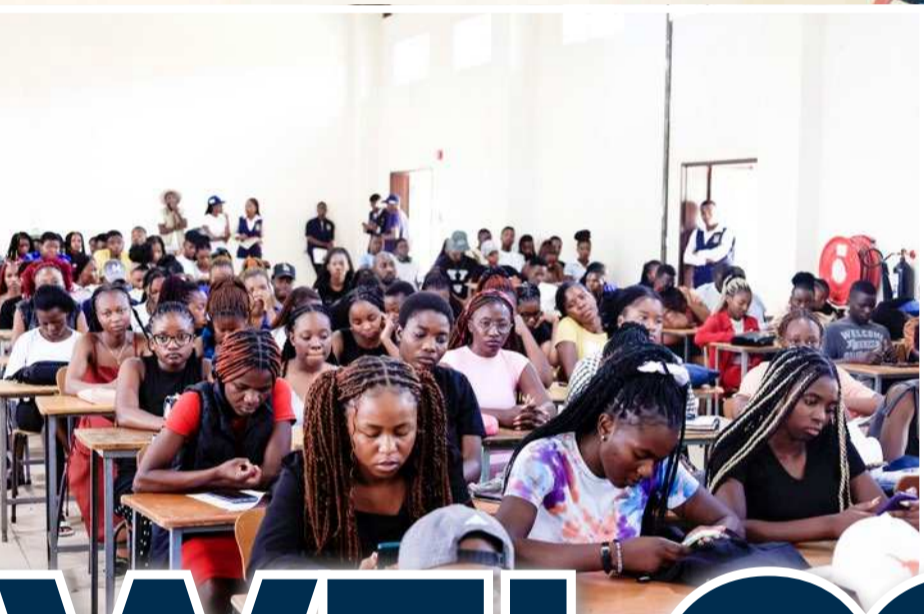




MEETING POINT

SHAPING AND CREATING THE FUTURE: BUILDING ZIMBABWE



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VC URGES FIRST YEAR STUDENTS

By Julia Ndlela

Vice Chancellor Professor Eddie Mwenje officially welcomed the February 2026 intake of undergraduate students to Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE), challenging the new cohort to view their academic journey as a national mission.

Speaking at the Main Campus Multipurpose Hall, the Vice Chancellor, Professor Mwenje, emphasized that the university's mandate transcends traditional learning, focusing instead on the strategic 'Shaping and Creating the Future' of the nation.

The Vice Chancellor's address centered on the transition to Education 5.0, a results-oriented framework that evolves from the colonial-era focus on mere theory.

"It is with great pleasure and honour that I welcome you to Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE).

"Today marks the beginning of an exciting chapter in your lives, a journey that will shape your future and empower you to achieve dreams you may not yet have even imagined.

"At BUSE, our guiding philosophy, *Shaping and Creating the Future*, is not just a marketing slogan it is a strategic mandate, you have joined an institution that does not merely study the world as it is but designs it for what it must become," he said.

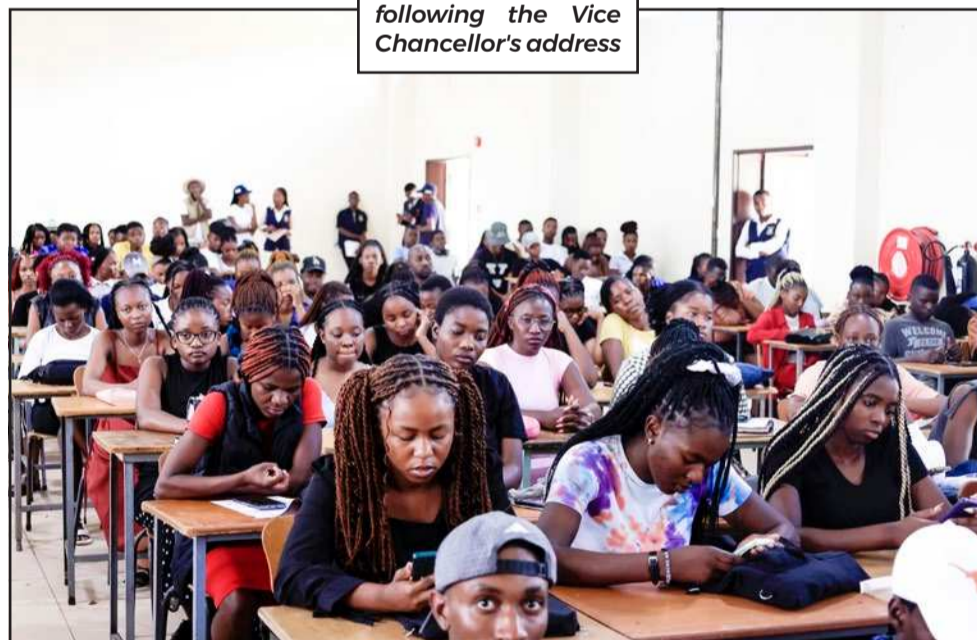
By adding innovation and industrialization to the pillars of teaching and research, Professor Mwenje noted that the University is aligning itself with the government's blueprint for economic development National Development Strategy 2 (NDS 2).

He implored students to prioritize innovation over imitation, urging them to create patents rather than simply memorising textbooks.

He said, "To shape the future of a nation, you must first shape yourselves, I challenge you to focus on these key pillars of Education 5.0 during your time here.



First year students following the Vice Chancellor's address



"As you may know, Education 5.0 is an upward evolution of the nation's education system from the colonial Education 3.0 which was only limited to teaching, research and community engagement to the now results oriented Education 5.0 that adds innovation and industrialisation as Zimbabwe's architecture for a progressive nation.

"With the ushering in of the NDS2 2026-2030, which is Governments blueprint for national development, we are called upon as universities, yourselves included, to be equal players in this key journey."

