



OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

**VICE-CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS ON PROF. ENOKA RUKARE PUBLIC LECTURE HELD ON
THURSDAY, 4TH AUGUST, 2022**

SALUTATION

The Guest of Honor; the family of the late Prof. Enoka Rukare,
The University Chancellor, Rt. Rev. Dr. Fred Sheldon Mwesigwa,
The Chief Missioner, Bishop Emeritus Geoffrey Rwobusisi,
The Founding Chancellor, Bishop Emeritus Dr. Elisha Kyamugambi,
The 2nd Chancellor, Bishop Emeritus, Dr. George William Tibeessigwa,
Board of Trustees present,
Chairperson and members of the University Council present,
Representative from Inter-University Council for East Africa, Dr. Cosam Joseph
Management and staff,
Guild President, Student Leaders and entire Students' body,
All invited Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen!

A. WELCOME REMARKS

On behalf of Bishop Stuart University (BSU) and on my own behalf, we greet you in
the Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Praise God!

You are most welcome to BSU and in particular to the 7th BSU Mission and Exhibition week and in
particular to this Public Lecture in Honour of the Late Prof. Enoka Rukare, the First Vice Chancellor
2002 to 2004 of BSU. On a special note, we welcome you our invited guests and in particular Our
Guest of Honour; the family of the Late Prof. Enoka Rukare led by Mrs. Gwen Rukare, children and
Grandchildren. We are honored to host you. This great honor to Prof. Rukare is the first of its kind
as BSU celebrates 20 years of existence and exponential growth. May the Almighty God bless you.
To God be the Glory!

The theme for this 7th BSU Mission and Exhibition week is "**....*Separate yourselves from the
people around you and from your foreign wives....***" ***Ezra 10:11(NIV)***. BSU is also
celebrating 20years of existence since 2002; guided by the scripture in "Ezra3:8....**The Levites
who were 20 years old or older were put in charge of rebuilding the Lord's Temple.**"

The theme of **BSU @20** is "***Celebrating 20 years of Generational Transformation of the
Community through Holistic Education***". This year 2022, we are standing on our Core Value
No.3. **Pursuit of Knowledge and Ingenuity**, we are grateful to God for the far he has brought
us, Ebenezer!

1. THE BACKGROUND OF BISHOP STUART UNIVERSITY WEEK

BSU Week started way back on **25th Oct 2014** when the University received its fully signed **Charter by H.E Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, The President of the Republic of Uganda** that day marked the beginning of BSU week that is celebrated annually in commemoration of this great mile stone in the history of Bishop Stuart University, marked by Missions and exhibitions. More so, in Joshua's Generation (Joshua 1:1-9) since May 2014, the Priests were key in possessing the Promised Land; Meaning that it By God's Grace that we shall sing Victory and Hallelujah; Amen!

The last 6th BSU week was held from 8th to 15th March 2020, we did not celebrate BSU week in 2021 because of COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdowns. The institutions opened on 1st November, 2021. We thank God for keeping us safe. We condone with those who lost their dear ones due to COVID-19 and we thank God for sparing us.

In this 7th BSU Mission and Exhibition Week, we invited different speakers for plenary sessions and workshops throughout this week and they included among others; the Chief Missioner, Bishop Emeritus Goefrey Rwobusisi, Rev. Can. John Mulindabigwi, Rev. Jasper Tumuhimbise and Mrs. Peninah Byarugaba. God has used them mightily and many students have accepted Lord as their personal savior, others have renewed their faith, we thank God!

