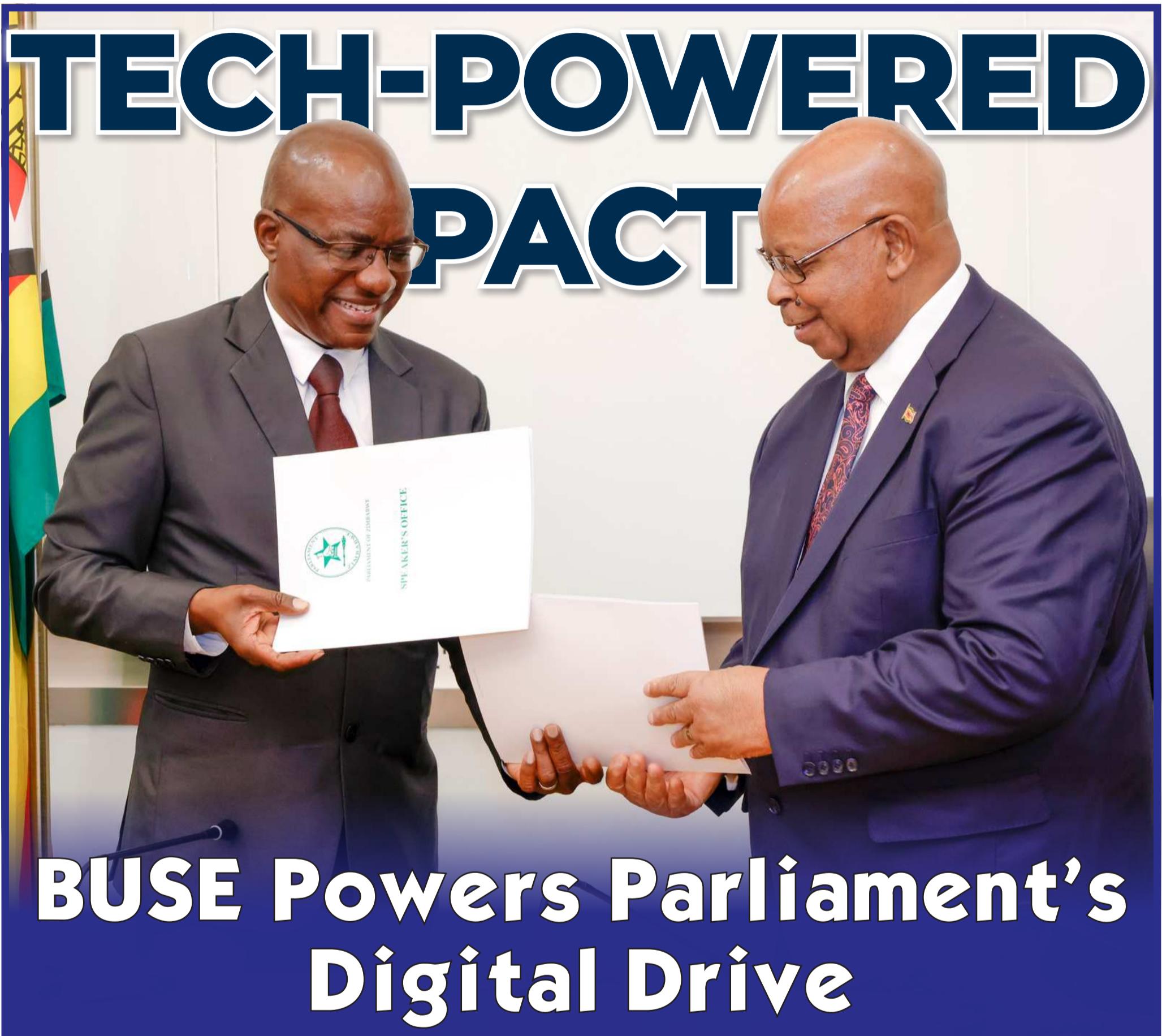




# MEETING POINT

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

## TECH-POWERED IMPACT



**BUSE Powers Parliament's  
Digital Drive**

### INSIDE THIS EDITION



**Research & Innovation  
Week Showcases  
National Development Synergy**

P. 4



**BUSE shines  
@ ENACTUS World Cup**

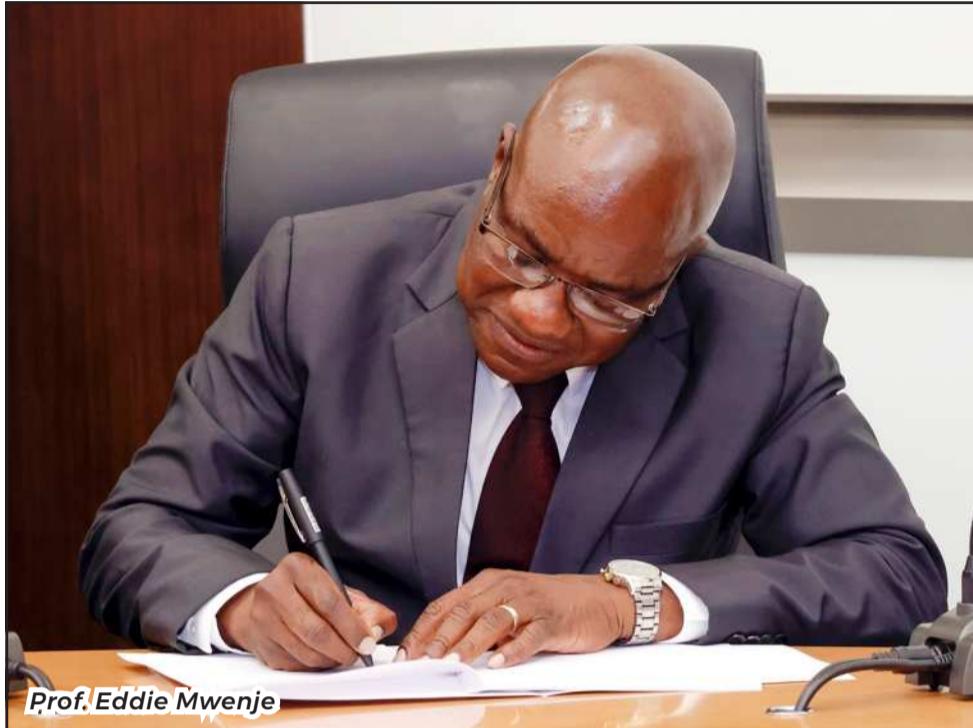
P. 6



**Innovation hubs spark  
rural transformation**

P. 7

# BUSE, PARLIAMENT FORGE HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP



Prof. Eddie Mwenje



Hon. Adv. Jacob Mudenda

## ...Pioneering Digital Transformation

**B**indura University of Science Education (BUSE) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Parliament of Zimbabwe (POZ) aimed at leveraging cutting-edge technology to enhance the legislative and democratic processes of the nation.

The signing of the MOU underscored the growing stature of Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) as a hub of innovation and practical solutions, marking the beginning of a strategic collaboration between the legislative assembly and the University.

The partnership is a direct outcome of the Government's forward-thinking Education 5.0 philosophy that propelled BUSE to intensify its focus on practical, problem-solving research and development.

BUSE Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Eddie Mwenje, hailed the MOU as a testament to the University's successful implementation of Education 5.0.

"This is not just a collaboration,



it is a validation of our journey towards becoming a truly transformative institution," he said.

"Education 5.0 challenged us to produce goods and services that address national challenges. Today, we see one of the highest

offices in the land recognising our capacity to do exactly that."

The Speaker of Parliament, Honourable Advocate Jacob

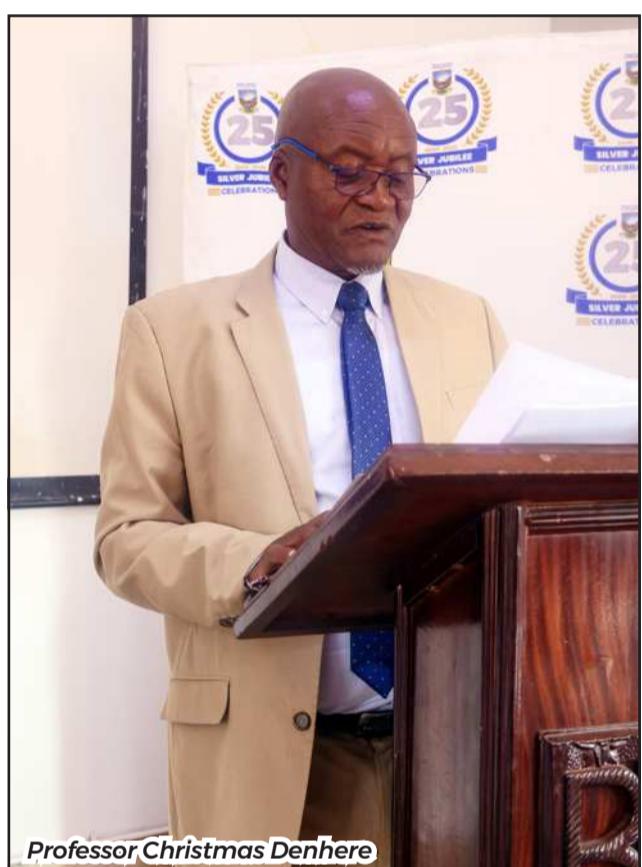
Mudenda, expressed immense enthusiasm for the collaboration and said the prowess of Artificial Intelligence and digital systems is precisely what his organisation needed to develop tailored solutions for their legislative processes.