Highlighting the institution's recent successes, Professor Mwenje pointed to the university's Innovation Hub as a factory of breakthroughs also citing the remarkable achievement of the BUSE Enactus club, which secured second place at the Enactus World Cup in Thailand in October 2025.

The team gained global recognition for a seed coating initiative and VoltStep, an innovative technology that allows footwear to generate electricity for charging devices.

Furthermore, the university had recently filed seven patents and 25 copyrights for locally developed

products, including herbal toothpastes and cosmeceuticals that blend Zimbabwean heritage with modern science.

"To the skeptics who ask if a student can truly "build a nation," I point to your predecessors who have already walked these halls, our Innovation Hub is a true testament of this, it is not just a building; but a factory of breakthroughs.

"When you walk across campus, remember that you are following the footsteps of Global Pioneers. Through the VC's Research Grant, students developed Smart Connect, a digital platform now revolutionizing how our local farmers connect with markets.

"At Bindura University of Science Education, we are not waiting for the future to happen to us; we are designing it in our laboratories, testing it in our industrial park and fields, and refining it in our lecture rooms."

Professor Mwenje underscored the importance of ethical leadership and a holistic student experience and called on the freshmen to exploit national heritage to add value at home rather than exporting raw materials.

Professor Mwenje said: "Building a nation requires more than talent; it requires a mind-set shift, look at our local minerals, flora, and indigenous knowledge, apply science to add value here at home, rather than exporting raw materials.

"The best innovations happen, for example when a Software Engineering student works with an Agriculture student, a built nation is only as strong as its moral foundation let excellence be your only standard, Zimbabwe is waiting for your contribution

"The student experience at BUSE is designed to be fulfilling both inside and outside the lecture hall.

"I strongly encourage you to immerse yourselves in our diverse range of student clubs and organizations from debating societies, to sports to innovative and entrepreneurial ventures, these clubs provide invaluable opportunities to develop leadership skills. Let us start shaping and creating the future."

BUSE, Kadoma City Council Forge Strategic Partnership

By Julia Ndlela

In a significant move toward urban transformation and technological integration, the Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) recently hosted a high-level delegation from the Kadoma City Council.

The visit, led by the Mayor of Kadoma City, Mr Nigel Ruzario and the Acting Town Clerk, Mr Willard Mangwengwende, focused on exploring BUSE's cutting-edge facilities as a blueprint for modernizing Kadoma through Education 5.0.

The delegation toured the University's flagship projects, including the Palpo Technologies assembly plant, the School of Optometry, and the National Sports Academy, as part of a mission to establish a BUSE satellite center in Kadoma.

Vice Chancellor Professor Eddie Mwenje emphasized that BUSE is aggressively embracing the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR). A key highlight of the tour was the university's proprietary AI system, designed in local languages to enhance comprehension and digital inclusivity.

"In our University we believe in technology, we are not called the University of technology, but we are a science institution.

"We are able to do high-end technology because science is our strength.

"We developed our own AI system in our own languages because it is easy to comprehend. This system cannot be found on the internet; it is a unique local innovation," Prof. Mwenje stated.

The University's tech portfolio, tested by the Ministry of ICT and POTRAZ, includes, Chiringa, the National Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) dashboard, developed in partnership with the Parliament of Zimbabwe to track national projects in real-time.

CityPin Executive is another AI system which is an incident-reporting technology that allows authorities to pinpoint potholes and other infrastructure issues using evidence-based data and Palpo Technologies, an industrial park commissioned on October



Professor Eddie Mwenje (R) with Kadoma City Mayor Mr Nigel Ruzario

25, 2025, where the University assembles its own brand of laptops, tablets, and phones.

"We have partnered Parliament of Zimbabwe on our Chiringa, the National Monitoring and Evaluation platform.

"We also invested the Citypin executive that can pin point potholes it is an incident technology which is evidence based.

"The Ministry of Information Communication Technology,

Postal and Courier Services (ICT) and Potraz have tested our products before," Prof Mwenje added.

The delegates visited the School of Optometry, a Ministry of Health flagship program and the first in Zimbabwe to offer hands-on degree training.

The school has recently ventured into the manufacturing of optical lenses and frames, with a state-of-the-art lab capable of producing 1,200 pairs of lenses daily.

While components like raw lens materials are currently sourced from China, Prof. Mwenje revealed plans to manufacture frames and components locally in the near future.

The University also announced plans to expand its medical wing into physiotherapy and water purification plants.

Prof Mwenje said "We started a clinic and built the School of Optometry that looks at everything to do with vision while we also have a nursing programme and we will soon look into physio therapy.

"We were the first to start a degree program that teaches hands on optometry, we also got into manufacturing glasses, we buy a component of the glasses from china but we look into making our own in the future and the ministry wants us to produce frames.

"This optometry clinic is a ministry of health flagship program, we also look into venturing in water purification and to build a purification plant."

At the National Sports Academy, the delegation learned how BUSE uses science to inform athletic training, as the academy is famous for nurturing world-class talent like Tapiwanashe Makarawu, the BUSE alumnus who reached the 200m final at the Paris Olympics.

To further this mission, the University has designated 80 hectares of its 200ha plot for an Olympic-standard stadium.

Impressed by the hands-on nature of the university, the Mayor Ruzario expressed a ready willingness to partner with BUSE.

"We are willing to partner; we just need to work together. The council is ready to work with BUSE to transform Kadoma," the Mayor affirmed.

While the exact size of the proposed Kadoma center is yet to be finalized, Prof. Mwenje expressed particular interest in Kadoma's mining and agricultural strengths.

The two parties agreed to conduct a technical assessment to determine which BUSE innovations—ranging from tech assembly to optometry clinics—would best suit the Kadoma landscape.

'Your Research Must Speak to Boardrooms'

Vice Chancellor Urges DBL Candidates to Create Impact, Not Titles

By Annastasia Bango

Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE), renowned for its commitment to fostering academic excellence and innovation, recently hosted an orientation session for its second cohort of the Doctor in Business Leadership programme.

