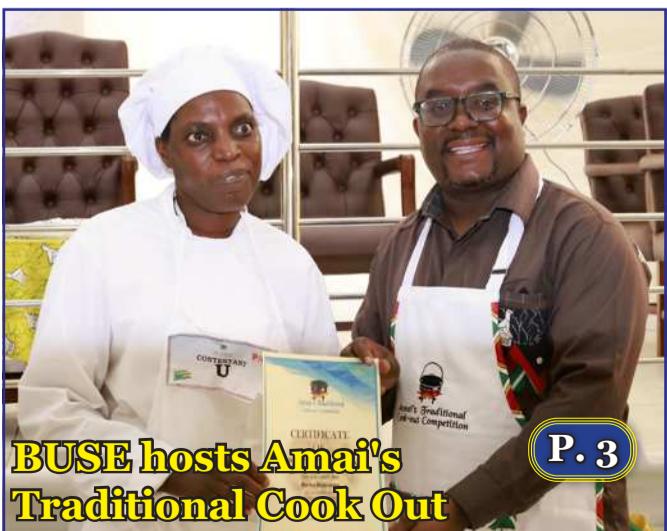
BUSE @ 25: CELEBRATING GROWTH, PARTNERSHIPS, ACADEMIC AND INNOVATION EXCELLENCE

BUSE, PARLIAMENT COLLABO ON CARDS



... Titus impresses Speaker

INSIDE THIS EDITION



BUSE hosts Amai's Traditional Cook Out

P. 3



Celebrating BUSE's Exceptional Woman

P. 4



Academy protege shines for Zimbabwe

P. 8

BUSE, Parli collabo on cards



... Titus impresses Parli Speaker

Bindura University of Science Education's (BUSE) Artificial Intelligence (AI) engine, Titus, impressed a delegation of Parliament of Zimbabwe officials, led by Speaker of the House Adv Jacob Mudenda during a recent tour of the University to explore areas of collaboration within the AI spectrum.

Titus was developed by BUSE software developers and is customized to understand and interact in several indigenous languages. It can explain complex concepts in Shona, Ndebele, Chewa, Shangani, Swahili and Zulu.

Speaking during a briefing, BUSE Vice Chancellor, Prof. Eddie Mwenje highlighted the need for training in AI tools as well as developing policies to guide the use of AI.

"As BUSE, we have developed an AI policy which informs the use of AI in academic and professional work. This policy is a leap forward in embracing AI as a tool for development and progress."

"Training in AI is important as AI opens a world of opportunities and possibilities which were previously unimaginable," said Prof Mwenje.

Adv Mudenda commended BUSE's boldness in embracing AI.

"I am impressed that you already have an AI policy and have developed Titus which is customized to our indigenous languages."

"I am sure we can collaborate further in AI and develop systems that can streamline some Parliament operations to make them more efficient," said Adv Mudenda.

Clerk of Parliament, Mr Kennedy Chokuda was present at the meeting and echoed Adv Mudenda's sentiments on the University's progress in integrating AI in academic and professional work.

Several collaborations are expected to emerge from the engagement.





By Lawrence Chitumba

Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) hosted the Mashonaland Central Provincial Amai's Traditional Cook Out Competition 2025, which saw students, professional chefs, the community, and the disabled showcasing their traditional culinary dishes.

The annual contest has become an inspiration for the creation of innovative cuisines.

Contestants have used traditional foods as a foundation for new dishes and techniques while inspiring modern food development and preserving Zimbabwe's cultural heritage. Coinciding with BUSE's Silver Jubilee, the competition reflected the University's commitment to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship using the heritage-based education 5.0 philosophy.

BUSE proudly fielded contestants in both the student and professional chef categories, with one of the students Deleen Zengeya, securing a coveted spot to represent Mashonaland Central at the national finals in Harare.

Adding to the celebration, Mrs Nancy Gwata, a BUSE representative, claimed third place in the Professional Chefs category, further cementing the University's ingenuity in culinary excellence.

Guest of honour at the event, the Deputy Minister of Tourism and Hospitality Industry, Honourable Tongai Mnangagwa, urged the participants to continue to enhance their skills and transform the knowledge gained into socio-economic benefits.

"Since its inception, the programme has bred women and youths who have gone regional and international, exporting their products. Some have formed companies and have contracts with large organisations on terms of supplying traditional foods," said Hon. Mnangagwa

"The quest to provide traditional dishes during events, conferences and even social functions has grown significantly. This has resulted in job creation, especially along supply chains."