"The Parliament of Zimbabwe is embarking on an ambitious digital transformation journey to improve legislative efficiency, foster greater transparency, and enhance public engagement, and our partnership with Bindura University of Science Education will go a long way to assist us in achieving this goal" said Hon. Mudenda.

The signing of this MOU positions BUSE at the forefront of a national movement, demonstrating how institutions of higher learning can be powerful engines for socio-economic development.

This partnership between the halls of academia and the chambers of Parliament is not just a meeting of minds, but a fusion of innovation and governance, poised to build a smarter, more responsive, and digitally-empowered Zimbabwe.





Professor Christmas Denhere

## World's largest accounting and finance membership body collaborates with Bindura University of Science Education to enable students access to global finance qualification

The world's largest accounting and finance membership body, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), have collaborated with Bindura University of Science Education to provide its accounting and finance students access to the CGMA Finance Leadership Program, a remote, digital self-paced learning program.

The CGMA Finance Leadership Program is a guided learning and assessment route to completing CIMA's CGMA Professional Qualification and earning the CGMA designation.

With the help of real-life case simulations, it teaches a mix of finance, accounting, business, people, leadership and digital skills that will be required to build successful careers.

Gordian Bowa, ACMA, CGMA, Country Director – Zimbabwe at the Association of International Certified Professional Accountants, the global alliance formed by AICPA and CIMA, said:

"We are proud to collaborate with Bindura University of Science Education to empower its accounting and finance students to become Chartered Global Management Accountants.

"Employers consistently highlight the value of the problem-solving skills that professionals gain through the CGMA Professional Qualification.