This landmark event marked a significant milestone for the university's Graduate School of Business, signaling its expanding role in shaping future business leaders in Zimbabwe and beyond.

The orientation aimed to introduce incoming doctoral candidates to the programme's core objectives, expectations, and academic standards. It provided a comprehensive overview of the curriculum, emphasizing leadership, strategic management, and research methodologies.

Attendees were encouraged to view the programme as a transformative journey that would equip them with advanced skills to influence business practices and policy-making in their respective fields.

Dr. Judith Mwenje, the Director of Graduate School of Business, delivered the keynote address, highlighting the university's vision for the programme.

She stressed the importance of developing transformational leaders who can navigate complex business environments and drive sustainable development.

Dr. Mwenye also underscored BUSE's commitment to research excellence, encouraging students to contribute innovative solutions to real-world challenges.

One of the key points of the orientation was the programme's emphasis on research integrity and ethical leadership. Participants were



introduced to the university's policies on academic honesty and responsible conduct of research, which are critical pillars for maintaining credibility and producing impactful scholarship.

The session aimed to instill a culture of integrity from the outset of the doctoral journey.

The orientation addressed practical aspects such as registration procedures, academic calendars, and available resources.

Students were informed about the library facilities, online learning platforms, and mentoring programmes designed to support their academic pursuits.

The University emphasized its commitment to providing a conducive environment for scholarly growth, including access to relevant data, funding opportunities, and international collaborations.

The programme's design reflects the university's broader mission to

produce graduates who are equipped to address contemporary business challenges. It recognizes the need for innovative thinking, resilience, and strategic agility in a rapidly changing global economy.

As such, the doctoral programme seeks to cultivate forward-thinking leaders capable of influencing policy and practice at the highest levels.

BUSE's Graduate School of Business plans to host regular orientations and workshops to support students throughout their doctoral studies.

The University aims to create a vibrant academic environment where innovation, collaboration, and leadership development are prioritized.

This approach ensures that graduates are not only academically proficient but also socially responsible and ethically grounded.

The successful hosting of the Doctor in Business Leadership orientation

demonstrates BUSE's dedication to academic excellence and leadership capacity building. It reflects a strategic move to position the University as a key player in higher business education within the region. By investing in advanced leadership training, BUSE is contributing to the broader goal of national development through educated and innovative business leaders.

The orientation session marked a new chapter for Bindura University of Science Education's Graduate School of Business.

It exemplified the university's vision of nurturing transformational leaders equipped with the knowledge, skills, and ethical grounding necessary for contemporary business environments.

As the programme progresses, it is poised to produce graduates who will make significant impacts both locally and globally.

In his speech the Vice Chancellor Prof Eddie Mwenye said, "As doctoral candidates in Business Leadership, you are being prepared not just to analyze problems but to solve them.

You are not here to accumulate a title, you are here to create impact. Your research should not end on a library shelf. It must speak to boardrooms, government ministries, industries, and communities."

He added, "...as Vice Chancellor, I must emphasize that this University maintains uncompromising academic standards."

"The DBL is not simply about producing scholars. It is about producing transformational leaders. "When you graduate from this programme, you must represent the intellectual authority and leadership integrity that define Bindura University."



VC Prof Eddie Mwenje with the second cohort of Graduate School of Business' Doctor in Business Leadership programme



Bindura University
of Science Education




OPEN DAY


A guided tour of BUSE designed to inspire High School students by showcasing our academic programmes innovations, learning environment and pathways to success

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ALL SCHOOLS ARE INVITED!

Shaping and Creating the Future: Building Zimbabwe



Dr Finn Junker attending to a patient



HUNDREDS BENEFIT FROM FREE EYE SCREENING

By Anastasia Bango

Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE), in collaboration with Finnish optometrist Dr. Finn Junker, recently hosted a community outreach programme at its Optometry clinic, offering free eye screenings to members of the public.

The initiative aimed to promote eye health and provide quality vision care to those in need.

Building on the overwhelming gratitude from the community, the success of this eye-care drive has sparked momentum for even broader outreaches.

The University is now looking ahead, planning more health-focused initiatives that will help the residents.

The clinic, equipped with state-of-the-art equipment, saw hundreds of people turning up for the free eye screening. Many were also recipients of free glasses, courtesy of the university.

A 62 year old lady from Masembura, Gunyere village said, "I've been struggling to thread a needle or read my Bible without straining my eyes for years.

"These glasses are a godsent! I'm so grateful to BUSE for this kindness.

"I can see my grandchildren's faces clearly now, and that's all that matters."

She added, "I was born with poor eyesight and never had the opportunity to get glasses.

Phillip Tom, a local resident, echoed similar sentiments. "I've been struggling with my eyesight for years, and these glasses are a blessing.

"The service was quick and professional, and I'm grateful to BUSE for bringing this service to our community.

"As a member of the Chief's clan, I'm proud to see our community come together for a noble cause.

"This initiative is the best thing that has happened to Mashonaland Central Province. Ndotenda BUSE, for bringing light to our community!" Gift Chipadze said.

Dr. Junker said, "Seeing the impact of quality vision care on people's lives is truly rewarding. It's heartening to see our students and staff come together to make a difference in the community. We're committed to continuing this outreach and expanding our services to reach more people in need."

He emphasized the importance of regular eye check-ups.

"Many eye conditions are asymptomatic in their early stages, and early detection is key to preventing vision loss," he said

The BUSE Optometry clinic boasts modern equipment, enabling accurate diagnoses and effective treatment plans.

The clinic offers a range of services, including eye exams, prescription glasses, and contact lenses.

The free eye screening was part of BUSE's ongoing community outreach efforts, aimed at promoting health and wellbeing in the region.