BSU weeks are always characterised by different activities and in particular, this 7th BSU week apart from the mission that is ran throughout the week, other activities are;

- a) BSU Week @20 with Parents by Rev. Can. John Mulindabigwi on Monday 1st August, 2022 and. Board of Trustees and Children of the Clergy (BCOGs) session by Chancellor Rt. Rev. Dr. Fred Sheldon Mwesigwa and Bishop Emeritus Goefrey Rwobusisi on Monday 1st August, 2022.
- b) **Matching through Mbarara City, Research Dissemination, community service** on Tuesday 2nd August, 2022.
- c) **Staff workshops** by Prof. Joy Kwesiga who was represented by Can. Benon Kwikiriza and Rev. Jasper Tumuhimbise on Wednesday 3rd August, 2022.
- d) **Public Lecture** in honour of Late Prof. Enock Rukare (1st BSU Vice-Chancellor) by Prof. Ephraim Kamuntu as the Guest speaker and prof. Elly Sabiiti as Discussant. Today is our first ever public lecture conducted in honour of a distinguished person. We thank God for this milestone.
- e) **Signing of recognition register** by distinguished individuals who were nominated, scrutinised and approved by Council. These will sign in the register today as attached (**Appendix 1**)
- f) **Today, BSU BOT and Council is Naming the 3rd Floor of BSU Library as Professor Enock Rukare Research Carrels** for his great Contribution in starting a University from scratch (Omutara).

- g) **Closing exhibition by Hon. Min. Dr. Monica Musenero Masanza, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovations (MOSTI)** under the President's office on Friday 5th August, 2022 at 2:00 PM. Best exhibitors will be awarded and represent BSU at the NCHE and Jinja show grounds.
- h) **Community Hour Fellowship by Bishop Emeritus Geoffrey Rwobusisi and students' workshop by Mrs. Peninah Byarugaba** on Friday 5th August, 2022.
- i) **Alumni Day and Door to Door/Hostels** Ministry on Saturday 6th August, 2022.
- j) Last plenary session by Bishop Emeritus Geoffrey Rwobusisi and Sunday service on 7th August 2022.
- k) On the 7th August 2022, **Vice Chancellor's Tournament, inter-Departmental games at BSU Play Ground, the winners will receive a bull.**

2. **SOME KEY BSU@20 ACHIEVEMENTS;**

- a. **BSU Establishment;** BSU was founded by Ankole Diocese in 2002 as a non-profit private higher education institution under the leadership of the **Late Prof. Rukare Enoka** as the first Vice Chancellor. It started in 2003 in the premises of former National Teachers' College-Kakoba (NTC-Kakoba), BSU started as an affiliate of Uganda Christian University (UCU) based in Mukono. It received a provisional License from the National Council for Higher Education (NCHE) to operate as a private University on 23rd June 2006 and had its first graduation the same year under Uganda Christian University. The first BSU-organised graduation under the Provisional license was held in 2010.
- b. **Acquisition of Bishop Stuart University Charter;** The President of the Republic of Uganda His Excellence Yoweri Kaguta Museveni granted the Charter to Bishop Stuart University and signed it on the 25th October, 2014. This was a great milestone in the history of the University. This was exactly five months in my term of office and the University management under our leadership contributed to this process to have BSU Chartered. The University under the leadership of the University Board of trustees, Chair Council, Vice Chancellor (**Prof. Maud Kamatenesi Mugisha (PhD)**) received it with great joy. BOT, Council, University management contributed a lot during the process of acquiring the Charter.
- c. **Increased student enrolment;** enrolment has increased from 200 students in 2002 to over 5000 students.
- d. **Number of students graduated;** Graduation Numbers since 2006 (1st BSU graduation) to 2022 is **18,764**, last graduation alone was **1773** with **2 PhDs graduating.** BSU we are now very strong.
- e. **Increased number of faculties;** we have **five faculties;** Faculty of Law we have now Advocates and one of the best in the Country, this is in Rwentondo, Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences and this is in Ruharo,

Faculty of Agriculture, Environmental Science and Technology, Faculty of Education, Arts and Media Studies and Faculty of Business, Economics and Governance with **14 departments**, We also have Directorate of Graduate Studies, Research and Innovations (DGSRI) which coordinates post graduate programs and Directorate of Quality Assurance (DQA).