"For aspiring business, accounting, and finance talent in Zimbabwe looking to stand out in a competitive job market, earning the CGMA designation offers a powerful advantage and opens doors to a world of opportunity."

With traditional in-person tuition and examination methods being challenged by digital acceleration, the CGMA Finance Leadership Program provides instant online access for aspiring business and finance leaders to learn the knowledge and competencies needed to succeed in the contemporary business world.

Students can start their CGMA journey at an appropriate entry level alongside their university studies, building on existing educational achievements, credentials, and professional experience. Upon successfully completing the program and fulfilling the practical experience requirements, students will earn the prestigious CGMA designation and become CIMA members.

Professor Christmas Denhere, Pro Vice Chancellor of the Bindura University of Science Education, concluded:

"We are proud to partner with AICPA and CIMA to provide our accounting and finance students the opportunity to pursue the CGMA designation, a globally respected credential in the world of finance. I am confident that this programme will significantly enhance our students' capabilities and empower them to build successful careers." **AICPA-CIMA**

## BUSE Engages Next Generation at Vibrant Career Fair

**Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) took its outreach mission to the doorstep of the next generation, participating in a career fair at Herman Gmeiner High School.**

The BUSE team was thrilled to engage with hundreds of ambitious students, providing crucial guidance on academic pathways and the vast array of future career opportunities available to them.

The event was a vibrant affair, with the BUSE stall becoming a hub of activity as droves of inquisitive students excitedly thronged the institution's tent.

University representatives passionately interacted with the learners, demystifying university life and outlining the unique value of a BUSE education.

"Our 25th anniversary is a time to reflect on our legacy and look forward to our future. What better way to celebrate than by inspiring the next generation of innovators, scientists, and thought leaders who will carry the torch for the next group," said Ms Ellen Mutanha.

"Engaging with these bright young minds at Herman Gmeiner is a core part of our commitment to community development and national growth, right here in our own town.

School officials were ecstatic about the event, which they described as more than just a career fair but an investment in the future.



"The energy and intelligent questions from the students were incredible; however, the capable officers from BUSE were able to show them that their dreams in different fields can be realised right here in Bindura, at a university dedicated to innovation and excellence," said one of

the school officials.

This community outreach initiative holds special significance as the University celebrates its Silver Jubilee this year.

A quarter-century of shaping minds and producing leaders has cemented BUSE's role as a pivotal institution in

the national landscape.

The event successfully planted seeds of ambition, with many students leaving the BUSE stall with a clearer vision for their future and a strong interest in considering Bindura University of Science Education as their academic home.

# Research, Innovation Week Showcases National Development Synergy



The recently held BUSE Silver Jubilee Research and Innovation Week (RIW) was a vibrant declaration of the University's pivotal role in shaping Zimbabwe's future through co-creating innovative solutions, building meaningful partnerships, and igniting industrial growth across the nation.

Transforming from a traditional academic gathering into a dynamic marketplace of ideas, the event powerfully celebrated the essential synergy between academia, industry, the community, and government.

The atmosphere was one of unmistakable excitement, filled with the promise of innovation and the spirit of collaboration that defines BUSE's 25-year legacy.

The event's significance was reinforced in an address by Chief Director in the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology Development Professor Norman Takaidza, who lauded the University for its exceptional contributions, framing the university's work as critical to national development.

"The University is not just for educating minds but also for fostering

innovation, incubating new ideas, and collaborating with industries to propel the National Development Strategy 1," said Prof. Takaidza.

BUSE students took centre stage to showcase a stunning array of groundbreaking projects and prototypes from sustainable agricultural technologies and renewable energy solutions to advanced software applications and biomedical devices.

The students' exhibits were a testament to a new generation of problem solvers as their creativity and ingenuity focused on tackling pressing societal challenges, truly embodying the spirit of innovation and progress that the week championed.

The energy from the students and the institution's partners was incredible, bridging the gap between the theoretical and the practical, proving that when people work together, they can engineer a brighter, more prosperous future for all.

The BUSE Silver Jubilee Research and Innovation Week set a new benchmark, not just as a celebration of a milestone, but as a springboard for the next era of discovery and development, firmly rooted in collaboration.



Professor Norman Takaidza



Prof. Denhere, Mrs Chenhizwa and Prof Norman Takaidza congratulate a winning student



# Soberspace AI Wins BUSE Hackathon

During the Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) Research and Innovation Week, student teams from across faculties converged for a spirited hackathon, showcasing their creativity, technical skills, and collaborative problem-solving.

The competition challenged participants to develop innovative and tech-driven solutions to real-world challenges—and one team stood out.

The winning team, creators of Soberspace AI, impressed judges with a visionary digital platform designed to support young people struggling with substance abuse.

The platform aims to provide accessible, affordable, and stigma-free assistance through a mobile-first approach.

Comprising students from diverse disciplines—including Computer Science, Software Engineering, Electronic Engineering, Biological Sciences, Natural Resources Management, and Social Work—the team demonstrated the power of interdisciplinary collaboration.

Members included Tinavo Chihota (4.2 Computer Science), Chiedza Charuma (2.1 Computer Science), Elijah Magaba (2.1 Electronic Engineering), Angeline Muzivare (4.1 Computer Science), Desmond Chipumuro (2.2 Computer Science), Blessed Nyamwanza (4.1 Software Engineering), Phanileck Chinembiri (2.1 Software Engineering), Arnold Dodo (3.1 Biological Sciences), Mutsa Mutambirwa (4.1 NRM), Ropafadzo Chitsa (4.1 Social Work), and Upenyu Chimbwa (4.1 Social Work).