"We believe that everyone deserves access to quality vision care, regardless of their financial situation," said Dr. Junker.

The University's commitment to community service extends beyond education, with initiatives like this free eye screening demonstrating its dedication to improving lives.

The clinic also provides hands-on experience for Optometry students, who assisted in the screening process under the supervision of experienced professionals.

The response from the community was overwhelming, with many expressing gratitude for the service.

BUSE plans to host more community outreach programs, focusing on health, education, and environmental conservation.

The free eye screening at BUSE Optometry clinic was a resounding success, benefiting hundreds and demonstrating the university's commitment to community service.

As Dr. Junker said, "We're committed to making a difference, one pair of glasses at a time."



Doctor C Mtuwa attending to a patient



Members of the community waiting to be attended to by Optometry staff





GSB Director Dr. Mwenje showing Minister Amb. Dr. Shava one of the department's impactful community projects



GSB'S IMPACTFUL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENTS PAYING OFF

The Graduate School of Business (GSB) at Bindura University of Science Education has been commended for its outstanding contributions to community engagement, showcasing how academic expertise can drive tangible social and economic change.

This follows the GSB's exceptional work in translating academic knowledge into tangible community upliftment. The school's efforts stand as a shining example of how Bindura University of Science Education is redefining the role of higher education in national development.

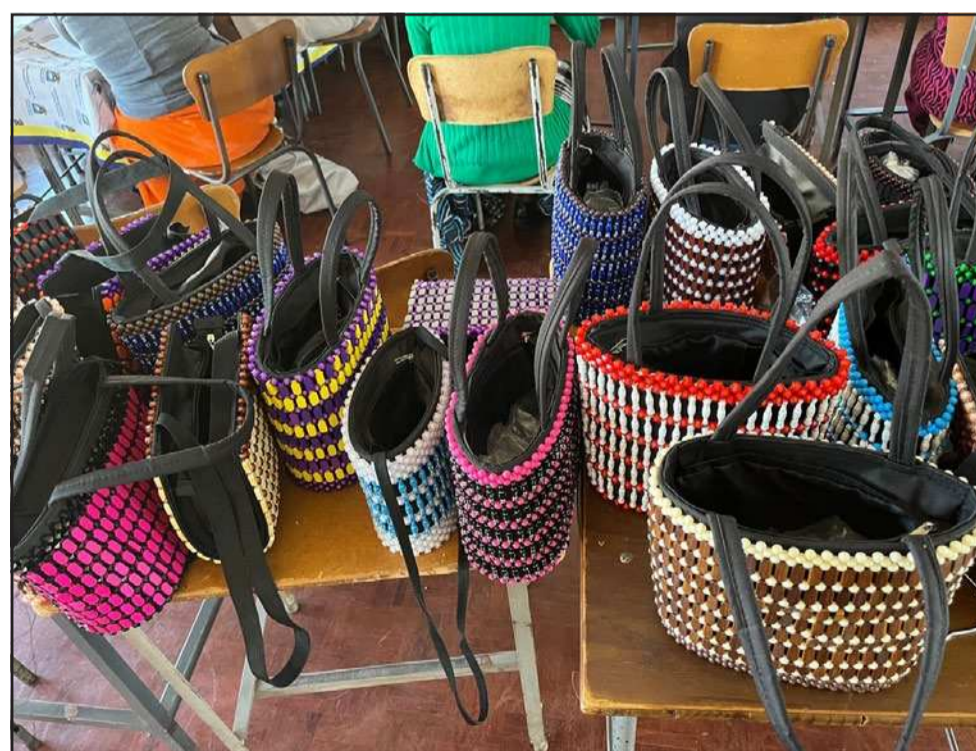
The GSB's work is a powerful, real-world manifestation of Heritage-Based Education 5.0, which positions universities as engines of innovation and development through its five missions: teaching, research, community engagement, innovation, and industrialisation.

It is the pillar of community engagement that the GSB has embraced with particular passion and effectiveness, demonstrating that the university's greatest asset is its ability to solve practical problems and empower its surrounding communities.

The GSB has moved beyond the tradition of teaching to become a hub of grassroots economic transformation. At the core of this initiative is the groundbreaking Business Entrepreneurial Skills Training (BEST) Model.

This hands-on programme integrates business theory with real-world practice, guiding vulnerable community members, survivors of human trafficking, rural women, and even university students to establish and run their own income-generating ventures.

In an interview with this publication, the GSB Director, Dr Mwenje, applauded the entire GSB team for the incredible work that they are doing and added that by aligning academic expertise with the needs of the community in line with the Heritage Education 5.0 philosophy, the university was



creating a powerful force for good.

"Empowerment is not just about creating income-generating projects, but it is about restoring hope, reducing social challenges such as drugs and substance abuse, and building a resilient Zimbabwe," said Dr Mwenje.

The impact of the BEST Model is profound and deeply personal, as testified by one male beneficiary in Muzarabani who used his proceeds to pay his children's school fees, and a woman in Shamva who also found

a sustainable way to secure her children's education. These are not just statistics; they are stories of restored dignity and hope.

The GSB's work has a multiplier effect that resonates deeply with the university's motto: 'Shaping and Creating the Future: Building Zimbabwe.'

By providing participants with structured mentorship, from initial training to exhibiting products at national platforms like the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair, the model ensures that

learning translates directly into household income.

Some of the blueprint projects spearheaded by the GSB include The Beadwork, Murara, and the Beekeeping Products. The Beadwork initiative has blossomed into a province-wide success. Now active in Muzarabani, Guruve, Centenary, Shamva, and Matepatepa, this project produces beautiful bags, jewellery, and traditional attire, restoring dignity and providing sustainable income to vulnerable women. The programme has also been extended to BUSE students, fostering an entrepreneurial spirit in the next generation.