The National Cookout Competition is the brainchild of the First Lady of the Republic of Zimbabwe, Dr. Auxillia Mnangagwa and is a platform to showcase cultural diversity, celebrate diverse foods and a means to address food security issues in Africa.

According to the UN World Tourism Organization, gastronomy is much more than just food. It reflects different people's culture, heritage, traditions and sense of community. It is a way of promoting understanding among different cultures and of bringing people and traditions closer together.

Gastronomy tourism is also emerging as an important protector of cultural heritage, and the sector helps to create opportunities, including jobs, most notably in rural destinations.

Culinary tourism is rapidly growing, adding to the attractiveness of Zimbabwe and helping to drive the economic empowerment of local communities.



Celebrating BUSE's Exceptional Women in Management

Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) prides itself of some exceptional women in its ranks. With interests ranging from education, sports, entrepreneurship, philanthropy, culture and leadership. Meeting Point takes a look at some of BUSE's amazing women in leadership as part of its Women's Month celebrations. While their profiles are in the public domain, we focus on lesser known distinctive traits that make them remarkable.



Prof Melody Modebelu

DEAN OF SCIENCE EDUCATION: PROF MELODY MODEBELU

Prof Modebelu is the Executive Dean in the Faculty of Science Education and a full Professor of Educational Management and Human Resources. Her interests include: Education, Science Education, Human Resources, Sustainable Development, Climate Change, Environmental Education and others.



DIRECTOR QUALITY ASSURANCE: DR VONGAI MPOFU

A stickler for excellence at all stages, Dr Mpofu personifies her office. Her commitment to excellence saw her become a headmistress at 27 and now is the vanguard of excellency at the University. A devoted academic with a skew towards studying indigenous knowledge systems through a scientific lens, Dr Mpofu inspires commitment and dedication to quality and excellence.



Dr Salachi Naidoo

DIRECTOR ADVANCEMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS: DR SALACHI NAIDOO

Attention to detail and commitment to results best describes Dr Naidoo. She has carved her career from an English major student to an accomplished academic and now the University's spokesperson because of her eye for detail and her unrelenting approach to achieving results. Her research interests include postcolonial studies in women and gender studies as well as higher education management.



DIRECTOR GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS: DR JUDITH MWENJE

Dr Mwenje can be described as a compassionate perennial learner who gleans knowledge from everyday experiences. As Co-Director of the Centre for Combating Human Trafficking (CCHT), Dr Mwenje has imparted entrepreneurial skills to victims of human trafficking. Despite being a trainer, Dr Mwenje has widened her skills set by learning how to make bags and bracelets together with the CCHT women.



Ms Magreth Madzivadondo

DEPUTY LIBRARIAN MS MAGRETH MADZIVADONDO

Ms Madzivadondo has a heart for persons with special needs. She is championing the establishment of a Disability Resource Centre at the University Library. This resource will assist persons with special needs access library services and aid their living and learning experience at BUSE.



Mrs Moreblessing Chinatsira

DIRECTOR PROCUREMENT MANAGEMENT UNIT: MRS MOREBLESSING CHINATSIRA

Mrs Chinatsira is gentle and gracious, yet firm and resolute in her discharge of duty. As director PMU she has overseen the rapid infrastructure development in the University during a volatile period in which the nation has been transforming its public procurement framework. Mrs Chinatsira is also an avid farmer specialising in market gardening and poultry production.



Mrs Faith Mbwera

DEPUTY REGISTRAR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS: MRS FAITH MBWERA

Talk of walking in your calling without realizing it, Mrs Mbwera comes to mind. She has worked in public policy administration as both a lecturer and administrator but only later realized her calling in student mentorship and life coaching. She connects deeply with young people and has a passion for seeing them realise their full potential away from the scourges and vices associated with their generations.

Meeting Point Editorial Team

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Mrs Euniah Manhando

**DEPUTY REGISTRAR
HUMAN RESOURCES: MRS
EUNIAH MANHANDO**

She is the personification of golf enthusiasm. Mrs Manhando has tracked the length and breath of Zimbabwean fairways and is regarded as one of the top amateur golfers on the Zimbabwean circuit. She has taken three National Sports Academy golf talents under her wing and formed a formidable quartet. She won best female golfer at the recently held BUSE Vice Chancellor's 4th Golf Tournament which was held at the ZRP Golf Course.