**Soberspace AI with Prof N. Takaidza, Mrs Z. Chirhidza and Prof C. Denhere**

Team leader Tinavo Chihota explained that Soberspace AI was inspired by the urgent need to bridge gaps in traditional recovery methods. "Many young people avoid seeking help due to stigma or financial barriers.

"Our platform uses AI chatbots, peer support, educational games, and location-based services to offer a judgment-free, low-cost alternative—accessible via popular messaging apps," he said.

Chihota added that the team

planned to refine their Minimum Viable Product (MVP) with support from the BUSE Innovation Hub.

"We'll leverage mentorship and resources to enhance the platform, then partner with wellness and substance abuse organizations to integrate expert-driven features.

"Our goal is to scale Soberspace AI globally, continuously improving through collaboration."

Reflecting on the hackathon experience, Chihota encouraged

aspiring innovators to start with a clear understanding of the problem.

"Build diverse teams—different skills and perspectives lead to better solutions. While coordinating across faculties was challenging, strong communication turned our differences into strengths."

The hackathon not only celebrated students' ingenuity, but also reinforced BUSE's commitment to fostering innovation that addresses pressing societal needs.





# BUSE shines @ ENACTUS World Cup

**Y**ouths offering practical solutions to community challenges have once again placed Zimbabwe on the global map, following the ENACTUS Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) team's second-place finish at the ENACTUS World Cup in Bangkok, Thailand.

The team's projects, rooted in sustainable entrepreneurship and community empowerment, showed how African youth can turn local challenges into business opportunities that create jobs, alleviate poverty, and inspire transformation.

Bindura is now known on the world stage as a hub of innovation and brilliance, thanks to the ENACTUS BUSE team's creativity, commitment, and resilience.

The students developed two groundbreaking projects that impressed international judges. The first, Biodivergent, promotes sustainable agriculture through organic-based seed formulations that replace harmful chemicals.

The environmentally friendly seeds improve yields while safeguarding soil health and biodiversity.

The second, Volte Step, is a smart shoe embedded with piezoelectric cells in its sole. As the wearer walks, the cells generate electricity that is stored in a small battery.

The shoe has already powered an LED bulb for up to six hours, providing much-needed lighting to a rural school.

Together, the projects directly address 13 of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Mashonaland Central Provincial Affairs and Devolution Minister Christopher Magomo hailed the victory as a national triumph.

"The team has flown the national flag high and showcased the quality of education and the spirit of innovation thriving in our higher and tertiary institutions, in line with the national vision of Education 5.0," he said.

He added that the projects reflect Zimbabwe's drive towards devolution, community-led development, and President Mnangagwa's Vision 2030 of building an empowered and industrialised society.

In Bangkok, the BUSE team outshone former champions the United States, Ghana, and Germany in the group stages before defeating Thailand, the Netherlands, and Puerto Rico in the knockouts.

In the finals, Zimbabwe competed against Canada, Tunisia, and Germany, finishing second, the nation's best performance in 13 years, and the first time since 2012 that an African team reached the finals. Canada took the top spot.

University officials described the result as "a historic moment for Zimbabwe and for Bindura University."

BUSE Vice Chancellor, Professor Eddie Mwenje, praised the achievement, saying, "This success reflects the exceptional talent, dedication, and entrepreneurial spirit of our students."

"The projects embody Zimbabwe's vision of using innovation, science, and entrepreneurship as key drivers of socio-economic transformation."

The team walked away with US\$6 500 in prize money, but more importantly, left an indelible mark as role models for Africa's next generation of innovators and leaders.

ENACTUS BUSE president, Tadiwanashe Takawira, said the projects prove that innovation can transform communities.

"Our projects have showcased our creativity and entrepreneurial acumen while addressing pressing issues faced by our communities," he said.

"This achievement is not just a testament to our team's hard work and dedication, but also a reflection of the institution's commitment to innovation, intrapreneurship, and community engagement."

With this global recognition, BUSE continues to cement its reputation as a hub for young innovators shaping solutions not only for Zimbabwe but for the world. – **The Herald**





# Innovation hubs spark rural transformation

## ... Muzarabani generates income from wild masawu fruits

**P**resident Mnangagwa's rural industrialisation initiative is creating new economic opportunities, with villagers in Muzarabani now generating income by harvesting and processing wild masawu fruits.

Under President Mnangagwa's administration, Zimbabwe has implemented several key policies and projects to advance rural industrialisation, primarily driven by the devolution agenda.

This strategy seeks to create economic hubs in rural areas, encourage value addition and bridge the urban-rural development gap.

Several projects have been rolled out across the country, with villagers in Mwenezi, for instance, presently earning a decent living from the marula fruit that is abundant in the area.

In Muzarabani, the programme is blending traditional knowledge with modern scientific methods to transform the collection of indigenous fruits into a viable livelihood.

This effort is part of the broader Government drive to decentralise economic activity and stimulate growth in rural communities.

Masawu, the hardy, tangy wild fruit that dots the valleys of Muzarabani, has become a symbol of hope and prosperity, as communities rally to protect the trees from destruction.

The transformation has been inspired by a new wave of rural industrialisation driven by the Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE).

What was once a seasonal fruit collected casually from the bush has now become a valuable raw material powering an emerging rural economy.

Through its Innovation Hub, commissioned by President Mnangagwa in 2022, BUSE began experimenting with masawu-based products, from juices to jams, blending traditional knowledge with modern food science.

The Masawu Value Addition Plant in Muzarabani is part of a



broader rural industrialisation programme championed by President Mnangagwa, which seeks to create jobs and opportunities closer to where people live.