The GSB team also guided communities in Muzarabani to transform the abundant Murara reed into a viable economic resource. Table mats, baskets, hats, and brooms are now being crafted and sold, turning a natural resource into a source of employment and pride.

The Beekeeping initiative goes beyond honey production. By incorporating wax extraction and the creation of value-added products like candles and soap, it has created multiple income streams. Crucially, it also promotes environmental conservation through pollination and afforestation, perfectly aligning economic activity with ecological stewardship.

These projects are more than just business ventures; they are a direct assault on the root causes of social challenges like idleness and substance abuse. By providing productive engagement, the programme fosters responsible citizenship and restores hope.

In celebrating the work of the Graduate School of Business, we celebrate the very essence of a modern, engaged university. This work is a direct contribution to the National Development Strategy 2 (NDS2) and Vision 2030, proving that when academic expertise meets community need, the result is not just economic growth, but the restoration of hope and the building of a resilient Zimbabwe.

RGMSI Delegation Commends BUSE's Tech Advancements

By Tinashe Chuma

Bindura University of Science Education's (BUSE) cutting-edge research and development in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) services and products left a lasting impression on a visiting delegation from the Robert Gabriel Mugabe School of Intelligence (RGMSI), which paid a courtesy call on Vice Chancellor Professor Eddie Mwenje before touring several University facilities.

The delegation, led by RGMSI Deputy Commandant Sekeramayi, toured the University's Industrial Park, the Palpo Assembly Plant, the Innovation Hub, the Library, the OpTech Lens Manufacturing Plant and the Optometry Clinic.

At the Innovation Hub, the delegation was exposed to a range of BUSE innovations already adopted by Government and other institutions. Among them is Chiringa, a monitoring and evaluation dashboard currently utilised by the Social Services Cluster under the direct supervision of Honourable Vice President Col (Rtd) Dr Kembo Mohadi.

Deputy Commandant Sekeramayi commended BUSE for pushing the boundaries of ICT innovation in support of national development, noting that such initiatives are critical to achieving Vision 2030.

He expressed particular admiration for the scale, relevance and impact of the University's products and services, and pledged to strengthen collaboration in strategic areas such as Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity.

RGMSI is an affiliate college of BUSE and jointly offers several academic programmes under the University's direct oversight.



RGMSI delegation paid a courtesy call on the Vice Chancellor Prof Mwenje after touring the University



Distinguished DUT Professor Inspires at BUSE PhD Colloquium

By Nyasha Chibandamabwe

Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) was honored to host Professor Zamokuhle Mbandlwa from the Durban University of Technology during the 3rd Faculty of Commerce PhD Colloquium, held on 26 February at the University's administrative campus.

A renowned scholar in research methodology and innovation studies, Prof. Mbandlwa is admired for his calm delivery, thoughtful pauses, and quiet intensity when addressing ethics in academia.

His presence added gravitas to a gathering that also featured distinguished delegates such as Rev. B. Maforo and Dean of the Faculty of Commerce, Dr. Z. Tambudzai.

Reflecting on his visit, Prof. Mbandlwa remarked:

"It was a privilege to visit Bindura University of Science Education, where the welcoming atmosphere and vibrant academic community left a lasting impression in me.

"The campus exudes growth and innovation, with students and staff committed to excellence.

"Zimbabwe itself radiates remarkable energy — rich in culture, history, and natural beauty. From the warmth of the people to the lush landscapes, it is clear that Zimbabwe has much to offer.

"The experience was truly enriching, and I look forward to



Professor Zamokuhle Mbandlwa with some Faculty of Commerce staff members after his presentation

future opportunities to engage with both the University and the country."

Prof. Mbandlwa emphasized that the pursuit of a PhD is not merely about earning a certificate, but about achieving an intellectual milestone — marked by rigorous research, methodological discipline, and the creation of original knowledge.

He noted that artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping this journey in profound ways. Among the most pressing issues he highlighted was the ethics of AI use in doctoral research.

"One of the most pressing ethical questions is authorship. If AI generates substantial portions of a thesis or research paper, who can truly be called the author?"

"While AI can assist with literature reviews or data analysis, some students now rely on AI tools to produce entire sections of their work, raising serious concerns about academic honesty."

Prof. Mbandlwa stressed that becoming a doctoral scholar requires depth of knowledge, intellectual mastery, and scholarly

contribution—qualities that cannot be replaced by technology.

Beyond ethical concerns, Prof. Mbandlwa acknowledged the positive potential of AI in academia.

He recommended its use in streamlining administrative processes such as managing travel schedules, accommodation, and research grants.

In his closing remarks, he inspired the audience with a forward-looking vision:

"It has truly been a privilege to engage in this crucial conversation about the future of academia and the transformative role of AI.

"As we look ahead, it is clear that AI is not a distant possibility—it is already here.

"From enhancing the speed and precision of research to opening new frontiers for collaboration, AI is poised to redefine the academic landscape.

"As PhD students, you are uniquely positioned to lead this charge. I am confident that the future of research and scholarship is in good hands, as BUSE's next generation of leaders take the reins and shape the world with the knowledge and tools at your disposal."

The colloquium concluded with renewed energy and inspiration, leaving participants motivated to embrace both the challenges and opportunities of AI in shaping the future of scholarship.

Freshmen Navigate Excitement, Anxiety

By Julia Ndlela

The campuses of Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) across Bindura, Harare, and Kadoma were transformed into a beehives of activity this week as hundreds of undergraduate and postgraduate students arrived for the February intake orientation.

For the newcomers, the week-long program was more than just a formal introduction to tertiary education; it was a rite of passage. The campuses were drawing students from various high schools, provinces, and backgrounds, the atmosphere was thick with a palpable mix of emotions a blend of high octane excitement and the quiet tremors of first-year anxiety. For many, like Blessings Mada, an incoming Accountancy student, being at BUSE is the realization of a digital dream.