Mrs Dorothy Murasi

**DEPUTY DEAN
STUDENT AFFAIRS:
MRS DOROTHY MURASI**

Arguably the most recognized face in the University among students, Tete Murasi typifies an oasis of wisdom and safety for not only students but also staff members. She is dearly loved by current and former students alike. Even in the community, she is one with young people and thrives in their circles with all the mannerisms associated with young people.



Mrs Tsitsi Muzuva

**ACTING DIRECTOR CETID: MRS TERERAI
MUKABETA**

An avid technologist with a thirst to teach, Mrs Mukabeta volunteers her expertise to teach children coding. She believes STEM is key to empowering the next generations hence the many sessions she conducts with primary and secondary school students in coding and robotics. As acting head of CETID she spearheads the adoption of teaching and learning technology in higher education. She thus uses her knowledge to empower the next generation of technologists

**DIRECTOR SPORTS AND RECREATION: MRS TSITSI
MUZUVA**

A veteran sports administrator with a passion for empowering young women in sports. She is currently serving as the Federations of African Sports Universities (FASU) executive Vice President as well as Zimbabwe Universities Sports Association chairperson. Mrs Muzuva's sports passion has led her to the apex of continental sports administration and her eyes are set on global conquest.



Mrs Tererai Mukabeta



Dr Fungai Mauchi

**DEPUTY DEAN FACULTY OF COMMERCE: DR
FUNGAI MAUCHI**

For 20 years Dr Mauchi has served the University. She has a deep passion for teaching financial literacy to couples, women and young people and this has shaped her philanthropic disposition. Dr Mauchi not only teaches entrepreneurship and financial management skills, but also runs a chain of successful ventures ranging from agriculture to events.

AJU EXPLORES SPORTS SCIENCE COLLABO WITH BUSE

In a significant step toward academic collaboration, Arrupe Jesuit University (AJU) Vice-Chancellor Dr. Evaristus Ekwueme led a delegation to Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) to benchmark the institution's acclaimed Sports Science Management Programme.

The visit coincided with BUSE's 25th anniversary of excellence in academia and sports, a milestone that underscores the success of its pioneering sports science initiative.

Dr. Ekwueme's team engaged in strategic discussions on curriculum development and implementation, seeking insights from BUSE's experience in running the programme.

Dr. Charumbira, Chairperson of Sports Science Management at BUSE, hailed the visit as a testament to the programme's growing reputation.

"AJU's interest reflects the confidence they have in our model, which we have refined over the years of successful delivery. We are committed to supporting their efforts to establish a similar programme and advancing partnerships that foster knowledge exchange."

He added that discussions had reached an advanced stage, with AJU expected to enrol its first cohort soon. The collaboration may extend to other academic areas, leveraging the strengths of both institutions.

Beyond academics, BUSE's National Sports Academy continues to shape elite athletes, including Olympian Tapiwanashe Makarawu and US-based sprinter David Nyamufarira.

The academy's role in talent identification and development further solidifies BUSE's position as a leader in integrating sports science with high-performance training.

This initiative highlights the power of collaboration in higher education, aligning with BUSE's vision to share best practices and elevate standards across universities. As Dr. Charumbira noted, "Such partnerships exemplify how institutions can grow together through shared knowledge and mutual support."



Dr. Lysias Charumbira and Dr. Evaristus Ekwueme





BUSE scientist participates in Women in Science Conference

Bindura University of Science Education scientist Mrs Irene Chikanza participated in the Women in Science, Technology and Innovation Conference, which was held at Harare International Conference Centre in March.

The conference aimed to provide research training, career development and networking opportunities for women scientists throughout the developing world.

Mrs Chikanza is a seasoned laboratory scientist who has played a key role in the development of various products from the masawu fruit.

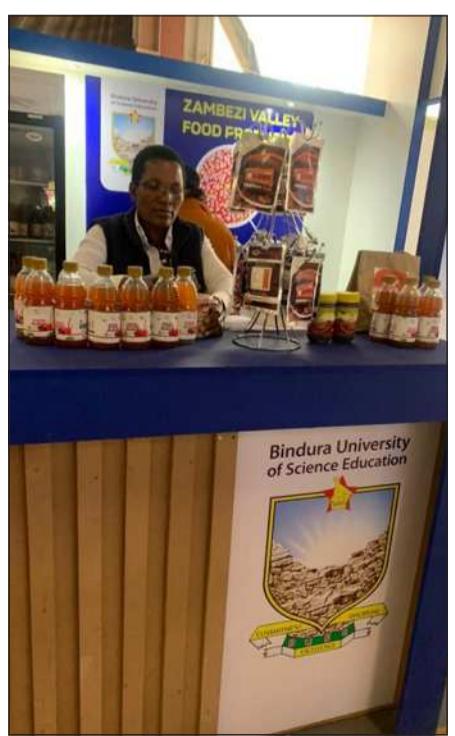
"The conference was an opportunity for female scientists to network and collaborate on various projects that can help further their careers. It was an eye opener as I interacted with various women doing great things in the country," said Mrs Chikanza.