- f. **Increased Accredited academic programs**; In 2002, the University had about 10 programs. Currently, the University in general has over 90 accredited programs.
- g. **BSU Webometrics Ranking**; BSU webometrics ranking have tremendously improved from over 20s to 10s and we are working hard to ensure we go to single digits in all Universities in Uganda. We are now ranked No. 14 of all universities in Uganda (January 2022 Edition 2022.1.3b) we are on the right track!
- h. **Collaboration with Trinity Western University (TWU)- Canada** for studying online for a Master of Arts in Leadership and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership and Facilitated Academic Resource (FAR) Centre was established.
- i. **Adoption of Emergency Open Distance and E-Learning (ODEL) and Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)**; BSU Council, Management and Staff embraced VLE (**Virtual Learning Environment-online teaching**) and emergency ODeL. This was a **big animal to kill** but we did it with the help of **NCHE**. RUFORUM gave us a grant worth 5000 US Dollars to enhance E-learning.
- j. **Partnership and signing MOUs**, we have signed MOUs with different partners to enhance research, innovations and skilling youth in entrepreneurship, these partners include among others; RUFORUM over 14 staff doing their PhDs **and Masters (9 PhDs & 5 Masters)**.
- k. **Agro-studies program in Israel**; BSU students are benefiting from the Israel Internship; a collaboration that was harnessed by the Government of Uganda under the Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES). BSU annually sends Agriculture students to Israel for apprenticeship through the Agro Studies programme for skills development.
- l. **AVSI Foundation donations**, we thank them for the Poultry unit, Zero-grazing unit, Silage banker and shed-net besides youth skilling.
- m. **NARO-World Bank for the Essential Oils Extraction Unit and Oil Production House**. We have partnership with National Agricultural Research Organisation/WB (NARO-ZARDI, Mbarara); PHARMBIOTRAC; MUST; AVSI Say Project; Makerere University &GOU, Mak-RIF Projects; Uganda National Council for Science & Technology (UNSCT) and Frevasema Limited with Prof. G.W. Bazirake implementing essential oil crops commercialisation project. The project targets to establish an inclusive Out-growers scheme of the targeted aromatic

crops, develop and incubate and commercialize essential oil based innovations and register respective patents with implementing partners.

- n. **Agribusiness & Ethnobotany Chair by Prof. Dr. Tumusiime Mutebile**; We acquired equipment from Prof. Tumusiime Mutebile, Former Governor, Bank of Uganda for Agribusiness & Nutri-medicinal value addition. We have innovations in Agribusiness and Ethnobiology. Prof. Tumusiime Mutebile Contributed enormously to the establishment of BSU Library, establishment of the Agriculture and Agribusiness program. He had Honorary Doctorate of Laws (*Honoris causa*) of BSU. We lost our Hero in academia and development.
- o. **Expedia MOU and Student Internship in Europe**. We appreciate the Country Director Mr. Nebert Gabura present here. Expedia Agency Ltd with the Uganda Agricultural Advisory services have partnered with BSU to take students of the Department of Agriculture for internship in Europe (Denmark, Germany and Norway). During this internship training which lasts for 12-18 months, students are exposed to practical agricultural skills and Agribusiness. Upon their return, students are expected to contribute to offering agricultural advisory services in their respective communities.
- p. **ROFORUM eLearning donations and ICT equipment** including Turn-it-in. Recognition of Prof. Adipala Ekwamu Innovation Chair at BSU in process. Was honoured by signing the Service Recognition Register. VC is the Board member of RUFORUM Finance and Administration Board.
- q. **UBTEB Skilling programs**; BSU is a UBTEB Centre for Science based Diplomas in Engineering, Agriculture and Catering. We have embraced **5** Diploma programs accredited by Uganda Business and Technical Examinations Board (UBTEB). UBTEB is our springboard to Engineering & Technology courses.
- r. **Membership in Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)**; We wish to inform you that BSU is now a member of Association of Common Wealth Universities. This is an indication that BSU is recognised as an International University.
- s. **Purchase and establishment of Faculty of Law** in very conducive environment of Rwentondo. Our LLM programme has been credited. We have one of the best law schools in this country.
- t. **Employability**; Our Alumni employed in all sectors and leaders/ managers and HODs of units, Districts, Local government, MOES, Politics – Lord Mayor Hon. Kakyebi is our student-Alumni, etc.
- u. **Infrastructural Developments**: The University has also since made strides in infrastructural development. This include; (i) the Faculty of Business building and its subsequent renovations, (ii) **Faculty of Education ISSB Building was commissioned by Maama Janet Kataaha Museveni** in 2018, Minister of Education and Sports; (iii) Faculty of Nursing and Health Sciences which have been successfully completed and commissioned by the Vice President, H.E. Rtd.