"I saw the university on social media, and it looked exactly like the place I have always dreamt of studying in," Mada said, her eyes set firmly on the future.

"My expectation is to be capped after attaining a first-class degree. But I'm also scared; I've always been at home, so being away is both frightening and exciting at the same time."

The transition from the protected environment of home to the independence of campus life is a common theme among the freshmen.

Samantha Chikuni, who travelled from Nyanga to join the university, highlighted the importance of a supportive community.

"I expect an environment that makes me feel at home, where I can ask for help from lecturers without fear," Chikuni shared.



First year students following orientation week proceedings



She also spoke candidly about the social pressures that often come with university life.

"I am scared of the pressure. We are young women from different backgrounds, and I just hope I won't conform to negative influences."

While some focus on the books, others are looking to the courts and fields to define their university experience.

Takunda Munangi, the former Headboy of Amai Mugabe High School in Mazowe, is joining the Supply Chain Management department and has his sights set

on the university's sporting facilities. "I look forward to learning, but also to embracing my sporting side," said the basketball and athletics enthusiast.

"I saw that the university has different sports, and I am happy to try everything out."

For his fellow Supply Chain student, Genius, from Kundai High School, the journey is about personal evolution, to him, university is the ultimate forge for character.

He says: "Being in university makes one grow up. I look forward to transitioning into a responsible

man who prioritizes academics and makes my parents proud."

Offering advice to those still in high school, he added, "Study hard and excel. University life awaits, and it's fun over here, but failing is my greatest fear."

As the orientation week draws to a close, the freshmen jitters are slowly being replaced by a sense of purpose, for these students, the journey has just begun, and while the fear of the unknown remains, the promise of a "first-class" future is what keeps them moving forward.

Former International Students Rep's Leadership Journey



Aaron Phiri

By Nyasha Chibandamabwe

Zambian national, Aaron Phiri is a dedicated and passionate student leader who served as the International Students Minister in the Student Representative Committee (SRC) at Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) in 2025.

During his tenure, he represented the voices of international students, worked to ensure their welfare, inclusion, and smooth integration into university life.

As an international student himself, Aaron understood firsthand challenges faced by students studying away from home including, adjusting to a new academic system, cultural differences, financial pressures and communication barriers.

Efforts to manage resources and administrative processes are in place, with opportunities to streamline them further to better support international students.

Despite obstacles, Aaron remained resilient and committed to advocating for fair treatment and better support systems.

"My role was to ensure your voices are heard clearly and consistently. I am committed to pushing for practical solutions, stronger support systems, and better transparency between students and administration.

Change doesn't happen overnight, but it starts with honest conversations and collective action". Said Aaron.

Alongside the challenges, Aaron's journey was

been filled with positive experiences. He had the opportunity to interact with students from diverse cultural backgrounds, develop strong leadership and communication skills, and actively contribute to policy discussions that affect the student body.

His role in the SRC strengthened unity among international and local students fostering better cooperation with the university's administration.

A significant boost to Aaron's academic and personal journey has been the EDunza Scholarship Scheme. Through this scholarship, Aaron has received crucial financial support that helps cover tuition and other academic related expenses. This assistance reduced financial stress, allowing him to focus more on his studies and leadership responsibilities.

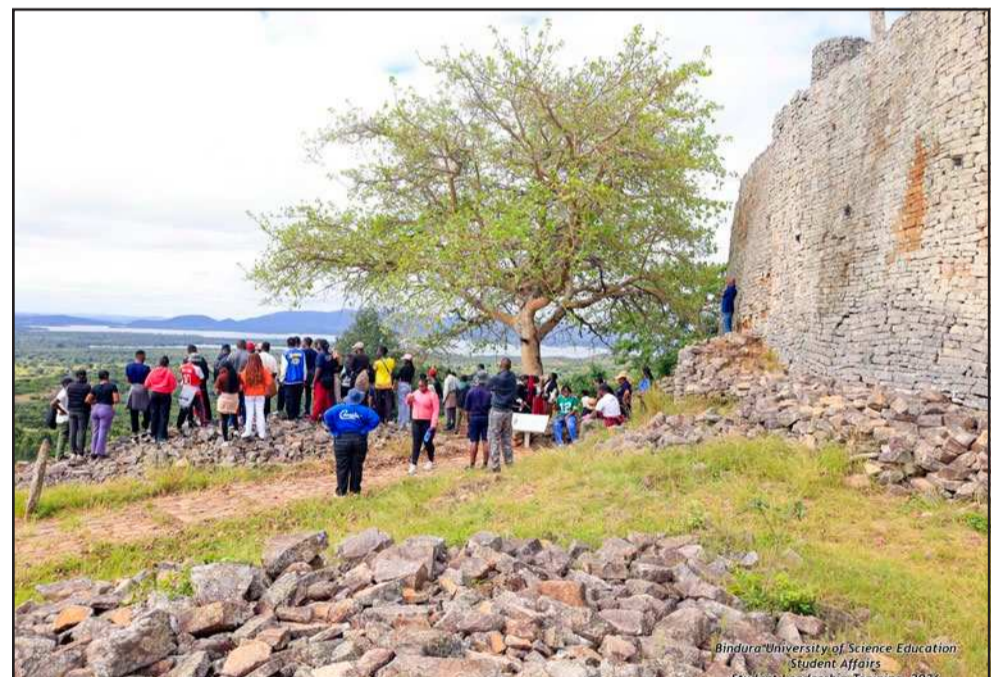
The ED-UNZA Scholarship also motivated him to excel academically and give back to the student community by serving with dedication and integrity.

"I would like to sincerely thank ED-UNZA for awarding me this scholarship and covering my tuition fees. Your support has lifted a huge financial burden from my shoulders and allowed me to focus fully on my studies and leadership responsibilities", praised Aaron.