The conference was jointly hosted by Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) Zimbabwe Chapter and Elevate Trust.

OWSD encourages and supports women by providing opportunities to access higher education in science through scholarships and training on aspects of patent procedure and entrepreneurship.

Elevate Trust is a youth leadership and capacity building foundation which facilitates youth development in career development, innovation and entrepreneurship.

The Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development supported the conference as it aligned with national development goals.



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CONGRATULATIONS

Hon. Dr. Kirsty Coventry

The Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) family, led by the Chairperson of Council, Dr. Eng. Farai Mavhaya-Bhiza, Vice Chancellor Prof. Eddie Mwenje, Council Members, Management, Staff, Students, and Alumni, extend their hearty congratulations to BUSE alumnus Hon. Dr. Kirsty Coventry on her historic election as the 10th President of the International Olympic Committee.

Hon. Dr. Coventry becomes the first African woman to assume this prestigious role. She exemplifies excellence and serves as a source of pride for BUSE, Zimbabwe, Africa, and women worldwide.

CONGRATULATIONS MAKOROKOTO AMHLOPHE

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BUSE IN PICS



The Centre for Combating Human Trafficking in partnership with the Communication Science Department conducted a training workshop on Human Trafficking.



United States of America Embassy staffers visited BUSE to present opportunities offered by the Fulbright Program

SPORT



ACADEMY PROTEGE SHINES FOR ZIMBABWE

By Tracy Humbira

The Southern Region All Africa Challenge Trophy tournament, recently held in Windhoek, Namibia, was an unforgettable experience. As one of the region's most prestigious golfing events, it brought together talented female golfers from several countries, all competing for glory.

For me, it was particularly special as it was my first time being part of the Zimbabwe team for SR-AACT an opportunity that was both exhilarating and humbling.

Our journey began on March 30th, when we travelled to Namibia, excited and eager for the competition ahead. The following day, was dedicated to practice, allowing us to familiarize ourselves with the course and sharpen our strategies. When the tournament officially commenced, the atmosphere was electric, with teams battling it out on the fairways, demonstrating skill, precision and resilience.

Zimbabwe was represented by three players myself, Tracy Humbira, along with Batsirai Tilowakuti and Miriam Masiya. Our team was managed by Olivia Nyamwanza, the president of the Zimbabwe Ladies Golf Union, whose leadership and support were invaluable.

Together, we faced strong competition, particularly from the South African team, who dominated the leaderboard with impressive performances.

After three intense rounds, Zimbabwe secured second place, finishing as runner-up with a total score of 490. South Africa claimed victory with 450, while Namibia followed in third place with 529. Eswatini and Lesotho took fourth and fifth, scoring 537 and 609, respectively. Despite missing the top spot, our team played with determination and heart, earning recognition for our efforts.

On an individual level, I finished in 9th place out of 18 players, achieving a total score of 258 across the tournament's three rounds. Competing at this level was a personal milestone, pushing me to grow, adapt, and refine my game under pressure. Experience was invaluable, and stroke taught me something about the sport and myself.

Beyond the competition, the tournament was a celebration of unity and sportsmanship. The opportunity to engage with players from other countries, exchange experiences, and be part of something bigger than ourselves was truly enriching. Representing Zimbabwe with pride will serve as a reminder of the progress we have made and the motivation to aim even higher in the future.

As we returned home, we carried not only our silver placement, but also the lessons learned and the drive to keep improving. This was just the beginning, and with continued dedication, we look forward to many more successes.

Zimbabwe golf is rising and we are here to prove it.

Tracy Humbira is a Part 3.2 student and member of the Bindura University of Science Education Sports Academy golf team.

**STAY
NO
TO
DRUGS**

**DON'T LET DRUGS TAKE
YOUR LIFE AWAY**