

*"Building a Civilization of Love"*

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MAKENI (UNIMAK)

SIERRA LEONE

SEPTEMBER, 2022 NEWSLETTER



Dear Partners and Friends,

The University of Makeni (Unimak) has successfully ended the 2021/22 academic year, thanks to God and all the Staff.

The University is preparing for the start of the 2022/2023 academic year, therefore the administration is hosting a two days Retreat on the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> October, 2022 for all staff. It is a platform to reflect and evaluate on the previous Academic year.

This retreat will give staff the opportunity to evaluate themselves and administration will be guided on policies that will help the University's desire to promote quality education as it is building a culture of Love in the process.

We continue to promote quality education and serve as a key player in the development of the Human Resource of the World

In everything we do we take into consideration the core values of the University; teaching, research and Community Engagement. We also put into practice new academic innovations.

## Publications:

1. The Winners, Losers and Shapers of Fluctuating fuel prices in Sierra Leone by **Dr. Jessica Jones**. Published by The Energy for Sustainable Development Journal. Elsevier inc. 03/07/2022.
2. The Impacts of the Sierra Leone Civil war (1991-2002) on the scope of ECOWAS by **Shebora Samba Kamara**. Published by the Chinese Academic Journal "Chinese Politics and International Politics" wap.cnki.net. 01/09/2022

## Important Announcement

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UNIMAK, SEPTEMBER 2022 EDITION

NEWSLETTER

## **A team from the University of Makeni Visited the SBD Maize Farm**

A team visited the farm on the 15th September 2022. The farm is located at Rorinka Village about 10 miles from Makeni City along the Makeni Lunsar Highway.

The Social Business Development (SBD) is a charitable Company limited by guarantee. The company is based in Makeni. Its main scope is to promote sustainable development in the Agricultural and food security sector in Sierra Leone.

The Company was founded in 2016 by the St. Lawrence Foundation to support the University of Makeni in providing a practical working field to the graduate from the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences.

The SBD operates in 3 different areas which are: the eggs production, the chicken feed production and the cultivation of Maize.

The company has provided more than 250 new jobs for petty traders because of the regular flow of eggs that is generated by the Company. The Company now counts into 67 employees. The Poultry produces 14,000 eggs daily.

In fulfilling its mission, SBD has been supporting the local communities involving more than 500 rural Farmers in field operations between 2016 and 2020.

With this background the team decided to visit the maize Farm in the Rorinka Community. The team was very impressed with the progress made by the company in the farm. This was one of the many visits organized by UNIMAK over the years.





## UNIMAK'S POST GRADUATE SCHOOL ENDS ANNUAL RETREAT

The University of Makeni Postgraduate School has concluded its annual retreat.

The retreat started on Monday 29th and ends on Wednesday 31st August 2022 in the Mass Communication building located at the Fatima Campus.

The retreat was designed to share experiences as a Postgraduate School. The main purpose of the retreat was to get a sense of all the Masters level programs that are currently on offer at UNIMAK.

Each Department was called to present their Master's Programs and highlight the successes and challenges, comments and discuss ways to address challenges ahead of the 2022/2023 academic year.

Deputy Dean of the Postgraduate School Dr. Jessica Jones welcomed Participants from all Postgraduate programs. She said their participation meant a lot to the growth of Postgraduate education in Sierra Leone.

Vice Chancellor Professor Joseph A. Turay said the future of Academia depends on a strong Postgraduate Education

He therefore encouraged all staff of the School to pay attention and concentrate on the 3 days intensive sessions.



### MEET DR. KIMBERLY JOHNSON

Dr. Kimberly Johnson is an Associate Professor from Minnesota State University, Mankato in the United States of America. She holds a B.S. and M.S. in Special Education from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville and a PhD in Educational Psychology and Special Education from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She taught special education at all levels in the United States for 20 years and has been training new special education teachers at the university level for 9 years. Dr. Johnson is at UNIMAK on a Fulbright Scholarship. She will be here until July 2023 working with the Department of Special Needs Education to

develop programs for a Higher Teacher's Certificate, Bachelor's Degree, and Master's Degree in Special Needs Education. Individuals who complete these programs will be prepared to serve as teachers and school leaders in classrooms and schools where children with all types of disabilities are included.

## FUTURES LITERACY CENTER'S TRIP TO DANKAWALIE

This is a scoping trip ahead of a fascinating Futures Literacy Lab tour that is part of the International Development Research Center (IDRC) funded project that seeks to explore the diversity of women's future in Sierra Leone

The team from the University of Makeni travelled to Dankawalie on the 8th September 2022. The team included, Researchers of the Future Literacy project. Dankawalie is situated in Falaba District, North Eastern Region of Sierra Leone. This is a research project of the University of Makeni manned by the Director of the Project Professor Kewulay Kamara and the research Coordinator Dr. Jessica Jones.

Dankawalie is a beautiful village with a cool weather and a nice topography. The team was there to get first-hand information about the place and observed a co-production process between the community and the Project.

Dankawalie would host one of the Research labs of the Project.

The team arrived in the evening after a long and rugged journey from Kabala to Dankawalie after travelling the whole day.

The inhabitants are very friendly and accommodating. Dankawalie is rich in culture and history and it is predominantly inhabited by Farmers. Before departing the village the team met the women of Dankawalie who narrated stories relating to the past, present and future.

The group sat down and paid close attention to the Stories of these inspiring and full of knowledge Women. People Dankawalie use Music to convey stories.



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE UNIVERSITY OF MAKENI (UNIMAK)