For the people of Muzarabani, masawu is now more than just a fruit, it is the root of a new livelihood.

As the valley turns golden with ripe masawu, villagers have every reason to guard the trees, not only for their fruits, but for the future they promise.

About 45 kilometres from Muzarabani Centre, in Sohwe Village, families were busy picking fruits beneath the sprawling masawu trees when our news crew visited.

Mrs Lowin Kasamunzira said every family now fences off its trees to protect them from animals and outsiders.

"Cattle and goats feed on masawu because of the perennial droughts we experience in Muzarabani," she said.

"Now that we have struck gold with masawu, we move from our homes and set up camp close to the trees during the masawu season."

The masawu season runs from July to November, with August being the peak month. During this period, villagers spend entire days picking fruits.

Mrs Nyengetera Madziwa said

families even build makeshift shelters near their gardens to stay close to the trees.

"One can pick seven or more buckets a day. We have a collection point in the village, where BUSE officials buy the fruits," she said.

"We grade them according to size, and a bucket costs up to US\$3. We are paid cash on the spot; sometimes, one can go home with US\$300 or more."

Before BUSE's intervention, the community sold masawu to traders from Mbare Musika in Harare.

Mr Max Matisika recalled how that trade was costly and inconvenient.

"Sometimes we took the fruits to Mbare ourselves. We paid fees at the boom gate, on the bus, and again at the market. BUSE's masawu plant is a huge advantage to us because now we sell locally without those expenses," he said.

Mr Matisika added that villagers now stock the fruit like grain, as it also feeds their livestock.

"We eat masawu, we make maheu (gununzi), and sometimes exchange it for grain with communities in higher rainfall areas," he said.

"In the past, people even brewed illicit beer (kachasu) from masawu," said Prof Mwenje.

Mr Matisika laughed as he

are abundant in our province.

"Government saw it fit that we establish a plant that will produce masawu juice for consumption across Zimbabwe and, hopefully, beyond."

Currently, the Masawu Value Addition Plant in Muzarabani is 94 percent complete, marking a major milestone in BUSE's efforts to commercialise indigenous resources.

"We have more than four flavours of masawu juice — masawu-baobab, masawu-tamarind, masawu-ginger and masawu-honey," Prof Mwenje said.

"Government supported us with funding to set up the plant, and the equipment is being manufactured in China. We look forward to its commissioning by His Excellency."

At the construction site, project manager Mr Cephas Nzara said civil works were nearing completion, with final touches focusing on site drainage ahead of the rainy season.

"Our construction phase is at 94 percent. We are working on drainage because the site has uneven terrain. Once that's complete, we'll move to equipment installation. We expect to finish by early October," he said.

The construction project has also created job opportunities for locals, many of whom had never been formally employed before.

Ruth Marikeza from Sohwe Village said the six months she has worked at the masawu plant have changed her life.

"Jobs of this nature are not easy to come by in Muzarabani. The six months I've worked here have transformed my life. I've joined a lending and savings society so I can continue improving my life," she said.

Another worker, Prisca Muchina, said employment opportunities for women are helping tackle social challenges.

"Empowering women through jobs is a positive step towards ending domestic violence, child marriages and drug abuse," she said.

For the people of Muzarabani, the masawu tree has become a symbol of dignity, resilience, and transformation. — **The Herald**



# INDUSTRIAL PARK ASSEMBLES LAPTOPS, PHONES

**W**hen President Mnangagwa mooted the idea of establishing innovation hubs and industrial parks at universities, his vision was clear: higher learning institutions had to go beyond theory and drive industrialisation through home-grown innovations.

Bindura University of Science Education has answered this call in a spectacular manner, establishing a state-of-the-art industrial park that is poised to transform the local technology landscape and stimulate economic growth.

At the heart of the facility is "Palpo Technologies," a production plant assembling laptops, tablets and cellphones.

At full production capacity, the plant can manufacture up to 12 000 laptops and 12 000 tablets per month, along with at least 3 000 feature phones.

The gadgets, branded under the university's "Palpo" label, come with specifications ranging from Core i5 to Core i7 processors and are expected to be priced well below imported alternatives.

The feature phone with WhatsApp and internet costs US\$7, the laptop costs US\$350, while for a tablet or smartphone, one has to part with only US\$80.

This pioneering initiative positions BUSE as the first local university to launch a homegrown cellphone and gadget assembly line.

The industrial park is designed to provide affordable digital devices for both students and the wider population, reducing the burden of expensive imports.

Each device is embedded with applications developed at BUSE's innovation hub, enhancing their usefulness of software engineering.

Speaking during a tour of the facility, BUSE Vice Chancellor Professor Eddie Mwenje said the project was a direct response to the President's call for universities to become engines of industrialisation.

"His Excellency gave us the vision when he said universities must innovate and industrialise. We took that call seriously," said Prof Mwenje.

"Today, we are assembling laptops, tablets and cellphones that are not only affordable, but also tailored to the needs of our people. This is the beginning of a homegrown technology industry right here in Zimbabwe."

"We have a large population of students who need laptops and tablets for learning. For many families, imported gadgets are beyond reach."

"By producing them locally, we are lowering costs, creating jobs and building skills among our youth. This is practical innovation at work."

Currently, around 30 young Zimbabweans are employed at the park, most of them recent graduates trained by the university.

As demand grows, the workforce is expected to double to around 60 or more, creating sustainable employment opportunities for the local community.

The BUSE industrial park, which sits on more than two hectares, is not only focused on technology.

It also houses a chemical production plant, an initiative that began during the COVID-19 pandemic when universities were called upon to produce sanitisers.