Aaron's story reflects resilience, leadership, and the transformative impact of educational support. Through his work in the SRC and the support of the ED-UNZA Scholarship Scheme, he managed to make a meaningful contribution to the welfare of international students at Bindura University while building a strong foundation for his future.



As the first semester of 2026 commenced, student leaders, including the Student Representative Council (#SRC), Campus Activities Board (#CAB), students' Sports Associations, Bindura University Students Christian Eucumenical Society #BUSCES and Faculty Representatives, retreated to Kyle View Chalets in Masvingo for the annual Student Leadership Training. The students underwent training in various aspects of leadership and participated in team-building activities as they mapped out student activities for the upcoming semester. The Student Affairs Department believes that student activities should be planned, organised, and managed by students under the Department's general guidance. As such, the retreat aimed to establish the roadmap for BUSE student activities for the semester.



BUSE Student Innovation Takes Centre Stage at National Youth Day



By Lawrence Chitumba

Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE) joined the nation in celebrating the 2026 National Youth Day at the Igava Training Centre, Mashonaland East Province, where it showcased its innovations and services.

The commemorations, observed annually on February 21 is a public holiday to celebrate the contribution of young people to Zimbabwe's political, social and economic development while providing a platform for engagement on empowerment, employment and nation-building initiatives.

This year's celebrations, held under the theme "Youth Agenda for Transformation," provided the perfect platform for BUSE students to demonstrate that the future of Zimbabwe's industrialisation lies in the ingenuity of its young minds. It was no coincidence that its students chose this moment to unveil an innovation poised to revolutionise food security across the nation.

The Agritech Mobile Garden emerged as the undisputed highlight of the BUSE exhibition stand, drawing crowds of admirers ranging from government officials to fellow youths. This ingenious system leverages advanced aeroponic technology to tackle one of our nation's most pressing challenges: drought. By dramatically reducing water consumption while minimising labour requirements, it charts a powerful pathway to bolstering crop yields even in the face of intensifying climate uncertainty.

In an interview with this publication, the project's lead architect, Takudzwa Haparimwe, said the project addresses a critical question that has long plagued urban agriculture: "How can we engineer a system that grows food for people without demanding their constant attention?"

"The Mobile Agritech Garden represents a convergence of precision engineering and artificial intelligence. Unlike traditional soil-based farming, this solar-powered, Internet of Things-enabled aeroponic system suspends plant roots in the air and nourishes them with a fine nutrient mist calibrated to optimise absorption," said Haparimwe.

"The results are nothing short of remarkable 95% less water consumption than conventional farming, four times higher yields, and accelerated growth rates of up to 40%. What truly sets this innovation apart is its intelligence. The system integrates AI-based crop growth prediction, predictive irrigation scheduling, and sensor-driven nutrient monitoring. It sends automated notifications for harvesting, watering, nutrient levels, and plant health — meaning residents need only act when prompted,



BUSE students at the National Youth Day celebrations

allowing them to focus on their livelihoods while the garden manages itself.

He said the engineering precision is equally impressive, with optimal mist droplet sizes of 50–70 micrometres ensuring efficient nutrient absorption, while intermittent mist cycles timed to match plant transpiration patterns maximise efficiency. A closed-loop water recovery system and a 50W solar panel with battery power guarantee uninterrupted operation, even in areas with unreliable electricity.

Youths who visited the BUSE stand were so awestruck that they commented on the student for their ingenuity.

"The success of the Agritech Mobile Garden demonstrates that universities are not merely repositories of knowledge but incubators for the homegrown solutions that will drive our nation's economic transformation," said a youth from Marondera.

"BUSE students have proven their capacity to conduct rigorous research, engage meaningfully with communities, and develop practical, market-ready solutions that address Zimbabwe's most urgent challenges.

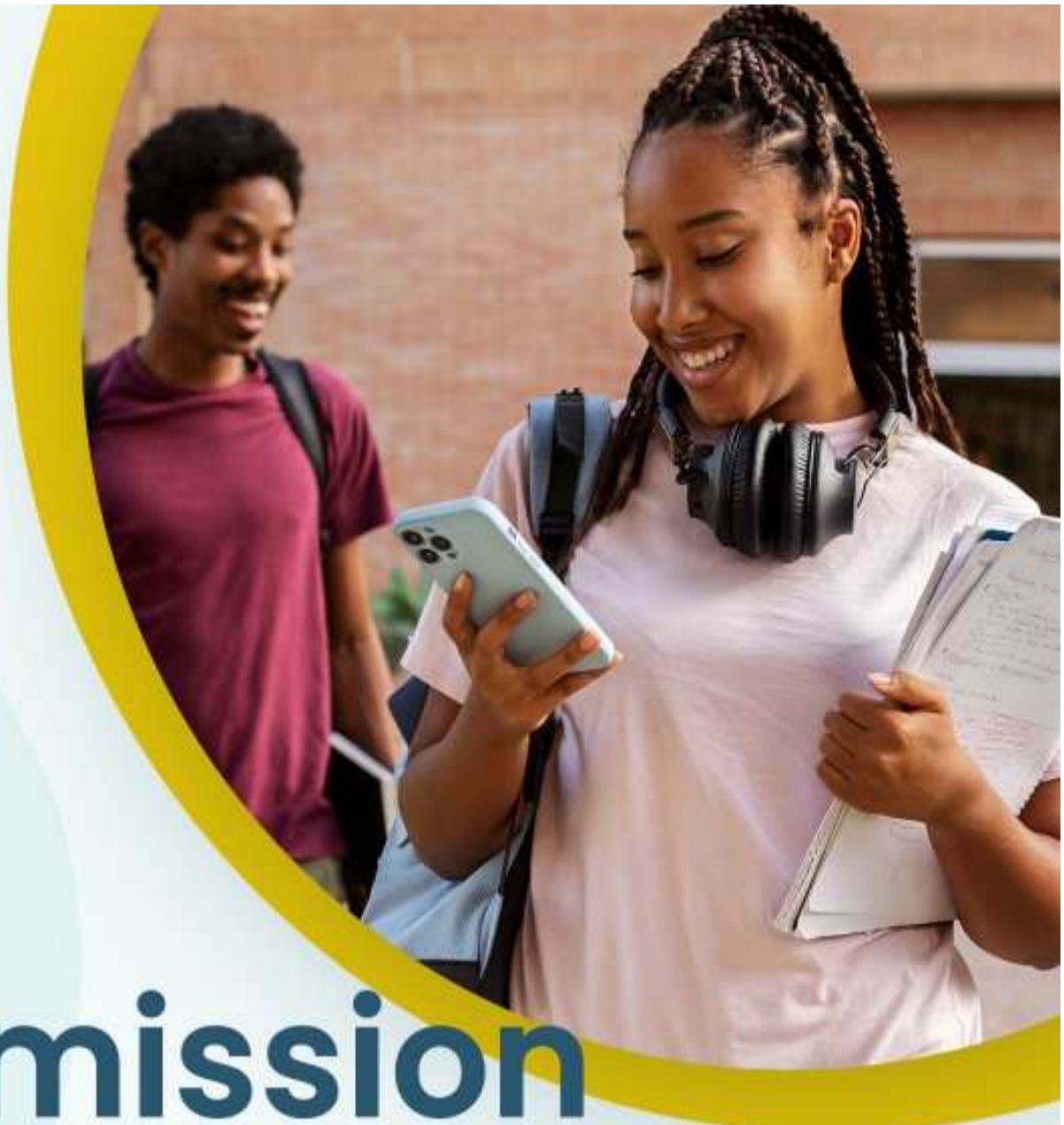
True to the "Youth Agenda for Transformation" theme, this innovation leaves no Zimbabwean behind. The gardens are movable, adaptable, and specifically designed to be accessible to individuals