Major Jessica Alupo in January 2022 at Ruharo Campus; (iv) the construction of Science Research Laboratories funded by Government of Uganda and donated by the President of Uganda is under construction; (v) Library Construction at the stage of contracting to finish the works this FY 2022/2023 Budget; (v) We plan to work on the tarmacking of BSU road networks of BSU (vi) Chapel of the Good Shepherd Construction.

3. Appreciation

- a) We thank GOD as *Psalms 103*, enumerates various reasons as to why we should be grateful to GOD. "..... Bless the LORD oh my soul and forget not all his benefits....." As BSU and the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, we testify to this. Indeed, God has been and is still gracious to us. We are very grateful for the far He has brought us". Ebenezer!
- b) We thank Government, President of the Republic of Uganda H.E Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni Tibuhaburwa for allowing the Diocese to start BSU and for all the support towards the growth and development of private institutions.
- c) We appreciate Ministry of Education and Sport for the tremendous support to BSU especially towards infrastructural development through Presidential pledge.
- d) We are grateful to the National Council for Higher Education for providing us with the necessary guidance, supervision, and timely accreditation of our programmes.
- e) We are grateful to the founders of the university especially Bp. Emeritus. Dr. Elisha Kyamugambi, Ambassador Francis Butagira, Prof Elly Sabiiti, Late Prof. Enoka Rukare, Prof. Jossy Bibangambah, and all of you that worked tirelessly to get this university started.
- f) We appreciate founding chancellors; Bp. Emeritus Dr. Elisha Kyamugambi, the vision bearer, Bp. Emeritus George William Tibeessigwa, the 2nd chancellor for the great work done in building a strong foundation for us.
- g) We appreciate Board of Trustees chaired by our chancellor The Rt. Rev. Dr. Fred Sheldon Mwesigwa.
- h) We sincerely appreciate the strong and able University Council chaired by Prof. Kenneth Kagame for the oversight role. We also recognise and appreciate the great contribution made by the former University Councils which were chaired by Prof. Elly Sabiiti.
- i) Special thanks to Prof. Bibangambah, my predecessor. I came on 1st May, 2014 replacing Prof. Jossy Bibangambah. He did a great job and laid a strong foundation for me. Prof. Bibangambah took over from Late Prof. Enoka Rukare and has special memories about him, attached is his attribute (**Appendix 2**)
- j) We sincerely appreciate the representative from Inter-University Council for East Africa, Dr. Cosam Joseph for honouring our invitation and more especially for the over sight role to all universities in East Africa ensuring that they are up to the standard.
- k) We thank Administrative staff, Academic Staff, support staff, Guild Council and the entire student body. Thank you for the good work well done. The success of BSU entirely depends on you.
- l) We appreciate the former and current staff, Alumni, Community, service providers in various categories.
- m) BSU Week organising committee chaired by University Secretary assisted by Public Relations office and Academic Registrar's office and chaplaincy.

4. Concluding Remarks.

Once again, I thank you Guest of honour, the family of late Enoke Rukare, invited guests, the entire BSU Staff and BSU community, thank you for coming. I call upon you to continue coming.

Our God Reigns!

Prof. Maud Kamatenesi Mugisha (PhD)
Vice Chancellor