What started as an emergency response has now expanded into the manufacturing of household detergents, school laboratory chemicals and industrial cleaning agents.

Another innovation spin-off from the university's research hub is a mouthwash production line, set to be commissioned for the first time alongside the park.

This factory highlights how academic research is being converted into commercial ventures with a real impact on daily life.

To ensure accessibility of its products, BUSE is constructing a shopping mall within the park.

Once complete, it will serve as a one-stop retail hub where consumers can purchase laptops, tablets, phones, detergents, mouthwash and other products manufactured on site.

Prof Mwenje described the industrial park as a "living laboratory" where research, innovation and entrepreneurship converge to meet Zimbabwe's developmental needs. This is not just about BUSE. It is about responding to the national vision of creating a modern, industrialised economy," he said.

"The products we are making here, whether it's a laptop, a bottle of detergent, or a packet of chemicals for schools are proof that Zimbabwean universities can innovate, produce and compete. It's about building a legacy for future generations."

The commissioning of the BUSE industrial park comes at a time when Zimbabwe is prioritising value addition and import substitution as pillars of economic growth.

By assembling ICT gadgets locally, the university is not only reducing reliance on imports, but also nurturing a new generation of engineers, chemists, and entrepreneurs.

For many students and households, the promise of affordable gadgets could be transformative, bridging the digital divide and supporting the country's education sector. For the local community, the park represents jobs, training, and a new commercial hub.

For the nation, it is a tangible symbol of how the President's vision of industrial parks is being realised.

BUSE's industrial park stands as a landmark achievement and proof that with the right vision, Zimbabwean institutions can turn innovation into industry and industry into livelihoods.

## SRC Gifts BUSE Sports Gear

**Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) has extended its heartfelt gratitude to the Sport and Recreation Commission (SRC) for a generous and timely donation of sports equipment, poised to transform athletic training and development on campus.**

The donation, comprising high-quality training bibs, balls, and cones, arrived at a pivotal moment—providing athletes and coaches with essential tools to sharpen their skills and strategies.

Director of the BUSE National Sports Academy, Mr. Chemhere, expressed appreciation for the SRC's support and emphasised the importance of continued collaboration in advancing sports excellence.

"On behalf of BUSE, I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Devolution and the SRC Board Chair for this thoughtful gesture. The sports equipment presented today will undoubtedly enhance staff wellness and contribute to a healthier work environment," said Mr. Chemhere.

He further commended the minister's commitment to promoting sports development and wellness across the province, noting that such support affirms the vital role of sports in shaping lives.

SRC Mashonaland Central Provincial Coordinator, Mr. Maganga, acknowledged the impact of the BUSE National Sports Academy in identifying, selecting, and nurturing talent for podium performance.

"The SRC donated sports equipment to the BUSE National Sports Academy as a gesture of our support for the development of young talent. We look forward to strengthening cooperation and partnerships in future sports programming initiatives," he said.

This donation follows the recent international success of Zimbabwean athletes, including BUSE National Sports Academy product Tadiwanashe Makarawu, who achieved top-ten finishes at both the Olympics and the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, Japan.

## BUSE Hosts 93rd ZULC Council

**Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) was recently abuzz with intellectual exchange as it had the distinct honour of hosting the 93rd Council of Directors meeting for the Zimbabwe University Libraries Consortium (ZULC).**

The event, held within the modern facilities of the University Library, brought together library directors and senior information specialists from universities across the country, serving as a pivotal platform for strategic discussions on the future of academic libraries.

The occasion reinforced BUSE's growing influence and its commitment to playing a central role in shaping the national higher education landscape.

In his welcome address, BUSE Pro Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Christmas Denhere, extended a warm welcome to the delegates, and emphasised the power of collaboration that ZULC represents as well as the transformative role of modern libraries.

"In a time when information is abundant but wisdom is scarce, your role in curating, guiding, and connecting knowledge is more vital than ever," he said.

"Libraries are more than repositories of books, they are living institutions that shape minds, preserve culture, and fuel innovation. As directors, you are custodians of knowledge, architects of access, and champions of lifelong learning."

The agenda for the council meeting focused on key strategic issues, including the expansion of digital resource access, the implementation of new knowledge management systems, and aligning library services with the innovation and industrialisation mandates of Education 5.0. The directors also had the opportunity to tour the BUSE library facilities, witnessing the University's commitment to providing a modern and dynamic learning resource centre.

The gathering reinforced BUSE's position as a key player in the national academic landscape and demonstrated its unwavering commitment to strengthening the collaborative networks that underpin excellence in higher education in Zimbabwe.

# BUSE, MOPSE Signal New Era for Education

**B**indura University of Science Education (BUSE) recently hosted a high-level delegation from the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education (MOPSE), aimed at exploring strategic collaboration in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and locally developed innovative technologies.

Led by Permanent Secretary Mr. Moses Mhike, the visit underscored BUSE's growing reputation as a hub of technological excellence and marked a significant milestone in its journey toward national relevance through innovation.

BUSE Vice-Chancellor, Professor Eddie Mwenje, described the visit as a resounding endorsement of the university's research output and its capacity to deliver tangible solutions for Zimbabwe.

"As we celebrate our 25th Anniversary, this engagement is more than a mere meeting—it is the fulfilment of our core mission. For a quarter of a century, BUSE has been dedicated to harnessing science and technology for the socio-economic development of Zimbabwe," said Professor Mwenje.

He emphasized that MOPSE's interest signals national recognition of BUSE's work and reflects the urgent need for education and technology to converge in preparing the next generation.

"This collaboration with MOPSE is a perfect synergy, aligning our innovative capabilities with the Ministry's foundational

role in nation-building," he added.