with physical disabilities — ensuring that marginalised communities and disabled farmers, often excluded from traditional agricultural activities, can participate fully in food production and income generation.

To this day, the project has been a recipient of several accolades, which include: Winner of the Young African Change Makers Challenge, Recipient of support from the Global Youth Monitor Fund, Successful deployment to active users with proven results, and a request by the Ministry for a formal presentation following National Youth Day.

With production costs estimated at approximately US\$250 per unit and minimal maintenance requirements of US\$10 per month, the system is economically sustainable and accessible. Units can be sold to households or leased to community clusters, with optional AI dashboard subscriptions for monitoring — a flexible business model that allows scaling from single households to entire neighbourhoods.

This remarkable invention does more than just grow food; it solidifies BUSE's position as a premier centre of innovation dedicated to solving Zimbabwe's everyday challenges. We are immensely proud of our students for embodying the spirit of enterprise and scientific excellence that our university stands for.



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Scenes from the February national clean-up campaign day which was held on February 6, 2026



Vice Chancellor Prof Eddie Mwenje inspecting the Optometry Clinic's equipments

Mr. Willard Barure following the Vice Chancellor's address to first year students

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2026 ZUSSA GAMES A WRAP



By Tinashe Chuma

The 2026 Zimbabwe University Staff Sports Association (ZUSSA) Games, hosted by Lupane State University, proved to be a timely wake-up call for Bindura University of Science Education (BUSE).

Far from being a routine sporting outing, the competition became a strategic litmus test — a moment of reckoning as BUSE measured its sporting depth and competitive resilience ahead of the prestigious Zimbabwean Universities' Chancellor's Games, set to be hosted by Great Zimbabwe University later this year.

BUSE fielded teams across the full spectrum of disciplines on offer: soccer, netball, basketball, volleyball, lawn tennis, table tennis, pool, darts, and chess.

It was a comprehensive show of presence and intent.

When the dust settled after days of fierce competition, BUSE found itself in fifth position out of nine institutions — walking away with one gold medal, two silver medals, and three bronze medals. For the reigning ZUSSA champions, this was undeniably a sobering outcome.

However, context is everything.

The medal count and overall standing was less an indictment of performance but rather a structural omission of sporting codes which BUSE thrives in.

Traditionally, BUSE's competitive edge lies in track and field events and individual sporting disciplines — areas that historically generate a higher medal yield and significantly bolster overall standings.

The exclusion of athletics and traditional sports from the roster effectively neutralised one of BUSE's most reliable medal pipelines.

In that light, the fifth-place finish reads differently. Rather than a

decline, it reflects adaptability under constrained conditions.

Indeed, the medal haul underscores a resilient competitive spirit.

The ladies' pool team delivered BUSE's solitary gold medal after commanding performances against Midlands State University and Great Zimbabwe University — a display of composure and technical precision under pressure.

In table tennis, the women's team secured silver, while the men narrowly missed the podium. Lawn tennis proved fertile ground as BUSE claimed both a silver and a bronze medal.

Team sports, often considered more unpredictable and tactically demanding, also yielded positive returns. Soccer and volleyball each secured bronze medals, reflecting growing cohesion and tactical maturity in collective disciplines.

It is equally important to note that while BUSE did not medal in darts, chess, basketball, netball, and tug-of-war, the teams were far from outclassed.

They were competitive, disciplined, and instructively exposed to areas requiring refinement. Such exposure is invaluable at this stage of the sporting calendar.

The 2026 ZUSSA Games, therefore, are an analytical benchmark.

They revealed gaps, highlighted strengths, and sharpened focus.

If anything, Lupane provided the necessary discomfort that fuels champions.

With the Chancellor's Games on the horizon, BUSE now carries not only medals but also lessons. The institution's athletes have identified their shortcomings, recalibrated their strategies, and appear poised to mount a determined bid to reclaim their status at the pinnacle of university sport.

The crown may have momentarily slipped, but the intent to reclaim it burns brighter than ever.

ZUSSA IN PICS



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