The delegation toured BUSE's Innovation Hub, beginning at the Software Development Centre, where students and staff showcased cutting-edge AI applications and software solutions designed to transform the education sector.

The tour continued to the university's landmark cell phone manufacturing plant, where the delegation witnessed the assembly of laptops and mobile phones under the proudly Zimbabwean brand, Palpo.

Speaking during the visit, Mr. Mhike expressed enthusiasm for the partnership and praised the university's practical innovations.

"We are incredibly impressed by the level of innovation and practical application we have witnessed at BUSE. This is the kind of home-grown solution that propels a nation forward," he said.

"This facility—the cell phone manufacturing plant—is not just a factory, it is a symbol of national self-sufficiency and a benchmark for local technological production."

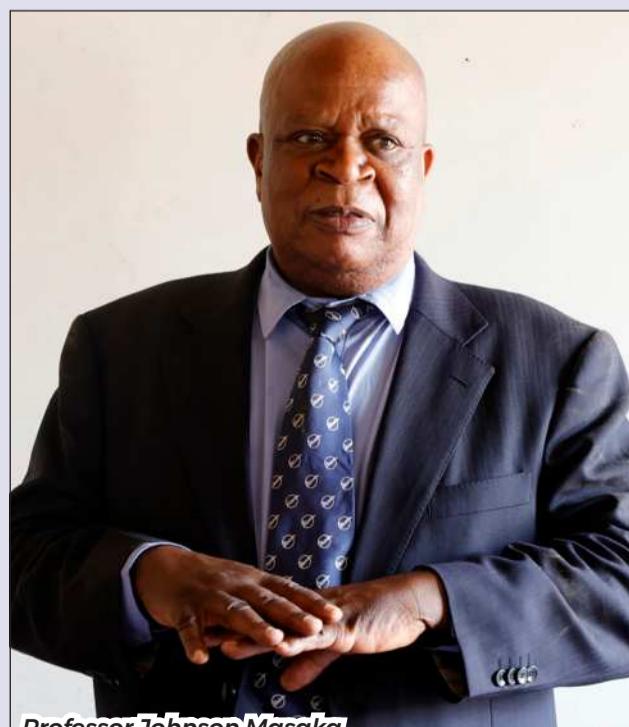
This landmark visit further positioned BUSE as a key player in Zimbabwe's developmental agenda. As the university celebrates its Silver Jubilee, it steps into the next quarter-century with renewed vigour, ready to co-create a smarter, more technologically empowered future for the nation.



Vice-Chancellor, Professor Eddie Mwenje, chats with MOPSE Permanent Secretary Mr. Moses Mhike



## Strengthening Food Security Through Soil Testing



Professor Johnson Masaka

**B**indura University of Science Education (BUSE) recently hosted a comprehensive Soil Testing and Awareness Workshop, welcoming a diverse group of farmers and agronomists from across Mashonaland Central Province.

The initiative was a powerful demonstration of BUSE's commitment to community service and national development—opening its doors and laboratories to the heart of Zimbabwe's agricultural sector.

The event underscored the University's core mission: translating cutting-edge science from the laboratory directly into the fields that feed the nation.

Speaking during the workshop, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Science, Professor Johnson Masaka, emphasized that by equipping the agricultural community with advanced knowledge on soil health, BUSE is actively strengthening the pillars of sustainable productivity and food security in the region.

"Universities are not ivory towers; they are engines of practical solutions. Our mandate extends beyond our student body to the communities we serve," he said.

"This workshop is a prime example of how BUSE leverages its scientific expertise and modern infrastructure to tackle real-world challenges faced by our farmers."

A key highlight of the day was an interactive tour of the

University's state-of-the-art soil testing laboratories. For many attendees, it was a first-time opportunity to witness the sophisticated science that underpins modern, profitable farming.

"This changes everything. Often, we apply fertiliser based on guesswork. To see the exact process—to understand how scientists can tell us precisely what our soil lacks—is revolutionary. It means we can invest our resources wisely, boost yields, and protect our land for future generations," said a farmer from Mt Darwin.

Agronomists praised the initiative, noting that it fosters a common language between researchers, extension officers, and farmers.

Beyond the lab tour, the workshop featured practical demonstrations on how to correctly collect soil samples and interpret laboratory reports.

This initiative reflects BUSE's strategic use of modern technology to fulfil its community service mandate. By providing access to advanced laboratories and the experts who run them, the University is democratising high-level scientific data—making it accessible to those on the frontlines of agriculture.

Through endeavours like this, Bindura University of Science Education continues to prove that its most valuable export is not just graduates, but tangible, scientifically grounded progress for the entire community.

# BUSE Secures Erasmus+ Partnership with Laurea University, Dzikwa Trust

**L**aurea University of Applied Sciences (Finland) and representatives from the Dzikwa Trust Fund recently made a landmark visit to Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE), marking a significant step in a dynamic new tripartite partnership.

This collaboration, supported by the prestigious Erasmus+ KA171 (International Credit Mobility) grant, stands as a powerful testament to BUSE's strategic commitment to internationalisation.

The partnership is poised to transform academic and professional horizons at BUSE by providing vital financial support for both students and staff to participate in international mobility projects.

During their visit, the delegation toured the university, engaging with staff and students, and exploring various faculties and innovation-driven projects. The experience offered a first-hand look



at the dynamism and creativity that define BUSE's institutional culture.

Speaking during the tour, Dzikwa Trust Zimbabwe Programs Director, Mrs. Oili Wuolle, emphasized that the partnership is about more than mobility—it's about

building a lasting network of knowledge exchange.

"The energy and dedication we have seen at Bindura University of Science Education is truly inspiring. By facilitating this international exposure, we are investing in the future

leaders of Zimbabwe. The skills and global perspectives that BUSE students and staff will gain are invaluable assets for national development," she said.

BUSE's Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities, Dr.

Makwerere, described the collaboration as a clear indicator that the university's internationalisation strategy is yielding results.

"This initiative goes beyond cultural exchange; it is about equipping the BUSE community with global competencies, research networks, and innovative mindsets required to solve tomorrow's challenges," he said.

"The world is our classroom, and this partnership with Laurea University and Dzikwa Trust—enabled by the Erasmus+ grant—is a monumental leap forward. We are not just sending our people abroad; we are bringing the world to BUSE and embedding our institution in the global knowledge economy. This is a proud moment for our entire community."

As BUSE celebrates its Silver Jubilee, this partnership is more than a grant—it is a bridge to global opportunity, firmly placing the university on the map of international academic collaboration.



## International Collabo Strengthens BUSE's Fight Against Human Trafficking

**I**n a significant stride towards addressing one of the most pressing human rights challenges of our time, Bindura University of Science Education's (BUSE) Centre for Combating Human Trafficking (CCHT) hosted the world-renowned Karolinska Institutet from Sweden to kick off a landmark collaborative project.

The ambitious research initiative, titled "Women's Experiences and Post-Return Lives after Trafficking in Zimbabwe," marks a new chapter in the university's quest for impactful, evidence-based solutions.

Pro Vice Chancellor, Research and Innovation, Professor Muhammad, expressed his full support for the vital initiative and said this prestigious partnership with Karolinska Institutet is more than just a research project but a powerful catalyst that enhances the mandate of our CCHT.

"By joining forces with a global leader in medical and health sciences, we are not only strengthening our research



capabilities but also creating unparalleled opportunities for capacity building among

our staff and students," he said.

A representative from Karolinska

Institutet in Sweden said they were not just studying a problem but were actively building a solution.

"This collaboration allows us to leverage international expertise to generate impactful research that will directly inform evidence-based interventions.

"Our ultimate goal is to support the recovery, reintegration, and empowerment of women who have survived the trauma of trafficking," he said.

This project underscores BUSE's role not just as an institution of higher learning, but as a responsible and proactive member of society, dedicated to driving positive change.

The findings from this research will be instrumental in shaping effective national strategies and support systems, contributing to a safer and more just society for all.

The fight against human trafficking demands a concerted effort, and Bindura University of Science Education is proudly answering the call.

# BUSE IN PICS





# SPORT

## SPECTACULAR FINALE



### ...2025 Collegiate Sporting Season Ends in Excellent Fashion for BUSE

**T**he 2025 collegiate sporting season concluded in spectacular fashion for Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE), which scooped multiple medals at the Zimbabwe University Sports Association (ZUSA) Cluster 3 Games held in Bulawayo, hosted by Lupane State University.

BUSE fielded strong teams in hockey, swimming, and golf, ultimately emerging as the overall best-performing university at the games.

#### GOLF GLORY

BUSE's dominance in collegiate sports—particularly golf—remained unrivalled. This cluster was no exception, but a cherry was added to the usual sweet taste of victory.

Talk about a whitewash: BUSE achieved a clean sweep of all awards, winning every available medal in the ladies' category, the best female golf team awards, and the overall best

golfing team accolade.

During the awards ceremony, one could be forgiven for thinking it was an intra-university tournament rather than a national contest—BUSE swept all individual awards.

Even more impressively, the team featured a blend of final-year and first-year students, presenting exciting prospects for the future. BUSE's golfing dominance is poised to continue for years to come.

#### HOCKEY DELIGHT

After years of absence from the sport, BUSE fielded both men's and women's hockey teams. Despite stiff competition, the teams showed heart and determination in defending the honour of the institution.

The women's team did not progress beyond the group stage. Although they suffered heavy defeats in their three matches, they demonstrated potential and promise. With more match experience, they are likely to improve

significantly next year.

It was in the men's game that Lady Luck smiled on BUSE. The team played out an exciting 1-1 draw in their opening match against Great Zimbabwe University (GZU), then fell to National University of Science and Technology (NUST) and Midlands State University (MSU).

At this stage, fortune favoured BUSE. NUST was disqualified for fielding an ineligible player, handing BUSE a quarter-final spot. They were set to face the University of Zimbabwe (UZ), who looked like title contenders—until UZ too was disqualified for the same infraction.

BUSE advanced to the semi-finals, where they met Africa University and won 2-1. In the final, although outplayed by MSU, BUSE demonstrated their mettle and were rightfully awarded the silver medal.

#### SWIMMING SURPRISE

The Cluster 3 Games delivered many surprises. BUSE fielded a

depleted swimming team due to exam scheduling challenges. Nevertheless, the few swimmers who took to the water represented the institution with pride and purpose.

At the end of the day, BUSE had a silver and bronze medal to show for their gallant efforts—silver in the 100-metre individual medley and bronze in the 50-metre breaststroke.

This was a commendable achievement, and with continued practice, perfection is within reach.

#### OVERVIEW

As the curtains fell on the 2025 collegiate sporting season, one truth was cast in stone: BUSE is a force to reckon with across all sporting disciplines. The outstanding performances by its teams and individuals cemented the university's place as the home of sporting excellence.

Long may BUSE's flag fly high in national, regional, and international collegiate sports.

**SAY  
NO  
TO DRUGS**

DON'T LET DRUGS TAKE AWAY YOUR LIFE